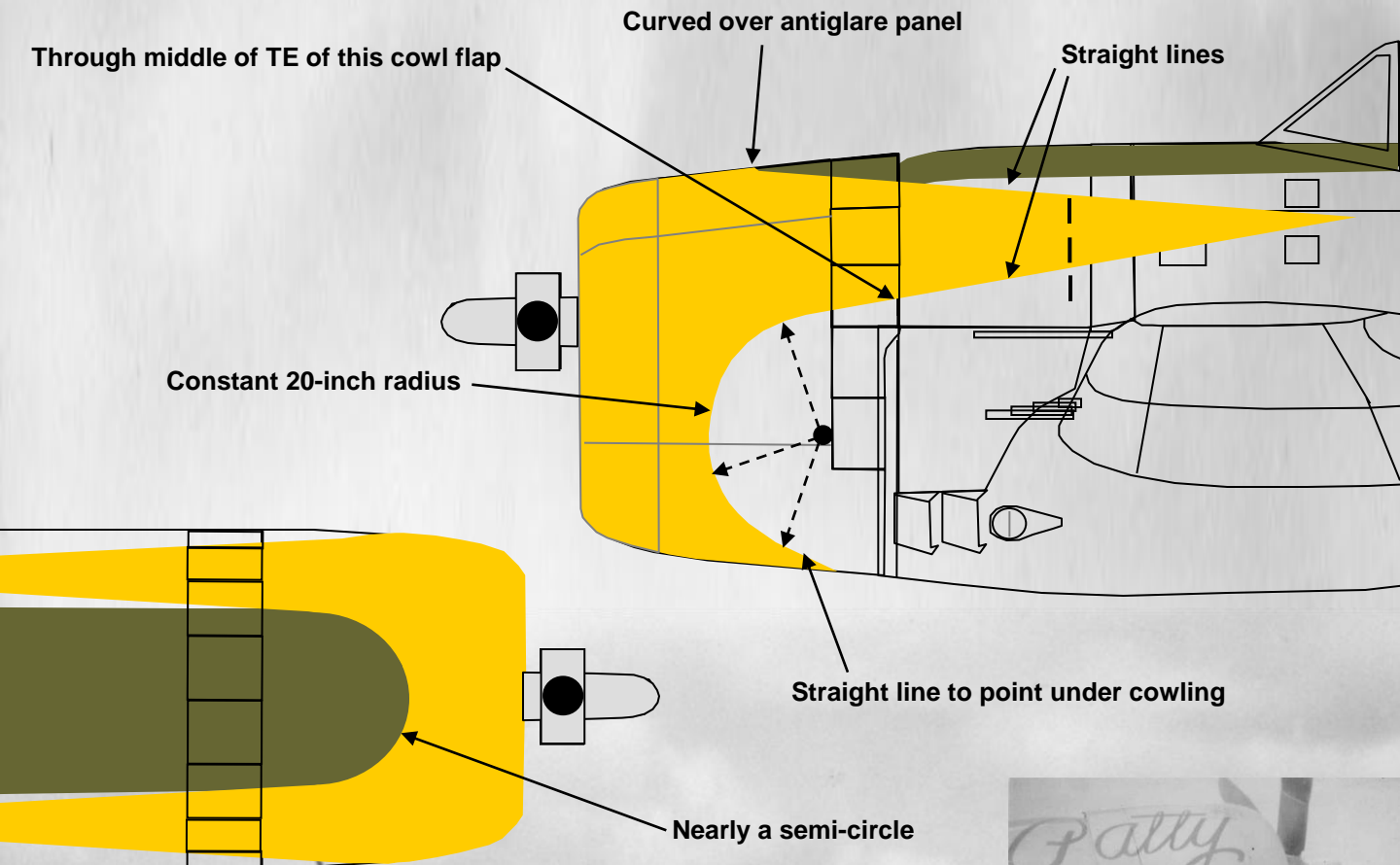
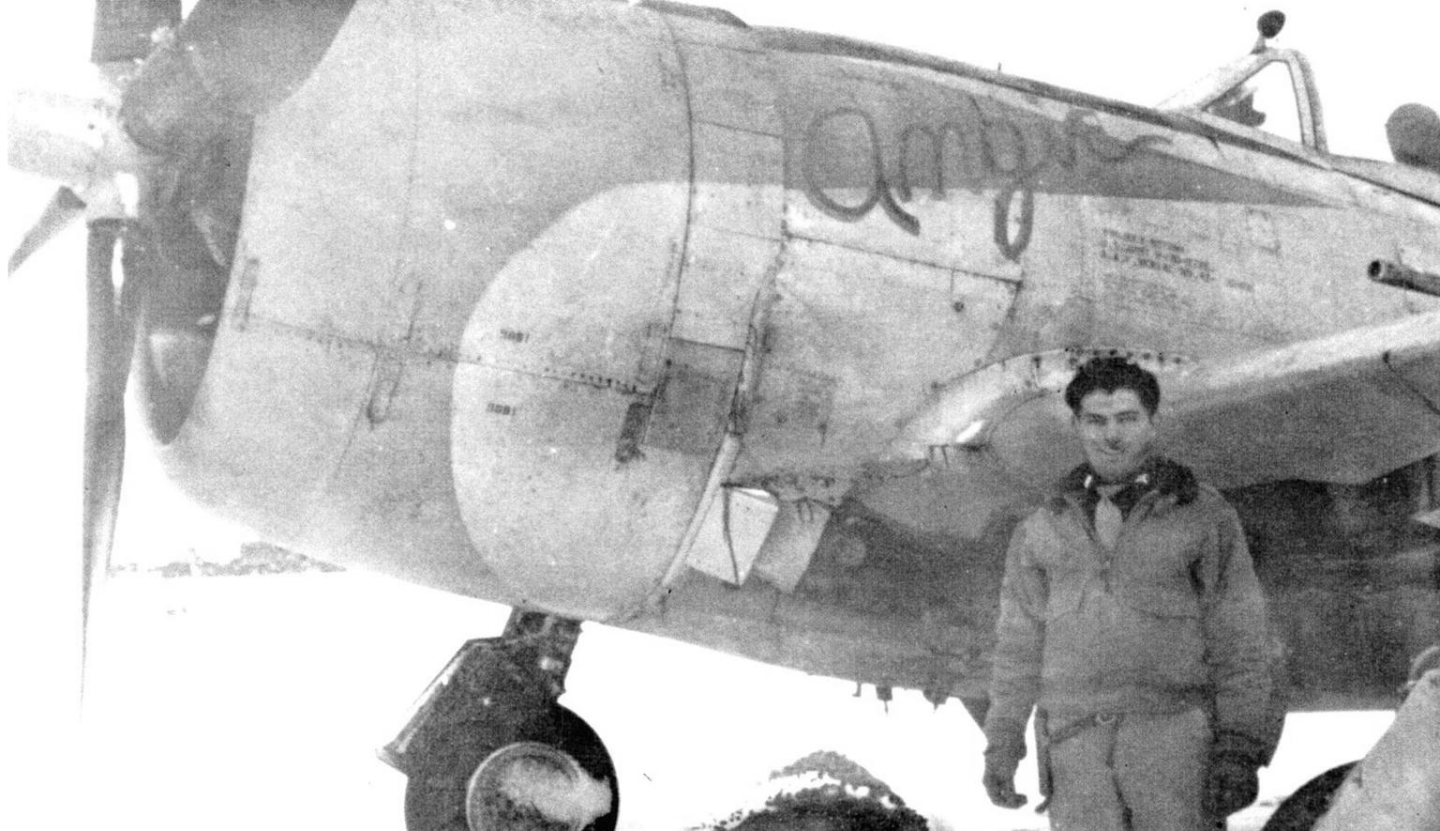


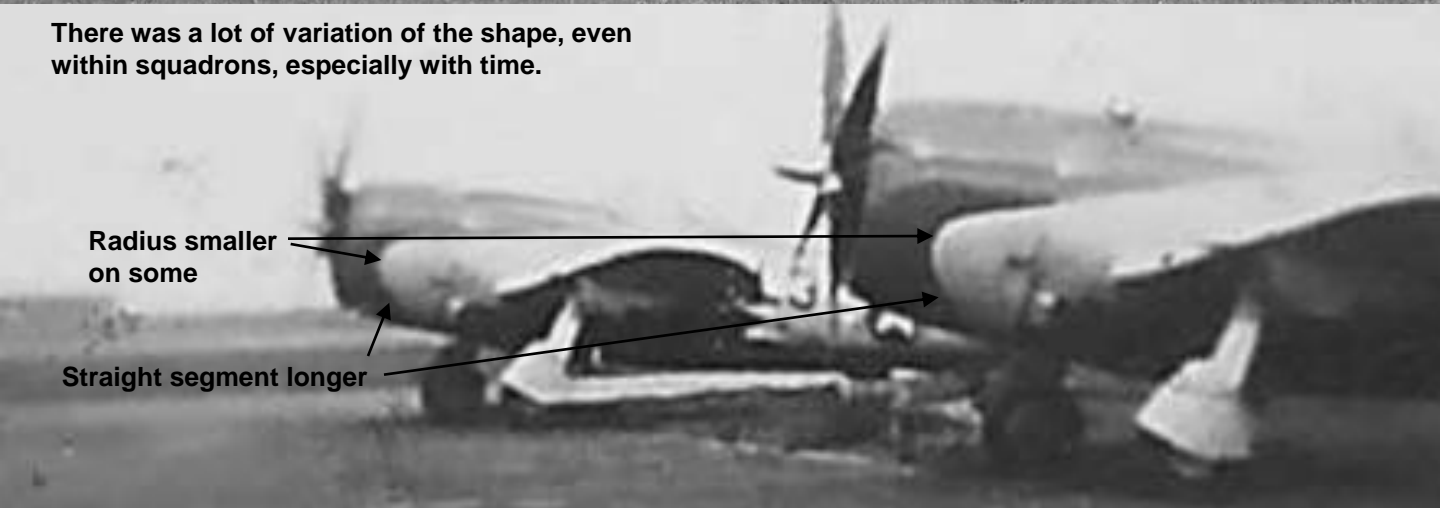
The Nose Blaze

Variouly known as the “flash” or “blaze” or “pennant” or “scallop,” the stylized shape painted on the cowl and forward upper fuselage of 406th Fighter Group P-47s was unique in history. Other 9th AF fighter units had elaborate shapes painted on their noses, but none quite like the blaze of the 406th. Because it was not painted on every aircraft by the same person, the exact shape of the blaze varied from squadron to squadron and from plane to plane. The drawing on this page shows a standard for the shape commonly seen in the 512th and 514th Squadrons.





There was a lot of variation of the shape, even within squadrons, especially with time.

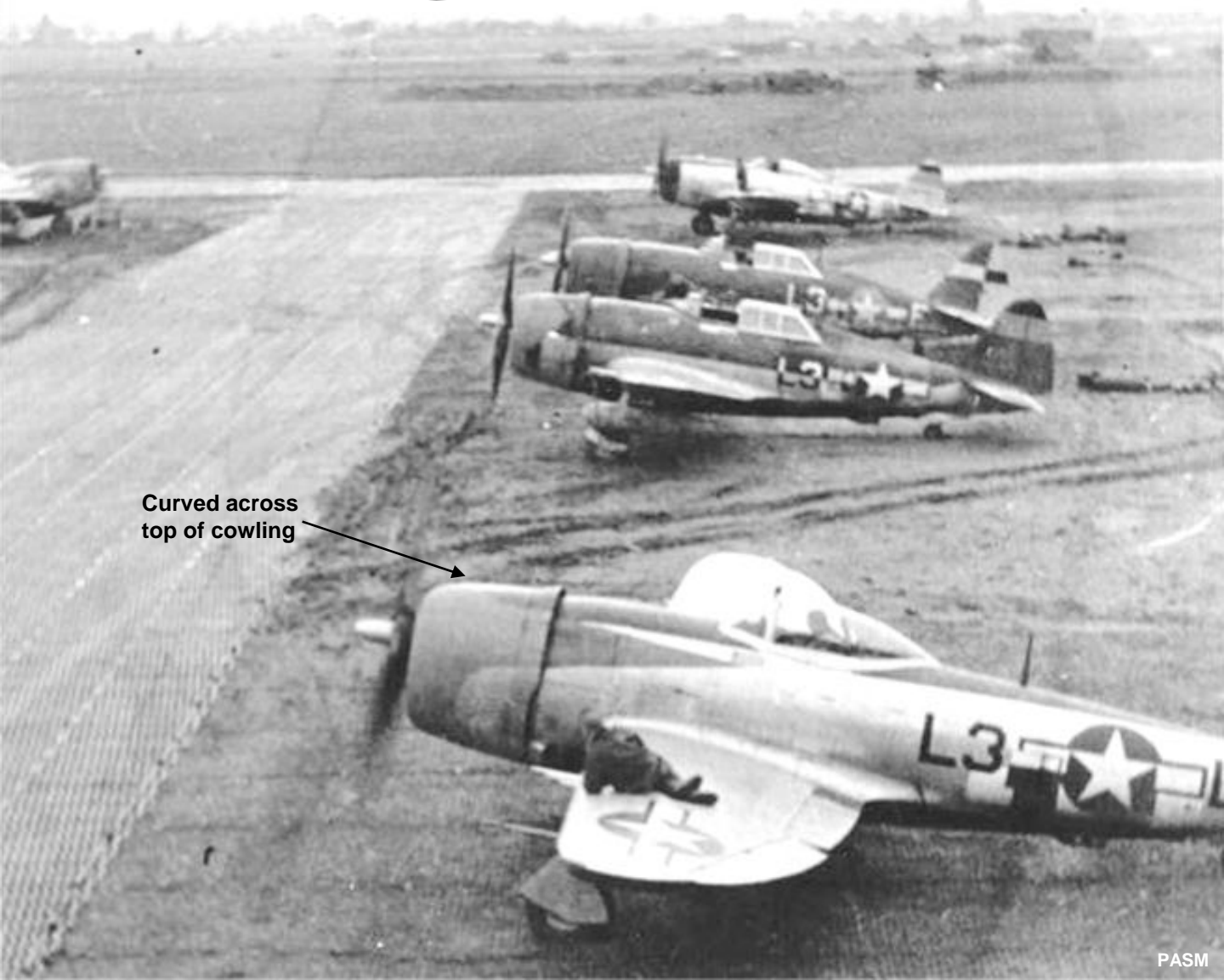
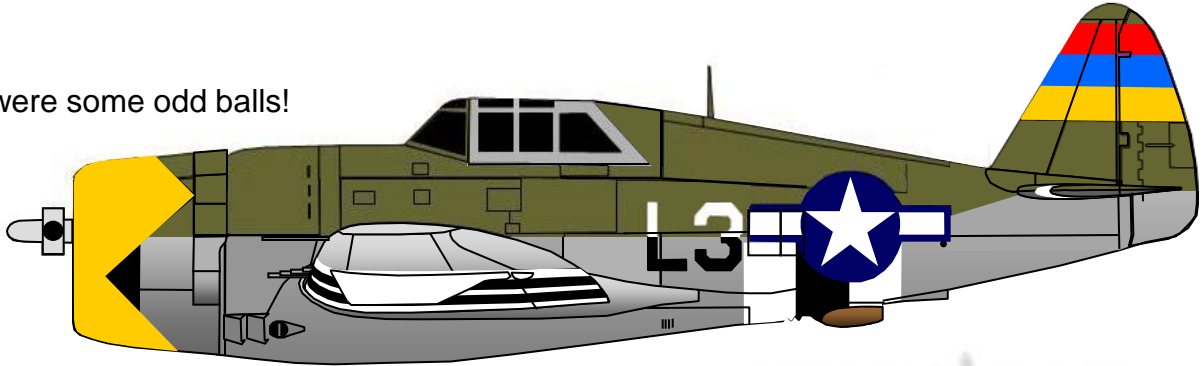


Some of the photographic film used at the time made these yellow 512th FS nose blazes look very dark.

Some older P-47s received The blaze



There were some odd balls!



Curved across top of cowling



The 513th Nose Blaze

The 513th FS adopted a slightly different shape for the blaze, bringing it down lower on the cowling, sharpening the lower curve, and squaring off the area over the anti-glare panel. There was also more variability in the blaze shapes in the 513th, especially in the shape of the curve on the lower half of the cowling side panel. Some of these came to a very sharp point with little curve.

