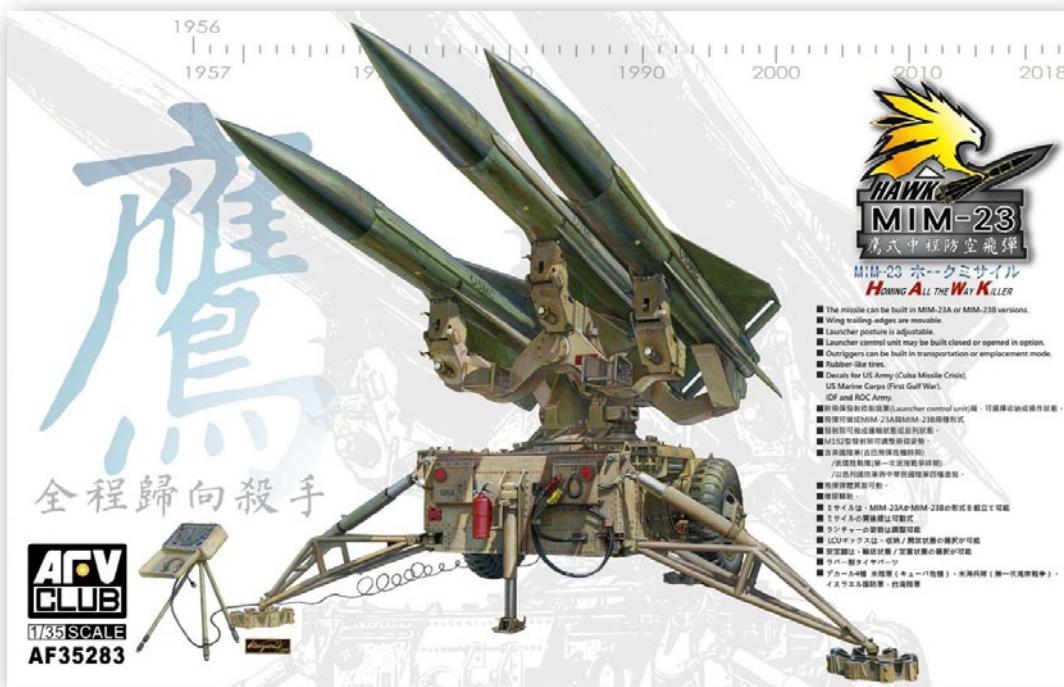


AFC Club Hawk MIM-23

By Ben Morton



The Army Recognition website has the following about the Raytheon Hawk Missile: The HAWK (Homing All the Way Killer) MIM-23 is an all-weather low to medium altitude ground-to-air missile system developed and designed by the American Defense Company Raytheon. The HAWK semi-active radar seeking medium-range SAM system commenced development in 1952 with the US Army awarding a full-scale development contract to Raytheon for the missile in July 1954. Northrop was to provide the launcher and loader, radars and fire control. The first guided test firing took place in June 1956 with the

Continued on page 4.

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Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS/USA). ASMS meets on the third Thursday of each month. Annual dues for full membership are \$25/individual or \$30/family. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. It is intended for educational purposes only. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

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Lake Charles, LA

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alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta
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The IPMS/USA initiative was established to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones, recovering in hospitals, and rehabilitating in specialized facilities. The program is expanding into other areas as well. Some local programs take place in USO facilities, some are centered around active duty personnel and are scattered across the country.

The IPMS/USA Support The Troops program is still going full-tilt. The national program director is Jon Emery. Jon is accepting any and all contributions and is sharing them with all of the active programs around the country.

[www.models4troops@gmail.com](mailto:models4troops@gmail.com)



The Presidents **NOTE PAD**

By Randy Bumgardner

Here we are at the end of the year. It's December, and another year of fun with plastic is heading to a finale. Our holiday party is swiftly approaching as I write this, and, as you read this, it was great. We have a couple of contests at our meeting this month, so be sure to finish up your White Elephant builds and bring in your Model of the Month winners from this year's previous meetings.

First off, let me wish everyone who reads this Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Yule, or however you like to hear it. The intention is the same - have fun and be nice to those around you. It's pretty simple. Have a safe holiday season wherever you are and enjoy yourselves.

This months meeting will feature two contests, our annual White Elephant and the Model of the Year. So, bring in your completed White Elephant kits for fun, and prizes. We will be handing out gift certificates to King's Hobby Shop for those entrants who place first, second, and third. The first place winner will also be the Model of the Month for December and entered in the Model of the Year contest. If you won the Model of the Month in the previous months of 2017, bring your winning kits to the meeting. We will be judging the Model of the Year as well.

That's it for this month - short and sweet! Now, go build something and show it off!

Randy





Continued from page 1.

development phase completed in July 1957. Initial Operational Capability (IOC) of the Basic HAWK, MIM-23A, took place in August 1960 when the first US Army battalion was activated.

Follow the link to a video, via Critical Past, of a Hawk missile blowing a QF-80 drone to smithereens.

(Technical Note: Smithereens is a technical terms for lots and lots of little pieces.)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CmQkpIDAUg>

There have been a number of scale models produced over the years of this cold-war era missile system.

The first one I recall was a 1/40th scale kit from Adams Models. That was followed by Renwall, Revell, Life-Like, Crown, and a 1/87th scale version from Trident.

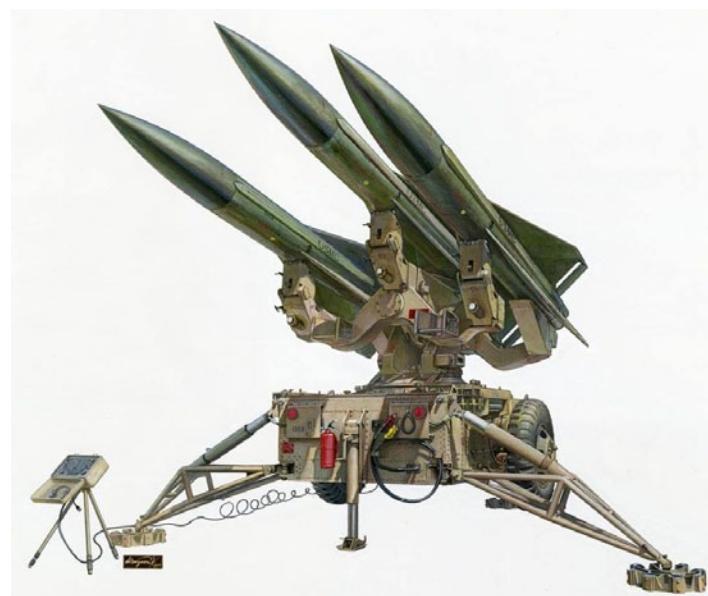


Adams also issued a Hawk missile transport helicopter that was later re-issued by Life-Like. Even Hasbro got into the mix with a G.I. Joe action

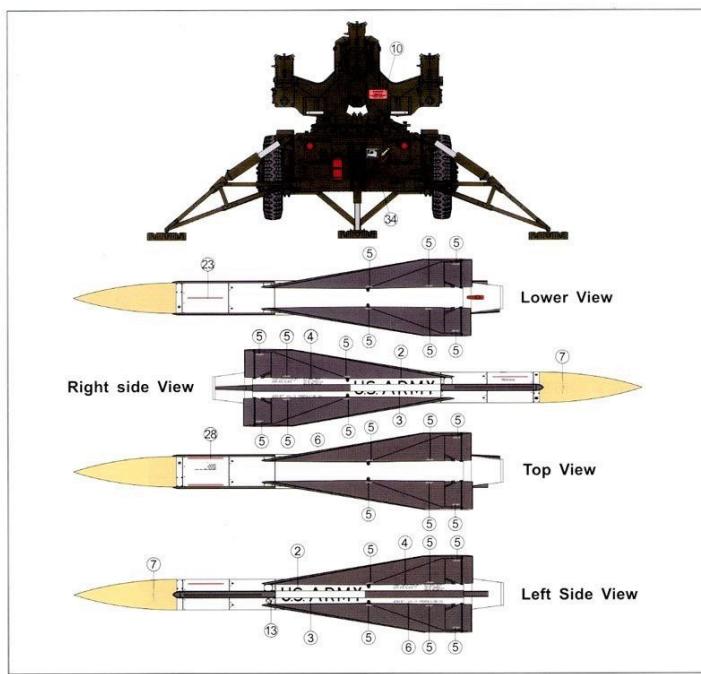


figure version. Most, if not all, of these kits suffer from old age and when found can be either pricey or just down right clunky. (Technical Note: Down right clunky is a technical term for piece of junk.)

The Hawk has always been one of my favorites. Having built several of the available kits at one time or another, it came as a great surprise and delight that AFV Club was releasing a new 1/35th scale US MIM-23 Hawk for my (and your) modeling enjoyment.



The kit has 238 parts in olive drab plastic on seven sprues. There is a separately wrapped plasticine bag that contains the main body of the launcher, two black vinyl tires, and a bit of tubing for the M-192 launcher. AFC Club includes a small fret of photo-etch for the cooling inlets on the launcher and a decal sheet that contains a plethora of warning stencils, placards, and markings found on the prototype launcher and missiles.



The twenty page instruction booklet outlines the twenty three steps needed to complete the model. Only three of those steps involve the missiles. And one of those steps is placing the finished missiles on the launcher. So, you'll be spending the bulk of your time on the very detailed launcher.

There are full-color, decal placement markings in the instructions for four versions of the MIM-23 HAWK. This being an AFV Club release you also get an 8x11 inch glossy Hollywood-type print of the box art, suitable for framing.

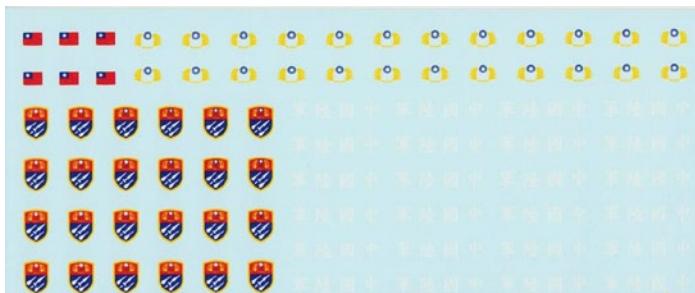
The markings options included:

USMC during the Gulf War

U.S. Army during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Republic of Korea

Israeli Air Force

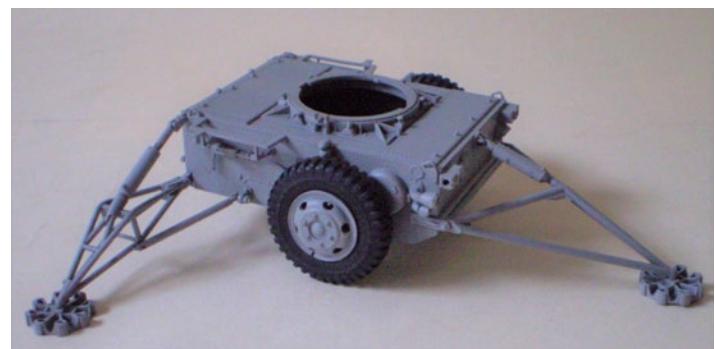


An added bonus with the decals is that the U.S. Army is split in two horizontally to aid in placing

them on the missile. My review kit also had an additional sheet of decals that I can only assume are for the missile fins. (And by extension, an overseas market.) Those markings include some Asian script lettering, two types of markings for Taiwan, and an unidentified set of (what look like) unit badges.



The launcher may be built either in transport or emplaced mode. You'll need to decide which you'd prefer before you begin as the first construction step involves some specific parts which apply to either mode. There are a number of other parts

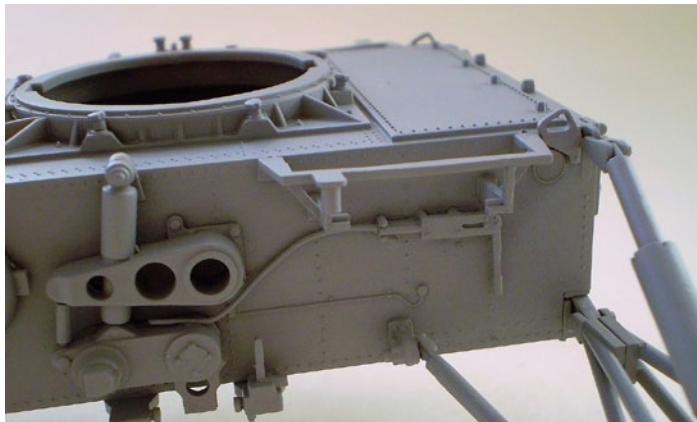


needed throughout the build for the particular mode you've chosen. AFV Club has thoughtfully designated those steps in the assembly instructions with icons.

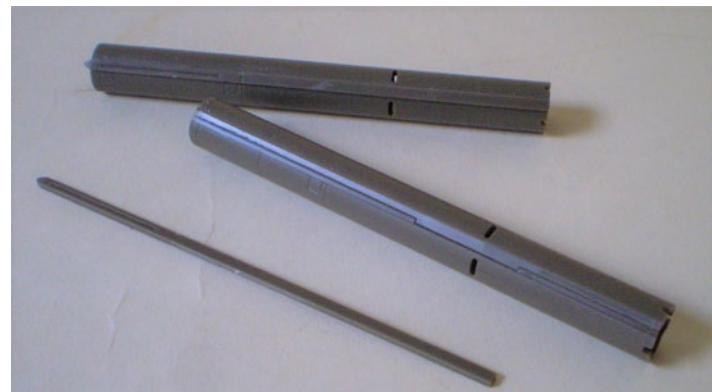
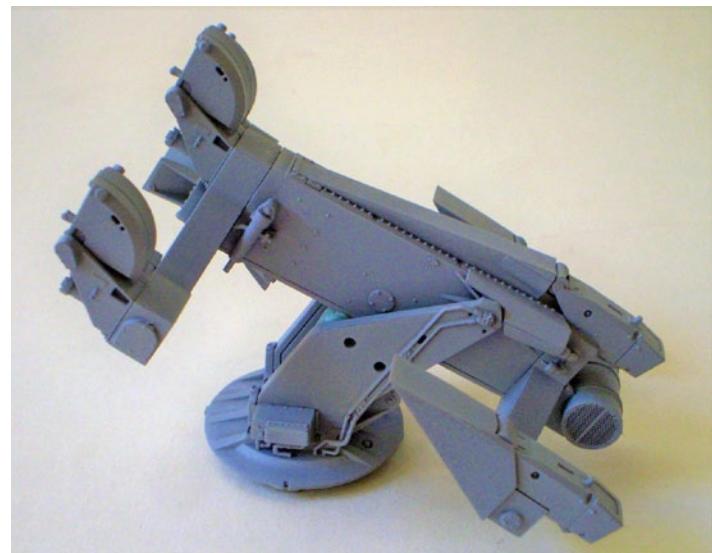




Construction of the kit is pretty straight forward, just exercise some care as you follow along with the instructions. It should be noted that the kit is in scale so a number of parts are a bit fragile. If you're as ham-fisted as I, do be careful. You might just end up breaking or bending a few of the parts. Case in point are the handbrakes (part # C26/C27) on the body of the launcher. There is a delicate brake line that runs from the brake mechanism to the axle. I managed to break this piece several times, gave up, and replaced that molded line with some thin wire.



To help with small part overload, AFV Club has broken down construction into three areas: the base of the launcher, the launch rails, and finally the missiles. This sequencing helps avoid the frustration that I sometimes experience when building a model with oodles of small parts. Several assembly steps do involve a somewhat tricky fit and AFV Club has included a picture of the actual launcher to aid in that placement. Very helpful.



The modular nature of the build might also come in handy when it comes to painting. With all the nooks and crannies, particularly on the launcher, choosing to paint the different sub-assemblies separately might just help with a thorough application of color on all the various components.

As mentioned earlier, most of your build time will be spent on the launcher as the missile assembly only



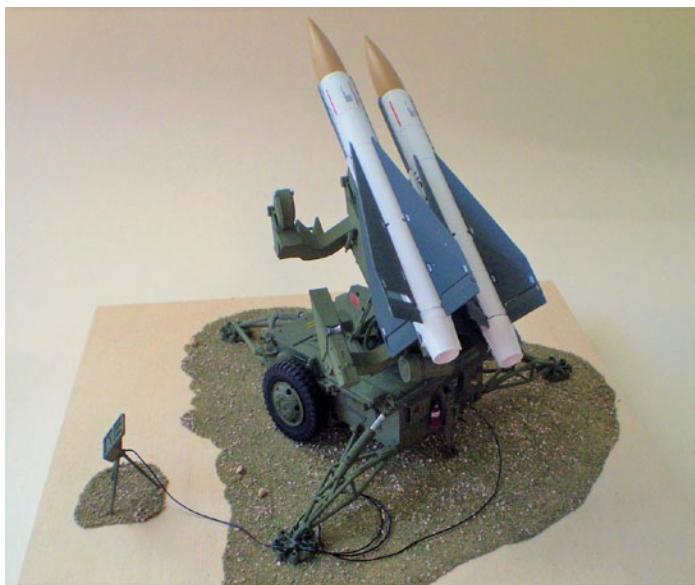
involves two steps. There are nine parts for each missile. The main body of the missile has a seam running down its length. That seam is conveniently hidden by a separate part. There is a nice detail at the rear of the missiles as well. A small part fits into the rear of the missile that represents the nozzle of the boost motor. Very cool! AFV Club also includes two different styles (parts A14/A15) of guidance fins for the missiles. Part number A14 represents the guidance fins used on the missile early in its deployment. Later types used fins represented

by part number A15. The launcher control unit may also be displayed either closed (stowed on the launcher) or opened on a small tripod. You will need to provide your own control cable. Just be sure you "don't push the death button."



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJq_yFjKyRE

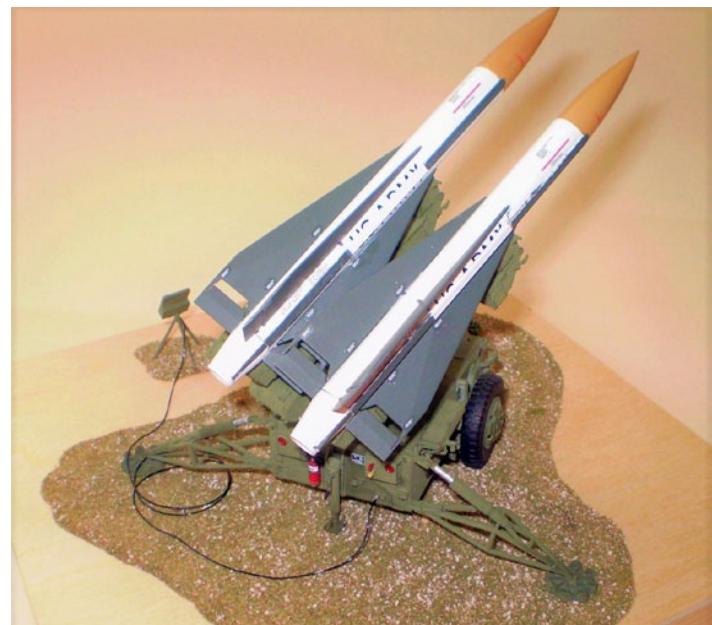
Anyone with building experience shouldn't have any problems with this kit. Although this kit has an inordinate number of itty bitty parts AFV Club does provide a few extras here and there. Which in my



case was manna from heaven as I only managed to lose three or four parts to the carpet monster.



As cool as this kit is novice builders might wish to reconsider or seek out adult supervision. Nevertheless, AFV Club's HAWK MIM-23 will have you Humming All the Way to your own Killer model. (insert groan here!)



My thanks and appreciation to AFV Club for the review copy. Xiè xie nǐ

Ben





ASMS MEETING

**Third Thursday each month
7:00pm - 8:45pm
at the
Old Quarry Branch Library
7051 Village Center Dr.**

Next meeting December 21st, 2017

No Reservations Necessary!



Dig up those coins you've been squirreling away!

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Annual ASMS club dues are \$25.00/individual
or \$30.00/family.

You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit same
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Thanksgiving and Reorganizing

By Rick Cotton

Thanksgiving Week looms in the near-future, like one of those giant Macy's parade balloons careening down towards Times Square. And it's too d*mned soon.

As a matter of fact, they just put the office Christmas tree up in the lobby downstairs... one week before Thanksgiving! As I write this, I am here at the Big Food Company, three days returned from a trip to Tennessee where I had to do some real work. That is quite unusual for November. It is, normally, a very slow time of year here at our office, and our minds tend to wander. Visions of turkey and cranberry sauce (home-made from scratch, not that canned, jiggly jelly cr*p) are dancing through my head. I am trying to sort of concentrate, and reorganize what little productive time is left of this year into something that resembles a coherent work schedule. It's not easy.

You see, my co-workers here in other departments, and at the companies out in the field depend on us. We are an engineering and construction outfit, and without CAD drawings, well... nothing happens engineering or construction wise, except a lot of snarky emails, phone calls, and cyber swearing. We are the starting point for anything here that involves building just about any d*mned thing, and it frustrates the workaholics that we do not share their desire to work between courses of turkey and blackberry cobbler. It's been a long year, and we really don't care.

I, like the two guys under me, save all my vacation for this time of year, and planning this annual event really gives me my jollies. Almost as much as breaking the news to my co-workers in other groups, that I will be on vacation the entire back half of December does. The looks on their faces are priceless....

"How can you have that much vacation time?"

"Been here 22 years. It racks up."

"22 YEARS??? Good Lord!"

"Yep. Can't wait for December. You won't even see me!"

"But what about my project?"



"Yeah... what about your project?"

I have some modeling plans – it's time to stop gluing and painting for a very short time. There is an excellent reason for that. It's time for the 2017 Semi-Annual Urban Renewal of my workshop, and this time, it will be a major one. Not just a bit of sweeping and call it "good", oh no! I plan on pulling EVERYTHING out of there, and thoroughly cleaning and rearranging it. I will crank on some happy, bouncy Holiday music (no, it isn't too early), and I will really go to work.



Before the Renovation. It's as frightening as it looks.

There is trash to be hauled out. Lots of it. I am productive, and said productivity fills up THREE trash cans of assorted sizes, and spills out all over the floor before I find the need inside me to actually empty them out. An old tube TV goes out to the curb. There were a couple of boxes of paint and stuff that were removed and donated to the freebies shelf in the back of the room at the last

club meeting. If you, my fellow member, got any of it, thank you. I need the room.

There are some books and videos going to Half Price Books to be sold. There is a lot more stuff going into LTS – Long Term Storage. I will box them up, tape the seams, and label the contents in a half-hearted attempt to throw things away without actually... throwing them away. Wouldn't want to get crazy, now, would we?

Don't need that 1/24th Airfix P-51D – that can go. Don't need those modern Helicopter Carrier aircraft – they can go. A few tools and things I never, ever use. That can all go, too. There, things are clearing out, fast. An empty, clean space is emerging.

Some time later.....

Finally, after nearly a full day of moving, boxing, packing, tossing, and sweeping, we are done with Part One. The shop is completely and utterly empty, and clean.

Now for the fun part – the planning and renovation. Previously, I just stashed things into the workshop in the places they would go. Any place would do. There weren't really a whole lot of thoughts about functionality or ergonomics during the original occupancy of the space. It was more like, "shove that cr*p in there, it'll fit. Huh? Then make it fit! As a result, there are things all over the space, stashed one on top of another, and it is mass confusion. I have a lot of photoetch in there.... somewhere. I have a lot of resin in there... somewhere... a lot of decals and spare parts, and such. Somewhere. Time to dig it all out, sort it, and reorganize.

I need to think about the layout of the room for production purposes, not for where the most stuff can be stashed without it falling over and burying me. Where does the light come from? Where does the music come from? Where do the parts, resin and decals come from? Where do the tools live? Where do subassemblies rest undisturbed and wait until time to be joined to other subassemblies? Is there a beer holder in easy reach, without a probable condensation drip path that might reach decals sitting on the work surface? Much thinking like this goes on in my head this time of year. I told you it was slow.

Many thoughts to be organized. Many items to go

away, many, many others to be reconfigured and relocated. A lot of work. But the outcome?



A clean, brightly lit, musically-entertained and efficient shop. Will it lead to better models? I think it's quite possible. I believe that if you don't have to fight your environment as much, the product will show that, and that the reverse is also very true. So it may be an investment in sweat equity for now, but the dividends will come eventually. That being said, I STILL do not know how David Hogue builds his incredible builds, sitting on the floor, working on a coffee table.....skills I cannot fathom in that man, obviously far superior to the environment he works in.

But, I digress yet again. Back to the big task at hand. It's a nice time of year for it. The weather is cooling, and the garage is pleasant to work in. Let the project begin. The turkey is still thawing.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Rick



Do you want to see my pleasure room?





Colors & Markings of the F-102 Delta Dagger

Digital Colors & Markings Series, Volume 2

by Floyd Werner

COLORS & MARKINGS OF THE

F-102 DELTA DAGGER

COLORS & MARKINGS SERIES
DIGITAL VOLUME 2

by Rock Roszak

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AVIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Detail & Scale series of books has a reputation for providing some of the best research on the market. With the advent of the digital books this is even more true than before. The digital format allows the author to update the digital book as new information becomes available. It also is unlimited in the number of photos and text they can provide. There are no restrictions on the colors or number of color photos that accompany traditional printed books. That is why the digital books offer more and better photos than the original books in the D&S series. Another benefit of the digital format is the ability to blow up pictures with the touch and to print the photos on your computer should you choose to.

This is the first book authored solely by Rock Ro-

szak. He had previously worked with Bert Kinney on the other Detail & Scale books, so this book is in keeping with the finest traditions of the original series.

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F-102 Colors & Markings
INTRODUCTION

F-102A, S/N 56-1416, of the 57th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, intercepts a Soviet Tu-95 Bear B over the Denmark Strait near Greenland in early 1970. The 57th FIS, "Block Knights of Keflavik", conducted more live intercept missions than any other F-102 squadron in any using command. The Deuce is finished in the aluminized lacquer scheme, with the Arctic markings prescribed in AFM 1-1-4, which specified external finish and markings for all Air Force aircraft. From the right side, the Air Defense Command insignia is visible on the vertical tail above the radio call numbers, and the squadron insignia would have been present on the left side of the tail. The black and white checkboard design on the rudder was a squadron marking. This "silver" Deuce is now on display in these exact markings at the National Museum of the United States Air Force (USAF).

This book is the second title in Detail & Scale's digital Colors & Markings Series, and it is the outgrowth of the work done to create the digital publication, *F-102 Delta Dagger in Detail & Scale*, the sixth title in the digital Detail & Scale Series. In putting that book together, we realized that the photographic resources available would allow, for the first time, a truly expansive look at the markings used by all of the units that flew the legendary Deuce during a colorful period in United States Air Force history. This is that expansive look.

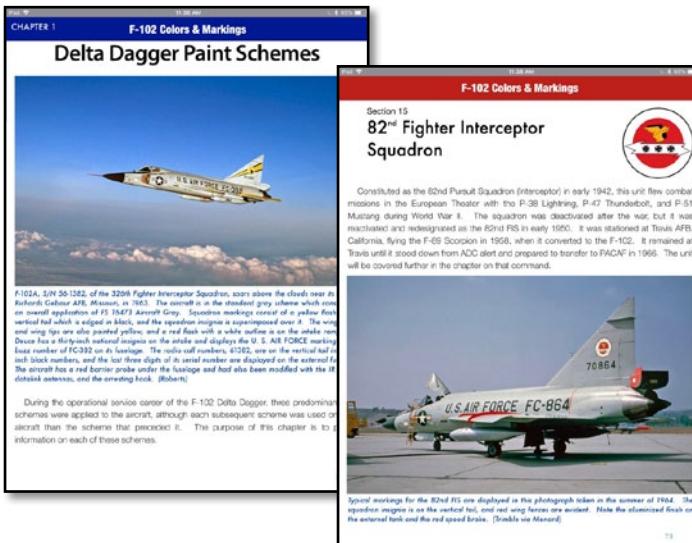
This book shows the three primary color schemes used on the Deuce throughout its operational life. It covers the 65 squadrons that flew it in the five major Air Force commands. Each command is broken down into chapters along with squadron histories and these are all lavishly covered in photos and profiles. There were other users of the F-102 and these test squadrons and target drones are covered as well. Each squadron is covered with the paint schemes and unit markings. A treasure trove of information that is compiled for the first time in one place. All

the photos are captioned and capable of being enlarged.

The list of personnel that helped with this publication is a who's who of aviation history, as well as, F-102 personnel and prestigious organizations.

The digital format takes some getting used to but there is an instructional portion of the iPad version on how best to use it. Once you get used to it the digital format is easier to use than a real paper book. The added benefit is that you can have a bunch of books on your iPad or Kindle device and not take up any additional room. There is of course a Table of Contents, but there are also thumbnails at the bottom of the book. As I mentioned before the pictures can be blown up and if the orientation of the photo is landscape you can simply turn the device to get the bigger picture prior to expanding it.

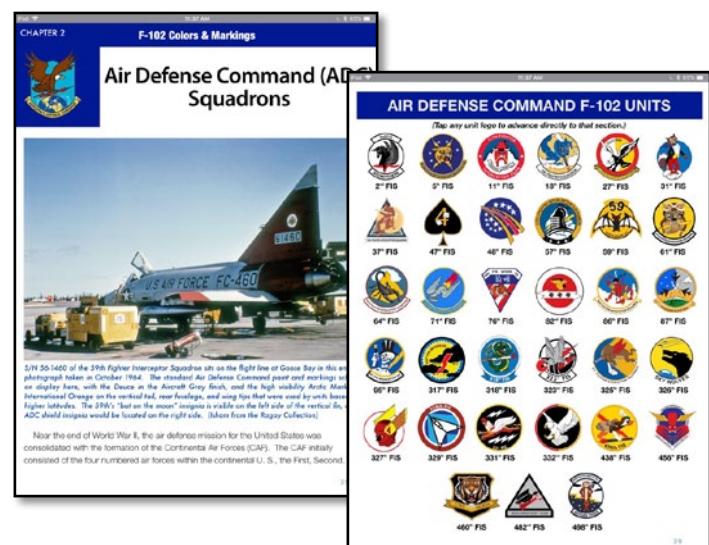
The first chapter talks and illustrates the three primary color schemes worn by the F-102 during its career from the early days of Aircraft Grey (FS16473), then the Southeast Asia (SEA) camouflage paint scheme, and finally aluminized silver lacquer. Here is where the inclusion of the color photographs comes to be highlighted.



Discussion of the markings, as well as, the colors of the aircraft are included in this section. Some great information is contained in this chapter alone.



The second chapter talks about the Deuce in the Air Defense Command (ADC) squadrons. The unit badges are included and are a wealth of information for a decal company. They also provide a direct link to that unit in the chapter.



The third chapter covers the F-102 as part of the Alaskan Air Command, where it guarded the northern approaches against Russian bomber aircraft. The artic markings are quite colorful.



Not to be outdone, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) is the next chapter. This chapter includes the deployment to Vietnam. The inclusion of the air to air refueling probe under Projects Thirsty Camel and Hot Spice are interesting.



United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) is the next chapter and sport some of the most colorful tail markings carried on the Deuce.



The Air National Guard were the last units, besides drone targets to use the F-102 on operations.





Miscellaneous Users are the final chapter. Included in this section is the use of the Deuce at the end of its career as a target drone. NASA also used the F-102. A main focus of this section is the drone use. The really worn-out looks of the aircraft would be a boon for any modeler looking to do a jet with a difference.

CHAPTER 7

F-102 Colors & Markings

Miscellaneous Users

In addition to the sixty-five fighter interceptor squadrons that flew the F-102 Delta Dagger, spread across five major commands, there were other units that flew the Deuce at various times. The use of the F-102 in roles beyond interceptor operations can be grouped into two broad categories: test & evaluation and training. The training role can be further broken down into two phases: aircrew training, where pilots were taught how to fly and operate the Deuce; and operational training, where pilots were trained at improving their skills, and the QF-102 drone aircraft were used in that role. This chapter presents a photographic gallery of F-102s used in these roles.

TEST & EVALUATION

Above and below: Air Research and Development Command (ARDC), the forerunner of today's Air Force Systems Command, was the developmental command for all USAF aircraft when the F-102 came into the inventory. Two of their early, short-tailed Deuces are shown here. In the photo above, S/N 53-1808, was at an open house at Edwards AFB, where it displayed a very basic set of markings. The ARDC insignia on the nose was the only addition to the standard aircraft markings. Below, S/N 53-1802 touches down after a development flight with far more extensive additions to its markings. The ARDC insignia was on the nose forward of the intake, and the high visibility markings with white and orange bands on the tail were quite striking. Note the unusual location of the national insignia on the aft fuselage. (Above, Menard; below, USAF)

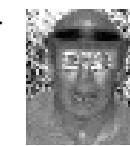
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This digital book is awesome, as are the rest of the Detail & Scale digital books. It is larger and covers more material in a better way than can be done in print. Of course, it isn't for everyone. It does require an iPad or a Kindle app to view, but once you learn to use them the digital format is perfect for the historian, modeler or just aviation enthusiast.

Highly recommended!

Thanks to Detail and Scale for the review copy. You can obtain your copy from iTunes or Amazon once you have the iBooks app or Kindle app.

Floyd



Model Collect WWII E-75 Heavy tank with 128mm gun

by Rick Herrington

The World of Tanks video game has stimulated model manufacturers to produce some of Germany's "Paper Panzers". Paper Panzers if you're not familiar with the term are those designs/machines that either just had a prototype constructed or never left the drawing board. Most of these "Paper Panzers" can be played as actual tanks in World of Tanks.

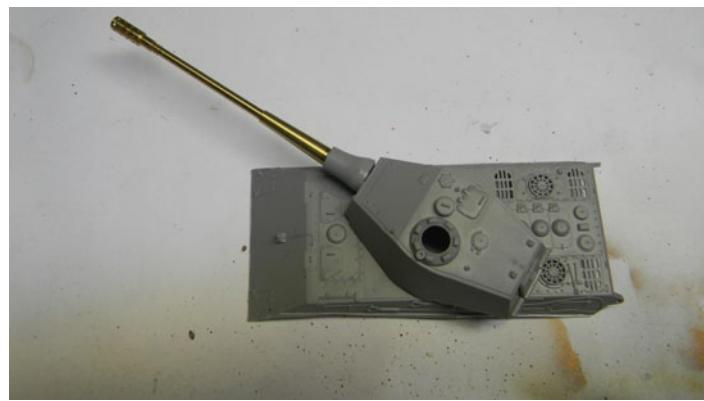
The E-75 in 1/72nd scale that Model Collect released is just such an animal. It's basically a King Tiger with a 128mm gun mounted on it. No zimmerit on this one.



This is going to be a build review. Let me first say I am a fan of Model Collect's 1/72nd kits. I built their T-80 U and was well pleased with the result. The kit was well engineered and nicely detailed.

I just completed the build of the E-75 and although the upper hull is well detailed and goes together fine, the treads and suspension do not.

The kit comes with a metal 128mm barrel which is a hefty amount of weight in this scale so Model Collect



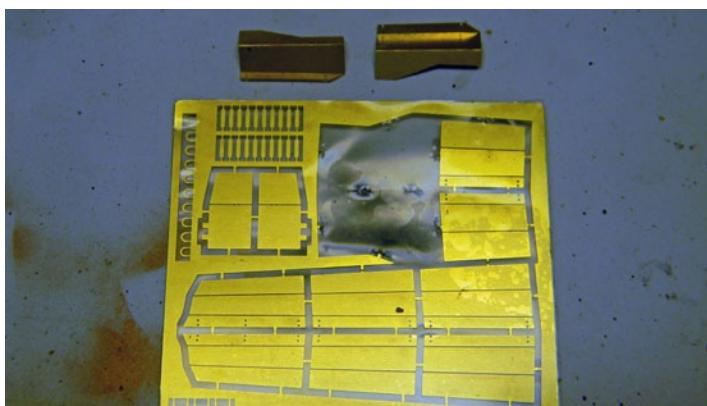


should have provided a beefy suspension to handle the weight. Operative word is should have.

The suspension is far too light weight for the tank. Attachment points for the suspension arms and road wheels are far too small and tend to bend easily. The plastic the suspension is made of is soft and tends to melt using Testor's liquid cement.



The treads are the vinyl glue together type and are too wide for the tank if you use the normal fenders. The instructions call for you to cut off the fenders and replace them with the photo etch pieces. Fortunately the photo etch pieces fit OK over the treads. The treads will glue to the tops of your road wheels and give you the proper track sag.



The aforementioned side skirts cover most of the bottom suspension which I guess is why Model Collect spent so little time and energy developing a proper one for the kit.

In conclusion I like to have a solid kit build before I spend hours painting up a kit. This is not one of them.



I would not recommend a purchase of this kit unless you absolutely want to waste thirty some dollars on a kit you will not enjoy.



Rick





The 'Broomhandle' Mauser

by Ben Morton

Osprey Publishing has previously released books on two iconic side arms: The Colt 1911 Pistol and The Webley Service Revolver. What has been missing from the history of pistols, until now, was one weapon that was developed and deployed in the late 1890's, namely the Feederle Pistol from Mauser. Otherwise known as The 'Broomhandle' Mauser.

While this pistol was manufactured and sold by Mauser and is often attributed to them. The design and development was actually done by brothers Fidel, Friedrich, and Josef Feederle. The Feederle brothers worked for Paul Mauser and, in his defense, it was somewhat standard operating procedure for a company to take credit for any design/development work done by the namesake employees. [Fun Fact: Paul Mauser once forbade Fidel Feederle from working on a pistol design.]

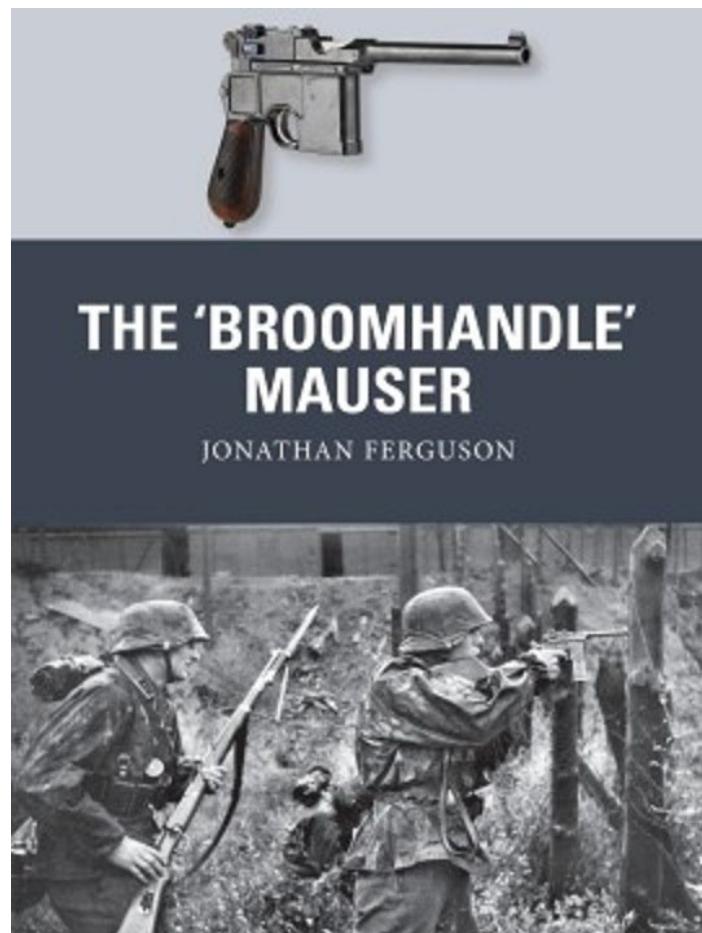
What the Feederle brothers came up with was not only one of the first successful, self-loading pistol but arguably one of the most iconic pistols of all time. Revolvers, with their six shots, were the



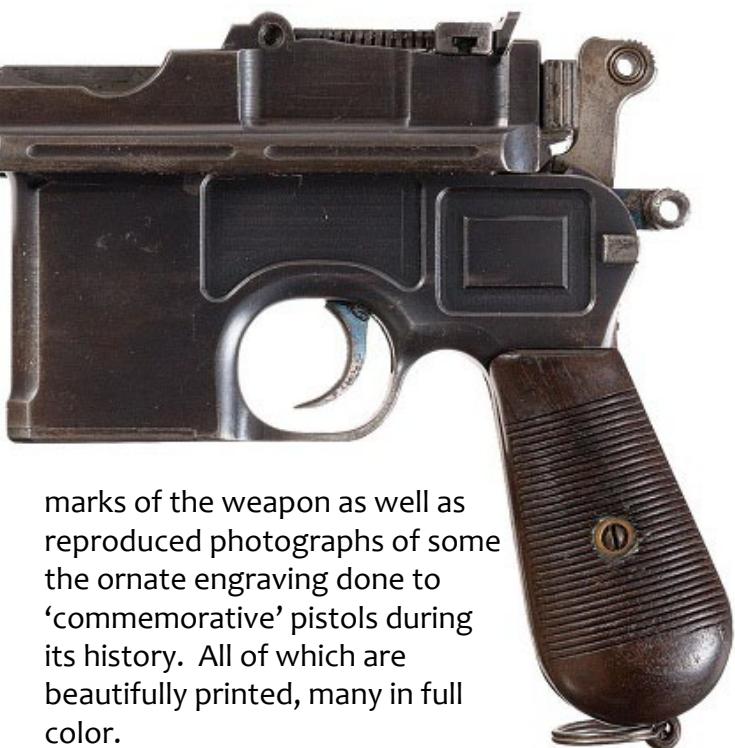
predominant weapon of choice at the time. The Broomhandle stood all that on its head with the introduction of a powerful, self-loading pistol with ten powerful rounds (Mauser 7.63x25mm) in a self-contained magazine.

Jonathan Ferguson's tome (illustrated by Peter Dennis) on The 'Broomhandle' Mauser delves into a thorough, eighty page discussion about the development, design, marketing (military/civilian use), safety concerns, and effectiveness of this weapon in an easy to read, scholarly fashion.

Aside from the thoroughness of the research what I truly enjoyed about this book from Osprey



Publishing are the inclusion of some beautiful artwork. Case in point from The Broomhadle Mauser are the cutaway illustrations of the various



marks of the weapon as well as reproduced photographs of some the ornate engraving done to 'commemorative' pistols during its history. All of which are beautifully printed, many in full color.

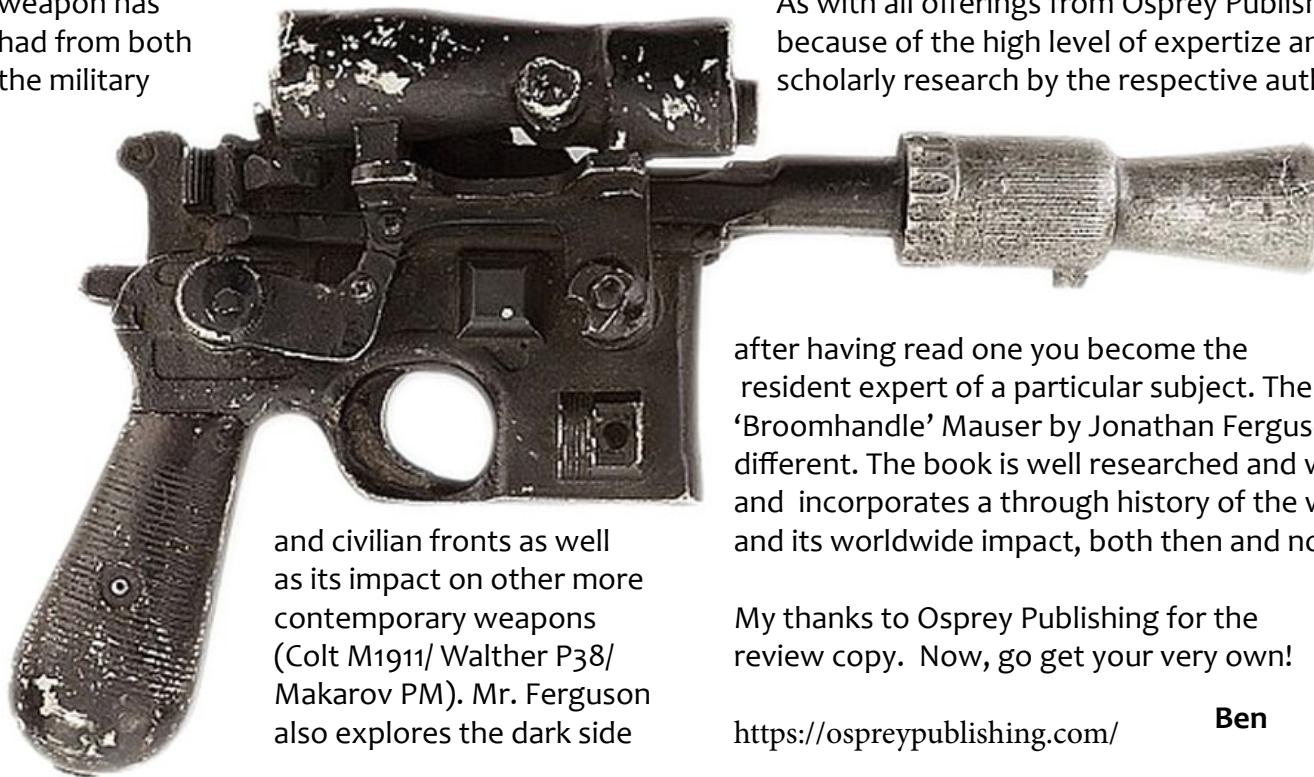


There are several full-color prints by Peter Dennis depicting the Broomhandle in-action. One that may be of interest to fans of WWI aircraft illustrates an encounter between a British Avro 504 biplane and German Etrich Taube in 1914. The full-color painting depicts each aircrew in the midst of shooting at each other with hand-held weapons with a



German crew member re-loading his Broomhandle during the thick of aerial combat. This real event happened before aircraft were armed with machine guns. [The British won this encounter with a rifle shot.]

Jonathan Ferguson concludes his treatise on The ‘Broomhandle’ Mauser with the impact this weapon has had from both the military



and civilian fronts as well as its impact on other more contemporary weapons (Colt M1911/ Walther P38/ Makarov PM). Mr. Ferguson also explores the dark side

of the Broomhadle and its use by criminals and paramilitaries.

To gain some in-roads into the military market, the Mauser C96 Broomhandle was copied by numerous manufacturers over the course of it existence, principally Spanish concerns with the Astra and ETAI models. The Broomhandle Mauser was also embraced by the civilian market and some not so savoy elements of society. Criminal elements (The Foster Gang) and anarchists/paramilitary groups (Bolsheviks/Irish Volunteers) sought out the Broomhandle for not only the mystic and status it imbued but also as “a practical fighting tool.”

The Broomhandle may not have been the first self-loading pistol but it's innovative design, powerful ammunition, and capacity all help secure this weapon in the historical record. The ‘Broomhandle’ Mauser is easily one of the most recognizable designs and often, as noted by the author, to be the go-to-reference for people whose knowledge of hand guns may be somewhat limited. When George Lucas was making Star Wars and wanted a futuristic and plausible looking weapon for Han Solo’s character, the Broomhandle was chosen as the starting point.

As with all offerings from Osprey Publishing, because of the high level of expertise and scholarly research by the respective authors,



after having read one you become the resident expert of a particular subject. The ‘Broomhandle’ Mauser by Jonathan Ferguson is no different. The book is well researched and written, and incorporates a through history of the weapon and its worldwide impact, both then and now.

My thanks to Osprey Publishing for the review copy. Now, go get your very own!

<https://ospreypublishing.com/>

Ben



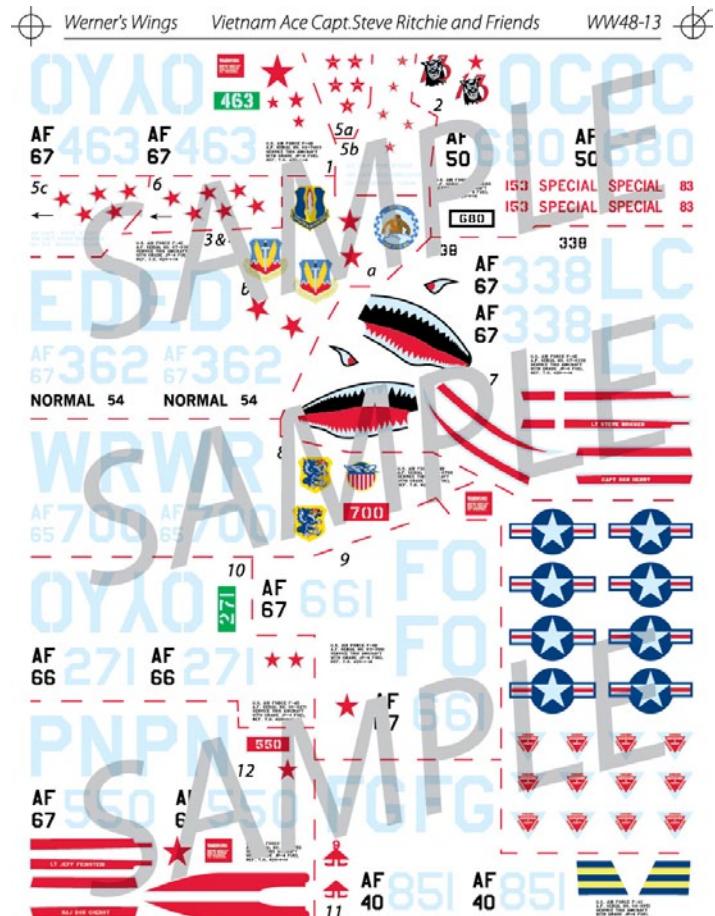
Werner's Wings "Vietnam Ace - Capt. Steve Ritchie and Friends."

by Floyd Werner



So what do you do when you want decals for a specific aircraft that aren't made? If you are me you make them and then sell them. Here is the latest release from Werner's Wings. Vietnam Ace-Capt. Steve Ritchie and Friends. They are released as Werner's Wings WW Decals 48-13 (\$16) and WW Decals 72-06 (\$14).

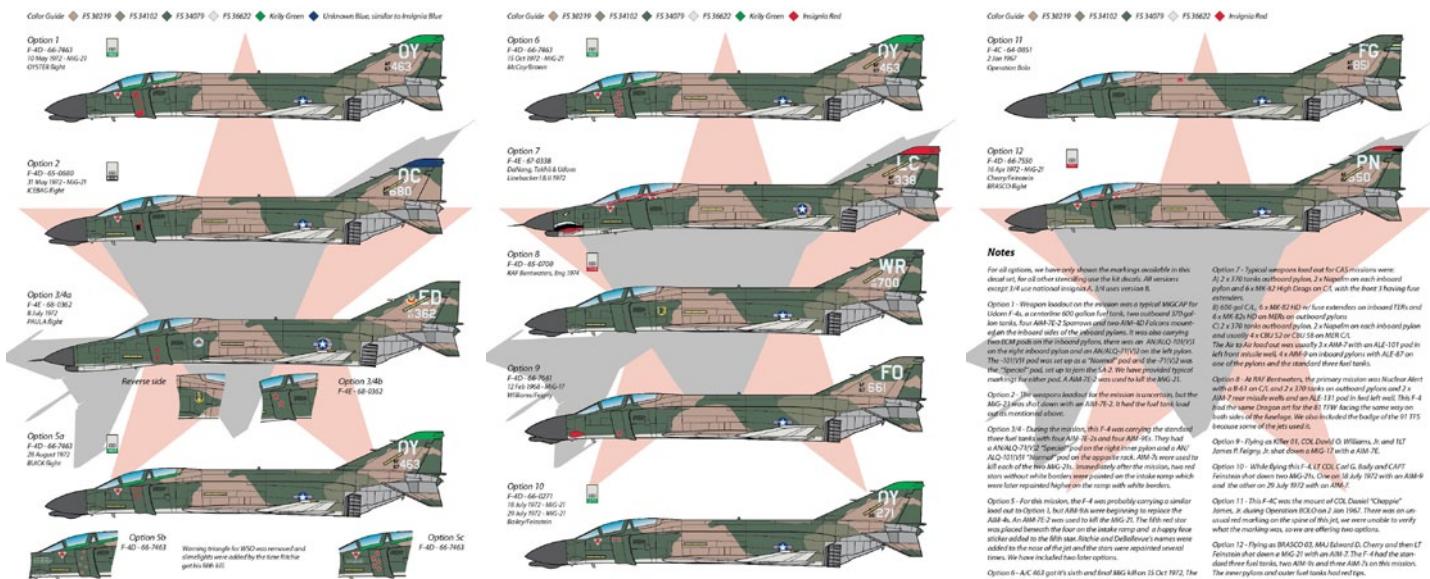
Werner's Wings is pleased to announce the release of our first jet sheet for venerable F-4 Phantom, "Vietnam Ace- Capt. Steve Ritchie and Friends." This sheet is available in 1/48th and 1/72nd scale. I've always wanted to build Steve Ritchie's



airplanes but until now I've never been able to find the markings, in particular the unique Warnings for the Combat Tree markings and the white outlined ejection seat warning triangles.

The sheet features markings for 12 aircraft, however, one aircraft in particular F-4D 66-7463, has marking options for five different splitter plates with different kill markings and another one has two kill marking options. ALL the aircraft that Capt. Ritchie used to shoot down his five aircraft are included in all of their guises along with known loadouts.

Also included are MiG aces, Capt Feinstein and Capt DeBellevue, the leading ace of the war with six kills. Some other notable pilots included on the sheet are Col Chappie James, famous as part of Operation Bolo. Others MiG killers are included such as Capt Dan Cherry who was featured on the "Dogfights" series, "Hell over Hanoi". We've also included some F-4s of a friend's dad, Capt Steve Bricker. While he did not get any MiG kills he flew during Operation Linebacker I & II, we included one of his aircraft from Vietnam and one from England where

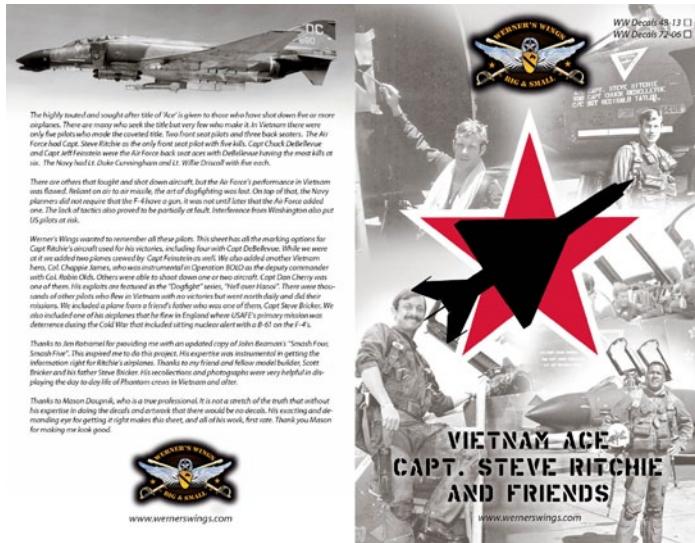


he was trained to carry B-61 Nuclear Weapons. There are a few other MiG killers included to round out the sheet.

We've also included markings for the AN/ALQ-101(V)1 and AN/ALQ-71(V)2 SPECIAL ECM Pods. We have not included stencil markings as they are very good in the Academy/Eduard kit or are available from other aftermarket producers like Furball Aero Design.

You will note that some of the stars have white backgrounds and they aren't centered. Well they are designed that way because the real ones were that way.

Artwork is done by Mason Doupnik, who has done all of the Werner's Wings sheets. This sheet would not have been possible without the help of John Beaman and Jim Rotramel. John's work "Smash



The highly lauded and sought after title of "Ace" is given to those who have shot down five or more airplanes. There are many who seek the title but very few who make it. In Vietnam there were over 1000 kills made by American pilots. Of these, 100 were made by Capt. Steve Ritchie. The Air Force had Capt. Steve Ritchie as the only front seat pilot with five kills. Capt. Chuck DeBellevue and Capt. Jeff Feinstein were the Air Force back seat aces with DeBellevue having the most kills at 100. The Navy had Capt. Duke Cunningham and Lt. Willie O'Dell with 100 kills each.

There are often thoughts that the Air Force performance in Vietnam can be attributed directly to the skill of the aircrew. On top of that, the Navy planners did not require that the F-4 have a gun, it was not long later that the Air Force added one. The lack of tactics also proved to be partially to fault. Interference from Washington also put US planes at risk.

Werner's Wings wanted to remember all those planes. This sheet has the marking options for Capt. Steve Ritchie and his crew. We also have the markings for Capt. Chuck DeBellevue. We have options for Capt. Feinstein as well. We also added another Vietnamese hero Col. Chappie James, who was instrumental in Operation RONDO the deputy commander of the 3rd Wing. He was the first Vietnamese pilot to shoot down an F-4. He was one of them. His exploits are featured in the "Dogfight" series, "Hell over Hanoi". There were thousands of other pilots who flew in Vietnam with no victories but went monthly and did their best. Capt. Steve Ritchie and his crew were the best. Capt. Chuck DeBellevue and Capt. Feinstein also included one of his exploits that he flew in England where USAF's planes provided nuclear deterrence during the Cold War that included setting nuclear alerts while it was on the F-4.

Thanks to Jim Rothamel for passing me on an updated copy of John Beaman's "Smash Four". This inspired me to do this project. His expertise was instrumental in getting the markings right. I am grateful to him for his time and effort. I am grateful to Capt. Steve Ritchie and his father Steve Bricker for his recollections and photos which were very helpful in displaying the day-to-day life of Phantom crews in Vietnam and after.

Thanks to Mason Doupnik, who is a true professional. It is not a stretch of the truth that without his expertise in doing the decals and artwork that there would be no decos. His exciting and demanding eye for getting it right makes this sheet, and all of his work, first rate. Thank you Mason for making me look good.



Four, Smash Five", which was updated by Jim, was the inspiration of this decal sheet.

1/72nd scale modelers have Thomas Lore to thank for the inclusion of this sheet. Without his financial contributions this particular sheet would not have been possible.

The decals themselves are printed by BOA so you know they are thin and in perfect register.

- Opt 1 - Ritchie 1st kill, DeBellevue WSO
- Opt 2 - Ritchie 2nd kill, Pettit WSO
- Opt 3&4 - Ritchie 3 & 4 kills, DeBellevue WSO
- Opt 5 - Ritchie 5th kill, DeBellevue WSO - have 3 options for the kill markings on this jet
- Opt 6 - 463 again, but six kills now- McCoy & Brown - WSO got a MiG-21 in this jet on 15 Oct 72
- Opt 7 - Bricker F-4E
- Opt 8 - Bricker F-4D in Europe
- Opt 9 - Mig Killer, Still researching the crew for this one.
- Opt 10 - Baily and Feinstein got 2 MiGs in this A/C
- Opt 11 - Chappie's jet
- Opt 12 - Dan Cherry and Feinstein got a MiG kill in this one.



Floyd

*If you cannot do great things,
do small things in a great way.*

Napoleon Hill

On The TABLE

*By Our
Roving Reporter*

Last month's meeting was light in attendance but we did have a few diehards bring in their work. Ben Morton has been involved in reviewing models for the IPMS national site. This month he brought in some unusual kits of Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF) military vehicles.

Aoshima produces a great deal of 1-72nd JGSDF vehicles. Ben brought in their Maneuver Combat Vehicle which is a wheeled combat vehicle with a

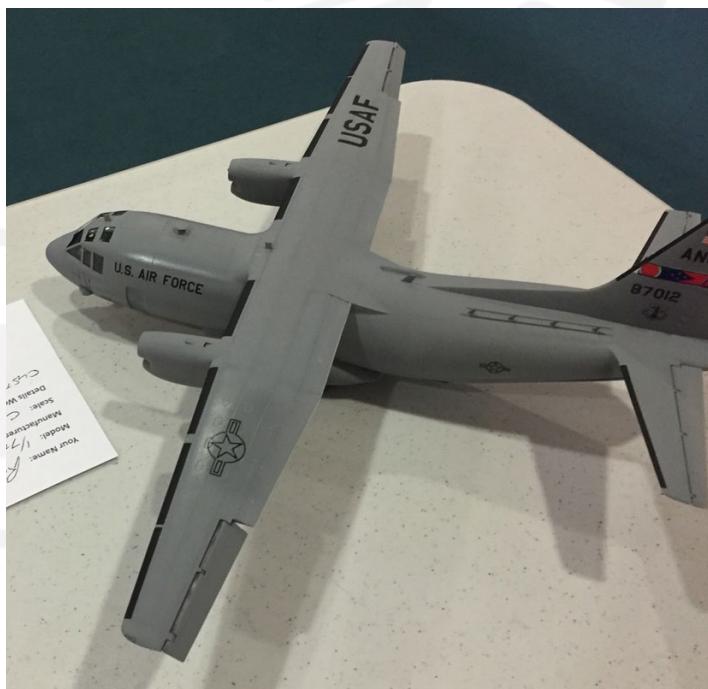


gun turret and a Type 60 Self Propelled 106mm recoilless gun. The type 60 is a tracked vehicle mounting twin 106mm recoilless rifles.

Mike Lamm brought in his Hasegawa 1/72nd Flak 18 88mm gun and in the same scale an AH-64 Apache by Academy.



Ron McCracken brought in his completed Italeri C27J with custom markings.





Finally Rick Herrington brought in two 1/72nd scale offerings. The first was a ModelCollect German Paper Panzer E-75.



The second was a Hasegawa Mig 29 done up in East German camouflage and markings. Rick took the honors for model of the month with his Mig 29.



Rover



Model of the Year Recap

by Mike Lamm



December is upon us, and in addition to the end of year festivities in our non-model building lives, we get to enjoy the 2nd Annual Austin Scale Modelers Society Model of the Year contest. This year's entrants were selected over the first 11 months of the year and represent the best of the best, or in one case, the only model brought to the contest.

Yes, I know there are 12 months in a year, yet there are only 11 models represented. The 12th model has yet to be determined, and will be chosen at the December meeting during the White Elephant Contest. So, without further ado, here are your Model of the Year entries!

January (Open Contest): Ron McCracken, Heller 1/72 Ju-52/C-79





February (Open Contest): Rick Herrington, Trumpeter 1/350 Admiral Graf Spee



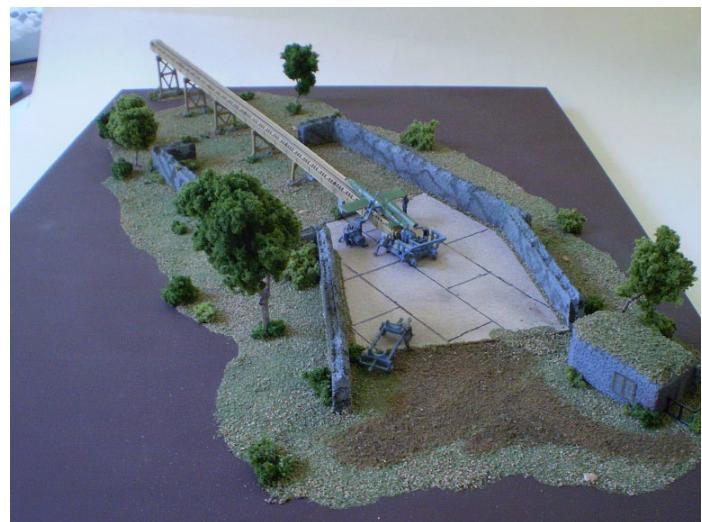
March: Tim Robb, Classic Airframes 1/48 F-5A



April (Pat Rourke Memorial Contest): Mike Gilsbach, Tamiya 1/35 Ersatz M-10



May (Open Contest): Ben Morton, Fox One 1/144 V-1 Rocket



June (Procrastinator Contest): Bob Bethea, Miniart 1/35 U.S. Army Tractor



July (Open Contest): Rick Herrington, Meng 1/35 Leopard 2A7

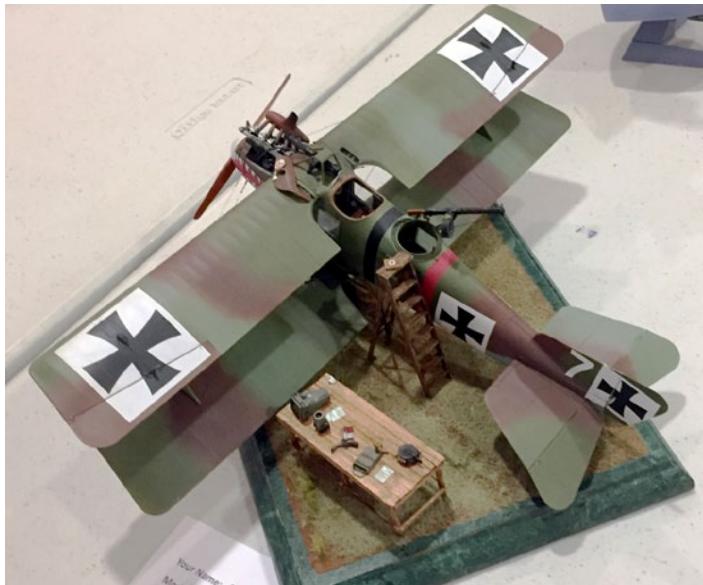




August (Powered Armor Contest): Ian Candler, Mashinenkrieger Ahab of Tomorrow



September (Open Contest): Dave Edgerly, Wingnut Wings 1/32 Roland C2



October (Bondo Contest): Mike Lamm, Airfix 1/48 BAE Hawk 127 (Photo 9)



November: Rick Herrington, Hasegawa 1/72 Mig-29 (Photo 10)



December (White Elephant Contest): [YOUR NAME HERE]



Congratulations to each of our Model of the Month winners!

Mike





OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

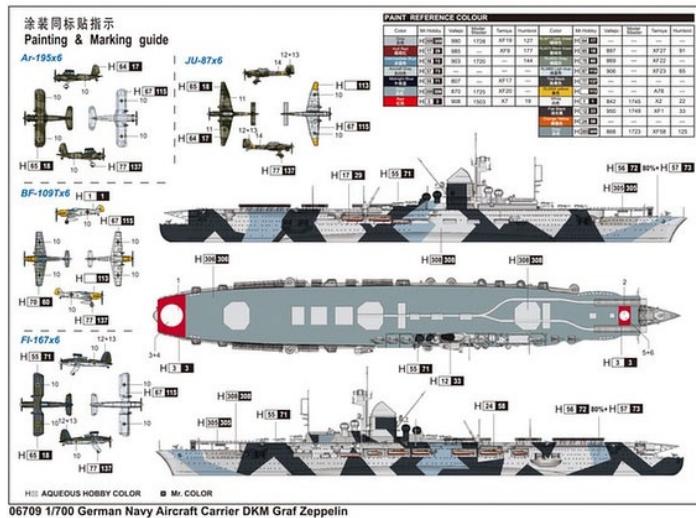
By Rick Herrington

•••
1/700

The new releases this month are in 1/700 and 1/72nd. Let's start with 1/700 scale.



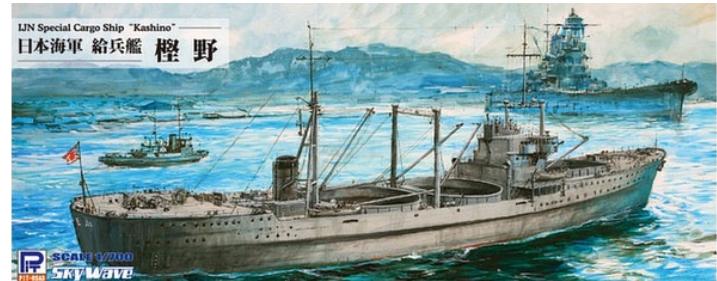
- Trumpeter is coming out with a scaled down version of their 1/350th scale German aircraft carrier Graf Zeppelin release. This will take up a lot less space on your shelf.



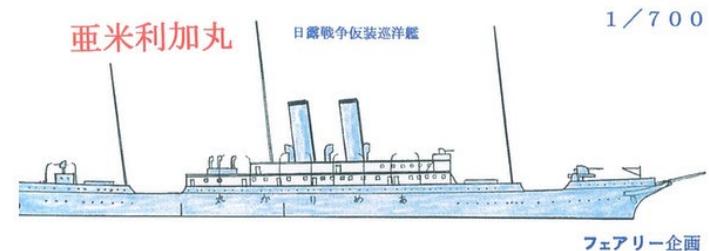
- Aoshima is releasing a Japanese Fleet Oiler the Hayasui



- Pit Road is releasing an IJN Special Cargo Ship Kashino



- Another merchant ship is being released by Fairy Kikaku. The America Maru was a merchant raider in the Russo Japanese war.



- Veryfire is releasing a US Battleship the USS Louisiana BB-71



- Pit Road had two more releases coming. The first is the USS Colorado BB-45 as she appeared in 1944.



The second is USS Hornet Aircraft carrier. CV-8.



- Finally in 1-72nd scale Special Navy is releasing a Type IIA U-boat. The Type II's were coastal patrol boats.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit out of your stash and build it!

Rick



100 Years Ago this Month

1431 King Henry VI of England crowned king of France.

1492 Christopher Columbus discovers Hispaniola (El Espanola/Haiti).

1717 English pirate Blackbeard ransacks the merchant sloop "Margaret" and keeps her captain, Henry Bostock prisoner for 8 hours before releasing him. Bostock later provides 1st record of Blackbeard's appearance, and the source for his name.

1804 Napoleon Bonaparte is crowned Emperor of France in Paris.

1878 1st White House telephone installed.

1918 US President Woodrow Wilson sails for Versailles Peace Conference in France, 1st President to travel outside US while in office.

1927 1st Model A Ford sold, for \$385.

1939 SS-Führer Himmler begins deportation of Polish Jews.

1941 Japanese emperor Hirohito signs declaration of war.

1942 World's 1st self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction occurs in Chicago Pile-1 (world's 1st nuclear reactor) at the University of Chicago, overseen by Enrico Fermi.

1953 Hugh Hefner publishes 1st edition of Playboy magazine, featuring Marilyn Monroe as the magazine's 1st centerfold.

1954 The first Burger King is opened in Miami, Florida, USA.

1955 Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to move to the back of a bus and give her seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama.

1964 "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" 1st airs on TV.



The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

Well, it's December and the holiday festivities are in full swing. Remember to be safe out there and, most of all, have fun! We've got a few new things that caught my eye this month. So, let's not dawdle – we've got egg nog to drink.

First up, we've got a December surprise from the great folks at Wingnut Wings. They've released a 1/32nd Sopwith 5F.1 Dolphin for Christmas. People were wondering if Wingnut Wings would follow their tradition of a surprise release, and sure enough here it is. The kit is already shipped and in fine retail establishments around the globe and online as well. The kit is of the usual high quality we've come to expect from them. Featuring Cartograf decals for five airframes, very nice molding, and exceptional detail, this kit maintains the high bar they have set for themselves.



Next up, Zoukei Mura surprises us with a 1/72nd scale rendition of their successful 1/32nd and 1/48th scale Horten Ho 229. Due out at the "end of 2017", this kit will give the small scale brethren among us a chance to experience building a ZM kit. Patterned after their 1/48th scale offering, it features the intricate interior molding and details that made Zoukei Mura famous, or infamous – depending on how your build went. But wait, there's more... If you act now, you'll also get a 1/144 Ho 229 in the same box! Our opera-

tors are standing by. Actually, whenever you act you'll still get the 1/144th scale kit in the same box. That's pretty neat.



Fly Models from the Czech Republic have listed on their Coming Soon page a pair of SAAB J-29 Tunnans, a 'B' and an 'F' in 1/32nd scale. Due out sometime in 2018, these kits have been on the release block since late 2016. Perhaps they are close to the finish line?



Hong Kong Models will be releasing the B-6 night fighter version of their Dornier Do 335 in 1/32nd scale. Due out in January of 2018, this kit represents the night fighter version of the Do 335B. The radar



operator sat immediately behind the pilot, resulting in a more streamlined arrangement, unlike the Do 335A-6 which was adapted from the trainer. As previous HKM Pfeils have shown, this will be a large model when completed.



Mini Art will be making their first entry into the world of flying things. Known for their more esoteric approach to kits, this one is certainly no exception. Sometime, in the near future, they will be releasing the Flettner Fl 282 Kolibri (Hummingbird) in 1/35th scale. Their website and box art reference the V-6 which was one of the prototypes. They list decals for four airframes, so V-6 may be one of the markings choices. For those who don't know, the Kolibri was a German single-seat helicopter design featuring intermeshed rotor blades, a synchropter. I'll leave further research as an exercise for the reader. There is no "official" release date listed, although the website does contain a fair amount of detail and the box art, indicating a, hopefully, near release date.



Great Wall Hobby will be releasing a new 1/48 Su-35S Flanker E in the very near future. I have conflicting re-

ports of late this year (2017), or very early next year. The new Su-35S Flanker E is the latest incarnation of the Flanker family with performance features that outperform any of its predecessors. Due out in January of 2018, this should be a humdinger of a kit given GWH's previous modern jet releases.



Tamiya made an announcement at this year's Tamiya Show held earlier this month in Shizuoka City. Surprising everyone was the announcement of a new 1/72nd scale kit – they haven't done that in a long time with the 1/32nd scale announcements hogging both the limelight and the speculation. Well, soon they will be releasing a newly tooled Kawasaki Ki-61 Hien. Information is pretty sparse, and Tamiya always holds it cards close to the vest. Usually, their announcements are pretty close to their release dates. Perhaps early next year – after they release the Me 109G-6 in January?



Well, that's it for this edition, the final edition of 2017. Everyone have a fun and safe holiday season, and play nice with others. Oh, yeah... and go build something! **Randy**





It Figures

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings fans of Lilliputian people facsimiles!

First up is a superb new 1/16 scale figure from Life Miniatures: Max Wünsche, Kharkov 1943.



On the bust front Young Miniatures has a new one of a medieval knight that looks pretty nice. The box art is by Kirill and those metallics are not metallic, they are non-metallic metals! (He painted it to look metal, but it's not using any metallic paints)



Sticking with 1/16 scale figures, Alpine has a new one. "Ammo Carrier 12 SS Panzer Division "HJ" which, like all Alpine figures, comes with a choice of heads.



TANK has some new 1/35 scale figure covering the Soviet Union during the cold war, and as usual the box art is atrocious. I can assure you that the figures are superb, ignore the paint!

T-35216 - Soviet military driver 70s-90s.



T-35217 - Soviet military driver with the canister 70s-90s.



For you Bundeswehr fans out there Miniart has come out with a set of 1/35th modern German tank crew. Finally, something decent to set in those Leopard turrets.

BUNDESWEHR TANK CREW



Bravo 6 has a new 1/35 scale figure, this time a German WW2 camera man. The quality is what you would expect from bravo 6, superb.



Those are my highlights, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Aaron





Tracked Topics

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings armor fans and hello to all you armor curious folks!

Let's start off with a new(ish) release from Tamiya. They are releasing their excellent easy 8 with some updates to make a Korean War version:



This updated kit includes new tracks, and an infantry telephone box for the rear.

It also includes the sprues to build the older but still very nice Soviet GAZ 67B.

There was some confusion over the red face, but it turns out this is accurate as researched by David Doyle, who has posted some pics on his web-site. <https://daviddoylebooks.com/rices-red-devils/> Certainly an eye catching look!

Takom is following up their Merkava 1 with a Mk2.

MERKAVA Mk.2



I have always liked the look of the Merkava tanks, and Takom looks to be knocking these out of the park.



I guess these are not really paper panzers, as the Germans never even had plans for these on napkins. It's more of a what-if if they made a Sturmgeschutz out of the Mouse? If you want a big palette to try out weathering effects this will certainly fit the bill!



Also from Trumpeter we have a mean looking Russian mine clearing vehicle, the BMR-3.



For you Israeli Defense Force Fans AFV is coming out with their version of the M109A2 the Doher.



Takom is getting into the Tiger market with a Tiger 2 initial production (read Porsche turret).



Finally Rye Fields is gracing us with a Panther G complete with interior.

Clear Turret & Upper Hull Parts 3rd Anniversary Limited Edition

PANTHER Ausf.G

**Early/ Late Versions
w/ Full Interior
1/35 Scale**

- Clear Turret & Upper Hull Parts
 - Up to twenty multiple-choice designs
 - Movable design for track links, suspension system, artillery and other components
 - Provide a set of 800mm steel road wheels which can be used for after April 1945
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*To be released in January 2018
Rye Field's distributors began to per-order*

www.ryefield-model.com
info@ryefield-model.com

RME
RTE FIELD MODE

Those are my highlights. Happy New Year!

Aaron



Sundries

By Golzar Shahrzad

We have something big and bold from Meng Models to start things off this month. They are releasing a 1/35th scale M911 CHET(8X6) tractor with a M747 trailer. This is the prime heavy hauler/transporter in use by the U.S. Military. The kit includes photo-etch, painting masks, a complete cab interior, and steerable front wheels. With 843 parts this kit should keep you off the streets for a while.



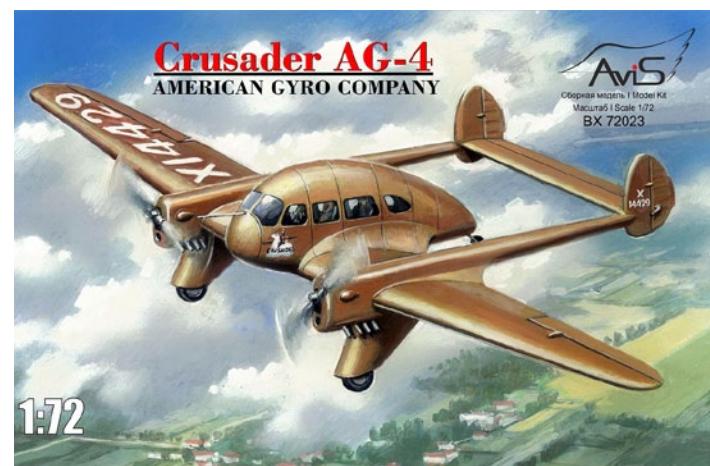
If that wasn't enough modeling for one subject, Meng Models also has a companion kit of the 8V-92TA diesel engine used on this rig. This kit is in resin and includes the Albion CLBT-750 transmission. None of this comes cheap, the base kit is about \$200.00 USD with the engine running in the neighborhood of \$52.00 USD. None of which addresses the space you'll need to display this beast once you're finished, but it will be impressive.



If that seems too daunting, how about a nice paper craft item? Eye Up has a paper craft kit of either Darth Vader's helmet or a Stormtrooper helmet in 1:1 scale. You will need to provide your own cutting tools, however. Forget the Star Wars stuff from Revell, Bandai, and Hasegawa. Get your Star Wars geek on with some wearable art.



Avis Model (AModel) has a 1/72nd scale American Gyro Company Crusader AG-4 coming soon. This aeroplane was developed in the 1930's. The company folded in 1938 due to some funding irregularities that involved securities fraud. Here is a 1935 flight test video (with added audio) from rareplanesdotcom via YouTube for your amusement.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnZWD6H_rfc

Hasegawa has a lovely companion kit for modelers of WWII Japanese aircraft, a set of eleven pilot figures. This 1/72nd scale kit is injected molded and features IJN crew in various poses. Something to add a little life and scale to that latest project.



If fantasy art and modeling is more your style, Master Box is adding to its line of said figures with Ancient Greek Myths. These injected molded figures are in 1/24th scale. Featured in this release are the Centaur, Medusa, and the Satyr (Minotaur). Now if I can just find my way out of this maze? P.S. Each figure is sold separately



Lukgraph is issuing a 1/35th scale Nash-Quad ammo truck for WWI fans. This is a complete kit that features a full chassis and a complete engine. Some photo-etch is also included for this resin kit.



Arma Hobby is releasing a 1/72nd scale injected molded kit of the Fokker E.V. They are releasing two versions: an expert set and a junior set. The expert set includes photo-etch, Cartograph decals (lozenges included), and markings for two Polish or two German aircraft. The junior set has markings for one Polish and one German plane and no photo-etch and the decals are printed by Techmod.



If you really want to give yourself a neat-o Christmas present, how about a 1/16th scale Fokker DR. 1?



This release is from Artesania Latina (the boat people). The museum quality model has laser cut wood, white metal parts, photo-etch, and step by





step instructions. The assembly instructions are on a DVD that features over 600 photos of the build, in-progress. Why it's almost fool proof...almost! With over 750 parts you may want to take your time with this one. The kit will cost you the better part of a three hundred dollar bill.



Go build the your model.

Golzar



Progress is man's ability to complicate simplicity.

Thor Heyerdahl

New Kits and Publications Every Week!



1:700 SCALE KIT
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For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager at manager@ipmsusa.org

Applications using payment via Check or Money Order should be printed and mailed to:
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