



## AK Real acrylic paint review

By Rick Herrington



*AK* Real paint colors have been determined through scientific analysis of actual WWII paint samples to produce colors as accurate as possible. In addition to the paints, AK has published a book, *Real Colors of WWII*, that documents the historical research and analysis that went into determining the paint colors. The book and the paints are available at King's Hobbies.

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

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- 01/28/2018      **Calmex XXXII**  
**Lake Charles Civic Center**  
**Lake Charles, LA**
- 02/17/2018      **ModelFiesta 37**  
**Contact: Len Pilhofer - [mfdirector@alamosquadron.com](mailto:mfdirector@alamosquadron.com)**  
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**San Antonio, TX**
- 03/24/2018      **RiverCon VII 2018**  
**Contact: Andrew Bloom - [bloom4him@hotmail.com](mailto:bloom4him@hotmail.com)**  
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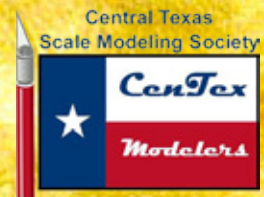
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### IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

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

# The Presidents' NOTEPAD

By Randy Bumgardner

Happy New Year and welcome to 2018! I hope everyone's year is off to a great start and, if not, there is a whole year for things to get better. January is a busy month at ASMS. We have a couple of awards for some well-deserving members, we have to pick our projects for the Procrastinator's Contest, and we need to pick a show theme for the 2018 Capitol Classic. So, let's stop kicking the dirt with our toes and get down to it!

First, let me nag at everyone... It's time to renew your membership and that involves paying your dues. Everyone has until March 1st to qualify for the discounted rates of \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a family membership. Once we enter the third month of the year, both rates increase by \$5. So, hurry up and save some moola.

This month we're going to pick names out of a hat for newsletter articles and monthly presentations. Of course, volunteers are always welcome and get the best pick of the available months. You can always sign up for both, as well. The articles and presentations do not need to be directly related to modeling. You can document an adventure to a museum, model show, or other event. Or, perhaps, you would like to explain the history of a specific battle or subject. The possibilities are only limited by your imagination.

Currently, our show is theme-less. To remedy the situation we need everyone to put on their thinking caps and bring an idea or two to the meeting for discussion. Our stoic show coordinator will lead the charge on this discussion, and groom and fluff our ideas until we find the perfect theme for the show.

Lastly, everyone who plans on participating in the Procrastinator Contest in June needs to bring a list of three to five currently stalled projects. I say currently stalled because an ongoing project you're actively working on isn't procrastinating, now, is it? So, jot those procrastinations on an index card and bring it in. Just before show and tell we'll meander about the room and have others pick our project for the contest. Then, it's off to the races!

Well, that's the big stuff for this month. Remember to bring in some things you're working on, we like to see them. Now, go build something and show it off!

Randy





*Continued from page 1.*

That being said before I buy a new set of acrylic colors to replace my tried and true Tamiya colors I decided to do some testing on my own. Since I am a modern armor guy I tested the following colors. AK RCo79 Carc Tan 686A- US Modern vehicle sand color



AK RCo80 Nato Green – Green used in Nato 3 tone camouflage



AH RCo81 Nato Brown – Brown used in Nato 3 tone camouflage

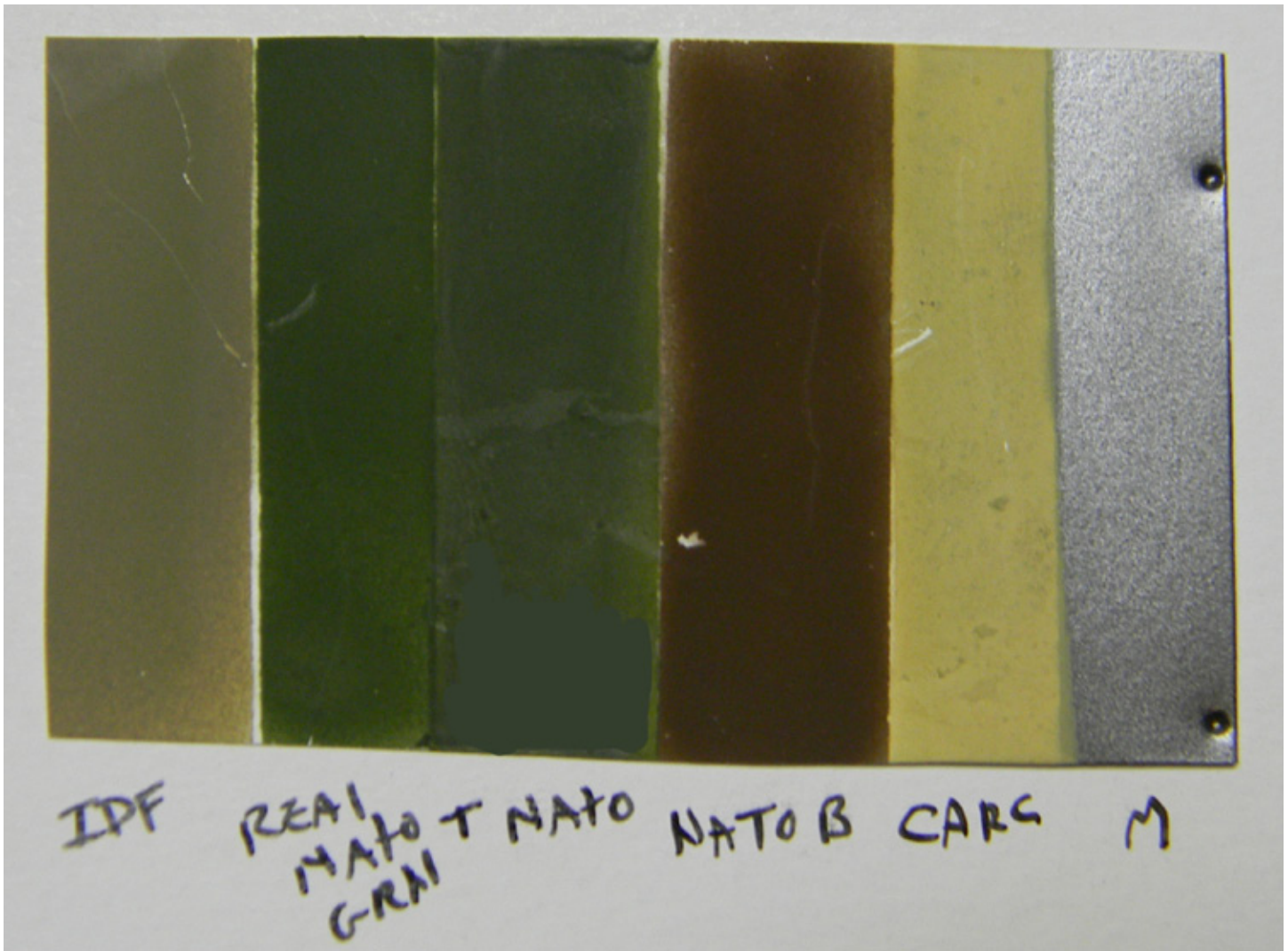


AK RCo94 IDF Sinai Grey – Israeli Sinai Grey – IDF Grey uses since 1990



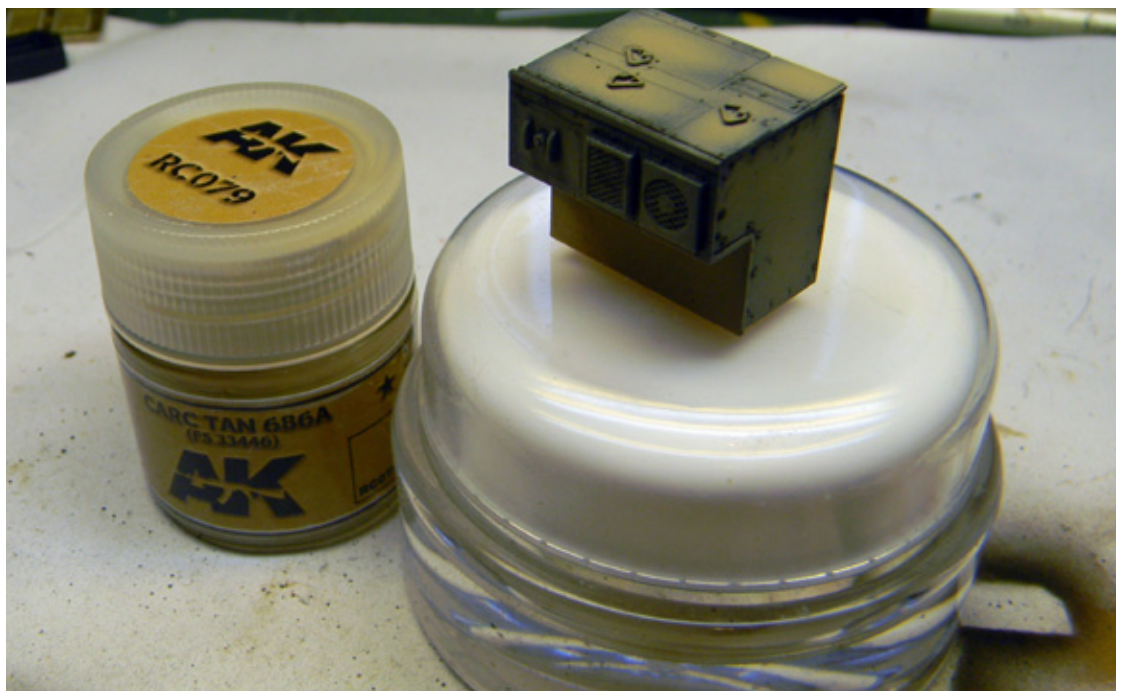
AK RCo15 Gun metal – Acrylic Gun metal





Here's the colors sprayed on a white sheet of plastic with no primer.

I wanted to see how the Real color Nato green stacked up next to the Tamiya Nato green. You can see from the photo that the Real color has a more olive tint to it as compared to the Tamiya which has an olive drab tint to it. Both of them are pretty close though. I was happy with the CARC tan and used it on the turret of my USMC M1A1.





The IDF Sinai Grey color is more brown than I've seen most IDF tanks. Most of the pictures I've seen of IDF Merkava's and Magach's are in a grey tone but more grey than brown.

The Gun metal color is too bright for me. In testing I used Gunze's self levelling lacquer thinner, Tamiya's yellow top Lacquer thinner, and

91% alcohol. The paint performed well with all the thinners. I found it needs to be thinned a little bit more than Tamiya acrylics to get a smooth finish.

These are good paints. I recommend them.

**Rick**





## The 'Weak' Time 'Flu'

By Rick Cotton

So it starts out on Friday afternoon, while I am at work.

I started having a little "tickle" in my throat. Then the coughing began. Then, the cough turned into a hack. By that night, I was feverish, and I felt like, in the words of a Cuban friend of mine, "home made sh\*t".

By Saturday morning... 2 am, to be specific, it was a full-on flu-like bug of some sort. To make things even more festive, Sweetie has it, too. There we are, hacking and coughing and twisting and turning, trying desperately to get some sleep. It's now 4am, and I am taking all sorts of pills she is handing me, and washing them down with prodigious quantities of grape juice. Juice... not Gallo.

All morning long, we crash in our recliners, covered with whatever blankets we still have the strength to drag over us. We do not eat, the very thought of it repulses us. Our life consists of coughing, drugs, juice, and daytime TV. I hate daytime TV. There isn't ANYTHING I want to see.

By that afternoon, it seems to have stabilized into a steady misery, and I can take no more Oprah, so I stumble/drag myself out into the shop. If I am going to sit in a chair and be miserable, why not do so while being productive?

I have been working on a truck, specifically a 1/35th scale Italeri Opel Blitz with a wooden cab. Yeah, I know, It isn't a Japanese ship or 1/32 airplane. I told you I was sick. You think funny when you are sick. At any rate, it is going along surprisingly well, even swimmingly. For once, even my airbrush behaves, and I am able to lay down a decent (for me) three-color European scheme. I even go WAY off the reservation, and build and mount a Nebelwerfer rocket launcher on the back. Did the Germans actually ever stick a Nebelwerfer on the back of a truck? I don't know. My fevered brain says "go for it".

I have to take breaks to go in, lay in the recliner, and swill juice and gobble pills. About every hour or two. Then, I get a great idea. I will sweat this thing out. And I have the exact perfect sweat-producing

apparatus. I stagger/stumble back out to the shop, crash into the big office chair, reach up above me... .. and turn off the air conditioner.

Instantly, the temperature in the shop, which is in the garage, begins to rise. I can feel it, degree by excruciating degree. It's about 90 degrees outside, so the ambient air in the rest of the garage is at least that, or so my body says.

It's beginning to get hot. I am gluing parts like mad. I am even scratchbuilding three-panel fold-down wire mesh sides for this thing! Have I gone mad? Has the heat gotten to me? I find myself humming an odd tune... to my horror, I suddenly come to the awful realization that it is the "Horst Wessel Lied" (I have that amongst my old WW2 radio shows). Yeah, the Nazi Anthem... sheesh... .Whoa... feeling woozy... .am I sweating? Not yet.

The truck is taking shape in VERY good order. My skin feels like it is on fire.

Finally, at about 7 o'clock that night... I begin to sweat. A lot. Like a longshoreman. I am exhausted, but it seems to have done the trick. I go inside for a dinner of juice, aspirin, Benadryl and some other pink pills the dear wife has me take. At this point, I do not care, I'll take anything. We struggle down some chicken soup, and go to bed.

All night long, hack and cough, hack and cough, get up at 3am for juice and a breathing treatment. This last, a necessity for my asthma, has the other side effect of loosening great gobs of gooey phlegm, which of course, must be hacked up. My ribs feel like they were used for target practice by a series of very angry MMA fighters. Everything I own hurts, and I am a zombie.

By 4am, I can no longer try to sleep, it just isn't working. I go out in the shop again. It isn't as hot as yesterday, but it's still plenty warm.

I channel my misery into work, like some sort of Soviet-slave-camp-laborer, and the truck proceeds. It gets a base, and a few odds and ends attached. It gets a rolled-up camo net, and a length of rolled-up and tied rope.

By 9am, the sun is up. So is the temperature in the garage. So is my temperature, but I am not quitting, dammit. I can go till 10. At 10, The Sand Pebbles, with Steve McQueen, is on 20.2, the Old Fart Movie Channel. Good old Navy movie. Just what I need. I



can do this.

Three and a half hours later, I am sitting in my recliner. I not really sure how I got there, the last hour or two is a bit fuzzy. Steve McQueen (spoiler alert!) has just bought it, and the USS San Pablo is sailing off into the end credits. Funny, the movie just started a minute or two ago... Dang it! I missed most of it. For that matter, I seem to have missed the last two or three hours. Wonder what happened?

The rest of the weekend, and the following Monday, was pretty much spent in the recliner, watching this or that lame TV show. If you have never sat through Beading with Amy on Channel 8, you do not know what you are missing. Being sick makes you not really care a whole lot about anything, as long as that anything is not shouting at you. I actually like This Old House. Beading? Yeah, sure. Whatever. Pass the Kleenex.

But the truck is done. I am now loaded with one entry for both HAMS and AMPS. It will be interesting to look at it up close when I am completely well, and see how many things I botched.

Now if I could just get the "Horst Wessel" song to stop running through my feverish brain.

"Die Fahne Hoch..." ... Oh, stop it, stop it!!!!

Rick



## ASMS MEETING

Third Thursday each month

7:00pm - 8:45pm

at the

Old Quarry Branch Library

7051 Village Center Dr.

*Next meeting January 18th, 2018*

**No Reservations Necessary!**



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

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

MY WIFE CALLS IT A "SICKNESS"



I CALL IT... THERAPY!!!





## Airfix Spitfire Va (1/72nd) Kit Review

by Ron McCracken

I recently started construction of the new Airfix Spitfire Va kit, which I found to be a pleasant build that resulted in a quite nice model of a rare Spitfire variant.

As usual, my pre-build research proved educational, at least to me. First, only 70 Spitfire Type Va were produced. It was the last variant to have the original armament of eight .303 Browning machine guns. As soon as the type “b” wing was available (replacing the inboard .303’s with two Hispano 20 MM cannon) production of the Va variant ended. Incidentally, for those who didn’t already know it, the difference between the “a”, “b”, “c”, and “d” variants of the Spitfire Mark V is the armament configuration of the wings.

My research also revealed that two Mark Va Spit-



He also indicated it was very tiring to fly over long distances due to near neutral static stability (i.e., flying it straight-and-level required constant attention, and the aircraft had no autopilot). Of course, these traits were exactly what were required of a nimble, point-defense interceptor, which was the original design goal. So, these recorded comments were more reflective of U.S. ideas about fighter design at the time, than the actual merits of the Spitfire.

And now, the actual kit review. The kit is cast in Airfix’s typical medium-soft, light grey styrene. All panel lines are engraved, and although a bit heavy for my taste, nevertheless lend themselves to use of post-shading washes. The kit provides alternate

parts for several variations, including three propellers, three shapes of spinner, both early (flat top) and late (bulged) canopy, two types of oil cooler housing, and decals for a Mk II and a Mk Va. I suspect almost any variant with the Type “a” wing could be built with what’s provided in the box.

I found the actual build to be a genuine pleasure.

Parts fit is near to perfec-



fires (W3119 and R7347) were shipped to Wright Field for testing by the U.S. Army Air Corps. So far as I have been able to determine from available photographs, they remained in British paint and national insignia. Ben Kelsey (who also did the testing of the P-38) flew these aircraft and in his reports suggested that it was unlikely that the USAAC would have procured the type due to its deficient (by U.S. standards of the time) range.

tion, with the only issues proving to be some over-large alignment pins in a couple places that had to be trimmed away to allow a tight joint. I found it necessary to scrape just a bit of plastic from the mating surfaces of the fuselage where they adjoin the upper wing halves, to prevent “flattening” of the dihedral angle. I also found clamping beneficial until the glue on the wing-to-fuselage joint cured. Other than these minor items, the kit’s major com-



ponents go together without trouble. The cockpit includes structural and other detail molded on the inside walls of the fuselage, a rear bulkhead, floor, front bulkhead/instrument panel, seat and control yoke. The only short-cut was a decal for the instrument panel, rather than engraved details, and given the canopy provided (see below) that's not a major issue. Indeed, in this scale it doesn't get much better without resort to resin or photo etched parts. The only thing I added was the seat belt and shoulder harness. The main landing gear wells are likewise walled in and supplied with structural details.



The lower wing is cast in one tip-to-tip piece and attaches to a cutout in the fuselage underside, a thoroughly conventional bit of engineering for a low-wing fighter model. The flaps and ailerons are cast entirely onto the upper wing halves, thus ensuring a very thin trailing edge. Somehow, Airfix avoided the "kink" in the wing that usually accompanies this feature, so kudos for good mold engineering. Since it was common practice to tape over the machine gun ports, I rolled a bit of fine-grain Milliput putty into a very thin sheet, and cut small rectangles, which were teased into place over the gunports using a small paintbrush dipped in water. These were masked and painted off-white after the camouflage paint was applied.

Rather than the narrow, weak attachment surface for horizontal stabilizers customary in this scale, each stabilizer has a very broad attachment face

that fits into a large recess in the fuselage side, making proper dihedral alignment a simple matter, and ensuring a completely secure attachment once the cement cures.

The instructions include diagrams of the proper landing gear configuration, labeled to the exact degree of forward and outboard cant of the struts. So, there is no excuse for not getting it right. The tires are "weighted", a nice touch seldom found in a low-cost model.

If there was any disappointment it is an overly thick canopy casting, whose resultant visual distortions obscure the very complete cockpit detail. One could, of course, vacuum form a replacement, but now we are into AMS, rather than a simple build. So, I simply used the kit part.



In summary, Airfix has come up with another reasonably priced, well detailed kit that offers something attractive for both the neophyte and advanced modeler. Parts fit is excellent, assembly easy, and detail state-of-the-art for 1/72 scale. If you want an early Spitfire in your collection, you can't go wrong with this one!

Ron





# On The TABLE

By Our  
Roving Reporter

## Model of the Year & White Elephant contest

If you're not familiar with it the contest gives you twelve months to actually build the kit you received at the Christmas party the year before.

Rick Herrington took the award this year with his DML 1/35th SDKFZ 250



Rick will have his name added to the travelling White Elephant award and take possession of the award for the next twelve months.



The second contest was the Model of the Year competition. This contest is where all the models voted the best by the members during the year's monthly meetings return to compete in a final competition. Aircraft, Ships and Armor were all represented.

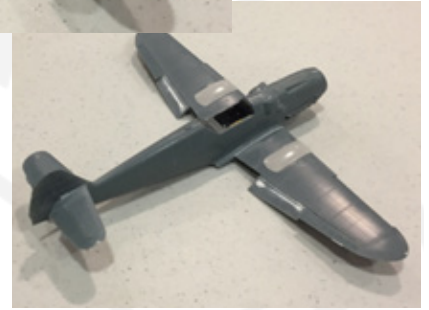
December was a busy month for ASMS. Besides the great Christmas party there were two contests to take care of at the meeting. Prizes were furnished by Austin's favorite hobby shop King's. The first was the vaunted White Elephant contest.





The second was Joachim Marseille's aircraft.

The last was an in progress 1/48th 109.



Dave Edgerly's 1/32nd Wingnut Roland took the honors.



Alex Gashev brought in his in progress Zvezda 1/35th Russian T-14.



Otherwise the tables were crowded with member's projects.

Milton Bell brought in three Messerschmitts. The first was a Swiss marked Me-108.



Mike Gilsbach brought in his SOL Models 120mm GI figure.





Ziggy shared two Gundam's with the group.



Ben Morton brought in his completed Aoshima 1/72 JGSDF Maneuver Combat Vehicle.



Ian Latham brought in a nicely done Blue Angels F-4.



Ron McCracken brought in his Airfix 1/72nd scale Spitfire.



Last but not least Bob Bethea brought in a mini diorama featuring a mothballed F-15.

Mike Lamm brought in a Bandai 1/72 TIE interceptor (photo 12)



Rover





# OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

## Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

Looks like this coming year is going to be a good one for ship modelers. Let's start with 1/700th scale.

### 1/700

Fans of British ships are going to be pleased. If Trumpeter's catalog comes true there will be six new British releases this year.



The first are HMS Nelson and Rodney. Both are British battleships. HMS Rodney is going to be depicted as she looked in 1944. Both had a unique design in having all their main turrets forward of the superstructure.

HMS Barham is next. She was battleship sunk by a U-boat in Scapa Flow.



Two versions of the cruiser HMS Belfast are planned by Trumpeter. They already have successfully released a 1-350th scale version of the Belfast. They are going to release a 1942 version and a 1959 version of the ship. The Belfast survived WW2 and is anchored in the Thames today. Not sure if the 1959 version represents the final fit.



06702 | 1/700 Scale  
HMS Belfast 1959  
英国皇家海军“贝尔法斯特”轻型巡洋舰1959年



The battleship HMS Dreadnought in her 1915 version is planned also.

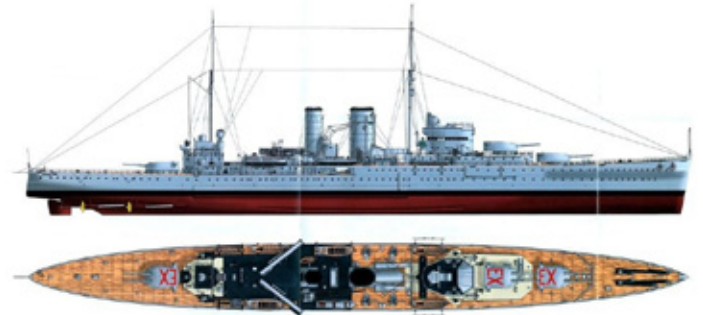


HMS Ark Royal is a ship familiar to almost any navy aficionado. She participated in the hunt for Bismarck and her aircraft's damage slowed the Bismarck so she could be caught and sunk.



the Exeter as the cruiser which engaged the Graf Spee off the River Plate. She took the lion's share of the damage from the Graf Spee's heavier guns.

**British heavy cruiser  
HMS EXETER**



US Navy fans shouldn't be disappointed. Trumpeter has two releases planned for this year. Two battleships: USS New York BB-34 and USS Texas BB-35. It'll be great to see the Texas in this smaller scale.

Two US Navy cruisers are next: USS Baltimore CA-68 (1944) and USS Pittsburgh CA-72).



1/350

1/350th scale is not going to be neglected.

Two new WW2 German navy subjects are planned. DKM aircraft carrier Peter Strasser and the sister ship to the Scharnhorst Gneisenau. DML has been very

Trumpeter starts off with two British cruisers HMS Exeter and HMS York. British navy fans will recognize





successful with their release of the Scharnhorst in 1/350th. There is no reason to believe that Trumpeter will not enjoy the same success with this release.

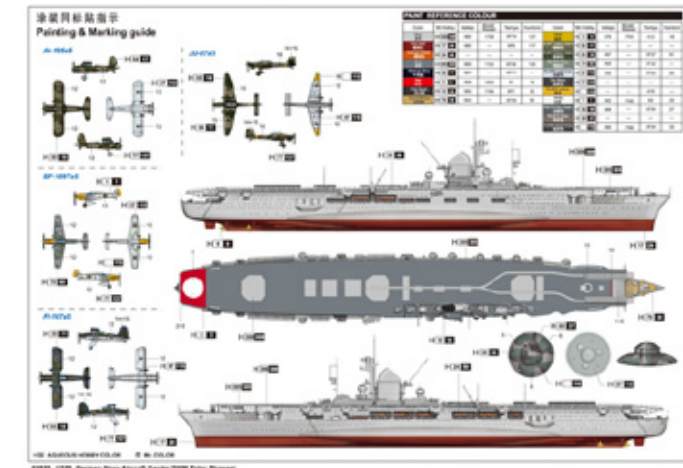
## The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

The New Year is upon us, so happy New Year everyone and welcome to 2018! I hope all of you are having a good year so far. We've got a few new goodies to report this month so let's get started. Oh, as an administrative task, all images are credited to their respective owners and are included here for illustrative purposes only. Now, that's out of the way, onward to the show!

Airfix just released their new catalog for 2018, and there are a few surprises on the horizon. As we've mentioned previously, their new 1/48 Sea Fury FB.II, 1/72 FG.1 Phantom II, and 1/72 B-25C/D are set for arrival early this year. They will be releasing other versions of these kits in 2018, such as an "Export Edition" of the Sea Fury FB.II, an FGR.2 Phantom II, and the Mitchell Mk.II later in the year. In addition, they are releasing two other versions of their recent P-51D: an F-51D and the Mustang Mk.IV.

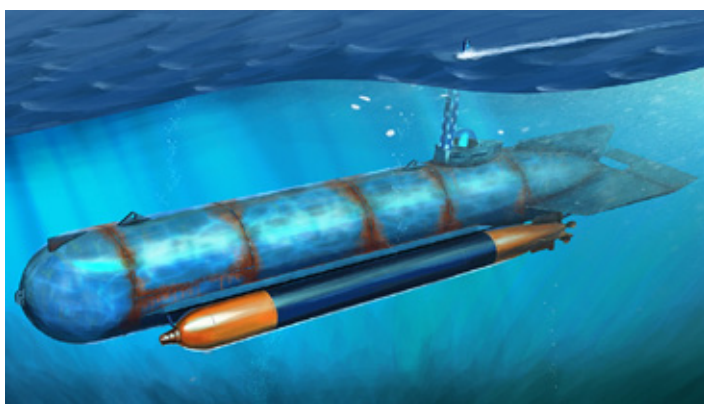
Airfix will also be releasing a few newly tooled kits throughout the year. In 1/72nd scale, they have a Vickers Wellington Mk.IC scheduled for a May release.



Who knows the Trumpeter kit might even have a decent set of instructions.

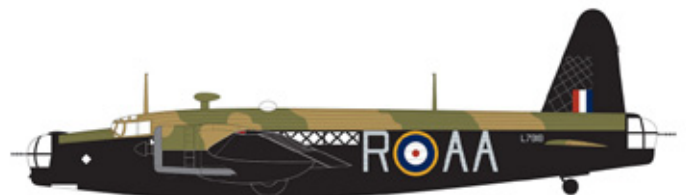
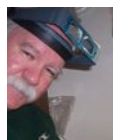


Last up in 1/35th scale is a German Midget Submarine by Hobby Boss. This is the Moloch.



That's if for this month. Take a model out of your stash and build it!

Rick

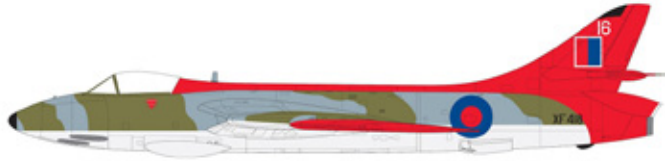


In 1/48th scale, Airfix have the Hawker Hunter F.6 and Bristol Blenheim Mk.IF in the mix as well, with October and November releases, respectively. The Hunter kit is the one that caught my eye. This kit will

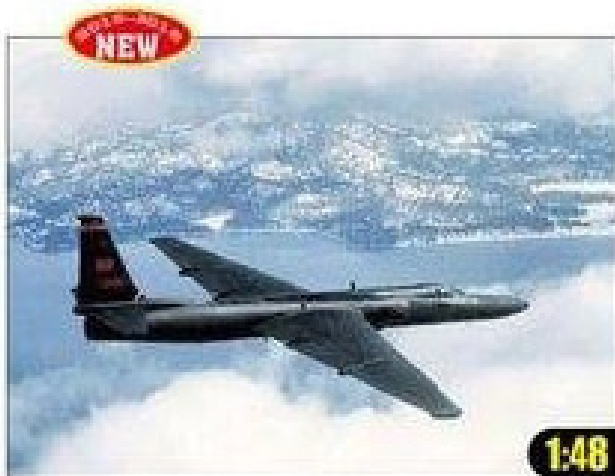




be a refreshing choice to the older Academy kit. The kit will include markings for three aircraft, including a Dutch Hunter.



Next on deck is Hobby Boss and their slate of new kits for 2018. I don't have specific release dates for any of these kits, however they are scheduled as 2018 releases. First, we have a 1/48 Lockheed U-2R Dragon Lady proposed for release. This kit should be a welcome relief to the venerable Hawk kit that first appeared in 1962 and has seen many re-boxings across quite a few manufacturers through the years.



U-2R Dragon Lady  
美国U-2R高空侦察机

**81740**

Hobby Boss has also listed a 1/32 Consolidated B-24 in not one, but two versions. They have announced a B-24D and a B-24J for release. Now, I'm not sure if this will see the light of day, or if this is simply filler for their catalog, but it will certainly give Hong Kong Models competition for large aircraft models. However, this could also follow the path of Trumpeter's mythical 1/32nd scale Devastator.



US B-24J Liberator

**83211**



US B-24D Liberator

**83212**

For you resin junkies out there, Resin2Detail has announced a 1/32 Martin B-26 Marauder. Resin2Detail is a one-man shop producing update details and diorama bits for us aircraft modelers. They have announced their intention to produce the kit on their Facebook page. The images presented there are the initial CAD renderings while they flush out the major shapes of the aircraft. It looks to be an early B-26 – perhaps a B-26A or B. I'm not sure when this kit will be released, or in what quantity.



Well, that's all I have for you this month. We'll be back with our Valentine's Day installment next month. Until then, go build something!

Randy





## It Figures

By Aaron Smischney

Hey everyone, let's take a look at what's coming out in figures!

This one caught my eye right away, especially after watching the new Vietnam documentary from Ken Burns. A 1/16 MACV SOG figure in 1/16. This one is



from "Siam Craft Miniatures" and you can contact them directly from their facebook:

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



Scale75 has released a 1/35 scale figure of their stunning Erwin Rommel figure:



Joining the Desert Fox in the scale 75 new releases is a bust of "Nancy Steele Punch"

Nancy Steelpunch



Also a figure from the civil war "Lee's Miserables". If you want them give Brian Howard a call up in Dallas.

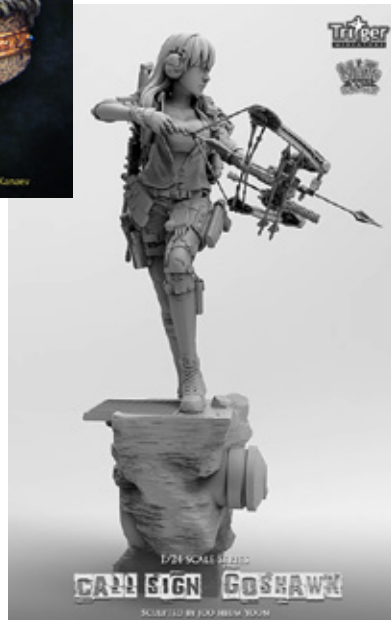
<https://scale75usa.myshopify.com/>



Nuts planet has a nice 1/10th scale bust coming out:



A barbarian sort  
"Chieftain Drak"



And in their futuristic line they have a bow wielding scout lady: Call Sign Goshawk in 1/24th scale.

Andrea has a new release, and it looks like they are tempting the copyright offices again with this one, so get her before anyone notices the similarities.



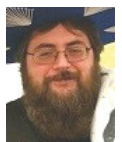
Last up a new release from Alpine in 1/35th scale. WW2 US NCO and Driver.

Best Solidiers has a new 75mm figure called Lord of Winter-Kking of Viking" that looks like it has an option for making a certain someone from a Game of Thrones... I would bet our own Bob Bethea will be getting this to add to his Viking series.



"Tll next time, go paint something!

Aaron





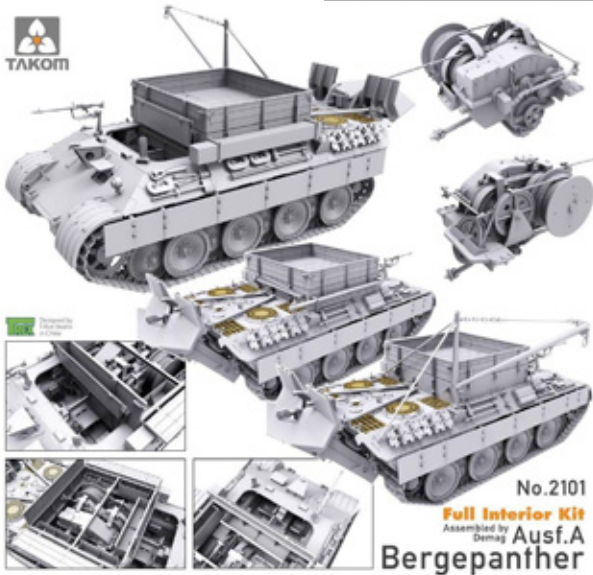
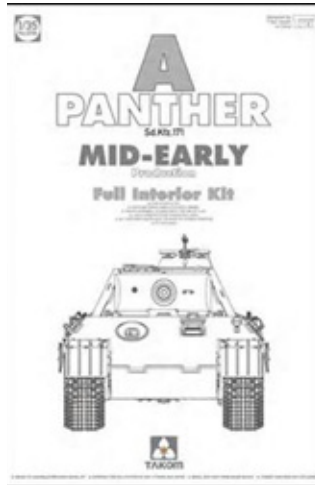
# Tracked Topics

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings armor fans and hello to all you armor curious modelers out there!

Let's start out with a new announcement from Takom that will make a lot of modelers very happy, a Panther and a Bergepanther!

No more information is available, but i am sure it will be released in time for the hot Texas summer to give you something to do in your modeling cave.



Miniart has some new kits coming out in 1/35th scale. An ARV that looks pretty nice.

**NEW**



37038 TOP (ARV SU-122-54 BASE)

A truck with a whole bunch of rockets in the back.

**NEW**



35277 SOVIET ROCKET LAUNCHER LAP-7

Another soviet truck with different rockets (the Russians sure liked their Stalin's Organs" didn't they?)

**NEW**



35259 SOVIET ROCKET LAUNCHER BM-8-24 BASED ON 1.5 T TRUCK

and a German truck riding the rails.

**NEW**



35265 GERMAN RAILROAD 1.5 TON TRUCK AA TYPE

I am sure they will be both loaded with detail, and lots of parts.



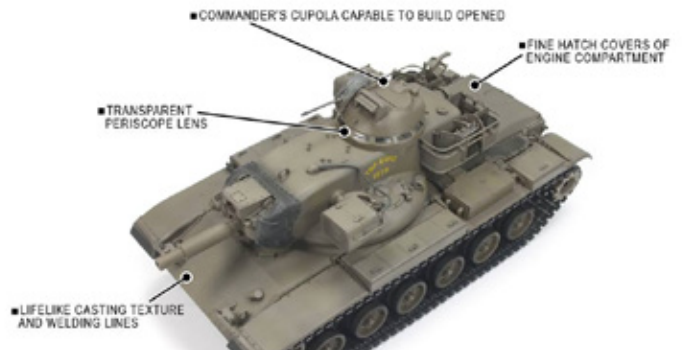
Miniart is also gracing us with an M3 Lee and Grant with full interiors!

Moving on from the onslaught of MiniArt we have a new announcement from AFV club, an M60A2 early.



I know i have wanted a new Lee/Grant for years and now we have both Takom's and MiniArt's new kits to choose from!

This one looks pretty nice, AFV has been doing some fine M60 tank models so i am sure this will be a nice kit.



This really is the golden age of modeling.

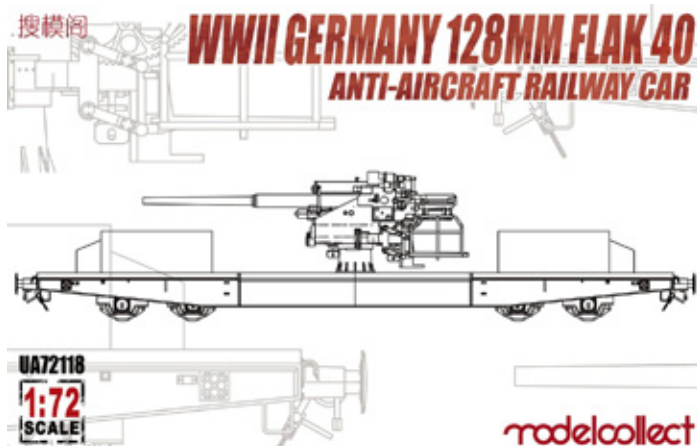
For you fans of 1/72 Modelcollect has a new flat bed train platform for you:



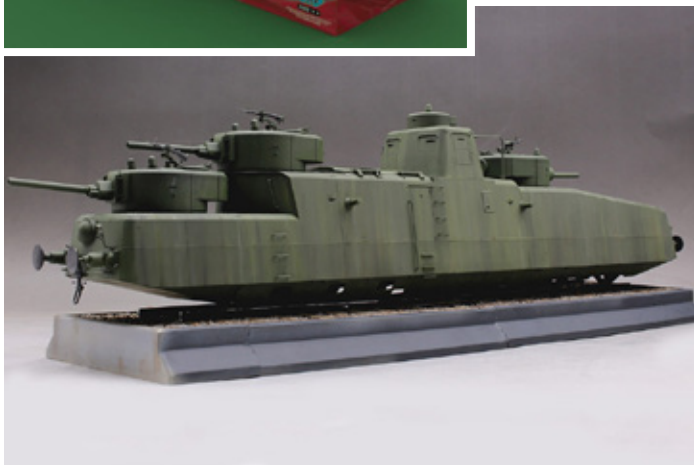
Perfect to show a Tiger in transport.



Or if you please, here is one with a flak gun mounted to protect the train from those pesky wing-things.



Hobby boss has a whole bunch of 1/72 armored German railroad engines and accessories, so your dreams for a WW2 rail-way diorama can now be even more realized! Or maybe you are REALLY crazy and want to do a 1/35 train? Hobby boss has a mean looking soviet armored train coming out that looks awesome (for a train).



Well, those are my highlights! 'till next time!

Aaron



## *This Month in History*

January 3, 1924 - British Egyptologist Howard Carter found the sarcophagus of Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings near Luxor after several years of searching.

January 8, 1815 - The Battle of New Orleans occurred as General Andrew Jackson and American troops defended themselves against a British attack, inflicting over 2,000 casualties.

January 10, 1776 - Common Sense, a fifty page pamphlet by Thomas Paine, was published. It sold over 500,000 copies in America and Europe, influencing, among others, the authors of the Declaration of Independence.

January 10, 1912 - The flying boat airplane, invented by Glenn Curtiss, made its first flight at Hammondsport, New York.

January 24, 1972 - Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.

January 25, 1959 - An American Airlines Boeing 707 made the first scheduled transcontinental U.S. flight, traveling from California to New York.

January 27, 1945 - The Russian Army liberated Auschwitz death camp near Krakow in Poland, where the Nazis had systematically murdered an estimated 2,000,000 persons, including 1,500,000

January 27, 1967 - Three American astronauts were killed as a fire erupted inside Apollo 1 during a launch simulation test at Cape Kennedy, Florida.

January 28, 1986 - The U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger exploded 74 seconds into its flight, killing seven persons, including Christa McAuliffe, a teacher who was to be the first ordinary citizen in space.

January 29, 1916 - During World War I, the first aerial bombings of Paris by German zeppelins took place.



## Sundries

By Golzar Shahrzād

*AFV* 1-144th scale aircraft. Following on the heels of their P-40 series, there is soon to be a Vought F4U-1 and a Sikorsky SH-3A/D Sea King. But unlike the P-40, these kits come in a box with artwork that is reminiscent of that used by Sweet Models. Both kits contain two complete models.



Navies.



Revell has two new automotive kits that may be of interest. The first is a 2016 Ford GT Le Mans in 1/24th scale. Revell released a snap-build model of the new Ford GT (street version) not too long ago. I couldn't locate any info about the nature of this newer kit but Revell does categorize this kit as a Skill Level 3 model (build in less than three hours) so still a snap-build with new parts and decals. (?) Either way it is still way cheaper than a real Ford GT.



The Corsair has alternative canopies, props, and guns. The decal sheet contains markings for either a U.S., British, or New Zealand aircraft. The Sea King has the option of either open or folded rotor blades and an open or closed side hatch. This kit has markings for the Apollo 13 recovery chopper as well as decals for the Indian or Royal Canadian



The second is a 1980 Jeep Honcho 'Ice Patrol'. Also in 1/24th scale this injected molded kit features a complete four-wheel drive system, a detailed V-8



engine, and soft black vinyl tires. You get some accessories to go along with a snowmobile model: gas cans, a tool box, and a rollover bar for the Jeep Wagoneer. Don't get your skis crossed.



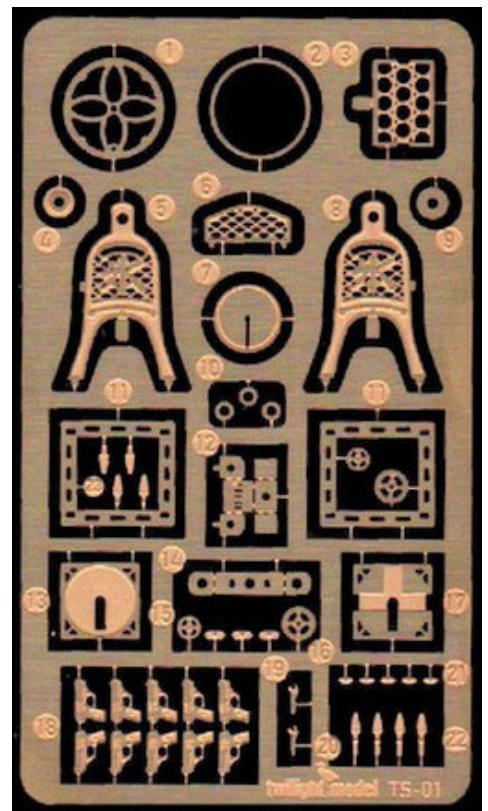
Just in time for the next world war, Trumpeter is releasing a 1/35th scale THAAD missile system. The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile system

model contains over 750 parts and features a detailed operator cab, drive train assembly, and Trumpeter's signature hollow vinyl tires. For those that loath their vinyl tires, the aftermarket guys should have some resin replacements pretty soon. This injected molded kit also contains some photo-etch and clear parts for all the windows on the tractor.



Masterbox has a new set of figures to augment their growing line of 1/24th scale sci-fi/fantasy figures. There are going to be four separate sets of figures that will contain from one to three figures in each boxing. Among the figures are a Steam-punk babe with companion, a barmaid with two aggressive patrons, and a post-apocalyptic female sniper with companion. All in all eight separate, injected mold figures.

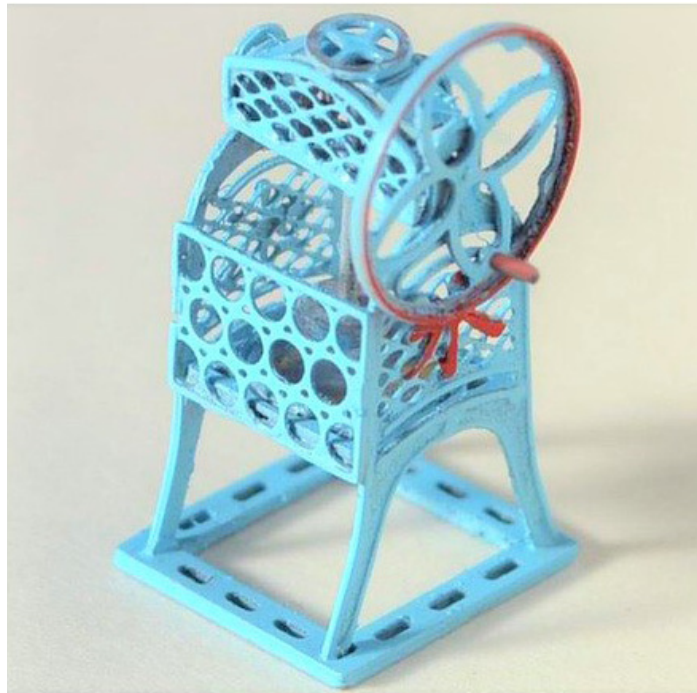
When I first saw this kit, I thought who couldn't live without it. Twilight Models has a 1/35th scale Retro Shaved Ice Machine. The kit is photo-etch with some additional bits for a toy pistol. Don't forget your photo-etch bending tool. I'm not sure who the target audience is for this thing but it would be kinda







cool just being in your next diorama.



Takom Models released a 1/144th scale Landcruiser P.1000 Ratte not that long ago. Even at that scale it is a large model. Not to be outdone, Model Collect is releasing a 1/72nd scale version of the same WWII-era German proposed assault tank. Which



means it should be about eighteen to twenty-four inches long. A true behemoth. But there should be plenty of room on the upper deck for all of those Model Collect's kits of anti-aircraft guns and missiles kits that they have been cranking out.



ICM Models has a new tooled Sd. Kfz 261 in 1/48th scale coming soon. This injected molded model of the German radio communication vehicle features a photo-etch grenade screen for the crew compartment as well as four rubber tires. There are decals for two versions. This being an ICM release, you might expect to see other variants of the basic vehicle in the not too distant future



Planet Models has a new 1/72nd scale resin kit of the MAN LE 10. This military aircraft towing tug



is manufactured by the MAN truck and bus company located in Munich Germany. This variation of their light/medium duty truck is used by the Bundeswehr. The 3D designed kits has some clear bits for the windows and a towing bar.



Our pals at Special Hobby keep releasing some truly unique aircraft models. This time they have the cool or odd looking Blohm-und-Voss BV 155 V-1 for your modeling enjoyment. This 1/72nd scale, injected molded kit is of the prototype WWII-era German high-altitude interceptor. This aircraft actually began life as a Messerschmidt design (Me 155) in 1942.



Go build the your model.

Golzar



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With IPMS/USA Membership, you will receive the outstanding IPMS/USA Journal six times a year - it includes features on all modeling subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, figures - you name it! You will also find listings of IPMS contests, swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews. Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA sanctioned contests, and particularly in our World-famous National Convention, held each summer. As a member, you'll also be able to access our online Discussion Board, where a wide variety of modeling topics are discussed, and enjoy interaction with other serious modelers for help with questions about modeling techniques or the Society in general. Many Hobby Shops and Model Vendors around the USA offer discounts to IPMS/USA Members.

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