Avia B.534 III.serie

CZECHOSLOVAK BIPLANE FIGHTER 1:72 SCALE PLASTIC KIT



7010

<u>intro</u>

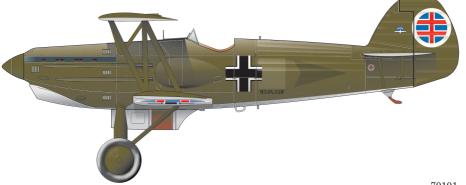
The Avia B.534 was developed in 1934 as an extension of the B.34 fighter. In this incarnation, which was produced in small numbers for the Czechoslovak Air Force (the majority of which were attached to No.3 Fighter Regiment in Slovakia at the beginning of the Second World War), there were several engine/airframe combinations tried. The B.234 prototype served as the basis for the re-engined (Hispano Suiza 12 Ydrs for the original Avia R-29 radial) type that became the true B.534. This was the 1934 victor in a tender for a new standard fighter for the air force, and in June of that year, Avia received an order for an initial 34 aircraft. The orders accumulated to a total of 568 units, built in several production blocks.

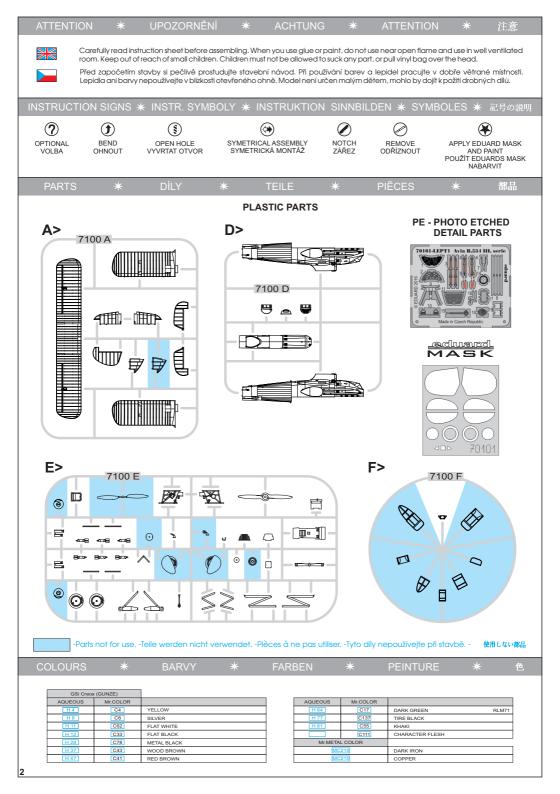
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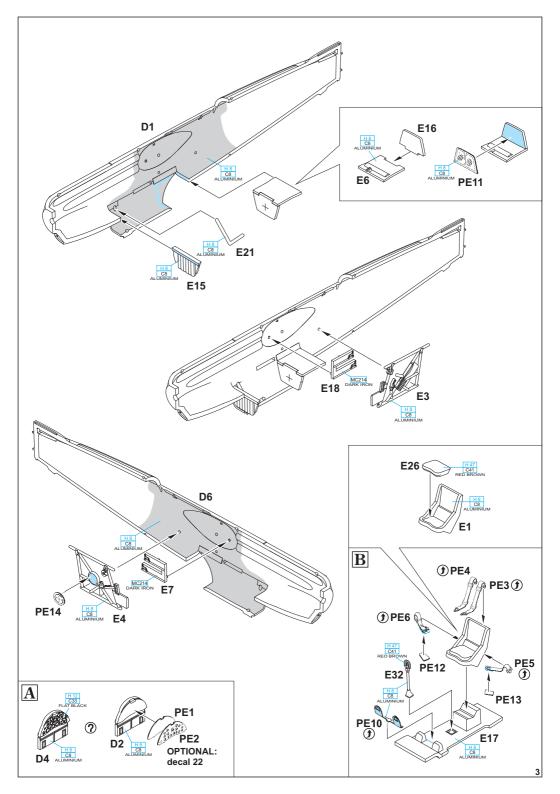
Assessments of the aircraft are somewhat variable. At the time of its development, it was an aircraft that was technically sound and utilized progressive construction techniques, but by the time of the Munich Crisis, the technology was slowly but surely entering the realm of the obsolete. To top it off, the politics of the situation during the Crisis disallowed the chance of combat. The chance for combat missions to be flown didn't occur until a few years later, in 1941, in the services of the Slovak State, fighting for the side that had previously been the aggressor against which they were to stand. Slovak pilots flying the B.534 on the Eastern Front gained good results, and these can be viewed upon as being the climax of the career of the type. A year later, it was apparent that replacement by more modern types was necessary, and inevitable. Bulgarian attempts to combat Ploesti raiding B-24 Liberators with the B.534 was a failure, and the aging planes were not able to climb to the Liberator's operational altitudes. In Slovakia, as in Bulgaria, the type was destined for second line relegation.

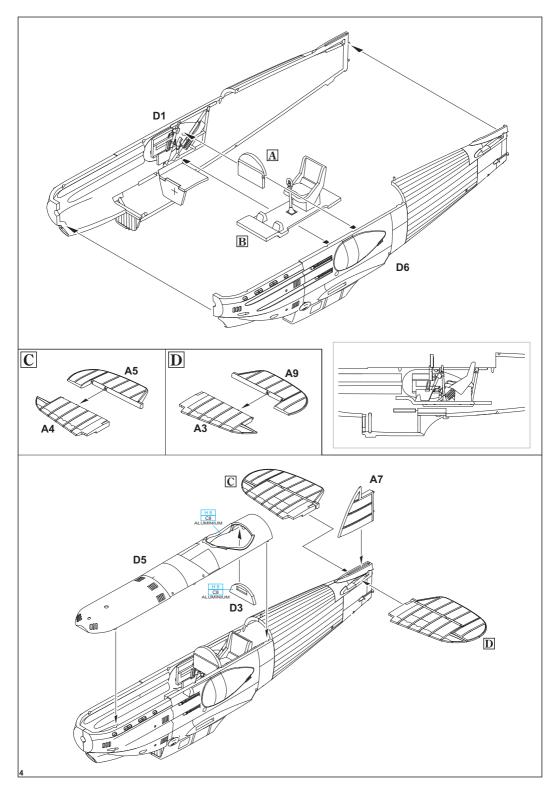
Some of the remaining B.534s were destined for final operations within the Bulgarian Air Force in operations over Hungary in 1944, and with Slovakia during the several weeks long uprising against Germany (late August early November 1944). During the Slovak National Uprising, the type was used primarily in the ground attack role, and one did manage a kill to become what is the last aerial victory of a biplane in history. It should be noted that the kill in question was that of a Hungarian transport. The fact remains that the Slovak National Uprising did end up being the swansong of the Avia B.534. Certainly, it can be said that due to the era and climate of the service of this aircraft, and the length of service it was able to achieve, the Avia B.534 has become one of the most profound symbols of Czechoslovak aviation history, a very positive symbol.

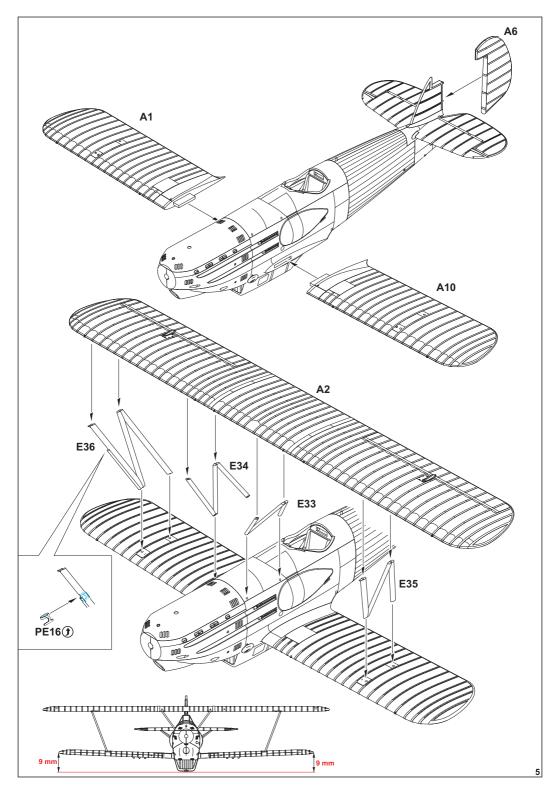
Our model was influenced by these facts, and what the type means to us. We developed the kit with diligence and scrutiny, employing the most modern manufacturing technology at our disposal. In that sense, we have something in common with the original developers of the type all those years ago, and we hope that this fact will make our tribute to this aesthetically pleasing type longer lasting than the older big brother.

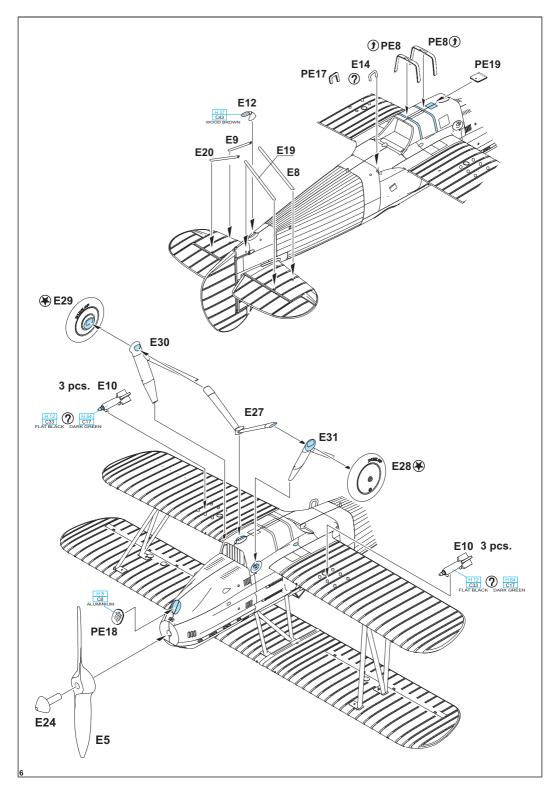


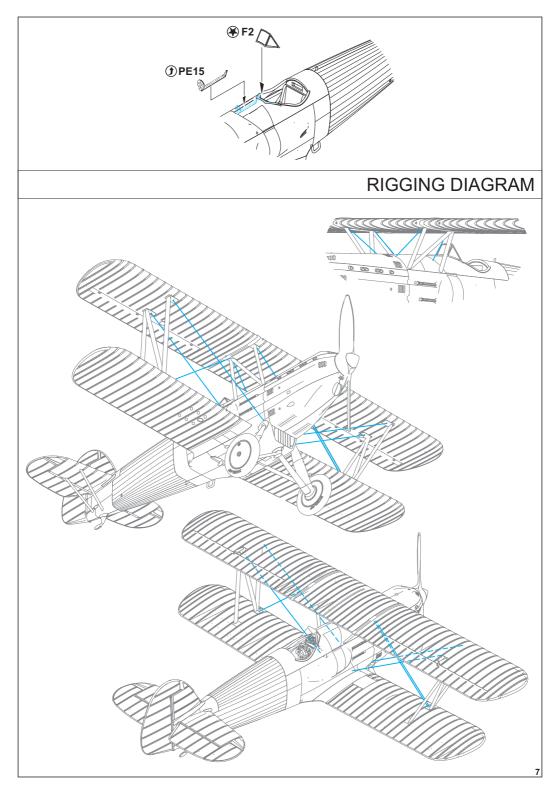






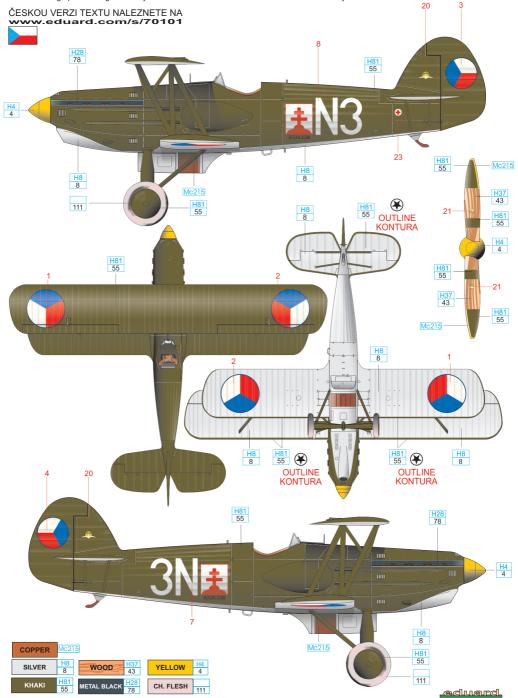






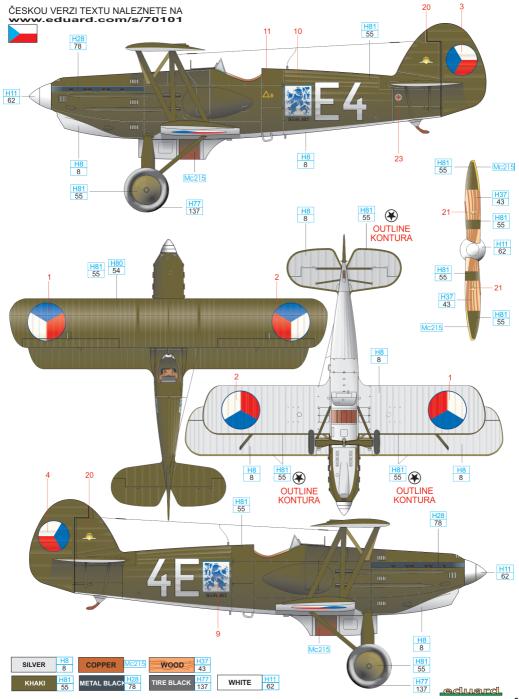
A B.534.158, Flown by Cpt. Josef Duda, No. 45 Flight, Air Regiment 3, Piešťany Air Base, February, 1938

Capt. Josef Duda crashed this aircraft near the village of Trnava (west of Hradec Kralove, Czechoslovakia) on February 8, 1938. The accident occurred on a flightpath through Piešťany – Brno – Olomouc - Hradec Králové - Olomouc – Piešťany.



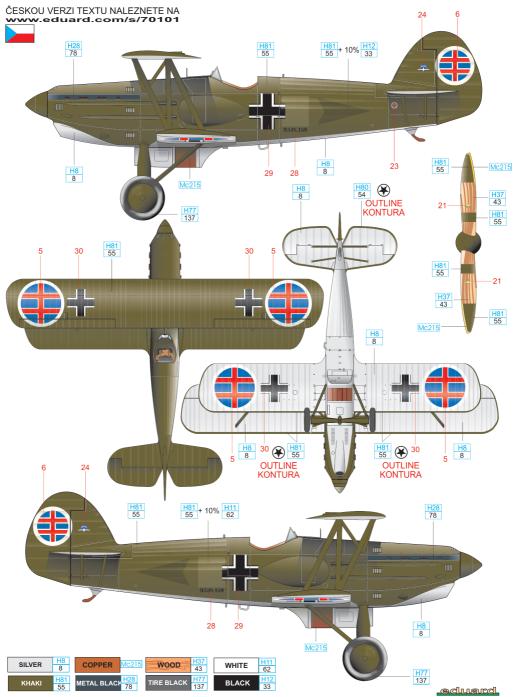
B B.534,162, No. 32 Flight, Air Regiment 4, Pardubice Air Base, July, 1937

This aircraft was damaged during taxiing at Pardubice Air Base on July 16, 1937. The code E4 was, as well as on other aircraft of the same flight, outlined in black. The white spinner identified aircraft of No. 32 Flight.



C B.534.158, Slovak Air Force, Piešťany Air Base, 1939

After the dissolution of Czechoslovakia, this B.534 was flown by the Slovak Air Force. Note the combination of German and Slovak national insignia.



This aircraft was probably flown by one of the Luftwaffe flying schools, but unfortunately, the identity of the school is not known. It wore original Czechoslovak camouflage colours, white German stencils were drawn on the cowling and tail. The colour of the spinner is not fully confirmed. ČESKOU VERZI TEXTU NALEZNETE NA www.eduard.com/s/70101 H28 78 H81 55 <mark>31+31</mark> - ⑦ 33 H81 55 H8 8 23 Mc215 H8 8 27 32 Mc215 H81 55 H8 8 ()H81 55 H37 43 OUTLINE 21 H77 137 KONTURA H81 55 H81 55 26 26 H81 55 21 H37 43 H81 55 Mc215 H8 8 H8 8 H8 8 25 H81 55 25 **(18155** ۲ OUTLINE OUTLINE KONTURA KONTURA H81 55 H28 78 31+31 ⑦-33 32 27 H8 8 Mc215 H81 55 SILVER COPPER WOOD H37 43 8 H77 137 TIRE BLACK KHAKI METAL BLACK 137 55 78 eduard

