



### Profile 73      PV-1 Bu Aer unknown

Lieutenant Colonel Jack Colby's VMF(N)-531 logo was applied to this airframe just prior to the unit deploying overseas. The shrouded Grim Reaper was applied over a square matt black background just forward of a star-and-bars insignia. The aircraft is featured as it appeared in the US, with its unknown squadron number yet to be applied.

### Profile 74      PV-1 Bu Aer 29811 *Eight Ball*

This Ventura arrived in the Russell Islands on 19 October 1943 as a replacement aircraft. Its assigned crew named their aircraft *Eight Ball*, a slang term for habitual slackers of the time. They applied the name and motif to the nose as well as painting both maingear hubs with the same motif. They also memorialised the previous Jenkins crew, lost on the night of 3 December 1943, by stencilling their names as illustrated. This Ventura was from the second production run of PV-1s and has a more pointed nose than the first but retained the nose windows. It was among the squadron's five remaining airworthy PV-1s which returned to Hawaii in August 1944. For some reason it had no squadron number applied and was delivered in the USN three-tone camouflage scheme with the red-surround star-and-bar insignia.