

Savoia Marchetti SM.79 Sparviero: The Legendary Italian Bomber of World War II

A Masterpiece of Italian Engineering



Emerging from the fertile minds of the Savoia Marchetti engineers, the SM.79 Sparviero (Sparrowhawk) was a marvel of Italian aviation. Its genesis lay in 1934, when the Regia Aeronautica (Royal Italian Air Force) sought a modern medium bomber capable of delivering a heavy payload over long distances.



Savoia-Marchetti S.79 Sparviero Bomber Units (Combat Aircraft Book 122) by Stephen L. Moore

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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The design team, led by the brilliant Alessandro Marchetti, meticulously crafted the Sparviero, incorporating innovative features that set it apart from its contemporaries. Its sleek, streamlined fuselage and distinctive triple-tail fin configuration gave it unparalleled stability and maneuverability, ensuring precise bombing runs at high altitudes.

Unleashing Its Power in Combat

With the outbreak of World War II in 1939, the SM.79 Sparviero was thrust into the heart of the conflict, proving its mettle on numerous fronts. It played a pivotal role in the Regia Aeronautica's campaigns in North Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Mediterranean, delivering devastating payloads on enemy targets.

The Sparviero's versatility was evident in its adaptability to various roles. It served as a long-range bomber, carrying a massive 2,200 pounds of bombs, and as a torpedo bomber, sinking Allied warships with its deadly armament.



The SM.79 Sparviero in torpedo-carrying configuration, a formidable threat to Allied shipping

Stalwart Crews and Daring Missions

Behind the success of the SM.79 Sparviero lay the unwavering courage and skill of its crews. These brave airmen faced immense danger during their perilous missions, navigating enemy fire and poor weather conditions with unwavering determination.

One such crew, led by Captain Carlo Emanuele Buscaglia, etched their names in history during a daring daylight raid on the heavily defended British naval base at Alexandria in 1940. Despite encountering fierce

opposition, they successfully dropped their payload, inflicting significant damage on the enemy fleet.

Legacy and Impact

The Savoia Marchetti SM.79 Sparviero left an enduring legacy in the annals of aviation history. It became a symbol of Italian ingenuity and technological prowess, serving with distinction throughout World War II and beyond.

After the war, the Sparviero continued its service in the postwar Italian Air Force and in various civilian roles, demonstrating its adaptability and longevity. Today, it stands as a testament to the remarkable achievements of Italian aircraft design and the indomitable spirit of its pilots.

Explore the Legend in Depth

For those captivated by the allure of the Savoia Marchetti SM.79 Sparviero, delve deeper into its fascinating history and operational record with "Combat Aircraft 122: Savoia Marchetti 79 Sparviero Bomber Units." This comprehensive book, meticulously researched and richly illustrated, offers an unparalleled insight into the design, development, and combat exploits of this legendary Italian bomber.

Immerse yourself in the technical details, witness the daring missions, and honor the brave men who flew the SM.79 Sparviero. Free Download your copy today and embark on a captivating journey through the skies of World War II.

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