

# ***IT'S ONLY A NEWSLETTER***

IPMS Marietta Scale Modelers

April 2019



*IPMS Marietta Scale Modelers*

*Meet every 2nd Saturday of the month at Hobbytown USA in Kennesaw, GA  
 840 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144*

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## **QUIZ FOR APRIL**

1. In May 1982, land-based RAF Vulcan bombers carried out successful operations against the Argentinian forces occupying the Falkland Islands. The 'Black Buck' missions were the most ambitious and effective operations carried out by the RAF since WW2. Following problems on one of the later 'Black Buck' missions, one Vulcan had to make an emergency landing at which mainland South American city?
2. One of the most important Argentinian combat aircraft during the war was Israeli I.A.I. Dagger. Daggars are quite similar to a French combat aircraft. Which one? ?
3. During the Falklands War, an Argentinean Navy special forces team was sent abroad to attack British ships at Gibraltar. What was the codename of this operation?



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# MARCH MEETING NOTES

**Rob Morales**



A busy March meeting, with a packed house of 30 members as usual.

Coming off the show, our profit was \$1200. That shows our account in the bank at \$5600 per Larry.

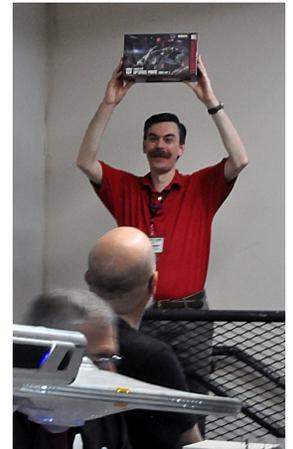
Martin ran the slide show with some various items of interest to members. We're still looking for people to step up with Demo ideas. Please let Martin know what you have in mind.

Another proposal is for members to gather to hold "Build Nights". Stay tuned for details

Upcoming shows include Anniston on April 6th and Warner Robins on June 15th.

Kevin Westphal had this month's newest Hobbytown USA arrivals:

Manufacturer	Scale	Subject	MSRP
Furai	?	IDW Optimus Prime	34
Bandai	300	Go-Sauer	58
Miniart	35	Kugelpanzer	55
Trumpeter	35	9P113 Tel Luna/Frog	130
AFV	350	US Navy LST-1 Class	78
Gamer's Grass	Vari-ous	Grass Tufts	11
Bandai	12	Star Wars Captain Phasma	45
Bandai	12	Star Wars Death Trooper	30
Bandai	12	Star Wars Shadow Stormtrooper	28



Remember, club members get 10% off when purchasing at HTUSA!

We had 18 models, both completed and W.I.P.s on display as well.

Dave Michener:

McDonnell Douglas MD-11. A 1/200 scale Hasegawa WIP that will be one of the leased GE-powered Delta aircraft used prior to the PW deliveries were made.



McDonnell Douglas Super 80/MD-80. A 1/144 scale Minicraft WIP that will use the Draw Decals American Airlines decals



Boeing B747-132. This 1/200 scale Hasegawa kit is finished as one of the five that flew for DAL from 1970-77. Eventually converted to a waterpark ride.

Joe Tulleners:

Airco DH2. This 1/50 scale Artiplast model was rescued from the old shelf of doom after Joe started to work on it with his daughter.



Wayne McVicker:

15 Inch Rodman Cannon. This 54mm Verlinden kit is of a Civil War fortification gun.



Model 1883 Gatling Gun. This 1/24 scale Encore kit was originally a Palmer Plastics mold from the 1950s.



Mike Idacavage:

JB-1A Thunderbug. This 1/72 scale Muroc Models kit with many scratchbuilt features. This was the first jet-powered Cruise missile flown in December 1944.



McLean Gilbert:

M4A3E8 Sherman "Fury". This 1/35 scale Tamiya kit is originally from the Tasca brand. Adding Legends details will help it depict the tank from the 2014 hit movie.



M3A1 Stuart "Painintheass". This 1/35 scale Academy kit has been greatly reworked to include scratch built fenders, rear deck and interior details. Even included a "liberated" .50 cal. Aircraft machine gun as seen on the 3rd Marine Tank Bn prototype on Bougainville.



Andrew Geocaris:

U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701 Refit. This is the 1/350 scale Polar Lights kit with added details, Trek Modeler lighting kit and a painstaking amount of masking and painting to develop the “Aztec” scheme. This represents the Enterprise as seen in 1979’s “Star Trek: The Motion Picture”.



James Young:

Ariane IV. The 1/200 scale rocket is a Heller kit and is a W.I.P.

North American A-5A Vigilante. The box-scale (1/82) Revell kit is also a W.I.P.

Vosper MTBs. The 1/300 scale Warlord Games minis are part of their “Cruel Seas” series and are a W.I.P.



Fred Heil

PT-156. The 1/72nd scale Revell PT-109 kit was used and included Hasegawa quad .50 cal. Mount, Zvezda 40mm gun and crewmen from the Airfix patrol boats. The boat was a one-of-a-kind field modification by LCDR Robert Kelly.



Chuck Davenport:

Spaceman Spiff. This W.I.P. scratch build project is done by computer assisted design and reflects the character from the “Calvin and Hobbs: comic strip.

Gary Litavis:

MAZ 537G and T-72. This 1/35 scale build includes the Trumpeter MAZ tractor and trailer and the Tamiya tank. These are marked for the modern Russian Army.



Buz Pezold:

Boeing B-17C Flying Fortress. The 1/72 scale vacu-form Rareplane kit of the YB-17/B-17D with conversion and scratchbuilding of the landing gear, superchargers, tail wheel, gun tub and interior. This W.I.P. will turn out to be CPT. Colin Kelly's bomber from Clark Field in the Philippines on December 10, 1941.



Rob Morales:

Random Encounter! The 1/12 scale bust is from FeR Miniatures and is a fantasy-type character done in resin. The bust is a W.I.P. from the Atlanta Model Figure Show painting seminar.

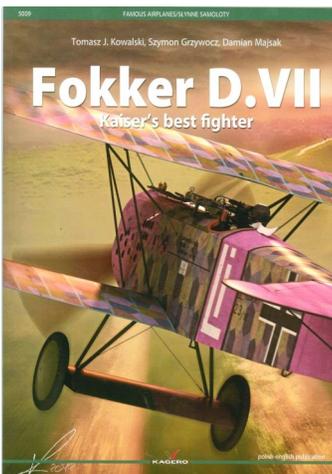
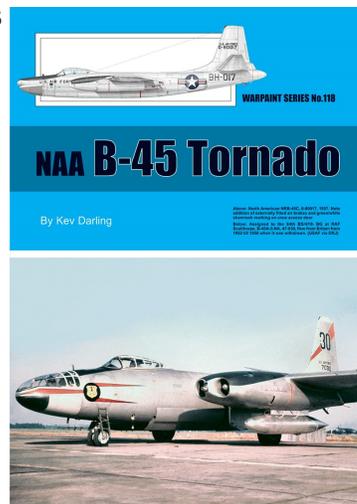


Andrew's Enterprise was Model of the Month, and Gary won the gift card.

# JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS

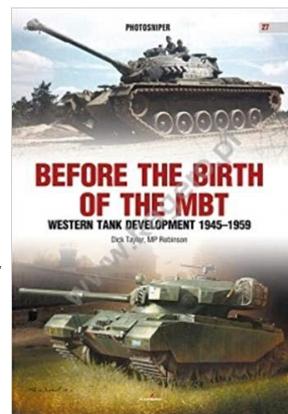
**Jim Pernikoff**

It's been a while since I've reviewed an entry in the *Warpaint* series from **Guideline Publications**. #118 is on the **NAA B-45 Tornado**, America's first production jet bomber. The 48 pages covers the aircraft in the usual fashion, describing its gestation and production and service life, which was fairly short but at times quite exciting, especially when RB-45s were snooping along the Soviet and Chinese borders, and getting shot down at times. Being a British publication, it naturally covers in depth Operation Ju-Jitsu in 1952, wherein a ban on U.S. aircraft getting close to Russia was overcome by painting four aircraft (serials unknown) in RAF markings! While the RAF never *officially* used B-45s, the photos are there. The book has 7 pages of color side views and 4 pages of 1/72 multi-view line drawings, all done by Richard Caruana, and 3 pages of black & white close-up detail photos, handy for anyone building the Valom or Mach 2 Tornados.



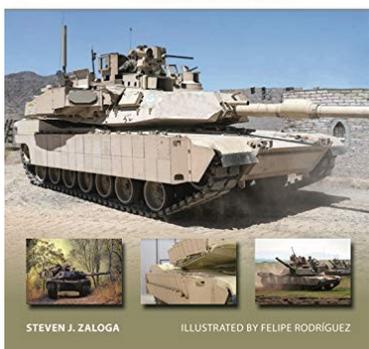
A couple of items from **Kagero** in Poland. #2 in their *Famous Airplane* series had covered the **Fokker D.VII**, and now they've done another volume (#9) on *The Kaiser's Best Fighter*. This is like two books in one. The first half covers the development and history (including its use by Poland), accompanied by b&w photos and 4 pages of line drawings, 3 showing entire aircraft in 1/72 and one showing wing structure in 1/24! The second half is entirely in color and shows two builds of the 1/32 Wingnut Wings kit. The first one is out of the box, and the build is shown step-by-step with no captions. Even though the kit is already highly detailed, the second build is a superdetail job, with a description this time, and becomes part of a diorama. The models are amazing and so is the photography. If you are building the 1/32 kit, this book is a must; even if you are not, the color photos are a feast for the eyes. The book concludes with multi-view color drawings of three D.VIIs, continuing onto the back cover. And since I haven't mentioned it earlier, all text and captions are bilingual English/Polish.

Kagero's *Photosniper* series usually covers a single aircraft or AFV, but #27 is entitled **Before the Birth of the MBT, Western Tank Development 1945-1959**. The Americans come first and the book shows the progression from the M26 thru the M46-M48 series to reach the M60, with a detour along the way to produce the M103 heavy tank. Similarly, the British



went from the Comet thru the Centurion to get to the Chieftain, with their side trip to the Conqueror heavy. The French didn't have much to start with but did produce the AMX13 light tank; they apparently used a lot of M47s which are shown. The West Germans at this time used U.S. equipment while on their way to the Leopard 1. Sweden and the Netherlands are also covered briefly. There are 11 pages of isometric drawings of various Centurion and Conqueror variants, 10 pages of color photos of the included tanks in operation, and 6 pages of color side view drawings. Maybe not the most detailed coverage of the topic, but the price is reasonable. In this one all text is in English.

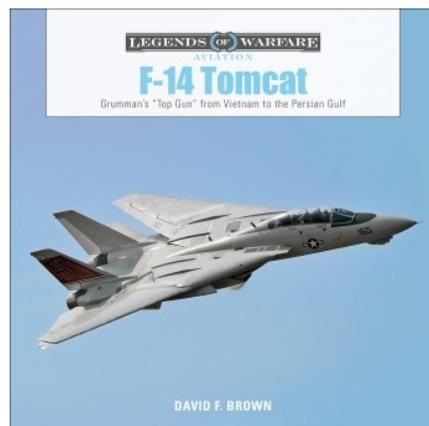
### M1A2 ABRAMS MAIN BATTLE TANK 1993-2018



When **Osprey** created the New Vanguard series, #2 was on the M1 Abrams by Steve Zaloga, covering the tank from creation thru the 1991 Gulf war. Later, Zaloga did a Duel series book (#18) showing how the M1 fared against the T-72 in the same war. Now comes *New Vanguard* #268, **M1A2 Abrams Main Battle Tank 1992-2018**, in which Zaloga brings the story up to date. Following a brief resume on what came before, he starts with the creation of the M1A2 variant, showing what had changed, and the rest of the book basically describes all the updates made since to both the M1A2 and the earlier M1A1, which remains quite viable. Naturally there are a ton of abbreviations and acronyms like HA, SA, AIM, SEP, TUSK and more; fortunately a pretty good glossary of all of these has been provided.

Naturally there is coverage of the 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom, and many of the updates are classified as pre-OIF and post-OIF. There is a chapter on active protection systems, derivatives (bridge & breacher vehicles), and exports to 6 countries, only 1 of which is outside the Middle East! Artwork includes an isometric of an M1A2 SEP with TUSK II; otherwise it is limited to side view and multi-view drawings. There is a decent bibliography and index. This is a decent, affordable update to the Abrams story, though I wish Zaloga had addressed Russian claims that none of the M1's current ammo can defeat their latest reactive armor systems.

Two new books in the active *Legends of Warfare* series from **Schiffer** both have to do with U.S. Naval aviation. **F-14 Tomcat** by David Brown, probably the world's top expert on the F-14, covers all the variants and then shows the development of the TARPS reconnaissance pod and then how the Tomcat became the Bombscat late in life. Fully 60 of the 128 pages are devoted to showing each squadron and its markings variations; there is no text in this section but the captions are adequate. Then a description of the F-14 in combat and the "Tomcat Sunset" which retired the aircraft from USN service. (The Iranians get brief coverage in the last chapter.) All the photos are in color and there are plenty of patches shown as well. The book has already gotten the thumbs-up from members of the F-14 Association, so you should



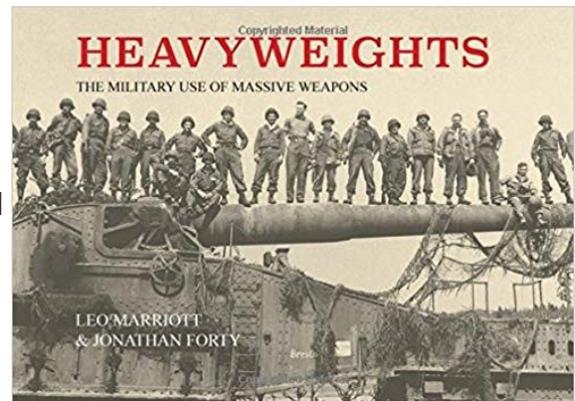
probably add it to your Tomcat collection.



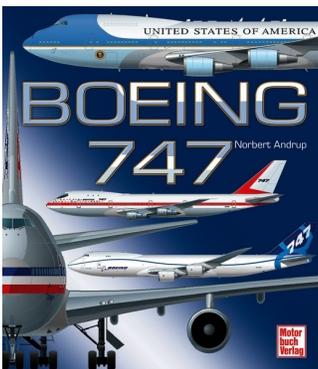
**The Blue Angels** must be a special in the series since the trim that is normally gray is gold on this one, and the book is expanded to 144 pages. The first half of the book is a chronology by aircraft type, and while the photos are excellent, there is little new here. (The only photo that purports to show an F6F in Blues markings is actually one of an F8F, and the SNJ and F7U that were briefly parts of the act are not shown.) The second half is more interesting, with chapters on the support aircraft and crew, the media aircraft, the pilot selection and training procedures, and over 20 pages showing the airshow ma-

neuvers in both photos and diagrams. The book concludes with a chapter of Blue Angels aircraft in museums, which includes aircraft that they actually flew and a few which are just painted that way. This book is good for any fans of the team; if you're uncertain, there'll probably be copies for sale at any airshow with Blues merchandise.

Usually the nifty new books that appear on the bargain shelves at B&N appear in the fall, but one that has only recently made an appearance there is **Heavyweights**, *The Military Use of Massive Weapons*, and this deals with the really big guns that have been used since the 1400s. The book also has several photo sections on forts and other fortifications; these pages are blue for easy identification. Each gun is covered in generally one or two pages, chronologically, with photos and a specification table. Emphasis is seemingly placed on guns that are still in existence. First come the medieval bombards, which are more stylish than they probably were effective. Once the switch was made to what we would call artillery, most of the guns can be categorized as coastal, railroad or naval, and include mortars and howitzers as well as standard artillery. You'll find your favorites, like the Paris gun, *Schwerer Gustav* and *Atomic Annie*, along with nearly all battleship guns since 1900.



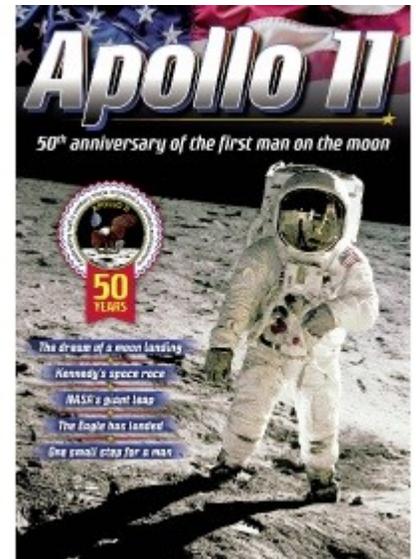
There is a glossary, bibliography and index, and the book is a steal at \$13. (When you look for it, note that the book is, not surprisingly, in landscape format.)



Some years ago, Schiffer released a book called *Colorful Aircraft*, which showed the many unusual color schemes that had been adopted by commercial airlines in the recent past. The book had actually first appeared in German from **Motorbuch Verlag**, and about the same time (2010), the same author/artist did a similar book for them called **Boeing 747**. If you like the “Jumbo” but don't mind the German

text and captions, this is a book for you. Norbert Andrup has done over 300 color side views of 747s, grouped together either by variant, airline, or some other unifying feature. While an English translation might have been nice, books like this can survive without it. I figure nearly every color scheme carried by 747s up to 2010 is covered, as are all variants including the 747-8. All the illustrations are color side views, except that a single 4-view drawing introduces each major variant, and there are 9 pages of detail photos right at the back. The military versions like the E-4, VC-25 and AL-1 are included as well. If you like the subject, this one is worth looking for!

Finally, a couple of the inevitable bookazines. Aside from the D-Day anniversary, the other big one this year is **Apollo 11**, the subject of an excellent new issue from **Mortons Media**. The author is David Baker, probably the prime British expert on manned space flight and the author of most of the Haynes Manuals on the subject. Baker describes how the “space race” got started in the 1950s, and subsequent chapters cover Mercury, Gemini and (individually) each of the Apollo missions before 11. The actual mission is covered in much greater detail, totaling about 1/3 of the book. There is a decent amount of technical detail, including photos and illustrations from tech manuals, but not too much to be overwhelming. There are then chapters covering the remaining Apollo missions (13 is only covered briefly) and a final chapter on the current plan to return to the moon in the (hopefully) not-too-distant future. There may be other special issues devoted to the first moon mission on the way, but leave it to the British to start us off with a good one!



And yet another *Aviation Archive* from **Key Publishing**. #42 is boldly called **Aircraft that changed the World**, and includes 34 types, from the Wright Flyer to the MQ-1 Predator. Any survey like this is likely to raise some controversy over the inclusions and exclusions. I might object that it includes the D.H. Comet and not the Boeing 707, though it does include the 747. On the other hand it includes the B-52 but no British jet bomber. *Ilya Muromets* is here, but not the Gotha; the Camel is here but not the Fokker D.VII. But the Spitfire, Bf 109 and P-51 are all in the book, as are the B-17, B-29 and Lancaster and both the F-86 and the MiG-15. Somewhat curiously the latest manned military types are the Harrier and the F-4; I guess stealth wasn't considered to be world-changing! And both the C-130 and Cessna 172 are rightfully included. As usual the large photos are the stars of the book, some on foldouts, but there are only a handful of isometric cutaways. Certainly not a reference work, this is still a nice photo issue on some significant aircraft.

# PUBLISHER'S SURVEY - SCHIFFER PUBLISHING

Jim Pernikoff

**Schiffer Publishing** of Pennsylvania started in 1974 as a family business, initially to publish books that would be useful to collectors of almost everything. But they had connections to certain German publishers and found quite early a large number of books on military history that might sell well if translated to English and published over here, and that is how this got started. I guess the books sold well enough, because they kept adding more and eventually started to publish their own books on the genre over here, adding more books on both German and American subjects. As a result, Schiffer is now the largest publisher of military history books in the U.S., and the only real rival to the British giants like Crecy, Helion and Pen & Sword.

Early on most Schiffer military books were softcovers like their German counterparts, but gradually a shift was made to hardcovers, and today very few new Schiffer titles come with soft covers. I decided early on to make two separate checklists for softcovers and hardcovers. My initial list for hardcover books that were not part of identifiable series was quite short and based on my own collection, but as I did more research, I realized that there were a vast number of books of this type that could be useful to people like you, what I call "enthusiasts" (modelers and historians). That list ultimately became so long that I broke it out separately, and it is still in work. So that list, the third on Schiffer, will be along in a month or two.

So looking first at the *Softcover* book list, the first two pages are dominated by the original German series that got Schiffer started in this genre. It appears that most of the books originated with a publisher called Podzun-Pallas Verlag, and quite a few appeared with the well-know *Waffen-Arsenal* name on them. The books on page 1 are all in the landscape (horizontal) format and resemble the Squadron *In Action* books. That is no surprise, since the very first *In Action* books, which were all on Luftwaffe subjects, originally came from the same source in Germany! These books have relatively little color, which is on the covers and perhaps a single page inside like those early Squadron books, and as you can see, mainly deal with German WW II aircraft and AFVs. Some of them are numbered; the numbers appear in tiny little white squares on the book covers which are impossible to read online; the numbers shown were supplied by Amazon. There are some names among the authors you might recognize, like Karl Ries and Heinz Nowarra. The list of trucks and cars is separate only because the books were numbered separately; the format is similar.

The books on page 2 are all in portrait (vertical) format, and the first list on the page contains books made distinctive by the use of dark green covers, with the titles usually in white using what I would call a "military" font similar to the one used to put "U.S. Air Force" on early jets! You will note that here the emphasis is more on softskin vehicles, artillery, equipment and

supplies, along with captured vehicles and a few Soviet subjects. I noticed that a handful of topics appear on the lists on both sheets 1 and 2, with the same authors, so I wonder if these are the same books, reformatted?

As time went by, the green covers disappeared but new books did not, and they are in the second list on page 2. From about 2002 onward, books were simultaneously published in both Germany and the U.S., and the Schiffer editions tended to have cover designs that more closely resembled other newer Schiffer books as compared to the earlier volumes.

A couple of warnings regarding all these German reprints. First of all, the books were often translated by people with little knowledge of the subject matter, so some of the translations have been roundly criticized as being extremely difficult to understand. Also the photo reproduction quality of many of the books has been pretty awful, as if the books were not made from the original image material. My best advice, and this applies to any Schiffer book on any of these lists, is to look up the book on Amazon and read the reviews that you may find there. While some of the reviews are likely to be garbage, you should find some serious reviews of the book that will help you decide whether it is worth the price and the effort.

Starting with the *Photo Chronicles* series at the bottom of page 2, the emphasis becomes more American. This series is similar to the *Pictorial Histories* on page 4, but I believe that this series is a bit more detailed.

The modeling books on page 3 are not necessarily a series, but I pulled them out because of your obvious interest. The first column mainly deals with military miniatures, while the second column deals more with model kits. Tom Graham's books on Aurora, Monogram and Revell are intended for kit collectors; each has a large appendix listing kits and their values; the main difference between the various editions is the updating of the kit values. The Japanese aircraft series are reprints from the old Aircam series, reprinted at the behest of their author, Richard Bueschel. The *Luftwaffe Profile* series is similar to the series on page 2 but of newer format, all with a similar cover design; the books on the Flettner and Siebel are particularly noteworthy. *X Planes* is a landscape-format series that makes some use of computer-generated artwork.

On pages 4 & 5 are the softcovers that do not fit in any of the series already listed; these can vary widely in execution and quality. I like the nose-art books near the top of the list, along with *Birds of Prey* and *Air 200*, which has some excellent photography of aircraft painted in special bicentennial colors in the 1976 period. On the other hand, *Firepower* is probably the *worst* aviation book I have ever bought, and needless to say, I did not keep it long! Note that very few books appear on the list after about 2008, emphasizing Schiffer's current trend towards hardcover books. Again, read the reviews on Amazon to see if the book is worthwhile.

Speaking of hardcover books, page 5 has a bonus. *Legends of Warfare* is Schiffer's biggest current effort in military books, and I put these books here in part because I had the space, but mainly because these books' short titles lent themselves to the two-column format. These

books are square-format books that are mainly photo histories but do have adequate descriptive text. Many are written by David Doyle, whose name you should recognize from the large number of books he has done for Squadron and Ampersand, and you will sometimes find him at model shows. (He was at the Chattanooga show in January.) This series has become quite prolific, but notice that many of the 2019 titles have not yet been published.

The *Hardcover* checklist is the first of two you will get on the topic; the other will come at a later date. This list contains those hardcover books which are part of what I consider identifiable series, where all books have a similar format and content. The “non-series” books will come on the later checklist. The first series by Walter Spielberger is of books widely considered the best on German AFVs, rather equivalent to the Hunnicutt books on American AFVs. The other series worth noting on this page are the *Ultimate Look* books by William Wolf; the ones on U.S. bombers are often considered the definitive books on these aircraft; note particularly the inclusion of the B-18 and B-32, aircraft not usually paid much attention to!

Page 2 of this list has two series on Tiger tanks; Jentz’s books are quite highly regarded as definitive. The *Battle Colors* series by Watkins is usually considered the last word on USAAF markings during the war. The *U-Boat Aces* series is one of Schiffer’s newer ones and I have not seen much commentary on it yet.

On page 3, the two series on space flight both have German origins; I have all of the Reichl books on the U.S. program and like them a great deal. I do not know if the format of the Soviet books is a match. *Classic Guns* actually originated in France and looks good in the listings, but I can’t say about the execution.

That’s all for Part 1; scan down the lists for interesting titles, look them up on Amazon and see what you think. (But if you can, order them through your local hobby shop. Incidentally, I have never seen a Schiffer book at a “big box” bookstore, so you can’t find them for browsing too readily.)



# QUIZ ANSWERS FOR APRIL

1. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Vulcan XM 597, captained by Sqdn Ldr Neil McDougall, was returning from the final successful attack on Argentinian radar sites. During refueling, the probe broke off and the crew knew that they would not have enough fuel to get back to Ascension. Aware that they would have to attempt an emergency landing at a neutral airfield, they jettisoned all secret documents and tried to ditch the remaining AGM-45 Shrike anti-radiation missiles, but one stuck fast. Initially, the Brazilian authorities refused them permission to land unless they confirmed who they were and what they were doing in Brazilian airspace. The crew was deliberately vague, explaining that it was a 'British four jet from Huddersfield' (the home town of one of the crew!) and that they were in serious difficulties. After landing, the crew was kept under open arrest before being repatriated six days later. The Vulcan was released on 10th June but the Brazilians confiscated the Shrike missile as a souvenir.
2. The Dassault Mirage V. After the 1967 war Israel asked Dassault Breguet (producer of the Mirage IIIC) to develop a lighter machine, with less electronic and more space for additional fuel and weapons. The result was Mirage V. When Franco-Israeli relations deteriorated and France sold the Mirage V to Libya, Israel developed its own "Mirage V", named "Kfir". The first test group of aircraft was named "Nesher" and the second "Dagger".
3. Operation Algeciras. The commando team was later discovered and imprisoned by the Spanish authorities till the end of the war, quietly returning the men to Argentina.



## Contact Us

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