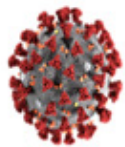
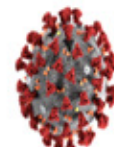


SPRUE EXAMINER



Life in the time of Corona The Social Distancing Issue



MODELSVIT
Messerschmitt Bf.109 C-3

МАСШТАБ
SCALE
1:48
CAT.NO 4805

ЗЕРНА МОДЕЛЬ / ЛІМІТОВАНИЙ ВИПУСК
PLASTIC MODEL KIT / LIMITED EDITION

РОЗМІР
SPAN
205 mm

ДОВЖИНА
LENGTH
178 mm

ДЕТАЛЕЙ
PARTS
117 pcs

• DECAL SHEET
• ADHESIVE MASKS

*My Lifelong Struggle to Build a
Flying Tiger
by Dave Bottger*

Modelsvit 1/48th ME-109C-3 an In-Box Review by Dave Edgerly

austinsms.com



April 2020

The Cotton Report • What's UP? • Old Rumors & New Kits

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



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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



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.



Prez Soapbox 4-2020

PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

Greetings All!

BY IAN LATHAM



Wow, I sure do miss everyone. Now don't get me wrong, hanging out with all my kits everyday is like heaven and I'm actually getting through some builds, but when the questions I'm asking myself are no longer rhetorical, I start to get worried.

A shout out to Bill for getting a Zoom account and getting the first ASMS digital meeting together last Sunday. Granted he and I were the only ones on it but I think this could be a wonderful way to keep connected during this pandemic. I encourage all of you to reach out to Bill and sign in to the next meeting which will be scheduled on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 - 4:30 PM. It's a good way to share the kits we are working on and if things keep up like this for a while then maybe May's meeting will be held this way. It's free for you to join in on a meeting and we can all share the progress on our Apocalypse Beards.

As for upcoming shows, as far as I have been told we are still holding the Nat's here in San Marcos in late Summer. They will need our ASMS to be at the airport as a greeting team to help guide travelers to the shuttle buses. We will be needing 2 people per shift Thursday and Friday from noon until 8ish. Also, Len is including all ASMS volunteer time towards the splitting of the purse after the Nats are over. Please contact me for volunteering and let's make sure ASMS is there to 'Represent'.

That's it for this month, I hope to see all of you soon, maybe on Zoom!

Ian

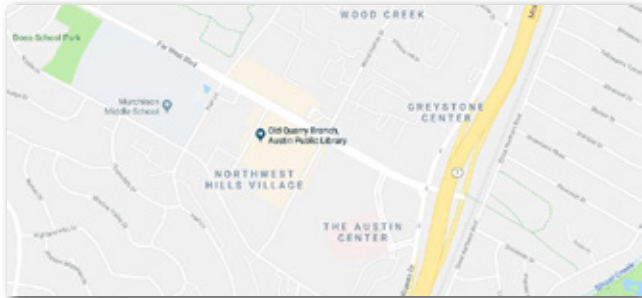




HOUSE CLEANING



ASMS MEETING



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

***Meetings have been suspended until
the Austin Public Library System
re-opens***



***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.***



Events

Suspended until further notice.

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.

Club Quarterly Contests

**Suspended
or
postponed
until further
notice**

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

**Suspended until
the resumption of
club meetings.**



Modelsvit 1/48 ME-109C3 - An In Box Review by Dave Edgerly

We have seen no end to the late models of the Augsburg Eagle but very little in the way of the early versions done to modern standards. The early Junkers Jumo powered version do have a certain appeal.

The pre-war 109's were in that (to me, anyways) attractive splinter camo scheme and early on had the red banded tail with the party symbol in a white circle.

On to looking in the box-

Those of you who might have built a Dora Wings kit will find the layout of parts and quality of the plastic very familiar. Not a bad thing at all, by the way.

Messerschmitt Bf.109 C-3

КАТ. № 4805

МАСШТАБ SCALE 1/48

РОЗМІХ КРИЛА \ SPAN: 205 мм \ mm
 ДОВЖИНА \ LENGTH: 178 мм \ mm
 КІЛЬКІСТЬ ДЕТАЛЕЙ \ PARTS: 117 шт \ pieces

ЗБІРНА МОДЕЛЬ \ ЛІМІТОВАНИЙ ВИПУСК
 PLASTIC MODEL KIT \ LIMITED EDITION

UA Bf-109C-3 - серійна модифікація відомого винищувача часів Другої світової війни. Збудований на Баварському авіаційному заводі (BFW) під керівництвом Вілья Месершмітта. Перший політ Me-109V-1 здійснив 28 травня 1935 року. До серійного виробництва Bf-109C-3 потрапив навесні 1938-го року. Знаходився на озброєнні Німеччини.
 Технічні характеристики: Цілковито-металевий моноплан: Двигун - Jumo 210Ga 477 кВт (640 к.с.); Озброєння - 2хMG 17 кал. 7,92, 2хMG-FF кал. 20мм; Максимальна швидкість - 465 км/г на 4000 м; Практична стеля - 9000м; Дальність польоту - 450км; Розмах крил - 9,90м; Довжина - 8,70м; Висота - 2,45м.

EN Bf-109C-3 was the production modification of the famous WWII fighter. It was constructed by Willy Messerschmitt at the Bayerische Flugzeugwerke AG in Augsburg. First flight of Me-109V-1 took place in 28.05.1935. Bf-109C-3 went into production in spring of 1938. The airplane was used in the Luftwaffe.
 Performances: All-metal monoplane; Engine - Jumo 210Ga 477 kW (640 h.p.); Armament - 2xMG 17 cal. 7,92, 2xMG-FF cal. 20mm; Speed - 465 kph/4000m; Service ceiling - 9000m; Range - 450km; Wingspan - 9,90m; Length - 8,70m; Height - 2,45m.

НЕОБХІДНІ ФАРБИ \ REQUIRED PAINTS

A Mr.Color C60 AK RC265 RLM 02 Grau	B Mr.Color C62 AK RC004 RLM 21 Weiss	C Mr.Color C115 AK RC271 RLM 65 Hellblau	D Mr.Color C18 AK RC274 RLM 70 Schwarzgrun	E Mr.Color C6 AK RC012 Green	F Mr.Color C114 AK RC006 RLM23 Red	G Mr.Color C17 AK RC275 RLM 71 Dunkelgrun
H Mr.Met.Color MC218 AK RC020 Aluminium	I Mr.Met.Color MC214 AK RC015 Gun Metal	K Mr.Color C33 AK RC001 Flat Black	L Mr.Color C137 AK RC022 Rubber Black	M Mr.Met.Color MC213 AK Inter. AKI476 Steel	N Mr.Color C116 AK RC273 RLM 66 Black Gray	O Mr.Met.Color MC211 AK Inter. AKI477 Chrom Silver
P Mr.Color C45 AK RC046 Ivory	R Mr.Color C132 AK RC084 Sand	S Mr.Color C61 AK Inter. AKI484 Burnt Iron	T Mr.Color C48 AK RC007 Yellow	J Mr.Color C41 AK RC067 Red Brown		

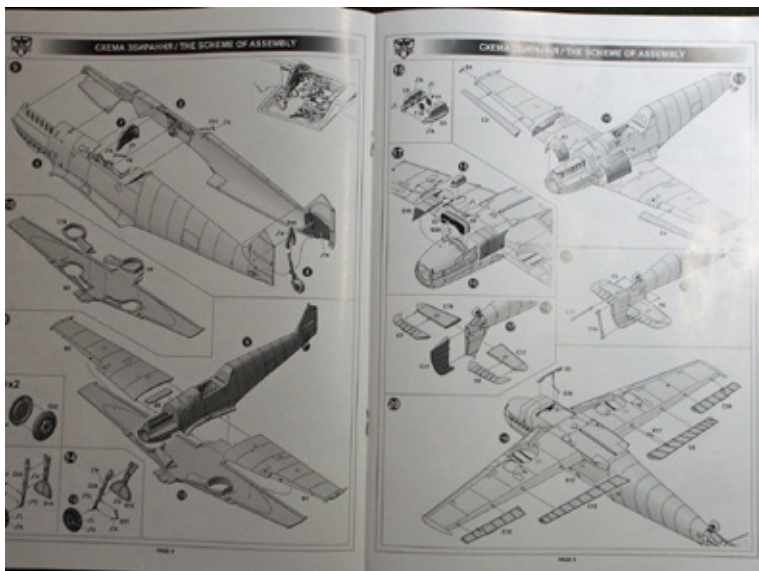
УМОВНІ СИМВОЛИ \ USED SYMBOLS

1 ЕТАПИ ЗБИРАННЯ STAGES OF ASSEMBLY	A1 НОМЕР ДЕТАЛІ PART NUMBER	1 ОКРЕМІ ДЕТАЛІ SEPARATE DETAILS	1 НАКЛЕЙТИ ДЕКАЛИ APPLY THE DECALS	1 НАКЛЕЙТИ МАСКУ APPLY THE ADHESIVE MASK	? НА ВИБІР OPTIONAL
A ВАРИАНТИ ДЛЯ ЗБИРАННЯ VARIANTS OF ASSEMBLY	PS КЛЕЙТИ НА СУПЕРКЛЕЙ GLUE ON "SUPER GLUE"	X НЕ КЛЕЙТИ DON'T GLUE	Pencil ЗРОБИТИ ОТВІР MAKE A HOLE	Knife ВІДРІЗАТИ НОЖЕМ DETACH WITH KNIFE	A ФАРБУВАТИ TO PAINT

Модель вироблена за технологією «short run» і призначена для досвідчених моделістів

This model is produced using short run technology, designed for experienced modelers

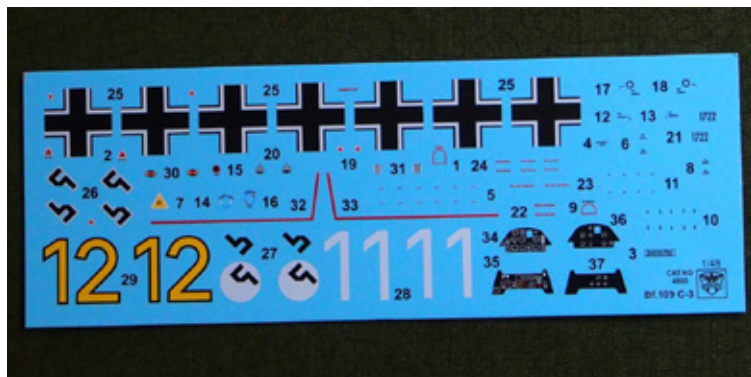
The instruction sheet is a glossy standard size booklet with excellent color call outs and location drawings. Very easy to follow. The Ukrainian companies have really stepped up their game, for sure.



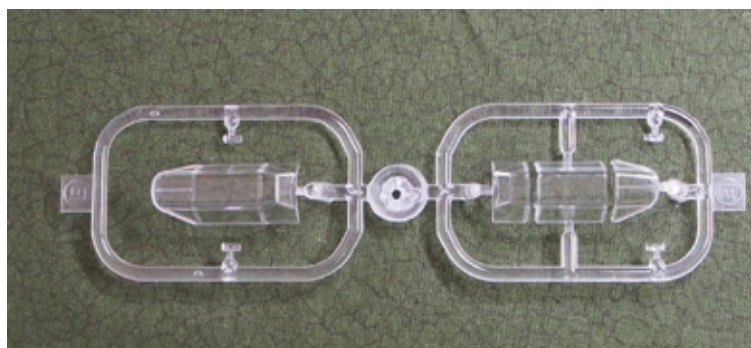
This kit has only two marking options but each has two tail marking varieties.



I chose Yellow 12 with the red band. The Decals are pretty thorough and you'll notice the two instrument panel decals, I'm sure. The decals are matt finish, which may make some of you nervous from past experiences with matt decals but have no fear, they behave nicely and look good on the model.



Now on to the part trees:



The clear sprue! Very nice with two options and the wing tip lights. They all fit well, by the way.

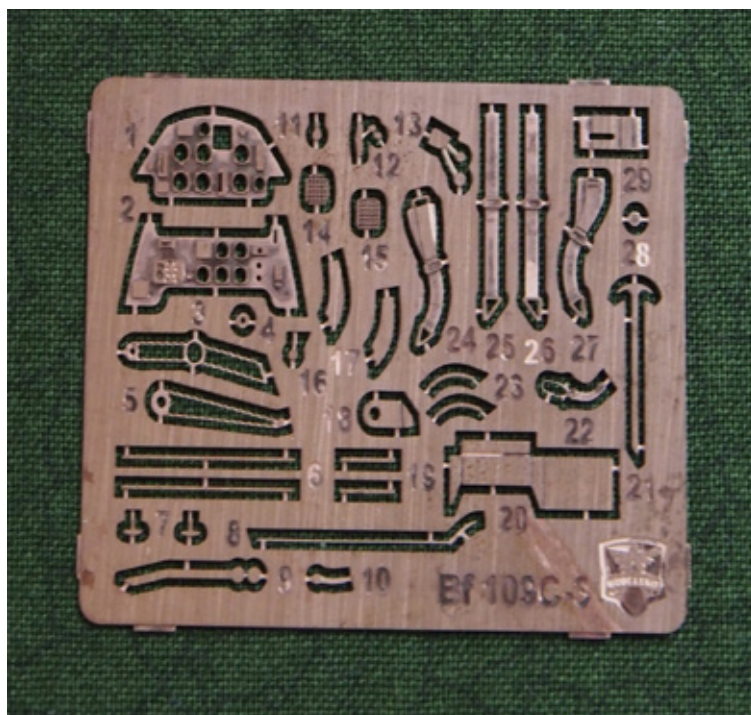
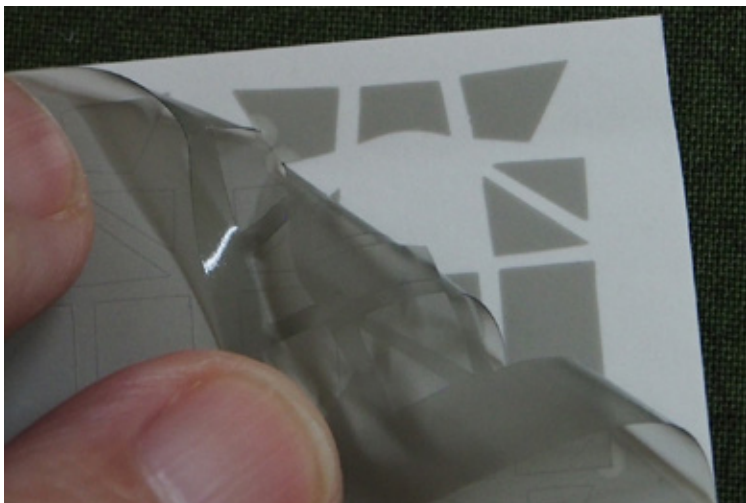
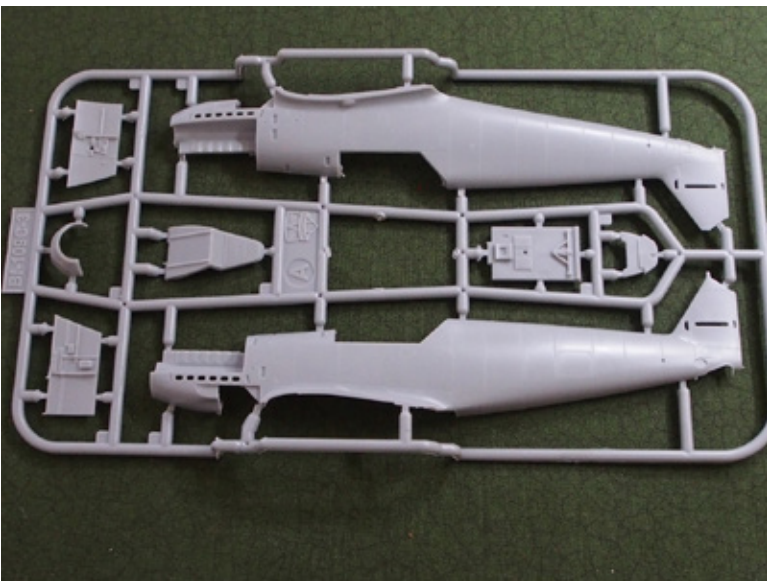




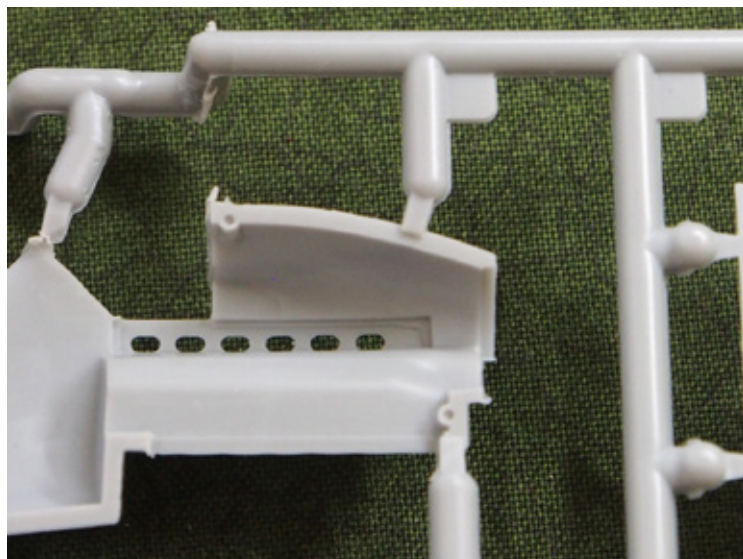
Photo etch fret is pretty nice. Most of the parts are for the cockpit. It is of copper and pretty fragile. When one is as clumsy as I am, brass or stainless is a better option. I left most of the PE off the kit because I bent them to unrecognizable blobs of copper. I know that most of you are a bit more careful than I am. The parts do look very nice.



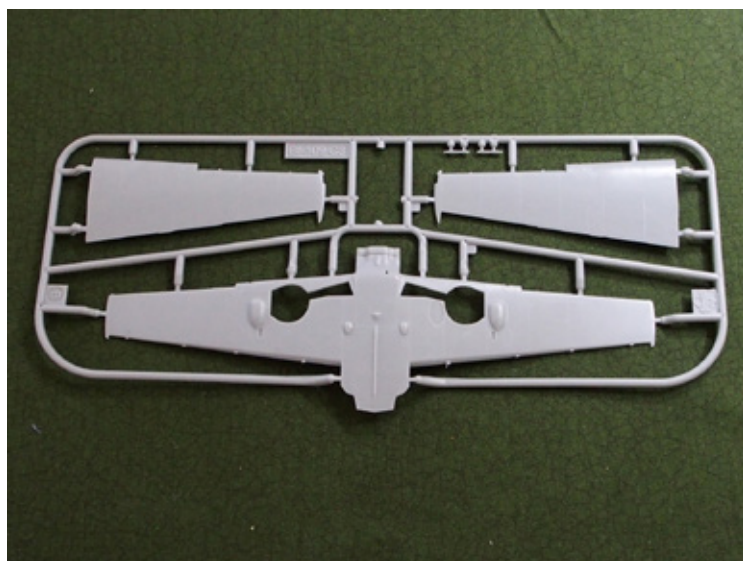
Here are the die cut masks. They fit well, are easy to use and cover both canopy options and the wheels. Nice, indeed.



The Fuselage and cockpit stuff. Note the basic Jumo block. I don't have a Hi-Res camera to show off the beautiful panel detail. It is fine and consistent throughout the kit.

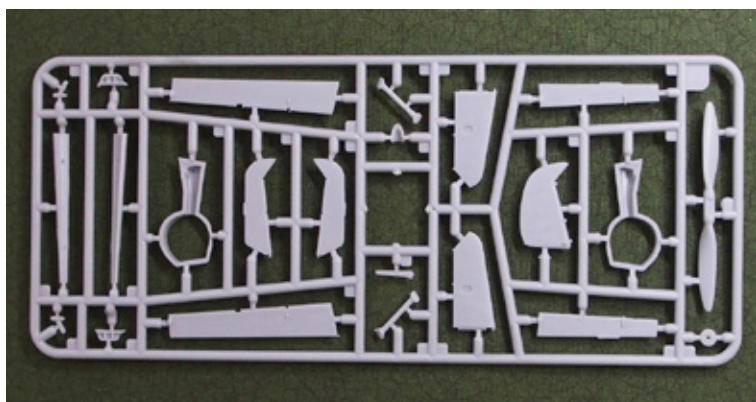


Here you can see the attachment manner which isn't too shabby at all. You'll notice that there is a bit of flash. This is throughout the kit but it is an easy clean up.

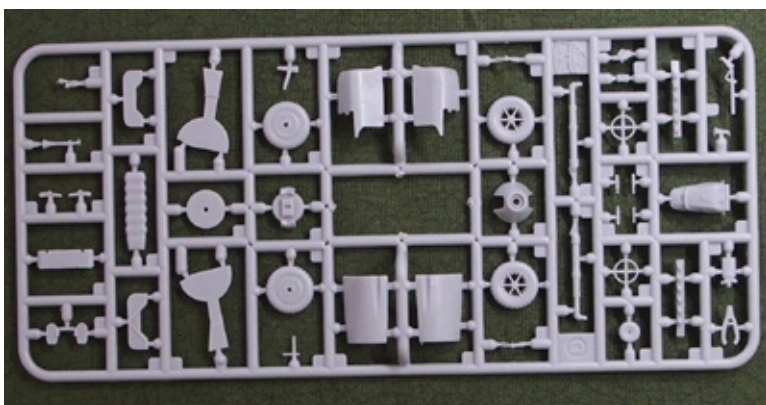




The Wings and detail shots of what to expect. Pretty nice looking, eh?



This sprue has the ailerons, flaps, slats, elevators, rudder and horizontal stabs. Wheel well, 2 bladed prop, oil cooler and other detail parts are here.



Last is cockpit details, main and tail gear, cowling parts, gun and cannon barrels and the crankcase for the engine.

I don't have any photos of my build to share. I've tried to get them to my photo files but they are not cooperating. Sorry. I have completed it and it looks very good. I had some troubles but I attribute those issues to me not the kit.



My Lifelong Struggle to Build a Flying Tiger by Dave Bottger

I am 69 years old. That is only relevant because I have spent my entire life trying to build a P-40B in American Volunteer Group (AVG) markings. Of course I don't mean that I have tried every one of my sixty-nine years. I didn't start modeling until I was 10 or so and, like most modelers, I took a break for girls, college, marriage and family. Still, I'm embarrassed to admit how many times I've tried and failed to finish a P-40B.

I think the box art for the Monogram 1/48 scale kit hooked me.





It was my first attempt, sometime in my teenage years. I recall soaking one of the horizontal stabilizers in thinner overnight to remove a paint job I wasn't happy with. When I checked it the next morning, the stabilizer was gone - vanished into thin air, or more accurately, turpentine. Since this was well before the age of Hyperscale and \$2.00 was a lot of money to me then, I couldn't obtain a replacement. End of attempt number one.

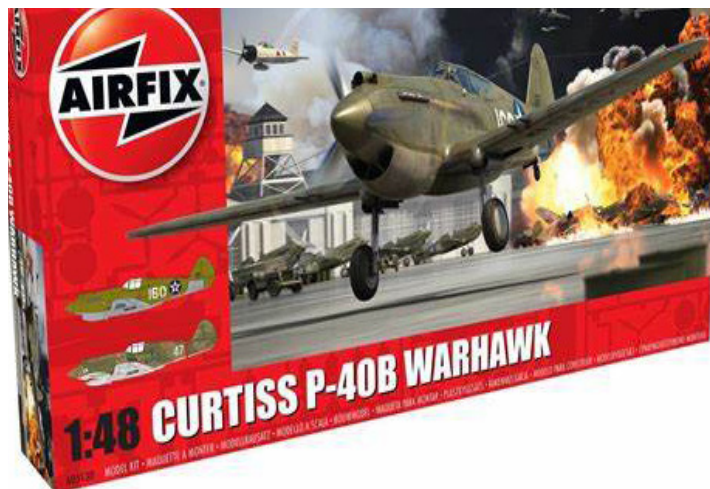
Since then, I've tried to build the 1/48 Academy, Trumpeter and Airfix kits and the 1/32 Trumpeter and Craftworks kits. The Academy kit crashed when I tried to correct the wing's angle of attack, a task far beyond my skill level then and probably now. I don't remember why the 1/48 Trumpeter kit made its maiden flight into the bin, although it may have been the result of my attempt to correct the windscreen, or maybe I just got tired of filling and sanding all of those rivet holes.

The 1/32 Trumpeter kit died in the paint shop. I mistakenly lightened the exterior green with white instead of yellow and got a color that was much too blue. I tried to fix this but I couldn't get the re-masking exactly right.

The Craftworks kit, which is resin, was just too hard for me to build.



That brings me to the most recent P-40s, the Airfix kits, the best of the bunch in my opinion until Tamiya does one (Please! I'll buy three!). To my eye, the biggest flaw in this kit is the Matchbox-sized panel lines just above both wing roots. I just can't live with those, so I tried to fill and rescribe them.



In attempt number 1, I tried using superglue as filler. In retrospect, I think I didn't give it enough time to cure before I started rescribing. As a result, my rescribing looked more like gouging.

In attempt number 2, I placed pieces of Evergreen rod into the troughs, flooded them with Tamiya thin cement and waited a few days for them to dry. Then I sanded the rod flush with the surface. So far so good. The rescribing was my undoing again. Once more in retrospect (what's that about hindsight and vision?), my mistake was starting the scribing tool at the end of the rod instead of in the middle. It caught on the end of the rod, throwing the line off. Despite my efforts, I just couldn't correct it to my satisfaction. The final blow was a much-too-heavy coat of Tamiya spray primer and, as the song goes, another one bit the dust. I was working on a Roden 1/48 Nieuport 28 when the coronavirus hit. It's going fine, but I've reached the point where I need paint that I don't have. Since I'm not sure exactly which paints I want to use (French WWI colors being a particularly nebulous topic), I feel like I need to pick them out in person and unfortunately, that's not possible right now. So how to spend my isolation time?

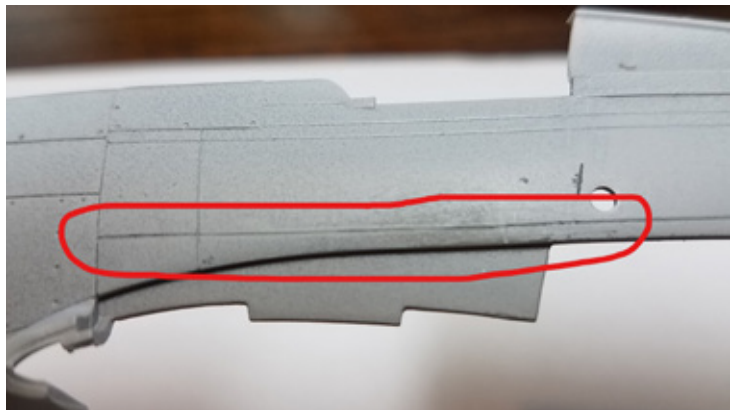




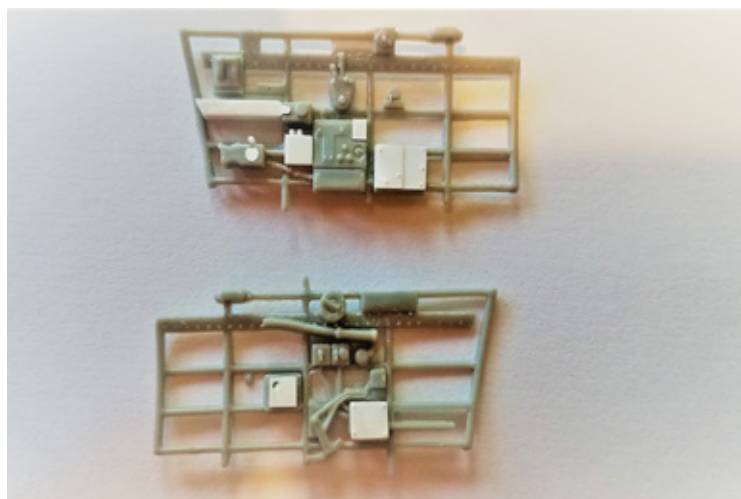
Well, there's Airfix P-40B number 3 leering at me from the shelf. Even though I don't have all the paint I need for it either, I can at least get started with building, beginning with those panel lines.

Once again I cut lengths of Evergreen rod, glued them in place and sanded them flush after they had fully dried. This time I was smart enough to begin the re-scribed lines in the middle. The result? - good enough, as the accompanying photo shows, I hope. It still looks a little rough, but I think painting will smooth it out. As you may notice, I also filled the spurious diagonal panel lines behind the cockpit opening.

Having read that the fit of the engine cover pieces where the fuselage guns go isn't the best, I decided to glue them on before putting the fuselage halves together, contrary to the instructions. Doing it this way, the fit isn't so bad, requiring only a bit of filler in a couple of spots.

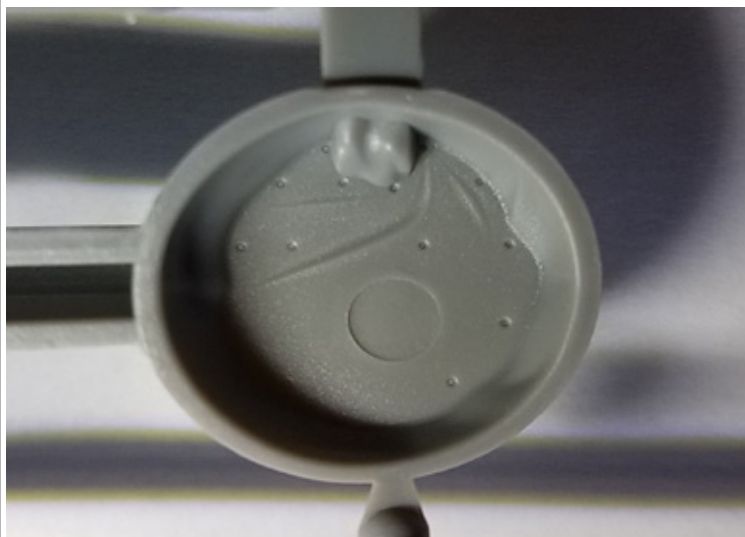


On to the cockpit. In Airfix attempt number 2, I used Eduard's photoetch detail set but it's a mixed bag. The detail is certainly better than the kit's plastic, as you'd expect, but some of the parts are already painted in a green color that I couldn't match. To my eye, the beautifully painted but flat detail on Eduard's instrument panel isn't as convincing as the raised detail on the kit's panel. I was truly astonished how well the kit decal for the instrument panel sunk into the detail after a few coats of Micro Sol and Set. So I decided to detail the cockpit myself. The accompanying photo shows the results so far, which I'm pleased with, so much so that I've decided not to use any photoetch for this build except a seat and lap belts which are left over from my last attempt.



I do plan to use the blast tubes, wing machine guns, pitot tube and ring and bead sight from the Master set for the British P-40B, since the A.V.G. P-40's had originally been earmarked for the British. And I have some resin wheels and tires from somewhere, which I'll probably also use, although the kit parts are not bad at all.

I wish someone would release an aftermarket replacement for the wheel wells in this kit. Each well has a large circular knock-out mark which is a bear to fill and smooth.





As for the Nieuport, I'm stuck without access to the paint I need to move ahead with this P-40B, lifetime attempt number eight.

Will I finish it (or another one)? Hard to say, although I'm optimistic, another example of the triumph of hope over experience.

Dremel Stylo By Bill Delk

While cruising the Lowes store one afternoon, before all this corona mess, looking for some replacement grinding discs for my Dremel I discovered that they had a new tool on display called the stylo.

Intrigued, I bought one since it looked like it would be easy to handle and not as bulky and heavy as some previous Dremel offerings.

The unit consists of the tool itself with a 6 foot cord, the plug in power supply which is separate from the tool, 15 accessories including a rotary collet and nut kit to accept the various sizes of Dremel bits.

Also included is a guide booklet and accessory ordering chart.

I also purchased the Dremel Multi-pro tool chuck which fits on the tool easily. I find that this will accept most bits and doesn't involve having to look for the separate sizes of collets every time you change bits.

Its small size is handled easily and it has enough power to meet most of our requirements in the plastic modeling arena. It can get bogged down if too much pressure is applied.

There is a blue power button near the top of one side with the speed control located toward the bottom. The black button on the opposite side locks the motor shaft to be able to adjust the chuck.

I find it to be a nice addition to my modeling tools.

The Stylo+ was about \$40.00 and the Multi-Pro tool chuck is about \$12.00. Both items were purchased at Lowes.





WHAT'S UP WID YOU?

Corona Virus...Thank you China for the gift that keeps giving.

Yep, we're all stuck inside with a lot of time on our hands and a closet full of unbuilt kits....Hmmmmmm...What to do? Recently I sent out an e-mail requesting that members send in pictures of what they were working on in this time of Corona. A few hardy souls responded. This "What's Up?" column is going to take the place of Table Topics.

Ben Morton was the first to respond and actually suggested the idea that we do this. Ben has quite busy during the "stay at home" time. First up from Ben is an MGB in 1/24th scale. The car is a 1968 MGB from Aoshima in 1/24th scale in British Racing Green, of course. It needs a good dusting. The kit has been banging around since 1995. Aoshima had it originally, then Revell, on

to Airfix and now back with Aoshima. The plastic bits are still nice and crisp. This is a curbside model (no engine but some drive train parts).

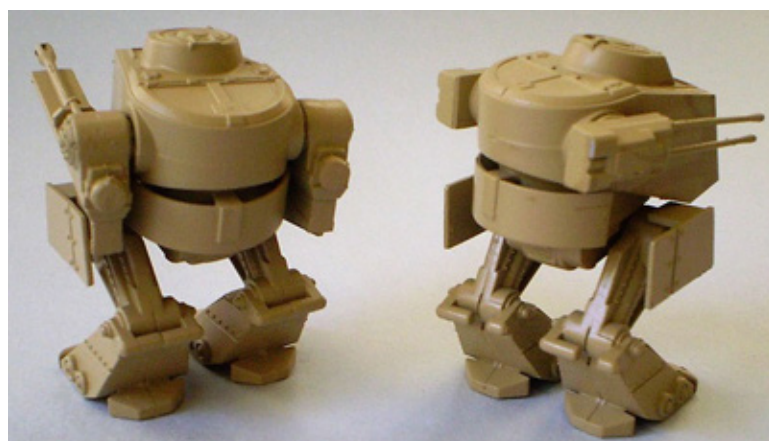
And it rolls and the front suspension is posable!



The battle bot thingy's are from Model Collect in 1/72nd scale (?).

They are part of a German Armored Transporter or "Tragerkreuzer". One is armed with twin 2.0cm flak cannons, the other with 7.5cm PAK anti-tank guns.

All made up and from Model Collect's Fist-O-War series of "what if kits". The transporter is still under construction.

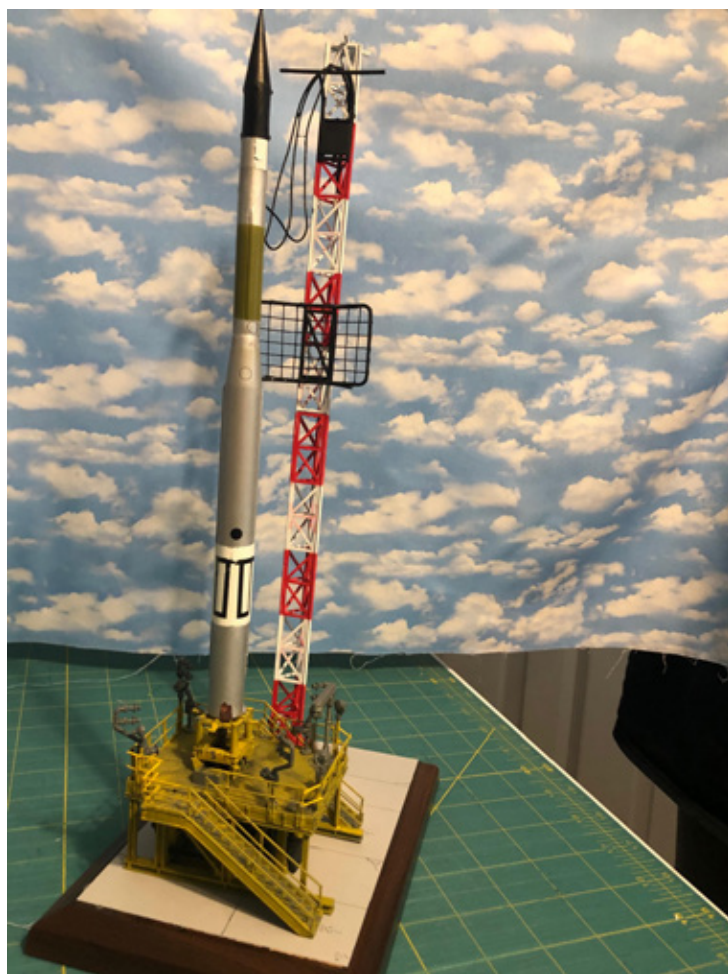




Ben also completed a 1/24 trailer kit from AMT which he had nothing but good words for. Most of those words were curse words, however. Lots of sink holes and seams and AMT was good enough to include them as a feature of almost every part.



Dave Edgerly has not wasted this time. Besides completing the subject of his in-box review in this month's newsletter he finished up a Vanguard missile with gantry and started a 1/72nd Saturn V kit.





Ron McCracken has two projects finished up which he would have brought into past meetings if those would have happened. The first is an RF-84F and the second is a P47-D30. The Republic RF-84F is a Sword kit. The Sword kit is a huge improvement over the old Italeri kit and goes together without too much difficulty. The decals are another story. They are so thin, you run a definite risk of them folding over themselves into an unusable blob. I'd advise over-coating them with Microscope liquid decal film to build them up a bit



The Revell P-47D-30 kit is basically built out-of-the-box. No significant construction issues with this kit, which is possibly the best-detailed kit of a late P-47D available in 1/72 scale. The challenge was the paint scheme, which I attempted in multiple shades of Alclad.

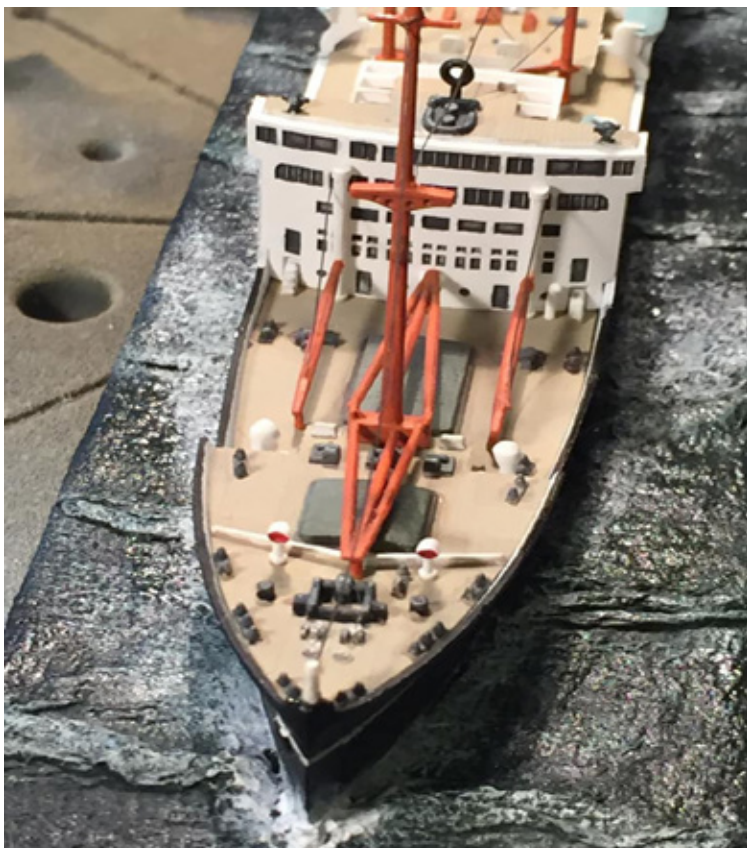
I discovered the best approach to applying Alclad with my trusty Paasche single-action was to adjust the paint flow to a light mist that almost goes on dry, then hold down the trigger until I ran out of paint, or finished with

with that color. If you stop spraying, even for a few seconds, Alclad clogs the needle valve and all you can do is clean the airbrush and start over. If you try to increase the flow rate to the point it goes on "wet", it'll eat up whatever flavor of primer you used and ruin the finish. I actually had to strip parts of this one bare and redo it.

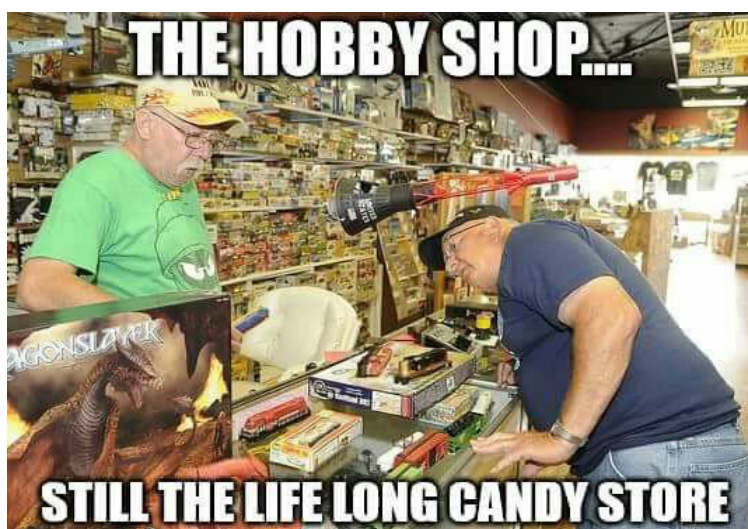


Mike Gilsbach has kept busy also. The completed model is the 1/700 Hasegawa kit of the Hikawa Maru, a 1930's era Japanese ocean liner with a really interesting history. The ship started as a luxury liner and in 1941 when the war began she was converted to a hospital ship. The kit was a waterline model out of the box and went together very nicely. I created the water using toilet paper (Gasp! What extravagance!) and scenic cement. Interesting technique with some benefits and challenges, but a lot of fun to experiment with.





The WIP is the British Airways Concorde from Revell Germany in 1/144 scale. Not a bad kit, so far. I have spent a lot of time working on seams and finally got paint on it this weekend. Almost ready to gloss it for decals - it has at least twice as many decals as it does plastic parts! I am building it in a gear-up flying configuration. (I always thought it looked awkward on the ground with the nose down and those long landing gear, but gorgeous in flight.) It didn't come with a stand so I am working out a way to display it somehow.





Your editor Rick Herrington is working on the latest and greatest from Airfix (other than the B-25) a Buccaneer S2B in 1/72nd scale. I'm going to do it with a Desert Storm finish with a couple of Paveway LGBs hung under the wings. I've also got a 1/35th Meng pick-up (read technical) in progress and a Star Wars Legion 1/48th (?) figure in progress.



Mike Lamm is up last with a crowd of 28mm Orc figures and a BA-64.





That's all the submissions for this month. We'll try this again next month if we're still on lock down. Hope you're safe and healthy and stay that way.

The Model Club Meeting by Rick Cotton

Holy cow...it's that time of the month again!...no, not that time of the month, she's not out to get you....it's model club meeting time!

If you are that disreputable social miscreant type, the independent modeler, not affiliated with a club, shame on you. You should march right up and join one. I myself have belonged to no less than four in my city. Houston is an enormous geographical area, and I have moved across town from one of my old clubs, to be nearer to my work. Even so, I am considered a member emeritus there in my old club even today, because of my devastating charm, my snappy wit and repartee, and the fact that I probably owe them back dues.

I moved away from one club, long ago. Later, I was a member of another club, but left because they were a boring bunch of old guys...just kidding...they weren't that old. My current club is a nice mix - armor guys, air guys, car guys, a couple of ship guys, and a few fantasy and sci-fi builders. There are a couple that I don't know what they build, because I've never seen them bring anything. There are a bunch who are on the roster, yet never make a meeting. I suspect they are dead, but who knows? Not my job to check. I'll bet they are still voting Democrat in elections, too. Don't get my Tea Party behind started on that.

Clubs typically include several gullible, but well-meaning people.... known as "officers"... who volunteer to do most of the club's drudgery and work. There is a Secretary, who must keep records, take attendance, write reports and newsletters, figure out who is dead and who isn't (at some meetings it's hard to tell the difference), and generally handle all the "official" correspondence. He should be professional and impartial. This is where I blew it as Secretary; I couldn't stop my mouth and email from emitting "unofficial correspondence" (opinions), especially after certain model shows.

There is a Treasurer, who must handle all the money...assuming there is any...and balance the books. It's best if this guy has neither a passport, nor a gambling addiction, and doesn't know off the top of his head which countries



countries will extradite.

There is a Vice President, whose job is to remain alive and breathing, in case anything untoward happens to the President.

Finally, the President...this position requires a special person, a Fearless Leader of matchless human qualities. He must be diplomatic, outgoing and personable. He must be fair and honest. He must be a person of detail and attentiveness. He must also be a referee on occasions.

He must be an emotional fireman, able to send out a blaze-calming and courteous email to a neighboring club, telling them that his members are not considering boycotting next year's show "because they couldn't judge first place in a one-entry category". A thankless job for sure, this position is not for the thin-skinned member. He must make sure we all show up to help with the Big Show in April, and he must delegate important tasks. For this reason, he must be able to tell the "average member" from the "useless knucklehead". This portion of the job is compounded in difficulty by the general membership's uncanny ability to camouflage themselves and disappear when the show tasks are parceled out. If necessary, the President must NOT be above begging, pleading, or blackmail.

Club night usually starts with Club business...our Fearless Leader emcees the usual stuff about how much money we have, what shows are coming up and so on. Then come the reports from the last show...complete with snide comments from members...often me...about the other shows, which the President must immediately sit on and squelch. He's so darned diplomatic.

Then comes Show and Tell, and we all talk about the models we have set upon the display table. Some of us briefly speak about what we brought. Others go a little more in depth about their build. A few launch into endless dissertations about their model, starting with a complete background on the subject, starting at the Dawn of Recorded History, and working their way up to today, in real time. This is an excellent "pee break" opportunity for the rest of us.

If there is any time left over after all of this, there may be a guest speaker, or a demonstration. Some of these are excellent, and pass on information and tips that are invaluable. Some serve to prove that the modeler doing the demonstration is a madman, and has had way too much time around chemicals and sharp objects.

But, by far, the most fun is the Club Quarterly Contest. This event has two reasons for existing: first, to help us improve our building and judging skills. Second, to make money for the club, as there is a one dollar entry fee per model. All this is fine and dandy, but recently we have added a plum raffle prize as an incentive to enter: a gift certificate for the local hobby shop!

Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

April looks to be mostly another month for re-issues of "oldies but goodies". Fans of WW II Japanese subjects have much to be pleased about. In addition, there are one or two really unique new tool kits coming out. So, enjoy this month's predictions.

1/32nd Scale:

Hasegawa is announcing a re-release of their 1990's era A-4E/F Skyhawk in 1/32nd scale. Illustration is box art from the previous release, as I haven't found anything on the newest.





Tamiya has re-released an F-51D Mustang in Korean War markings with significant new parts, including six 5-inch HVAR rockets, a wider paddle blade propeller, and seated and standing pilot figures. The former uses new head parts featuring the P-1A helmet used in the Korean war. It comes with three marking options (two U.S. and one Korean).



1/48th Scale:

Eduard has announced a Bf 109G-10 Erla Weekend Edition, a re-issue of a 2016 new-tool kit with new parts and new decals.



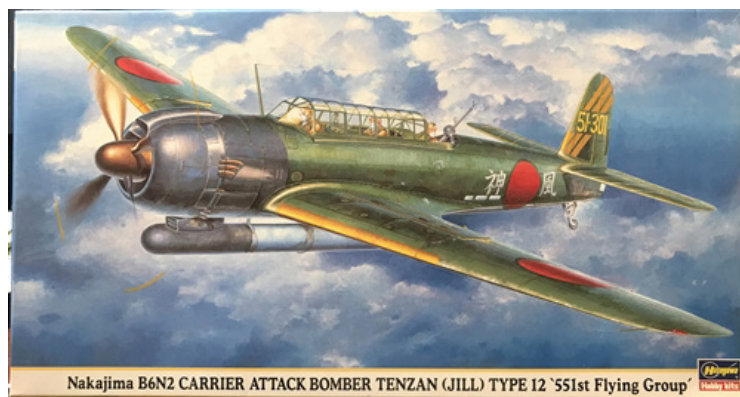
Eduard has also released a unique three-kit collection titled "Du Doch Nicht!" This is a Limited edition kit of aircraft flown by German WWI flying ace Ernst Udet, and includes an Albatros D.V, Fokker Dr.I and Fokker D.VII.



Finally, Eduard has re-released their 2018 new-tool Tempest V in a Weekend Edition, with new decals.



Hasegawa has good tidings for fans of WW II Japanese subjects. They have announced a re-release of the Nakajima B6N2 Type 12 Attack Aircraft. This is a late-nineties kit last released with new parts in 2015, so the re-pop is timely.



Hasegawa is also re-releasing their late 1990's J2M5 Raiden with new box and decals. Since the last re-pop was four years ago, this too is timely.



ICM has announced a new-tool Heinkel He 111Z-1 Zwilling (twin). For those who enjoy the off-beat subjects, this five-engined oddball will be of interest.



Revell has announced an F-35A Lightning II. It is not altogether clear to me whether this is a new tool, or a re-release of the Italeri kit.



Tamiya is re-releasing their Ki-46-III Type 100 Command Recon (Dinah). It has been quite a while since the last re-pop, so this is welcome.



1/72 Scale:

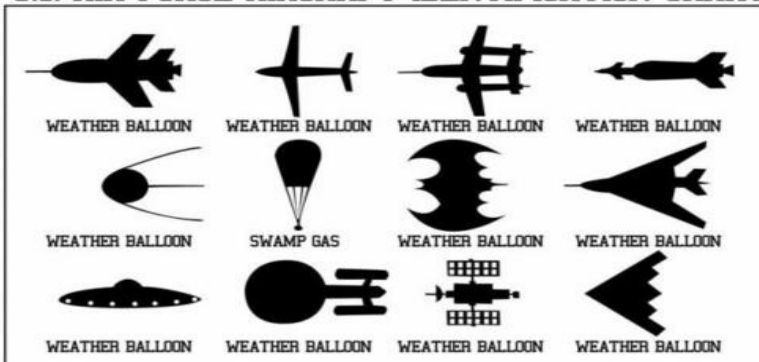
Eduard has announced a re-release of their 2018 new-tool MiG-21PF Fishbed D in a ProfiPACK edition, with some new parts.



A&A models is releasing a Ye-50 prototype mixed turbojet-and-rocket powered interceptor. Again, those with a taste for the unusual will find this of interest.



U.S. AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION CHART



Revell has announced a re-release of the (formerly Monogram) EF-111A Raven, which hasn't been available for some time and is about the only kit going for the "Electric Fox" variant of the



1/200th Scale:

Hasegawa is re-issuing their C-130H Hercules in a JASDF Gray scheme. As the last release of this kit was in 2016, it is timely.



Shipping News

by Rick Herrington

Let's start off with 1/700 scale. Pit Road has a number of new releases. First up is the USN Light Cruiser Cleveland.



Next from Pit Road is a campaign kit which is called Mariana and Palau Islands Campaign. The kit includes the US battleship Tennessee and an IJN Air Group in attack mode.



Next up from Pit Road are two modern Japanese ships the destroyer Hatakaze DDG-171 and DD-110 the guided missile destroyer Takanami.

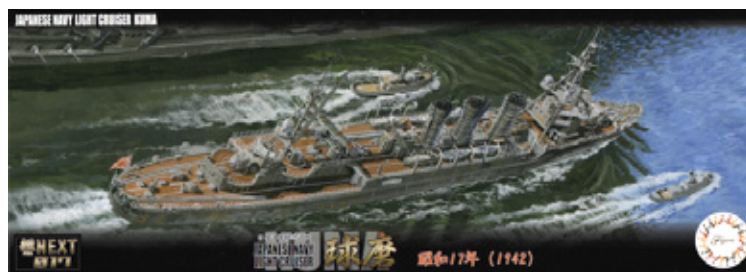




Hasegawa is up next with another modern Japanese release the destroyer Myoko. This one includes a figure of a female naval officer.



Fujimi is releasing the IJN light cruiser Kuma in her 1942 fit.



Orange Hobby is releasing the British battleship HMS Royal Oak. HMS Royal Oak was sunk in Scapa Flow by Guenther Prien's U-47.

This release has a lot of bells and whistles as it has a full resin hull and a great deal of photo etch and metal barrels. The price is commensurate, right around \$120.00





Academy is releasing the USS Yorktown CV-5 as she looked at Midway when she was sunk.



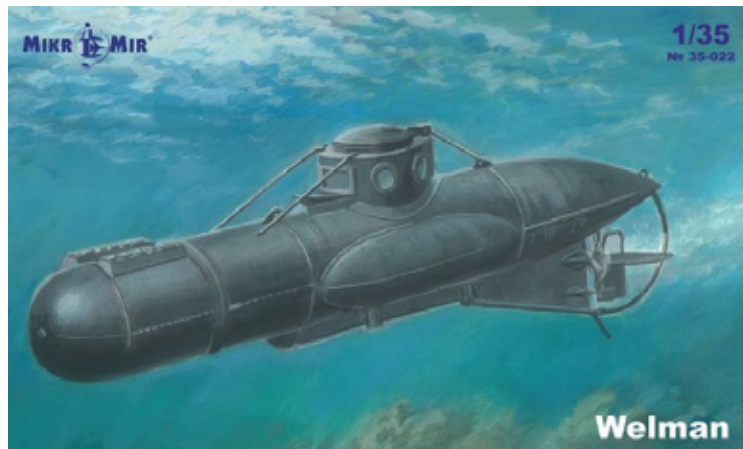
One new release in 1/350th scale from Academy, the Heavy Cruiser Indianapolis (1945) CA-35.



Academy also has one more upcoming release in 1/400th scale (?) which is the battleship USS Missouri. 1/400 is an unusual scale these days. Heller had great success with it during the 70's and early 80's but these days 1/350 is a more acceptable scale. Tamiya and Trumpeter both have excellent models of this battle wagon out. I'm not sure what Academy's marketing strategy is with this one.



Last up in 1/35th scale from Mikro Mir is the British midgeet submarine Welman. This none to successful design was used once in a failed attack on a floating dry dock in Bergen Norway.



That's it until next month. No excuses about not having enough time to build models. Grab a model from that stash and build it!

Tracked Topics

by Panzer Lehr

Got some small scale (1/72nd) releases this month so let's start with those.

Vespid models is a newcomer that started up this year. They have two new releases for us, the first being a Pzkw 8 Maus V2.





The second release they have is a British A-34 Comet Mk 1A.



Dragon is releasing a Sdkfz 165 Hummel. This is the early version.



Aoshima known for their excellent ship models is releasing a JGSDF (Japanese Ground Self Defense Force) AAV-7A1.



Arsenal Model is releasing a German Max Henschel Aerosan. If you're not familiar with Aerosans they are basically propeller driven snow mobiles.



GERMAN "Max HENSCHEL"

AEROSAN (WW2 Era)

KIT CONTAIN

- ◆ Plastic
- ◆ P/Etched
- ◆ Film
- ◆ Decal
- ◆ Mask

1/72



Moving on to 1/35th scale RFM is releasing a Sherman with HVSS suspension. The kit also has a full interior.



Academy is releasing a Pzkw IV Ausf H mid production.





Academy is also releasing an M113 Vulcan ADS. This is definitely a welcome release.



Dragon is releasing a Russian JS-2 with a set of its Russian tank riders included.



Das Werk is releasing an FMG-39 Fuse 62D Wurzburg Radar. Grab a couple of these kits and build your own Kammhuber line.



Continuing with out of the ordinary releases Dragon next up is a Japanese Navy Type 4 Ka-Tsu. These amphibious vehicles were originally designed to deliver supplies and ammunition to hard pressed Japanese soldiers on islands.

The version with torpedos mounted was designed to launch attacks on US battleships moored in island harbors.



Finally I think most of you know what an Anglophile the editor of this column is. Meng is releasing an updated Warrior IFV. This looks to be an Afghanistan era version as it's complete with anti-rpg slat armor.





BRITISH FV510 WARRIOR TES(H) AIFV

英国FV510 “武士” TES(H)步兵战车

SS-017

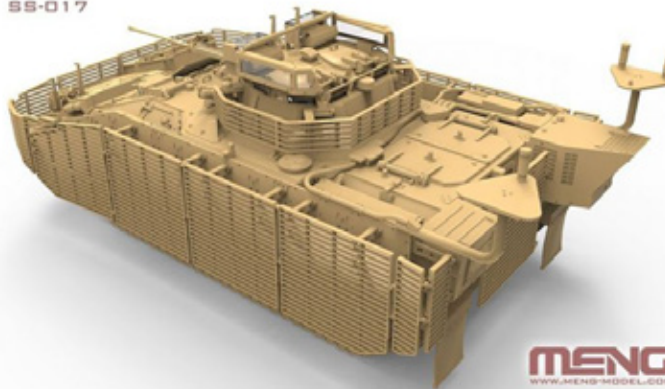


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BRITISH FV510 WARRIOR TES(H) AIFV

英国FV510 “武士” TES(H)步兵战车

SS-017



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Until next month stay safe and health and occupy the down time with a kit from your stash. Re-discover the joy of modeling.

It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Hello fellow shelter-in-place shut-ins! I hope this issue of It Figures finds you well, and healthy, and properly distanced from other regular-sized people. This gives us all the perfect time to get close with some miniature people!

<http://www.icm.com.ua/>

ICM looks to capitalize on the resurgence of interest in the Chernobyl disaster following the release of HBO's superb documentary on the subject, with the release of a couple of kits related to the subject. Their most recent release is titled Chernobyl #2 Fire Fighters. This kit will feature, 4 fire-fighter figures, a fire truck (an earlier ICM release), as well as a diorama background base for a diorama in a box kit.





Next up from ICM, is a group of figures representing an important part of the U.S. wartime effort that is often overlooked, the Women Airforce Service Pilots or WASPs. These women became trained pilots who tested aircraft, ferried aircraft and trained other pilots. The three figures represent women in various roles of the WASPs and come in 1/32nd scale. Personally, I think 1/48th would be a better choice, so maybe they'll offer a different scale at a later day.



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

New from Bravo6 comes a few figures from the Vietnam war. These figures are all resin, with a few photo-etch additions. They're all very nicely posed and come with accurate weapons and gear.





<https://blackdog-model.com/>

Black Dog miniatures has offered two nice sets of WWI miniatures recently. Two sets of sniper teams, first a German pair, and next a British team. The Germans were early adopters of sniper tactics on the front lines of WWI. The British military had always had sharpshooters, but considered snipers as “unsporting” and were late to develop their tactics. The Germans on the other hand, employed snipers at the front early on, and proved their effectiveness at delaying or preventing movement, as well as neutralizing high value targets, like officers or artillery spotters. While the German developed equipment and tactics specifically for their snipers, the British development was done more by trial and error, or experience from back home, like the camouflage used by shepherds to protect their flocks.

The German sniper set includes two figures, a spotter and a shooter. Both are nicely detailed in resin, and are wearing the baggy smock common to German snipers over their regular uniform and helmets. The spotter carries a pair binoculars, but the sniper’s rifle is missing a scope, which seems odd.



sculpted by Hwang Jung Min



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MODELING JOKES**



The British sniper team comes with the addition of a papier-mâché dummy, which were used fairly often and with good success. The British team is obviously a counter sniper team. Again, both figures wear the smock that was commonly used by British snipers, and it even includes the eye holes on the hood that's pulled up onto their helmets. The sniper's rifle is equipped with a nicely detailed scope, but the spotter doesn't appear to have any binoculars.



<https://miniart-models.com/>

Finally, Miniart has been very busy lately producing a number of new figure sets to go with many of their newest releases. All of their figures are in 1/35th scale, and molded in plastic with some photo-etch on occasion. First up is one of two new sets of Soviet tank riders. The first set poses a group of four infantrymen hitching a ride on the back of a tank. The poses of the figures seem to imply that they are not necessarily near enemy, as most are seated with their weapons in a resting position. The second set of Soviet tank riders are posed in a much more vigilant state. Their weapons are drawn and they appear ready for action. Both sets are nicely done, and there are many photos of Soviet troops advancing on the backs of tanks in both styles of poses. A nice addition to the sets, is the large number of spare equipment and weapons that come with each of them. Both sets include two sprues of equipment and weapons for the soldiers that will provide a bunch of nice pieces for the spares box.





The next two releases, set of railway workers and a set of travelers from the 1930-40s, continue a series of civilian subjects that Miniart has been releasing lately. The figures are nicely molded in period appropriate attire. The railway workers are in active poses, and the travelers are well dressed and would go very nicely with some of Miniart's recent releases of 1930-40s automobiles.



Next up, is a recent release of middle-east tankers. Again, Miniart is following their recent pattern of modern tank crews. These figures are generic enough that they could really work with any middle-east tank crew from the 1950s through today. The gear and clothing haven't changed much, and the figures are wearing the Soviet-style helmets and uniforms that we see on both militarys and militias in the middle-east today.



When you ignore the "use in well ventilated area" warning on the can





A final note for modelers that are fans of the fine model company Wingnut Wings. It looks like the company is going to be a casualty of the COVID-19 pandemic. This information was relayed to us from their Hyperscale and another IPMS journal. Below is a Hyperscale article by Dave Wilson discussing the closure

Wingnut Wings Update

by Dave Wilson

Sad news from New Zealand today indicates Wingnut Wings has been closed down permanently and its assets are to be sold off.

Details are yet to be publicly disclosed but it's understood staff have been informed they no longer have jobs at Wingnuts, and all assets- the moulds etc- are to be disposed of.

Wingnuts, which was begun by Sir Peter Jackson in 2009, has like many NZ businesses been locked down recently due to the coronavirus shutdowns there.

The business issues affecting the decision to close the business permanently are not yet known but are not thought to be entirely due to the Covid 19 issue.

The Forum contacted Wingnuts' General Manager, Richard Alexander yesterday and sought comment. He responded that an official statement would be forthcoming.

When we approached him today (Thursday) on this matter, the email diverted to a message referring all future Wingnut Wings matters to Clare Olssen and Kate Leppard.

Clare Olssen is Chief Executive Officer of WingNut Films and Kate Leppard is the company's Chief Financial Officer.

We sought official comment from Clare Olssen and Kate Leppard. We asked about the status of the Wingnut Wings business, the employment status of staff and the situation re pending mail orders in their system.

There has been no response from the designated contacts for Wingnut Wings. Significantly Richard's name now no longer appears on replies from his official email address.

By Friday morning the Wingnuts website, which had still been accepting online orders, has now been changed and all online orders have been suspended. The website message alludes to Covid-19 issues and still does not address the closure of the business but does assure customers that current pending orders will be processed "as soon as possible".

Below is what actually appears on the Wingnut Wings web site.



COVID-19

Due to New Zealand government regulations combating the spread of COVID-19, Wingnut Wings is temporarily closed and/or working from home for the foreseeable future.

In the interim we will continue to accept your orders if you wish to place them but we will not be able to begin shipping them until late April 2020 at the earliest. Probably even later than that.

We really do appreciate your support at this time, but if you do decide you wish to cancel your order and receive a refund that is OK. Please understand that these are not normal times for any of us and that this process might take several weeks before they can be processed.

Thank you and keep safe.

Everyone at Wingnut Wings.



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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:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17	<input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals)		How Many Cards? _____
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