

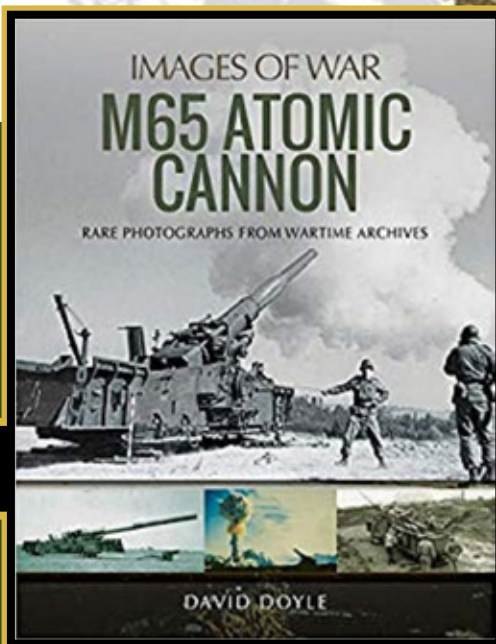
SPRUE EXAMINER



AFV Club's 1/35 M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle

by Ben Morton

**AFV
CLUB**
1/35 SCALE
AF35254



M65 Atomic Cannon

Reviewed by Ben Morton

austinsms.com



August 2019

*The Cotton Report • On The Table • Old Rumors & New Kits
News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug*



CONTENTS

Page 3 The President's Soapbox

Page 4 House Cleaning

Page 6 M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle - By Ben Morton

Page 12 M65 Atomic Cannon - By Ben Morton

Page 14 The Cotton Report - By Rick Cotton

Page 17 On The Table - by Flanged End Yoke

Page 21 Old Rumors and New Kits:

Page 21 Shipping News – by Rick Herrington

Page 23 New and In View – by Ron McCracken

Page 27 Tracked Topics – by Rick Herrington

Page 30 It Figures – by Mike Lamm

ASMS Officers & Chairpersons

Ian Latham - President; president@austinsms.org

Aaron Smischney - Vice-President; vicepresident@austinsms.org

Mike Lamm - Finance Minister; treasurer@austinsms.org

Rick Herrington - Secretary; secretary@austinsms.org

Rick Herrington - Newsletter Editor; editor@austinsms.org

Ian Latham - Newsletter Design; editor@austinsms.org

Ian Latham - Show Coordinator; showcoordinator@austinsms.org

Mike 'Hollywood' Gilsbach - Webmaster; webmaster@austinsms.org

Jeff Forster - IPMS/USA Coordinator; chaptercontact@austinsms.org

Chris Chany - Rumpus & Hokum Abatement Director & Lifestyle Coordinator

Our Sponsors

Phil Brandt (in memorium)

Eric Choy Angela Forster

Jeff Forster Russ Holm

Rick Willaman Jack Johnston

Mike Krizan Rick Herrington

Aaron Smischney



www.austinarmorbuilders.com



www.kingshobbyshop.com



www.wmbros.com



www.ctsms.org

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



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.



PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

BY IAN LATHAM



Dear Members,

We've got another great newsletter for your perusal, filled with the most audacious material. Be sure to hide it away from the children (maybe under your mattress).

Name badge orders are being taken from dues paying members. Please contact me at latham.ian@yahoo.com, if you haven't done so yet, to order your very own collectable 1"x3" ASMS souvenir that will identify you to other brothers of the order.

I've been so busy the last couple of months that I've had to up my 'Conceptual Modeling' skills. I've really gotten pretty good. I've finished so many conceptual models that my mental shelves are getting full, but, I'm always on the lookout for another kit. And the advantage of conceptual modeling is the money I've saved on kits!

To be fair though, it is a valuable skill to walk through the processes of the build and paint in your mind. It's certainly a form of meditation and I've found in the past that when I actually make it back to the bench, my building becomes more satisfying and productive. So next time you're at work/meeting/traffic take some time to visualize the process of building that kit you've had your eye on and work out some of the strategic movements, colors and steps you need to take. I think you might be pleasantly surprised when you finally have some time to play.

Stay cool!

Ian

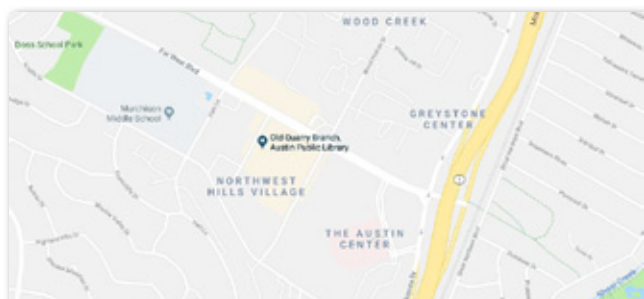




HOUSE CLEANING



ASMS MEETING



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

Next meeting August 15th, 2019

No Reservations Necessary!



**Break the ice at parties!
Don't miss out on the new name
badges for dues paying members.
Contact latham.ian@yahoo.com for
more information.**

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 ASMS, 111620 Via Grande Drive, Austin, TX 78739.



Events

- 9/14/2019 **SuperCon2019**
<http://fortworthscalemodelers.org/>
Arlington, TX
Dave Hibscher - hurricaneyankee52@yahoo.com
- 9/14/2019 **2019 AMPS CENTEX Armor Expo**
[Georgetown Community Center](http://georgetowncommunitycenter.com)
445 E. Morrow Street, Georgetown, TX 78626
Show Theme - 'Artillery - King of the Battlefield'
<http://austinamps.org>
Eric Choy - aabsco@gmail.com
- 10/05/2019 **ASMS 'Capitol Classic 2019'**
Travis County Expo Center
7311 Decker Ln, Austin, TX 78724
Show Theme - 'Summer of Love'
<http://www.austinsms.org/contest.php>
Ian Latham - latham.ian@yahoo.com

Club Quarterly Contests

- August: Open
- September: **Bondo Contest**
- October: Open
- November: Open
- December: **White Elephant/Model of the Year**

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

- August: Mike Poole
- September: ?
- October: ?
- November: ?
- December: ?

Austin Scale Modelers Society

Presents
The

2019 CAPITOL CLASSIC

Show
Theme

SUMMER OF LOVE

Anything manufactured or in use during 1967.

Saturday, October 5th 2019

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Travis County Expo Center

7311 Decker Ln, Austin, TX 78724

🌸 IPMS Model Contest 🌸
 75 Vendor Tables 🌸 Food
 Make 'N' Take 🌸 Door Prizes

www.austinsms.org

Austin Scale Modelers Society 2019 CAPITOL CLASSIC

General Admission:

\$5 per person

12 and under FREE.

Contest Entry (includes admission):

Senior (≥18): \$10 for first model, \$3 each additional

Junior (≤17): \$5 for first model, \$1 each additional

Make & Take

Children must be accompanied by a parent.

There will be models for children (≤12) to build at the show.

ASMS members will be on hand to help and supervise.

Participation is **FREE OF CHARGE** while supplies last.

Vendor Tables

8 ft. lengths @ \$40 each

To reserve your table(s), please contact:

Dave Edgerly

- or -

Chris Chany

512-699-4682

914-755-7593

dedgerly@earthlink.net

christopherchany@gmail.com

Questions?

visit www.austinsms.org for more information

Travis County Expo Center

(512) 854-4900

7311 Decker Ln. Austin, TX 78724





AFV Club's 1/35 M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle

By Ben Morton



From my new, best friends at Wikipedia: The M728 is a fully-tracked combat engineer vehicle designed to provide maximum ballistic protection for the crew and is a heavily armed derivative of the M60 series tank. Modified to provide a mobile and maneuverable weapon for combat support of ground troops and vehicles the M728 vehicle is used for breaching, obstacle removal, transportation of demolition teams, and pioneering operations.

Although the M728 consists of a tank hull and a short-barreled turret, it is not a tank and should not be routinely used against enemy tanks. It is an excellent heavy assault support vehicle when used as part of a combined engineer-infantry team. It is usually equipped with either a hydraulically operated M9 Dozer Blade Assembly or a D7 Mine Plough. The M9 Dozer Blade Assembly is used for clearing the way, filling depressions, leveling ground and for other purposes. The D7 Mine Plough is a V-shaped plough that performs counter-mine activities by lifting buried mines and pushing them to the side as the vehicle moves forward. A winch and retractable A-frame crane are mounted on the turret for lifting, carrying and winching operations.

The hull front contains the driver's compartment, controls and instruments. The hull rear contains the engine, transmission, fuel tanks, and related automotive parts. The turret has positions for the commander, gunner, and loader. The vehicle is also equipped with a NBC protection system for the crew. It can produce a limited smokescreen by dumping raw diesel fuel into the exhaust system to visually obscure the area around the vehicle as well as provide a limited vehicle recovery capability.

The vehicle is armed with a 165mm M135 short-barreled demolition gun. Depending on the usage, the gun can be depressed and elevated against targets up to an effective range of 925 meters (1,012 yd). The gun's primary purpose is for clearing defensive fixtures and obstacles, such as walls, fences, roadblocks and bunkers, or for destroying buildings and is generally not meant to be for use in anti-personnel or anti-tank warfare. The effects caused by the HEP (High Explosive Plastic) round's base detonating fuze and large amount of explosive can demolish barriers and knock down walls. One round creates a 1-foot (0.3 m) diameter hole in a 7-inch (178 mm) thick reinforced concrete wall. The round's effects against bunkers and field fortifications are dramatic, often crushing or smashing entire walls. The gun fires two types of fixed ammunition, the M123E1 HEP Round and the M623 Target Practice Round. The main gun has a co-axially mounted 7.62mm NATO M240E1 machine gun with 2,000 rounds of ammunition. In addition, a .50 caliber M85 machine gun is mounted in the commander's cupola; this has 600 rounds of ammunition.

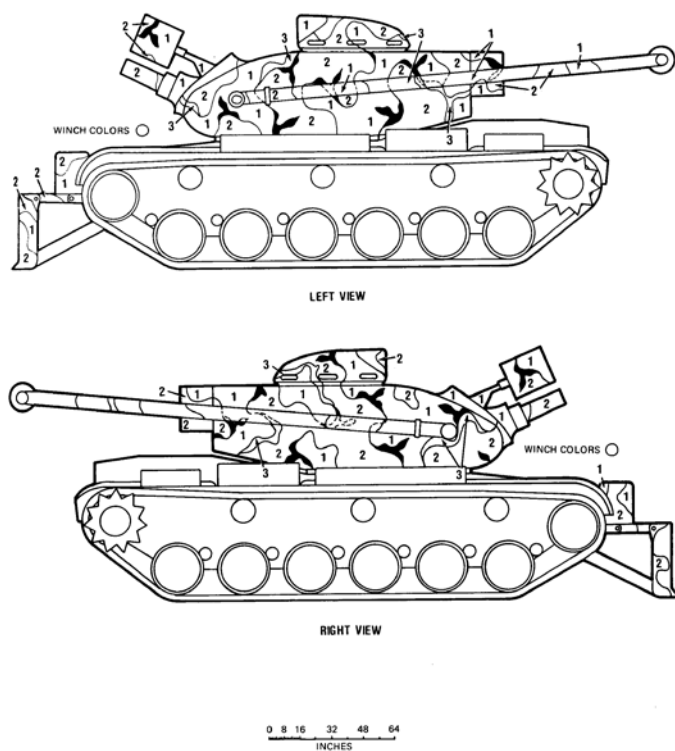


Figure 97. Vehicle combat engineer, full-tracked: M728. (2 of 2)

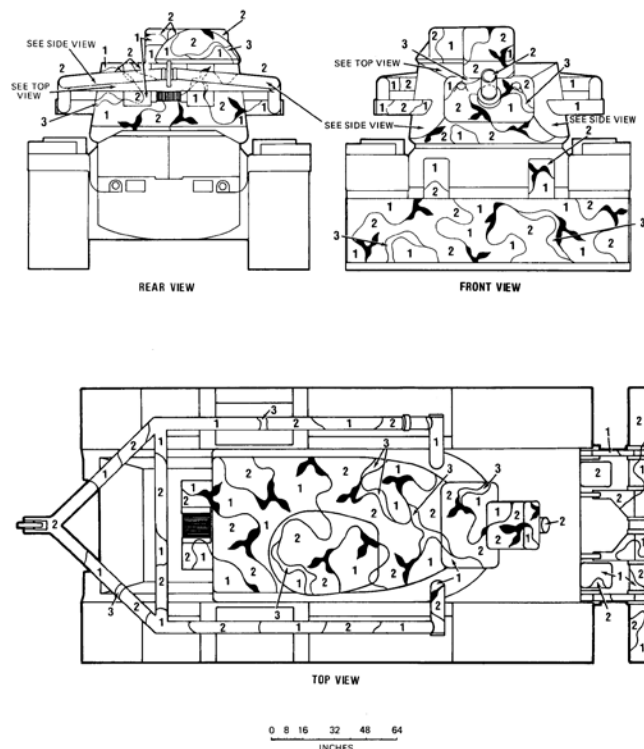


Figure 96. Vehicle combat engineer, full-tracked: M728. (1 of 2)

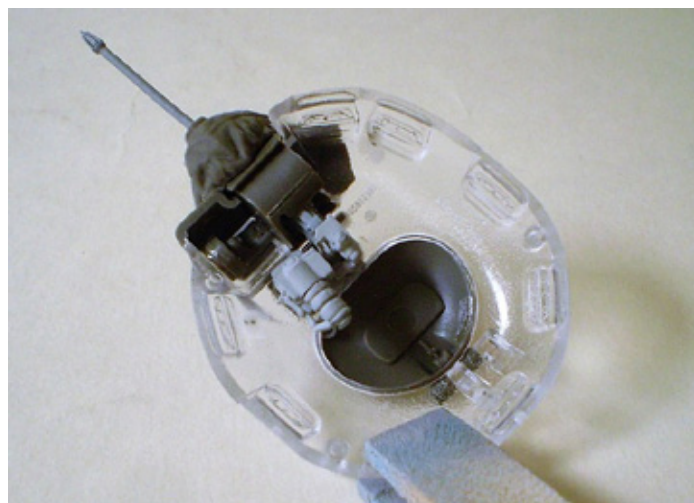
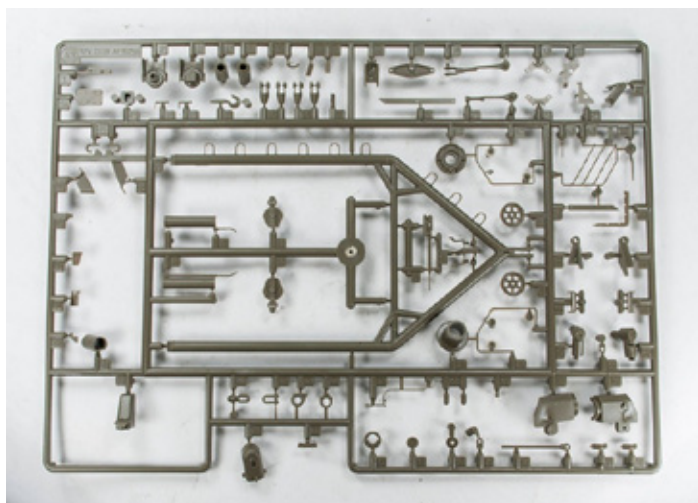
Upon opening the box you are immediately confronted by almost eleven-billion parts. Maybe not quite that many but a lot. What is included are two upper turret parts with separate casting numbers, two complete sets of road wheels, a small sprue of stowage bits and applicant armor. Some of these extra parts are for another mark of the M60 family.

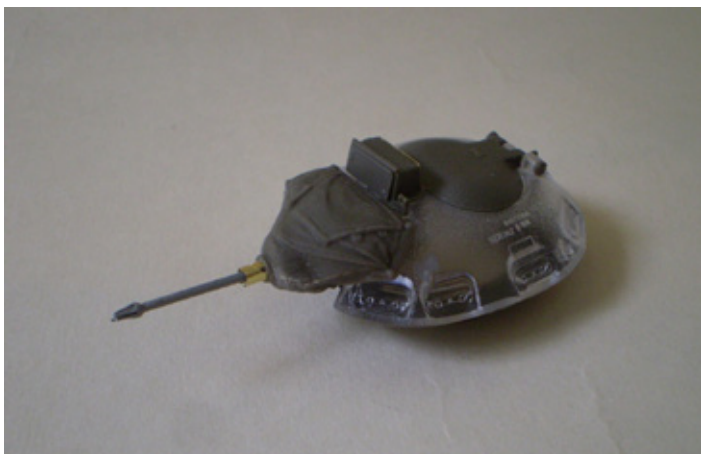
Just follow the well-drawn assembly instructions and you shouldn't have any problems deciding which ones to use and which ones get thrown into the

spares box.

Both the hull and turret of AFV Club's M728 have a beautifully cast texture. The covered mantlet for the main gun and commander's cupola machine gun are provided in a soft vinyl material. Nice touch! You do have the option of a plastic gun mantlet for the main gun.

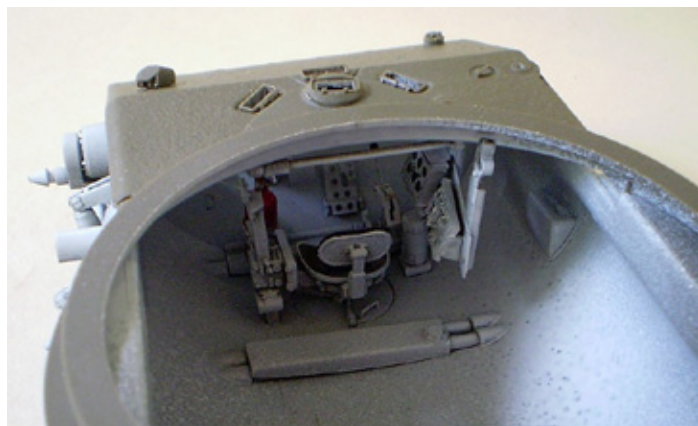
Speaking of the commander's cupola, the upper portion (with the vision blocks) is molded in clear plastic with appropriate texture.



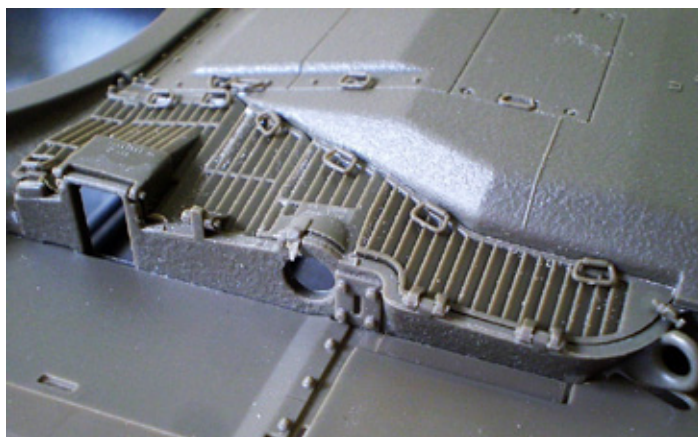


Other parts included are a metal barrel for the main gun, chain, vinyl tubing, thread for the winch and tow cables, two small frets of photo-etch for the turret basket and various interior/exterior parts, and a diminutive decal sheet with the three marking options. All of which are in overall Olive Drab. It should be noted that the M728 entered service in 1965 and was retired in 2000. Other marking/color schemes (Vietnam, Gulf War, NATO) are available through your own auspices.

Tracks are provided in the familiar rubber-band style but are just lovely. Don't forget to cue up the Spinner's Rubberband Man (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSMVfISBKx8>) before attaching the tracks. [Side Note: this song is featured in the new Avengers movie. But I think it was better utilized in the first Guardians of the Galaxy film.]



Assembly of AFV Club's M728 begins with...wait for it...the hull. Almost every hull bit is provided as a separate part so this portion of the building process may take a while. But you will be rewarded with some very cool detail that might otherwise go missing. As an example; the swing-arm/torsion bar mounting brackets on the lower hull comprise two parts.



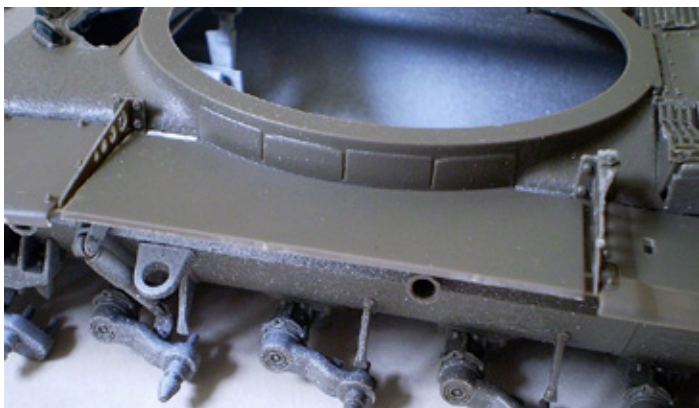
AFV Club provides two, complete sets of road wheels. There was some flash around the rims on a few of these parts but nothing too taxing to remove. Don't get carried away sanding smooth the surfaces of the individual road wheels, the 'mold line' around the circumference of each wheel is a feature of the prototype as are the different patterns.



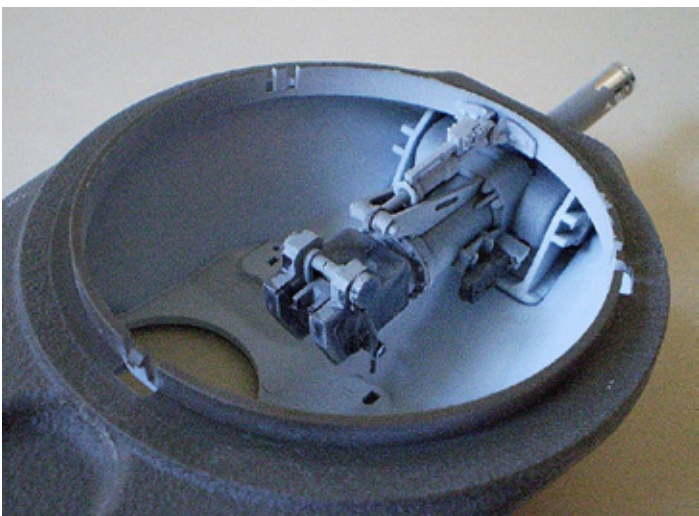


The assembly instructions have you using the road wheels from one set of sprues and the drive sprockets from another. With the different tread patterns on the road wheels and bolt head configurations on the return rollers, that AFV Club provides, you could mix and match just to see if anyone is paying attention. Although I suspect the additional road wheels are specific to an M60A1.

There is a small 'O' ring (in lieu of a poly-cap) that gets sandwiched between each road wheel that allows each to turn freely. You can probably roll this model across the floor. Don't scoff! You know you're gonna try...just don't forget to make engine noises when you do!



Interior parts are provided throughout with some nice detail on the inside of the driver's escape hatch as well the necessary driver compartment components (seat, gear shifter, control panels, vision blocks, handle bar steering yoke, etc.). AFV Club provides loads of interior detail end-to-end with this kit.



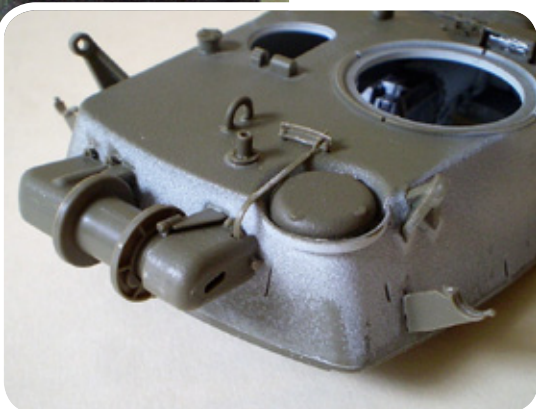
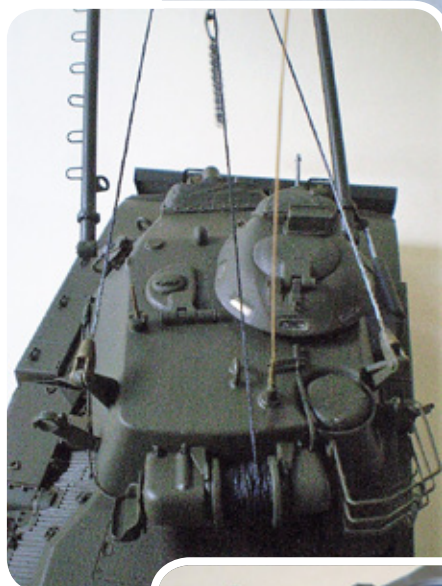
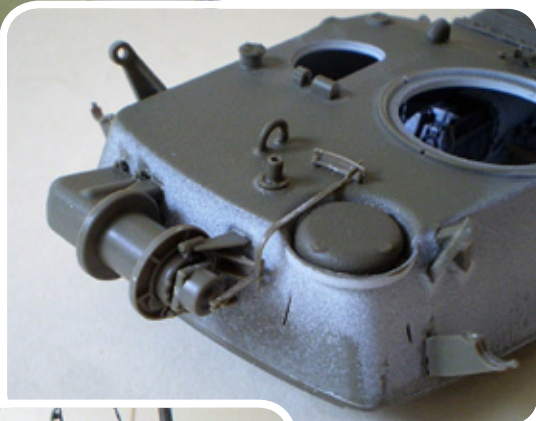
All the engine compartment cooling louvers are individual parts. Which should make showing off an aftermarket engine that much easier. Assemblage continues with the mounting brackets for the dozer blade and the blade itself. Once more, oodles of detail from the all but flash-free parts.

Next is the main turret and all the associated fiddly bits common to the M728. AFV Club has provided main gun breech details as well as bits for the tank commander's sighting scope plus additional interior detail (periscopes, etc.) found in the cupola of the real thing. Very cool!



The last assembly sequence involves the A-Frame Crane Boom and wench. With separate bits for couplers, pulleys, snatch blocks, and attachments points AFV Club hasn't scrimped on molded detail here either. Once assembled all that is left is to decide what shade of Olive Drab you wish to use and paint away.





It is worth noting that the decals are appropriately thin and go down without any fuss. As is customary with AFV Club kits, you get an 8 x 11 glossy Hollywood-type print of the box art that is suitable for framing.

There are a few fit issues with some parts (upper/lower turret halves, upper/lower hull bits) but nothing insurmountable. The pesky seam between the upper and lower hull pieces is engineered in such a way that it disappears after you attached the side fenders.



This M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle from AFV Club is a beautiful kit with loads of unexpected detail. If you want an M728 in your collection then building one won't get any easier than with this kit. The level of molded detail that AFV Club's M728 kit provides straight out of the box is enough to satisfy even the most demanding.





My sincere thanks to AFV Club and IPMS/USA for the review copy.

Support Your Local Hobby Shop!

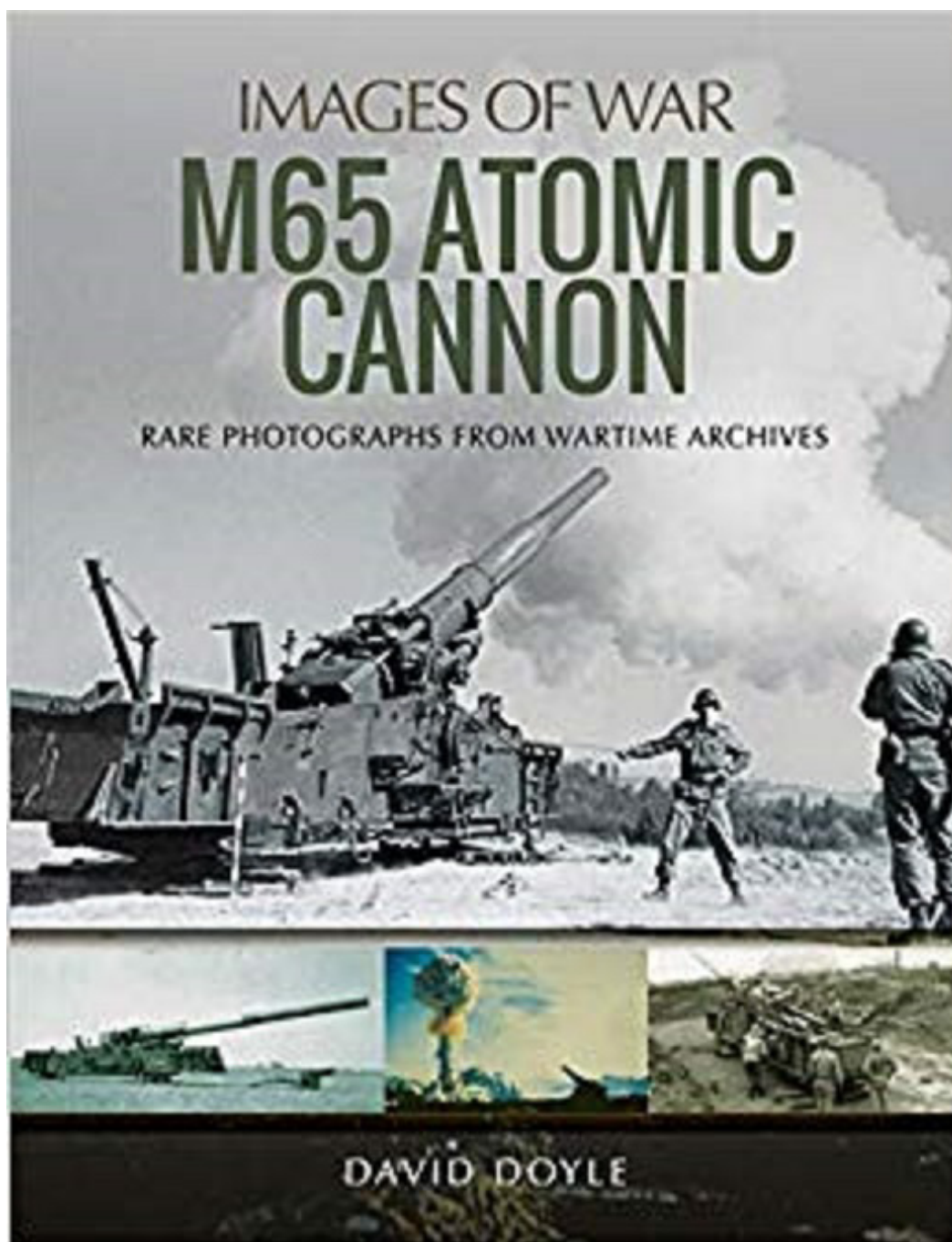
Ben





M65 Atomic Cannon

By Ben Morton



<https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/M65-Atomic-Cannon-Paperback/p/15680>

Pen and Sword has published another tome in David Doyle's Images of War series of books. This most recent volume covers the M65 Atomic Cannon. Should you be unaware of this series of books, David Doyle gathers together an immense number of rare and often times never before published photos on the selected subject. There are well written and informative captions for each and every photo.



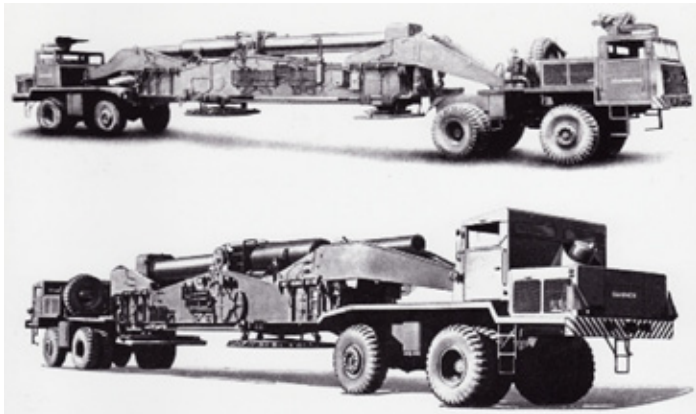
For those that may be unfamiliar with the M65 Atomic Cannon there is a vintage film, produced by the U.S. Army, that highlights the cannon and associated vehicles. If modeling the M65 is in your future this video may even give you a few ideas for displaying this enormous piece of artillery.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZ1Oi15044c>

Following a brief introductory chapter on the history of large caliber, long ranged artillery, David Doyle's M65 Atomic Cannon is divided into five chapters:

- T1 In Detail
- T10 Development
- M65 Development and Testing
- Atomic Cannon in Service
- Atomic Cannon in Detail

The introductory chapter covers the development concept of a large caliber weapon and its transport as well as some cool photos of some of the early contenders for the prime movers of what would later be called the T10.



The T1 chapter covers the main gun cradle and barrel. There are a number of photos in this section of the main gun cradle under construction. Owing to its size, fabrication and construction of the T1 was handled by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Pennsylvania. For a gun carriage over 84 feet and a 'dry' weight of 94,000 pounds, where else could you build it?

T10 was the designation for the doubled-ended, heavy lift transporter consisting of the prime movers and lifting forks. This chapter has a number

of photos of both the exterior and interior of the A (lead) truck and B (rear) truck as well some nice detail photos of the lifting forks for the gun carriage.

The chapter entitled 'M65 Development and Testing' contains an array of photos of the combined gun carriage and prime movers during field testing and gun crew familiarization trails. [Fun Fact: When the gun carriage was emplaced, it could be pivoted on its base by just five crew members. Although it does look like they are 'putting their backs into it'.]



The remaining two chapters cover the M65 in service and an exhaustive collection of walk-around type photos of an M65 on display at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.



All of this is followed by three appendices with some brief information on general data on the cannon and prime movers, battalions (units that fielded the M65), and an organizational chart of the M65 field artillery battery. [Fun Fact: An M 65 battery consisted of ten separate units plus the



cannon and prime movers. So not a small gathering of men and material.]

There are other portfolios on the Atomic Cannon, notably an offering from Tankograd. While that book offers an extraordinary amount of information about unit dispositions, organization, and deployments David Doyle's M65 Atomic Cannon with its plethora of photographs and informative captions, is by far and away a more satisfactory reference, particularly for the modeler.



I can't vouch for your copy but mine was signed by the author and included a bookmark. Let's hope that your copy is signed as well. However, you may have to get your own bookmark.



Thanks to David Doyle / Pen and Sword Publishing and IPMS/USA for the review copy.

Support Your Local Hobby Shop!

Ben



The Cotton Report:

PART ONE – The Fun Begins!

By Rick Cotton

If Say the name Zoukei Mura to the average person, and they will not have a clue. They might think it comes with rice, and soy sauce. They might think it fights Godzilla over the rights to destroy Tokyo. Or, they might think it races around a course, with Toyotas and Hondas in hot, smoking-tired, drifting pursuit.

Not so for the average Joe Modeler.

Zoukei Mura burst on the scene a few years ago, with super detailed kits, many of them in my beloved old-blind-guy 1/32 scale.

That wild, wacky-looking canard Shinden interceptor had me at first sight. And not only were the kits detailed, they were filled with detail. Interior parts and guts galore, all in a tight-fitting package, so that even excess paint might affect the fit. Spads, Phantoms, Raidens and others, all in excruciating detail that was beyond impressive.

Then they REALLY got my attention with a 1/32 Kawasaki Ki-45 Toryu "Nick" interceptor, in glorious 1/32 scale....oh, &^%\$ yes. I nearly sprained my hand reaching for that wallet and credit card. And I NEVER pay retail for a kit. Except this time. If ZM ever releases a Dinah, or Kate, or Jill, or Val, or Judy, I will probably hurt myself getting to my wallet.



The ginormous box is absolutely jam-packed with sprues, and many them are clear parts, should you decide to display all those lovely innards in a clear airframe. In fact, there are probably enough clear



parts for a near-complete second airframe! This is anathema to me, I dislike artificial means like that to open a model up. I plan on really opening the model up, by removing every hatch and access panel I can.

I plan on completely exposing one of the engines, with all cowling parts off. The beauty of all those clear external bits is that you get two chances to not screw it up royally while cutting hatches and compartments open. Spare parts are a great thing.

The kit's plastic is somewhat soft, much like a Trumpeter kit, so don't go all samurai on it when cutting and trimming. Take your time.

The instruction book (notice I did not say "booklet" or "pamphlet", or "sheet") is printed in color, on high-quality paper, and is VERY extensive. There are TWO options available in the kit, and you need to choose before starting which one you will build. For me, it was easy – that green-splotched beauty with the white Home Defense bands is the aircraft equivalent of Sofia Vergara – lovely, exotic, very, very dangerous, with big twin... engines. Mmmm...



Decals are very nicely printed, in perfect register, and sharp detail. There is also a set of included canopy masks! Those of you who balk at the price might want to reconsider, because you do indeed get quite the "bang for your buck"!

Construction starts with the engines, and here you must choose right away which plane you are doing. You must also carefully note in the instructions which side of the plane the engine you are building is on... left and right are NOT identical.



The instructions cover the engines for a whopping eleven pages, so that should tell you how intense this part of the build is, but if you follow the book, and do not deviate from it... for an instant... you will eventually get there. It's real Zen modelling – do not hurry.

Here are the basic parts for the starboard (that's RIGHT) engine. Fit is very good, with only minor trimming and filling. ZM even molds the pistons inside one half of the engine, should you elect to make the engine interior visible – that's a little over the top, even for me. I drilled out the spark plugs, and a few other items in preparation for wiring the engine. The cylinders were sprayed flat black, then heavily drybrushed with some metallic silver. Pushrods were painted black, and other bits dark gray. A large collar of some sort (I have absolutely no idea what it is) was painted metallic copper per the instructions and detailed out with an aluminum paint color. Once dry, everything went together easily, and I then wired the engine with some very fine solder wire. This all attaches to a firewall, and a mounting truss, an exhaust system, and a few other bits and



pieces for good measure. There! Rinse and repeat for the port (LEFT) side.

The 3-part exhaust system fits very well, and with some serious drybrushing, it looks the heat-rusted part.



Once the engines are assembled, we quickly congratulate ourselves, breathe a while, and move on to the next area of focus – the front office.

ZM supports the entire airframe with a single large central wing spar, and the cockpit floor and all associated items attach directly to it. Fit is good and tight, and things “click” into place. A large fuel tank sits under that floor, but is barely seen once framed in, so don’t fuss with it a lot. That is true for many of the items, so any maintenance hatches you can cut open will help show it all off.

The detail here is very good, with plumbing and other items sharply molded. A bit of careful detail



painting here goes a very long way. The foot pedal assembly attaches positively – not much guesswork – and mine got appropriate dirt, grease, scratches and wear. Numerous control levers go in next and each got an appropriate-colored knob. ZM’s instructions... thoughtfully... have many color photos of partial subassemblies.

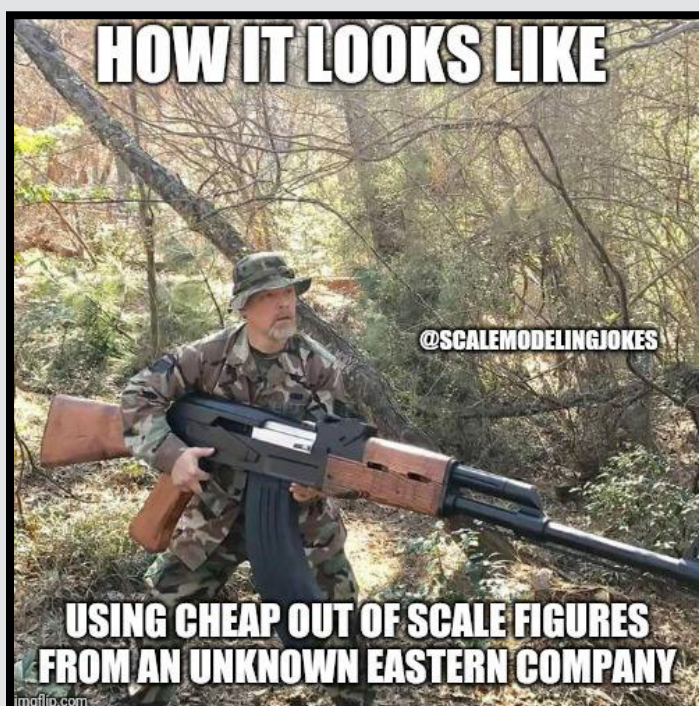
It’s worth noting here that I could not find a stock interior green color I was happy with, so after studying the Smithsonian example’s interior online, I mixed one up from Tamiya acrylics – a definite yellowish-olive hint to it. I think it’s a good match for what little paint survives inside the Smithsonian Nick. Your mileage may vary. Japanese aircraft interior colors are as much a source of debate as the Kennedy assassination, so prove me wrong. I dare you!

Wow...so far, this kit is a Mercedes in a lot full of Yugos, and I am having a blast!

Rick



Editor’s note: As Rick builds the Nick he will be sending us installments on his progress. Thanks for sharing Rick!





On The

TABLE

By **Flanged End Yoke**

Last month's tables were full of models both completed and in progress.

Ben Morton was busy last month. Ben is a big fan of the Fallout Four video game and created a mostly scratch built 1/87 scale Fallout Four Raider Camp.



Ben also brought in the subject of one of the articles in this month's Sprue Examiner, his 1/35th scale M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle by AFV.



Ben also brought in a Revell kit of a Stearman Aerobatic B-plane in 1/48th scale.



Last up in Ben's eclectic collection is a Lowboy trailer by AMT/Ertl in 1/25th scale.



Bob Bethea brought in several of his completed projects. The first was a 90mm Andrea USMC Marine. This figure was used in one of the classes that Bob teaches for Andrea.

Bob brought in another Andrea offering a 54mm cowboy. Bob added a moustache and re-sculpted the hat on the figure.





Bob also shared his M31 Armored Recovery Vehicle with the group.



Alex Gashev brought in his completed Dragon M4A3 in 1/35th.



Alex also brought in an in-progress Trumpeter KV1.



Mike Lamm usually brings in at least two projects he's been working on and this month was no exception. Mike brought in his Academy 1/72nd Me-109E.



Mike also brought in an Emhar Whippet in 1/35th scale, a Hasegawa Churchill Mark 1 and a Platz 1144th scale Tornado in Gulf War colors.





Mike Poole, our resident car modelling expert brought in something completely different, a ship model. Mike brought the recently released Flyhawk 1/700th scale model of the Bismarck.



Milton Bell continues his 1-72nd scale building with F-86F by Airfix.



Rick Herrington brought in a completed Tactical Armor suit in 1/35th scale modelled from the anime series Gasaraki. This one was the Shinden version.



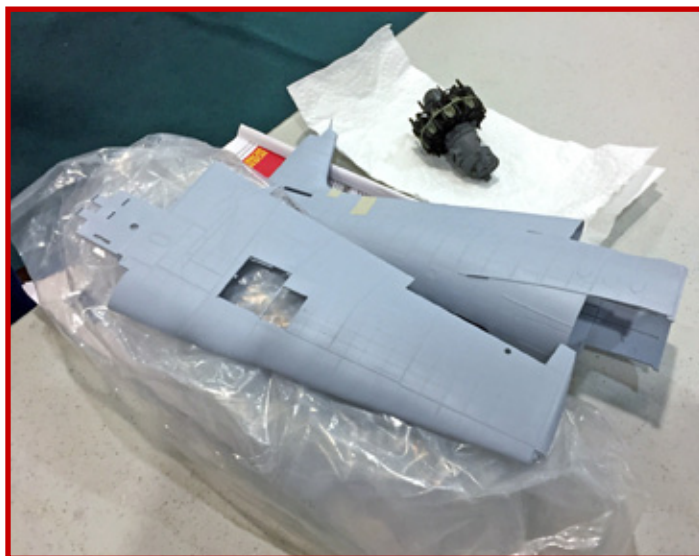
Ron McCracken shared with us his completed Special Hobby B-18 in 1-72nd scale.



Brandon Wood brought in a fine example of aircraft modelling in his 1-48th scale F4-U1 by Tamiya.



Mike Krizan shared with us his in progress Airfix 1/24th F6F.





Dave Edgerly was the big winner this month. Dave brought in several completed projects from Saturn 5 rockets to U-2 spy planes. Dave's AMT 1/200th scale Man in Space was a group of missiles used to reach out into space and to the moon.



Dave also had time to knock out a 1/48th FJ-3 Fury.



...and a 1/35th Scammell by Thunder Models.



... and the Model of the Month winner, his AFV U-2 spy plane.



The remainder of the meeting was taken up by Bob Bethea's presentation on using sand based grout as a diorama base.



Bob showed us how easy it is to work with the grout to form bases for tanks or figures.

Thanks to everyone that shared their work.

Flanged





OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Ron McCracken, Mike Lamm

Shipping News

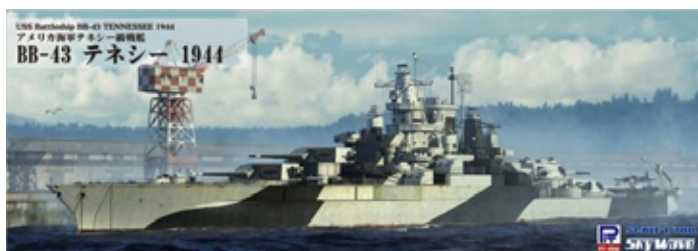
By Rick Herrington

Good news this month for ship model enthusiasts. Lots of new releases.

1/700th scale is up first. Pit Road has a couple of US fast battleships for us. First up is BB-46 USS Maryland.



Next up from Pit Road is BB-43 USS Tennessee.



Aoshima has two support ships for us. The first is an IJN Repair Ship Akashi.



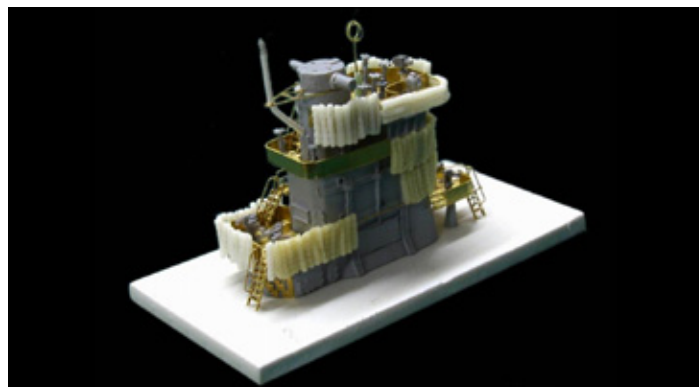
The second is the IJN Gun Boat Hashidate.



Fairy Kikaku is releasing a kit of the USS George Elliot (1942). George Elliot was an American troop ship sunk off Guadalcanal by Japanese planes.



Ocean Spirit is a new kid on the block manufacturing photo etch detailing sets in 1/700th. They have a nice detailing set for the bridge of the IJN carrier Akagi that includes resin sand bags.



If you want to spend more time detailing your 40mm AA mounts on your USN ships they have a set of twin 40mm mounts that's just for you.





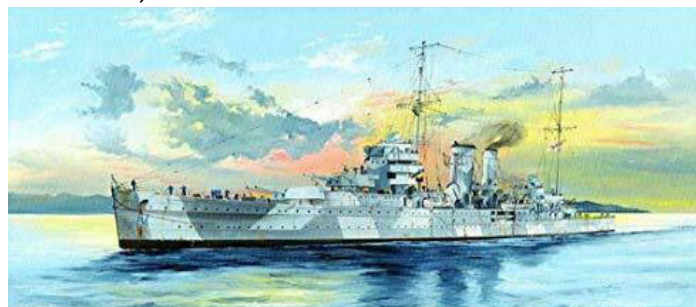
Finally from Ocean Spirit is some crew for your 1-700th scale ships.



Next up is 1/350th scale. VeryFire is releasing the USN Heavy Cruiser CA-139 Salem. Salem was the world's last heavy cruiser.



Trumpeter has three British and one Italian ships for us. The three British cruisers (Hurray!) are HMS York,



... HMS Kent



... and HMS Cornwall. Thank you Trumpeter!



The Italian release is the Battleship Littorio.



Atlantis continues to release Revell's old box scale ships. In this case it's the 1/480th scale USN Heavy Cruiser Pittsburgh CA-72. The Pittsburgh had her bow torn off by a typhoon which had 100 foot waves. Pittsburgh survived to be repaired and soldier on.





Revell is releasing another U-boat in 1/72nd scale. This time it's a Type IXC.

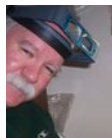


Last up in house-buster scale 1/200th is Trumpeter's release of the aircraft carrier Yorktown.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit out of that stash and build it. It's too hot to be outside.

Ricardo

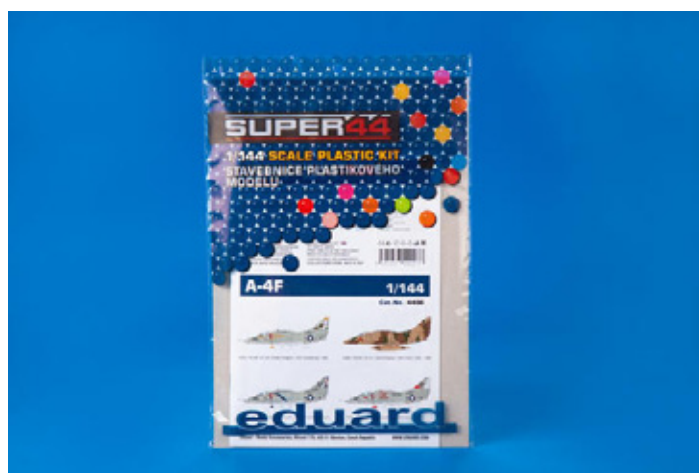


New and In View Aircraft

By Ron McCracken

1/144 Scale:

Eduard Super 44 edition kit of US jet aircraft A-4F in 1/144 scale. Kit plastic is Platz, four decal options by Eduard, and painting masks.



Platz has announced a new-mold F-5E/N for August release.





1/72 Scale:

Modelsvit has announced a Bellanca CH-300 Pacemaker, putting it in direct competition with Dora Wings (whose similar product was previously announced in this column) for the market for this relatively rare civil light aircraft. Too bad they didn't do it in 1/48th!



Modelsvit/Sova-Model/Amodel has announced a Gulfstream G-550 Shavit, a variation on their earlier G-550 C-37B kit. There are now at least three variations of the G-550 available from this company.



Zvesda has announced a Ka-27PS Helix D rescue helicopter.



1/48th Scale:

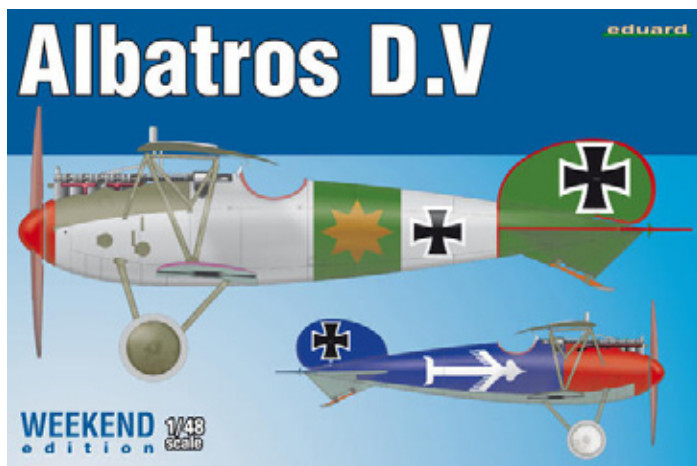
Eduard is releasing a Limited Edition kit of Soviet Cold War jet aircraft MiG-21bis. Plastic parts are Eduard, 7 decal options from Cartograf, color photo-etch parts, painting masks, and resin Under-carriage wheels, dorsal antenna.



Eduard is releasing a Limited Edition kit of US WWII fighter aircraft P-51D. The kit is focused on P-51D-5s with a fin fillet. Eduard plastic, 6 decal options from Cartograf, color photo-etch, and painting masks.



Eduard has announced a Weekend edition kit of German WWI fighter aircraft Albatros D.V in 1/48 scale. Eduard plastic and two decal options.





Hasegawa is re-releasing their F-4B/N kit with Midway Bicentennial markings. The F-4B was the original production fleet defense interceptor version of the F-4. The “J” was basically a “B” with updated avionics.



Kitty Hawk has announced an upcoming new mold FJ-2 Fury. I had originally announced this release back in April, and in the immortal words of Bullwinkle Moose, “This time for sure!!!”



Hasegawa has announced a re-release of their Hurricane Mk.IIC, which hasn't been available for several years, so I'm calling it “new”. This is an early, cannon-armed version of the “Hurry” and reviews from the first release indicate a high quality kit.



Kitty Hawk is releasing an updated Su-35 Flanker E Chinese PLAAF version 2.0, a rebox of a 2017 vintage kit with some new parts added this year.



Hasegawa has announced a re-box, with new decals, of their T-4 as the “T-4 Air Park 20th Anniversary” version. The markings are certainly unique, but there's nothing new about the kit itself.



Hobby Boss has announced a Yak-28PP Brewer E and some outlets are accepting advance orders. The 28PP is a stand-off ECM jammer version of the Brewer.





1/35th Scale:

Kitty Hawk has announced for pre-order a new molds kit of the Sikorsky MH-60G/HH-60G Pave Hawk. It is a derivative of the UH-60 Black Hawk and incorporates the US Air Force PAVE electronic systems program.



1/32nd Scale:

Kitty Hawk has announced a new-molds Mirage 2000C.



1/10th Scale

Available for pre-order from Atlantis is an Allison prop-jet engine. Original Revell tooling and reverted back to its original 4 color mold process. Kit comes with 2 color 8 page instructions, educational booklet, updated decals, and molded in Black, Silver, Blue and Orange. Should be shipping in about 5 weeks.



Ron



Thanks for the keys, Dad. I'll have her back by midnight.





Tracked Topics

By Panzer Pete

Some new releases in small scale so let's start with 1/72nd.

ModelCollect, that iffy manufacturer from Cathay has both of the new releases. First up is a German WhatIf E-50 with anti-air armor and night vision equipment.

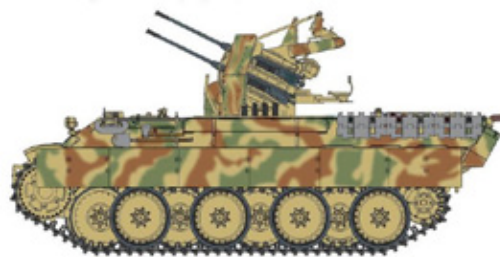


Next from them is a Soviet MT-LB-6MB. The MT-LB was first produced by the Russians in the 50's. Since then it has soldiered on under many flags and continues to do so for the Russians. Looks like the Ruskies have added a BTR-80 turret to it now.



On to 1/35th scale.

First up is Dragon with several new releases. The first is a FlakPanther Auf D. Not sure if any of these were built or ever saw combat.



One that did see combat is their new release of a Jagdpanzer 4 L-70. This is a welcome release as Tamiya's is long in the tooth.



AFV is gracing us with a newly tooled Centurion Mark 3. This is the version used in the Korean War.





AFV also has a US M54A2 ton Cargo truck coming our way. This one would be perfect to add to a Vietnam scene.



ICM has two for us this month. The first is a set of German off road cars. The set will keep you busy for a while as it includes three full German soft-skins in the kit. The vehicles included are a KFZ-1, L-1500A (KFZ-70) and a Horch 108 Type 40. Since most ICM kits contain eleven-billion parts this build might carry you through Fall.



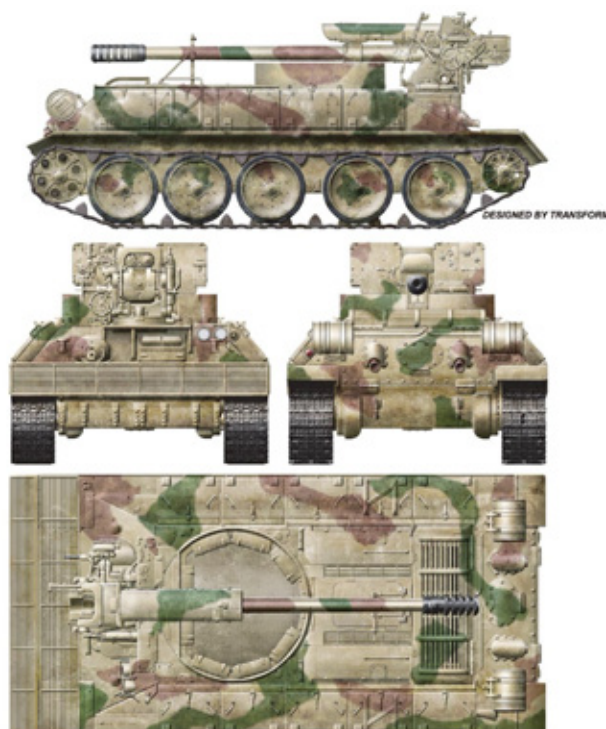
Next up from ICM is a Russian transport, a Zil-131 KSHM. Introduced in 1966 this is one of Russia's work horses.



Not to be left out of the M3 Lee tsunami that's hit modelers ICM has their own release.



Rye Field Models is up with two new releases. The first is an Egyptian/Syrian T-34 with a D-30 122mm howitzer mounted on it.





The second is an M1A1 Desert Storm Edition (1991). This is not the only RFM M1 release. Google it and you'll find at least three more.



Tamiya has a new late production Hummel self-propelled gun for us.



Tiger Model is releasing a French AML-90.



Trumpeter has a Russian KV-9 for us. Looks like one prototype was built of this one.



Moving to 1/48 Tamiya has a set of Luftwaffe crew complete with a Kettenkrad.



Last up in shelf-buster scale Trumpeter is releasing a 1/16th M-16 US half-track.



That's it for this month. Stay out of the heat and build a model!

Pete





It Figures

Michael Lamm

Welcome to the August edition of It Figures. We've got some hot new releases for, hopefully, the end of the hot summer months.

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

From Russia, Stalingrad miniatures offers one to three sets of six German figures in 1/35th. I say one to three, because the entire group of six figures can be bought as a group in one set, or as pairs in three separate sets, depending on your modeling needs. The full six figures are labeled as a Nashorn crew with dispatch rider, and features 6 very nicely detailed resin figures and one horse for the dispatch rider. The figures are dressed in cold weather gear, and posed in very realistic poses.



I think there are a number of vehicles they could go with, in addition to the Nashorn. Although, Tamiya's newest release of the Nashorn includes a very nicely detailed crew, these figures would make a great addition, or they'd go nicely with any one of the other manufacturers kits too, even Tamiya's original Nashorn kit.



<https://www.foundminiatures.com/home>

Next up from the Italian studio of Daniel Found, is a small resin bust in 58mm scale of Pinocchio. The little toy that became a boy is posed on his creator, Geppetto's, left shoulder, with Figaro the cat posed on the other shoulder playfully reaching for Jiminy Cricket. It's a really amazing looking bust, from a very talented artist.





<https://www.facebook.com/groups/avanpost.miniatures/>

Avanpost Miniatures brings us the first in their new line of 75mm figures from the Napoleonic wars. This French Line Infantry Fusilier looks great with fine detailing and some interesting additions to his gear to clearly show him foraging his way across Europe, which was very common to Napoleon's troops. He carries a handful of apples and has spilled one onto the base, on his back he even carries a pair of wooden shoes. By the looks of him, this is early in one of Napoleon's campaigns, since his uniform is complete and not ragged and torn.



<http://www.troop54.co.uk/>

Troop54 has a couple cool new miniatures, both featuring subjects from conflicts in two British colonial possessions on opposite sides of the globe. The first features a British Officer from the 2nd Punjab cavalry, Probyn's Horse, during the Indian mutiny of 1857. This 54mm resin and lead foil/wire figure is posed upon a charging horse leaning into an attack with his sabre. The horse is charging and posed on one leg, which looks like a lot of weight to pose on one resin leg. Troop54 has taken this into account and the weight bearing leg has a brass rod cast into the leg and body for added stability and balance. Still, I imagine, you'll need considerable care when handling this one for painting.



Troop54's next figure is of a Native American during the French and Indian Wars. This time, he's posed in a tree holding what appears to be either a Kentucky Flint Lock, or a "trade musket". Either one would have been very common during the Wars, and common to Natives fighting for the



French or the British. If you need inspiration for painting this one, give Daniel Day Lewis' "Last of the Mohicans" another look, like we need a reason to watch that classic!



<https://dolmanminiatures.com/>

Dolman Miniatures brings us three new busts available in 1/10th scale, with these first 2 busts available in 1/12th as well. First up, is "Wolf Girl"



and anyone who has seen a very popular HBO fantasy series featuring dragons, and zombies, and full-frontal nudity, will recognize this figure as one of the main characters from said series. I guess there would be some copyright concerns with naming this figure after who it appears to be modeled after, but regardless of the copyright issues, it looks like a very nicely detailed figure.

Next up, is one we can talk about more openly. This time, the bust features Colonel Hal Moore, who as a Lieutenant Colonel, led the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in the Battle of Ia Drang. The battle of Ia Drang is notable for being the first large scale helicopter air assault and the first use of B-52's in a tactical support role. This battle was the focus of the movie "We Were Soldiers" with Mel Gibson playing Hal Moore. Getting back to the bust, it features Hal Moore as a colonel; however, at the time of the Battle of Ia Drang, he was a Lieutenant Colonel. Moore was promoted to Colonel immediately following the battle.



Finally, Dolman Miniatures has released a bust of a Klingon. Not just any version of a Klingon, but one of the more controversial versions of a Klingon in the world of Trekkie drama. The version of the Klingon featured in this bust appears to be a Klingon from Season 1 of the new Star Trek series, Star Trek: Discovery. The Discovery Klingons were bald and pale, and didn't resemble any Klingons from series past, and were closer to the Klingons in the 2009 Star Trek movie, which were not popular with Star Trek fans.



In Season 2, Star Trek: Discovery “ret-conned” the reason for the different appearance of the first season to a genetic condition. In Season 2, the Klingons look like the more popular version with long hair instead of being completely bald and pale. Regardless of your opinion on what an actual Klingon looks like, this bust is well done and very nicely detailed.



<http://altores.com/>

From Altores Studio, we have The Old Warrior. This is a resin figure in 75mm scale, done by Sculptor Alexander Deryabin. This one features a lot of nice details, including his chainmail shirt and long beard and hair with lots of potential for some detailed painting. Although, he maybe doesn't look that “old”.



Editors note:
Here are some additional figure stuff I ran across on the World Wide Oracle.

MiniArt known for their timely figure releases is releasing a welcome 1/35th Middle East Tank Crew. These would go great posed with a Syrian T-72.



Last up Hornet has released another set of heads in 1/35th. These are a must for modelers that build 35th figures. This set is US WW2 tankers in their leather football helmets.



So, what are you waiting for? Go build a model and add a figure to it. You won't regret it!

Mike



King's Hobby

Modeling With You
Since 1973

Something for Everyone!

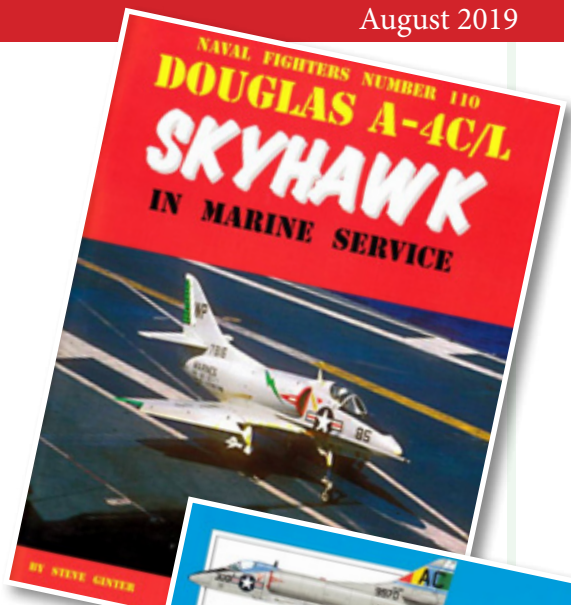
Photo-etched Parts Bender

Photo-etched Parts Bender

MTS-038



U.S. MAIN BATTLE TANK
M1A2 SEP ABRAMS TUSK I/ TUSK II 2 IN 1
M1A2 SEP エイブラムス TUSK I/TUSK II w/フルインテリア
美国主战坦克M1A2 艾布兰坦克 TUSK I/TUSK II 2合1



8810 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
(512) 836-7388

kinginfo@kingshobbyshop.com
<http://www.kingshobbyshop.com>



2019 AMPS CENTEX Armor Expo

September 14th, 2019

Georgetown Community Center

445 E. Morrow Street, Georgetown, TX 78626

An AMPS Regional Show

Show Theme: Artillery - King of the Battlefield

Location

Georgetown Community Center
445 E. Morrow Street, Georgetown TX 78626



Austin Armor
Builders Society (AABS)
In Association With
Armor Modeling &
Preservation Society (AMPS)
Presents



2019 AMPS CENTEX Armor Expo September 14th, 2019

An AMPS Regional Show

Event Schedule

0700-0900	Vendor setup
0900	Doors open to public and model registration
1230	Model registration closes
1630	Awards presentation

Fees

Senior (≥18): \$10 for first entry, \$3 per additional entry.

Junior (≤17): \$5 for first entry, \$2 per additional entry.

General admission: \$5 per person. **Children 12 or under free.**

Vendor Table (8ft): \$30.00 each

Each vendor is required to donate one item to the Door Prize table.

Question?

Please contact show coordinator Eric Choy

Phone: (512) 554-9595

Email: aabsco@gmail.com



Show Theme "Artillery - King of the Battlefield"

Any towed, emplaced, or self propelled weapon that lays **INDIRECT FIRE** (i.e. shell, rocket(s), or missile(s) delivered at a target which cannot be seen by the aimer) is eligible for the show theme award.



Join International Plastic Modeler's Society / USA

IPMS/USA is dedicated to the hobby (and fun) of Scale Modeling. It was started by Jim Sage, of Dallas, Texas, in 1964. There are now branches of IPMS all over the world. Our Local Regions and Chapters sponsor Model shows and contests every year, but you needn't be a member to visit the shows or attend the club meetings!

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.

Visit us at: <http://www.ipmsusa.org/>

Join up online at: <http://www.shopipmsusa.org/category-s/100.htm>

For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager at manager@ipmsusa.org

Applications using payment via Check or Money Order should be printed and mailed to:
IPMS/USA PO Box 56023 St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023

IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM			
IPMS No.:	Name: _____		
Address: _____	If Renewing	First	Middle Last
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	E-mail: _____		
Signature (required by P.O.) _____			
Type of Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 1 Year: \$30 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 2 Years: \$58 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 3 Years: \$86 <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 <input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Canada & Mexico: \$35 <input type="checkbox"/> Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order		
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order			
Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____			
If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:			
Name: _____		IPMS No.: _____	
IPMS/USA		PO Box 56023	
Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org		St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023	

http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms_application_form_2016.pdf