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Kawasaki Ki-61 Hien / Ki-100 (Monographs)



Synopsis

The Kawasaki Ki-61 Hien or Type 3 Fighter remains to this day one of the most recognizable Japanese fighters of the World War II era. What makes Hien unique is the powerplant – it was the only mass-produced Japanese fighter powered by an inline, liquid cooled engine. The Ki-61 began to arrive at the frontlines in large numbers in the summer of 1943 and took part in battles over New Guinea and later over the Philippines and Okinawa, as well as in the defense of the Japanese Home Islands. In total over 3,000 examples of various Ki-61 variants and derivatives were built. The Ki-100, a Ki-61-II Kai airframe mated to the Mitsubishi Ha-112-II radial engine, entered service towards the end of the war.

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Customer Reviews

a must for any modeler looking to build accurate models of these Japanese fighters. (Amorama)lots of interest for the historians among us, plus excellent reference for modellers as well. (Military Modeling)expertly and authoritatively illuminates its colorful subject. Extended captions, tables and annotations augment the account. And photos, color profiles and scale drawings – to 1:72, 1:48 and 1:32 – visually season the study. Modelers will really love this one (Cybermodeler)

Finding the Ki-100 was a "Razorback" and a "Bubbletop" was fantastic! Plus color profiles show Kawasaki used Chromate yellow for wheel wells and gear leg covers is a big help in my model

building. Model kit manufacturers claim it is O.D. green. Excellent war pictures of both is a big help too. I would buy this book again.

Despite an occasional, minor spelling or grammatical error, this is an impressive, outstandingly well-researched work, long overdue! The Ki-61 had considerable potential, though was often let-down by its less-than-reliable inline engine. Though not quite as maneuverable as its contemporaries, the "Tony" did not 'flame' as easily as the others did, and Allied fighters used to diving away from Japanese aircraft in 'hit and run' attacks sometimes learned the hard way that the 'Hien' dove faster than its contemporaries. However, the most interesting parts of this book, to me, concern the Ki-100 "Goshikisen," the radial-engined final variant. Since this version was in service for roughly the last six months of W.W.II, it baffles me that it escaped being granted an Allied Code Name. The "Goshikisen" was supposedly somewhat slower than the inline-engined "Tony," but handled better, including better maneuverability. Information on the "Goshikisen" is rather scarce, so this book is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!**

Excellent reference book, filled with technical specs, and lots of good pictures.

Very informative, and well written. Found interesting facts that I did not know.

1st Class rendition!

Oustanding publication! A great and awesome book, about the "Tony" fighter plane, with amazing illustrations and photos. Highly recommendable!

Super!

Love the book

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