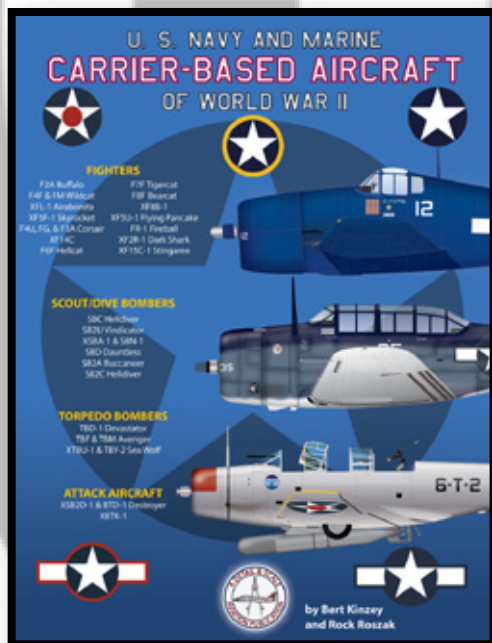


SPRUE EXAMINER

Ian Candler on 'Playing *with* Heavy Metal'



Floyd Reviews CARRIER- BASED AIRCRAFT

plus

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

and
A Virtual
Model Meeting



News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



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www.austinsms.org

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

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IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

The IPMS/USA initiative was established to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones, recovering in hospitals, and rehabilitating in specialized facilities.

The program is expanding into other areas as well. Some local programs take place in USO facilities, some are centered around active duty personnel and are scattered across the country.

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

www.models4troops@gmail.com



El Presidente

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings fellow modelers!

Recently I have been working on something besides building miniature facsimiles of things, , namely my health. I figure I have a much better chance of finishing my shelf queens if I get in better shape. I think at this rate I'll need to live to be about 126 to finish everything i have started.

Two of my extracurricular activities I am pursuing are weight lifting and hiking the great outdoors.

What does this have to do with modelling? I have found it has a lot of overlap with our shared hobby.

In hiking there is a phrase "Hike your own hike". What it means is that the act of hiking a trail is different for everyone, there is no "wrong" way to hike.

Some people like to move fast, clearing as many miles as they can as fast as they can. Others like to go slow, enjoy the sights and don't stress about mileage.

Like any human pursuit some people argue that their method is the "right" way and others are "wrong". That is where the phrase "Hike your own hike" comes in. There IS no right or wrong, there is the pursuit and it is up to each of us to decide what form that takes.

So to bring it back to modelling, I say "Build your own model". There is no right or wrong way to enjoy our hobby. Don't let anyone tell you you're doing it wrong.

If you want to paint your tank pink, paint it pink. If you want to mash up models and make "what ifs", go for it.

It's your model! Do what you enjoy.

That's not to say you can show up to a model show and enter your pink tank in the Allied Aircraft category. Think of model shows as a race. You do need to follow some rules in a race :) But that's a competition, which is a different aspect of our hobby.

So go model a model, and don't forget to take a walk now and then.

Aaron





Prepping White Metal

By Ian Candler



*T*hese days resin is the preferred material for a lot of figure painters. Companies like Pegaso, Andrea, Art Girona and Alexandros still produce white metal figures and have some amazing back cataloged figures that cover a wide array of subjects and scales from 54mm to 90mm.

For this article I chose Alexandros' Model's "Comte des Troisvillies" a 17th Century French Officer known from the story of the Three Musketeers. The sculpt is very elegant in its pose and a subject well out of my comfort zone but I thought it would be good to share how I go about dealing with metal figures and prepare them for painting.



From the image the first step is to carefully remove any seams and metal flash that are left from the casting process. First I do this with my hobby knife. Then I use a soft grit sand paper and sand the surfaces that previously had major seam lines.



Before Assembly I use my mini drill or pin vice and drill holes into the feet of the figure and utilize a brass rod super glued into place. This will be the Anchor to the figure on its base. A must do if you plan to travel with any figure.



Next some figures require a little polish. There may be build up from oxidation or rough surfaces. A Dremel tool with a soft brass brush does wonders and makes quick work of polishing the metal up to a smooth surface.



With white metal you need super glue to bond the parts together. I have found that the gel works really great as the regular super glue crystalizes after time. The gel allows for a little give rather than snapping off.





During assembly you may encounter gaps that will need to be filled. Luckily with this figure everything snapped into place. If you encounter any gaps a two part epoxy putty like Milliput yellow or Aves are recommended. These materials can be smoothed out with a wet brush and later sanded if need be. For smaller gaps Tamiya Basic type putty and a little Testor's Liquid Glue is a quick fix (Thanks Bob!)



Once assembly is done I like to go over the figure slowly to insure that all the imperfections have been dealt with. Once you are satisfied with your build its time to Prime and get to painting.



Ian



That's the news for this month. Get out of your stash and build it!



ASMS MEETING

Third Thursday each month

7:00pm - 8:45pm

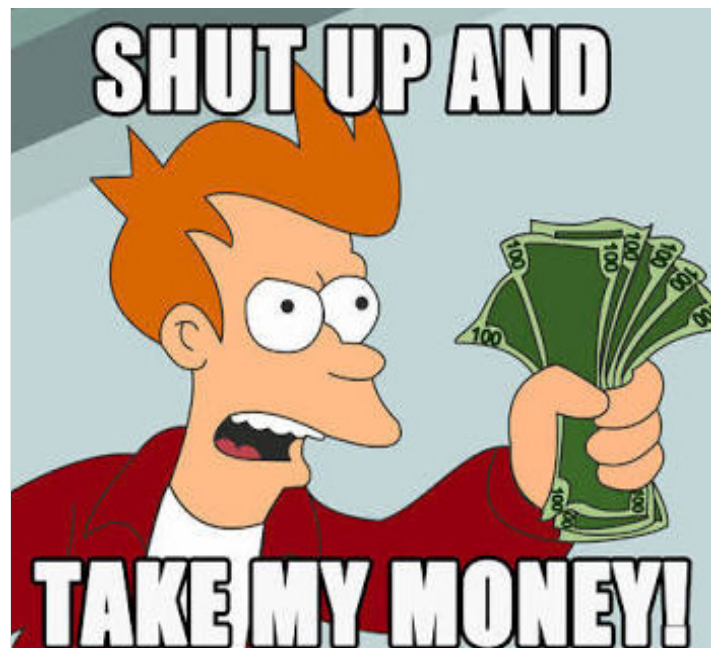
at the

Old Quarry Branch Library

7051 Village Center Dr.

Next meeting September 20th, 2018

No Reservations Neccessary!



ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

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

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



U.S. Navy and Marine Carrier-Based Aircraft of World War II [Digital Book]

by Floyd S. Werner, Jr.

Company Provided:

Detail & Scale

Author:

Bert Kinzey and Rock Roszak

The latest Detail & Scale Digital Book is going to be very popular with the model builder. Author Bert Kinzey and Rock Roszak have done a great job again.

This book is slightly different than past Detail & Scale books in that it covers numerous aircraft. Using it in the digital format allows you to browse the 'book' like you would any hard copy book by swiping left or right. The alternative method is to use the Table of Contents. Find the aircraft that you want to visit and touch the screen and you are taken directly to the beginning of the chapter. It's that simple.

Once you get to the chapter that you want you can use the bottom of the page to go to a direct page. You can swipe left or right and browse the chapter until you get to where you want.

One of the big benefits of the digital format is the ability of the author to add content to make sure your 'book' is always up to date. Another benefit is the unlimited color photos that can be included.

Have a picture that you wish you could see larger? Just touch it and it will expand to up to 200 times. You can't do that with a 'real' book.



The Navy has been using aircraft since 1922 with the commissioning of the USS Langley. They had to develop techniques that were unique for the Navy. Things like take off, landing and recovery of aircraft at sea. Once these and other techniques were developed it was just a matter of expanding and improving them as well as the aircraft. Aircraft were specially developed to be fighters, dive bombers and torpedo planes. Each carrier had its own compliment of aircraft.



By the time America entered the war with Wildcats, Dauntless and Devastators were woefully outclassed. These aircraft were replaced as the war progressed with Hellcats, Corsairs, Helldivers and Avengers. In addition to these aircraft there were plenty of test aircraft, all of these aircraft and their markings are included in this digital book. Most aircraft sections include cockpit photos that will be invaluable to modelers.

The book starts off with the 14 Fighters. All aircraft that made it to the flying prototype stage are included. Fighters include the Buffalo, Wildcat, Hellcat and Corsair. Other fighters are the Bearcat and Tigercat.

Chapter 2

Dive and Torpedo Bombers



When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, two Navy squadrons and one Marine squadron were still equipped with the Curtiss SBC Helldiver. This would be the last American biplane to be assigned to front line combat units. (NNAM)

It could be argued that the U. S. Navy dive bomber was the weapon that won the war in the Pacific, given the success of the SBD Dauntless at the Battle of Midway. Though the Navy entered the war with the belief that the best weapon against a large enemy combatant was the torpedo, the vulnerability of that type during its low and slow attack profile often prevented it from becoming the major factor in whether the battle was lost or won.

The Navy entered World War II with a few squadrons still operating biplane scout bombers in the form of the Curtiss SBC Helldiver. Although there were a number of other scout/dive bombers that saw operational service during the war, the most successful of the type was the Dauntless. Even though several follow on aircraft were designed after the Dauntless,

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Some test aircraft designed for the Navy including the Bell XFL-1 Airabonita, XF5F-1 Skyrocket, XF5U-1 Flying Pancake, Curtiss XF14C, Boeing XF8B-1, Ryan XF2R-1 Dark Shark, and Fireball and the XF-15C Stingaree are included.



VF-27 flew both the F6F-3 and F6F-5 Hellcats, and featured some of the most garish unit markings displayed by U. S. Navy aircraft during the war. This "catmouthed" F6F-3 was aboard USS PRINCETON, CVL-23 in mid-1944. PRINCETON was lost on October 24, 1944 while operating in Leyte Gulf. (Artwork by Rock Roszak)



An F6F-3 from VF-16 is about to launch from USS LEXINGTON, CV-16, in November 1943. Known as the "Fighting Airedales," VF-16 was one of the Navy's most successful fighter squadrons during 1943. The Hellcat is painted in the tri-color scheme with Sea Blue on the upper surfaces, Intermediate Blue on the vertical surfaces, and Insignia White on the undersides. What appears to be a red surround on the national insignia is actually a medium blue color that has been hastily applied over the red to cover it after the red surround was ordered deleted from U. S. aircraft. Lt. Alexander Vraciu was VF-16's leading ace with 39 confirmed victories, several of which were scored with VF-6. Vraciu's best day came during the "Marianas Turkey Shoot" when he shot down six Japanese aircraft on June 19, 1944. (National Archives)

Chapter 1: Fighters



This F2A-3 is shown in the markings believed to have been used by Major "Red" Parks while the commander of VMF-221. Parks went missing in action in the defense of Midway Island on the morning June 4th, 1942. (Artwork by Rock Roszak)

The last operational American squadron to fly the Buffalo was VMF-211 which was based on Palmyra Island. This unit also flew from the escort carrier USS LONG ISLAND, AVG-1. The designation for the ship was later changed to CVE-1. In late summer 1942, VMF-211 finally sent its Buffalos back to the mainland where they were used in training units throughout the rest of the war.



This photo shows the crash of an F2A-3 assigned to VMF-211 aboard USS LONG ISLAND, AVG-1 (later redesignated CVE-1), off Palmyra Island on July 25, 1942. VMF-211 was the last front line Marine fighter squadron to operate the Buffalo. (NNAM)

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was called the Martlet in RN service until January 1944, when the British decided to use the American name, Wildcat.



An FM-2 from VC-95 recovers aboard USS PETROF BAY, CVE-80, in 1945. Since this escort carrier operated in the Pacific, the Wildcat is painted in the overall Sea Blue scheme. Aircraft from this carrier had a white clover leaf painted on their vertical tails. Note the FM-2's taller vertical tail that was necessary to counter the torque of the more powerful Wright R-1820-56 engine. (NNAM)



This FM-2 was assigned to VC-83 aboard the escort carrier USS SARGENT BAY, CVE-83, and the artwork illustrates the Wildcat as it appeared in May 1945. (Artwork by Rock Roszak)

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A TBM-3 from VT-45 recovers aboard the light carrier USS SAN JACINTO, CVL-30, on March 21, 1945. The geometric markings assigned to that carrier are visible on the tail and wing. Many Avengers served until the end of the war while painted in the tri-color camouflage scheme. (NNAM)



In the final months of the war, more and more Avengers in the overall glass Sea Blue scheme were added to operational units. This TBM-3E from VT-89 was painted in that scheme, and it has the geometric markings indicating its assignment to the air group aboard the carrier USS ANTIETAM, CV-36. (U. S. Navy)

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the standard for 4,402 production F6F-3s that were delivered to the Navy. The Royal Navy also received 252 F6F-3s which it called the Hellcat I.

The aircraft made its combat debut on August 31, 1943, when Hellcats from USS ESSEX, CV-9, USS YORKTOWN, CV-10, and USS INDEPENDENCE, CVL-22, attacked the Japanese at Marcus Island. From that date onward, more and more Hellcats joined the fleet as the war in the Pacific advanced steadily toward Japan.



Dive and Torpedo Bombers are in the next section. There is more coverage of the Dauntless, Avenger and Helldiver. The Curtiss SBC Helldiver, as seen in the movie, 'Helldiver', is the first one covered. This biplane led the way for the rest.



The first version of the Dauntless was the SBD-1, fifty-seven of which were produced. These were assigned to Marine squadrons VMB-1 and VMB-2, which were subsequently redesignated VMSB-132 and VMSB-232 by the end of 1941. The SBD-1s were the only Dauntlesses to be painted in the colorful pre-war scheme and markings. This SBD-1 was photographed while still in the pre-war paint scheme, and it was flown by the squadron commander of VMB-1. The three vertical stripes on the rudder were red, white, and blue from front to rear. (NNAM)



These SBD-1s are painted in the overall gray scheme used during most of 1941. These land-based aircraft belong to VMSB-132, which was the same Marine squadron that had formerly been designated VMB-1. This photograph provides evidence that the larger pneumatic tail wheel was developed for Marine land-based Dauntlesses rather than for the A-24 Banshee as reported elsewhere. This photo was taken in 1941, before any A-24s were ordered. (USMC via Ethell)



Vindicator Details



The National Naval Aviation Museum at Pensacola, Florida, has restored an SB2U-2 Vindicator to original condition. Details of the pilot's instrument panel are revealed in this view. (Kinzey)



Some of the radio gear in the rear cockpit is shown here. Note the key for sending Morse code on the deck to the right. The green bottle contained breathing oxygen for the radio operator/gunner. (Kinzey)

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The TBD Devastator is covered in significant detail as is the Vindicator. This is followed by the Slow But Deadly, SBD Dauntless and its replacement



Known as the "carrier killer," the Douglas SBD Dauntless scout bomber sank more Japanese shipping than any other American aircraft. Although replaced in most front line squadrons by the SB2C Helldiver during the final two years of the war, the Dauntless was in continual service throughout the war. (National Archives via Bell)

aircraft the SB2C Helldiver.

The Brewster XSBA-1, SBN-1 and Buccaneer are shown as are the Sea Wolf. Don't know what they are? Neither did I, but I know now. The Douglas Destroyer and Kaiser-Fleetwings XBTK-1 round out

Section 13

Ryan XF2R-1 Dark Shark



The XF2R Dark Shark was a further development of the FR-1 Fireball. It replaced the Wright radial engine with a General Electric XT-31-GE-2 turboprop powerplant mounted inside an extended nose. (NNAM)

Although the end of World War II caused the cancellation of all but sixty-six of the FR-1 Fireballs, the Navy authorized Ryan to convert one of these, BuNo. 39661, to a new configuration. The Wright R-1820-72W Cyclone radial engine was replaced with a General Electric XT-31-GE-2 turboprop which produced 1,700 horsepower and turned a large four-blade propeller. Designated the XF2R-1 by the Navy and named the Dark Shark, the reconfigured composite fighter first flew in November 1946 making it the first Navy aircraft to fly with a turboprop engine. The top speed rose to over 500 miles-per-hour, and although it was heavier than the FR-1, it was more maneuverable than the Fireball. The pitch of the propeller could momentarily be set to reverse thrust in flight, thus causing the aircraft to rapidly decelerate. Engine response was much faster than with the radial engine, because turboprops essentially run at full rpm at all times. Power changes are made by moving the pitch of the propeller, so there is no need to wait for engine revolutions to increase.

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This two-view drawing illustrates the TBD-1 Devastator, crewed by ARM2c W. D. (Don) Horton, in the colorful pre-war scheme used by the United States Navy. The overall aircraft was painted with an aluminum lacquer, and the upper wings were Chrome Yellow. BuNo. 0323 featured a True Blue tail used by all squadrons assigned to USS ENTERPRISE, CV-6. The aircraft was assigned to the squadron's first section, signified by the Insignia Red colors on the cowlings and the stripes on the upper wing. The nose color was only applied to the upper cowlings, signifying that the airplane was the second aircraft assigned to the section. (Artwork by Rock Roszak)

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Section 11

Kaiser-Fleetwings XBTk-1



The Kaiser-Fleetwings XBTk-1 was one of the single-seat torpedo bombers developed under the new Navy design criteria specifying a single aircraft type to replace both dive and torpedo bombers. Note the external fuel tanks under the wings and the bomb under the fuselage. (National Archives)

The same change in Navy philosophy that caused Douglas to modify the two-seat XSB2D-1 into the single-seat BTD-1 Destroyer also resulted in contracts for single-seat torpedo bombers being issued to Kaiser-Fleetwings, Curtiss, and Martin. Navy requirements specified that the aircraft had to be capable of carrying both a torpedo and conventional bombs, and the crew was to consist only of a pilot. There would be no defensive armament in a second cockpit.

The Kaiser prototype was designated the XBTk-1, and it was ordered on March 31, 1944. The first flight took place in April 1945. Powered by a Pratt & Whitney R-2800-34W with water injection, the aircraft was capable of a top speed of 373 miles-per-hour. Its installation

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the Dive and Torpedo bombers.

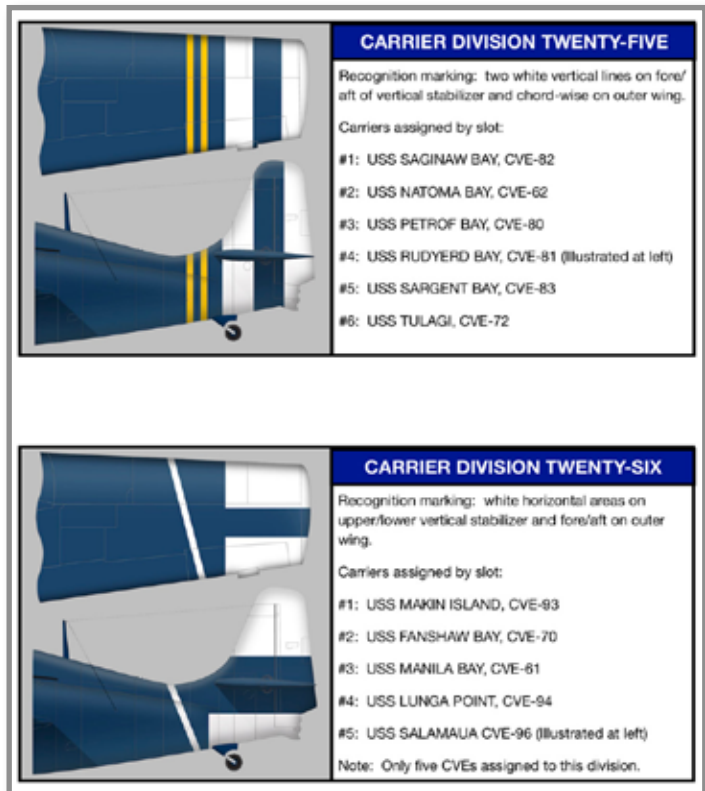
Appendix 1 shows the Theater Maps along with Capital Ship losses.

In the early years of the war, inconsistent carrier-based markings were used, and these were a precursor of what was to come during the final year of the war. Squadron insignias were also inconsistently applied for much of the war, although when present, they were usually under the windscreen on each side of the fuselage. Examples of carrier-specific tail markings dating from 1943 through the end of 1944 are provided below.

CARRIER TAIL RECOGNITION MARKINGS, 1943-1944



Appendix 2 has the Navy Paint Schemes and Markings. This explains the typical paint schemes applied to identify aircraft. Carrier Tail Markings are also included. Also addressed is the evolution of the



United States Aircraft National Insignia.

This is a great one stop shop reference. Is it perfect? No, I would have liked more photos of the cockpits and detail but that is beyond the scope of this 'book'. This book is a great reference for Navy aircraft, both production and prototype aircraft. The primary aircraft used during the war are covered adequately. The ability to enlarge the photos makes this a great resource. The profiles are really well done and will provide inspiration for the model builder.

This is another great release from Detail & Scale. If you have even a passing interest in aircraft of the Navy and Marines this is a great digital book.

Highly recommended. Thanks to Detail & Scale for the review copy. You can find purchase links for this book at their website.

www.detailandscale.com

Floyd





The Cotton Report:

O' Canada

By Rick Cotton

O' Canada

Our proud and native land...

"Native"? I've run into more people from places around the world other than Canada in the last two days here in Ottawa than you can imagine. Folks in hijabs and saris, with many, many languages. Apparently the rest of the world finds Canada a very attractive place to come to. I can understand that. The vibe is very modern, up to date, and "with it", to use an old guy expression. If it weren't for the winters that make your nipples tear holes through your shirt, I'd love living here, too.

Right now, they seem a little reserved. Not cold, mind you, just reserved. Probably because of Trudeau calling Trump a fascist, and Trump calling Trudeau a leftist weasel. But they are polite, and The Keg still serves up a ribeye that is not to be believed.

I sit in the Ottawa airport, eyeing the Chicago weather where my connecting flight is, writing this, and regaling you, as it appears you have nothing better to do than read my rantings. So be it. The last time I was up here, it was colder than Jimmy Hoffa, about zero degrees. That was then, this is now. A pleasant 75 or so, cool breezes, very green everywhere. A lovely time to be with the Canucks.

And unlike last time, I actually made sure the Hobby Centre was exactly where Google said it was, and that they were open. It was quite close, as I ran into what passes for a Canadian traffic jam on the way... apparently two moose and a beaver had a fender bender, but the Mounties got them cleared. I pulled into the parking lot, leaped (?) out of my rental car, and sauntered in, eyes bugging and credit card in hand.

Hobby Centre is DEFINITELY worth the trip if you are here. A LARGE number of kits, not quite the legendary Wheels and Wings in Toronto, but then, no one is that. Not only is there a very good selection of plastic, air, armor, ships, cars, sci-fi, etc., their prices will not melt your Visa card. Very reasonable, especially when you translate Canadian Monopoly money into US greenbacks.

There is an ample paint selection, plus tools, etc., although I had a dinner date and did not have a whole lot of time to shop. I did select one kit that would fit in my suitcase, and spent the rest of my time perusing the remaining selection. Pretty much all major brands represented, and several harder-to-find items as well.

The store does some RC and trains, cars and boats, but they seem to be about 50% plastic, 50% everything else. Works for me.

I drop the kit on the counter.

"Oh, awesome kit, eh? DML makes good stuff."

"Yes, they do. I'm from Houston, and write for Texas club newsletters. Mind if I take a few shots?"

"Oh, sure, eh? Houston, eh? You guys dried out yet?" Apparently the footage of Harvey got here, too.

"Oh, yeah, we're good to go. Just in time for Hurricane season."

"Oh, is that now? Glad we don't have those. Just frostbite. Safe travels, eh?"

Safe travels. FUN travels, if Ottawa is in your path, and you have time to go to the Hobby Centre. Improve US-Canadian relations. Spend some cash there. Trudeau will be very happy.

Rick



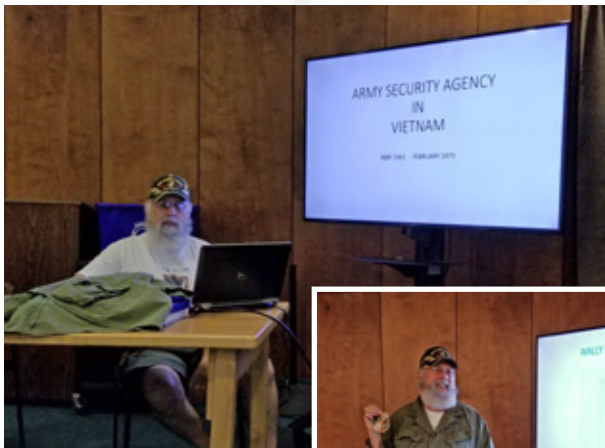


On The TABLE

By **Flanged End Yoke**

Last month's meeting was an exciting and informative one.

It's not often that members share their past lives with other members. Usually we just ogle each other's plastic productions and talk shop.



One of ASMS's members Dave Edgerly was able to share some of his first-hand knowledge of Signals Intelligence in the Vietnam War with us when he gave a presentation on the role of Sig-Int in the war. He also proved to us he could still fit into his uniform!



Dave also brought in several models which he had converted to represent machines that served in the Signals Intelligence role.



Dave's 1/72nd EP2R Crazy Cat took the model of the month honors.



Mike Lamm's brought in a petite diorama in 1/72nd scale. This one featured Flyhawk's FT-17 and a German SDKFZ 221 armored car.



Mike also brought in an Academy 1-144th scale P-38J.



Rick Herrington brought in an M4Ai circa D-day with a hedgerow cuter on the front of the tank. The kit is from Asuka and is in 1/35th scale.



Sticking with the WIP theme James Agay shared his 1/200th scale Arizona with the group.



Ziggy Bumgardner brought in several Gundam's. The first was a Bandai 1/100th GP-04.



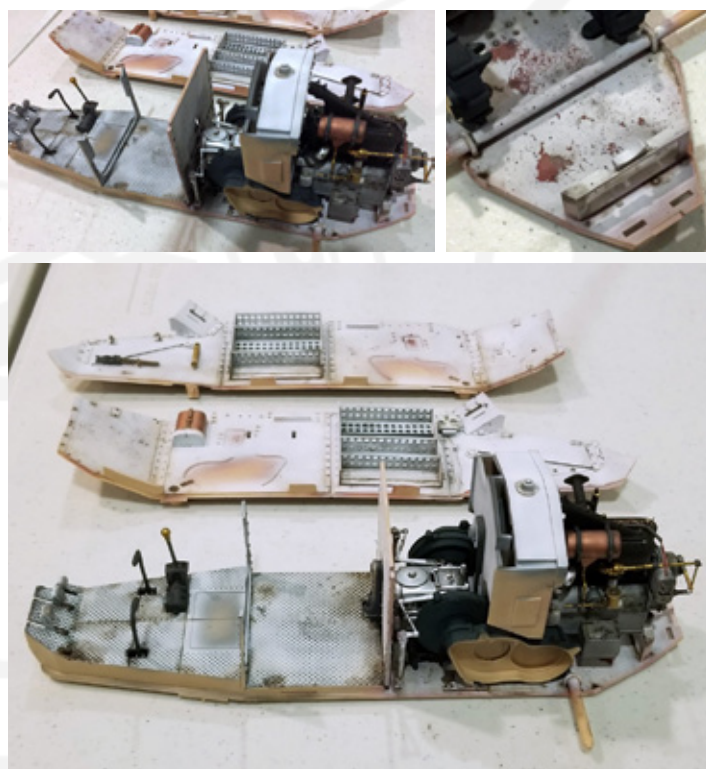
The second was another Bandai offering, a 1/144th Graz Custom Gundam.



Eric Choy brought in a 1/48th scale British Crocodile. And a WIP Hungarian Paper Panzer tank destroyer.



Bradley Becker gave us a glimpse of his ongoing 1/35th FT-17 build.



Thanks everyone for sharing your work. See you at the next meeting.

Flanged





OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

Lots of upcoming releases of ship models in 1/700th scale during the months prior to Christmas. Let's get to it.

1/700

Pit Road seems to be the company striving to win our hearts and dollars. They have several USN releases and subjects near and dear to the author's heart Royal Navy releases.

First up is the USN battleship BB-48 West Virginia in her circa 1945 livery. West Virginia was one of the battleships that participated in the battle of Leyte Gulf. This was one of the last battleship to battleship sea battles of WW2.



Next from Pit Road are a US heavy cruiser and a light cruiser. The heavy cruiser is the USS Vincennes.



The light cruiser is the USS Miami.



US destroyers aren't neglected by Pit Road. They are releasing a WW1 circa destroyer DD-605 USS Caldwell.



The first of the Royal Navy releases is by Pit road also. A British battleship HMS Renown.



The second is by SkyWave and it is another British battleship HMS Barham (1941). HMS Barham was sunk by a U-boat in the Mediterranean.





Aoshima is filling the need for British heavy cruisers with a release of the heavy cruiser HMS Exeter and HMS Dorsetshire. Exeter fought in the battle with the pocket battle ship DKM Graf Spee.



Dorsetshire participated in the chase and final battle with the Bismarck. This kit release is a special edition and is called "Bismarck Pursuit Edition". The kit includes a 1/700th scale British submarine, the cruiser and 4 different types of aircraft that participated in the chase and sinking.



Speaking of the Bismarck, Flyhawk known for their excellent kit releases. (Read exquisite detail) is finally releasing its kit of the DKM battleship Bismarck. They're proud of the kit. It'll run you 60-70 US dollars.



Another German subject is being released by Trumpeter. The started but never finished DKM aircraft carrier Peter Strasser.



1/350

Only one release in 1/350th scale to talk about. Trumpeter's HMS Exeter British Heavy Cruiser is here in the states and will soon be coming to your local hobby shop. Hopefully you have yours on pre-order.



Finally, Pit Road is releasing a 1/35th scale IJN 12.7cm/40 Type 89 naval gun turret. (Type-Yamato shield) This is a reproduction of the secondary battery turrets on our favorite Japanese battleship the Yamato. Great diorama material.



Rick





The Air Report

By Ron McCracken

September seems to be a month for re-releases, with several manufacturers issuing reprises featuring new markings and alternate parts but, there is a sprinkling of truly new offerings as well.

In 1/32nd scale Revell has announced a Eurocopter EC-135 in German army markings. This seems to be a reboxing of an existing kit with some new parts included.



Kittyhawk is releasing an F-5F Tiger II kit featuring two very nice resin crew figures, one seated in the cockpit, the other climbing the access ladder also included in the kit. The F-5F is different from earlier two-seat variants in that the second cockpit was added, not by moving the front cockpit forward and eliminating the guns, but by stretching the fuselage by roughly one meter and retaining one of the guns. So, this training version remains fully combat-capable.



Hasegawa has announced a Polikarpov I-16 with "USSR Aces" markings. I gather that this is a re-release with nothing more than different decals, a common practice with Hasegawa these days.



Moving on to 1/48th scale, ICM has announced for September re-release their Dornier Do-17Z-2 kit in Finnish markings. Markings for two aircraft are provided.



Airfix has announced a Bf 109E-4/E-1 for September release. This is evidently a re-release of their 2014 kit that is out-of-stock.





Hobby Boss has announced release of an F/A-18C Hornet in RAAF markings. This too seems to be a re-release of an earlier kit, the rumor mill is uncertain whether it will include alternate parts or just new decals.



versions are planned, an "Expert" version with extra detail goodies, and a "Junior" version for those who just want a basic kit.



Hasegawa is issuing a Ki-48-II Type 99 Light Bomber with alternate parts for a "Special Mission" variant. Also announced is an Su-35S Flanker in the 'Serdyukov Color Scheme'. I believe both of these are re-releases of earlier kits.

Hasegawa is releasing a J7W1 Shinden 'Shidenkai n Maki'. This is a rerelease in markings of a popular TV show in Japan.



In the One True Scale (1/72nd) Arma Hobby has announced two kits of a Hurricane Mk I with "metal wings" as seen in the movie "Battle of Britain". Two

Hasegawa is also releasing a 1/72nd FW-189A-1 night fighter.



Amodel is releasing a Cessna YH-41 Seneca helicopter. This little-known type was Cessna's one-and-only venture into helicopters, and is historically important for that reason alone.



That wraps it up for September. Not a lot of really new stuff coming out this month, mostly updates or re-boxings of existing kits.

Ron



Article and Presentation Assignments 2018

Monthly Newsletter Article:

October Angie Forster
November ???????
December Bob Bethea

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

September Ian Candler
October Milton Bell
November Rick Herrington
December Ian Latham



- 10/06/2018 **Austin Scale Modelers Society '2018 Capitol Classic'**
Travis County Expo Center
7311 Decker Lane, Austin TX
Show Theme – 'Red October'
www.austinsms.org
- 10/27/2018 **Cajun Modelfest 32**
LSU Ag Center 4H Minifarm Building
101 Efferson Hall, Baton Rouge, LA
Show Theme – 'First Things First'
www.brscscalemodelers.com/
- 2/16/2019 **Alamo Squadron's 'ModelFiesta 38'**
San Antonio Event Center
8111 Meadow Leaf Drive, San Antonio, TX 78227
Show Theme - 'Record Breakers!'
www.alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta

CLUB QUARTERLY CONTESTS:

September
Bondo Contest

December
White Elephant Contest





It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Welcome back to "It Figures".

First up, we have a few "tasty" figures from Bravo 6 to satisfy your "hunger" for a "delicious" diorama. "French Toast" features two American tankers warming up a little breakfast, and when combined with "Morning Spam", you can get a nice little scene of a tank crew taking a moment to enjoy some breakfast. French Toast includes



two figures, with one crouched over a nearby fire warming up some breakfast on a homemade spit. Morning Spam features one soldier finishing the last of his ration tin. Both kits are well-detailed with interesting poses and available in 1/35th.

<https://bravo6.diorama.ru/>

Our friends at Andrea Miniatures continue to add new figures to their popular "Eisernes Kreuz" (Iron Cross) line of World War 2 German figures. This time with an early war fallschirmjäger posed in the Netherlands. This is a really interesting figure and it's based on a historical photo from a German newspaper. In one hand, the German paratrooper is carrying a Stielhandgranate, aka "potato masher", and over his shoulder he has a MP-28 submachine gun.



The gun is really a cool choice, in addition to being a fairly ground-breaking weapon, it is one I don't think I've seen on a figure before. Also, the fallschirmjäger weren't really known to have used this weapon. It really makes you appreciate the research Andrea Miniatures does for their historical



figures. The second addition to the Iron Cross line is another German infantry soldier. This time, an SS Sturmman wearing a standard field kit, holding the ubiquitous Gewehr rifle. Although this figure is labeled as 1940, the kit, gear and weapons used by the SS's shock troops didn't change that much and this figure could be shown in a diorama for later in the war too. Currently, these two figures are only offered in 1/35 and 1/16, but don't be surprised to see offering across all the standard scale sizes in the near future.

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



Aradia Miniatures has a new 75mm fantasy figure called "Beatrice". What the figure lacks in creative naming, it more than makes up in the sculpt. For those of us (er...you) who are more well-read than others, you will undoubtedly recognize this figure as Beatrice from the second part of Dante's Divine Comedy, Purgatorio, which is the follow-up to, Inferno. As for the figure itself, Beatrice is astride an Eagle? No. A Lion? Close. A Griffon, which is a mythical creature with the head, wings and front legs and talons of an eagle with the body, back legs, and tail of a lion. Griffons are known to be powerful creatures that are sometimes referred to as the king of all creatures, and this sculpt really does it justice.

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

Of course, the Griffon is second to what is pretty much my favorite animal. A liger, which is like a lion and a tiger mixed... bred for its skills in magic. Geez!

That's it for this month, now go build a model and paint a figure.

Mike

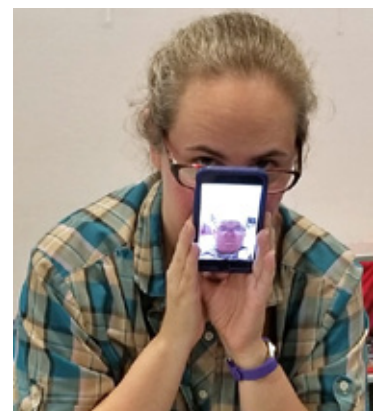


Virtual Model Meeting

If you have been keeping up with current events one of our regular members Bill Delk has been spending time in the hospital. Bill is not vacationing there and would rather be adding LED's to a model then be where he is.

At this past meeting I think Bill made a first, at least for the Austin Scale Modeler's Society. The first Face Time attendee of a model meeting. Due to the cooperation of a friend Bill was able to join us for the meeting from his hospital bed. Bill was able to see and hear what was going on at the meeting.

Hope you get well soon Bill and are able to join us in person for the next meeting.





2S23 Nona-SVK 120mm Self-propelled Mortar System



A T-72B3 Mod 2016 is up next from Trumpeter.



Rye Field Models has two new releases this month. The first is a T-34/122. This was basically a T-34 chassis with a 122mm gun mounted on it. 30 were produced by the Syrians and some saw action in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.



DEF Models has brought out a timely release. This is an M3 Stuart detail up set. This will be a fine addition to your brand new Tamiya M3 kit.

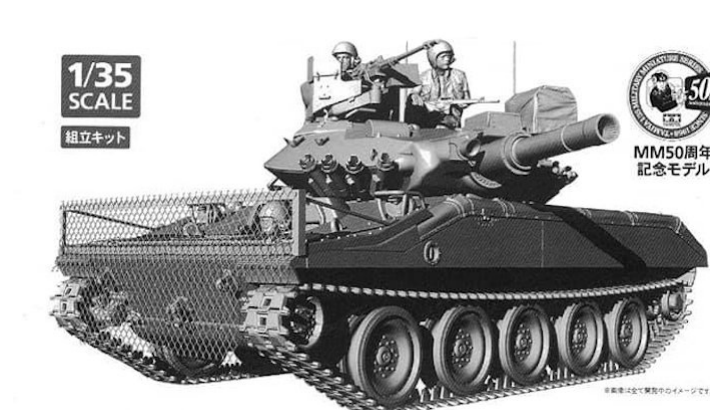


Rye Field Model is producing another Panther. This time it's a G and includes cut away parts for the hull and turret so you can view the interior parts.



Tamiya is wowing us this month by announcing an M551 and an M3A1 Scout Car. An updated (read correct) M551 has been long awaited. Thank you Tamiya!

AFV is releasing an IDF Centurion in 1/35th scale. The Shot Kal Gimel was used in Operation Peace for Galilee (1982).



Last up from Meng in 1/35th is a British Army Husky TSV. The Husky was deployed to Afghanistan and was designed to take the place of lightly armored Land Rovers.



ICM is getting into the half-track business with a German SDKFZ 251A. The kit includes some infantry to go along with it.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit out of that stash, wipe the dust off it and build it!

Rick





Sundries

By Golzar Shahrzad

Most are familiar with Hasegawa's EggPlanes series. Several other companies have jumped on that band wagon with their own versions that even include tanks (Meng's World War Toons series) and ships (Fujimi's Chibi-Marui fleet).



A new player in that market is Freedom Models. They have launched a combat series and one of the first offerings is a TF-104/ F-104 and an F-5E/5F. Sold separately, of course. The kits come two to the box and include markings for either the USAF or the JSDF.



While we are sort of on the subject of the F-104, Germany tried to develop a VTOL, Mach 2 fighter that would replace their fleet of 104's. Alas, it was not to be. But that shouldn't stop you from adding a facsimile to your model collection. A&A Models has a 1/72nd scale injected molded kit of this experimental German fighter. The kit come with some photo etch, paint masks, and two marking options.



LiveResin has been making intricately detailed modern war fighter figures and accessories for some time. The details that they provide include just about any and all items that a modern soldier might use, even offering different style knee pads. LiveResin, on occasion, will produce a stand- alone kit of a particular weapon system. Such is the case with a new offering from them of a 1/16th scale anti-



tank machine gun. The Vlasimirov KPV-44 comes on a wheeled mount and has all the detail that we have come to expect from LiveResin. As the name implies, this is a resin kit.



Piece is a new (to me) company from Japan. The first offerings that I'm aware of is a cool looking Card Soldier from Alice in Wonderland. The Card Soldier stands 15cm tall when complete and is slide molded in plastic. There are water slide decals provided for the card pips and back face. It would appear that the only suit option is spades. I really would have preferred hearts. Nevertheless, you may have a hard time passing by the completed figure without saying..."off with their heads!"



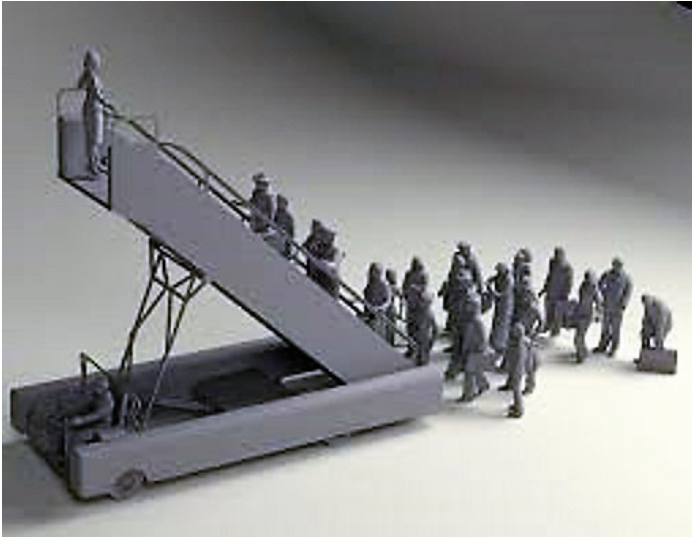
North Star Models has some new small scale figures coming to a hobby shop near you. A set of twenty six 1/144th scale civilian passengers (boarding ladder sold separately) for your next airliner diorama. North Star Models is based in Latvia with warehousing in Ukraine. For those of us that model in 1/144th scale figures are few and far between and it is refreshing to see at least one company filling that void.





Be sure to check their website :

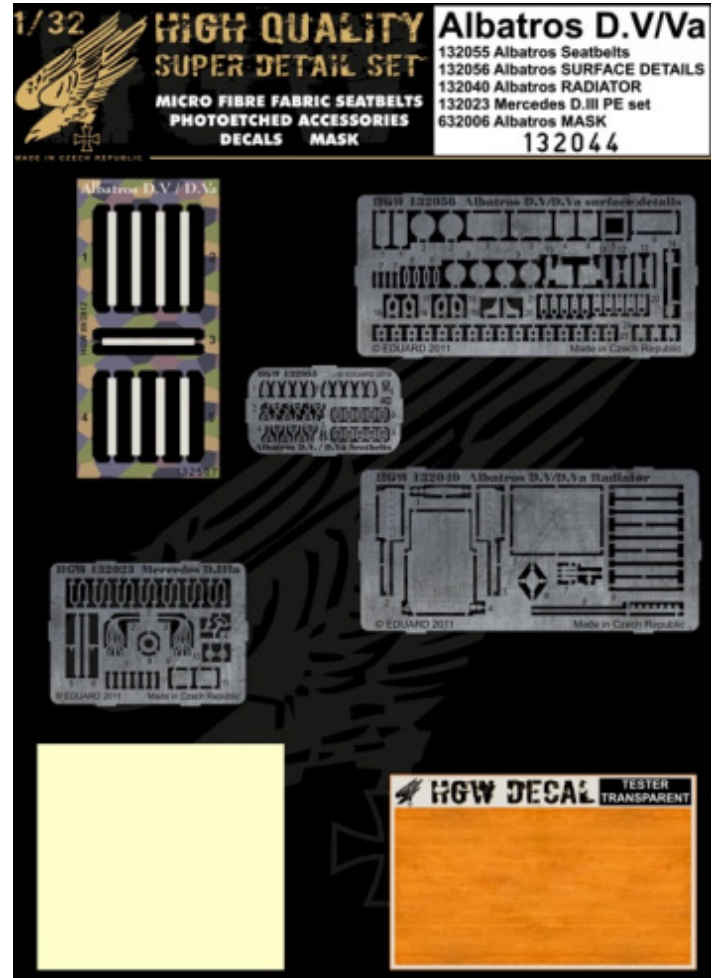
northstarmodels.com/2018/08/new-1-144-scale-figures/
for more figures and details. The company also has some job openings for engineers, sculptors, and 3D modelers. Don't know if you need to relocate to Latvia, though I hear that the summers are nice!



Calling all Redlegs! Artillery fans are in for a treat. Brengun has announced a new M35 prime mover with a M1 8-inch gun on trailer. This is an all resin kit in 1/72nd scale. This vehicle was used throughout WWII to haul heavy artillery on the battlefield. No word, as yet, on whether or not we will see the gun carriage portion.



HGW Models has something that may be of interest to Wingnut Wings fans. They have a super detail set for WNW's 1/32nd scale Albatros DV/DV.A. The detail set includes textile seat belts, photo-etch for some surface details (access panels, etc.), radiator and engine details, as well as paint masks.



The Cobra 427 started life as an iconic sports car. And remains so today. Owning one can be a bit on the pricey side but for a mere fraction of the cost of a real Cobra 427 you can own your very own 1/12th scale version curiosity of Model Factory Hiro.





This is a complete multi-media kit (white metal, polyurethane, photo-etch, clear PVC windscreen, decals, rubber tires and various cords) that will amaze you and your friends with its level of detail. Coming from Model Factory Hiro, when your finished building the kit you might just have enough mechanical knowledge to work of a real one.



Takom continues to release some lovely 1/35th scale armor and soft skin models. I have noticed a bit of a trend for them with the release of some beautiful 1/72nd scale kits as well. A new offering in that scale is a M1070 with M1000 trailer. As if that wasn't enough Takom has included a D9R bulldozer to haul around. The included decal sheet has two marking options. While a purist might bemoan that fact that this is in 1/72nd scale, you really have to ask yourself...just where would you put the larger scaled version, if it was available as one kit?



Platz has teamed up with Dragon to provide us with a 1/35th scale Kettenkrad with two figures from the anime series "Girls Last Tour" (click the link for a short trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OFMXpkmLBQ>). The original Kettenkrad kit is from Dragon with some new parts for this release, some photo-etch, and decals from Cartograf.

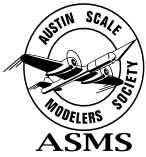


Golzar





Austin Scale Modelers Society

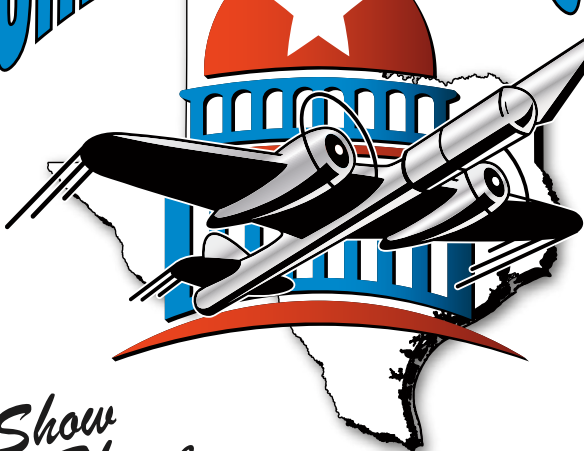


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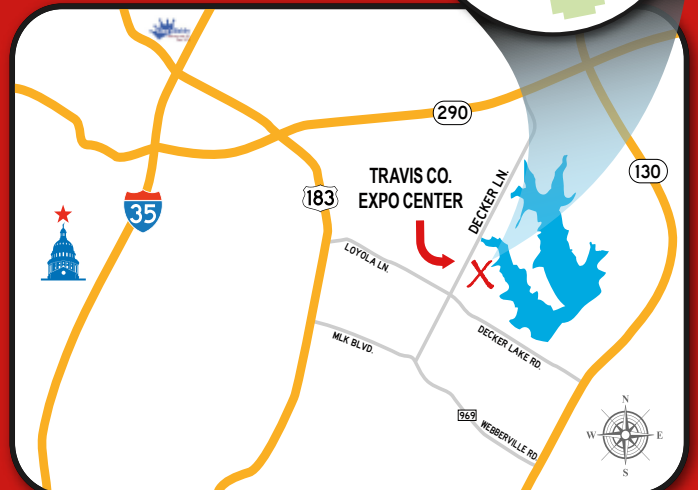
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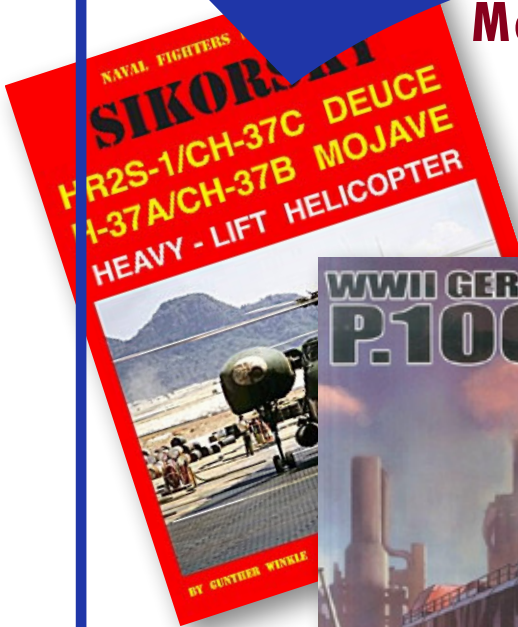


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