

JF447, flown by S/Ldr. Stanisław Skalski, CO of No. 601 Squadron, Sicily, August 1943

After disbandment of the Polish Fighter Team (unofficially called Skalski's Circus) in June 1943, experimental unit formed by Polish pilots who, serving with No. 145 Squadron, were to gain experience in the air tactics in the ground units support, Stanisław Skalski was offered the No. 601 Squadron's Commander post. As a unit leader he participated in Allies' landing in Sicily and the invasion of Italy. During that period he flew Spitfire Mk.VIII marked UF-7 camouflaged in colors applied to RAF aircraft operating in the North Africa. Upper and side surfaces were coated in Dark Earth and Middle Stone colors, lower surfaces were sprayed in Azure Blue. The aircraft carried No. 601 Squadron marking on the both sides of the vertical tail surface.

