

Rogozarski IK-3

The IK-3 was the first low wing monoplane with retractable undercarriage built in Yugoslavia. Initial design commences in 1936 and 12 production aircraft were delivered in mid 1940.

By 6 April 1941, when the Axis forces invaded Yugoslavia, 6 aircraft were serviceable. The German first wave consisted of 234 medium bombers and dive bombers escorted by 120 fighters. The 16 IK-3s rose to meet the attack however one suffered engine trouble and was unable to engage.

The remaining five were immediately set upon by German fighters but gave a good account of themselves downing five of the enemy for the loss of two of their own. One more was damaged when strafed on the ground. Three aircraft remained serviceable after the first wave.

Over the next few days the IK-3 flew several sorties claiming another six visitors for the loss of one. Another aircraft was returned from workshops so the force remained at three. On 12 April all remaining aircraft were burned by their crews when German forces came within 15km of their fields.

Data: *Engine* one Avia built version of the Hispano-Suiza liquid cooled V-12 engine of 730kW. *Wing span* 13.3m. *Length* 8m. *Maximum Take-off weight* 2630kg. *Maximum speed* 527 km/h. *Range* 785 km. *Armament* one 20mm cannon and two 7.92 mm machine guns. *Crew* 1.

Aviation USK 1/72 kit completed by Steve Pulbrook in 2010.



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