

**78. North American P-51D serial # [unknown] *Wee Willie's Wreck*
341st Fighter Squadron, 348th Fighter Group**



Wee Willie's Wreck flew late in the war, and was assigned to 1st Lt William Whelge. It is profiled as it appeared on Iwojima in August 1945. After the war it served with the 8th FG in Japan. Although Pacific Mustangs were credited with substantially less kills than their Thunderbolt or Lightning counterparts, there was good reason. By the end of January 1945, when most Fifth Air Force Mustangs commenced operations, Japanese aerial opposition was all but denuded. First, most Imperial Army units had been decimated wholesale by the maw of the Fifth's low-level strikes in New Guinea. Second, many remaining units, including Imperial Navy ones, had been recalled to defend mainland Japan. The few enemy fighters which remained over Philippines skies were mostly flown by green pilots, lacking enthusiasm, but without experience. Many Mustang pilots, who went to rack scores, lamented the obvious lack of aerial opposition.

**79. North American F-6C-NA serial # 44-1191
110th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 71st Tactical Reconnaissance Group**

