



SPRUE



EXAMINER



Vol 21 No.12

40th Anniversary(1973-2013)

December 2013

2011 IPMS/USA Website of the Year

2009 IPMS/USA Newsletter of the Year

2010 IPMS/USA Webmaster of the Year

2011 / 2009 IPMS/USA Region 6/ Webmaster of the Year

2010 / 2006 IPMS/USA Region 6/ Chapter of the Year



Planet Models 1/72 Douglas DC-5 by Ron McCracken

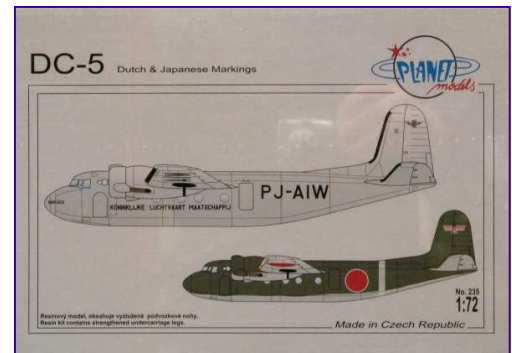
And now, for something completely different...

If you stick with the hobby of model building for any length of time you will eventually broaden your interests. Once you've built a number of P-40 models, for example, the thought of yet another P-40 fails to inspire, even if it is your favorite subject.

Do this long enough, and you'll arrive at a point where doing something new involves limited-run kits, be they injection molded, cast resin, or vacuum-formed plastic.

Such is the case with the Douglas DC-5, a little-known pre-WW II transport design that vaguely resembles its more warlike contemporary, the A-20 attack bomber.

The DC-5 was a high wing, twin-engine design using a retractable tricycle landing gear. The nose gear retracted into an enclosed bay under



the nose, the single-wheel main units retracted outward into open bays in the wing underside.

Only twelve DC-5 aircraft were built immediately prior to WW II. When the war broke out, further production of this type was discontinued in favor of proven military types.

Of the twelve, one was the prototype, seven were delivered to the U.S. Navy and Marines as the R3D-1 and -2, and four were delivered to KLM. In the case of the KLM four, thus begins a twisted tale.

(continued on page four)

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Upcoming Events

Model Shows

CalMex XXVII, IPMS Swamp Modeler's, Lake Charles, Louisiana	1.25.14
http://ipmsswamp.com/calmex.html	
ModelFiesta 33, IPMS Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas	2.15.14
http://www.alamosquadron.com	
RiverCon III, Red River Modeler's, Shreveport, Louisiana	3.8.14
http://www.ipmsredriver.org	
MCMA 2014 Showdown, Metroplex Car Modeler's Assc., Farmers Branch, Texas	3.8.14
http://www.themcma.net/Club_Contests.html	

Local Club Meetings

Hill Country Outlaws Model Railroading Club, King's Hobby, Austin, Texas	12.28.13
Austin Armor Builders Society, Old Quarry Branch APL, Austin, Texas	1.1.14
http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com	
Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	1.2.14
CenTex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, Texas	12.19.13
http://www.centexmodelers.com	

Other Events

Build 'N Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	12.21.13
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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 and his email address is: www.models4troops@gmail.co

Jon is accepting any and all contributions and is sharing them with all of the active programs around the country.

ASMS Officers & Chairpersons

Mike Poole, President
512. 494. 5879, mpoole12@austin.rr.com

Ron McCracken, Vice-President
512. 748. 3455, ron_mccracken@att.net

Jeff Forster, Treasurer
512. 331.1644, jrforster@gmail.com

Bobbie Wilson, Secretary
512. 291. 2116, poldira@gmail.com

Ben Morton, Newsletter Editor
512. 878. 1869, benmorton@grandecom.net

Randy Bumgardner, Show Coordinator
510. 402. 8750, randy.bumgardner@gmail.com

Mike 'Hollywood' Gilsbach, Webmaster
512. 258. 2952, mike@gilsbachdesigns.com

Milton Bell, IPMS/USA Coordinator
512. 454. 2395, rmbell36@gmail.com

Tim Robb, Membership Coordinator
512.392.0611, tim.robb@mccoys.com

Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society (IPMS/USA). ASMS meets on the third Thursday of each month. Annual dues for full membership are \$20 (individual) or \$25 (family). The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the author (s). It is intended for educational purposes *only*. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Message from the Prez...**Mike Poole**

By the time you read this our annual Christmas party will have taken place and everyone will have had a wonderful time and come home with a new White Elephant challenge for next year.

But hold up! We still haven't finished our 2013 round. ASMS's annual White Elephant Contest is at 7 pm on December 19th at our usual meeting place. It will be just like every other month but without the business meeting and raffle. For those new to the club it's a model contest with a unique twist. Each year, at our Christmas party, we have a White Elephant gift exchange. The ideal gift is one you have in your collection but will probably never build. Perhaps it's an odd subject or a low production "garage" kit.



After everyone selects their gift the horse trading starts. Last year I somehow picked the only car kit under the tree but traded for a Polish plane called a PZL P.11c by LTD models. It's a really cool gull wing affair but the tooling is well, "garage".

I had all year to build it and started about a month ago which is typical for me. The contest is only a week away so I'm working away at it every day right now. I know nothing about Polish interwar era aircraft much less ever built one. But that's the *whole idea* behind the White Elephant. It gets us out of that deeply worn groove of familiarity that we all fall into at some point and forces us to try something different.

Speaking of something different... At the November meeting we discussed the idea of forming carpools to the various shows we attend. I personally think that it would be more fun to drive together and could save a buck and lead to higher turnout in support of our neighbor's chapters. Maybe we'll even save a glacier or something. The next close event will be Alamo Squadron's annual Fiesta 33 on February 15th and "Critters" is the theme. Let's try and make a large contingent to support their show, as they do for us every year.

Then there's "The Rrrreally Big Shew!" in August. It was 1964 in Arlington, Texas that a fellow started the whole IPMS/USA thing. That was 50 years ago and the 2014 IPMS/USA Golden Anniversary Extravaganza is being booked now and hotel space is going fast.

This will be my first national competition and I'm super excited. It turns out that IPMS/USA and your prez are both celebrating the Big '5-0' this year and I figure that's a party worth going to. If you haven't checked out their website yet take a look: <http://www.ipmsusa2014.com/>

They have a vendor table map posted that is the size of an airport hanger – I mean it's huge! This show could be the biggest model contest ever held on the planet, perhaps even the solar system. I'll be bringing it up at future meetings to know who else is going so we can organize and perhaps share a rental car.

Mike

P.S. Our January meeting will be on **MONDAY, JANUARY 20th** instead of our usual third Thursday. This one-time change is due to a scheduling snafu with the library. This is a one-time departure from our usual day/time. The February meeting of ASMS will be on the third Thursday, February 20th.

Initially purchased in 1939 for operations in Europe, they were diverted to the West Indies when the war started, with their first change in registration.



However, these aircraft never saw use in the West Indies, instead being again diverted to KNILM in the Netherlands East Indies (Java).

There they received their second change of registration to PK-ADA, PK-ADB, PK-ADC, and PK-ADD. PK-ADA was disabled at Batavia and was captured by the Japanese, who used it for testing and training.

The remaining three were flown out to Australia in February 1942. Since General MacArthur was conscripting anything with wings at the time, these aircraft received unofficial USAAF serial numbers and Australian call signs (PK-ADB = 41-428/VHCXA, PK-ADC = 41-424/VHCXB, and PK-ADD = 41-426/VHCXC) and a coat of war paint (more about that later).

For those tempted to look up those serial numbers, let me save you the trouble. The official numbers went to other aircraft, these were strictly provisional. Eventually they also received late-1942 style national insignia (star-in-circle, with no red center) but initially operated with civil registration numbers as their only markings.

Of these three, only one survived the war, although for some

reason all were eventually assigned official USAAF serial numbers (44-83230, 83231, and 83232).

All but PK-ADD/VHCXC were destroyed by the end of 1942. VHCXC eventually had the war paint stripped off, and reverted to civil ownership at war's end. It ended up in Israel, where it remains to this day in non-flying condition.

The best (only?) kit of this aircraft is a cast resin kit from *Planet Models*, in 1/72 scale. It is boxed in two variants -- the DC-5, and the R3D, as the type was known in U.S. Navy/Marine service.

The wings of the Dutch DC-5 had large letter-box type wing slots, the R3D did not. The kit provides for this by providing different leading edge inserts so either wing configuration can be built. In any case, the kit is accurate only for the R3D-2, which had a large, two-part cargo door with prominent hinge fairings at both the front and rear edges.

For the KNILM/C-110 you have to file off the aft pair of door hinge fairings, fill in the aft cargo door panel lines, and rescribe rounded corners on the aft edge of the remaining passenger door.

Also, an additional circular window is needed on the starboard side, behind the wing trailing edge and spaced the same as the other four. The *Planet* DC-5 kit has decals for the aircraft captured by the Japanese, in Japanese markings.

The kit is generally well made, with very few bubble voids in the resin. The wing, including the engine nacelles, is a single tip-to-tip piece of resin that fits into a recess cut in the fuselage top.

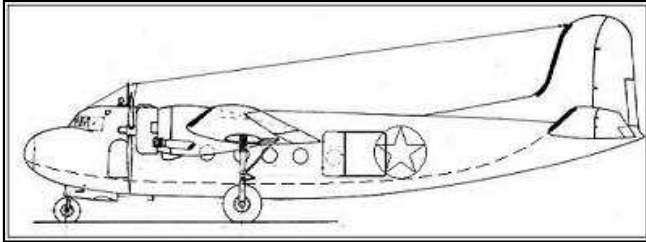
As a result, this model is very heavy and absolutely requires metal main landing gear struts. These you will have to craft yourself. It also requires a substantial amount of lead in the extreme nose if you want to avoid a tail-sitter.

The cockpit canopy is vacuum formed (two are provided). A sheet of clear plastic is provided for the cabin windows, but I recommend "Easy Cast" clear resin to cast the cabin windows, because of the extreme curvature of the fuselage sides.

Now, a few words about paint schemes. I'd not recommend going with a bare-metal scheme, although it would be accurate for both the R3D and the C-110. The necessary smoothness of finish is going to be a hard job with this kit.

The R3Ds got a coat of blue-gray over light gray when the war started, with 1942-style national insignia.

Figure 1 is a profile of one of these very plainly finished R3D-2s based on a photo taken at Camp Kearny in 1942. I've seen color profiles on the web, whose accuracy I cannot yet verify from photographic evidence, of a later



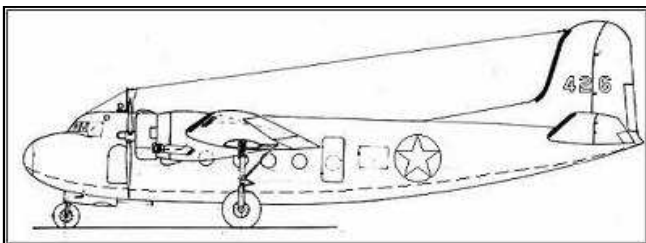
Navy three-tone scheme on these aircraft. The C-110s got a coat of war paint, either courtesy of the Dutch after war broke out, or courtesy of the Australians when they arrived in-country.

In any event, photos show they operated in camouflage for a period of time prior to the addition of USAAF insignia. This leaves the color somewhat conjectural. The top surfaces were a single uniform color, based on black and white photos. The undersurfaces were a fairly dark color as well.

Now, the Dutch used a color called "old leaf" for Asian theater camouflage that was a pretty close match to olive drab, but they usually left undersurfaces in aluminum.

Photos definitely don't support that color scheme - the underside is too dark. It may be that the Dutch painted the aircraft in "old leaf" overall. The other possibility is that in Australia they got the standard USAAF scheme of OD over neutral grey.

Take your pick, I can't confirm it thus far one way or the other. Figure 2 shows VHCXC after the U.S. national insignia and provisional "426" serial number (probably in yellow) were added.



Ron



Monthly Program Schedule
by Ron McCracken, Vice-President

Month	Presenter/Subject
December	Quarterly Contest/ White Elephant
January	Ron McCracken/ Flying the B-52

If you're interested in making a presentation at one of our club meetings contact Ron McCracken at: ron_mccracken@att.net



White Elephant Contest

Our club's quarterly contests are held on the last month of each calendar quarter.

December 19th is the date for our last contest for 2013. The theme is: White Elephant.

This is the kit you received at our annual Christmas party / kit exchange.

Milton Wins! by Ben Morton

Milton Bell is the happy winner of the first annual Austin Scale Modeler's Society newsletter contest. Milton contributed the largest single number of submissions for use in your newsletter. As such he will have his annual club dues paid for by our erstwhile editor.

Initial reports indicate a robust involvement of the club membership with upwards of 25 members contributing to your newsletter. Club members submitted everything from monthly new releases; to the odd website or photo; to on-going contributions. (Which seem to have no end in sight.) There was such a flurry of activity that second place was occupied by no less than four different individuals. Keep 'em coming!

For those among you who may be unfamiliar or new to our hither unknown activities, let me explain. The newsletter contest is an idea I filched...I mean, pilfered...no, stole from another newsletter.

Where upon that editor sponsored a contest for the club membership to send in stuff (articles, tidbits, modeling tips, kit reviews, cartoons, etc.) for the newsletter. The individual who sends in the most stuff wins an all expense paid trip to...no, wait that's something else! What you win is having your yearly club dues paid for by the editor. In this case, me!

These submissions can be anything and everything and need not necessarily be published in order to qualify. I suppose you could send in the weekly weather report but the idea is to get you contribute some items for the newsletter of a modeling nature.

The intent is to continue this contest through 2014, so get crackin' on that article you been meaning to write. Like the man said..."You can't have too much toilet paper or too many newsletter articles."

That last bit about newsletter articles is made up but, hopefully, you get my drift.

Rest assure that the accounting division of the newsletter staff will be keeping a diligent and accurate tally of all submissions.

Ben

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www.hobbytown.com

ASMS Christmas Party /White Elephant Gift Exchange by Roy Lothbrok

ASMS held its annual Christmas Party/ White Elephant gift exchange on December 14. Hosted by Randy Bumgardner, our illustrious new show coordinator, and the ever vivacious Liona Downs (that would be Randy's wife.)

It would appear that we behaved ourselves(at least to the extent necessary) to be invited back for next year. Yeah!

A grand time was had with more than enough goodies to consume , modeling talk to be had (go figure) and the odd communization with fellow club members.

If you're not attending these soirées, you may want to reconsider for next year. There are way fun!

Roy



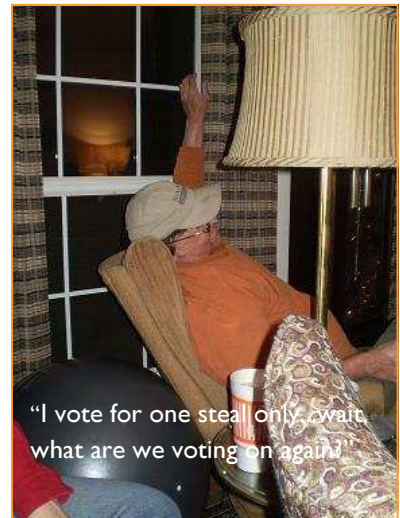
Aren't they standing in the exact same place that they occupied last year?



"We're ready to get started..."



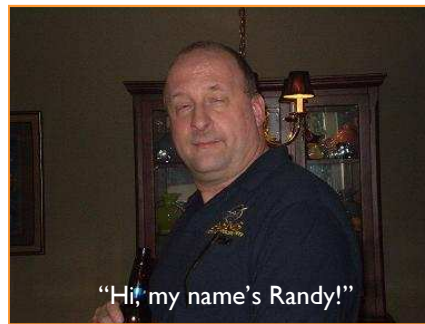
Oodles of goodies.



"I vote for one steal only... wait, what are we voting on again?"



Is this a pie or a new kit from AFV Club?



"Hi, my name's Randy!"



"Like I was just trying to explaining to this guy..."





Now, we're getting to it.



"I'm not much for airliner kits, but I guess I could put some lights in it?"

A great starter kit for a budding new modeler...a resin seaplane kit. "Hey Milton, I got an idea!"



"Please, let it be something with wings..."

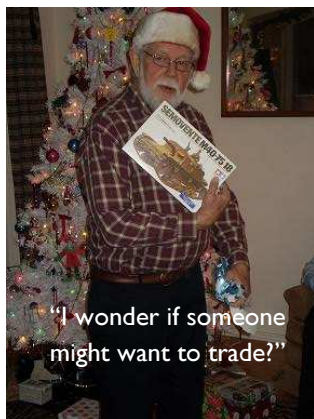


Who ya gonna call?



"Trade ya?"

Meanwhile, at the other gift exchange...



"I wonder if someone might want to trade?"



"I wonder, by chance, if this could be a Fairey Battle?"





"Wow, just what I've always wanted!
Wait, what is this?"



"It's a candle...a lighthouse?
Oh, I know ...it's a candle light-
house!"



"I do hope it's a
Christmas spider!"



Someone has to explain to me how Eric went
from apple butter to candles to, finally, body
scrub?"

Kinetic Models 1/48 KFIR C2/C7 by Floyd S. Werner, Jr., IPMS # 26266

During WWII the French could not design a good looking aircraft to save their nation, however, that changed in the post war years. The delta wing Mirage series is a beautiful aircraft utilizing the delta wing research from Germany. Utilizing the powerful J79 engine the KFIR was a powerful fighter bomber. The C2/C7 had canards for added maneuverability, as well as, more powerful avionics.

This is my first *Kinetics* kit and I must say upon opening up the sturdy two-piece cardboard box I was impressed by the presentation.



The kit is molded with over 180 light grey plastic with finely engraved panel lines. *Kinetics* seems to have captured the looks of the real thing.

Besides the two different versions of the aircraft there are other options. One of them is having the flaps up or down. Canopy open or closed. Airbrake opened or closed. Then there are the armament options, cluster bombs, Mk-82s, Python Air-to-air missiles, fuel tanks and all the pylons to hold them.

An additional sprue of clear plastic contains the appropriate items. The canopy does NOT have a mold line down the middle and they all are crystal clear. The assembly instructions are contained in a nine paged A4 sized booklet. The black and white drawings seem easy enough to follow. The color callout is in four paint ranges.

A separate page contains the decal and marking options. This is printed in full color on both sides. One side has the grey schemed C2 and the other has the camouflaged C7. I elected to do the camouflaged C7 because it is cool.

To round off the professional package is the inclusion of decals designed by Ra'anán Weiss of *Isradecals* and printed by *Cartograf*. So, in a word they are the world's best decals designed by the guy who would know. You can't get any better than that.

As usual, the cockpit is the starting point. The cockpit is simple but effective. The ejection seat is nice but it does need

some seat belts to bring it to life. I used some tape to make it look acceptable. There were some places that needed a touch of filler, but nothing to dramatic.



There was one part that was vague, Part 79, which is a box on the aft bulk-head. I put it where I thought it went. We'd see that I must have missed it by a little bit as

my canopy wouldn't close. Painting the cockpit was easy enough.

Mostly grey with black on the panels.

The next step is the landing gear. I assembled the wheels but waited until later to paint and add them. There are some minor parts to be assembled next. Everything fit well enough. Some needed a pinch of filler but nothing drastic

The fuselage fit well. The only place that needed some filler was on the exhaust section. The engine inlets did require some manipulation and a small amount of filler to get them to fit right but nothing drastic. Well within the abilities of most modelers.



The wings required some sanding of the leading edge to get a good fit, but nothing the average modeler can't handle. A bead of *Gunze* Mr. Surfacer 500 was run along the panel line and then cleaned off with *Gunze* thinner. The same with the airbrakes.

The airbrakes can be positioned opened or closed. Opened there is no detail in the bay. So I closed mine as this would make the aircraft more sleek. The flaps can be positioned up or down but like the airbrakes they were positioned up to keep the sleek lines.

The wings to fuselage join fit well but did require some filler at the leading edge. Again, nothing drastic, just a little bit.

The canards fit perfectly. After masking off the front canopy with *Tamiya* tape and *Mr. Maskol*, the canopy was attached. With that the model was ready for paint.



The whole model was wiped down with Plastic Prep and a coat of *Alclad* Grey Primer. What needed to be fixed was fixed. *Tamiya* flat black was sprayed on to pre-shade the model.

Gunze Light Ghost Grey was sprayed on the bottom. A couple of drops of white lightened up the grey which broke up the monotonous color. *Gunze* 313 Desert Tan was added next. I tried to get a tight but freehanded edge to my colors so this was followed up with *Gunze* Sky. These two colors are very close to each other and they need something to contrast against.

Enter the next color, *Model Master* Desert Brown. This makes the model pop. Once everything was dried, I masked off the wheel wells and painted them white. Some other minor things were painted like the flat black tip of the nose. I think if I were to do this camouflage next time I will use masks.

A coat of *Alclad* Agua Gloss prepped the model for the decals. The decals are printed by *Cartograf* and are simply gorgeous. I started at the front and worked my way around instruction sheet.

There are plenty of stencils on this model. They worked so well I didn't even use setting solutions except for a few areas where I had a little silvering because my gloss coat wasn't as good as I thought. It was all my fault and not the problem of the decals.

There was only one problem area. The squadron tail markings are required to conform over a sensor at the top. They didn't quite make it all the way around it.

I ended up using some *Polly-S* RLM-04 which proved to be a perfect match for the yellow. I can't remember what I used for the red, but I think it was *Tamiya* Flat Red. After that a coat of *Alclad* Flat was used to seal everything in place.



Adding some of the small items prepped the model for the ordnance. There is a bunch of ordnance in the kit. There are bombs, drop tanks, and Laser bombs.

The fit of the supersonic tank tail was a little less than spectacular. Another thing that I thought was a little off was the sway braces for the Laser Guided Bombs. I thought I should have cut them down a little more, however, I built it the way they were designed. They don't look bad but I think they could have looked better tighter.



The fit of the forward pylon for the laser guided bombs was less than perfect and required some sanding and fitting to fit properly. After that everything else worked well and added a whole dimension to the belly.

I elected not to weather the model heavily as I feel jets just don't get as dirty as a reciprocating engine WWII fighter. The pictures in the *IsraDecal* Publications "IAI Kfir in IAF service" proved this to be correct. Also while speaking of this book, I found it essential for putting this model together. I used some burnt umber artist oils to dirty up certain components.



Adding the canopy and the some clear parts brought the model to a conclusion.

The instructions are a little vague in some areas. An internet search or the *IsraDecal* Publications book proved to make up the shortcomings.



The leading edges of the wings did require some thinning, however, nothing drastic. Some filling was required here and there but nothing too bad and certainly within the limit of all but the most novice modeler.

The model scales out perfectly with the plans in the *IsraDecal* book. The decals are excellent. I enjoyed the build. Was it worth the money? I'd have to say yes.

Thanks to *Kinetic Models* and IPMS/USA for the review copy.

Reference: IAI Kfir in IAF service, Ra'anan Weiss and Shlomo Aloni, ISBN 965-7220-07-6, *IsraDecal* Publications, 2007.



Floyd

Web At Night: Rewind compiled by Jean-Michel D'Aubigne

For your consideration is a French website.

<http://fanakit.free.fr/>

As the website title implies, this is mostly a kit(1/72nd scale) review venue. There are however some excellent walkaround collections, particularly a nice group of B-17 photos.

There are some build reviews and some examples of some great modeling. The majority of the kit reviews have extensive photos of the kit sprues. More so than one usually finds on the interweb. Check out this site web du 1/72 'eme.

If you are in the hunt for photos of real aircraft doing real things Air Fighters is a site for you. The collection of 'in-action' photos of real aircraft from around the world is nothing if not extensive.

Just as an example, there is a tab entitled Re-Heat that has over 300 albums of aircraft in flight or *in-burner*. I would hazard to say that if you can't find a particular aircraft photo here then that aircraft just never existed.

The title page has a photo of some weird Russian thingy in a bone yard.

<http://www.airfighters.com>

Have you been searching diligently for some/any information on the North American F-100? Look no further. Point of fact, this site seems to have everything you would ever want to know about the "Hun".

There is background information, photo collections, walkarounds, three-view drawings of the standard SEA camo scheme, cockpit layouts, cutaway drawing of the J57 power plant and my favorite...gate guards.

As that name implies, this is a small collection of 'retired' airframes stationed outside various bases. Most are on some sort of pylon, others just 'parked' on a slab. It could give you some neat ideas for displaying your latest creation or diorama build.

Don't forget to click on the odd video either. There is a 9min. plus video of 'Huns' taking off for a target towing mission.

<http://www.f-100.org/hun/shtml>

Iwould suspect that most of us have traipsed around on Fine Scale Modeler's website at one point or another. But have you ever tried one of the other model magazine sites?

Model Airplane International is a UK base publication that caters to as you may have already surmised, winged things. And by that, I mean aircraft.

Some of the content is for subscriber's only but that's to be expected. There is, howsomever, lots of free stuff just for the 'clicking'.

Of interest to moi is the selection of new kits releases that are forthcoming from the various manufacturers we're all familiar with.

As I'm sure you're already aware, lots of stuff gets released 'overseas' first and in some cases never makes it our shores at all. A cool way to keep up with what is going down with new aircraft kit releases. Where else would you find out about the Sud Est Aviation X-207?

<http://modelaircraftinternational.com/>

Here is another way for you to idle away the hours looking at stuff. Military Photos is just what the name implies...Military Photos.

This site has gobs of contemporary photos, most sent in by service personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some of the photos are what one might; trooper standing next to a HUM-VEE, etc. Nevertheless this is photographic evidence of the conditions they have/are operating under and what the countryside looks like. Good stuff for diorama building.

Do look at the military videos section. There is a video taken, I assume by one of the participants or an imbedded reporter, when some Canadian Forces came under assault in Afghanistan. Not exaculty something you'll see on the evening news.

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

Jean-Michel

Old Rumors/New Kits 2G

Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzād, Mike Poole,
Randy Bumgardner, Rick Herrington

Automotive

During the final days before Christmas the streets have emptied and the grandstands have all cleared. *Tamiya*, *Fujimi* and *Aoshima* each released their big new kits in time for the shopping season. The only elves still working are those at *Model Factory Hiro* this month.

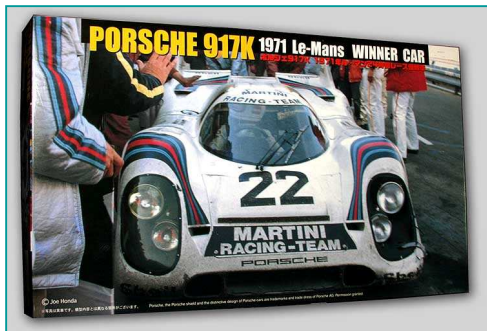


MFH have added the Porsche 917K to their growing family of over 400 kits. This version comes complete with thin resin body and several hundred tiny little pieces just waiting to make

their escape into your carpet. The best part about Hiro kits is that if you want to super detail just about everything is included in the box (except a flashlight and kneepads). But the box full of bits costs nearly \$300 and some of the parts won't fit together without a *little* persuasion.



On the other hand *Fujimi* have a nice kit of the same race car for about \$30.



I've seen some amazing things done with the *Fujimi* on the internet. But \$30 is just a down payment for a super detailed model taking the plastic route. You will need a resin engine (\$65), good photo-etch (\$40), much better decals (\$25), and some wire hoses and machined parts (\$50).

Admittedly, \$210 is lower than the \$300 that *Hiro* asks but you also have to get all those parts to fit together with a lot of persuasion. Some builders have more time than money, and for some it's the other way around.

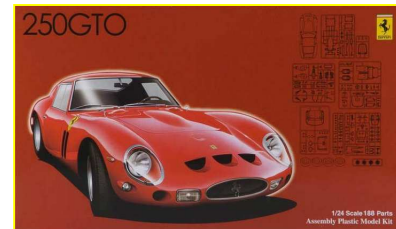


Fujimi have some other nice red race car kits that are available now.



While the Ferrari 330 P4 curbside has been around since the '80s it's still the most accurate body available. The 250 GTO was first issued in 2007

and is also the best tooling available. It even comes with an engine! Both run about \$30 retail. They also are just a starting point for the super detailer. Be prepared to spend much more for the extras.



Revell/Monogram have dusted off some more tools this month. The 1/12th scale 1969 Camaro Z/28 is a Chip Foose modified version with a fully detailed 302 V-8 tuned suspension and two different wheel/tire options.



It's a big model and will need a lot of scratch building to fill up the empty space. Look for it this month for about \$55.

The 1/25th 1949 Mercury Wagon is also out this month. I promise no “woody” jokes. In the late forties, rails linked the nation in a complex network like the airlines do today. To get from the station to your final destination, many cab companies used "Station Wagons"- custom wood sided cars with high passenger and cargo capacities.

The '49 Mercury Wagon was the first of the type to be designed and built after the end of WWII. This kit features a detailed V-8, (gigantic) external sun visor, factory stock bodywork and detailed interior. It'll cost around \$20.



Well that about covers the car front for the month of December. Happy holidays everyone.

Mike

Shipping News

Here's the goodies.

In 1/700th scale Fujimi has a big surprise with their latest release. A Yamato. This time with a dock.



Skywave has a quartet coming our way. First is two JMSDF modern destroyers.

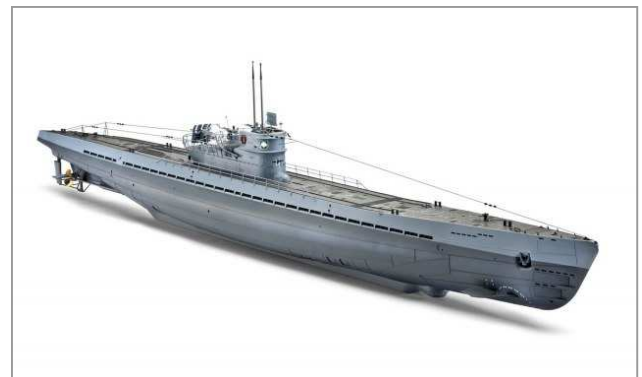


The Kirishima (DDG-175) and the Samidare (DD-106).

The Kirishima is a guide missile destroyer and the Samidare is a destroyer.

Rounding out the foursome are the IJN Inazuma and the IJN Murakamo. Both WWII destroyer. All four kits are in 1/700th.

Pitroad has the 1/700th DKM Admiral Hipper (1941) German heavy cruiser slipping it moorings soon. Trumpeter did the original release and this could be a re-release of their kit.



For fans of big stuff, Revell has another 1/72nd scale submarine for you. The Type IXC U-boat.

Rick

Miscellaneous

In an on-going search for the unusual injected molded model kit AFV Club provides. They are showing a 1/12scale elementary desk with chairs. To my knowledge, this is a bit of a departure from their usual fare.



Continuing with the theme

“and now for something completely different.” *MiniArt* has a model of a European Tram.



Clang! Clang!

Not to be out done by some young whippersnappers, *Fly* has announced some fun things to build.

They are showing a complete series of kits of the Canadian Avrocar. This was a Canadian effort to build a one-man flying craft not unlike US efforts with the hover car.

The series has the prototype as well as the artillery and bazooka equipped models. One can only imagine the reverse torque the pilot would have to have compensated for after firing off a cannon/bazooka from a hovering vehicle.

As if that weren't enough, *Fly* also has the entire series of 1/72nd scale Hafner “Rotachutes” coming to a shop near you.

This was a one-man gyrocopter sort of thing developed by Raoul Hafner, working with the British, during WWII. No word or whether or not he planned to arm one with a bazooka.



Alliance Modelworks has a 1/144th scale Steampunk Submarine for your building pleasure.

The kit contains a resin hull, photo-etch, water-slide decals and display base. It should keep you off the street for the foreseeable future.

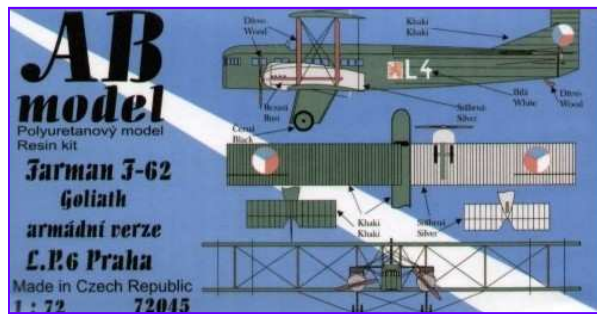
For the more traditional, *Tamiya* has a new 1/35th figure set. British Paras on bicycles.

Remember, when traveling to always bring a map.

If your still in the mood for something that will test your modeling skills, I would suggest *AB Model* 1/72nd scale Farman F-62 Goliath.



Originally for passenger service this craft was developed prior to WWI and pressed into military service at that time. This resin kit comes in both civilian and military versions. Oh, it'll set you back about \$200.00.



Roden has a 1/144th scale kit coming your way, if not already here. It's the Lockheed C-140A Jetstar.

Go build the your model!



Golzar

Armor

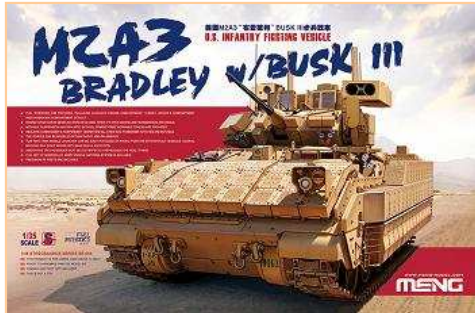
Greeting and salutations to all of you armor fans, and welcome to the armor curious.

I am returning to form this month and starting off with my

old friend *Meng Models*, since they seem to be just pumping out great stuff!

Up next from them is something a lot of modern armor fans have been anxiously awaiting. A brand new Bradley IFV!

This is super exciting. The release includes a **full** interior, engine and crew compartment. They even give you seatbelts and not just photo-etch seatbelts but ones made out of flexible plastic. (Think *Dragon DS* tracks.)



Staying with the modern theme, *Bronco* has announced a

Maxx Pro. That makes three manufacturers that have announced releasing this vehicle.

One of the previous announcements was from *Rich Models*, which is connected to *Bronco*. There is some conjecture on the web that this may be the same model, just re-badged. I guess we will find out. I, for one, really want to see this beast on the shelf.



Also coming is a newer version of the giant Buffalo 6x6 MPCV. This time with slat armor!

This is welcome news as previously you needed to buy a bunch of update sets to do this version. No word on if the slat armor is plastic or photo-etch. I am voting for plastic as I would rather have slightly oversized plastic bars than deal with all the 'etch'.



Now, lets check in with *Dragon*. They have a few new things coming soon.

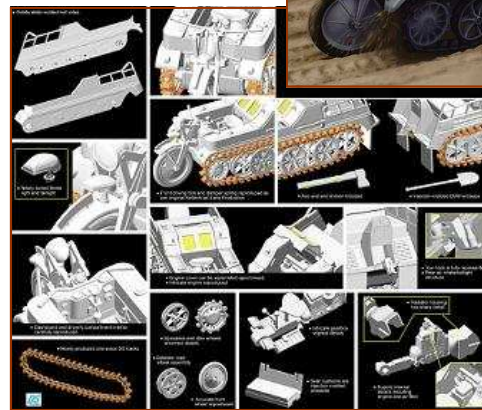
Under the Black Label, we have the MBT-70.

This was a joint project between Germany and the United States. Everyone pulled out of the project and the Germans went on to make the Leopard and the United States made the Abrams. A neat piece of history!

Still not sure what the "Black Label" is supposed to mean?

Dragon has also announced a new Kettenkrad variant.

This looks to have all the bells and whistles but I don't see any mention of



included figures like the box art suggests.

Which is a pity, as I like the fraulein!

Well, those are the highlights, see you next year!

Aaron





In the latest issue of...

IPMS/USA Journal
November-December
Volume 25, Number 06

- **The Nationals** - An Organizer's View, by Mark Persichetti
- **Rocky Mountain High** - Thin Air Nationals, by Dick Engar and Bill Engar
- **Juniors** - Category 00
- **Aircraft** - Category 01
- **Military** - Category 02
- **Figures** - Category 03
- **Ships** - Category 04
- **Automotive** - Category 05
- **Space and Sci-Fi** - Category 06
- **Dioramas** - Category 07
- **Miscellaneous** - Category 08
- **Special Awards** - Category 09

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Austin Scale Modelers Society
c/o 1228 W. San Antonio Street
San Marcos, Texas 78666

www.austinsms.org

Next Meeting:
December 19, 2013
at
Austin Old Quarry Library
(7051 Village Center Drive)
7PM to 8:45PM
Program: White Elephant Contest



Attention! Attention! Attention!
One -Time Special Event coming to ASMS in
January.

That's right! This one-time only, special event is coming your way . Be sure and mark your calendars and reschedule (reprogram) your life to coincide with this event.

The January meeting of ASMS will be held on
MONDAY, JANUARY 20th at **7PM** at the
Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library,

You may be asking yourself...Just what's so special about that...? Glad you asked...due to a scheduling conflict our
January meeting will be on **Monday, January 20th**.

This is a ONE-TIME happening and we will revert back to our normal day (third Thursday, each month) for the February meeting and all subsequent meetings for 2014.

[P.S. Please read it, again.]