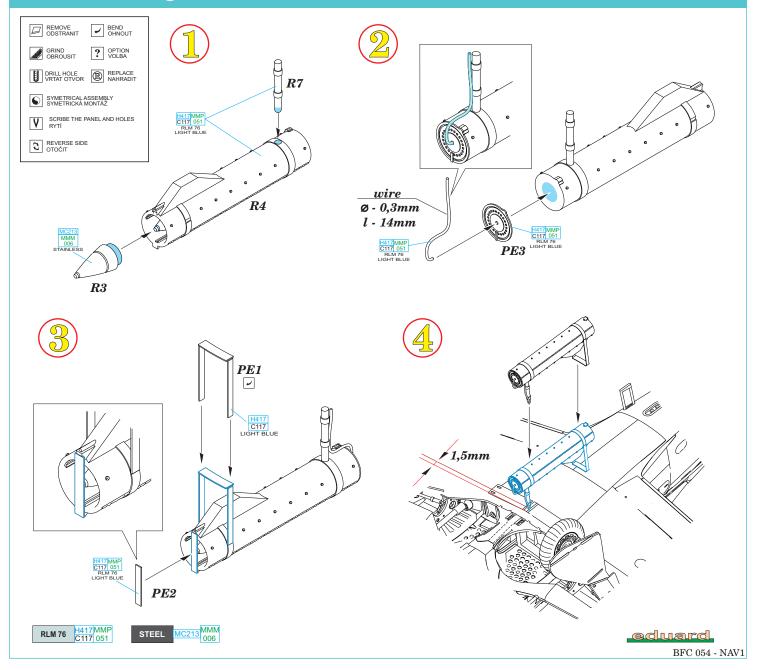
## WGr.21 Krebsgerät for Fw 190



## Fw 190A-8/R2, 12.(Sturm)/ JG 3, Barth, Germany, May 1944

For the purposes of achieving as much destructive power against American four-engined heavy bombers as possible, Bf 109 and Fw 190 interceptors were armed with high calibre weapons. Some were equipped with the W.Gr.21 system hung under the aircraft, which was a metal tube used as a launcher for a 210 mm rocket. These were originally surface to surface weapons in the form of the Nebelwerfer 42. Late versions of the Fw 190A carried one tube under each wing. IV.(Sturm)/ JG 3 tested a variation on this theme in May 1944, carrying a single W.Gr.21 mounted under the fuselage and firing to the rear. This was dubbed Krebsgerät. The rocket, including its launch equipment, weighed 112 kg, over 40 kg being accounted for by the warhead. The range of the weapon was 1200 m. The aircraft, photographed with Uffz. Willi Unger, carries a camouflage scheme consisting of RLM 74/75/76. The black cowling and stylised Adlerflügel place this plane in the services of IV./ JG 3. The spinner is black with a yellow spiral.

