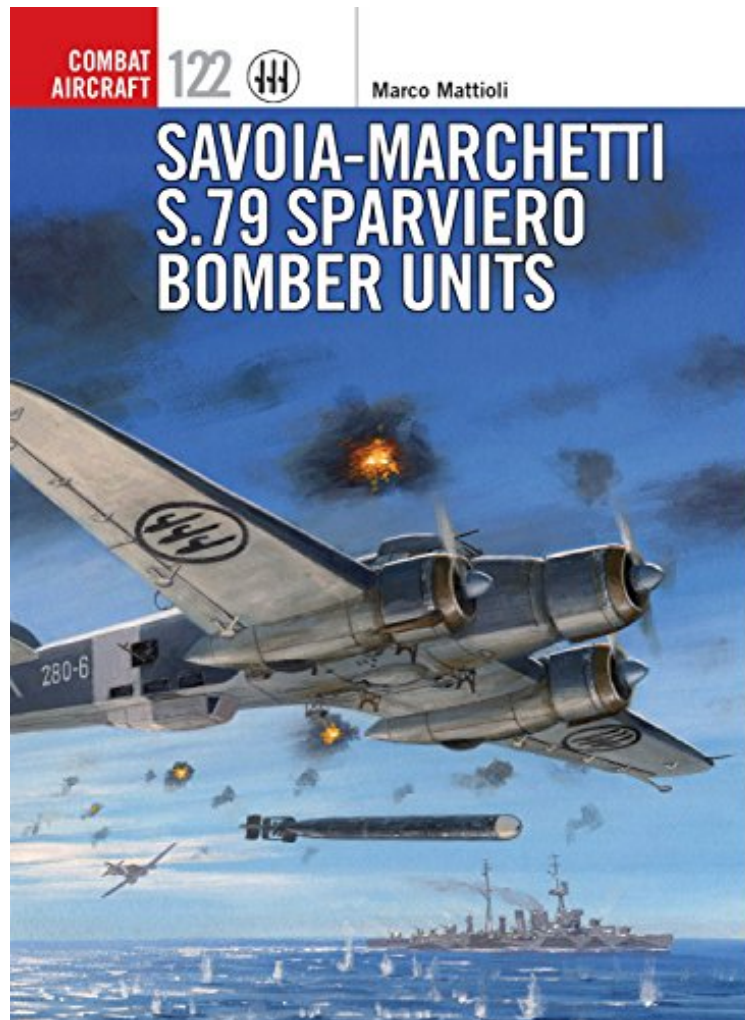


## Savoia-Marchetti S.79 Sparviero Bomber Units (Combat Aircraft)

Marco Mattioli

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**Marco Mattioli : Savoia-Marchetti S.79 Sparviero Bomber Units (Combat Aircraft)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Savoia-Marchetti S.79 Sparviero Bomber Units (Combat Aircraft):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Combat Log of the S.79 By R. J. Morgan This was a nice surprise, producing a fascinating book on the combat record of the Savoia-Marchetti Sparviero, the odd-looking tri-motor used by the Italian Air Force in torpedo-attack role during World War II. Layout is in chronological order covering combat operations for both the Regia Aeronautica and its late-war AR successor. Technical details on the aircraft are limited, the text almost entirely covering the men and units that flew the high risk torpedo-attack missions throughout the Mediterranean against the Allied forces. Photographic selection is excellent and includes in-flight and in-combat shots. Profiles are nicely done in typical Osprey fashion and include two pages of unit insignia. Modelers will appreciate the

different views of the complex Italian camouflage used throughout the war. Cover art is excellent as well. It's refreshing to see a relatively obscure aircraft like the S.79 covered with its own book; this effort is an excellent effort for its size and cost. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great book on this aircraft By Scott Bailey Good overview of the units and aircraft development in WW2. Book talks about the mission and the pilots who flew them, many pictures and color drawing of the aircraft. Interesting part of the book is the use of this aircraft after Italy surrendered. One group continue to use this aircraft in its intended role fought for the Germans after the surrender of Italy. Another group used the aircraft as a transport for the Allies after the surrender of Italy. Many unit histories are covered who used this aircraft. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not knowing a lot about Italian bomber/torpedo units in W. ... By carbinemike Not knowing a lot about Italian bomber/torpedo units in W.W.II, I found this book very insightful for its history of the units and individuals, tactics and color plates.

Italy's most successful wartime bomber, the S.79 was also the most produced, with around 1370 built between 1936 and early 1944. The Sparviero (Sparrowhawk) saw combat with the Regia Aeronautica in France, Yugoslavia, Greece, North Africa, East Africa and in the Mediterranean. Initially developed by Savoia-Marchetti as a transport, the aircraft had evolved into a dedicated medium bomber by the time the S.79-I made its combat debut with the Aviazione Legionaria in the Spanish Civil War in 1936. A robust bomber, the S.79 provided the striking power for most of Italy's aerial campaigns. A proven torpedo-bomber, the Sparviero also made a solid contribution to Italy's maritime war in the Mediterranean. Although initially hampered by poor tactics, the S.79 bomber crews nonetheless scored sunk a number of Allied vessels. Indeed, the Sparviero bombers patrolled ceaselessly over the Mediterranean, providing a constant threat to Allied sailors in the early stages of the war. In East Africa and the Red Sea the Sparvieri were the most modern bombers in-theater, proving a challenge to RAF and SAAF biplane fighters. This proposed volume aims to chronicle the history of the S.79's war in the Mediterranean, North Africa, Greece, the Balkans and East Africa. S.79 bombers, in action from the first day of the war in the Mediterranean until late 1942, played their part in numerous actions, operating as both strategic and tactical bombers. From 1943 until war's end, the S.79 served as auxiliary and liaison transport aircraft. A small number continued to see action as bombers through to 1945, however, serving with the pro-German ANR in northern Italy.

About the Author A native of Rome, Marco Mattioli has been interested in military history since he was a teenager. In 1992 he joined the Italian National Journalist Order, after which he was employed as a writer for several leading Italian history publishers. A contributor to many important Italian history and defense magazines, as well as the author of a number of books on Italian military aviation, he wrote Osprey Aviation Elite Units 38 – 53° Stormo and Osprey Combat Aircraft 106 - Savoia-Marchetti S.79 Sparviero Torpedo-Bomber Units Richard Caruana is a Malta-based artist whose profile artwork is well known, and respected, in aviation modelling periodicals such as Scale Aviation Modelling and Scale Models. He has illustrated all of Osprey Aviation's Italian World War 2 titles.