Hurricane fighters were also used in the Soviet Union during the war. This meant Elsie had to design a version of the plane that could fly in icy weather. She added skis so the plane could land on snow, and fitted de-icing systems on the propellers, tail and wings.

Back in the 1940s, it was very unusual for a woman to be in charge of such a technical project. Elsie became famous around the world.

In 1942, kids got to read about her incredible achievements when she starred in a comic called “Queen of the Hurricanes: Elsie MacGill.”