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B-17 Painting - Chapter Member's Aircraft

OPTION # 2

(O.K. to Check-out but not to be copied)



35

(OVER)

BACK COVER PAINTING

This month's back cover painting, entitled "American Royalty", is the work of artist Mark Clapsadle of 447 Wirth Avenue, Akron, OH 44312 (phone: 216/794-0784) and was a Par Excellence winner in the 1988 EAA Aviation Art Competition.

For Mark Clapsadle, art and aviation have always gone hand in hand. His early childhood days were spent in rural Ohio drawing or building model aircraft to fly or display. After graduating from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh with a degree in commercial advertising and illustration, he served in the United States Coast Guard as a technical illustrator and photo lab technician. He has spent the last eighteen years in the advertising-graphic arts design field and is currently employed as a technical illustrator with a leading aerospace corporation. Mark is proficient in a variety of mediums, preferring oils for his aviation art because of their rich texture and luminous qualities, which bring his paintings to life. His paintings can be found in galleries and many private collections throughout the country.

This painting depicts what must have been a common sight throughout the 8th Air Force during the early 1940s in wartime England. Painting nose art on aircraft became very popular during that period, adding to the already colorful reputation of the "Yankee" air crews.