



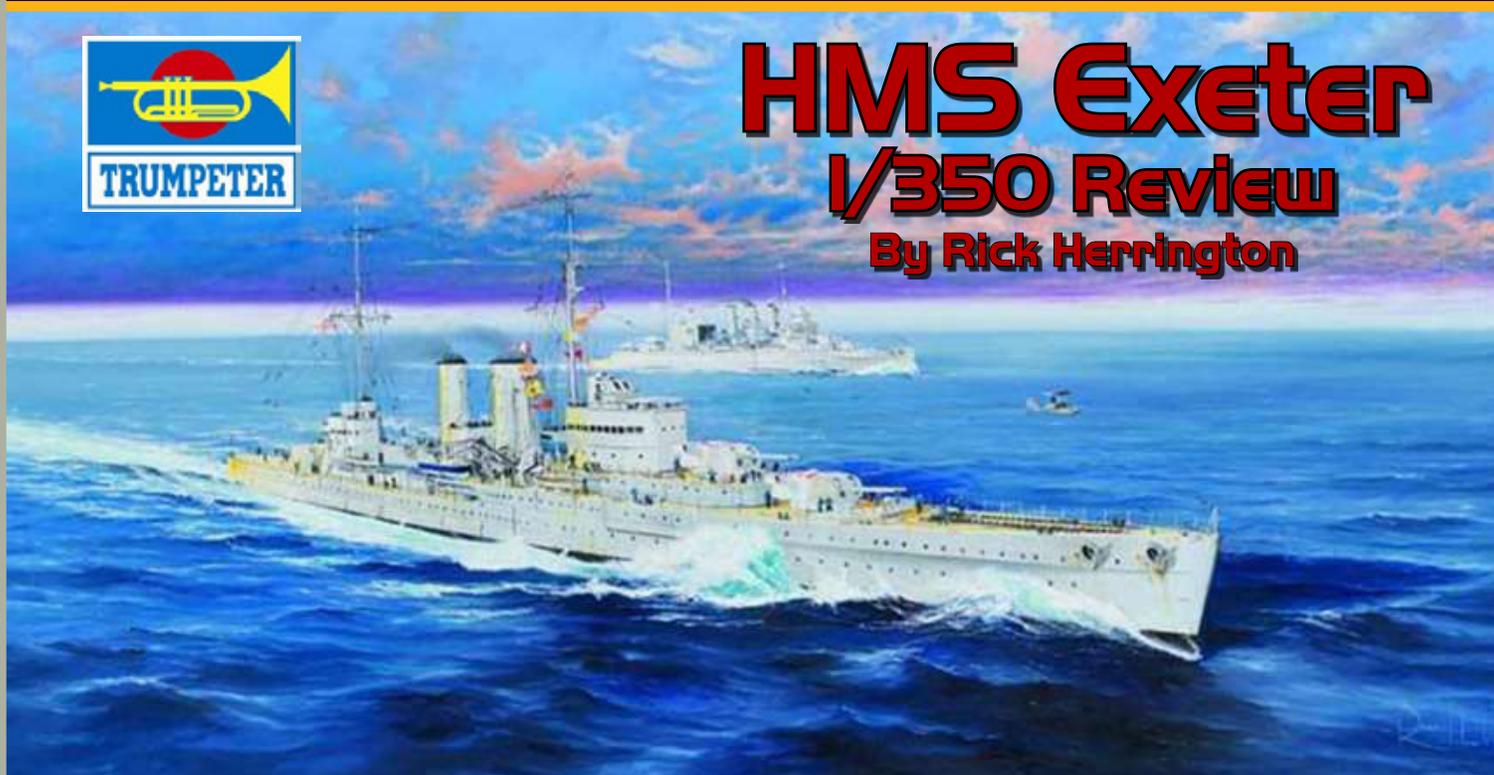
ASMS



SPRUE EXAMINER



HMS Exeter 1/350 Review By Rick Herrington



Nieuport Fighters In U.S. Services by Ron McCracken



and PLANES, TANKS, SHIPS, & FIGURES

plus

- On The Table
- Old Rumors and New Kits
- The Cotton Report

WINGNUT
WINGS
Announcements



News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



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www.austinsms.org

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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IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

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



El Presidente

By Aaron Smischney

Greeting fellow modellers!

It's the month of thanksgiving, a good time to take stock on what we have to be thankful for.

I give thanks for all my friends I have met through our strange little hobby. I have met and befriended so many of you that I would have never encountered if it weren't for our shared hobby.

I give thanks for this truly golden age of modelling where It's getting hard to find a subject that hasn't been reproduced in a high quality kit!

I give thanks for the sharing of ideas that permeates the modelling community, from online forums and websites to Build-and-Bull, and Bob's building days (one's coming up on the 17th!) new and experienced modelers and painters have but to ask to get help and advice.

I give thanks that Tamiya hasn't forgotten us time pressed modelers. In an era of 800 part kits Tamiya still makes kits with buildability in mind, where many can be finished in a weekend. (They do this without sacrificing accuracy which is kind of amazing :)

Finally I give thanks to our club. Where we provide a space for fellowship in the plastic arts every month.

Speaking of our club elections are coming up! if you have not served don't be shy, our club is only as strong as our volunteers. I encourage everyone who is able to give it a shot.

Till next time!

Aaron



Nieuport Fighters in U.S. Service

By Ron McCracken



By the time the United States began its official participation in the First World-Wide Great Unpleasantness, AKA WW I, The line of sesquiplane Nieuport fighters started by the N.11 “Bebe” had been eclipsed by more advanced types like the SPAD and SE-5 and largely relegated to the advanced training role. So, with the sole exception of the N.28 (which abandoned the V-strut sesquiplane layout) the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) used Nieuports as trainers. However, the American volunteer squadrons in France used all the earlier Nieuport fighters to some extent.

This short article is intended to inspire interest in the Nieuport series and highlight the fact that a nice little collection can be created featuring just WWI era Nieuports. Most have been kitted in one scale or another, although some kits may be hard to find at this time.

The N.11, commonly called the Bebe, entered service in early 1916 and was a single-seat version of the earlier N.10. It was used by the Lafayette Escadrille. It set the basic configuration for the Nieuport fighters, a sesquiplane (a biplane with the lower wing much



smaller than the upper wing) using a cowled rotary engine, in the case of the N.11 the 80 Hp. Le Rhone rotary. The upper wing had two spars, the lower only one. The lower wing had a six-degree dihedral, the upper wing had no dihedral. Ailerons were

the aircraft was less popular with pilots than the N.11 that preceded it. By the time of U.S. entry in the war it had been relegated to training use. Again, the U.S. did not procure any of this variant.



installed on the upper wing only, and the interplane struts were a “V” configuration tying the three wing spars together. By the time the U.S. entered the war it had been relegated to training use. None were procured by the U.S. so far as is known.

The N.16 entered service in the spring of 1916 and was also used by the Lafayette Escadrille. It was an adaptation of the N.11 to the 110 Hp. Le Rhone engine. The more powerful engine gave an increase in speed but increased the wing loading, which adversely impacted the handling, so

The N.17 was a slightly enlarged development of the N.16, adjusted to the larger powerplant with larger wings and aerodynamic refinements, including a full cylindrical cowling in place of the horseshoe-shaped cowling of the N.11 and N.16. It introduced the use of synchronizing gear, allowing the wing-mounted Lewis gun

of the N.11 and N.16 to be replaced with a fuselage mounted Vickers. It was the fighter the French had been looking for and following its introduction in mid-1916 remained in front line service until well into 1917.





It too equipped the Lafayette Escadrille but by the time the AEF arrived it too had been relegated to training use. The U.S. acquired 75 N.17's for this purpose.

The N.24 was produced in two variants, the N.24 and the N.24bis. Contrary to usual practice, the bis variant actually went into service first. It differed from the

N.24 by substituting N.17 tail surfaces in place of the newer tail feathers which had proven to have structural issues in service. Both variants were acquired by the U.S., 121 of the N.24 and 140 of the N.24bis.



Next in line was the N.27, which was a structurally-improved N.24 using a slightly less powerful rotary engine

The N.24 was a further development that retained the general configuration of its N.17 predecessor, but with slightly larger flying surfaces and a more streamlined fuselage produced by rounding out the fuselage cross-section. This had the effect of making the fuselage look much larger. The wing profile was also changed, and new rounded tail surfaces were developed. It used the larger 130Hp Le Rhone rotary.

(a 110 or 120 HP version of the Le Rhone rotary), split-axle landing gear, and a simpler tail skid, without the rounded fairing under the fuselage. (that, by the way, is the most reliable identification feature for differentiating the N.27 from the N.24) The reduction in power supports the contention that it was intended from the start as the

However, it was heavy on the controls, overweight for the available powerplant, and generally not well liked. The French and English rapidly replaced it and relegated it to advanced training, which is where the newly arrived Americans found it.





advanced trainer version of the N.24 and that is mostly how it was used. The U.S. acquired 120 of the type for trainer use.

The AEF set up its training center at Issoudune, a facility with as many as fifteen separate flying fields. New trainees that graduated from two-seat trainers like the Avro 504 and were selected as prospective fighter pilots went on to advanced training in Nieuports.

The training Nieuports were delivered in overall aluminum dope finish with standard French insignia. However, at some point (probably when the machines came due for replacement of the covering fabric, which in those days took only a few months) the Americans began applying the pre-war star-in-circle insignia to at least some of their N.24s and N.27s.

This is odd when you consider that for

combat types the U.S. had agreed to change to a roundel-style national insignia similar to that used by the British and French.

Believe it or not it was claimed at the time that a white star looked too much like a black Balkan cross. Various non-standard paint schemes also began to appear, including a couple of “flying fish” complete with painted-on fins and scales. Hopefully someone, someday, will produce decals for these, as the scheme is way too elaborate to do by hand.

Finally, we come to the N.28, which was a completely new design that dispensed with the sesquiplane layout with its inherent structural weakness. Unfortunately, that didn't solve the Nieuport tendency to shed the upper wing fabric in a dive. The AEF acquired 287 of these as its first front-line fighter, basically because they were available since the French preferred (and had first call on) the new SPAD. These





were typically finished in French four-color camouflage. Despite the type's problems, a number of AEF pilots became aces using the N.28 before it was replaced in U.S. service by SPADs in early 1918.

Having discussed the real thing, time for a few words about kits.

Starting with the N.11, Toko released a 1/72nd N.11, but good luck finding it. Eduard has a 1/48th N.11, as does Smer. Amodel and Valom each released a 1/32nd N.11 kit.

Moving on to the N.16, again Toko has 1/72nd covered, and Eduard 1/48th, with Special Hobby bringing up the rear with a 1/32nd kit.

Eduard currently has an N.17 released in 1/72nd and 1/48th. Academy has 1/32nd scale covered.

For the N.24, Roden has both ends covered with a 1/72nd kit and a 1/32nd kit. Hi-Tech has a 1/48th kit of the N.24.

As it goes for the N.24, so it is for the N.27 – probably just alternate parts variants of the same kits.

Finally we come to the N.28, and the companies who've released this, the best known Nieuport, are too numerous to list.

To sum it up, American pilots flew no less than six different Nieuport types during WW I, if you count both those used for training and those flown in combat. A very nice collection is possible in all the more popular scales if you are willing to do a bit of searching for the needed kits.

Ron





The Cotton Report:

Winter is coming...

By Rick Cotton

Pumpkins are showing up everywhere. The temp has dropped to the mid-sixties, with cloudy, gray skies. Candy, in enormous bags, is on sale at the Kroger. Costumes are on display, along with fake witches, ghosts, vampires, skeletons, what-have-you. So what am I thinking?

That's right. My Christmas list.

Here at the Big Food Company, work begins to slow down when the weather starts to cool. First, Canada begins to slough off, because they are largely unproductive socialists anyway... oh, stop it, Dick Montgomery, it's just a joke... no, really, because of the weather. It gets so &^%\$ cold so early, that they actually have to have their Thanksgiving in October, and their football... or what they call football... championship in November. I'm surprised they haven't moved Christmas to November, I wouldn't blame them. Canadian winter hurts. A lot.

So, I am here, in my warm little cube, staring at my LED-lit miniature fake Jack O' Lantern, happily typing away on my Christmas list. I like to give this to Sweetie, way early, so she knows exactly what, where it is, and how much it costs. That way, she can have a few weeks to get over the sticker shock. Just to be sure, I list the sites where it's OK to use the credit card without major fear of identity theft. Although it's possible, there are some sites I do trust and Freetime Hobbies has a phone number, too.

Sweetie pays attention to the list. The Ex did not, just one of the many reasons she's the EX. Show that line to your wife, she had darn well better learn from that, right? RIGHT? Or do you want socks and underwear?

So, the list. In order of preference, here are the desired lovelies:

1. Zoukei Mura 1/32 KI-45 Toryu
No, it isn't officially out yet. But it's close. And if Dai Nippon knows what the %^\$# is good for them, they'll get it out here before Christmas. Have you seen the pictures of this beast? Oh, it's gorgeous. True to ZM form, it's just packed with innards and guts, and detailed out the wazoo. But just look at that PAINT SCHEME! Lovely green splotches over gray, big white defense bands under the Hinomarus, it's just beautiful. I want to do the one with the big red arrow down the fuselage. Mmmm, tasty!

2. HK Models 1/32 DO-335 Pfeil
Any version of this big, two-motored, muscle-car-with-wings German flying jackhammer is fine with me. Built to go in a straight line very fast, and blast anything in its way, this beast just screams Teutonic megalomania power trip. Props at both ends, and big, beefy cannons. Gimmee.

3. Trumpeter 1/350 HMS Exeter
Also on the before-Christmas clock from our Red friends (?) along the Yellow river, this most famous of British cruisers is greatly desired, and I truly hope they get their act together, although I am sure they will make their usual amount of head-scratching errors and oddball decisions. Wouldn't be a Trumpeter kit without them, now would it?

4. Merit 1/350 HMS Ark Royal
While we are on the subject of unlucky but famous Royal Navy fish reefs, the Ark Royal is a must. Merit, huh? That means Trumpeter, but with an attitude. Yeah, I'd love one. The thought of putting together a dozen or so 1/350 Swordfish biplanes doesn't scare me, I have been there before.

5. Trumpeter 1/35 SDKFZ 8 Gepanzerte
This big, ungainly, not-well-known halftrack just appeals to me, I do not know why. Tracks do not appeal to me, but I would just love one of these things, and would gladly take one for Christmas. As it is much cheaper than all the previous items on my list, it may well happen, too! Ho ho ho!!!
There are other items on the list, French and Ital-



ian ships (why not?), other airplanes and vehicles. At the bottom of the list is U of H, Texans or Astros gear (I hate basketball), which is a good fall back, but let's face it, styrene is my drug of choice, and anything else comes in a distant second.

As most wives do not know a Sturmggeschutz from a Stuka, I try and make it easy as possible for Sweetie... I take care to spell it right. I find out where to get it. I give the list to her in NOVEMBER, preferably EARLY on, and right after she asks me "what do you want for Christmas". Do NOT make the mistake of saying "Oh, anything would be fine, dear", or you will get socks and underwear. Or lawn care equipment. Or a Beto t-shirt or something equally stupid, I don't know. Depends on your wife's mood, I guess.

But try and make it easier on her, and up the odds of getting something that will not force you to use your acting skills on Christmas morning when you open it:

"Oh.... a shovel... .how nice..."

"Why are you crying?"

"I'm so... .(sniff)... happy?"

Don't be that guy.

Make your list. Check it twice. You deserve it 'cause you've been nice. Trumpeter Claus is comin' to town.

Now get to typing!

Rick



2/16/2019

Alamo Squadron's 'ModelFiesta 38'

San Antonio Event Center

8111 Meadow Leaf Drive, San Antonio, TX78227

Show Theme - 'Record Breakers!'

www.alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta

CLUB QUARTERLY CONTESTS:

December
White Elephant Contest

Article and Presentation
Assignments 2018

Monthly Newsletter Article:

December Bob Bethea

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

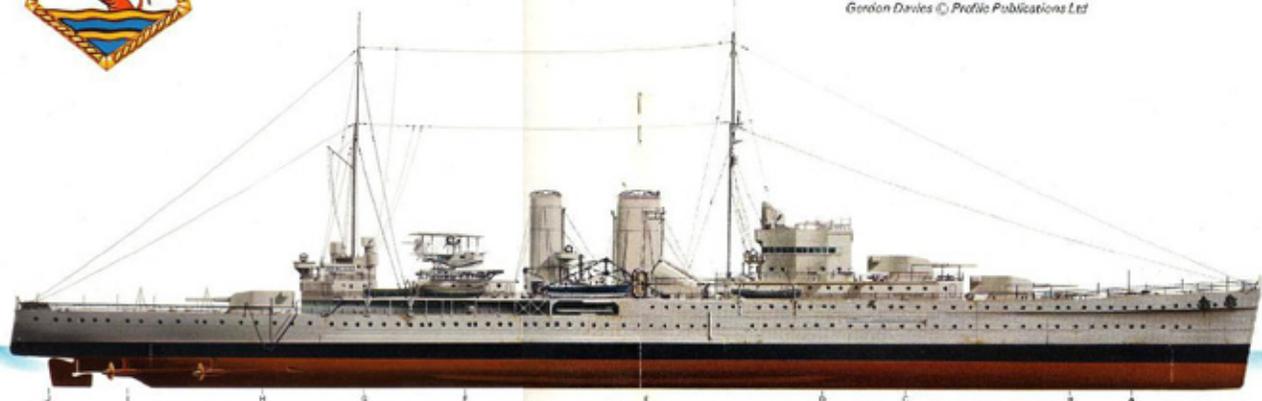
November Rick Herrington

December Ian Latham

HMS Exeter – A review

Trumpeter 1/350th scale British cruiser

By Rick Herrington

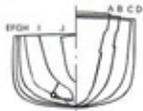


This 6-in gun cruiser, whose life was both glorious and tragic, was the dissimilar sister of HMS York, whose name the class carried. HMS Exeter is depicted as she appeared before going into action against the German Pocket Battleship, Graf Spee (Warship Profile No. 4), on 13 December 1939. The Walrus seen on the catapult had been transferred from York who had paid off in Chatham eight months earlier.

Gordon Davies © Profile Publications Ltd



0 25 50ft



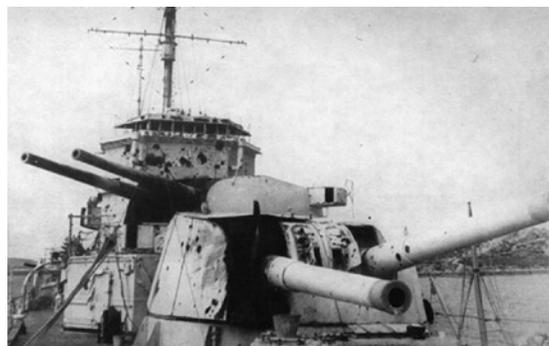
Silhouette
Silhouette of HMS Exeter after repair and modernisation at Devonport during 1940-1941. She appeared thus when she finally proceeded to the East Indies to meet the Japanese Fleet at the Battle of the Java Sea, 1 March 1942.



The Graf Spee straddled the British cruiser with her third salvo; shrapnel from the near misses killed the crew of the starboard torpedo tubes and damaged both seaplanes. During the battle of the River Plate Exeter bore up against 40 to 50 hits, many of them from shells three times the weight of those she could fire back; three of her 8-inch guns in her thinly armored forward turrets were smashed, and sixty-one members of her crew killed with twenty-three other sailors wounded.

Only when the after turrets lost all power did Captain Bell order a break-off. Despite her damage the

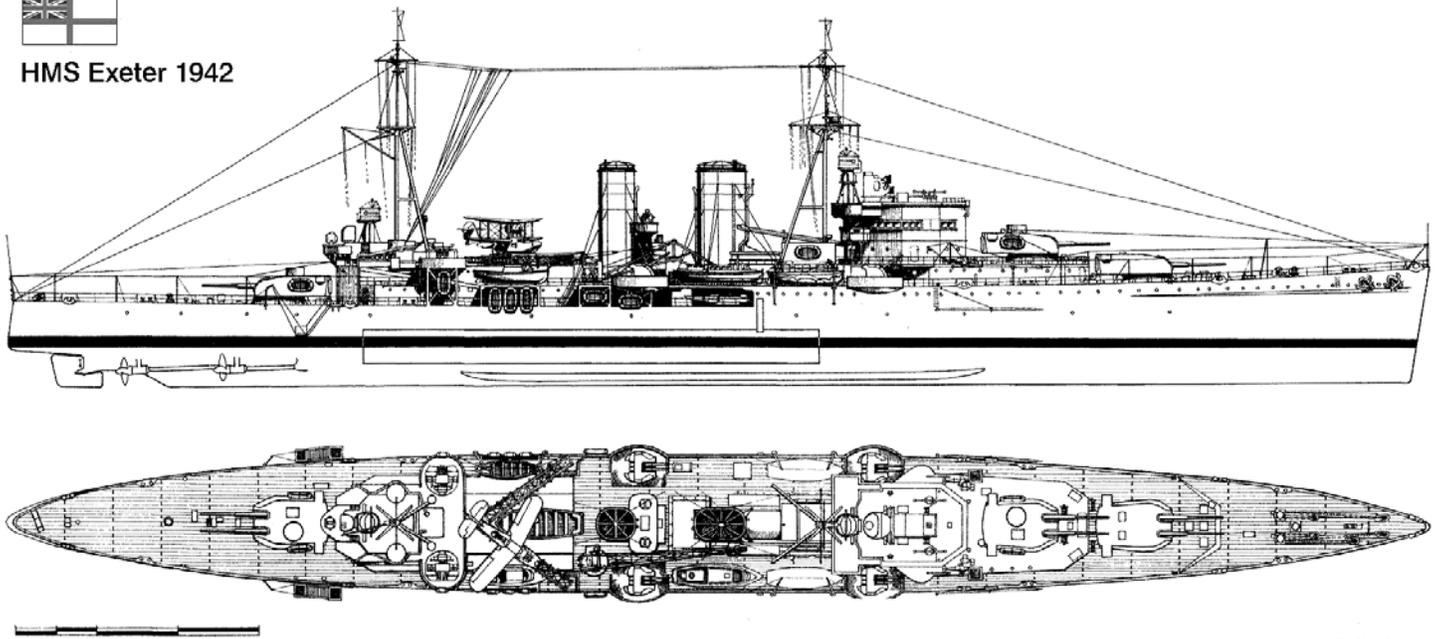
Exeter nonetheless remained on station outside Montevideo ready to take part in any renewed action, only departing to care for the wounded and make repairs when relieved by the arrival of HMS Cumberland (*Excerpt based on WW II Database.com's description of Exeter's role in the Battle of the River Plate when she engaged the Admiral Graf Spee*).



Having built the Trumpeter 1/350th Graf Spee I was excited and pleased that the HMS Exeter is the latest release from them. Kriegsmarine ships are my first choice when I build a ship model but British vessels are a close second.

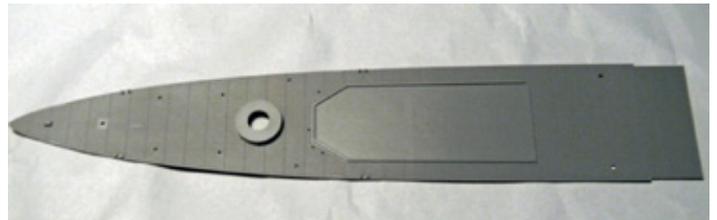


HMS Exeter 1942



This will be an out of the box review as I plan to do a build review when I actually tackle the kit.

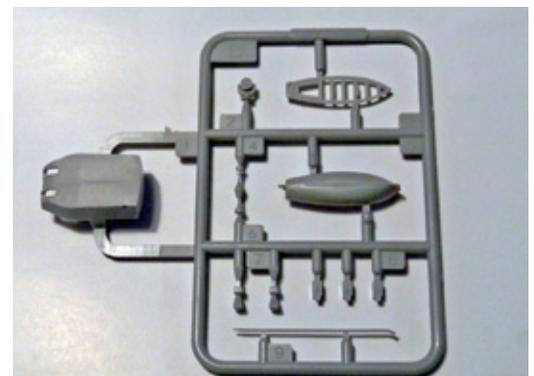
What struck me about the size of the ship is how small it is. Exeter was classified as a heavy cruiser but it is not much bigger than a DKM Z-class destroyer. It did have 8" guns though. Here are the forward and rear deck inserts.



The kit comes full hull, so if you plan to do a water line you'll need to do some cutting.

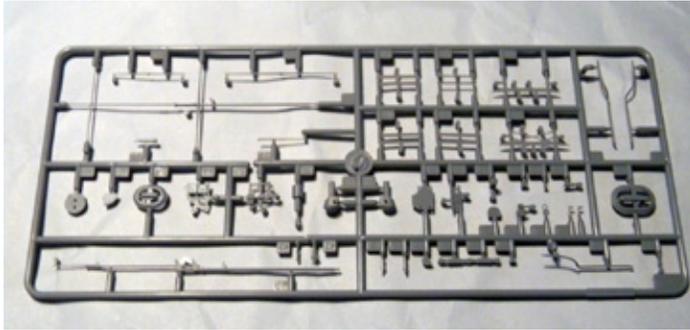


This is the turret sprue with the ship's boats. You get three of these sprues.

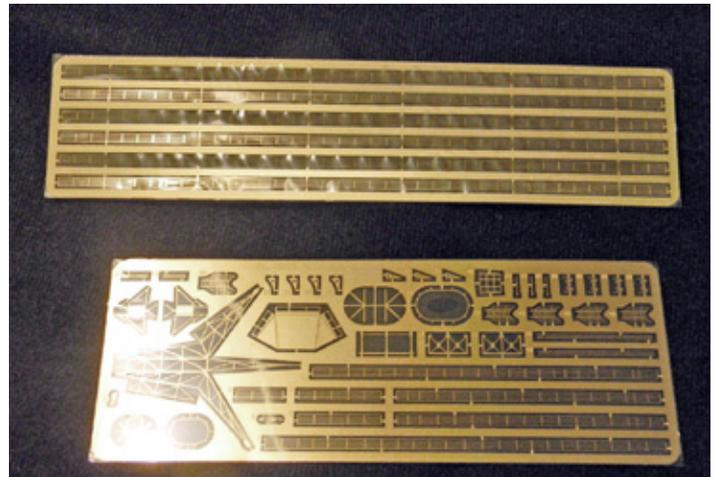




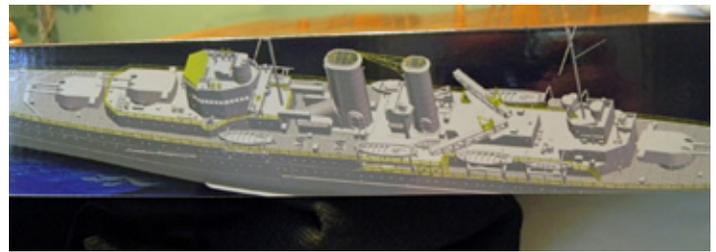
Trumpeter does a great job of protecting the fragile bits from breakage in the kit. The mast sprue was wrapped in a protective cover.



market is required. It's great when the photo etch is included in the price of the kit.

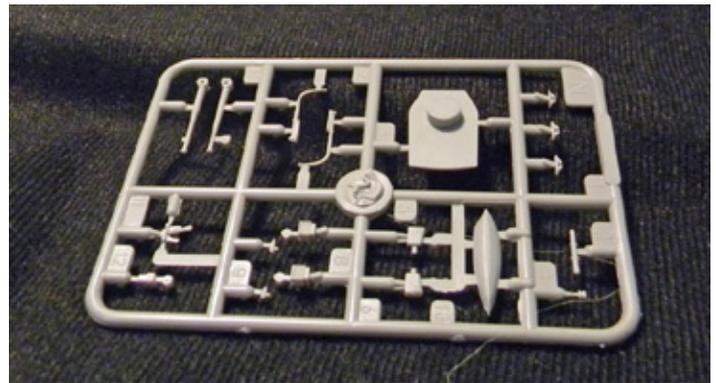
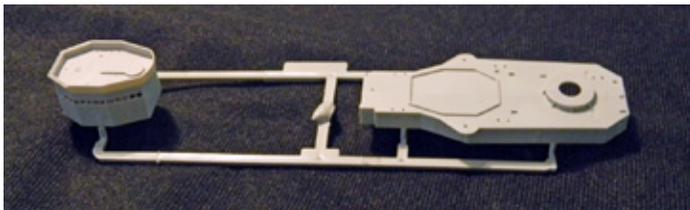


The next sprue is the propeller shaft and rudder along with another ship's boat.

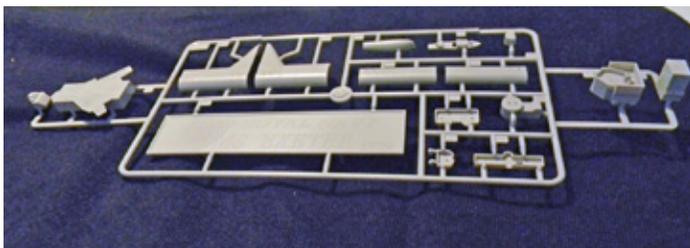


Next is the forward bridge section and support for #2 turret.

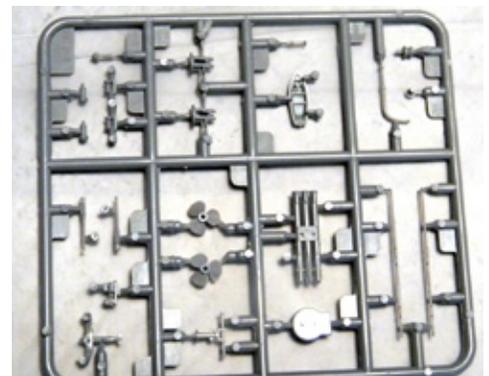
Turret bases, guns, anchors and lower halves of boats.



This is the sprue with the funnel and the ship name plate.



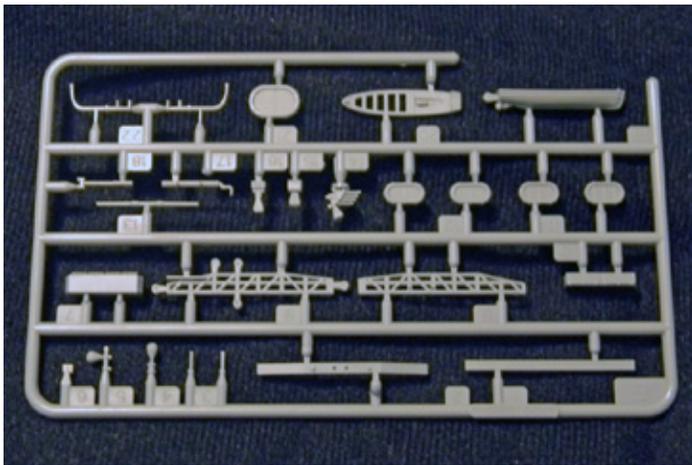
This sprue has the ship's propellers, torpedo tubes and other parts.



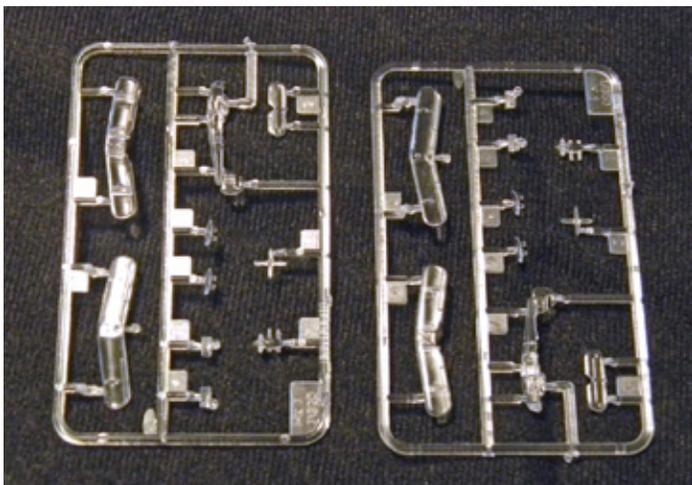
Two photo etch sheets come with the kit. Railings ladders and other parts for the ship's crane and funnel are included. Looks like not much after



The next sprue has parts for the ship's catapult. It would have been nice if this was included in the photo etch sheet.



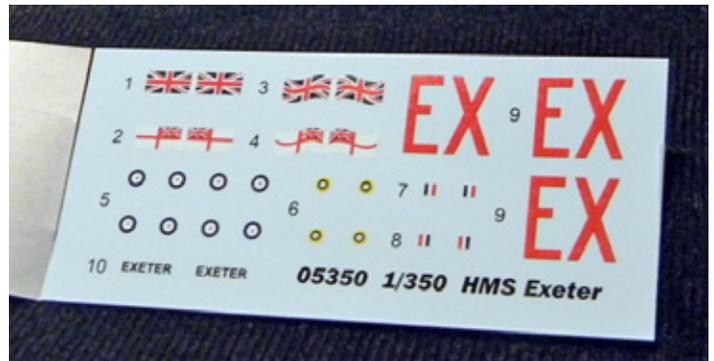
Two Walrus sea planes are included in the kit.



A length of chain is included to make the anchor chain.



Air recognition decals for the tops of the turrets are included as well as others for the sea planes.



Last is the stand for the ship to rest on. The nameplate should look nice once attached.



All in all this kit looks like it will build up to a great representation of one of Britain's more important WW2 cruisers. It doesn't look like a complex build so it looks like a beginner with some experience in photo etch would enjoy building it.

I'm not a number cruncher or expert so I wouldn't know if the funnels are 2ft in scale short or not round enough. I'm just happy to have another British ship in plastic.

Thank you Trumpeter!

Rick





On The TABLE

By **Flanged End Yoke**

This month's contest theme was a Bondo one. We had a few more participants than last month fortunately.

Ron McCracken took home the coveted travelling Bondo Memorial Award with his 1/72nd Coronado seaplane.



Ron also brought in several new projects. The first was a 1/72nd scale Vallum BT-1.



The second was an XF-10F Jaguar in 1/72nd scale.



Milton Bell shared with us his Italian Air Force Stuka in 1/72nd. Milton said the Airfix kit is well engineered and goes together well.





Alex Gashev shared an in progress 1/35th scale project with the group a Tamiya Sturmgeschutz 4.



Mike Lamm brought in a 1/72nd scale Academy P-40, a Condor Legion 1/72nd Stuka, a 1/76th scale Matchbox Firefly, an SMK OGB Russian behemoth in 1/72nd, and a Tamiya Panzer II in 1/35th scale. Looks like Mike is trying to give Bob a run for his money in the most completed contest.



Mike Krizan was the other Bondo participant with his WIP 1/32nd Airfix Mosquito kit.





Ziggy Bumgardner, our resident Gundam expert shared a couple of new projects with the group. The first was a Bandai RX-03 Phoenix and the second was a Bandai Unicorn.



Ben also brought in a WIP in which he's trying to replicate the effect of a sand storm.



Chris Chaney brought in the hot out of the molds Airfix Wellington in 1/72nd scale.



Ben Morton brought in a couple of kits he's going to review for the IPMS national publication. The first was a 1/144th scale Dora Wings Bell P63A/C Kingcobra.



Finally Ian's brother in law Bruce, down from Colorado for the ASMS Capitol Classic, brought in a Type 21 German submarine. Which he had wired and lit.

The second kit was an Italeri 1/24th TecnoKar Trailer with 20' tank.





The meeting was well attended and Bill Delk, our resident Cyber member, joined us via Face Time.

Randy Bumgardner and Eric Choy gave the members a wrap up on the show's figures. It's nice to have a show make money!



To end up the evening Milton Bell gave a program sharing his tips on aircraft building.



All in all a great meeting! Thanks everyone for your efforts in the show and sharing your work with the members.

Flanged

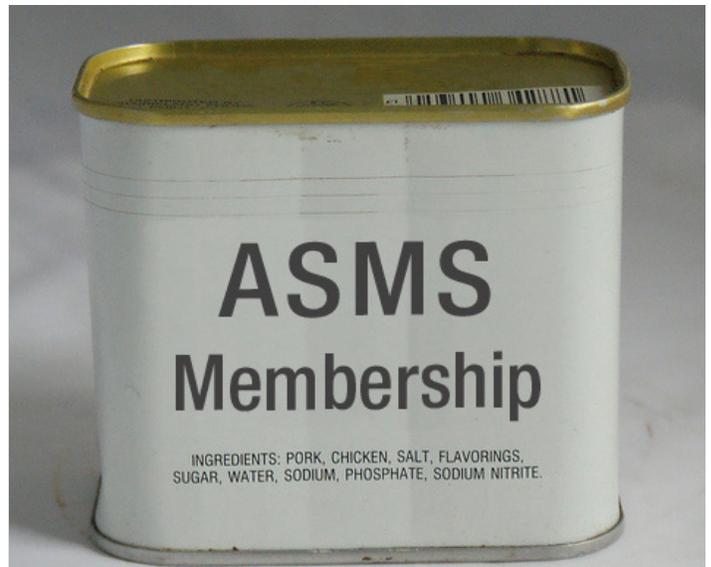


ASMS MEETING

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

Next meeting November 15th, 2018

No Reservations Necessary!



Buy a can today!

ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

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

You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit same to Eric Choy, 13213 Marrero Drive, Austin, TX., 78729.



OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

Some great releases to look forward to this month. Let's start with 1/700th scale.

1/700

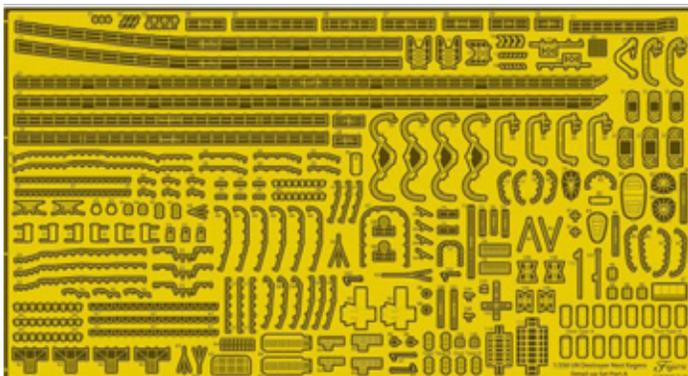
Skywave is up first with a USN destroyer USS Gearing DD-710



Hasegawa is up next with an IJN destroyer Akashimo



Fujimi is releasing a Special Edition IJN Kagero Class destroyer with photo etch included.



I've talked about Flyhawk's upcoming release of DKM Bismarck before. From the pre-release photos it really looks like they've done their homework on this one.



Double capstan

The longer, less complex parts, and not using complicated parts, the double capstan that is common on German warships is presented as a part on the model, avoiding the details of the deck.

1540mm Searchlight

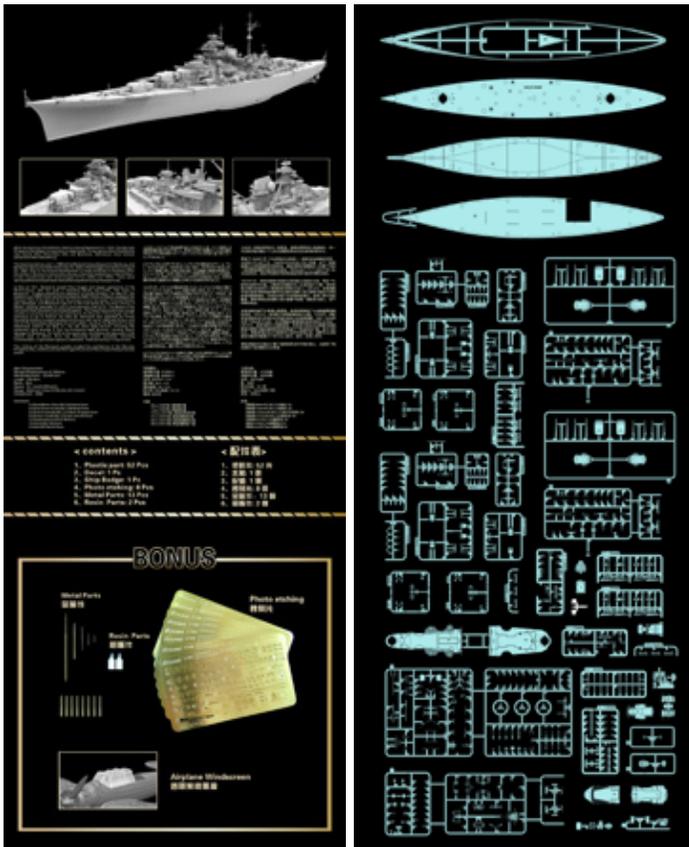
In 1/700 scale, the 1540mm searchlight is reproduced using slide mold technology, retaining as much detail as possible and making the production simple and cost-effective.

Quadruple 2cm/65 C/38 Gun

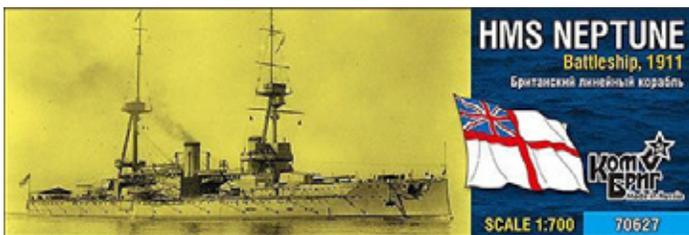
Challenge the limits of detail! Specially reproduced the unique features of the Quadruple 2cm/65 C/38 Gun, in a new type of weapon, is installed on the bridge area. Precise structure of Bismarck's Gunners also shows that the true state of the Bismarck's 4 Quadruple 2cm/65 C/38 Guns revealed.

2cm/65 Flak 30 Guns

Research temporarily installed two gun for 30 guns in the front state. The gun from land forces is installed on the rear superstructure to enhance an defense.



Combrig, known for their multi-media offerings is releasing a British WW1 battleship HMS Neptune. Neptune participated in the Battle of Jutland. This will be the 1911 version of the ship.



Kamizukri (Wako) is releasing a paper edition of a battleship sized Naval Dry Dock. They also have one for a destroyer sized vessel. Not having built one of



these myself I can't really recommend or endorse them but the images look cool.

1/350

Stepping up to 1/350th scale Veryfire is releasing a USN Battleship, the Wisconsin. The kit includes a brass mast.



Trumpeter is releasing the German battleship Scleswig Holstein. Scleswig Holstein was a participant in the Battle of Jutland and also fired the first shots in WW2 when he bombarded Danzig.



In 1/72nd scale CMK has come out with several kits to upgrade Revell's U-boat kits. The latest is a Type 9 U-Boat Flak-Vierling conversion.





Last up in 1/35th scale Tiger Models is releasing a US Navy Combat Boat 90. The US bought these boats from a Swedish Company.



That's it for this month
Grab a model from your stash and build it.

Ricardo



The Air Report

By Ron McCracken

This month for something different we have an overview of various Czech kit manufacturers. Special Hobby Ltd. was founded in 1990 in Prague and started out producing vacu-formed kits. In 1991 they issued their first "short-run" injection molded kit.

This technology uses molds cast from epoxy resin and as a result the molds are fragile, with a limited life (about three years) and less quality than traditional steel molds. Kits produced under the Special Hobby brand still use this mold technology.

In a move to improve quality, the galvanized metal mold technique was introduced. These molds allow better quality of the final product, and last longer. Kits produced with this technology are marketed by Special Hobby under the MPM brand. Finally, a third Special Hobby brand, Azur, is produced with short-run molds under the guidance of a French company.

In 1992 Special Hobby spun off an affiliate, Czech Master Kits (CMK), which specializes in cast resin accessories and kits. The Aircraft kits are currently sold under the Planet Models brand. So, basically we have one parent company marketing four brands. And now, let's turn to our usual review of upcoming releases, starting with 1/32nd scale:

Revell seems to have emerged from the recent



buyout and after several months of silence are making announcements of releases (or more accurately, re-releases). In the aircraft category they've announced for December a re-release of their 1/32nd scale He-219 A-O night fighter, kit number 80-3928. So far they are silent on the topic of truly new kits, however.

Wingnut Wings has announced two new WW I releases:

Item No. 32049 - 1/32 Halberstadt Cl.II (Early)



- 193 injection molded plastic parts including 14 exclusive to early production aircraft.
- 9 photo-etched metal detail parts.
- Optional Daimler-Mercedes 160hp D.III, 180hp D.IIIa or 200hp D.IIIaü engines.
- Optional radio, generator, rudders, propellers and armament.
- 2 high-quality Cartograf decal sheets including fitted lozenge and markings for 5 color schemes.



Item No. 32062 - 1/32 Halberstadt Cl.II (Late)



- 201 injection molded plastic parts including 22 exclusive to late production aircraft.
- 9 photo-etched metal detail parts.
- Optional Daimler-Mercedes 160hp D.III, 180hp D.IIIa or 200hp D.IIIaü engines.
- Optional radio, generator, gun rings, propellers and armament.
- 3 high-quality Cartograf decal sheets including fitted lozenge and markings for 5 color schemes.

The Halberstadt Cl.II was a two-seater escort fighter or ground attack aircraft, roughly contemporaneous with and similar in concept to the Bristol F2B. As you might expect from the parts list, it was capable of carrying a radio and an engine-powered generator to power the radio.

In 1/48th scale we have several new items: Airfix continues to out-pace the competition and has announced available for preorders:

Bristol Blenheim Mk.IF, which was a long range fighter version having a gun pack under the fuselage with four .303 Browning machine guns.



Hawker Hunter F6.



North American Mustang Mk.IV, which is undoubtedly a re-boxing of their P-51D kit, currently available at King's.



Tamiya is releasing kit 61119, a Supermarine Spitfire Mk. I. The Hyperscale web site published a Squadron ScaleWorkshop video of the kit on October 31st for those of you who want to take a closer look.



Valom has announced three different boxings of a Britten-Norman BN-2A Islander light transport.



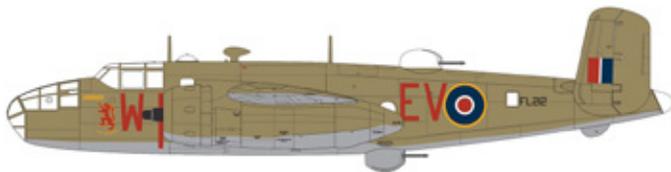


Moving on to 1/72nd scale, we have:

Airfix is accepting pre-orders for a new Handley Page Victor K.2/SR.2. This is the tanker version of the Victor.



Also, a North American Mitchell Mk.II, kit A06018. This appears to be a re-boxing of their recent B-25C/D kit in RAF markings.



- o Scheme 1: FL212 EV-W 'Nulli Secundus' 180 Squadron RAF Dunsfold 1943
- o Scheme 2: FV923 SM-E Lasham 1943

And Airfix is releasing a McDonnell Douglas FGR2 Phantom, kit A06017, with three markings options.



Dora Wings is releasing a 1/72 scale Bellanca CH/J-300 "Record Flights". For modelers of a more militaristic bent, the Bellanca CH-400 was acquired by the U.S. Navy as the RE, the only difference from the CH-300 being substitution of a P&W Wasp C engine for the Wright J-6 used in the CH-300, and some additional cabin windows.



Finally, in Ultra-Braille scale (1/144th), Valom has announced a T-6 Texan in Israeli markings. The box art claims this is a double kit, so presumably there's two of them in there.



So, there you have it. So many kits, so little time!

Ron

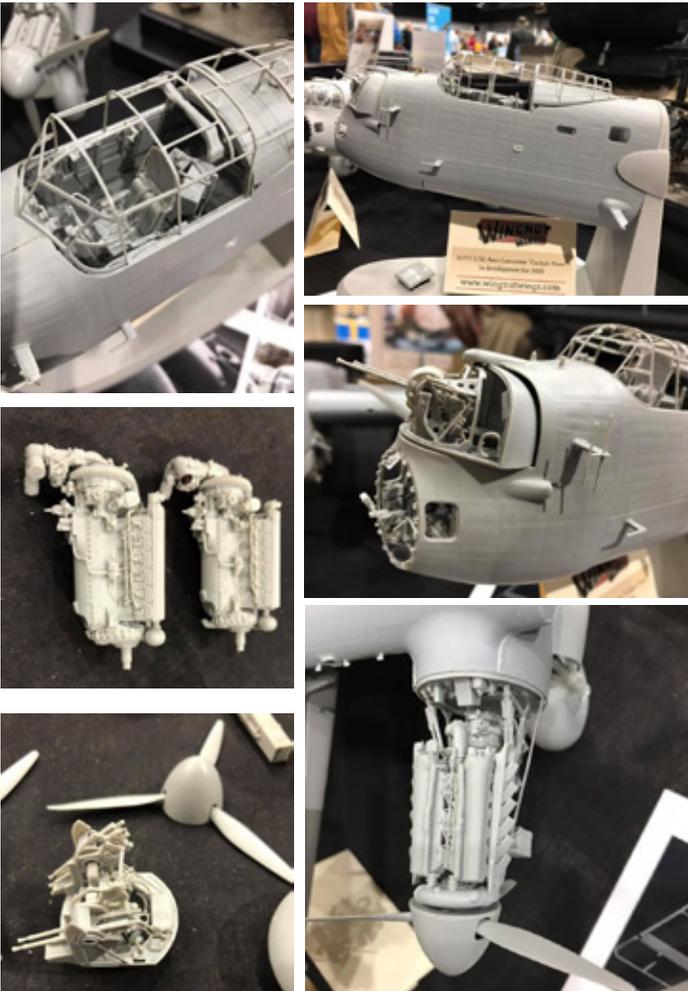




Editors note:



Some more images of the Wingnut Wings 1/32nd Avro Lancaster have surfaced on the WWW. This kit is priced in the 4-5 hundred dollar range so save your nickels and dimes.



It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Welcome to the Thanksgiving edition of "It Figures", your monthly update on the world of miniscule people.

Andrea Miniatures continues to add some interesting fantasy figures to their product line, this time it's Elyssianna, Princess of Light. This beautiful metal and resin kit comes in your choice of 1/24th or 1/32nd and includes the "scenic base". While I'm normally a little skeptical of figure companies that don't provide images of their figures unpainted, that's not the case with Andrea Miniatures' well established track record of excellent sculpting and detail. I'm sure this one will be up to their normal high standards.



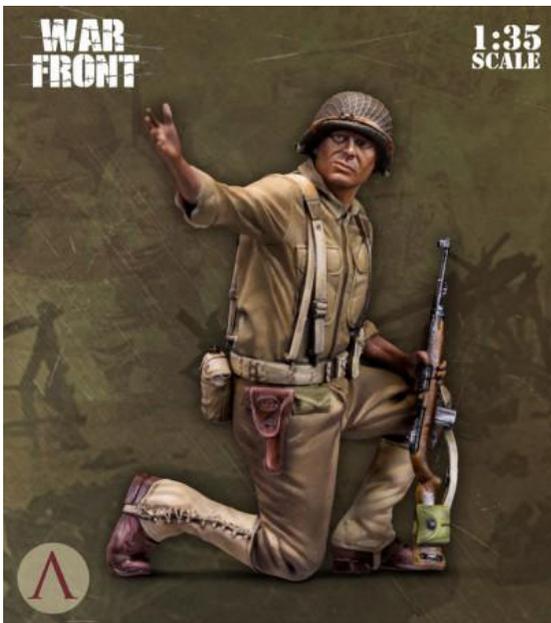
<https://www.andreadepotusa.com/>



Scale75 provides two more figures to their popular War Front series. This release includes two U.S. Infantrymen. Both are wearing standard summer gear and have a full complement of gear. One is standing and firing a M1 Garand, the other is kneeling and holding a M1 Carbine.



As with past releases, these figures come in 1/72nd and 1/48th scale, no word on 1/35th yet, but I'm sure a future release will include that scale. Their 1/72nd figures are some of the best resin figures available, and it's tough to get good U.S. figures in that scale, so these will be a welcome addition.



<https://scale75usa.com/>

Alpine Miniatures has a couple new releases out this month. The first one is a SS machine gun team at Kharkov. The pair are sold separately, or together, and are only available in 1/35th. The figures are dressed in winter gear, so they'd be appropriate for either the first or third battle of Kharkov (there were four "Battles of Kharkov"), or any winter scene. As with all Alpine figures, you get two choices of heads. One set with helmets and another with M38 soft caps, personally I would have liked the M43 style cap, but that probably wouldn't have been too common at the period of the war depicted. Either way, these resin figures look very nice.



<http://http://www.alpineminiatures.com/>

The next offering from Alpine is a U.S. Infantryman, Winter '44-'45 in 1/16th. Although, the title doesn't say it, this is clearly meant to depict a soldier in Bastogne at the Battle of the Bulge. This nicely done figure shows a soldier at rest, and having a smoke. He's wearing a heavy winter coat, and again, comes with your choice of heads. One with a winter hat under this helmet, and the other with just the helmet with camo netting over it. The helmet differences



are important, because clearly the “plain” helmet is meant to depict a soldier from the 29th Infantry Division, while the one with the camo netting is intended for a member of the 101st Airborne Division.



At this point in the war, and particularly in Bastogne, the helmet is probably the only difference in the two soldiers’ gear. Little details like this are what really make Alpine’s figures stand out.



MiniArt is continuing its timely releases of modern fighting men with a group of 4 USMC tankers at rest. One guy is even in the middle of tossing a football.



Looking for something a little more modern, or realistic? Legend Productions out of South Korea has just what you need. Their latest release is a U.S. Navy SEAL 3D printed in resin. This ultrarealistic figure has some impressive details from the individual straps on his gear, down to the soles of his shoes. In fact,





each piece of gear is molded separately, so you can attach as much, or as little gear as you want. This also explains why a 35th scale figure comes with a whopping 41 parts! They provide 4 options of U.S. Navy SEALs, each with armed with a different weapon, and different pose.

<http://http://www-legend.co.kr/>

Last up for something completely different. Zpla is releasing a set of gorilla, yes I said gorilla, Panzer crew. These are 1/35th scale so should go nicely along with your Tiger 1 or 38T.



That does it for this month, so now go build a model and add a figure to it. You won't regret it!

Mike



This Month in the past 100 years

In 1915, cocaine had only been illegal for a year; marijuana was still perfectly legal, available for purchase in pharmacies; and doctors still regularly prescribed heroin to patients.

In 1915, the word "teenager" was not yet in use.

In 1915, the constitutional amendment granting American women the right to vote had not yet passed.

In 1900, the average life expectancy for an American man was 48.3. The average life expectancy for a woman was 51.1.

In 1913, the first dedicated gas station in the US opened in Pittsburgh. Before that, selling gas was a side business for various stores.

In 1940, when the Census collected information on the plumbing in American homes, almost half lacked the trifecta of hot/cold water, a tub or shower, and a flush toilet.

In 1901, Connecticut passed a law that included the country's first speed limit: 15 mph on general roads and 12 mph within city limits.

In 1938, the US set its first minimum wage: 25 cents an hour.

In 1910, the average annual per capita income in the US was estimated at \$332, or about \$7,800 in current-day dollars. But that was decades before truly representative income samples were available. In 1910, less than half of the US population lived in urban areas. (Today, it's 80%.)

In 1915, a dozen eggs cost 34 cents; a gallon of milk cost 18 cents; and a pound of coffee cost 30 cents.

In 1915, canned beer, modern supermarkets, and Barbie dolls had not yet been invented.

In 1915, the US did not have an official national anthem.

In 1910, 7.7% of Americans said that they couldn't read or write, a sharp decline from 1870, when 20% said they were illiterate. (True rates of illiteracy may have been higher, since these were self-reported.)

In 1900, only about half of American children between five and 19-years-old were enrolled in school. Ending formal education after eighth grade was typical.

Tracked Topics

By Rick Herrington

Some good releases this month. Let's start with 1/72nd scale. T-Model is coming out with a M1114 HMMMV with SAG (Save a Gunner) turret.

US.MODERN M1114
Up-armored HMMVV



ModelCollect is releasing a T-14 in small scale. Having built a couple of ModelCollect's offerings you pay your money and takes your chances.



On to 1/35th scale. First up is Amusing Hobby with a Tiger 1 prototype model and for you figure painting buffs a figure of Ferdinand Porsche.



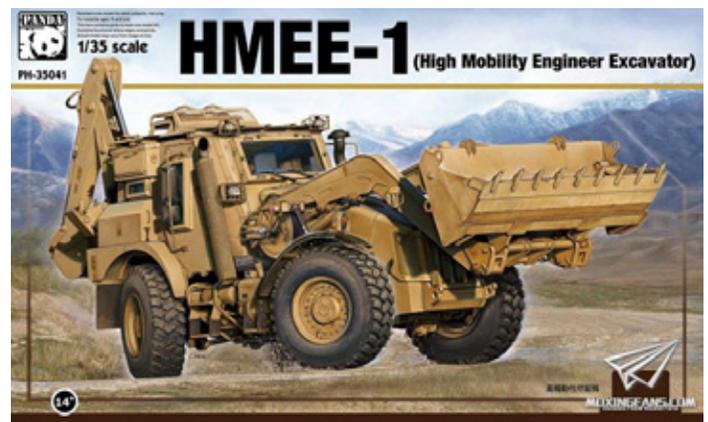
Platz is also releasing two World of Tanks kits. The first is a Tiger 1,



and the second is a Leopard 1.



Panda known for taking chances with their releases is giving us a HMEE-1 (High Mobility Engineer Excavator)





For you modern Leopard fans Tiger Model is releasing the latest and greatest Leopard the Leopard 2 Revolution 2. This is basically a Leopard 2A4 with a series of upgrades to armor and fire control.



Meng is up next with a Magach 6B Batash.

ISRAEL MAIN BATTLE TANK MAGACH 6B GAL BATASH
以色列主战坦克“马加奇”6B GAL BATASH TS-040



Israeli armor seems to be trending with manufacturers now. MiniArt is up first with a Tiran 4 Sharir Late Type. As with most MinArt kits this one includes a full interior.



Last for this month is Takom who is releasing a Jagdpanther G with full interior.



That's the armor for this month. Grab a kit from your stash and build it!

Rick

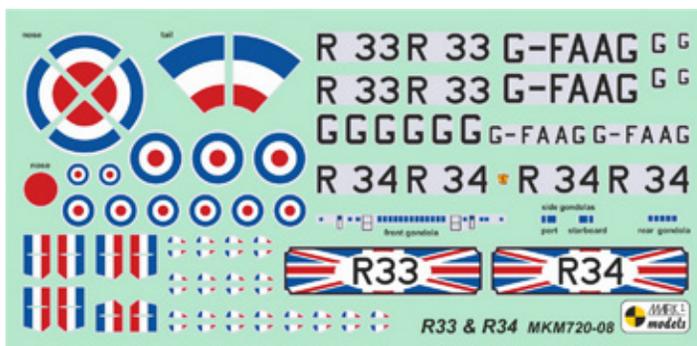




Sundries

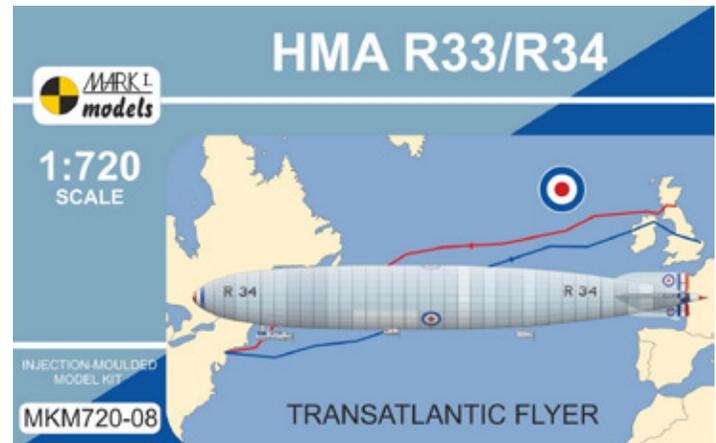
By Golzar Shahrzàd

We begin this month with some items on the small end of the scale range. Mark I Models has a set of newly tooled 1/144 th scale Mosquito's. This being Mark I, you can assume that they will do just about every known variant. Case in point is the three separate boxings with different marking options for each. One has bits for the B.IV/PRIV, another for the B.VII/B.XX(Canadian version), and lastly the B.IV with captured markings.



If aeroplanes don't suit, Mark I Models is also releasing a new rigid airship kit in 1/720th scale. They have the HMA R33/R34 rigid airship. The R33 was a British copy of the German Zeppelin LZ76. The R33 was built by Armstrong Whitworth and first flown in March 1919. It was known as "Pulham Pig". Her sister ship, the R34, was the first aircraft to make an east to west transatlantic flight in July 1919 and by the return flight it completed successfully the first ever two-way crossing. The crew nicknamed her "Tiny". Color schemes and markings included in the kit are for four different ships. This

injection-molded, 1/720th scale kit contains 35 parts, including a model stand.



AFV Club is entering the ship business with a cool looking LST model in 1/350th scale that is mentioned elsewhere. What you may have missed is that AFV Club has a companion set of vehicles sold separately. No need to build the ship when you have all these cool American WWII-era vehicles to populate your latest beach landing diorama. Amongst the 1/350th scale items available are:

- M4 Sherman
- M3 scout car
- LVT landing craft DUKW
- 105mm cannon
- Willys jeep
- Dodge ambulance
- GMC truck.





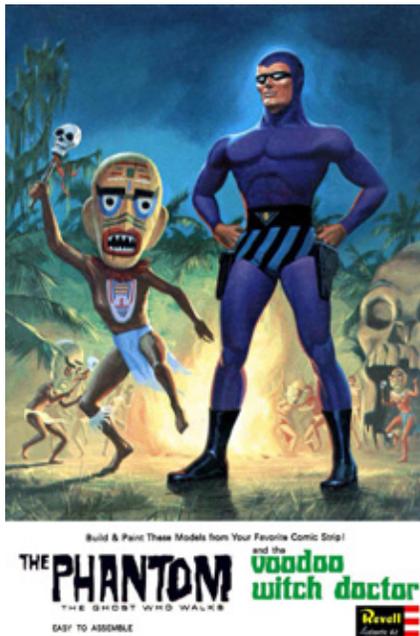
1/350 USA 美軍登陸車輛組 LANDING VEHICLE SET



Now if we can just find someone marketing itty-bitty soldiers, you'll be all set.



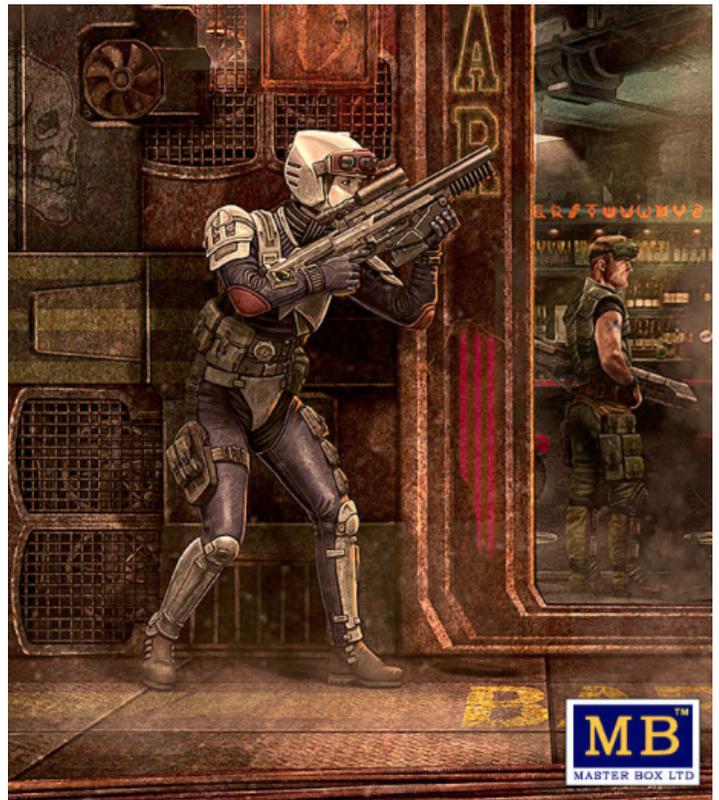
In the weird and wonderful world of if you wait long enough that neato kit from your misspent youth will find its way back into the marketplace. Such is the case with these next two kits. Both are being released by Atlantis Models. One is an ex-Revel (1965) kit of the Phantom.



The Phantom figure is in 1/8th scale and comes with a small display base that has plenty of room for the Voodoo Witch doctor. Atlantis is also re-releasing some old flying saucer kits. Among those is an ex-Aurora kit.



Master box is adding to the 'Edge of the Universe' series of figure kits. This time we have Laurie 'Lighting Bolt' Barnes and Tiberius 'Ty' Harkington III. The original collection of figures, in this series, consisted of scoundrels and scalawags.





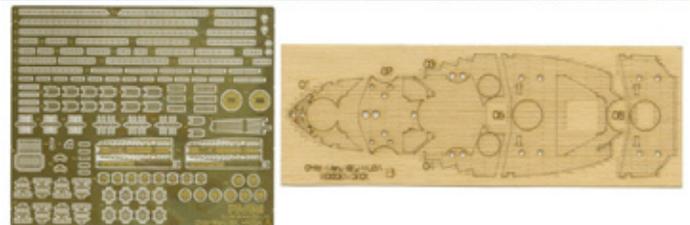
This time we have some galactic cops hot on their trail. Both figure are injected molded and in 1/24th scale.



For soft skin vehicle fans, Das Werk has a new injected molded, 1/35th scale FAUN L900 with a SDAH 115 trailer. Das Werk is part of the Uschi Vander Rosten empire. This is the soft top version of the vehicle and the kit has some brass tubing included just for that purpose. The kit does have bending jig but still probably not a kit for the novice builder.



It had to happen.... Fujimi has a number of injected molded warship kits in their Chibi-Maru fleet. These ship model kits can best be thought of as egg ships. Other manufacturers have had some fun providing wooden decks for some of these kits but never any photo-etch details or railings. Not anymore. Fujimi is re-releasing the (2015) Battleship ISE with wooden decks and photo-etch details and railings!



And if that wasn't enough, Fujimi is also releasing a Tiger tank with special effects parts. The extra parts are for the muzzle blast and the debris thrown up by the tank tracks. If Japanese armor is more your speed, Fujimi also is releasing



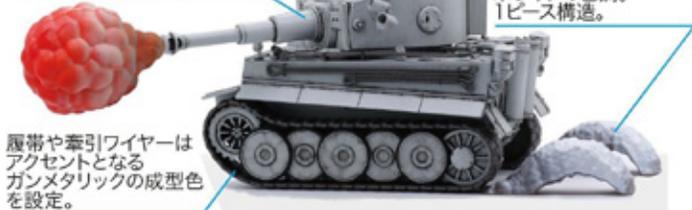
an egg tank of the Japanese Type III tank. Can it get any more realistic?

【ディーガーI】

- 西部戦線とは異なるホワイト基調の東部戦線カラーで製品化。
- モチーフは1943年の第三次ハリコフ戦で活躍した雪中迷彩仕様のディーガー。
- 付属のシールには、車台番号や鉄十字マークの他、転輪ゴム、スコップや木箱などの細かい装備品を収録。
- 塗装派ユーザーも納得のマークデカールが付属。
- モチーフは後面にエアクリナーを搭載している初期型を再現。

雪に同化するための白色は、くすんで汚れた雰囲気の色を採用。

履帯後方に巻き上がる雪塵を再現するパーツはホワイトの色調。1ピース構造。



履帯や牽引ワイヤーはアクセントとなるガンメタリックの成型色を設定。

完成サイズ:高さ:約65mm 幅:約65mm
全長:約120mm(砲身先までを含む)

AeroTech Models has a fun kit for you to build, especially if your into 1920's-era racing planes. They have a resin and white metal kit of the Gloster IV 1927 racer. This limited run, 1/32nd scale kit also has a ton of photo-etch as well as a beaching dolly.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gloster_IV

If your modeling tastes turn more toward the Vietnam-era, Joyfix Studios (Belgium) has just the thing. What with all the new kits of armor and soft skin vehicles used by the United States during that 'conflict'.

A number of manufacturers have stepped up with new figures sets from that period. Few have provided the smaller detail items that make for the

perfect diorama. Until now....Joyfix Studios has a resin and injected molded kit of the Lambretta 550 (copy of the Italian Lambro 550). This was a three-wheeled scooter that was sold extensively all over Southeast Asia. This 3D printed kit is in 1/35th scale and has some photo-etch. Joyfix Studios also has a nice line of diorama accessories to separate you from your money.



<https://www.facebook.com/joefixstudio/>

Go build the your model.

Golzar



**There are two great days
in a person's life
- the day we are born and
the day we discover why.**

- Willaim Barclay

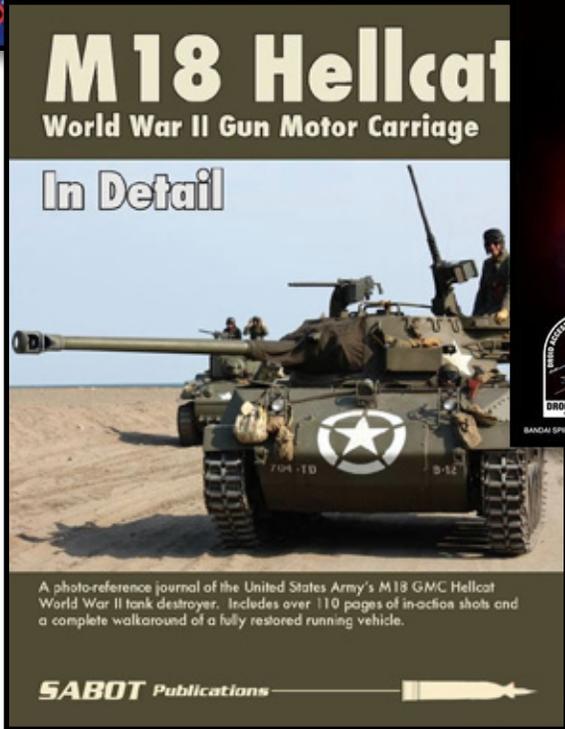
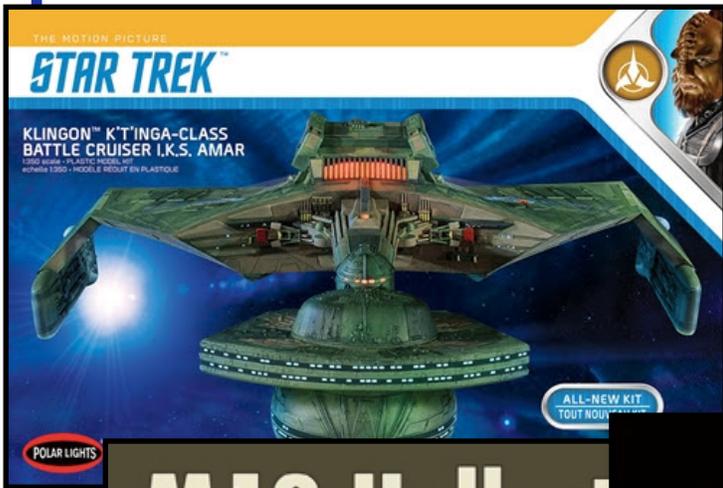


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