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Jose Fernandez

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Jose Fernandez : Macchi C.200 Saetta before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Macchi C.200 Saetta:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another great book from Mushroom.By Chuck Dinges MsgtNot much to say, other than it is another GREAT and valuable Mushroom reference book! I have not been disappointed by any of their books yet. The photos are ALWAYS an extra treat!5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Excellent MMP monographBy Jim DavisThis is the 13th book in MMP's Orange Series (No. 8113). Like the others it is a B5 sized (6 1/2" x 9") square bound card cover with color throughout. The page count is a fairly modest 112 pages. I am happy to report that the cover photo is indeed a color photo and not a colorized black and white photo.The book has all the features usually found in this series. There are sections detailing the design and development, testing,

service introduction, and combat history. The combat history is supplemented by two sidebars with interesting personal reminiscences of pilots in Russia and North Africa. In addition there is a comprehensive technical description, production table, camouflage table, and specification table. The highlight of these books for me is always the section showing the details of the aircraft with color photos of surviving examples supplemented by period photos and technical documentation. Graphically, the book has 29 pages of color profiles with some color plan views. As has become the norm with recent MMP releases these are scattered throughout the book instead of collected at the back. There are the usual fine line drawings with the 1/72nd scale drawings in the book proper and the 1/48th scale drawings on an unbound foldout. If buying secondhand make sure this is included. An unusual feature of these Macchi fighters is the different left and right wing spans to counter engine torque. The drawings capture this perfectly. There are no 1/32nd scale drawings no doubt due to a lack of kits in this scale. Interestingly for an aircraft of this period there are a large number of period color photographs included in this volume. Whether availability or MMP policy was the reason for this I don't know but it is a welcome feature. Highly recommended. If you like previous MMP titles in this series you should like this one. There is a future volume planned for the Macchi C.202. I look forward to it and hope that the contemporary Fiat monoplane fighters and Reggiane fighters also get covered in due course.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A not too common aircraft

By John Matlock

The Macchi C.200 Saetta (Thunderbolt) was a late pre-World War II aircraft. It suffered from the problems of that time and of being Italian. Unfortunately Italy was never able to design and build first rate aircraft engines of the type and power of the other major combatants. The Saetta had an engine of 840 horsepower while the engines of the P-40, Spitfire, Hurricane and Bf (Me) 109 were all up over a thousand horsepower. Further, the Saetta had only two machine guns. They were fifty caliber which helped, but there were only two and they fired through the propeller arc which means they did not shoot while the propeller would be hit by a bullet. (Later versions had two additional .30 caliber guns.) Almost 1200 Saettas were built, but by the time Italy withdrew from the war there were only some 40 to 50 still serviceable. As with the other books in this series, this book is filled with pictures taken during the war, and there is a fairly large section of pictures taken specially for this book from aircraft that are still in existence at museums. There is one at the US Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio.

The Macchi C.200 Saetta (also variously identified as the MC.200) was a WWII fighter aircraft built by Aeronautica Macchi in Italy, and used in various forms throughout the Regia Aeronautica (Italian Air Force). The C.200 had excellent maneuverability and the general flying characteristics left little to be desired. The design, development and operations of these aircraft is told in detail, illustrated with many previously unpublished photos. Color schemes and markings are described and illustrated. Scale plans in 1/72nd and 1/48th. The author is a renowned aviation historian, with many books in both French and English to his name.