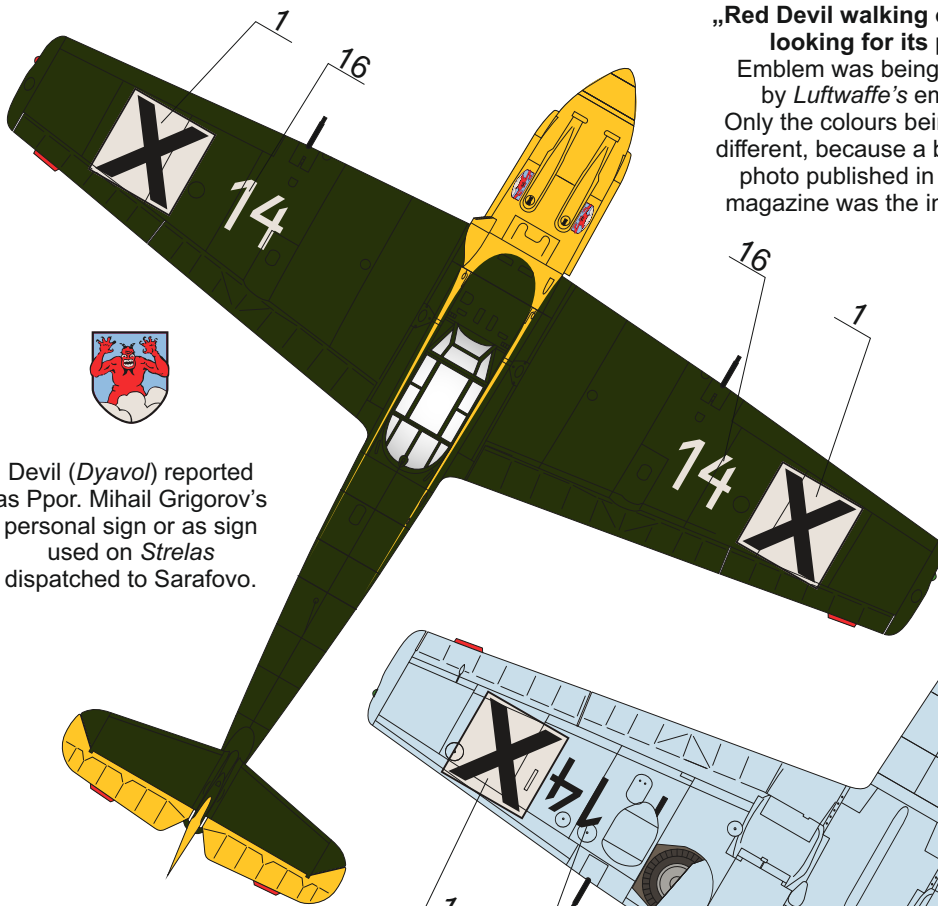
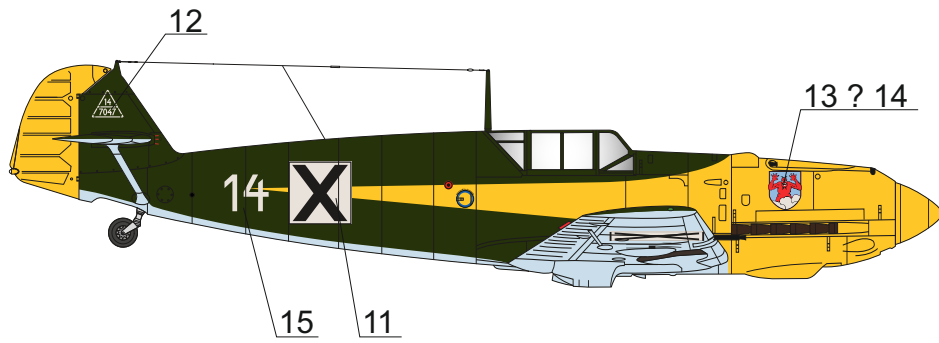
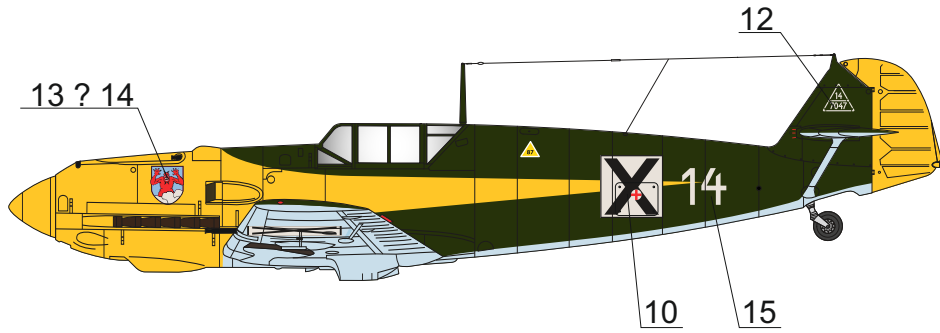


Dark Green
Mid Green
Light Blue

Bf 109 E-3a Strela 12/7047  
1/6 Iztrebitelen Orlyak, Karlovo airfield, August 1941



**„Red Devil walking on clouds, looking for its prey”**

Emblem was being inspired by *Luftwaffe's* emblem. Only the colours being slightly different, because a black/white photo published in German magazine was the inspiration.

Dark Green
Mid Green
Light Blue
Yellow



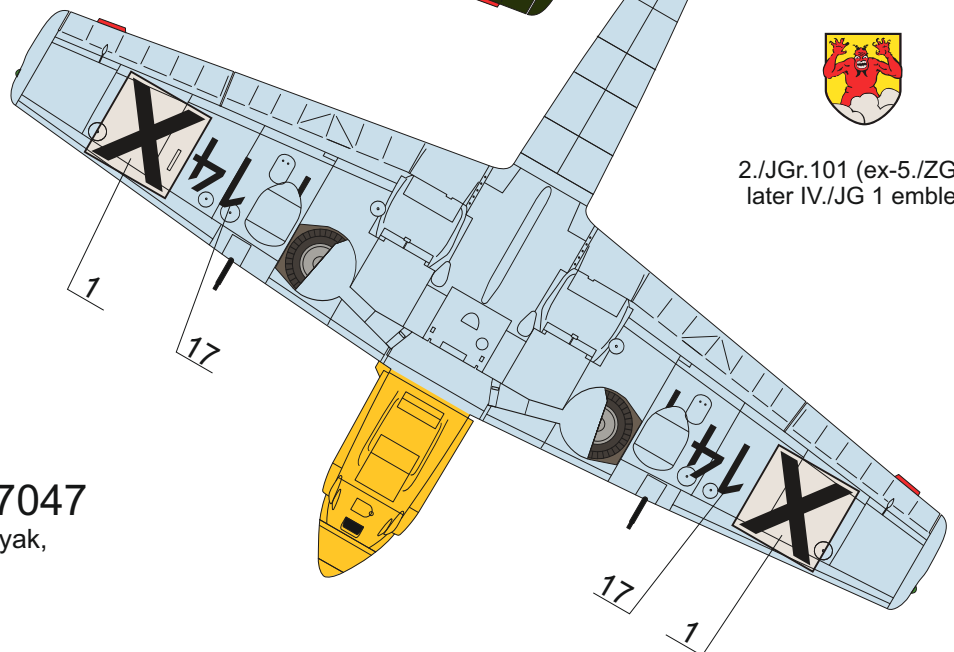
Devil (*Dyavol*) reported as Ppor. Mihail Grigorov's personal sign or as sign used on *Strelas* dispatched to Sarafovo.

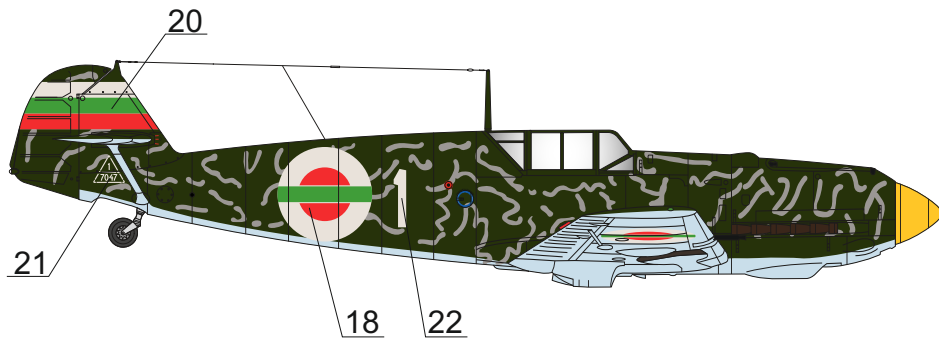
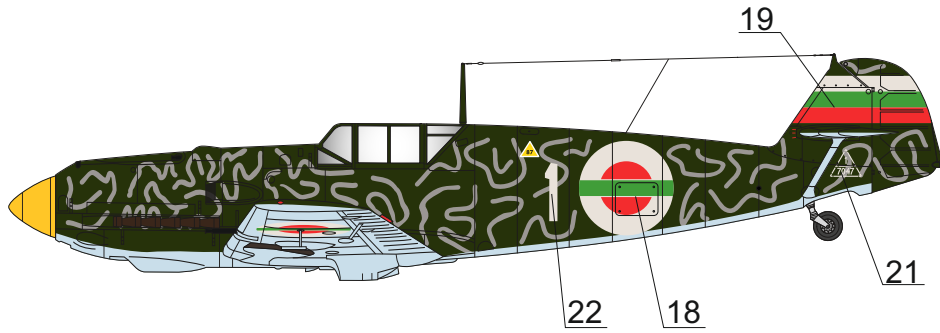


2./JGr.101 (ex-5./ZG 1), later IV./JG 1 emblem.

**Bf 109 E-3a Strela 14/7047**

692. Iztrebitelno Yato of „Galata” Orlyak, pilot Podporuchik Mihail G. Grigorov, Sarafovo airfield, November 1941.





Dark Green
Light Grey
Light Blue

Bf 109 E-3a Strela 1/7047  
3/6 Iztrebitelen Orlyak, Karlovo airfield, winter 1945/46.



# Short info about Bulgarian colours from Bulgarian Fighter Colours vol.1

(Denes Bernad, Stratus 2018)

Dark Green

Mid Green

Light Blue

The Author believes the camouflage scheme worn by Bulgarian 109Es consisted of Dark Green (similar to **RLM 71**, not RLM 70 Black Green) fuselage spine and upper engine cowling, while the fuselage and engine cowlings sides were Mid Green (a bit lighter than **RLM 62**).

The upper surfaces of the wings were a combination of two green colours, applied in so-called *splinter* scheme. Some planes (like 14/7047) had only one colour (Dark Green) fuselage and fin, as well as wing upper surfaces. All under surfaces were Light Blue (similar to **RLM 65**).

The rudder was divided horizontally into three equal areas, White (top), vivid Green (middle) and blood Red (bottom) - Bulgaria's national colours. At delivery, the aircraft did not have any Bulgarian military markings, or coded applied.

Shortly after the military marking change (late June 1940), the Bf 109Es also received an „arrow” style Yellow decoration, typical for Bulgarian warplanes. This consisted in a wraparound engine cowling, followed by a rearward tapering flash, running along the fuselage sides up to the tail.

The colour of the Bulgarian Messerschmitts' fancy paint job was bright Yellow (possibly **RLM 04**). Possibly in spring of 1941, prior to the invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece by *Wehrmacht*, the tricolour on the rudder was covered with a layer of bright Yellow (**RLM 04**) paint.

Also elevators had been painted Yellow at the same time. Some planes received Yellow painted propeller spinner.

Yellow

A significant change in colours and markings happened in October 1945.

At that point, the square-style „pro-Axis” markings was replaced with round-style one, so called „Fatherland Front” or OF-style markings.

Parallel to, or about the same time as this change, the camouflage colours also changed radically. The previous Dark Green over Light Blue scheme gave way to a new scheme, typical for Bulgarian single-engine fighters and bombers of immediate post-war era.

It is believed, the camouflage colours consisted of an Dark Green (Olive Green) basecoat with Light Grey squiggles over it, applied on upper surfaces, while the under surfaces were probably Light Blue. Quite possibly that paints were of Soviet origin, in the A-x, AGT-x or AMT-x series, but there is no proof for this theory.

Dark Green

Light Grey

Light Blue

photo credits: Denes Bernad - Bulgarian Fighter Colours 1919-1948, published in Poland in 2018 by Stratus s.j.

