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# NILITAN AND ARPLANCIN TERNATIONAL COM PARTIE NATIONAL COMPARTIE NATIONAL COM PARTIE NATIONAL COMPARTIE NATIONAL COM

# Vehicles from Accurate Armour Well known for their extensive

range of military models and accessories in 1:35. Accurate Armour has launched a new range of 1:48 vehicles for aircraft modellers

ccurate Armour have announced that they are going to produce a range of aircraft/airfield related vehicles as resin kits in 1:48 scale, with delivery expected by the end of May 2006. The first four announced are the Austin K2Y 4x2 Heavy Ambulance (#K4800I/£49.95), the AEC 854/0854 6x6 2,500 Gallon Refueller (#K48002/£64.99). Bedford QL 4x4 950 Gallon Refueller (#K48003/£59.98) and Crossley FWD Q-Series 4x4 Foam/CO2 Fire Crash Tender (#K48004/£54.99). For more details contact them on Tel: +44 (0)1475 743955, Fax: +44 (0)1475 743746 or visit www.accuratearmour.com.



# ≡≣ MH-53J ,,Pave Low III

# POINTS MEAN PRIZES!

Continuing with their large programme of kit releases for 2006. Revell's most recent releases have contained a number of reissues. The first is the ex-Matchbox Supermarine Walrus Mk I (#0439I/£399). followed by the ex-Italeri MH-53J 'Pave Low III' (#0449I/£I3.99), their standard F-I6A now in the 50th anniversary scheme applied by No.349 Squadron, Belgian Air Force (#04363/£ 7.99) and finally yet another Eurocopter EC-I45 incarnation, this time in ADAC & Rega colours (#04486/£ 6.99). It is interesting to note that only those toolings that originate from Revell or Revell-Monogram (e.g. F-I6A and EC-I45) have the points included for the limited-edition items being produced to mark the 50th Anniversary of Revell?

# **Heller Happenings**

Heller seems to have already released about 95% of their schedule for 2006! Thus far this includes the reissue of their I:800 Airbus A380, this time in its maiden flight colours both as a standard kit (#79845) and with cement (#71212), plus a reboxing of the ex-Airfix Tornado GR.4/4A (#80328) that also includes the weapons set previously seen in the 'Hi-Tech' series from Airfix back in the late 1990s. Also in 1:72 are two versions of the Eurocopter EC-145, either in 'Sécurité Civile' (#80375) or 'ADAC' (#80377) colours and in 1:48 there is the Eurocopter AS 350B3 'Everest' (#80488), which we are pretty sure is a reissue of their old I:50 scale kit of the AS 350 Squirrel?





For all the very latest news on kit releases, other news and secure online ordering check out our website at www.modelairplaneinternational.com



# Constellation

ning new book on the type (ISBN: Moment' at present as Heller have 2-915239-62-2 [£24.95])! just reissued their L-1049G Super On top of that Extratech do an Constellation (#8039I) in stunning etched detail set for it as well Lufthansa colours and French-pub-(#EX72I46) so there really could lisher Historie & Collections have not be a better time to build just produced an absolutely stun-

yourself a Connie!



Woof, woof!

MP Models is not a name we had heard before, but this new firm from the Ukraine have released a 1:72 injected kit of the ASI 'Kennel' guided missile (#72100). The model is about the same size as a MiG-I5 in I:100, so pretty big, and the kit includes the special pylon so you can mount it under the wing of the Trumpeter Tu-I6K (#01612). A sheet of decals is also included and as the ASI does not carry any we presume these are for the Tu-16 (?), although some instructions would not have gone amiss! For more details contact HobbyTerra (Email: info@hobbyterra.com).



# TENSOCROME

Lifecolor acrylics have just launched two sets of 'active surface agents' for weathering models. Each boxed set offers six 22ml pots containing the following colours: #TSC-01 Set I - Base Medium; Sand, Earth, Grass, Rust I, Rust 2; #TSC-02 Set 2 - Oil, Smoke, Kerosene, Fuel, Burnt Brown, White Oxide. Tensocrom is a solution of pigments dissolved in a special medium that allows it to be applied to a painted surface as a wash to give various hues. It can be applied by brush or airbrush and built up in layers to increase the effects. For more details contact The Airbrush Company, who are now the new importer and distributor of the Lifecolor range.



# Classic Caravelle

It is good to see that Heller have decided to take advantage of their heritage, as they have released their Caravelle (#RL3I8) in the original style packaging as used for its release in 1957. This edition is also limited and numbered, so it will be even more appealing to the collector, but let's hope a few actually get built.

One event to add to your calendar if you are 'down south' during August is the excellent IPMS Avon show at Yate on 20th. Held at the Yate Leisure Centre off Kennedy Way it is always a good event and well worth attending. For more information email ipmsavon@aol. com or visit www.ipmsavon.org. uk/shows/shows.html.



n.org.uk/Shows/Shows.htm

Italeri seem well into the swing of their 2006 release schedule and recently there have been a number of items added to their range that are reissues. In 1:72 scale these include the Westland Wessex HAS.3 (#I258/£6.50), which is a revision of their HU.5 version (#082) released a few years back and the

Savoia-Marchetti SM.79 Serie I (#1261/£11.50) that is based on the Sparviero (#I225) and Serie III (#1243) previously produced. In I:48 they have reissued the ex-Ocidental V.S. Spitfire Mk IX (#2651/£10.99). which has its faults but is still probably one of the better Mk IXs on the market in this scale.



# Italeri's Lates



# **MPIRE FOR TWO!**

Classic's Vampire kits have got themselves a bit of a bad reputation since release, so let's have a look to see if this is truly justified, or another example of people not understanding what a mixed-medium kit like this really entails?



ing it. The cockpit is all resin with some intimidating pour stubs that have to be removed with a good razor saw. There's lots of detail cast into these parts but I wish the instrument dials could have had some raised relief and it would have also been good to see some variation in the seat harnesses. That said it is a really nice cockpit and certainly looks the part painted dark grey (black would be, you know, too black) with some highlighted wiring and some silver 'scuffing'

I attached the two nose halves to their respective fuselage sides rather than to each other, much easier to fill a gap down the middle than deal with a step if the two cross sections don't match, and fitted the nose wheel insert to one fuselage side to help locate the cockpit tub. The insert was possibly the hardest thing to get to fit and required several applications of gap filling superglue and much sanding to blend it in, but once in place it positioned the cockpit tub perfectly. Some weight needs adding in the nose, the exhaust glued to one side (it should sit halfway

# YOU WILL NEED ...

# **Before Starting:**

- Cyanoacrylate
- Liquid cement
- Masking Tape
- Blu-Tack
- Scalpel, with IOA blade
- Micro-Mesh Files
- Microscale Micro Set & Sol
- Johnson's Klear [Future]

# Paints Used:

Xtracolor enamel: X203 RLM 66 Schwarzgrau XI62 Blue Angels Blue (F-18 1999)

Humbrol enamel: 33 Matt Black 22 Gloss White 69 Yellow

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



between the two halves, not actually touching either) and then the fuselage halves were joined. That sounds easier that it was, you are encouraged at every point that involves major construction to "Be sure to dry-fit and check alignment of all parts during assembly". And it tells you that for a reason.

While the cockpit bits were being prepped and painted the wings had been put together (the resin wells only requiring the pour stubs to be removed to fit between the two halves, none of the usual 'thin everything until it's transparent') and the tail booms and drop tank parts were also glued together. The resin intakes were inserted into the wings, the fit being pretty good and again superglue was the only filler needed. Some serious clamping was required to keep this all together while the glue cured, though. Once the seams had set they were cleaned up and the wings joined to the fuselage. Again, easier said than done, remember that bit about 'dry-fit'? Some work was needed on the front of the resin intake to get the wing to fit in the

location provided, but again, dry-fitting, trimming, sanding, superglue and a bit of care got the wings in place. So onto the tail booms.... Always a tricky thing to get right, I decided to more or less construct the tail section as a sub-assembly and then attach it to the wings. I glued the port boom to the horizontal tail and supported it at the appropriate angle and let it set. Then I offered it up to the location points on the wing and held the starboard boom in place. This showed that there would be some funny outward canting of the booms if left, so some trimming of the end of the tail was done until the dry fitting process resulted in a nice square assembly. The starboard boom could then be attached to the horizontal tail and again the whole supported at the correct angle until set. Next the resin

extensions were glued to the outside of the tail and the whole assembly glued in place.

Next came the canopy (after its usual bathe in Klear) and fitting it requiring some fairly serious trimming of the bottom of the front screen and associated fuselage (this being the subject of a small addendum sheet in the kit). It is a shame the canopy is not multi-piece so you could pose it open.

Now was time to paint the beast!

I have a slight thing for aircraft in markings you don't expect, and I don't expect to see Vampires in RN markings. The white was fairly easy, only trouble was, what blue? The instructions say Sea Gloss Blue (or Dark Sea Grey, helpfully) and another reference stated Gloss Dark Blue. I did some

searching, posted some questions and then went with Blue Angels Blue 1999. I pre-shaded the panel lines with black, sprayed the white, nice easy hardedged masking and then the blue. So, with it painted, the decals went on with no problems at all, last few bits and pieces, pitot, mass balances, undercarriage (nice resin wheels), didn't use the drop tanks and a coat of semi-gloss to seal it (I thought gloss would be too glossy but the semi-gloss wasn't really glossy enough but what the heck) and we were done. Very little weathering was applied, as these aircraft always look pretty clean. Actually I'll just mention the hardest part, the intake vanes. Whether it's because of the new intakes I don't know, but the vanes supplied are nowhere near the right shape or size so required some creative trimming. Even more so as there is no positioning info with the instructions and no locating aids on the intake itself! I found them really quite irritating, worst part of the kit frankly. Which, if that's all I've got to complain about, can't be bad.

# ALSO RECOMMENDED...

# **Dimensions:**

Span - 38ft Oin (II.58m) Length - 34ft 7in (I0.55m) Height - 6ft 2in (I.86m)

# Dimensions - 1:48

Span - 24I.25mm Length - 219.79mm Height - 38.75mm

# References:

- De Havilland Vampire by W.A. Harrison, Warpaint No.27 (Hall Park Books 2001)
- De Havilland Vampire: The Complete History by D. Watkins (Sutton Publishing, 1996)
- De Havilland Vampire F.I-T.55 by R. Levy and R. Ward (Osprey, 1973)
- De Havilland Vampire, Venom and Sea Vixen by P.J. Birtles, Postwar Military Aircraft No. 5 (Ian Alian, 1986)

# FINAL VERDICT

Not a shake and paint kit, but lovely detail, most accurate 1:49 Vampire around and overall a nice build. Thanks to Richard for letting me get my hands on it!



# **CURTISS' SECOND HELLDIVER**

Of late Academy have been progressively improving the quality of their products, especially those in the larger scales, and this has spilled over into the smaller scales as well, with this all new Helldiver probably being one of the finest kits I have seen in 1:72 for a long time.

he overall package from Academy is excellent and vastly superior to the old Matchbox version of this type! No wing folds though, which may upset a few, although thinking back to the Matchbox example, maybe it is not a bad thing (remember those 'hinges' in that kit!). All the injected parts have nice crisply moulded recessed panel lines and there is a good amount of interior detail. There is also a full bomb bay with two bombs in it and separate bomb doors. The cockpit is multi-part with separate sidewalls that just slot into place and although there is room for you to add more detail if you want, that is entirely up to you. All I added were some pre-painted seat belts

from Eduard, as the seats looked bare without them. The rear cockpit area is the same, although the radio equipment rack (#A6) is a little two-dimensional, so I am sure the aftermarket boys will come to your aid there. The cam-shell dorsal spine is a little simplified, but reference to books like the In Action title will show you what is really in this area and most of it can be built from plasticard if you desire.

The assembly of the model is straightforward, with no alignment issues to highlight. Follow the kit instructions when it comes to the assembly of the interior, as the fit of the parts is so good that you need to work in the order shown to make it all fit. I ditched the kit exhausts (#AIO) as

they were too thick and not hollow, and replaced these with plastic tube. I also left out the bombs and bomb bay doors until after painting and decaling, just to ease things. The trapeze for the bombs (#BI4) is oversimplified, but you can't do much with it as it is very fragile (as I found to my cost!) and only just fits into the bomb bay anyway! The wings butted up to the fuselage at the correct angle without problem and they feature separate leading edge slats, which is a nice touch. I broke the pitot (#A22), so replaced it with a wire version onto which I superglued the 'arrowhead'. The entire undercarriage was built up and left off until after painting, as were the bomb racks, propeller and radar

There are four colour options included in this kit: 'White 80' of VB-85 on USS Shangri-La in June 1945: 'White 79' also from VB-85: 'White IIO' of VB-3 on USS Yorktown in April 1945: '47' of an unknown unit. These four machines offer the three schemes carried by the type, with options I & 2 being overall Glossy Sea Blue, option 3 being Sea Blue and Intermediate Blue over white and option four being grey over white. Lopted for the last version ('ASW' scheme), as I find the blue schemes of the Helldiver pretty uninspiring. Looking through pictures in the In Action title I noted that none of the machines in this scheme could be described as anything other than 'dirty', 'very dirty' to be precise, so there is a lot of potential >>

# YOU WILL NEED...

# Before Starting:

- Cyanoacrylate
- Tamiya Extra Thin Cement
- Masking Tape
- Blu-Tack
- Scalpel, with II blade
- Micro-Mesh Files
- Superscale Super Set & Sol solutions
- Johnsons Klear (Future)

# Paints Used:

Polly Scale acrylic Matt Varnish

Revell enamel: 9 Anthracite [tyres]

Xtracolor enamel: XII RAF Trainer Yellow [propeller tips]

77 Dust Grey (RAL 7012) [paint chips]

XI2 Night Black [propeller blades] XII7 Interior Green (FS34I5I) XI3I Dark Gull Grey (FSI623I) XI4I White (FSI7875) X505 Tyre Black [exhaust stains] X506 Gunmetal

# Accessories Used:

Eduard #73004 I:72 USAAF & USN WWII Seat Belts [Pre-painted]

# Dimensions

Span - (Open) 49ft 9in Length - 36ft 8in

# Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 210mm Length - 155.lmm

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



# FOR THE FIRST TIME...

THE SUPER-SIZED, SUPER STALLION IN 1/48TH SCALE

Make no mistake, this Academy kit is not a rehashed, two engine CH-53A, D or G. This is the first time the current, three engine, 7-bladed, heavy lifter, now on duty in Iraq and Afghanistan, has been kitted in impressive 1/48 scale.

# GLORIOUS DETAIL

A full 24" from the tip of its main rotor blades to the tip of its tail, size alone would make it an awesome kit. But it's the attention to the minute details that makes it truly impressive.

# A SECOND SKIN

Fidelity begins with the cockpit panels where instruments have been thoroughly and finely engraved. The pilot's windows, cabin and cargo doors can be assembled open or closed. Breathtaking reproduction continues deep into the cabin where

Academy's exclusive "second skin" interior walls highlight every nuance... the ribs, the padding, the troop seats, all guarded by two .50 caliber machine guns.

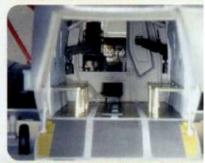
# SUPER-SIZED AUTHENTICITY

The main rotor grips, lag dampers and swash plate are moulded to perfection. The tail is positionable, build it folded and the interior view is magnificent. The main rotor blades can be assembled closed for on-deck storage, or spread for flight. As you'd expect, the decal sheet is extensive, offering current as well as retro paint schemes.

This CH-53E (12209) is no ordinary model in size or authenticity. The details have been reproduced with Academy's proven Passion for Precision



Built with blades folded, details include main rotor with knuckles, aerodynamic fairing, and folded tail with rotor head. Gust supports and anti-skid decals are visible.



Folded tail reveals cabin's structural ribs, lights, heater, troop seats, .50 caliber guns, cargo winch, even sound reduction padding. Visible in the cockpit: FUR handle, armoured pilot seats and exquisitely engraved instrument panel.



Toyway, PO Box 55, Unit 20, Jubilee Trade Centre, Jubilee Road, Letchworth Garden City, Herts. SG6 1SP Phone 01462 672509 Fax 01462 672132 e-mail toys@toyway.co.uk www.toyway.co.uk



The weathering scheme used on the model utilised both pre- and post-shading techniques and although happy with the overall process, the author will have to work some more on the subtlety of its application.

for weathering. The whole model was painted using Xtracolor enamels, with a gloss coat of Johnsons Klear before the weathering with pastels was applied. This was toned down with another light overcoat of the base colours, then another coat of Klear before the decals were applied. Here the kit has good and bad sides. The good side is the decals generally, as they go on well and have excellent register and colour density. The bad side is really down to the stencils, and in particular the upper (50L & 50R) and lower (20L & R) wing ones. The problem here is two-fold, the first being that a large number of stencils have been grouped into one, which makes them hard to apply without them curling up. That would be all well and good, but the other problem is they don't line up with the panels as they should! I found this out too late to do anything about it, so have to live with them being in the wrong place. Be

warned, and think about cutting them up before application.

Once all the painting was done the undercarriage, bombs and bomb bay doors, canopies and other bits and pieces were fitted and an antenna wire added and that was it.

There is one thing to watch out for, but I am loath to admit it. The cowling (#AII) fits on either way round... yes, you guessed it, I tacked mine on upside down and got through all the building. painting, weathering and decaling stages before I noticed! The problem is that the repairs and weathering were nowhere near as good as the original so I am disappointed with my own incompetence as a result. This will probably not happen to you, as you take care while building and would know at once which way up it went, but in my defence I did not have the exhaust stubs (#AI8) fitted, as these would have instantly showed that the cowl did not fit that way around!



# **ALSO RECOMMENDED**

# References:

- Curtiss SB2C Helldiver (Crowood 1998 & 2004)
- Curtiss SB2C-5 Helldiver In French Service (DTU sarl 1998)
- Helldiver In Action No. 54 (Squadron/Signal Publications)
- Replic No.II (June 1992) & 74 (October 1997)
- SB2C Helldiver, Detail & Scale Vol.52 by B. Kinsey (Squadron/Signal Publications 1997)

# Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents

# FINAL VERDICT

This is a stunning kit, with good detail from the box, and it represents a build that is within the capabilities of anybody. Buy one, buy a dozen, it is a lovely kit and well worth investing time and effort in building

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# **TIGER BLUES - GRUMMAN**

Well, here it is at last! The Grumman Tiger was one of the long awaited subjects in the wish lists of 1:48 scale jet enthusiasts, and thanks to the French manufacturer Fonderie Miniature this dream has now become reality.

aving built a couple of FM models before, I was somewhat wary about the amount of work this kit would require, but the first look at the box contents gave me the impression the FM team really have made efforts to offer us a quality level close to, say, Special Hobby or Czech Model. The 'orange skin' effect on the main parts has disappeared, and though some holes and flash remain in places, this is a noticeable improvement. However, the manufacturer's wish to provide us with the finest trailing edges possible resulted in a lack of material in some areas, mainly the stabilators and fin tip. The stabilators tips should be a bit more rounded, and the extreme end of the nose is somewhat too straight and pointy. These are the only minor shape errors I noticed and they were easily corrected with a file. There are two

vacuum-formed clear parts supplied and once again these demonstrate a real improvement, namely a large sliding bubble that is almost devoid of imperfection. The cockpit, seat, exhaust nozzle, undercarriage wells and main wheels are resin and though some tiny bubbles are apparent on the surfaces, they exhibit well-accomplished and accurate detail. A small photo-etched fret provides the wing fences, seat harness and accessories, instrument panel and side consoles, whereas the undercarriage, arresting hook and other external detail are nicely moulded in white-metal.

# COCKPIT, NOZZLE AND UNDERCARRIAGE

The seat is as simple as the original and only received limited metal sheet and rod detail in order to improve the harnesses and ejection rails, to add some forgotten handles and replace

the flat, photo-etched ejection handle and knee guards. The cockpit tub needed the addition of vertical walls and side consoles on each side of the main instrument panel, along with a couple of levers. The instrument dials were patiently and individually cut out of spare decal sheets and put in place under an acetate sheet supplied to simulate the glazing. The detailing was pushed a little further on the sidewall photo-etched parts, using available photographic references. All parts were first sprayed with a base coat of Gunze Sangyo H308 (Light Ghost Grey) before the side consoles were airbrushed with Tamiya XI (Black). I wanted to represent a well-maintained aircraft, so the only weathering consisted of a wash of medium grey oil paint into the recesses. The colour details were hand brushed with Humbrol enamels (I painted the headrest in Humbrol I80 Red Leather

but I was told later that it remained light grey on most aircraft, oops!).

The resin nozzle parts were treated with my usual mix of acrylic steel, brown and grey as a base, then received a black oil paint wash, and an overlay of airbrushed trails ranging from soot to pure white in order to simulate the effect of the reheated hot gases over the metal. With strip styrene, I added two parallel reinforcement ribs on the inside fuselage halves near the nozzle outlet and sprayed the whole area with Alclad II Jet Exhaust.

While the resin parts provided for the wheel wells reveal a lot of research both in shapes and detail, they are splattered with dozens of pinholes, which I only discovered after a spray coat of Tamiya X2 (White) was applied. I left them as they were, but for those of you who would like to get smooth surfaces, get ready for a long, painful

# YOU WILL NEED...

# **Before starting:**

- Thin Cyanoacrylate & Accelerator
- Araldite two-part epoxy cement
- Tamiya Extra thin cement
- Tamiya putty
- Tamiya liquid surface primer
- Tamiya masking tape
- Sanding Sticks & Files
- Micromesh polishing cloth set
- Johnsons Klear
- Super Sol & Set
- No.2, No.0 and No.000 paintbrushes
- No.2 flat paintbrush

# Recommended paints:

Aircraft Colors acrylics: 1003 Flat Clear

Alciad II lacquers:

Chrome

Aluminium

Pale Burnt Metal

Magnesium

Jet Exhaust

Gunze Sangyo Mr Aqueous Color acrylic:

H3 Gloss Red H77 Tyre Black H90 Clear Red

H94 Clear Green

H95 Smoke Grey

H308 Light Ghost Grey FS36375

H328 Blue Angels Blue FSI5050

H329 Blue Angels Yellow FSI3538

# **Humbrol** enamels:

Il Silver

16 Gold

28 Camouffage Grey

32 Dark Grey

66 Olive Drab 85 Coal Black 120 Light Green 180 Red Leather

Lefranc & Bourgeois oil paints

**Titanium White** Mars Black

# Tamiya acrylics:

XI Black

X2 White

X22 Clear

X20A Acrylic Thinner

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



# **ALSO RECOMMENDED...**

# Reference books:

Air Fan Nos.83 & 84 - De tigre que le nom? by S. Nicolaou FIIF Tiger by Bert Kinzey. Detail & Scale Vol.17 Grumman FIIF Tiger by Steve Ginter, Naval Fighters No.1 Les Anges Bleus & Le Pilote au Masque de Cuir, Buck Danny comics series #36 & 37 by J.-M. Charlier & V. Hubinon, Dargaud [French Language]

# **Dimensions:**

Span - 3lft 7.5in (9.6m) Length - 46ft Ilin (14.3m) Height - 13ft 3in (4.0m)

# Dimensions - 1:48

Span - 200mm Length - 297.9mm Height - 83.3mm





"I was somewhat wary about the amount of work this kit would require, but the first look at the box contents gave me the impression the FM team really have made efforts to offer us a quality level close to, say, Special Hobby or Czech Model"

job! The white-metal undercarriage legs were cleared of flash and polished with a rotary brush, then the oleo struts were simply masked before painting – a straightforward way to reproduce their chromium plated look. Apart from the main gear scissor links that were carved to a more accurate shape, the only detail I added consisted of a set of copper rod and tin wire segments to match the complex braking system ducts. I also scribed the circumferential tread on the front wheels and slightly intensified it on the main wheels.

# AIRFRAME ASSEMBLY

My first task on the main fuselage parts was dealing with the large NACA engine cooling scoops that really need some work to be more realistic. I totally scraped the recessed zone from the inside, thinning down the opening lips, and built new lateral and base walls with sheet styrene. I then turned to the engine air intakes. The duct shape is neither very accurate nor very long, but little remains to be seen once the build is completed, so I just sanded all faces thoroughly before painting the insides with Tamiya X2 (White). The internal sides of the lips were then masked and airbrushed with Alclad II Aluminium, and the intake halves were mated together with only minor corrective filing of the flat parts' edges. Finally, I used a cotton bud tube to represent the very visible shock wave breakers on the cannon ports. I did not use the

white-metal cartridge ejector fairings provided, as Blue Angels' aircraft were devoid of any armament.

On many limited-run, mixed media kits, one of the most painful moments is the mating of all the internal parts to the fuselage halves. In the present case, things were supposed to be eased by the presence of two bulkheads aimed at maintaining the main wheel wells in the appropriate position while ensuring foolproof stiffness of the central fuselage. Unfortunately, the fuselage halves' thickness prevents the use of these parts without a serious trimming of their overall dimensions. After a couple of fruitless trials, I elected to leave them aside, thinned down the well walls with a ball-shaped drill and

secured the wheel wells using two-part epoxy. In contrast, the front wheel well and cockpit tub assembly went in rather easily. I glued some fishing lead in the nose as a precaution against possible tail sitting, but after completing the build I realised it was not absolutely necessary. The mouldings on the cockpit back plate are supposed to represent the sliding canopy mechanism, but they only bear approximate resemblance with the real thing, so I scraped them away and reconstructed the rails and various hydraulic lines and boxes with metal wire and styrene rod.

Once the fuselage was assembled, a coat of the final livery colour was sprayed on the intake areas before the intakes were put in place, ensuring there

# STEP BY STEP GUIDE - FUSELAGE ASSEMBLY



Adding some hydraulic plumbing to the main gear struts



The NACA cooling scoops were totally reworked with sheet styrene



The nezzle parts were wenthered using air brushed shades of brown and grey



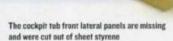
Two very visible reinforcement ribs must be added inside the aft fuselage walls

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



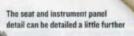


The contents show typical limited-run, mixed-medium contents, and an odd styrene colour that proved very tiring for the author's eyes





s a photo-etched part The instrument p but the dials will have to be found in your spares box





There is ample room for improvement on the sidewalls as well

A careful paint job is th key for realism

would be no paint gap under the boundary layer plates. Then began a tedious filling, scribing, and sanding session that lasted several evenings, in order to find and eliminate any scratches or holes that would spoil the model's final aspect, and recover regular panel and rivet lines. I was greatly helped by the use of Tamiya liquid surface primer, which gave a very smooth finish after sufficient drying time and careful sanding. The sandyellow colour of the kit's styrene parts did not ease the task, however, and on several occasions I had to stop working on the model simply because I felt my eyes were popping out of my head in an attempt to distinguish something on those definitely too light surfaces.

The aforementioned problem with

the flying surfaces' trailing edges was addressed with several thick layers of Tamiya putty mixed with cyanoacrylate glue. Once perfectly dry, this sound mixture allowed trouble-free filing and sanding to the appropriate shape and sharpness. The only modifications to the kit parts were in replacing the engraved navigation and landing lights with pieces of clear sprue sanded to shape and glued over a Bare-Metal Foil background, and adding reinforcement styrene strips to the upper surfaces at the location of the photo-etched wing fences. I finally added minor riveting in the leading edge areas, and mated the wings to the fuselage. This operation left a one-millimetre wide gap on the upper surface wing-to-fuselage joint, which





The two bulkheads provided for the main gear well assembly proved very difficult to use and were eventually left aside



with two-part epoxy



Finding and filling any scratches or pinholes on the fuselage



The fin tip was badly shaped on one side and needed some intensive filling



Adding some styrene and wire detail to the rear canopy plate









was easily filled with plastic strips and putty. The Blue Angels jets were modified with a smoke generation system, using fuel taken from the internal tanks and injected into the hot gases at the engine exhaust through a long pipe running on the left rear portion of the fuselage. This detail was easily represented with 0.64mm Evergreen rod, some adhesive aluminium foil and electric wire sheath rings.

Cutting a vacuum-formed canopy to shape is not a difficult task if you take it patiently, passing your sharpest blade many times on the cutting line without pressing too much. After windscreen and sliding hood separation, both parts were polished with Micro-Mesh and dipped into Johnsons Klear (Future) to enhance their transparency. The vertical frames were reinforced with strip styrene and a pair of scratch-built mirrors was added. I then painted the aft horizontal frame and defogging system flat black, dry-brushed with medium grey. The transparent parts are slightly larger than the airframe openings, so a careful filling and sanding job was necessary to recover flush

surfaces at the fuselage-to-windscreen joint. Then, using the spare canopy parts as templates to cut Tamiya tape masks, I protected the canopy and windscreen and the model was finally ready for painting.

# SHOWBIRD

Although the FIIF-I's career in frontline units lasted only four years, its impressive handling qualities made it the Blue Angels' workhorse for more than a decade. The FIIF in Blue Angels livery carries special interest among the French-speaking community due to its role in a couple of episedes of the famous 'Buck Danny' aviation comics series by J-M. Charlier and V. Hubinon, so despite the enticing smile of the sharksmouth-adorned VF-21 bird my choice was immediately made. After the intensive filing, sanding and polishing work, no primary coat was necessary and I first airbrushed the wings, stabilators and rudder tips with Gunze Sangyo H329 Yellow FSI3538, while the canopy frames received a first coat of black to match the interior colour. I then applied Tamiya tape masks to the

# STEP BY STEP GUIDE - MASKING AND PAINTING



# **STEP BY STEP GUIDE - WINGS & AIRFRAME**



The large wing tip beacons were replaced with clear sprue sanded to shape and glued over a Bare-Metal Foil background



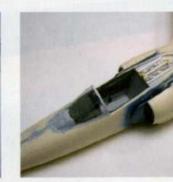
There is a large gap to fill at the upper wing root joint



The airframe nearly ready for the point job



The clear parts show a real improvement over previous FM



Installing the windshield requires some putty and a very careful sanding session



The clear bubble is a bit too wide for the horizontal frame



The spare canopy parts were used as templates to cut Tamiya tape masks



The smoke generator system is a unique Blue Angels feature

yellow areas and airbrushed the whole airframe with H328 Blue FSI5050, using several layers thinned with about 60% medical alcohol, and let it cure for 48 hours. I obtained a solid, dark, glossy finish perfectly suitable as a base coat for the Alclad II metallic lacquers. Another intensive masking session later, Aluminium was applied to the flying surfaces leading edges to match the Corroguard coating, as well as to the triangular hot gas exhaust area on the right fuselage aft of the main wheel well. The intake lips were painted

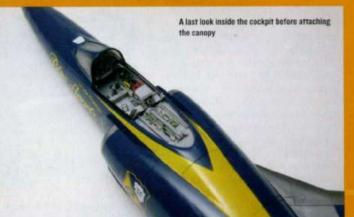
Chrome to give them the highly glossy, 'mirror' finish noticeable on Blue Angels jets. The engine exhaust area was painted Duraluminium and highlighted with Pale Burnt Metal to some areas. To add some contrast the rivet lines were underlined with Gunze Sangyo H95 (Smoke Grey).

In preparation for the decals, I handbrushed the whole airframe (save for the metallic areas) with a thin coat of Klear, which also helped in filling all remaining tiny scratches that could show through the glossy paint job. Applying Klear in thin layers is of cardinal importance, as I often experience cracking of the underlying acrylic paint in areas where the coat is too thick.

The decals are a nice surprise, compared to the initial Fonderie Miniature standards. Begemot have finely printed them on a thin, glossy film that reacts very well to the SuperSet-Sol system. At first glance, the only concern I had was about the red colour on the national insignia and intake danger triangles which are definitely too bright. The yellow Blue Angels markings are

printed over an undercoat of white, allowing them to stand very well against a dark background. Nevertheless, when I started placing them, I realized that the inside of the underside nose arrow and the insides of the 'A's in the 'U.S. NAVY' fuselage markings were plain white instead of transparent as normally expected. Because the carrying paper itself is white, I did not notice it earlier. Such a discovery on already wet decals calls for good self-control and a very sharp razor blade to make the necessary cuts in the shortest possible time before everything





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sets. Now you are warned, carefully check your own decal sheet and make the cuts before dipping the decals into water!

After decaling, I applied a wash of black oil paint in the recesses and panel lines, wiping out the excess relatively quickly so as not to end up with stains or simulated leakages that would be irrelevant on such a paint scheme. Display team aircraft always sport a very glossy finish, but every time I have tried to reproduce this on a model, it ended up with a flashy look that did not seem realistic because it simply did not match the scale effect. I discovered that using Tamiya X22 Clear thinned to 50% with Tamiya X-20A Acrylic Thinner would give the perfect

"glossy-but-not-that-much" appearance I was looking for.

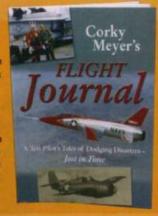
Having carefully prepared an assembly strategy for the main gear legs, the final build-up took a matter of minutes. I used slow-drying gel cyanoacrylate, which allows some adjustment. I first glued the small jacks on the gear wells, then attached the main legs, checked for proper alignment and symmetry, and finally added the main retraction struts. Then came the front gear, wheels, gear doors, stabilators, dorsal spine navigation beacon and bubble canopy. Two Minimeca metal tubes fitted into each other gave me a perfect pitot probe that I added on the fin leading edge as a final touch.



# INSIGHT

# **FLYING THE TIGER**

If any of you are interested in the development and testing of the FIIF then you may like to invest in this book, entitled 'Corky Meyer's Flight Manual' and published by Specialty Press (ISBN: 1-58007-0993-0). This title is the personal recollections of Grumman test pilot Corwin H. Meyer, who flew many Grumman types ranging from the F4F through to the FIIF Tiger and Super Tiger. It is a fascinating insight into the mind of a test pilot and is available in the UK at £19.99 from Midland Counties Publications (Tel: 01455 254450, Email:midlandbooks@compuserve.com).



Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents

# FINAL VERDICT

A quite straightforward build for a limited-run, multi media kit, thanks to the slim lines of the Grumman jet and the moderate painting effort needed by the overall blue, immaculate livery. This kit should be recommended to all modellers wishing to improve their skills away from the beaten track of Far-Eastern mainstream production, it is definitely worth the money and effort, firstly because if you want an injection-moulded FIIF this is the only game in town apart from the antediluvian and approximate Lindberg collectable, and secondly because it is a real improvement in quality and finish over the previous FM range. Let us hope Mr Tauzin and his team will continue this way and regale us with new, original models of this kind.

# Was it worth the effort?

Most definitely. Take your time and you will get a very striking I:48 Tiger.



# **SOVIET FX**

BUILT & WRITTEN BY JAY LAVERTY FROM THE UK

The USSR, like the USAF with their 'FX' programme, started to develop an advanced tactical fighter in the late 1960s but soon realised that it would be too costly to produce in the quantities needed. They opted to split the requirement into two separate designs (as the USAF did with its heavy and lightweight fighter programmes leading to the F-I5 and F-I6) with the heavyweight (TPFI Tyazholyi Perspektivnyi Frontovoi Istrebitel, heavy advanced tactical fighter) design going to Sukhoi, who built it as the Su-27 Flanker, and the lightweight project (LPFI Legkiy Perspektivnyi Frontovoi Istrebitel, lightweight advanced tactical fighter) going to Mikoyan-Gurevich to become the MiG-29 Fulcrum.

o How Does It Look? In a word, excellent. Trumpeter are showing themselves to the true friend of the modeller working in the larger scales and with every release they are progressing as far as realisation of detail and tooling are concerned. There was a time when they were best described as a 'hit and miss' manufacturer, with the odd poor kit reaching the shelves. Those days seem to be long gone, as each of their recent releases, regardless of the subject matter, have ranged

from very respectable to excellent.
Granted they aren't always perfect,
but there is something consistently
eminently buildable contained in
those Revell-esque boxes. This kit
is certainly no exception and it is
immediately apparent that there
is some nice surface detail with
accurately represented panel lines
and Trumpeter's trademark rivet detail
covering the entire model. Being truly
multi-medium, the kit incorporates
white-metal undercarriage, photoetched components including
the harness, acetate film for the

# YOU WILL NEED...

# Before starting:

- Thick Cyanoacrylate & Accelerator
- Masking tape
- Sidecutters
- #5 Tweezers
- Tamiya masking tape
- Sanding Sticks & Files
- Microscale Kristal Kleer
- Gunze Sangyo Mr Mark Setter & Mr Mark Softer

# **Accessories Used:**

Black Box #CS32036 MiG-29M Fulcrum Cockpit Set

# Recommended paints:

Alclad II lacquers: Pale Burnt Aluminium Jet Exhaust

Humbrol enamel:

33 Matt Black

34 Matt White

IIO Natural Wood

Xtracolor enamel: X6II MiG Grey Green X6I2 MiG Grey X627 Grey Nose Cone/Dielectric Panels X628 Soviet Wheel Hub Green

X37I KLM Pale Grey 2004

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents







# **ALSO RECOMMENDED...**

- Air ACTION No.4, 7, 9, 14, 18, 20, 22 & 27
- MiG-29 (Topshots series) by M. Miecko & A. Osinski (Kagero 2005, ISBN: 83-89088-73-8) MiG-29A/C Lock-On No.19 (Verlinden Publications)
- MiG-29 In Action No. II2 (Squadron/Signal Publications)

- MiG-29 All Variants (4• Publications, 1995)
   MiG-29 Flight Manual by A.R. Wise (Schiffer ISBN: 0-7643-1389-4)
   Mikoyan Gurevich MiG-29 Fulcrum by Y. Gordon & P. Davidson, WarbirdTech Series Vol.4I (Specialty Press 2005 ISBN: 1-58007-085-X)

# **Dimensions**

Span - 36ft 5in (II.36m) Length - 56ft IOin (17.32m) Height - I5ft 6in (4.73m)

# Dimensions - 1:32

Span - 355mm Length - 54I.3mm Height - I47.8mm



instruments and rubber main wheels.
As the examination of the parts
continues, an eagerness to get this
model under way slowly and steadily
grows, as it is quickly apparent this will
not be an overly complicated build, while
still encompassing a lot of refined detail.

The decision was made to use the Black Box cockpit on this project and this would ultimately prove to be a two-edged sword. Blessed with some excellent detail the Black Box offering would prove to look very pretty when removed from its packaging. The wiring detail behind the ejection seat is defi-

nitely worthy of mention and is superbly done. However, the lion's share of the components are direct copies of the kit components, and thus do not inspire all that much excitement, but some very nice details have been incorporated and the overall appearance is one of a nicely done aftermarket set. Whether or not it will fit (the bane of any Black Box offering) remains to be seen.

# **GETTING UNDER WAY**

As with 99.99% of aircraft kits, this model begins with the cockpit. So immediately we are into the Black Box set. Beginning with the painting, a coat of primer is added, and subsequently followed with a coat of Humbrol Matt Black. After this is glossed with acrylic varnish, a coat of enamel grey (a mixture of ADC Grey and RLM 65 to get the appropriate bluish grey tint of MiG cockpits) is sprayed over the top of this. The raised detail of the instrument panels is revealed by using a Q-tip soaked in thinner to carefully remove the grey, exposing the black underneath. The seat is definitely the highlight of the set with some above average detail rendered although as

expected with Black Box, it does not fit into the tub. As a matter of fact there are some real alignment problems with this resin set, and I think for the first time in my life I am going to recommend giving this set a miss. There is a ridge just behind the seat that once aligned with the fuselage, means the rear bulkhead does not line up. The starboard sidewall also comes up very short (about I.2mm) where it meets up with the top of the fuselage, so some very careful manoeuvring is required to get it as close as I have it. Surprisingly, the port sidewall aligns perfectly?

# STEP BY STEP GUIDE - COCKPIT





# STEP BY STEP GUIDE - MAIN ASSEMBLY



Before the cockpit was installed I decided to scribe out the rather simplified vent for the cannon



Two .5 thou strips of plastic-card were cut to length and had inserts cut into them for the horizontal strip to be added later



I could have kicked myself here for making assumptions, as I drilled the back of the light fitting out for the wiring, however when I looked at another picture of the real thing, the wiring runs from the inside!



Two small strips of fuse wire were glued to the undercarriage door to hold the wiring in place once it was fitted, although these would be subsequently removed for the painting process, only to be readded after the wash was applied. Planning, planning



Now, finally, I was pleased that I had done something mostly right! The wiring was almost completely reproduced here, although I went through two .3mm drill bits doing it

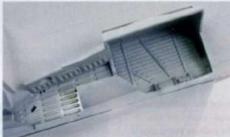


Here is the completed shading on the various sub-assemblies just prior to washing. Regardless of how small or insignificant the part, I still add shading to it

These are the first tentative steps into making the FOD guards, and after the measurements have been taken and the plastic-card cut, the fit is tested on the actual openings



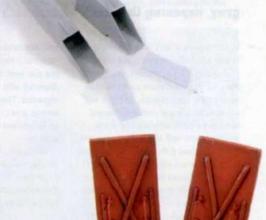
Always a problematic part of sanding leading edges or areas with small details protruding is the danger of obliterating them. A friend suggested this sanding sponge that will conform to the shape of parts without destroying detail. It is actually quite good



As I mentioned earlier, the wheel bays can do with some livening up, and I will add some wiring, though not a lot. This picture also betrays the fact that I have painted the bays prior to adding the intakes, although with the intakes somewhat awkward, first some sanding is required, and this will need to be redone



The Mission Models Grabhandler and a few lengths of fuse wire combined to give us the handles, a few scrap pieces of Microstrip and the FOD guards are ready for some paint



Some scarlet and a bit of weathering means the FOD guards can be put to one side until the final assembly stages



Not the greatest Friday night fun, but sanding a length of plastic rod in half was a couple of hours of tedious but ultimately rewarding work







Unfortunately it isn't until the cockpit is well and truly set into place that I realise there is not enough room at the front for the instrument panel to fit in front of the control stick, and this will prove to be a major problem that will need to be dealt with later as at the moment, I am well and truly fed up with Black Box, and if this model is not going to end up smashed against the wall, I will need to move onto something else. Other than that though, the Black Box cockpit is fantastic...!

I was generally pleased with the fit of the two fuselage halves, although the join at the nose area was a tad inconvenient, with a step running directly through the centre of some panels with rivet detail that would be lost in sanding and would need redoing. A small amount of filler was required at the tail

end, but in essence the fuselage 'snaps' together. I decided I would enhance the gun vent, the process being clearly depicted with the accompanying photographs. The process was quick and simple, and I recommend giving it a go regardless of your scratchbuilding abilities.

Still wary of returning to the cockpit, the decision was made to manufacture all of the sub-assemblies as well as those parts that would require painting before the final run of construction.

# COMPONENT CONSTRUCTION

First up is the undercarriage, which is a perennial favourite. There are few things in life that reward a small amount of scratchbuilt detail as much as the oleo legs, and with the addition of some fuse wire held in place with

Tamiva tape and superglue these are instantly transformed. The procedure is pretty much the same for the main undercarriage doors and the wiring for the lights, however, the wiring will be added later as this will comprise some elastic and as it is a dark grey colour it will not need painting. The wheels are configured in Trumpeter's usual convenient method, and I am personally a fan of the rubber tyres as all they need is a few coats of gloss, a wash, then some matt varnish and they are ready for the final weathering stages. With the addition of some Light Earth CMK weathering pigments, and some Light Dust for highlights, the wheels will come to life. Construction carries along at a pace here, with the kit components fitting extremely well until we reach the intakes, and these are slightly

tricky, to put it mildly. While assembling the interior components of the intakes, I originally thought I had the parts mixed up as there were a couple of shocking gaps present, but I quickly realised that there was only one way they could fit. Upon closer examination it became quickly apparent that the cause of these problems was the fact that the intakes in this example were somewhat warped. Therefore there is no guarantee that the intakes in every kit will fit poorly, and with some luck your example may therefore be fine? With the intakes together and looking down at the fairly basic detail and gaps within, I decided I would make some FOD guards. So it was out with the plasticard, a ruler, and a pair of scissors. The measurement and cutting of the main parts only took a few minutes, ->

ing and would need redoing. A small as the oleo legs, and with the addition of some fuse wire held in place with

STEP BY STEP GUIDE - COCKPIT



The seat is definitely the highlight of the Black Box set for me and with some paint, a weah, and some highlights, it comes up very nicely indeed



# STEP BY STEP GUIDE - PAINTING & FINISHING



A few hours, several shades of Alclad and a couple of Boddingtons later, and the exhausts are completed. It is my first attempt at the exhausts of a modern jet and I can only hope I have captured the look properly



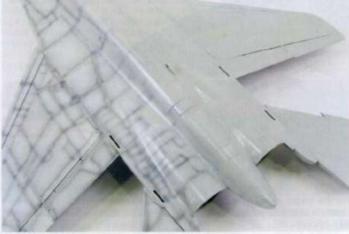
ing are ready to be added when the time comes. The final steps of weathering will be done when the entire model is together, and this will ensure they all blend together



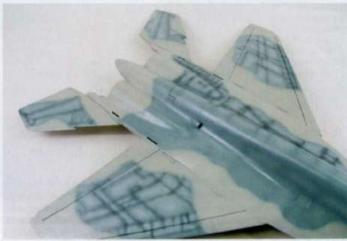
This is only the half of it. Actually less than half. There is so much quality ordnance provided in this kit, what I do not use will go on the Revell kit where possible



One of those things that happens to me occasion ally, is that I discover some overlooked flaws during painting. Here was a fairly sizeable gap that was filled with Tamiya putty. Quick setting and easy to sand, I love the stuff



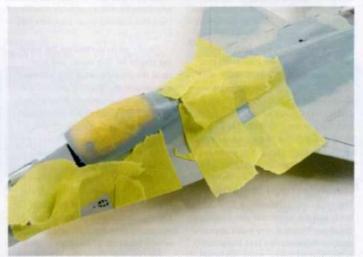
I hadn't thought of doing this in previous articles, but I took this image to graphically illustrate the shading process. Half has the shading complete, and the other half shows the result after the blending coat is sprayed on



The entire process is repeated here with the Fulcrum Grey Green. I purposely exaggerate the effects of the dark and light shadows as the blending coat tones it all down perfectly, while restoring the true properties of the colours



Being a jet virgin made painting the exhausts quite a different experience, and I found myself relying on Alclad Pale Burnt Metal and Jet Exhaust a lot for the painting process



Here are the forward sections that need to be 'metal' masked off and ready to go. I apply the Alclad after I spray on the acrylic gloss varnish, as this allows me to spray Alclad over the enamels, something that would not be possible without the acrylic barrier

As Jay states, this kit offers a mass of ordnance, so here is a rundown of what types you actually get.

- PTB-1500 drop tanks
- PTB-II50 drop tanks for inboard pylons
- KH-25MP (inertia and passive radar guidance) [AS-I2 'Kegler'] & ML (semi-active laser guidance) [AS-IO 'Karen'] anti-radiation missiles
- KH-29TD (TV-guided) & L (laser-guided) air-to-surface missiles
- KH-3IP [AS-I4 'Krypton'] anti-radiation missiles
- KH-35A air-to-surface missiles
- R-27T, R, AE & ER [AA-IO 'Alamo'] missiles for inboard pylons in lieu of **PTB-1150**
- R-60MK [AA8 'Aphid'] missiles (older version carried prior to adoption of R-73)
- R-73E [AA-II 'Archer'] missile for outboard pylons
- R-77 [AA-I2 'Adder'] missiles
- () Wear the right protective clothing when advised to





and it wasn't long before the sanding in half of a length of plastic rod was well under way. This was the most time consuming task of the entire process, and after an hour or so, I was very thankful I had ordered MLB.TV and had the Blue Jays game on to provide a distraction. The time was not wasted, however, as the result was going to look almost perfect once in place. (Well, as perfect as something I created can actually look) Using a Mission Models grab-handler, some fuse wire was manipulated into shape and secured with some small lengths of lead foil. After the sides were glued into place, both guards were primed and then painted scarlet. As with the wheels, only a certain amount of weathering was carried out, as this will be completed when the model is assembled and painted.

# **BRINGING CONSTRUCTION TO A CLOSE**

The wings and tailplanes all fit excellently and the horizontal stabilizers are the same. This is a very much appreciated, as there are few less enjoyable tasks than removing, filling, and sanding the seams along a leading edge or a wing root. The rudders remain off until after the camouflage is applied for obvious reasons. At this point, all that is left is the ordnance. Once the pylons have been assembled, it is a matter of deciding which missiles and tanks etc. to put on. With nine grey and one clear plastic sprue to choose from there is plenty of choice. In fact there are more sprues and parts for the missiles on this kit than there are for most complete kits in I:32 scale!

Finally we have reached the painting stages for this model and first up is the grey. As usual this will be enamel and the shading process will follow my usual pattern. After applying the base grey colour, subsequent coats of lowlights (darkened with black) and highlights (lightened with white) are applied. The same process is repeated with the grey-green colour, with this task rounding out the painting requirements. After adding the final sub-assemblies including the canopy, undercarriage and missiles, the construction is finished, and the model is now ready for a few coats of gloss acrylic varnish. Once this has hardened overnight, the weathering process can begin in earnest.

#### ADDING THE WASH

Wanting to reduce the brown tint of the Raw Umber wash I normally use, I added a slightly larger amount of Paynes Grey on this model. The result was a slightly more 'shadowy' wash as opposed to representing a grimy build-up, as I felt the former more appropriate for a modern jet. Keeping the wash as local as possible by using an extremely fine brush reduces the amount of clean-up necessary, however any excess is easily removed in a couple of hours using a cotton bud.

Once the wash was effectively on and dry the model was varnished and the decals were applied. These were no problem at all and once dry excess glue was removed with a Q-tip soaked in soapy water, and it was time to apply a coat of matt varnish in preparation for the final stages of weathering. This was carried out using CMK's Stardust weathering pigments and the effects had to be very subtle as the amount of dirt build-up on a modern jet is far less than on an operational WWII fighter, as modern jets have a lot more time and care taken over them.

# IN RETROSPECT

I agonised for days about what to say when it comes to the Black Box cockpit for this kit. Always when resin does not go well, there is a nagging feeling at the back of the mind that perhaps there is something that I have done wrong, but after just finishing an entire resin kit (the MDC Typhoon, See Issue II) I don't think there is anything I have messed up. I don't want to sound too critical of the Black Box set, as some of it is very nice, but it is little more than copied kit parts, and after using Aires detail sets where the seats actually slide on the rails (e.g. both Su-27 & He I62 sets) I would have to say that the Black Box cockpit is not worth it, and in future I will wait and see what Aires do.

The kit however, fares much better. The overall construction is very pleasing, with the overall impression of a lot of parts and a complicated build being very misleading in this case, as the build is not too complex and goes very smoothly. The appearance of the model is also very good, and represents the clean and aggressive lines of the MiG-29M very well.



# FINAL VERDICT

Il twas finally time to finish this model that had been occupying my life for past few weeks. I have to say that I really appreciated the polycaps when fitting the stores, and the perfect fit of parts meant that items such as the nose cone, U/C doors, speed brakes and canopy all took their place with a gentle presiof as fingertip. To sum this model up would mean I'd have to resort to my usual flood of accolades, so instead, I'll just say that it's Tamiya's most complex, most detailed and most precise model aircraft kit yet, and that the fit of parts is close to perfect.

Was it worth the money? Every single penny, and more!

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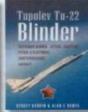
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BRISTOL BEAUFORT

# THE BRISTOL BEAUFORT

(With Special Historical Reference to Operations in the Mediterranean)

BUILT & WRITTEN BY RICHARD J. CARUANA



ighly successful in most roles accorded to it, in numerous theatres of operations during the Second World War, the Bristol Beaufighter owes much its genesis to the lesser-known Beaufort. The latter was, in itself, also derived from a previous important Bristol design, the Blenheim.

During the formulation of plans for the expansion of the Royal Air Force (RAF) in the mid-thirties, special attention was given to the role of the torpedo-bomber, which with a single blow could sink an enemy ship by launching a suitably modified torpedo from the air. Consideration was also given to the importance of aerial reconnaissance around Britain's coastline so that it could be kept clear of enemy ships and submarines. Up to that time the Vickers Vildebeeste and Avro Anson had respectively been carrying out these two roles. While the latter could lay some claim to modernity, being a monoplane, the former was a biplane of basic design dating back to 1930.

In September 1935, the RAF issued Specification M.15/35 calling for a new twin-engined land-based torpedo bomber, and Specification G.24/35 for a four-seat general reconnaissance aircraft. Needless to say, these specifications laid great importance on the need for the new aircraft to display a considerably higher performance and load-carrying capability than those they were intended to replace in service. Avro, Blackburn and Bristol were the only three aircraft manufacturers to respond to these requests. The first proposed an Anson derivative for the G.24/35 specification, powered by a pair of Armstrong Siddeley Terrier engines, under the designation of Type 672. Blackburn was obviously interested in the other request, due no doubt to its previous experience in producing torpedo-bombers (e.g. Dart, Ripon and Shark).

Bristol approached these specifications from a different angle. Although it
had no experience in the production of
aircraft in either of these roles, it knew
well that the Blenheim – that had just
been ordered into production – could
serve as an excellent basis to meet both
requirements. Toward the end of 1935,
the company submitted two separate
proposals, Type 149 in response to
G.24/35 consisting of a suitably modified Blenheim having a wider fuselage
to provide accommodation for four

crew members, and Type I50 to cover M.I5/35 whose fuselage was extensively modified so that a torpedo could be carried inside the bomb bay. Both designs featured the short, unstepped nose of the Blenheim Mk I.

Shortly afterwards, Bristol suggested that due to the similarity between Types I49 and I50, the two could be integrated into one design project designated Type I52. Fully detailed proposals in this regard were submitted in April 1936, providing accommodation for three crew members for either role. Power was to be supplied by a pair of Aquila AE-3M or Perseus VI engines, though it was estimated that the latter would provide a better overall performance. The torpedo was to be carried partially inside the bomb bay, the lower half remaining exposed.

The Air Ministry seems to have welcomed this suggestion and drew up Specification IO/36 around Bristol's Type I52. While the semi-recessed torpedo arrangement was accepted, officialdom continued to insist on a four-man crew. L.G. Frise's design team acted accordingly and raised the fuse-lage between the pilot's cockpit and dorsal turret. A decision was taken to

with the need of prototypes and both Bristol and Blackburn designs, intended to be powered by the 850hp Perseus engines, were ordered into production off the drawing board so as to speed up their introduction into service. Bristol's design received the name 'Beaufort' while Blackburn's B.26 was given the name 'Botha'.

dis-

pense

Bristol's first contract, issued on 22 August 1936, covered 78 aircraft (L444i-L45i8), the first five of which were to be retained for trials and development tasks at the Aircraft & Armament Experimental Establishment (A&AEE), the Torpedo Development Unit (TDU) and the Central Flying School (CFS). In view of the poor



performance estimates expected from the Perseus engines, it was decided to power these aircraft with the two-row Bristol Taurus then still under development. It was planned that production aircraft would be powered by the Taurus Mk II or Mk III (fully supercharged), expected to produce I,OIOhp, for which Bristol's engine division also designed a special close-fitting cowling.

Initial ground running of these engines, however, presented cooling problems and the cowlings had to be redesigned to incorporate conventional cooling gills. L444I took to the air for the first time on 15 October 1938. piloted by Cyril Uwins. On 17 April of the following year the aircraft had been transferred to Martlesham Heath (A&AEE) for three weeks of handling trials. The second Beaufort, L4442. flew shortly after L444I's first flight and was retained for manufacturer's development flying. L4443 was officially handed over to the RAF in May 1940, being lost the following month at Filton while undergoing engine cooling development trials. Since L4444 had been earmarked for the CFS, it was fitted with dual controls; L4445 went to the TDU for weapons' dropping trials.

# INTO PRODUCTION

Production standard Beauforts (L4446 onwards) began to leave Filton's line on 24 November 1939. The first few examples were passed on to No. 22 Squadron, on whom fell the onus of preparing the new aircraft for service through a series of intensive trials at Thorney Island. Partly through inexperience of the crews and partly through engine problems, the squadron suffered a number of losses, thankfully not all with fatal consequences.

The supercharged Taurus III was originally fitted as standard, although it was later believed that the Mk II would be more suited to the low-level role of the Beaufort. Eventually all Mk III-engined aircraft were returned to Filton during the first half of 1940 to be fitted with a modified Mk III engine designated Mk IIA: new aircraft were. meanwhile, being fitted with the Taurus Mk VI which was similar to the Mk II but specifically designed for the Beaufort. Originally the RAF had designated Taurus Mk III-powered aircraft as Beauforts Mk I, while those powered by the Taurus Mk II were designated Beauforts Mk II. With the appearance of the Taurus VI it was decided that all Taurus-engined Beauforts were to be



Detail shot of a Beaufort Mk I, DD959, \*Q from No.217 Squadron during its service from Luqa. It was lost during a shipping strike on 20th June 1942
(③ R.J. Caruana Archives)



Loading a 'tinfish' into the bomb bay of a Beaufort at Malta. As can be noticed, the torpedo did not fit completely into the bomb bay and was carried semi-exposed (© R.J. Caruana Archives)

known as Mk I while the designation of the Mk II was reserved for the Twin Waso-powered aircraft, as related later.

Production of the Beaufort soon began to pick up, though at first it suffered slightly due to an increase on the Blenheim line at Filton. Building of the aircraft by Blackburn had also been considered at one time, although this did not materialise.

# **AUSSIE BEAUS**

A British Air Mission visiting Australia in January 1939 was investigating the possibility of producing aircraft for the RAF and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) in that country, and by March the Beaufort had been chosen for this project. The Department of Aircraft Production (DAP) was established to control the Beaufort Division. Seen as a major challenge by standards of the embryonic Australian aircraft industry, success depended largely on diversifying as widely as possible the production of components by sub-contracting out to some 600 small workshops, while seven factories handled the major sub-assemblies. These were then to be sent to the main assembly lines at Fisherman's Bend and Mascot.

The eighth production Beaufort (L4448) built at Filton was shipped to Australia for trials and to be used as a pattern together with a set of parts for 20 examples. Re-serialled A9-100I, it had its Taurus engines replaced by I,200hp Pratt & Whitney (P&W) Twin Wasps. As early as July 1939, an order for 180 examples had been placed; half of these were earmarked for the RAAF and the other half were to be delivered to the RAF's Nos 36 and 100 Squadrons in Singapore.

All performance expectations of the P&W-powered 'prototype' (T9540) were exceeded and as from May 1941 several long-distance flights had been carried out. By August of that same year, the first DAP Beaufort had started its flight test programme. Only six Beauforts from the first run of Australian production reached Singapore before the rapid advance of the Japanese forced the British to withdraw early in 1942. It was therefore decided that all 180 examples were to be taken over by the RAAF.

# INTO SERVICE

Meanwhile, back home the initial contract for 78 Beauforts had been increased to 350, with production at

# Military STURICAL FEATURE

BRISTOL BEAUFORT

# "On 10th June 1942, twelve Beauforts of No.217 Squadron were 'requisitioned' by AOC Malta on the basis that the groundcrew party were not due to arrive in Ceylon before August!."

Filton reaching a peak of 30 aircraft per month during March 1940, barely five months after having started. To make up for the loss of the 90 DAP Beauforts, the RAF requested the same number from Bristol, the last five of which were to be built as Mk IIs powered by the P&W.

This was followed by an order for 165 Mk IIs, the first of which (NIIIO) served as prototype flying with the American engines in November 1940. Eventually production of the Mk I totalledI,014 aircraft. Production of the Mk II got under way in July 1941 with the first example being delivered to the RAF on IO September. The Twin Wasps, driving fully feathering Curtiss Electric propellers, improved the aircraft's take-off and single-engine performance. Above all it relieved pressure on Taurus engine production while at the same time providing the aircraft with greater reliability. Two guns replaced the single Vickers in the Daimler dorsal turret. 166 examples of this version were built, production ending in 1943 with ML722.

No 22 Squadron that had been working up with the type as early as January 1940 at Thorney Island, moving to North Coates in April. It had been established that the Beaufort's bomb bay was ideal for carrying mines. On the night of 15/16 April, No 22 flew nine Beauforts on their first operational sortie, laying mines in the Schilling Roads just north of Wilhelmshaven in response to the German invasion of Denmark and Norway. One aircraft failed to return. On the night of 17/18 April, the squadron performed its first bombing mission. The aircraft could carry four 250lb or two 500lb bombs, and on many occasions was deployed on anti-shipping sorties in the Skagerrak and against bases in Norway. The Beaufort's low flying and cumbersome performance made it an easy target for enemy fighters and ground defences, causing heavy losses to both aircraft and crews.

No 42 Squadron began to receive Beauforts in May 1940, having moved to Wick in Scotland. Engine problems had, by that time, become so acute that the type had to be grounded until August. The only exception was when nine Beauforts from this squadron were allowed to bomb the Scharnhorst off the Norwegian coast, after it had been damaged by torpedoes fired from the submarine HMS Clyde. This inconclusive raid cost the RAF a high price: three aircraft shot down by Bf 109s flying from Norway.

The first torpedo-bombing mission was performed by No 22 Squadron on II September 1940, after problems with the engines had been largely solved. Five Beauforts attacked a convoy off Ostend, hitting a 6,000-ton vessel. The third RAF unit to fly the type was No 86 Squadron based at North Coates, soon followed by No 217 at Thorney Island. No 22 moved to St Eval from where it launched a torpedo attack against the Gneisenau in the harbour of Brest on 6 April 1941. Fg Off Kenneth Campbell was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross (VC) after pressing home his attack in the face of an intense barrage, crippling the ship that remained out of action until the end of that year. This was the first aerial VC to be awarded during World War II. But such a heroic action was only the preview of what Beaufort crews were to face.

During the later months of 1941, No 415 (Canadian) Squadron and No 489 (New Zealand) Squadron began their conversion onto the Beaufort at Thorney Island.

# MAST HIGH IN THE MED

While the continuous Axis bombardment of Malta did not seem to reach the enemy's aim, that of subduing the Island into surrender, an enormous effort was made to try to cut off its supplies, starve the population and reduce its offensive and defensive capacity. By June 1942, this situation had reached alarming proportions and Beauforts of No 217 Squadron were flown to Luqa to provide cover for convoy operations.

Two conveys were despatched to the Island, Operation Harpoon from Gibraltar and Operation Vigorous from Alexandria, in the hope that one might manage to run the gauntlet. However, the state of No 217's aircraft and the inexperience of its crews left much to be desired. By I3 June, the scheduled arrival date of the first convoy, only nine aircraft had been rendered serviceable.

On IO June 1942, twelve Beauforts of No 217 Squadron passing through Luqa in transit to the Far East were 'requisitioned' by the Air Officer Commanding Malta (AOC) on the basis that the groundcrew parry were not due to arrive in Ceylon before August! They immediately went into action against enemy shipping sailing between Tripoli and Southern Italy, supplying the Afrika Korps. While attacking a heavily escorted enemy convoy on 21 June, the squadron lost three of its aircraft.

Five Beauforts from No 39 Squadron arrived in Malta the following day, and on 23 June joined those of No 217 in joint operations against an enemy convoy escorted by two destroyers which had been sighted at Punta Silo, Italy's south-eastern tip. A very hot reception awaited the Beauforts resulting in the loss of two of their number. However, two cargo ships had been successfully hit. Their damage was such that they had to turn back to Taranto to unload their cargo.

On 3 July, a morning sortie failed to locate the same convoy that had, by that time, set sail with fresh vessels. No 39's Commanding Officer (CO), Sqn Ldr Pat Gibbs, led three of his squadron's Beauforts, together with three others from No 217, for another try at dusk. The interception this time was successful, the enemy ships being sighted at extreme range. One of the ships was hit and had to make for a Greek port but during this action two Beauforts were hit by return fire. One of these was the aircraft flown by Gibbs himself, who just managed to nurse it back to base. A curious

Beaufort Mk I NI172, AW-S from No. 42 Squadron. This aircraft was forced to ditch after being hit during a shipping strike in the Skaggerak on 8th April 1942 (© R.J. Caruana Archives)

incident occurred on 28 July when a 217 Squadron crew were forced to ditch their aircraft at sea. They were picked up by an Italian Cant Z.506B and flown to Greece. On their flight to Taranto from Greece, the 'Commonwealth' crew (made up of one British, one South African and two New Zealanders) overpowered their guards and hijacked the Italian aircraft back to Malta!

By August 1942, No 39 Squadron had been practically wiped out and it was decided to replenish the unit with the remaining aircraft of No 217. More Beauforts arrived from No 86 Squadron, the residue of the parent unit in Egypt forming No 47 Squadron there. This enabled No 39 to be reborn as a full-fledged squadron, with 20 aircraft on strength, 16 of which were fully serviceable.





These strikes by Malta-based Beauforts, aided by Beaufighters, were hitting Rommel where it hurt most, in his mobility as supplies – particularly fuel – became scarcer. One of the most notable missions flown by No 39 Squadron was flown on 6 September when a 10,000-ton vessel was sunk and a 6,000 ton-ship was beached; one of the Beauforts even managed to shoot down a Macchi C.200. All this was achieved at a cost: two Beauforts shot down, and four badly damaged which barely made it back to base.

No 39 flew its last significant operation on 22 September when an enemy tanker was hit south of Corfú. Dilapidated, the unit was withdrawn to Egypt on I October to be restructured only to be called back to Luqa a week later. The unit was back in action on I2 November, though ten of the Beauforts were ordered to leave for Shallufa (Egypt) on 9 December.

Back to Malta on 2I January 1943, the unit began to undertake mine-laying missions apart from its usual duties. No 39 scored a notable success with the sinking of the 9,500-ton Throsheimer on 2I February with the launch of four torpedoes. This action deprived Rommel of 5,400 tons of fuel, half the total fuel loaded for North Africa during that month. At the end of March, No 39 Squadron finally left Malta for Heliopolis.

# **AUSTRALIAN VERSIONS AND EXPORTS**

Following the Allied landings in Sicily, Malta was secure and the need for Beauforts in this region diminished. The aircraft was now set for use in India and Ceylon.

The first Australian unit to be formed with the Beaufort was No IOO Squadron in February 1942, reaching operational readiness in June at Cairns. Its first operational mission, using Port Moresby as an advanced base, took place on 25 June attacking Japanese shipping off the New Guinea coast. No IOO flew the first RAAF Beaufort torpedo-bombing attack on 7 September.

First 50 Beauforts of Australian production were designated Mk V, and were powered by Twin Wasps built by General Motors-Holden Ltd in that country. The Beaufort Mk VI consisted of a batch of 40 examples powered by imported P&W R-1830-SIC3G engines driving Curtiss propellers, while 60 Mk VIIs had similar engines but with Hamilton-Standard props. These were followed by 30 Mk VA powered by locally-built engines and Hamilton-Standard propellers. The definitive Australian version, the Mk VIII, of which 520 were ordered, featured GM-Holden Twin Wasps driving Curtiss Electric props, British ASV radar, Bristol Mk Bl or Mk V dorsal turret (replaced by the Mk VE turret with twin 0.50in guns on the last I40 examples), and enlarged fuel tankage. Moreover all Australianbuilt Beauforts featured an enlarged fin area, introduced on the 91st production machine and fitted retrospectively to those previously built.

Nos 6 and 8 Squadrons RAAF were next to fly the type while some Beauforts were also delivered to Nos

"21st August: Nine Beauforts attacked a I0,000-ton tanker (with escort of five destroyers) near Corfù. Three hits claimed, and Beaufighters hit a destroyer

destroyers) near Corfu. Three hits claimed, and Beaufighters hit a destroyer with bombs. The tanker appeared to be stationary when last seen, and was emitting steam. Subsequent reconnaissance showed her beached, with a large patch of oil on the sea. Wellingtons tried unsuccessfully to ignite this oil with fire bombs. One crew lost. Beaufighter escort destroyed one Ju 52, two Piaggio [Fiat] 32s and two BR.20s.

\*26 August: Nine Beauforts attacked one MV of 6,000 tons escorted by one destroyer north of Benghazi. One torpedo broke the ship's back, and subsequent hits set her ablaze from stem to stern. Escorting Beaufighter destroyed a Cont.

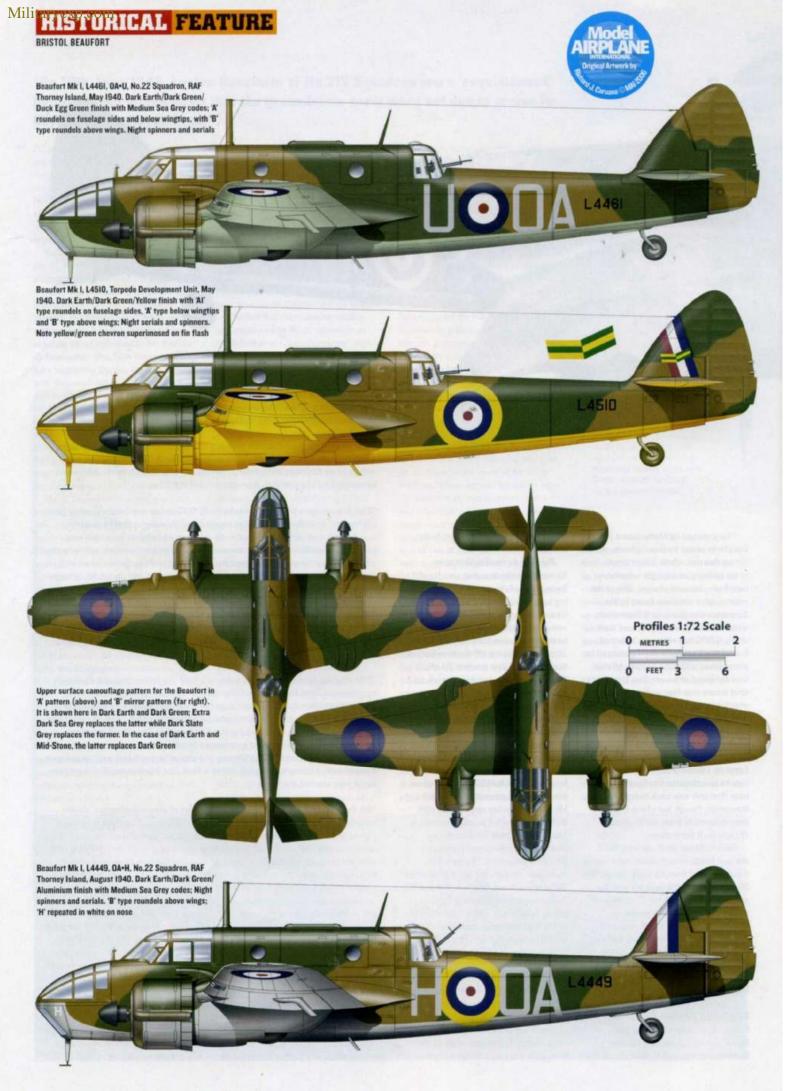
"30th August: Nine Beauforts attacked a 5,000-ton tanker and one destroyer south-bound from Taranto. The CO's torpedo was seen to hit. A second hit caused the tanker to blow up and burn furiously. Superstructure was thrown high in the air. One pilot's prize moustache was endangered when he performed a 'fly through fire' act at something like 250 feet. One Cant Z.501 was flying above the ship. There followed an example of mob violence of unequalled ferocity. All the escorting Beaufighters and almost all the Beauforts' air gunners popped away at it until it was left minus a float. The bewildered pilot must have had a very worried trip home.

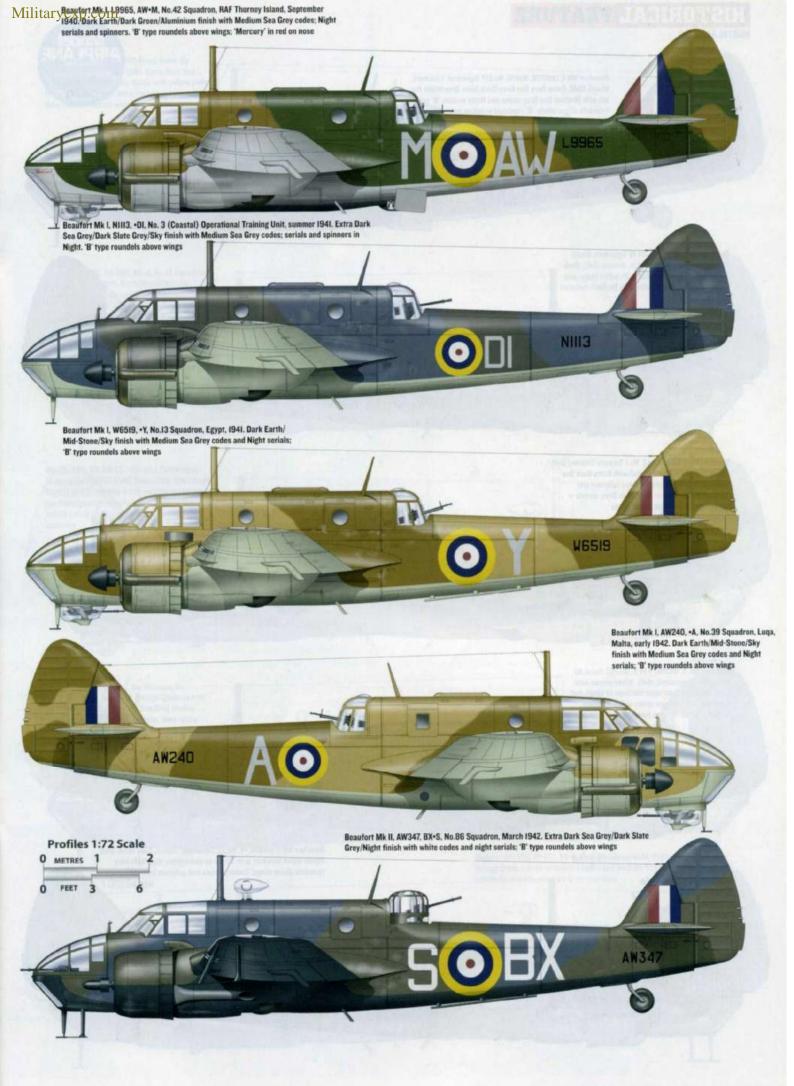
**"6th September:** Four motor vessels with escort of eleven destroyers, south-bound from Taranto, were attacked by twelve Beauforts. The intense flak and fighter attacks prevented the observation of results, but subsequent reconnaissance showed that one MV of 10,000 tons was sunk and another MV of 6,000 tons beached. All the Beauforts were attacked by fighters. Once again the Beaufighters saved the day with some damn good work — thanks boys! They bagged three, confirmed. One Beaufort shot down a Macchi C.200."

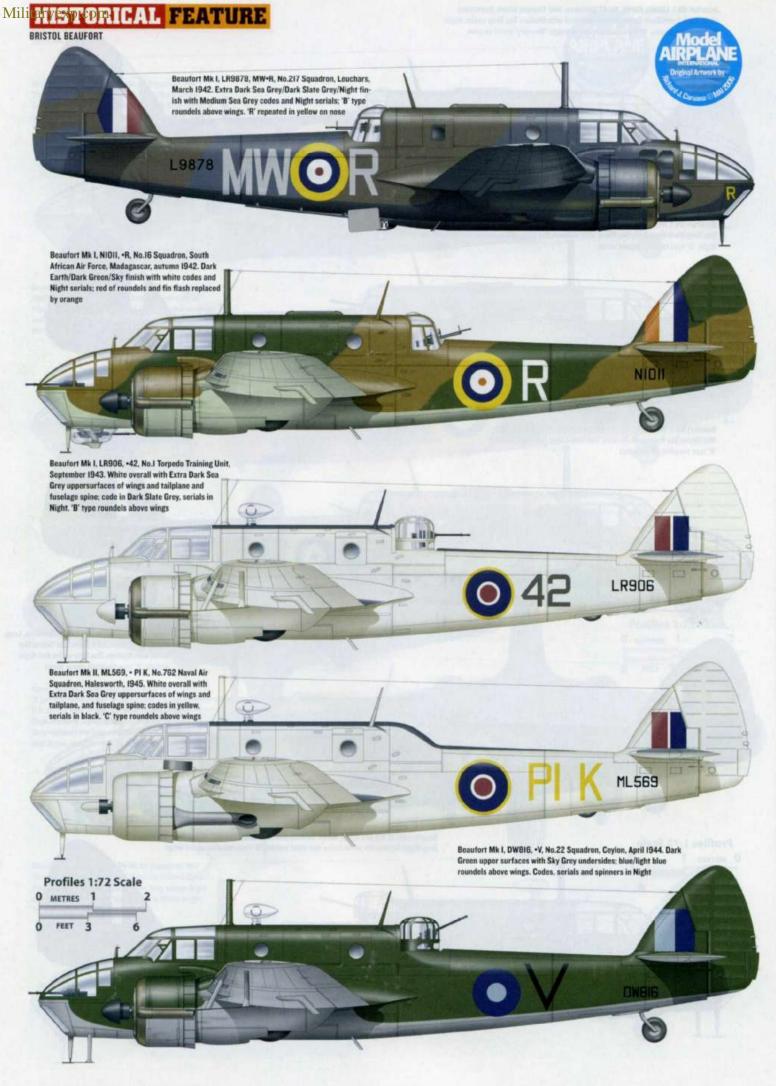
7 and I4 Squadrons flying Hudsons. Final version of the DAP Beaufort was the Mk IX, basically a transport model with dorsal turret removed and its area faired over. The first of 46 examples appeared late in 1944. Probably the least glamorous task assigned to the Australian Beauforts was that of spraying insecticide to combat the great locust plague of 1947.

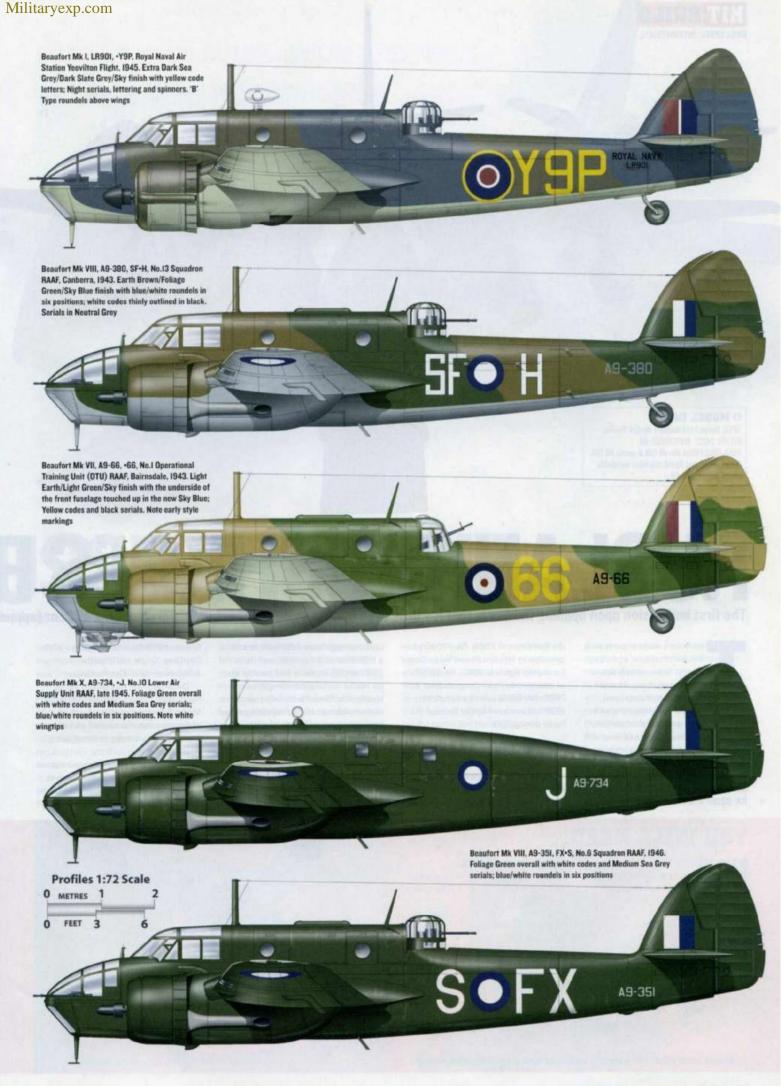
The Beaufort did not enjoy the export success of its other stablemates.

- the Blenheim and Beaufighter. I8
Beauforts were passed on to the South
African Air Force (SAAF), for use by
No I6 Squadron. Plans to introduce
the type in Canada were unsuccessful,
although I49 Squadron was formed
with I2 Beauforts. The only other user
was Turkey, which received a batch of
I3 Mk IAs and I2 Mk IIs during early
1945. It is believed that these were the
last Beauforts to remain in service,
being declared surplus in 1950.











# RUSLAN - PUSHKIN'S R

The first impression upon opening the box is that it's BIG!, even in 1:144 scale the finished model measures 47.8cm (approx

here are a mass of parts with five build options: wheels up, wheels down, wheels down rear ramp down, wheels down kneeling with front door open and finally wheels down kneeling with front door open and rear door partially open. At the bottom of the box is an equally large decal sheet, the majority of markings being stencils, most of which go on the underside of the wings. Five decal options are given: RA-82045 & RA-82081 which undertook flights for

the Red Cross in 2003, RA-82045 as operated by Heavy-Lift and Volga-Dnepr for charity flights in 2003, RA-82075 as operated by Polet Cargo Airlines in 2005, RA-8202I used by Aeroflot in 1998 and one used by the Russian Air Force during 2001

#### **FUSELAGE INTERIOR**

From the start I intended to build the model straight from the box and began by cleaning up (minimal) the interior sections, loading ramps and main

undercarriage bays. I did have to add a little filler to the interior wall parts (#II9 to I22) as these had parallel ejector marks running their length on the visible side. These were fully painted and weathered before assembling them because of the multitude of different colours ranging from green, light grey, yellow, orange, and aluminium.

I sprayed the parts and shaded them with lighter shades of the base colour. which came from the Tamiya range of acrylic paints as follows:

Green - XF58 Olive Green, Grey - XFI9 Sky Grey, Yellow - XF3 Yellow Aluminium - XFI6 Flat Aluminium

Detail painting was picked out by hand using colours from the Vallejo Model Colour range. A wash of raw umber oil paint was applied and when dry the parts were dry-brushed using Revell enamels.

All interior sub-assemblies were glued into place between the fuselage halves. A weight is required to prevent the model from tail sitting and I used the metal

#### YOU WILL NEED...

#### Before starting:

- Thin Cyanoacrylate & Accelerator
- Araldite two-part epoxy cement
- Tamiya Extra thin cement
- Tamiya putty
- Tamiya masking tape
- Sanding Sticks & Files
- Micromesh polishing cloth set
- Johnsons Klear
- Super Sol & Set

#### Recommended paints:

Tamiya acrylic XF2 Flat White XF3 Yellow

XF7 Flat Red XFI6 Flat Aluminium XFI9 Sky Grey

XF20 Medium Grey XF58 Olive Green XF63 Neutral Grey XF66 Light Grey

Xtracrylix acrylic: XAIF Flat Varnish Oil paints: Raw Umber

> We told you it was big. se here's lan holding the model to give you an idea of just how big in 1:144



Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



## **USSIAN KNIGHT** Bin) long with a wingspan of 50.7cm (approx. 20in).

weight supplied in Tamiya I:700 scale warship kits (I don't use them), and this was fitted behind the cockpit bulkhead.

#### **FUSELAGE EXTERIOR**

After the fuselage halves and bottom section were set the tail surfaces were assembled and glued into place. A little filler was required here and there but nothing too serious. This was rubbed down using wet 'n' dry paper, however during this process some of the panel lines were erased and had to be rescribed. Main undercarriage doors were assembled and test fitted but left off the model till later. Parts #132 (four of them) are pitot probes that fit to the side of the fuselage and these were left off until the decals

had been applied. The nose section was assembled and was left to be added later.

#### UNDERCARRIAGE

The undercarriage parts were assembled and test fitted into the bays but were painted separately and added later. The oleo struts were sprayed XF2 (Flat White) and given a wash before the chrome areas were picked out by hand. The wheel hubs are XFI6 (Flat Aluminium) and the tyres were hand-painted using Vallejo black/ grey. Once this was all dry they were lightly dry-brushed to weather them and bring out the raised and recessed detail.

#### **WINGS & ENGINES**

Although the instructions call out for the painting of the fan blades of the engines before assembly I left them till later. The engine pod assemblies

go together with no problems and fit snugly into the lower wing recesses at their location points. The wings come in two main upper and lower halves with the flap actuator pylons installed separately. Once again no problems with fit, although I left off the wingtip lights (Parts #130 and 131) and added them right at the end of the build.

I decided to keep the wing assemblies separate from the fuselage until I had applied the decals and highlighted the panel lines.

## **ALSO RECOMMENDED...**

- Airliners of the World by Stewart Wilson (The Crowood Press 2000, ISBN: I-8756-7144-7)
- Antonov's Heavy Transports by Y. Gordon and S & D.
- Komissarov, Red Star Volume 18 (Midland Publishing 2004, ISBN I-8578-0182-2)

#### Dimensions

Span - 73.3m Length - 69.1m Height - 20.78m

#### Dimensions - 1:144

Span - 507mm Length - 478mm Height - 144.3mm

Even detail inside the massive cargo bay is good and there are a number of colours used to make this area guite eye-catching



Wear the right protective clothing when advised to



"A weight is required to prevent the model from tail sitting and I used the metal weight supplied in Tamiya 1:700 scale warship kits (I don't use them), and this was fitted behind the cockpit bulkhead"



With the nose ramp down, lan opted to build the rear doors open and the ramp partially down

#### - PAINTING

After masking the fuselage, nose and undercarriage bays, the various assemblies were sprayed overall in XF66 Light Grey. I then mixed a lighter shade of the colour and highlighted all of the areas that were to remain grey. This was masked off and the white (XF2) applied. The same system applied for the leading edges of the tail surfaces, fin and wings, which were sprayed XFI6 (Flat Aluminium) with XF7 (Flat Red) used for the outer sections of the tail and wings. For the Mouse Grey colour for the extreme tail section and part of the nose I used XF63 (Neutral Grey), highlighted with XF20 (Medium Grey).

After removing all the masking, detail painting was done and then a coat of clear varnish was sprayed overall.

#### DECALS

There are a hell of a lot of them; approx. I25 per wing underside alone! I chose the Russian Air Force variant as I am not a great lover of civilian markings. I started applying the decals to the fuselage first, leaving the wings till last, and using a mild decal setting solution they settled down perfectly. I did find that some of the stencil markings on the decal sheet didn't tally with the instructions, obviously a misprint somewhere. To get around this I applied the 'known'

#### STEP BY STEP GUIDE - INTERIOR



The assembled and painted cockpit unit



The painted and weathered cargo deck rear sections



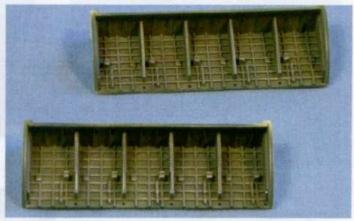
The forward and mid sections of the cargo deck walls after painting and weathering

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents

### **STEP BY STEP GUIDE - MAIN ASSEMBLY**



An overall view of the painted and weathered interior and fuselage sub-assemblies



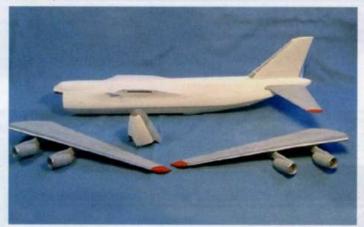
The main undercarriage bays



ABOVE and BELOW: Two views of main sub-assemblies of this kit (fuselage, wings and nose cone) before final assembly



A batch of various sub-assemblies including the cargo deck frame bulkheads, access ladders and main undercarriage units





The model assembled before decal application and weathering commences



The cargo bay roof and floor sections plus the front and rear ramps



Wear the right protective clothing when advised to









The cavernous cargo area, looking towards the tail



The cargo area again, this time looking towards the front. Note the crane built into this area

## PHOTO ALBUM - ANTONOV An-124

All photos © Ken Duffey



The internal structure of the tail area with that mix of colours used for each area



On the flight deck looking at the port side



A view behind the port seat on the flight deck showing the navigator's station



Overall view up into the massive hinged nose section. The canvas cover under the flight deck section is noteworthy



RA-82073 in a rather plain scheme



A look up at the roof of the flight deck area, which is surprisingly uncluttered



Overall view of the starboard seat on the flight deck



ABOVE LEFT & RIGHT: Two views of RA-82075 in 'Cargo' livery



An-124 operated by Titan freight



This is actually the view back behind the flight deck into the dorsal 'hump' above the cargo bay area



Some alternative schemes for the An-I24. This is a Heavy Lift-Volgar Dnepr operated example





RA-82027 operated by the manufacturer, Antonov





There is plently of scope to weather the An-I24, both inside and out

#### "The engine pod assemblies go together with no problems and fit snugly into the lower wing recesses at their location points"

 decale first, then worked out what the others were from those that were left.

#### FINAL STAGES

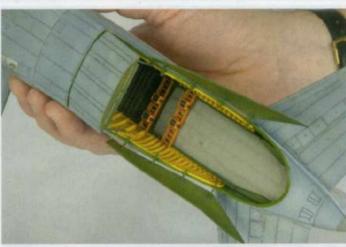
The finished undercarriage assemblies were glued in place along with the rear cargo and main undercarriage doors.

To achieve a subtle weathering effect I first lined in all of the panel lines using

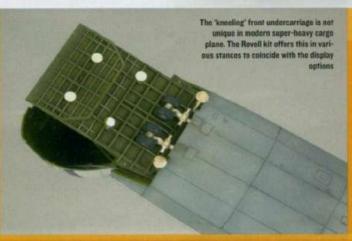
a graphite pencil for the grey, aluminium and red areas, with a medium grey artists pencil used for the white areas. Once complete the model was sprayed with Xtracrylix flat varnish and the remaining assemblies were glued into position. A little pastel chalk was used to enhance the subtle weathering and that's it - finished.

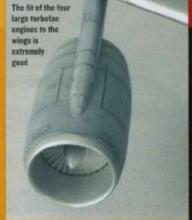


If you hate painting wheels, don't build the Ruslan! With ten wheels per side it is quite a tedious task









#### FINAL VERDICT

■ I would heartily recommend this kit to anyone bar beginners and that is simply due to the number of parts and all those decals. Fit of the parts is excellent and only a little filler was required. I dread to think what's next, the An-224? Our thanks to Revell AG (UK Branch) for the review sample.

Was it worth the effort? Definitely, as you get a really striking model that is huge even in this 'small' scale!

Always ensure that you work in a well-ventilated area when using solvents



AMI480202 1/48 SB2U-3 'Vindicator' \$ 28.45



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TP2814 1/48 **Focke Wulf** Fw.200C-4 Condor \$79.95

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1:48 & 1:72

Improved and updated conversion, including resin and photo-etch parts in 1:48. Fits the Hasegawa kits. New set in 1:72 fits the Revell F-16B kit.

Coming soon: Delilah & Popeye 1:48 including data link pods, glass eyes and decals

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MACH2672 X-24A and X-24B double kit	£21,99
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MACH7228 P8M3/5 Mariner Bying boat	E38.80
MACH7229 E-18 Tracer	£23.80
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# ne o7/2006 - Latest news & information for Scale Aircraft Modellers

EXEY NT - New Tooling, RT - Revised Tooling, RE - Reissue, with or without new decals, PE - Photo-Etched Brass, IM - Injection Moulded Plastic including Limited Run, R - Resin, RB - Rubber, VF - Vac-formed Plastic, WM - White-metal or Pewter

## News - Just Released

■ The below lists kit releases since our last edition. Please note those items with a non-Sterling price (e.g. ¥ = Yen) have been released in that country but are, as yet, not on general release in the UK. For all the latest news check out our website at www.modelairplaneinternational.com

MANUFACTURER		ITEM #		DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NOTE
Academy	1:72	12407	IM	LTV F-8P Crusader 'French Navy Special'	£14.99	RT Ltd Edition
Anigrand Craftwork	1:72	2059	R/VF	Republic XF-84H (XF-106) Thunderscreech	\$45.00	NT
Attack	1:144	14411	IM	Sukhoi Su-7UM	£5.80	RT
A&V Models	1:72	145	R/VF	Bachem Ba 349A	£15.30	NT
A&V Models	1:72	146	R/VF	Bachem Ba 349V	£15.30	NT
Azur	1:32	045	IM/R/PE	Curtiss H-75A-I/3 Hawk 'In French Service'	£36.99	RE Ex-Special Hobby
Classic Airframes	1:48	4126	IM/R	English Electric Canberra B.2	£39.95	NT
Classic Airframes	1:48	4127	IM/R	English Electric Canberra B.2 'Export'	£39.95	NT
CMR	1:72	150	R	Hawker Nimrod Mk II	£24.99	NT
CMR	1:72	156	R	Hawker-Siddeley Buccaneer S Mk 2B	£57.99	RT
CMR	1:72	160	R	North American P-5IH Mustang	£26.30	NT
Dragon	1:48	5522	IM/PE	Focke-Wulf TA I54A-0 Nachtjäger '3 in I'	£25.99	RT
Eduard	1:72	2102	IM/PE	Aero L-39 Albatros 'Dual Combo'	£13.50	RE
Eduard	1:48	1117	IM/PE	Yak-IB	£17.99	RE Ex-Accurate Miniatures
Eduard	1:48	8060	IM/PE	Sopwith Camel 'Dual Combo'	£21.60	RE
FE Resin	1:144	14067	R	Douglas KA-3A Skywarrior	£10.35	NT
Hasegawa	1:72	00386	IM	SAAB J-350 Draken 'Austrian A.F. Farewell'	¥3000	RE
COLORED BEAUTIFE CO.	1:72	00386	IM	McDD RF-4C Phantom II 'USAF'	£17.99	RE
Hasegawa						312
Hasegawa	1:72	00800	IM	F/A-I8E Super Hornet 'VFA-213 Pukin' Dogs'	¥2000	RE
Hasegawa	1:72	00803	IM	Heinkel He IIIH-6 'North Africa'	¥3200	RE
Hasegawa	1:72	00806	IM	RF-4E Phantom II 'Tiger Meet 1984'	¥2800	RE
Hasegawa	1:72	00808	IM	F-I4B Tomcat 'VF-II Red Rippers'	¥3000	RE
Hasegawa	1:72	00809	IM	F/A-18F Super Hornet 'VFA-II Red Rippers'	¥2200	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09682	IM	Hurricane Mk I Trop 'Mediterranean Theatre'	¥2400	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09683	IM	F-I4D Tomcat 'VF-2I3 Black Lions Last Cruise'	¥4800	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09684	IM	McDD AV-8B Harrier Plus II 'Italian Navy'	¥3200	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09685	IM	McDD RF-4E Phantom II 'IDF'	¥3800	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09688	IM	P-5ID Mustang 'Yellow Nose'	¥2400	RE
Hasegawa	1:48	09691	IM	F-14B Tomcat 'VF-32 Swordsmen'	¥4800	RE
Hasegawa	1:32	08165	IM	Fieseler Fil56C Storch with Rommel figure	¥4200	RE
HR Models	1:48	4819	R/PE	Aero A.15/15 'Czech Air Force'	£33.15	RE
Italeri	1:72	1104	IM	Messerschmitt Me 323D-I Gigant	£23.99	RE Ltd Edition
Italeri	1:72	1141	IM	Lockheed YF-12A	£11.99	The same and some some some
Wilderick	- Internation					RE Ltd Edition
Italeri	1:72	1253	IM	Lockheed Hudson Mk III/IV	£10.99	NT Ex-MPM
Italeri	1:48	2648	IM	Panavia Tornado IDS	£12.50	RE
Italeri	1:48	2649	IM	MiG-23MF Flogger	£12.50	RE Ex-Esci
Italeri	1:48	2656	IM	Douglas A-20B/Boston III	£16.99	RE Ex-AMT
Kora	1:72	7271	IM/R	Lavochkin La-5 M7I	£21.40	RT
Mach 2	1:72	7236	IM/VF	Vickers Valiant	£46.50	NT
MPM	1:72	72518	IM/R/PE	Lockheed Hudson Mk I/II 'Patrol Bomber'	£15.25	NT
MPM	1:48	48058	IM/R/PE	Heinkel He 177A-5 'Grief'	£54.60	NT
Omega Models	1:72	72051	R/PE	Borovkov Florov I-207 with DM-4 pulse-jets	£24.70	NT
Planet Models	1:72	143	R/VF	XF- 9I-III Thunderceptor 'Radar Version'	£33.99	NT
Roden	1:72	055	IM	Zeppelin Staaken R.VI	£49.99	NT
Roden	1:48	413	IM	Grumman OV-I Mohawk	£22.99	RT
Revell	1:144	04030	IM	Panavia Tornado IDS	£2.99	RE
Revell	1:144	04048	IM	Panavia Tornado ECR	£2.99	RE
Revell	1:72	04399	IM	Sukhoi Su-24M	£13.99	RE Ex-Italeri
Revell	1:72	04638	IM	Lockheed P-3C Orion	£19.99	RE Ex-Hasegawa
Revell	1:48	04526	IM			
				Republic F-84F	£12.99	RE Ex-Monogram
Revell	1:48	04562	IM	Candair Sabre Mk 6	£14.99	RE Ex-Hasegawa
Revell	1:48	04568	IM	Eurofighter Typhoon [single-seat]	£14.99	NT
Revell	1:48	05244	IM IN IN INC.	Ryan NYP 'Spirit of St Louis'	£12.99	NT
Special Hobby	1:72	72113	IM/R/PE	Fokker D.XXI Sarja 4 'Slot Less Wings'	£10.99	RT
Sram	1:144	050	R/PE	Ponier M.I	£9.99	NT
Tamiya	1:48	61097	IM	Heinkel He 162A-2 Salamander	¥2500	NT
Trumpeter	1:32	02245	IM/PE	LTV A-7D Corsair II	£59.99	RT
Zvezda	1:144	7001	IM	Ilyushin II-86	£12.99	NT



Azur #A045 Curtiss H-75A-1/3 Hawk



CMR #150 Hawker Nimrod Mk II



Eduard #1117 Yakovlev Yak-18



Hasegawa #00386 SAAB J-350 Draken



Italeri #1253 Lockheed Hudson Mk III/IV





MPM 48058 Heinkel He 177A-5 'Greif'



Revell #04568 Eurofighter Typhoon

**EXEY NT** - New Tooling, RT - Revised Tooling, RE - Reissue, with or without new decals, PE - Photo-Etched Brass, IM - Injection Moulded Plastic including Limited Run, R - Resin, RB - Rubber, VF - Vac-formed Plastic, WM - White-metal or Pewter

#### COMING SOON!

■ Listed below are some of the new releases and reissues due in the next couple of months both in the UK and elsewhere in the world. Those items with a non-Sterling price (e.g. ¥ = Yen) are ones for which we do not have a UK SRP (Suggested Retail Price) and the release dates shown will be in that country (e.g. Yen = Japan), not the UK. For up-to-date news on all the latest releases visit our website at www.modelairplaneinternational.com.

MANUFACTURER Academy	SCALE 1:48	ITEM # 12209	TYPE	DESCRIPTION Sikorsky CH-53E Super Sea Stallion 'USMC'	PRICE £49.99	NOTE NT June 2006
Alanger	1:48	48203	IM	MiG-3 'A Pokrishkin'	€11.25	RE Ex-ICM
Anigrand Craftwork	1:72	TBA	R/PE	Platt Le Page XR-IA	£TBA	NT July 2006
Anigrand Craftwork	1:72	TBA	R/PE	Bell YAH-63	£TBA	NT July 2006
Azur	1:72	AIROI	IM/R/PE	Potez 637A.3 with gondola	£15.99	RT Ltd Edition
Azur	1:72	AIR02	IM/R/PE	Loire 130C.1 Colonial	£14.30	RT Ltd Edition
Azur	1:72	AIR03	IM/R/PE	Latecoere 298DE	£17.75	RT Ltd Edition
Azur	1:48	A057	IM/R/PE	Potez 630	£TBA	NT June 2006
Azur	1:48	A058	IM/R/PE	Potez 63I	£TBA	NT June 2006
Azur	1:48	A051	IM/R/PE	Loire I30M	£TBA	NT July 2006
Classic Airframes	1:48	4119	IM/R/PE	Anson Mk I 'Export Version'	£TBA	NT June 2006
CMR	1:72	170	R/VF	Supermarine Type 300 Spitfire Prototype	£TBA	NT
CMR	1:72	5097	R/VF	Supermarine Spitfire F Mk 22/24	£TBA	NT
Dragon	1:144	4584	IM	Sukhoi Su-35 & Su-37	¥950	RT
Dragon	1:144	4583	IM	F-II7A 'Baja Scorpion & Grey Dragon'	¥950	RE
Dragon	1:72	5028	IM	Kawasaki Ki-6l Type 3 Hien '3 in I'	¥2500	RE
Dragon	1:48	5546	IM	He I62 & Me 262 Mistel	¥4000	RT
Eduard	1:48	1118	IM/PE	Bristol F.2B 'Bristish'	641.00	RE
Eduard	1:48	8148	IM	Polikarpov I-16 Type IO	€21.50	NT
Eduard	1:48	TBA	IM/PE	Bell Airacobra 'Dual Combo'	£TBA	RE
Eduard	1:48	TBA	IM/PE/R	V.S. Spitfire F Mk 22/24 'Dual Combo'	£TBA	RE Ex-Airfix
Fine Molds	1:72	FL-II	IM	Messerschmitt Bf IO9G-IO	¥2200	RT
Fine Molds	1:72	FL-12	IM	Messerschmitt Bf IO9K-4	¥2200	RT
Fine Molds	1:48	FB-13	IM	Kawasaki Type 95 Fighter Model II Ki-IO	¥2800	NT
Fine Molds	1:48	FB-14	IM	Kawasaki Type 95 Fighter Model II Kato Ki-ID	¥2800	NT
And the second s		8921	IM/R/PE	Etrich Taube NV [1913]	€23.50	RE
Flashback	1:48	8922	IM/R/PE	Aviatik Berg D.I (Lo) Series II5	617.00	RE
Flashback				N.A. F-86F Sabre 'Blue Impulse Tenyugumi'	¥2200	RE
Fujimi	1:72	1903	IM	Grumman F-I4D 'Last Tomcat'	¥3000	RE
Fujimi	1:72	1910	1000	McDD Phantom FG.I 'No.III Squadron'	¥2500	RE
Fujimi	1:72		IM IM		¥2500	RE
Fujimi	1:72	1934	IM/PE	McDD Phantom FGR.2 'Last British Phantom' Pfalz E.I	£TBA	NT Due June
Gavia	1:48	0145		Fieseler Fi 156 Storch	£TBA	NT Due 2006
Gavia	1:48	TBA TBA	IM/PE	TO STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	£TBA	NT Due 2006
Gavia	1:48	7,000,000		V.S. Spitfire Mk Vc	€7.00	NT Due 2006
Gran	1:72	72004	IM IM	MiG-15bis MiG-15B/Ish	£7.00	NT
Gran	1:72	72006		A TOTAL CONTRACTOR	€10.50	NT
Gran	1:72	72040	IM	IA-58 Pucara Petlyakov Pe-2 Bomber	612.00	RE Ex-Zlinek
Gran	1:72	72048	IM		612.00	RE ex-Zlinek
Gran	1:72	72049	IM	Petlyakov Pe-3 Bis Fighter	¥2400	RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:72	00387	IM	Fuji T-IB 'Final Flight'	¥2600	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:72	00807	IM	Mitsubishi Ki-46-III 'Independant I7th Squadron'	¥2400	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:72	00810	IM	Kawasaki Ki-45 Kai Koh '13th Flight Regiment'	¥3000	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:72	00811	IM	F-I4D Tomcat 'VF-2I3 Last Cruise'	¥4200	NT July 2006
Hasegawa	1:72	E25	IM	Junkers Ju 88A-4	¥2600	RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:72	KI5X	IM	Lockheed P-3C Orion	¥1000	RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:72	QP3	IM	Lockheed T-33A 'JASDF'		
Hasegawa	1:72	QP4	IM	Fuji MU-2J	¥1000	RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:48	09394	IM	Mitsubishi AGM2 Type 21 Zero	¥2200	RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:48	09694	IM	F-IO4S Starfighter ASA	¥2800	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	09695	IM	Kawasaki T-4 with Cartograf decals	¥3000	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	09696	IM	RF-4E Phantom II 'AG5I Immelmann Special'	¥3600	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	09697	IM	F-I4B Tomcat 'VF-I43 Pukin Dogs Last Cruise'	¥4800	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	09700	IM	Lockheed F-IO4DJ Starfighter 'JASDF'	¥2600	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	JT9I	IM	Focke-Wulf Fw 190A-4	¥2400	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:48	JT92	IM	Bell P-400 Airacobra	¥2600	RE acce
Hasegawa	1:32	08167	IM	Focke-Wulf Fw 190D-9 'Sachsenberg Schwarm'	¥4200	RE July 2006
Hasegawa	1:8	ZX3	Various	Fokker Dr.I		RE Japan Only
Hasegawa	1:8	ZX4	Various	Wright Flyer	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	RE Japan Only
Kora	1:72	7278	R/PE	Blackburn R.29 Ripon II F Sarja II with floats	E62.00	NT
Kora	1:72	7279	R/PE	Blackburn R.29 Ripon II F Sarja III with skis	662.00	NT



Academy #12209 Sikorsky CH-53E Super Sea Stallion 'USMC'



Azur #AIRO3 Latecoere 298DE



Classic Airframes #4119 Avro Anson Mk I



CMR #170 Supermarine Type 300



Dragon #5546 He 162 & Me 262 Mistel



Hasegawa #00387 Fuji T-IB 'Last Flight'



Hasegawa #JT92 Bell P-400 Airacobra

■ KEY NT - New Tooling, RT - Revised Tooling, RE - Reissue, with or without new decals, PE - Photo-Etched Brass, IM - Injection Moulded Plastic including Limited Run, R - Resin, RB - Rubber, VF - Vac-formed Plastic, WM - White-metal or Pewter

#### COMING SOON!

■ Listed below are some of the new releases and reissues due in the next couple of months both in the UK and elsewhere in the world. Those items with a non-Sterling price (e.g. ¥ = Yen) are ones for which we do not have a UK SRP (Suggested Retail Price) and the release dates shown will be in that country (e.g. Yen = Japan), not the UK. For up-to-date news on all the latest releases visit our website at www.modelairplaneinternational.com.

MANUFACTURER	SCALE	ITEM #	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NOTE
Kora	1:72	7281	R/PE/VF	Siebel Si 201	631.75	NT
Kora	1:48	4811	R/VF	Kugisho Ohka Model 22	B41.25	NT
Kora	1:48	4812	R/PE/VF	Focke- Wulf Fw 44J Stieglitz with skis 'Finland'	€50.00	NT
Maquette	1:72	72042	IM	Ilyushin II-10 Sturmovik	€7.25	NT
Omega Models	1:72	72216	R/PE	Lavechkin La-9 D-I3	€35.75	NT
Omega Models	1:72	72217	R/PE	Lavochkin La-9 PVRD-430	€35.75	NT
Omega Models	1:72	72251	R/PE	Friedrichshaffen FF-49B/C	€47.74	NT
Omega Models	1:48	48030	R/PE	Borovkov-Florov I-207 with FAB-250 bombs	€62.00	RT
OzMods	1:144	14404	IM	Lockheed T-33	\$12.95	NT
OzMods	1:144	14409	IM	Lockheed P-80 Shooting Star	\$12.95	NT
Planet Models	1:72	142	R/VF	Loire-Nieuport LN.42	\$51.00	NT
Planet Models	1:72	173	R/VF	Focke-Wulf Fw 190D-11	\$45.00	NT
Planet Models	1:48	100	R	Letov S.23I	£TBA	NT
Planet Models	1:48	181	R	Letov S.528	£TBA	NT
Revell	1:72	04252	IM	Lockheed LI049G Super Constellation	£12.99	NT September 2006
Revell	1:72	04374	IM	Lavochkin LA-5 FN	£3.99	RE Ex-Italeri
Revell	1:72	04378	IM	MiG-31	£13.99	RE Ex-Condor
Revell	1:72	04387	IM	Focke-Wulf Fw 200C-8 Condor & Hs 298	£13.99	RT August 2006
Revell	1:72	04398	IM	Douglas A-IE Skyraider	£4.99	RE September 2006
Revell	1:72	04485	IM	Eurocopter Tiger	£6.99	NT October 2006
Revell	1:72	04489	IM	NH-90 NATO Helicopter	£13.99	RT October 2006
Revell	1:72	04493	IM	Kamov Ka-29	£8.95	RE September 2006
Revell	1:72	04602	IM	C-I60 Transall	£19.99	RE September 2006
Revell	1:72	04639	IM	T-6G Harvard	£3.99	RE July 2006
Revell	1:32	04253	IM	LS-8a Glider	£12.99	NT September 2006
Revell	1:32	04727	IM	Hawker Hunter F Mk 6	£24.99	RT July 2006
Roden	1:48	412	IM	Royal Aircraft Factory B.E.I2b	£TBA	NT
Roden	1:48	428	IM	Bristol F.2b with Sunbeam Arab engine	£TBA	RT
Special Hobby	1:72	72118	IM/R/PE	Messerschmitt Me 263 VI 'German Rocket Fighter	£TBA	NT
Special Hobby	1:72	72119	IM/R/PE	Lloyd C.V Serie 46	£TBA	NT
Special Hobby	1:72	72121	IM/R/PE	Hawker Sea Fury T Mk 61 'Baghdad Trainer Fury'	£TBA	RT
Sweet	1:144	14114	IM	North American P-5IB/C 'Razorback' Mustang	¥1000	NT
Trumpeter	1:32	02249	IM/PE	Grumman A-6A Intruder	¥12000	NT
Trumpeter	1:35	05105	IM/PE	Boeing-Vertol CH-47D	¥12800	RT
Trumpeter	1:32	02241	IM/PE	Douglas SBD-I/2 Dauntless	£59.99	NT
Valom	1:72	72013	IM/P/PE	Supermarine Walrus Mk I	£21.40	NT
Valom	1:72	72014	IM/R/PE	Supermarine Seagull Mk V	£21.40	NT
	-				-	



Gran #72049 Petlyakov Pe-3bis Fighter



Special Hobby #SH72II8 Me 263 VI



Eduard #08148 Polikarpov I-16 Type IO



Hasegawa #E25 Junkers Ju 88A-4



Trumpeter #02241 Douglas SBD-1/2



Valom #72013 Supermarine Walrus



Planet Models #181 Letov S.528



Trumpeter #05/05 Boeing-Vertol CH-47D



\*

Special Hobby #72119 Lloyd C.V Serie 46



Dragon #5028 Kawasaki Ki-61



Kora #4811 Kugisho Dhka Model 22



Revell #04639 T-66 Harvard



Revell #04398 Douglas Skyraider

# new releases - KITS

IM (Injection-moulded Plastic), R (Resin), PE (Photo-etched Brass), VF (Vac-formed Plastic), WM (White-metal), RB (Rubber)

#### Lockheed TF-104 Starfighter

Scale I:48 / Hasegawa, Japan / Materials: IM / Kit No.: PT40 / Availability: Amerang Ltd (UK Importer) and Hasegawa stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £TBA

As you will recall the previous single-seat F-104 from Hasegawa (released in mid-2000) did not have a break in the fuselage halves, so it will come as no surprise that this new two-seater actually has a completely new set of fuselage parts. The kit is made up of II3 grey plastic parts, plus 25 clear. There are other grey components on the sprues, but these are all from the previous single-seater and are not used here. The cockpit tub has raised side console and instrument detail but there are also decals included. Everything else is very much like the single-seat kits although the longer canopy on this version is supplied as five separate sections plus the 'blast shield' between each cockpit section. Decals in this version are for the Luftwaffe and Italian Air Force, as Hasegawa have already announced that a JASDF version will be produced as a separate kit. The two options in this box are 27+73 of JBG3I 'Boelcke' in camouflage over grey, and 4-36 of 4º Stormo, 20º Gruppo, Aeronautica Militare Italiana, which is in an overall grey (FS36375) scheme. Verdict: It is good to see the two-seater at last from Hasegawa. Their original F-IO4 was 'the' kit of the type in this scale and this two-seater just builds on that reputation. The quality of engineering, finesse of detail and panel lines, clarity of instructions and quality of decals is something we all recognise from Hasegawa

TF-104G STARFIGHTER 48 SCALE KIT



Span - 21ft (lin (6.68m) [without tip tanks] Length - 54ft 9in (16.69m) [excluding pitot] Height 13ft 6in (4.11m)

Dimensions - 1:48

Span - 139.2mm Length - 347.7mm Height - 85.6mm

#### Dimensions

Air Fan Nos.85 & II3

References

F-ID4 Starfighter, Detail & Scale Vol.38 (Squadron/Signal Publications) F-IO4 Starfighter, In Action No.135 (Squadron/Signal Publications)

F-IO4 Starfighter by S. Pace (Motorbook Int)

F-40 No.22 (Flugzeug 1995)

Lockheed F-104 Starfighter, Famous Aircraft of the World No.37 & 93 (Burin-do 1976) Lockheed F-104G/J Starfighter, Lock-On No.1 (Verlinden Publications 1983) Lockheed F/TF-I04G Starfighter by S. Cosci, Aviolibri Special No.IO (IBN 2004)

Wings of Fame No.2 (Aerospace Publishing, 1996)

#### Sikorsky CH-53E Super Stallion

the review sample.

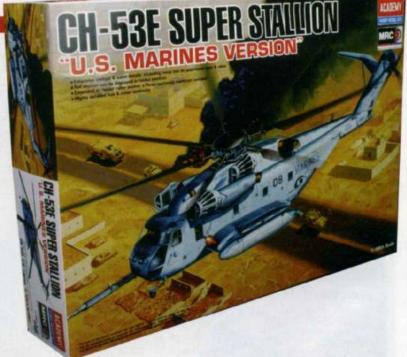
Scale I:48 / Academy, Korea / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 12209 / Availability: Toyway (UK Importer) and Academy stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £49.99

and this new kit is no exception. It is certainly within the capabil-

ity of all modellers and our thanks to Hasegawa Corporation for

This is an all-new tooling from Academy that lists co-opera-tion with MRC on the box, as has been the case with many of the other helicopter kits produced by them in the past decade. It is made up of 274 grey plastic components on seven sprues plus 16 clear parts on a single sprue. The rotor heads allow the blades to be folded or unfolded and the cargo bay interior is double-skinned with excellent representation of the padded lining of the inner walls. You can pose the side doors open with the mini-guns in place and the rear ramp can be posed up or down. The whole nose is moulded in clear plastic and the tail boom can be folded. The kits include the jury struts to rig the rotors once they are stowed. There are three decal options in the kit and the accompanying decals are on two sheets with the smaller just containing the common stencils. The three options are: BuNo.161541 from HMH-461 'Ironhorse' during Operation Iragi Freedom; BuNo.162483 of HMH-466 based at MCAS Tustin, California in the I980s; BuNo.I6II84 of HMH-464 based at MCAS New River, North Carolina in the 1980s. Each is in a different scheme, the first being in grey (FS36320) and bluishgrey (FS36495), the second is Field Green (FS340997) and the third is black, greyish blue (FS36495) and Field Green disruptive camouflage.

Verdict: A lot of modellers have been eagerly awaiting this kit and they will not be disappointed. It is easily as good as their CH-46 and in many ways a little better in certain areas. The level of detail out of the box is excellent, although I am sure a few photo-etched detail sets will not take long in arriving. The build is certainly within the capability of all skill levels and our thanks to Toyway for the review sample.



Length - Overall with rotor turning - 99ft 1/2in (30.19m) Fuselage Length - 73ft 4in (23.55m) Rotor Diameter - 79ft (24.08m) Tail Rotor Diameter - 20ft (6.10m) Height - 27ft 9in (8.64m)

#### Dimensions - 1:48

Length - Overall with rotor turning - 628.9mm Fuselage Length - 490.6mm Rotor Diameter - 501.6mm Tail Rotor Diameter - 127mm Height - 180mm

#### References

Air Fan No.20 & 73 H-53 Sea Stallion In Action No.174 by C.M. Reed (Squadron/Signal Publications 2000) Scale Aircraft Modelling Vol.18 No.1 (March 1998) Sikorsky CH-533E Super Stallion & MH-53 Sea Dragon by P. Dognoon & C. Bouschon, Close Up No.2 (Landing Zone Publications 2003) Sikorsky H-53 Sea & Super Stallion, Koku-Fan No.76 **USAF Air Power Directory** World Air Power Journal Vol.4 (March 1981)

#### Tupolev SB 2M-100A

Scale 1:72 / ICM, Ukraine / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 72162 / Availability: The Hobby Company Ltd (UK Importer) and ICM stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £10.99

This is a brand new tooling from ICM and the breakdown of parts may seem a little odd until you realise just how many variants of the type there are. This first example is the M-IOOA powered version, introduced from 1937. Because the wing on the SB 2 is set up high on the fuselage sides the kit has been broken down with the forward fuselage sections split horizontally and moulded integrally with the inboard sections of the wing. The entire rear fuselage and vertical fin is a separate sub-assembly. This will lead to some unusual joints, but it does allow for all versions of the type to be made from a common centre section and will also allow modellers to modify the kit easily to other specific prototypes etc. Interior detail is very good and this even extends to a complete bomb bay. Decals are supplied for four machines: 'Yellow 4' of the 24th SBAP based at Karelia in December 1939: 'Red 2' of the 49th SBAP based in Mongolia in June 1940: 'White 9' based on the Western Front in the summer of I94I: 'Red 8' presumed to be from the 44th SBAP based at Karelia in January 1940. For the first and last options the instructions offer either aluminium or grey as the overall colour. SB 2s were painted, up to May 1940, when they went

green over blue, either AE-8, which was a mix of oleoresin varnish (90%) and aluminium powder (10%) or AE-9, which was a light-grey oleoresin enamel paint. Option three also has this debate about the colour under the green mottle, but there is a clear picture in the Icarus Aviation Press title of this machine and we believe the underlying colour to be aluminium.

Verdict: An excellent kit, well moulded and highly detailed. The complex breakdown of parts may lead to some fit issues and the surface detail is an odd mix of engraved panel lines and raised panels and fairings, but overall this looks to be a good mainstream rendition of a very important Russian type. It is certainly within the capability of all modellers and our thanks to The Hobby Company Ltd for the review sample.

#### Dimensions

Span - 20.33m Length - 12.27m Height - 4.735m

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 282.4mm Length - 170.4mm Height - 65.7mm

# SB 2M-100 "Katiushka" 1:72 Spanish Air Ferce Bomber 72161 Rey 900-WZ 85

References

Les bombardiers sovietiques SB-2 by J. Fernandez (TMA 2001 & 2004)

OKB Tupolev by Y. Gordon & V. Rigmant (Ian Allan 2005 ISBN: 1-85780-214-4)

Soviet Bombers, Suomen Ilmavoimien Historia No.9

Tupolev SB by H-H. Stapfer, In Action No.194

(Squadron/Signal Publications 2005)

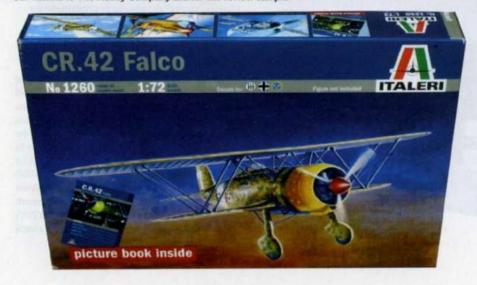
Tupolev SB - Soviet High Speed Bomber by M. Maslov (Icarus Aviation Press 2004)

#### Fiat CR.42 Falco

Scale 1:72 / Italeri, Italy / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 1260 / Availability: The Hobby Company Ltd (UK Importer) and Italeri stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £6.99

The release of this kit was a bit of a surprise, but makes perfect sense when you consider Italeri have only recently done the same subject in I:48. This all-new tooling is typically Italeri and comprises two cleanly moulded sprues of light grey plastic parts with engraved panel lines and good fabric effect. The level of detail is very good, the engine being two-part with a separate exhaust collector ring and a cockpit interior made up of no less than seven parts! The kit does have 'weighted' main wheels that in this scale look more like they are flat (in this scale just a levelling of the bottom is all that is needed) and the propeller blade profile and position looks a little odd? Other than that it all looks pretty neat and with optional parts for things like the flame damper, skis, bombs and spatted and unspatted wheels, this is a really comprehensive package. There are six colour options comprising four Regia Aeronautica (162°, 367°, 377° and 300° Squadriglia), one Swedish (Wing F9) and one Luftwaffe (JG 107). The whole thing is completed with a stunning 46-page A5-sized colour booklet packed with loads of historical data, diagrams and walk-around images of the recently restored example in Italy and a good selection of colour side profiles that is worth the asking price of the kit on its own!

Verdict: A stunning kit, easily as good as anything you will see from the Far East and with the inclusion of so many optional parts, six decal options and that booklet it is a real bargain at £6.99. Buy a dozen! Our thanks to The Hobby Company Ltd for the review sample.



#### Dimension

Span - [Upper] 31.824ft (9.70m), [Lower] 21.325ft Length - 27ft I.5in (8.27m) Height - IIft 9.25in (3.59m)

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - I34.7mm Length - II4.9mm Height - 49.9mm

#### References

Colori e schemi mimetici della Regia Aeronautica 1935-1943 (CMPR, 1994)

Fiat CR.32/CR.42 In Action No.172, by G. Punka (Squadron/ Signal Publications 2000)

Fiat CR.42, Ali d'Italia No.1 (La Bancarella Aeronautica, 1995) Fiat CR.42, Ali R Colori No.1 (La Bancarella Aeronautica, 1999) Fiat CR.42 by G. Cattaneo, Profile No.16 (Profile Publications 1965)

Model Airplane International, Issue 2, September 2005 Regia Aeronautica (Squadron/Signal Publiciations, 1976) Replic No.50 (October 1995)

# new releases - Kits

Key: IM (Injection-moulded Plastic), R (Resin), PE (Photo-etched Brass), VF (Vac-formed Plastic), WM (White-metal), RB (Rubber)

#### Grumman E-2C Hawkeye

Scale I:144 / Heller, France / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 79911 / Availability: Humbrol Ltd (UK Importer) and Heller stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £TBA

We don't recall Heller ever doing the E-2C in this scale before, the only one that springs to mind is the Revell kit (#04012) released in 2004. Sadly we don't have one to compare this to, so for now we will consider it a new tooling. It is well moulded with recessed panel lines that some will consider too deep and rivets that are, in this scale, a little too prominent. That said, with a little Micro-Mesh to sand down the rivets and a coat of paint to reduce the panel lines there is little else to complain about. There is a cockpit interior with decals for the instrument panel and the canopy is moulded with part of the dorsal spine, so the joints are well back from the clear elements if you need to do any sanding. A decal option for a single machine, operated by Flottile 4F of the Marine Nationale, is

included and the decal sheet includes some stencilling and the walkways etc. Verdict: Even if the panel lines and rivets may initially seem overdone, the overall package offered is excellent and with a little effort should make up into a nice I:144 rendition of the E-2C. If you visit http://www.netmarine. net/aero/aeronefs/hawkeye/photos.htm you will find a number of images of the French machines that will be very useful in building this kit. Our thanks to Heller for the review sample.



Span - 80ft 7in (28.58m) [Folded 8.94m] Length - 57ft 7in (17.56m) Height - 18ft 4in (5.58m)

#### Dimensions - 1:144

62mm] Length - 121.9mm Height - 38.7m

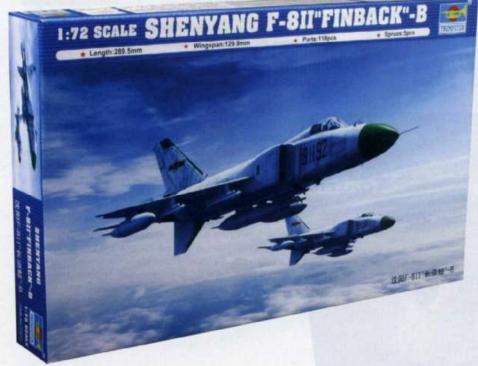
Span - 198mm [Folded Air Fan No.242 (January 1999) Combat Aircraft Vol.3 No.6 Le fana de l'aviation No.238 Replic No.151 (March 2004) & No.152 (April 2004)

#### Shenyang F-8-II 'Finback B'

Scale 1:72 / Trumpeter, China / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 01610 / Availability: Pocketbond (UK Importer) and Trumpeter stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £12.95

This is an all-new tooling from Trumpeter and although entitled the F-8II, it really depicts the J-8IIM (it has the HUD system only fitted to the J- or F-8IIM) as both colour options are for PLAAF machines, and the F-8II was the export version with updated engines and pulse-Doppler radar that failed to attract any foreign buyers. This kit comprises II5 (grey) and 3 clear plastic components and the instrument panel, side consoles and sidewalls are all supplied as decals. The instructions simply list the missiles as 'PL-8AAM', but the F-8IIM can also carry the PL-5 and R-27/AA-I0 missiles, so it is a shame these are not included. Optional

parts are included for the ventral fin in extended or folded positions. Decals are supplied for two machines, both of the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF), but no other information is given. Both are in an overall white scheme, one carrying the code 8II92, and the other I3027. Note that '8II92' is the machine photographed from a USN P-3 with the pilot making a rather 'interesting' hand gesture and this machine may well have been involved in the collision of an F-8II with a P-3 in 2001? Colours are only matched to the Gunze Sangyo Mr Color range on the instructions.



Verdict: The subject is quite esoteric, but only to be expected from a Chinese manufacturer. The rather brutal lines of this fighter, mixed with its obvious Russian styling, make it a very attractive subject even if you don't usually do Chinese aircraft! Our thanks to Pocketbond for the review sample.

#### **Dimensions**

Span - 9.34m (30ft 7.7in) Length - 21.59m (70ft 10in) Height - 5.4Im (17ft 9in)

Dimensions - 1:72 Span - 129.7mm

Length - 299.9mm Height - 75.1mm

#### References

Encyclopedia of World Military Aircraft, edited by John Lake (Airtime Publishing 1994)

#### Sukhoi Su-9

Scale 1:72 / A-Model, Ukraine / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 72135 / Availability: HobbyTerra and A-Model stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £10.70

The Su-9 bears a striking resemblance to the Su-7, mainly because it The Su-9 bears a striking resemblance of the earlier type but instead of a retains the fuselage and tail surfaces of the earlier type but instead of a swept wing the Su-9 had a 53° delta wing with conventional slab tailplanes. It had a primitive RIL radar fitted in the shock cone and was armed with four K-5 (AA-I 'Alkali') beam-riding air-to-air missiles that were practically useless for air-to-air combat. It carried no cannon armament and the two fuselage pylons were reserved for drop tanks. Anyone familiar with A-Model kits will know what to expect: thick sprue runners, a multitude of parts, some flash and clear parts that are about six scale-feet thick! The cockpit on this kit is built up into a tub to insert in the tubular fuselage and as the shock cone in the nose has no backing plate, nor intake duct, this means you can look right through from front to back. The wings are two-part assemblies, as is the vertical fin, but the tailplanes are solid single-piece components. Armament comprises four AA-I missiles and there are two drop tanks for the fuselage pylons. Two decal options are included: 'Red OI' of the 179th FAR, USSR in the late 1970s, and 'Red 09' of the 894th FAR, USSR, I962. Both of these are bare aluminium overall.

Verdict: A-Model kits are not easy to make, the multi-part nature of their tooling coupled with the limited-run quality of the plastic combining to make a kit that is only suitable for the experienced modeller. If you feel you can deal with it though, this is probably one of the only ways to get a modern rendition of this atypical Russian fighter. Our thanks to HobbyTerra for supplying the review sample.



#### **Dimensions**

Span - 27ft 8in (8.43m) Length - 57ft 0in (17.37m) Height - 16ft 0in (4.88m)

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - II7mm Length - 241.3mm Height - 67.8mm

#### References

Air International, March 1994 Zlinek (1992)

#### Heinkel He 51A-1

Scale 1:72 / ICM, Ukraine / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 72193 / Availability: The Hobby Company Ltd (UK Importer) and ICM stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £7.99



The release of this kit was a surprise, but welcome nonetheless, as until now the only game in town was the old Hasegawa example. This new tooling is made up of 58 grey and one clear part. The cockpit is made up of the floor with separate seat, control column and instrument panel. Smaller exterior details like separate exhaust stacks and gun barrels are well done and there is a need to drill a few holes and make modifications to certain parts, all of which are well illustrated in the instructions. Two decal options are included: 51+Bl3 of 3./JG233 based at Bad Aibling in 1936; 'White 10' of 3./JG132 Richthofen based at Döberitz in 1937, both of which should be RLM 63 Lichtgrau overall

Verdict: An excellent kit, one certainly within the grasp of all skill levels and one that can therefore be highly recommended to all Luftwaffe fans. The type is also available in B-I (#72191 - see above) and B-2 floatplane (#72192) form from ICM. Our thanks to The Hobby Company Ltd for the review sample.



#### Dimensions

Span - 36ft lin (II.00m) Length - 27ft 6 3/4in (8.40m) Height - 3.20m

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 152.8mm Length - 116.7mm Height - 44.4mm

#### References

Condor - The Luftwaffe in Spain 1936-1939 (Hikoki Publishing, 2001) Jagdwaffe - Birth of the Luftwaffe Fighter Force (Classic Publications, 1999) Jagdwaffe - The Spanish Civil War

(Classic Publications, 1999) La Légion Condor (Lela Presse, 1999) Replic No.60 (August 1996)

## WWW.MODELAIRPLANEINTERNATIONAL.COM new releases -

Key: IM (Injection-moulded Plastic), R (Resin), PE (Photo-etched Brass), VF (Vac-formed Plastic), WM (White-metal), RB (Rubber)

#### Ryan NYP 'Spirit of St. Louis'

Scale 1:48 / Revell-Monogram, USA / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 85-5244 Availability: Revell AG (UK Branch) (UK Distributor) and Revell stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £12.99

Based on Ryan M-2 and specially built for Charles A. Lindbergh, the 'NYP' (acronym of New York-Paris) successfully undertook the first solo, non-stop trans-Atlantic flight on May 20th and 21st, 1927. The flight was inspired by and won the \$25,000 Orteig Prize. The aircraft was donated to



the National Air & Space Museum, Washington DC by Charles A. Lindbergh on 30th April 1928 and resides there to this day. This kit is an all-new tooling made by Revell-Monogram in China. It is quite simple, but nicely detailed all the same with both seated and standing figures of Lindbergh to go alongside the completed model. Detail inside is good, but there is scope to add a lot more of the plumbing seen inside this machine. The overall 'feel' of the kit is very much akin to their products of the 70s, basic but well moulded and easily within the capabilities of all modellers. The decal sheet offers one option, well two actually as it includes the national flags added on both sides of the cowls for the goodwill tour in 1927/28. All the 'swirl' polished effect on the forward fuselage is supplied as decals.

Verdict: A real beauty, certainly a kit anyone can build and probably the only downside to it is that Revell missed the 75th anniversary back in 2002 to produce this kit. Nonetheless this is certainly a kit that can be highly recommended to all, and our thanks to Revell AG (UK Branch) for the review sample.

#### Dimensions

#### Span - 46ft (14.02m) Length - 27ft, 7in (8.4lm) Height - 9ft 10in (2.99m)

#### **Dimensions - 1:48**

Span - 292mm Length - 175.2mm Height - 62.3mm

#### References

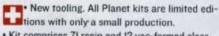
Charles Lindbergh and the Spirit of St. Louis (ISBN: 0-8109-0552-3 2002) Spirit and Creator: The Mysterious Man Behind Lindbergh's Flight to Paris by Nova Hall (Safe Goods Publishing ISBN: 0-9702-9644-4 2003) The Spirit of St. Louis by Charles A. Lindbergh (Scribner ISBN: 0-6848-5277-2 (998)

The Untold Story of the Spirit of St. Louis by Ev Casagneres (Flying Books International ISBN: 0-9iII-3932-X 2002)

'WE': The Daring Flyer's Remarkable Life Story and his Account of the Transatlantic Flight that Shook The World by Charles A. Lindbergh (The Lyons Press ISBN: 1-5857-4708-4 2002)

#### **SNCASE SE.100**

Scale 1:72 / Planet Models, Czech Republic / Materials: R, VF / Kit No.: 172 Availability: Hannants (UK Importer) and Special Hobby stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £35.70



- · Kit comprises 7I resin and I2 vac-formed clear plastic components.
- · Designed by P.E. Mercier and J. Lecarne of Lioré

et Olivier, by the time this project came to fruition LeO had been nationalised and merged into the SNCASE (Société Nationale de Constructions Aéronautiques du Sud-Est) concern, so the type became the SE (for Sud-Est) 100. It was a pretty unconventional aircraft, as it had the undercarriage legs built into the lower edges of the vertical tail finlets along with a conventional nosewheel oleo unit! Only one prototype was ever built and that was destroyed in a crash-landing on the 5th April 1940. With the German occupation of France no further prototypes were ever built, nor were the SE.IOI and IO2 derivatives ever started.

· Decals are offered for the single prototype in two colours schemes, one from 1939, and the other 1940. The former is natural metal overall, the latter dark olive, brown and blue-grey over light grey.

Verdict: This is certainly an unusual subject and don't be confused by the box art, the SE.100 was not bent like a banana! Just for the sheer weirdness factor alone, this one has got to be worth considering, but at the end of the day the medium and the price will probably mean this one appeals only to Armée de l'Air fans, but to them it can be most highly recommended. Our thanks to Planet Models for supplying the review sample.

#### **Dimensions**

Span: 15.70m Length: IL80m

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 218mm Length - 163.9mm

#### References

Lioré et Olivier un grand constructeur by G. Hartman (ETAI 2004)

#### Messerschmitt Bf 109E-7 Trop

Scale I:72 / ICM, Ukraine / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 72133 / Availability: The Hobby Company Ltd (UK Importer) and ICM stockists worldwide / Price Guide: £5.50 Bf 109E-7/Trop

· Revised reissue of the E-3 (#72I3I) and E-4 (#72/32) versions

- . The revision to the E-7 only requires certain items not previously used to be installed this time (e.g. pointed spinner and tropical filter unit). The kit also uses the later, slab-sided, canopy, which is just as well as in our example the rear element of the early canopy was a short-shot and was about 90% missing!
- Kit comprises 7 clear and 43 grey-coloured injected plastic parts.
- . Decals for two machines: 'Black 8', flown by Lt W. Schroer of 8./JG27 based at Ain El Gazala, Libya in April 1941; '<' flown by Oblt L. Franziset the Gruppen-Adjutant of I./JG27 based at Ain El Gazala, Libya in October 1941. The former is in a standard desert scheme of RLM 79 over 78 with a mottle of 80 on the upper surfaces, while the latter is shown as being 'Military Brown' over 'Light Blue', so this is most likely RLM 79a Sand Braun over RLM 78.

Verdict: Looking at this kit the breakdown is like Tamiya and the details (e.g. moulded but undetailed engine 'block' under the cowl) like Fine Molds. Recessed panel lines are well done and although there is a little flash the overall package is excellent and at £5.50 it is a bargain. Our thanks to the Hobby Company Ltd for the review sample.

#### Dimensions

Span - 32ft 4 3/4in (9.90m) Length - 28ft IO 1/2in (8.80m) Height - 8ft 2 1/4in (2.50m)

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 137.5mm Length - 122.2mm Height - 34.7mm

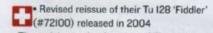
#### References - Our pick of the bunch

Bf 109 In Action No.44 (Squadron/Signal Publications) Bf 109 In Action Part 2, No. 57 (Squadron/Signal Publications) Luftfahrt International No. 6 Nov-Dec 1974 Messerschmitt Bf IO9A-E by W. Radinger & W. Schick (Schiffer Publishing 1999 ISBN: 0-7643-095I-X) Messerschmitt Bf ID9B/E, Aero Detail No.1 (Art Box Inc) Messerschmitt Bf 109B-E Model Art Special No.375 (Model Art, 1991)

#### Tupolev Tu-128UT 'Pelican'

Scale 1:72 / A-Model, Ukraine / Materials: IM / Kit No.: 72115 Availability: HobbyTerra and A-Model stockists worldwide /

Price Guide: £TBA



- · The revision to the three-seat UT version requires a number of new parts, resulting in one new clear and white-coloured plastic sprue
- · Kit comprises I5 clear and I68 white-coloured injected plastic parts.
- · Armament comprises four Bisnovat R-4 (AA-5 Ash) air-

to-air missiles, two radar-guided R-4R and two infrared-homing R-4T

. Decals for one machine, 'Red 49' and unidentified Russian AF example in polished aluminium overall.

Verdict: The sheer size of this subject in this scale has resulted in A-Model having to use extremely complex multi-part moulds, the fuselage being made up of ten main components, for example! This does mean that the whole project is so complex, and the quality of the injected parts of sufficient 'limited-run' nature, that this is one for the experienced modeller only. Our thanks to Ilona Müllerová for supplying the review sample.

#### **Dimensions**

Span - 32ft 4 3/4in (9.90m) Length - 28ft 10 1/2in (8.80m) 1-85780-214-4) Height - 8ft 2 I/4in (2.50m)

#### Dimensions - 1:72

Span - 137.5mm Length - I22.2mm Height - 34.7mm

#### References - Our pick of the bunch

OKB Tupoley by Y. Gordon & V. Rigmant (Ian Allan 2005 ISBN:

Tupolev Aircraft Since 1922 by Bill Gunston (Brassey's 1995, ISBN: 0-8517-7866-6)

Tupolev Bombers, David Donald [Editor] (AlRtime Publishing 2003, ISBN: 1-8805-8862-5)

# new releases - Cecals

We have received a number of new sheets this month, so let's see what's on offer...

#### Model Alliance, United Kingdom [www.theaviationworkshop.co.uk]

Available in UK from: The Aviation Workshop

#### 1:48 MA-48128 Anniversary Tonkas

- . Tornado GR Mk 4, ZA40I, No.13 Squadron, 90th anniversary scheme, 2005 (DCG/DSG)
- . Tornado GR Mk 4, ZG756, No.14 Squadron, 90th anniversary scheme, 2005 (DCG/DSG)
- Tornado GR Mk 4, ZA564, No.3l Squadron, 90th anniversary scheme, 2005 (DCG/DSG)
- . Tornado GR Mk 4, ZA543, No.12 Squadron, 90th anniversary scheme, 2005 (DCG/DSG)
- . Tornado GR Mk 4, ZA585, No.9 Squadron, 90th anniversary scheme, 2004-5 (DCG/DSG)

Colour Key: DCG - Dark Camouflage Grey, DSG - Dark Sea Grey

Designed for: Airfix or Italeri kits

Price Guide: £13.00

#### 1:48 MA-48131 Photo Reconnaissance Spitfire Part I

- . Type PR Mk IA, N307I, No.2 Camouflage Unit, 1939 (S)
- PR Type IB, P333I, No.2I2 Sqn, I940 (CBG)
- PR Type IC, R6903, -LY, PRU, 1941 (CBG)
- PR Type IC P9385, •76, No.8 OTU, I940 (PRUP)
- · PR Type ID, BR4I6 (W/AB)
- PR Type ID, PP880, •S (CBG)
- PR Type ID Trop, BR4I6 (DB)
- . PR Type ID, AR3I5, .H (CBG)
- PR Type IF X4488, LY-E (CBG)
- . PR Type IG, R7D28, .DP (DE/DG/S)
- · PR Type IG, R6903, •ZW (PRUP)
- PR Type IG. R7I43 (NM)
- PR Mk IV Trop, BP880, \*S (DB)
- PR Mk IV, -LY (W/AB)
- PR Mk XIII, R7335, G3-K (DSG/EDSG/PRUM)

Colour Key: S - Sky, CBG - Camotint Blue-Grey (PRU Blue), PRUP - PRU Pink, W - White, AB - Azure Blue, DB - Dark Blue, DE - Dark Earth, DG - Dark Green, NM - Natural Metal,

DSG - Dark Sea Green, EDSG - Extra Dark Sea Grey, PRUM - PRU

Designed for: Airfix or Tamiya kits + Airwaves conversions Price Guide: £13.00

#### 1:48 MA-48132 Photo Reconnaissance Spitfire Part 2

- FR Mk IXc, MK9I5, I944 (PRUP)
- PR Mk XIc, 5502, SD-J, SAAF, 1947 (DG/0G/MSG)
- PR Mk XI, PL781, •F, 1945 (MSG/PRUB)
- FR Mk IXc, PL95I, RAF, I945 (PRUB)
- FR Mk IX, MB948, USAAF, 1944 (PRUB)
- FR Mk XIVe, Serial unknown, •F, No.2 Squadron, Wunsdorf, 1947 (DSG/FDSG/PRUM)
- FR Mk XIVc, MV293, No.8 Sqn, Royal Indian Air Force, 1945
- . FR Mk XIVc. NHB44, No.II Sgn. Miho, 1947 (DG/MSG/NM)
- FR MK XIVe, MV786, FFTS, Royal Indian Air Force, 1948 (DG/DE/MSG)
- FR Mk XIVe, HS877, Royal Indian Air Force, 1948 (A)

Colour Key: PRUP - PRU Pink, DG - Dark Green, OG - Ocean Grey, MSG - Medium Sea Grey, PRUB - PRU Blue, DSG - Dark Sea Green, EDSG - Extra Dark Sea Grey, PRUM - PRU Mauve, DE

- Dark Earth, NM - Natural Metal, A - Aluminium

ned for: Academy, Hasegawa or ICM kits + Airwayes conversions Price Guide: £13.00

#### 1:48 MA-48133 Photo Reconnaissance Spitfire Part 3

- S.31 (PR Mk XIX), S/No.31040, 1st Division, Flottilj, Swedish Air Force, 1955 (PRUB)
- . PR Mk XIX, PS888, Royal Thai Air Force, 1955 (PRUB/MSG)
- FR Mk XIVe, TP339, AFS, Royal Indian Air Force, 1947 (DG/DG/MSG)



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- FR Mk XVIIIe, TZ2333, No.208 Sqn. Egpyt, 1949 (DE/LSG/MSG)
- FR Mk XVIIIe, TP445, No.28 Sqn, 1950 (DG/0G/MSG)
- PR Mk XIX, PM574, No.68I Sqn, 1948 (NM)

Price Guide: £13.00

PR Mk XIX, PM660, X-01, No.2 Sqn, 1948 (PRUB)

Colour Key: PRUB - PRU Blue, MSG - Medium Sea Grey, DG - Dark Green, OG - Ocean Grey, LSG - Light Slate Grey, NM - Natural Metal

Designed for: Academy, Falcon or Heritage Aviation kits + Airwaves conversions

Verdict: This is an very good selection of new sheets from Model Alliance and the latter three all tie in with their recent In Profile title on PR Spitfires. Each sheet is well printed, the Tornado sheet has full stencils included and

they can all be highly recommended. Our thanks to Model Alliance (The Aviation Workshop) for the review samples.

**BEST BUY** 

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#### Toulouse Decals, France

Available in UK from: Hannants

#### 1:72 TD72001 Jaguar A

- . Jaguar A. A64, 7-NE of 4/7 specially painted to mark the disbandment of the squadron on the 31st July 1989
- . Jaguar A, A67, 7-NB of 4/7 specially painted to mark the disbandment of the squadron on the 31st July 1989 Both are red, white and blue overall, and don't be put off by the instructions because sadly, on our example at least, the diagram in the centre is from sheet TD72002 by mistake!

Designed for: Hasegawa or Italeri kits Price Guide: 68.00/£4.99

#### 1:72 TD72002 Jaguar A

. Jaguar A, Al38, 7-HV painted specially to mark the fact that this was the last Jaguar to leave GERMAS 2E.007 maintenance base at St. Dizier on the 27th June 2002 (DG/DGR/W/R)

Colour Key: DG - Dark Green, DGR - Dark Grey, W - White, R - Red Designed for: Hasegawa or Italeri kits

Price Guide: 69.00/£4.99

#### 1:72 TD72003 Jaguar E

. Jaguar E, E30, 7-PD painted specially to mark the 20th anniversary of E.C.2/7 Argonne and the 80th anniversary of SPA 3I and 48 on the 20th May 1994 (G/B/R/W/B)

Colour Key: G - Grey, B - Black, R - Red, W - White, B - Blue

Designed for: Hasegawa or Italeri kits

Price Guide: 69.00/£4.99

#### 1:72 TD72901 - L-39 Albatros

#### **Breitling Jet Team**

· This sheet gives you the black-outlined stripes, bomb burst design on the vertical fin and Breitling titles for this team as well as individual codes for ES-YLS, ES-YLF and ES-YLI (DB)

Colour Key: DB - Dark Blue Designed for: Eduard kit Price Suide: 68.00/£4.99

Verdict: This is a good little selection of sheets from this new manufacturer. Each is well printed and is only let down by the mistakes with the instructions and the fact that there are no details at all about the correct colours to use in each option. Obviously a little more research will be needed if you want to use these sheets, but other than that they are recommended. Our thanks to Toulouse Decals (XB Pro Berna) for the review samples, contact them at xbpro@aol.com for more details.













#### Eagle Strike Productions, USA www.eaglestrikeproductions.com

Available in UK from: Hannants

#### 1:48 48227 V.S. Spitfires Part I

- . Mk Vc, ER570, WD-Q, flown by Maj. Robert Levine of the 4th FS in June 1943 (DE/MS/AB)
- Mk Vc. JKI80. QP-X, flown by Lt. Richard Lampe of the 52nd FG (MS/AB)
- · Mk Vc, VF-K of the 5th FS (MS/DE/DG/AB)
- · Mk IX, EN447, WD-L, 'Kay III' (DE/MS/AB)

Colour Key: DE - Dark Earth, MS - Middle Stone,

AB - Azure Blue, DG - Dark Green

Designed for: Hasegawa or Tamiya kits

Price Guide: £6.95

#### 1:48 48228 V.S. Spitfires Part 2

- Mk Vc, WD-O, flown by Moss Fletcher of the 4th FS (DE/MS/AB)
- . Mk Vc, QP-C, 'Julie II', flown by Bob Curtiss of the 52nd FG (DE/DG/AB)
- Mk Vc, VF-P, 'Minnie Mk II', flown by Lt. Terry Yon of the 5th FS (DE/MS/AB)
- . Mk IX, QP-N, flown by Lt Ohr of the 52nd FG (SG/PRUB)

Colour Key: DE - Dark Earth, MS - Middle Stone, AB - Azure Blue, DG - Dark Green,

SG - Sea Grey, PRUB - PRU Blue Designed for: Hasegawa or Tamiya kits

Price Guide: £6.95

Verdict: This is nice little selection of sheets from Eagle Strike that offers more in the way of unusual markings than colourful camouflage. Each sheet is very well printed and has full-colour instructions. They are highly recommended and our thanks to Eagle Strike Productions for the review samples.



BEST BUY 9/10

#### Tally Ho! Czech Republic www.tallyho.cz

#### Available in UK from: Hannants

1:48 48 036 Focke-Wulf Fw I90A-3 & A-4 Part I

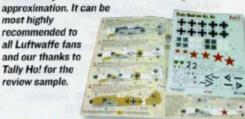
- . Fw 190A-4, W/Nr.583, 'White IO' of L/JG I, flown by Ofw, Fritz Husser and based at Deelan airfield, Holland in the early summer of 1943 (RLM74/75/76 + white cowling)
- . Fw ISOA-3, W/Nr. Unknown, 'Black <-' of Stab I./JG5I and based on the field airstrip on the icebound Ivan Lake, west of Moscow in the winter of 1942/3 (RLM74/75/76 with white distemper on all upper surfaces)
- . Fw I9GA-4, W/Nr.I423IO, 'Black 2', flown by Uffz. Helmut Brandt of 2/JG54 based in the Ladega lake area, Eastern Front, January 1943 (RLM74/75/76 with heavily-worn white distemper on all upper surfaces)
- Fw I90A-4, W/Nr. 0750??, 'Black <<' flown by</li> Gruppenkommandeur Oblt Adolf Dickfield of II./JG2 based at Karouian, Tunisia in December 1942 (RLM79/78)
- Fw I90A-4, W/Nr.I423I0, ex-Black 2' was the first Fw I90 captured by the Russians and the yellow lower cowl was painted over with AMT-7 light blue while the rest of the upper surfaces get a light coat of white so the original markings show through and red stars on the tail, fuselage sides and underneath the wings (RLM74/75/76 with white distemper on all upper surfaces)

Colour Key: RLM 74 - Graugrün (grey-green). RLM 75 - Grauviolett (grey-violet), RLM 76 - Lichtblau (light blue), RLM 78 - Hellblau (bright blue), RLM 79 - Sandgelb (sand yellow)

Designed for: Hasegawa or Tamiya kits Price Guide: £6.50

Verdict: This is an extremely good new sheet that offers a number of very good options for the new Hasegawa kit, or the existing Tamiya example. The instructions are in Czech with a separate sheet in English and all colours are identified by their RLM code as well as by an FS

most highly recommended to all Luftwaffe fans and our thanks to Tally Ho! for the review sample.



BEST BUY 10/10

# new releases - CCCAS

#### Superscale, USA

#### Available in UK from: Hannants

#### 1:72 72-896 KC-130T Hercules

 KC-I30T Hercules, Bu/No.I64763, Blue Angels support aircraft 'Fat Albert' (W/B/Y)

Colour Key: W - White, B - Blue, Y - Yellow

Designed for: Italeri kit Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:72 72-897 P-47D Thunderbolt Bubbletons

 P-47D-30-RA, S/No.44-32773, Big Ass Bird flown by Maj. Howard Park of the 5l3th FS, 406th FG in I944 (NM/R cowl)

 P-47D-25-RE, S/No.42-26407, Coffey's Por' flown by Lt Col. Robert Coffey Jr the CO of the 388th FS, 356th FG based in France in (944 (NM/BL nose)

Colour Key: NM - Natural Metal, R - Red, BL - Black

Designed for: Tamiya kit Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:72 72-898 F/A-18C/D Hornets

- F/A-I8C, BuNo.I63459 of VFA-86 'Sindewinders' (DG/NG/LCG)
- F/A-18D, BuNo.164652 of VMFA(AW)-242 'Vampires' (DCG/LCG)

Colour Key: DG - Dark Grey FS36237, NG - Neutral Grey FS36270, LCG - Light Compass Grey FS36375, DCG

- Dark Compass Grey FS36320

Designed for: Hasegawa kits Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:72 72-899 F-16B & C

- F-I6B (ADF), S/No.82-027 of the II4th TFTS based at Kingsley Field, Oregon in I988 (GG/NG/LCG/MG)
- F-I6C-30, S/No.85-0478 of the II4th TFG, South Dakota, 1992 (GG/NG/LCG/MG)

Colour Key: GG - Gunship Grey FS3618, NG - Neutral Grey FS36270, MG - Medium Grey FS36251, LCG - Light Compass Grey FS36375

Designed for: Hasegawa kits

Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1084 F-16C Falcons

- F-I6C-30, S/no.86-032l of the I20th FW 'The Vigilantes' (GG/NG/LGG/MG)
- F-I6C, S/No.85-I55I of the I74th FW (GG/NG/LGG/MG)
   Colory New CG Guarchia Grow ES2GUB NG New CG

Colour Key: GG - Gunship Grey FS36I18, NG - Neutral Grey FS36270, MG - Medium Grey FS3625I, LCG - Light Compass Grey FS36375

Designed for: Hasegawa kit Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1085 OV-IC/D Mohawks

- OV-ID, S/No.62-5874 of the 504th MIBDE, I5th MIBN (DCG)
- OV-IC, S/No.6I-27I2 of the I3Ist Surveillance Airplane Company based at Phu Pai, Vietnam in I966 (QD)
- OV-IC, S/No.6I-2696 of the 1st Infantry Div., based at Phu Loi, Vietnam in 1967 (0D)

Colour Key: DCG - Dark Compass Grey FS36320, OD - Olive Drab FS34087

Designed for: Roden kits Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1086 F-16C Falcons

- F-IGC-25-CF, S/No.84-I39I, display aircraft of the I44th FW (GG/NG/LCG)
- F-I6C-42-CF, S/No.89-2I14, display aircraft of the I80th FW (GG/NG/LCG)

Colour Key: GG - Gunship Grey FS36II8, NG - Neutral Grey FS36270, LCG - Light Compass Grey FS36375

Designed for: Hasegawa kit Price Guide: £6.50







#### 1:48 48-1087 F/A-18C/D Hornets

- F/A-IBC, BuNo.164682 of VFA-II3 on USS Ronald Regan in 2005 (DCG/LCG)
- F/A-IBD, BuNo.163464, the CAG a/c of VFA-IDG (DCG/LCG)
  Celour Key: DCG Dark Compass Grey FS36320, LCG Light

Compass Grey FS36375

Designed for: Hasegawa kits

Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1088 F/A-18E/F Super Hornets

- F/A-18F, BuNo.166661 of VFA-32 in 2005 (DCG/LCG)
- F/A-I9E, BuNo.I6578I of VFA-II5 on USS Ronald Regan in 2005 (DCG/LCG)

Colour Key: DCG - Dark Compass Grey FS36320, LCG - Light Compass Grey FS36375

Designed for: Hasegawa kits Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1089 P-51A Mustangs

- P-5IA-5-NA, 'Carol's Daddy' of the 1st Air Commando Group based at Broadway Strip, Burma in 1943 (OD/NG)
- P-5IA-5-NA, 'Mrs Virginia' of the 1st Air Commando Group, based at Hailakanda, India in 1943 (OD/NG)
- P-5IA-5-NA flown by Col. Phillip Cochrane the CO of the 1st Air Commando Group, based at Haifakanda, India in 1943 (OD/NG)

Colour Key: OD - Olive Drab, NG - Neutral Grey Designed for: Accurate Miniatures kit

Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1090 A-36A Invaders

- A-36A-I-NA. Dorothy Helen', flown by Maj John P. Crowder of the 524th FBS based in Sicily in 1943 (0D/NG)
- A-36A-I-NA, 'Pat', flown by Lt Michael T. Russo of the 382nd FBS based in Italy in I943 (OD/NG)
- A-36A-I-NA flown by the 524th FBS based at Gela, Italy in I943 (0D/NG)

Colour Key: OD - Olive Drab, NG - Neutral Grey Designed for: Accurate Miniatures kit

Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:48 48-1091 P-47M Thunderholts

- P-47M-I-RE, 'Dottie Dee' flown by Lt Charles McBath of the 63rd FS, 56th FG based at Duxford in I945 (IB/AB/NM)
- P-47M-I-RE, 'Miss June' flown by 1st Lt Eugene Andermatt of the



63rd FS, 56th FG based at Duxford in 1945 (IB/AB/NM)

Colour Key: IB - Insignia Blue, AB - Azure Blue, NM - Natural Metal

Designed for: Tamiya kit Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:32 32-236 F-14A Tomcat

• F-I4A, BuNo.1684I9 of VF-84 'Jolly Rogers' the CAG a/c on USS Nimitz (LGG)

Colour Key: LGG - Light Gull Grey FS36440

Designed for: Tamiya kit Price Guide: £6.50

#### 1:32 32-237 F-15D Eagle

 F-I5C, S/No.79-0022 of the I733rd FW based at Kingsley Field, Oregon (MG/DG)

Colour Key: MG - Medium Grey FS36251, DG - Dark Grey FS 36176 Designed for: Tamiya kir

Price Guide: £6.50

Verdict: We all know how good Superscale sheets are and all of the above are up to their usual high standards with perfect register and colour. There is certainly a nice mix of subjects and with a couple of options per sheet you are not at least buying 5+ options of which you will only use one or two. All are highly recommended and our thanks to Hannants, their UK importer, for the review samples.



FOR: SEE REVIEWS

#### Xtradecal, United Kingdom [www.hannants.co.uk]

#### Available in UK from: Hannants

#### 1:32 X32-007 Hawker Hunter F Mk 6

- XF526, 'C' of No.63 Squadron, RAF Waterbeach, November 1956 (DSG/DG/A)
- XF526, "C" of No.56 Squadron, RAF Waterbeach, August 1959 (DSG/DG/A)
- XF526, '78' of No.4 FTS, RAF Valley, 1972-3 (SR/W/LAG)
- XE599, 'D' of No.74 Squadron, RAF Horsham St. Faith, December (957 (DSG/CG/A)
- XE599, 'C' of No.208 Squadron, RAF Nicosia, Cyprus, December 1958 (DSG/DG/A)
- XF506, X' of No.III Squadron, 'Black Arrows', flown by the CO Sqn Ldr P.A. Latham DFC, October 1958 (GB)
- XF3833 of No.12 Squadron as a temporary replacements for the then grounded Buccaneers, RAF Honington, July 1984 (DSG/DG) Colour Key: DSG Dark Sea Grey BS381C-638, DG Dark Green BS381C-641, A Aluminium, SR Signal Red BS381C-537, W White, LAG Light Aircraft Grey BS381C-627, GB Gloss Black Designed for: Revell kit (forthcoming F Mk 6) Price Guide: £8.95

Verdict: This is an excellent new sheet from Xtradecal, well in advance of Revell issuing their F Mk 6 kit, so you have no excuse about lack of alternative markings when it arrives! The selection of schemes on the sheet is nice and diverse and it can be most highly recommended to all. Our thanks to Hannants for the review sample.



OR: REVELL (F MK B) KIT



#### Mini-Print Decals, Czech Republic

Available in UK from: Hannants

#### 1:72 72026 Stanislaw Skulski

- PZL P.IIc, 142 Fighter Group, Poplish Air Force, 1939 (K/AB)
- Hawker Hurricane Mk I, V7IIB, UZ-V, No.306 Squadron, RAF, November I940 (DE/DG/N/S)
- Spirfire Mk Vb, BMI3I, JH-Q, No.3I7 Squadron, RAF, May I942 (DG/0G/MSG)
- Spitfire Mk VIII, JF447, UF-7, No.6IO Squadron, Sicily, 1943 (DG/DG/MSG)
- Spirfire Mk Vb, EP689, UF-X No.60I Squadron, Malta, July I943 (MS/DE/AB)
- Spirfire Mk IX, EN459, ZX+I, No.145 Squadron, Tunisia, March 1943 (MS/DE/AB)
- Spirfire Mk IX, EN267, ZX+5, No.145 Squadron, Tunisia, March 1943 (MS/DE/AB)
- Spirffire Mk IX, EN315, ZX+6, No.145 Squadron, Tunisia, March 1943 (MS/DE/AB)

  MS/DE/AB)
- Mustang Mk III, FZI52, -SS, NO.143 Fighter Wing, England, May 1943 (DG/OG/MSG)

Colour Key: K - Khaki, AB - Azure Blue, DE - Dark Earth, DG - Dark Green, N - Night, S - Sky, OG - Ocean Grey, MSG - Medium Sea Grey, MS - Middle Stone

Designed for: Heller (P.IIc), Hasegawa or Revell (Hurricane), Tamiya (Spitfire Mk V), Hasegawa (Spitfire Mk VIII/IX) and Revell (Mustang Mk III) kits

Price Guide: £4.25



Verdict: This is an excellent sheet, packed with options for the various machines flown by this well-known ace. The instructions are clear and concise and the colours are all listed by name as well as Humbrol, Revell and Agama paint ranges and FS numbers (albeit these latter items will only be approximations as RAF colours were set to the BS system). The MPD range is stocked in the UK by Hannants, although the above sheet at the time of writing was out of stock. It can be most highly recommended and our thanks go to MPD for the review sample.



# new releases - accessories

A pretty varied selection of new products this month, so read on...

#### Quickboost, Czech Republic [www.quickboost.net]

Available from Hannants (UK) and Squadron (USA) Here is the latest bunch of releases in this range.



#### 1:72 QB72 024

#### F4F-3 Wildcat [Late] Cowling

This simple bolt-on conversion consists of a replacement late-style cowling for the -3 series Wildcat

Designed for: Hasegawa kit Material: R Price Guide: £3.00



#### 1:72 QB72 033

#### **B-26C Marauder Engines**

This is another simple update to the old Airfix kit to correct one of its most obviously poorly defined areas.

Designed for: Airfix kit Material: R Price Guide: £2.60



#### 1:48 QB48 Q35

#### MiG-21MF Correct Spine & Tail

This set offers direct replacement parts to correct both the spine and vertical fin in the Academy kit.

Designed for: Academy kit Material: R Price Guide: £4.85



#### 1:32 0832 011

#### P-38J Gun Barrels

This is a very simple set of replacement barrels for the kit, with better detail. perforations and a drilled end.

Designed for: Trum Material: R Price Guide: £3.00



#### 1:48 QB48

#### 031 MiG-21PMF air scoops

Like the MiG-2IMF set (#QB48 021) we reviewed a few months back, this set offers direct replacement intakes that are better than those in the kit because they are hollow and thus look more realistic.

Designed for: Academy kit Material: R Price Guide: £3.00



#### 1:48 QB48

#### 038 B-25G/H/J Cowlings

There have been a number of corrected cowls for the late-series B-25s from Accurate Miniatures, so this new set from Quickboost joins the list to correctly depict the exhaust ports and cowl lip shape, all of which are claimed to be incorrect in the kit.

gned for: Accurate Miniatures kits Material: R Price Guide: £3.50



#### 1:72 QB72

### 028 A-26K Correct Cowling &

This is a slightly more involved set, being boxed this time, and it replaces the inaccurate engines of the Italeri kit, as well as offering more representative cowlings for the type as the A-26K had a number of dif-

ferent cowl types during Designed for: Italori kit Material: R Price Guide: £4.85



#### 1:48 OB48

#### 030 Sea Mosquito Stabilizer Conversion

The horn balance weights on the Sea Mosquito were increased, changing the profile of the tip of each stabilizer, and this set offer replacement tailplanes for the Tamiya kit in this form. Of course, if you want a Sea Mosquito you still need all the other bits specific to that type (undercarriage, propeller, canopy, nose etc).

Designed for: Tamiya kit Material: R

Price Guide: £4.25



#### 1:72 0872

#### 022 F-15A/C Ejection Seat

The replacement resin ejection seat comes cast with all the seat belts in position, so no need for photo-etched. Designed for: Any F-15A/C kit Material: R Price Guide: £2.30



#### 1:72 QB72

#### 023 A-26K Invader Gun Barrels

This is just a simple set of replacement barrels for the nose of the A-26K for those of you without access to steel tubing to make these parts.

Designed for: Italeri kit Material: R Price Guide: £3.00

This series is growing on us, it offers excellent, simple updates that are beautifully cast and nicely detailed. Our thanks to Quickboost for the review samples.

Koy VM - Self-adhesive Vinyl Paint Mask (Die-cut)

PE - Photo-etched metal (with or w/o acetate film)

#### CMK, Czech Republic [www.czechmasterskits.cz]

Available from: Hannants (UK). Here are some of the most recent sets from CMK



#### 1:72 7123

#### Hawker Hunter Interior Set

This set updates the interior with a new resin tub, ejection seat, rear bulkhead, sidewalls and instrument panel all in resin combined with pre-painted photo-etched for the instrument panel facia, seat belts and wheel well details.

Designed for: Revell kit Material: R, PE Price Guide: £8.60



#### 1:72 7124

#### Hawker Hunter Exterior Set

In this their update set for the Hunter, CMK offer exterior details in the form of separate ailcrons, elevators and rudder, a separate ventral air brake and the gun pack all in resin. Smaller details and a complete set of flaps are supplied as photo-etched.

Designed for: Revell kit Material: R, PE Price Guide: £8.60



#### 1:48 4166

Messerschmitt Me 410B Undercarriage Set In this set you get a replacement insert for each wheel well plus separate and more detailed main undercarriage doors.

Designed for: Revell/Monogram kit Material: R Price Guide: £8.20

Verifiet CMK sets are always excellent and all of the above are up to their usual high standards. The inclusion of pre-painted etched brass is a good one and all we need for the Hunter now is a set of groundcrew operating the bomb winches and the trolley for the gunpack itself. Our thanks to CMK for the review samples.

Available to UK from: www.hannants.co.ut

#### Vector, Russia [www.neomega-resin.com/vector.htm]

Available from Parade Figures (sales@neomega-resin.com)



#### 1:72 72-009

#### BMW 132

This resin, multi-part, highly detailed radial engine is suitable for the Ar 95, Ar 196, Hs 123, Do 17P, Do 18L, Fw 62, Fw 200A/B, He 114, He 115, Ju 52, Ju 90 etc.

Designed for: See above Material: 8 Price Guide: £4.25



#### 1:48 48-012

#### Clerget 9

This resin, multi-part, highly detailed rotary engine can be used in the Sopwith Pup, Triplane, Camel and I 1/2 Strutter, plus the Nieuport IO and I2 and Bristol Scout.

Designed for: See above Material: R Price Guide: £7.50



#### 1:48 48-017

Mitsubishi Mk 4 Kinsei Mk 8/Has-3 This resin, multi-part, highly detailed radial engine is suitable for the BGN, D3A, E13A, Ki-100, Ki-46-III, G3M, G4M & J2M, plus a few others that don't exist in kit for in this scale

Designed for: See above Material: R Price Guide: £9.25



#### 1:32 32-005

Wright R-1820G/Shvetsov M-62/63
This resin, multi-part, highly detailed radial engine
can be used as both the original and Soviet copy,
so is suitable for the B-17, C-47, SBD-3/5, J2F, F2A
or I-15 & I-16.

Designed for: See above Material: R Price Guide: £TBA

Verdict: This is a stunning new range, produced by Neomega, so you already know how good they will be! The range is already quite extensive, so for more details of the entire series contact Parade Figures. Our thanks to Parade for supplying the review samples.

Available from: www.neomega-resin.com

# new releases - accessories

More accessories from Griffon, Zactomodels and Montex

#### Griffon Model Accessories, Czech Republic [www.griffon.cz]

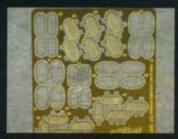
Available from Hannants (UK) [only some items]



#### 1:72 GRF72003

British Landing Lights
This photo-etched fret offers the reflector dish and three-arm support frame seen in landing lights of RAF aircraft during WWII and through to the 1950s.

Designed for: Universal Material: PE Price Guide: £TBA (£5.50)



#### 1:72 GRF72004

#### Intake Guards

Known to us all as 'FOD guards', but referred to as 'Ice Guards' in service, this fret offers these mesh screens as seen on piston-engined RAF aircraft throughout WWII and into the 1950s.

Designed for: Universal Material: PE Price Guide: £TBA (65.75)



#### 1:72 GRF72006

#### **B-17G Wheel Set**

This resin set comprises replacement, highly-detailed main and tail wheels for the B-I7G that are slightly 'weighted'.

Designed for: Academy kit Material: R Price Guide: £TBA (£4.25)



#### 1:48 GRF48002

#### **Spitfire Mk VII Conversion**

This simple resin and photo-etched conversion includes the revised head armour, sealed access door, knock-out panel frame for windscreen and sealing strip for the canopy in etched, plus the pressurisation intake for the cowl, deeper chin cowling and extended wingtips all in resin.

Designed for: Hasegawa (Mk VIII or IX) kits Material: PE Price Guide: £TBA (£14.25)



#### 1:48 GRF480023

#### **Fuel Drums**

This is a very useful set of two oil drums cast in resin.

Designed for: Universal Material: R Price Guide: £TBA (£3.50)



#### 1:48 GRF48032

#### Fw 190 Wheels (Early)

This is a set of the early six-hole hub wheels, plus a highly detailed tailwheel and yoke assembly.

Designed for: Dragon or Tamiya kits Material: R, PE Price Guide: £TBA (67.25)



#### 1:48 GRF48036

#### **British Landing Lights**

This is a scaled-up version of set GRF72003 reviewed elsewhere.

Besigned for: Universal Material: PE Price Guide: ETBA (67.25)



#### 1:48 GRF48038

#### P-47 Flaps

This is a simple set of resin flaps to replace these areas in the kit.

Designed for: Tamiya kit Material: R Price Guide: £TBA (63.25)



#### 1:48 GRF48039

#### **Buffalo Control Surfaces & Flaps**

This boxed set contains replacement vertical fin and separate rudder, tailplanes with separate elevators and a set of separate ailerons, all in resin. The set is completed with a full set of flaps and wing inserts in photo-etched.

Designed for: Classic Airframes or Special Hobby kits Material: R, PE

Price Guide: £TBA (£16.75)



#### 1:48 GRF48040

#### **MiG-3 Control Surfaces**

This set contains a replacement rudder, tailplanes with separate elevators and a set of separate allerons all in resin.

d for: Alanger or ICM kits Material: R Price Guide: £TBA (£9.25)



#### 1:48 GRF48041

#### Walter NZ60 Engine

This multi-part and highly detailed engine is mainly made from resin, but has each of the rocker arms as separate photo-etched parts. It is designed for the Avia B

Designed for: Smer kit Material: R Price Guide: £TBA (£8.75)



#### 1:48 GRF48042

#### **B-17G Wheel Set**

This resin set comprises replacement, highly-detailed main and tail wheels for the B-I7G that are slightly 'weighted'

Designed for: Revell-Monogram kit Material: R Price Guide: £TBA

Verdict: All of the above accessories are very well made and have excellent detail. It is good to see 'weighted' wheels being done so subtly, and each set is most highly recommended. Our thanks to Griffon Model accessories for supplying the review samples. ble from: www.griffon.cz

Key VM - Self-adhesive Vinyl Paint Mask (Die-cut)

PE - Photo-etched metal (with or w/e acetate film)

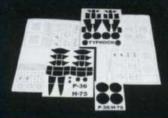
R - Resin

## new releases - accessories

#### Latest product information for Scale Aircraft

#### Plastic Model Club Montex, Poland [www.montex-mask.com]

Available from: SBX Models (UK) & Karaya (Poland). This month sees another large batch of self-adhesive die-cut paint masks from this Polish manufacturer.



#### 1:32

#### **Maxi Mask series**

As with the I:72 and I:48 versions this series offers canopy and wheel masks plus a full set of masks to replace the kit decal options. MM32043 Curtiss P-36A (Special Hobby #SH32003) MM32045 Hawker Typhoon Mk Ib (Revell #04663)



#### Maxi Mask series

In this series you get the canopy and wheel masks plus a full set of masks to replace the kit decal options. MM72092 Dornier Do 24T (Revell/ Italeri)



#### 1:48

#### Mini Mask series

In this larger scale you either get masks for just the interior of the canopy, or for both the interior and exterior. Those for both are marked with \*

SM48204 Focke-Wulf Fw I90A-8/R2 (Tamiya)\*, SM48207 PZL P.23 Karas (Mirage Hobby)\*, SM48208 Focke-Wulf Fw 190A (Hasegawa)\*



#### 1:72

#### Mini Mask series

For this series you get one set of masks for the canopy and all other glazing, as well as masks for the wheels of the

SM72090 Hawker Hunter F Mk 6 (Revell), SM7209I Blohm & Voss Bv I38 (Revell/Supermodel), SM72093 PZL P.23A/B Karas (Heller), SM72094 Douglas B-26K Invader (Italeri)



#### 1:48

#### **Super Mask series**

This series offers canopy (interior and exterior) and wheel masks plus a full set of masks to reproduce those colour schemes listed below to replace those in the kit. K48072 Junkers Ju 88A-4 (Revell): B3+AM of 4./KG54, Catania, Sicily in 1943; 5K+IL of 3./KG 3, autumn of 1942 K48073 Junkers Ju 52/3m (Revell): 3U+ML of 3./ZG 26: 3U+MT of 9./ZG 26 K48080 Mitsubishi A6M5c (Hasegawa): 203rd Kokutai, Japan, summer of 1945; 721st Jiruai during 1944. K4850I German Lozenge Camouflage

Super Mask series In this scale you get interior and exterior canopy masks, plus those for all the markings of the alternative colour schemes

K24024 Messerschmitt Bf 109G-6

(Trumpeter): 'Black 29' of an unknown unit based at Pilsen in May 1945; 'Red 29' of JG 5 in March 1944

K24025 Messerschmitt Bf I09G-6 (Trumpeter): 'Yellow 7' flown by Hptm. Wilhelm Lemke of 9/JG 53; 'Yellow 6' of III./JG 3 in April 1945

K24026 Curtiss P-40B Tomahawk (Vintage Fighter Series): White 7l', P-8ll9 flown by Ed Overend of the 3rd Squadron, based at Kunming, China in March 1942; Tomahawk Mk Ilb, AK490 of No.73 Sqn and flown by Sqn Ldr Peter Wakaham-Barnes and based at El Gamil, Egypt in September 1942.

#### Zactomodels, USA [www.zactomodels.com]

Available from manufacturer



#### Su-27 Canopy Detail Set

One of the big failings in the Trumpeter kit was the canopy, it was only fit for the bin, so this new set from Zactomodels puts that right. It comprises a new crystal-clear vacformed canopy and windscreen along with the IRST housing, canopy actuator arms, interior framework for the canopy and the flux capacitor on the rear bulkhead, all in resin. The set also contains new rearview mirrors in photo-etched and placards for the canopy sills as decals.

Designed for: Trumpeter kit Material: R. PE, VF Price Guide: \$32 (+\$6 P&P)



#### 1:32 Sukhoi

#### Su-27 Nose Cone Correction Set

The other big failing with the Trumpeter kit was the length and profile of the nose, so once again Zactomodels have corrected it. This set gives you a corrected nose cone that is a direct replacement for the kit part. Also included are a new pitot and various lengths of plastic rod to make up the IFF antenna and vortex generators.

Designed for: Trumpeter kit Material: R

Price Guide: \$17 (+\$6 P&P)

#### Super Mask series

Again in this scale you get interior and exterior canopy masks, plus masks for the wheel hubs and for all the markings of the alternative colour schemes below. K32070 Focke-Wulf Fw 190A-8 (Hasegawa): Black < of Stab I./JG 30I based in Germany in April-May 1945; 'Black <<' of II./SG 2 and flown by Major Karl



Kennel in May 1945, K32071 Focke-Wulf Fw 190A-8 (Hasegawa): 'Blue 2' of 1 /JGI based at Greifswald in early November 1944; 'Yellow 2' probably from 3 /JGI based at Greifswald in early November 1944, K32072 Focke-Wulf Fw 190A-8 (Hasegawa): "Yellow II" of IL/SG sed at Neubiberg in 1945; 'Blue B', flown by Hptm. Fritz Schröter of L/SG 5 based in Finland in June 1944, K32073 Focke-Wulf Fw 190A-8 (Hasegawa): 'Black 6' of Stab SG 10 based in Czechoslovakia in May 1945; Black 4' of III./SG 10 based in Czechoslovakia in May 1945, K32074 Morane-Saulnier MS.406 (Azur): MS-3II of I/HleLv, flown by Vänr K. Kyllönen in 1944; MS-398 of I/HIeLv 28, flown by Kers M. Vihinen in 1943, K32075 Messerschmitt Bf I09E-3 (Hasegawa): 'Black <0' flown by Hptm. Dr. Erich Mix of Stab I./JG 53 based at Wiesbaden-Erbenhelm in November 1939; 'White 5' flown by Uffz. Stefan Litjens of 4./JG 533 during the late autumn of 1939, K32078 Morane-Saulnier MS.406 (Azur): N728 of GC II/33 during the summer of 1939; L834 of FAFL based at Haifa in October 1941, K32079 Curtiss H-75A-3 (Special Hobby): CU-582, 'Blue 2' flown by Ltn. M. Sarparanta of HLeLv 32 in 1944; CU-575, 'Yellow 5', flown by Ltn. K. Kitunen of HLeLv 32 in 1944, K32080 Focke-Wulf Fw I90A-5 (Hasegawa): 'Blue I' flown by Hptm. Dietrich Wickop, the Gruppenkommandeur of II./JGI in May I943; 'Black <0', flown by Lt Rüdiger von Kirchmayr, the Gruppe Technical Officer of II./JG I in the summer of 1943.

The range of masks offered by Montex is ever expanding and they are extremely useful and offer some nice alternative schemes; especially for those historically lacking in aftermarket decals (e.g. 1:24). Modellers in the UK can now obtain this range from SBX Model Shop, while all other orders can be fulfilled by Karaya in Poland. Our thanks to Plastic Model Club Montex for the review samples Materials: VM Available from: www.sbxmodelshop.co.uk or www.Karaya.ceti.pl

If you are going to invest £70 in the Trumpeter kit and you want it to look right, then seriously consider the corrected nose. The canopy set is a must though, as the kit parts are useless. Please note that Zactomodels have also just produced a set of corrected intakes for the kit as well. Each of these sets is highly recommended and our thanks to Zactomodels for the review samples. Available from: www.zactomodels.com

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Vol 1 lss 7 February 2006

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#### Editor's Choice

Coclepit Decals (Mike Grant Decals 1.72, 1:48 & 1:32) Vol 1 lss 9 p82
Dental Burns (Little-cars.com) Vol 1 lss 6 p82
Dutch Spitflies (Dutch Decals 2.8 vi. 48) Vol 1 lss 12 p
Fleish Paint Set (Andrea Ministures) Vol 1 lss 11 p82
Flexible Scale Rule (Cammett) Vol 1 lss 7 p82
Japanese Army/Nayy Instruments WWII - decals 1:32 (MDC) Vol 1 lss 2 p82
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Weathering Pastel Set #1, Gunze Sangyo (MDC) Vol 1 lss 3 p82



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# The story so far...



Issue 1 August 2005

Jon Cole builds the 1"32 Fokker Dr.I from Roden

Sword's 1:48 T-38 Talon by Steve

A. Evans

Geoff Coughlin updates the Trumpeter 1:32 MiG-21MF with Cutting Edge accessories

Hassegaws's 1:32 KI-84 gets some very effective weathering from Mark W. Glidden

Trumpeter's 1:72 Westland Wyvern S.4 by John McIllmurray



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\*Historical feature - The Fiat CR.42 by Richard J. Caruana

\*Special Hobby's 1:48 F2A-3 Buffalo by Jon Cole

\*Trumpeter's 1:32 Messerschmitt Bf
109G-6 by Richard J. Caruana

\*Trumpeter's 1:32 TBF-1c Avenger by Jay Laverty inc. colour profiles by Richard J. Caruana

\*Hasegawa's 1:48 Curtiss P-40N by Steve A. Evans inc. colour profiles by Richard J. Caruana



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\* Kwik Build - Special Hobby's 1:72
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\* Kwik Build - Revell's 1:72 Lockheed-Martin F-168

\* Hasegawa 1:48 F/A-18F Super Hornet

\* Hasegawa's 1:48 Kawanishi N1K1-Ja
Shiden Type II Koh by Steve A. Evans

\* Accurate Miniatures 1:48 SB2U-1
Vindicator by Nick J. Wigman Nick

\* Revell's 1:32 He 162A-2 by Jay Laverty detailed with all the Aires, CMK &
Eduard aftermarket sets

\* Academy's P-33J by Libor Jekl

Academy's P-38J by Libor Jekl detailed with the CMK and Eduard sets



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Kwik Build - Special Hobby's 1:72
Reggiane Re. 2000 Serie I
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- Kwik Build - Special Hobby's 1:48
- Phonix D.I - Kwik Build - Eduard's
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- Academy's 1:72 Junkers Ju 87:62 - Academy's 1:72 Junkers Ju 87:62 - Evans with accessories from CMK - Hasegawa's 1:72 Avro Lancaster built
- from the box by John McIllmurray
- Techniques Painting Effects
- Weathering and other paint effects,
- explained by Jeroen Vass



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Macchi C.200 Serie I Bubble Canopy'

-Academy's 1:48 Kawasaki-Vertol KV107-II-5 in a 50th Anniversary scheme
by Steve A. Evans

-Trumpeter's 1:32 Me 262A-1a Jay

Laverty builds

-Historical feature on the Messerschmitt Me 262 - Single-seat versions
by Richard J. Caruana with colour
profiles

profiles
- Academy's 1:32 F/A-18D two-seat
Hornet in tiger-striped scheme by
John Wilkes



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D.VII (Fokkerbuilt, early) by Mike Belton
- Academy's 1:48 Sukhoi Su-27 by Steve A. Evans
- Hasegawa's 1:48 Ki-61-I Hei with the Aires detail sets by Andy leronymides
- Tamiya's F-16C Thunderbird captured as the wheels retract by Nick J. Wigman



Product Focus - Actulite's excellent laylight balanced taskidesk light Hassegawa's 1:48 FW 190A-3 by Nick I.Wigman Hasegawa's 1:48 FA-18F Super fornet updated by Geoff Coughlin Historical feature - A-7 Corsair IIb Vichard J. Caruana inc. colour profiles Trumpeter 1:48 Condor built and corected by Jamie 'Haggis' Haggo



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\*Grumman F3F-2 from Special Hobby
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Albatros D.III by Jay Laverty featuring
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Rimeil - Trumpeter's 1:48 Milo-19S
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Caruana takes a look at the history of
this carrier - The F3D Skyknight, built
as an EF-10B in 1:48 from the Czech
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Junkers Ju 87G-2 by Garry Prettyman

- Kwik Build - Eduard's Albatros D.V.

Jasta 5' by Nick J. Wigman - Jay

Laverty builds, updates and, at times, scratchbuilds the P-40 in 1:24 from the Vintage Fighter Series kit - Eduard's

1:48 Nieuport Ni.11 by Mike Capell

- Historical feature - Hawker-Siddeley HS. 125 by Richard J. Caruana

- Tamiya's 1:48 Fw 190A-8 built from-the-box by Stave A. Evans - Painting

Resin Cockpits Part 1 - Jeroen Veen shows how to paint and weather an aftermarket WWII era cockpit



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• Hassgawa's 1:32 Ju 87G-2 by Jay
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• Historical feature - Hawker Sea
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\*Hasegawa's 1:72 He 111 updated by Rev. John McIllmurray
\*Model Design Construction's 1:32 Hawker by Jay Laverty
- Historical feature - McDD F-4J
Phantom - Richard J. Caruana looks at the classic jet fighter
- Airfix 1:72 TSR 2 by Nick J. Wigman
- Techniques Guide - Chipping Jeroen Veen tells you how

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# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR MOCAL Model MAIRP AIRPI AIRP

The first year!

Yes, already this editorial marks the 1st anniversary of Model Airplane International. so soon! We all complain about how time flies etc, well with this past twelve months I can join in with that chant, as it really has flown by. Most of this is due to the constant schedule that is producing a monthly magazine, as we work in advance all the time with no real 'free' periods from one month to the next, so everything is compressed. That said, this year marks my eleventh as an editor, so probably the aspects of this last twelve months that have differed are simply the rejuvenation of my enthusiasm and the enjoyment I have gained from being with this title right from the off. Right from the launch MAI was greeted with such enthusiasm by you, the readership, and that was extremely satisfying for everyone at ADH. Their concept for this title was obviously spot-on, as it was time to produce a monthly aircraft modelling title of this standard and it was time to do this in a manner that focused entirely on modelling. With a lot of modelling titles already out there ADH had identified the area in which there was poten-

tial to improve, and thus MAI was born. Getting the mix right each month is always difficult, mainly because you have to juggle the quality of the piece with its subject and scale, while at the same time trying to remain topical. I think that in Volume 1 we have achieved this; oh, I am well aware you can't please everyone all the time and I would never be so naive as to try, but we have covered most of the new kit releases from the mainstream manufacturers via major build features and mixed this with a good number of Kwik Builds on the smaller manufacturers' products and more esoteric subjects. We have stayed away from doing too much on reissues, mainly because of space constraints and how many excellent new kits are out there, but also because so many of you have such an encyclopaedic knowledge of the hobby that there is little point in doing reviews or features on kits that you already know so well. We do cover these in our initial look at each kit, which is enough' we feel, but we won't limit ourselves forever and ultimately we will cover some older kits if they warrant it.

Well, what of the future and Volume 2? We have taken on board all of your comments and there is a style issue we therefore want to address; other than that your requests for 'more, more, more' are the most common and we will of course do as much as we can each month and, ultimately, look at expanding MAI each month to give us more space in each edition. In eleven years as a magazine editor I don't think I have ever sat writing the editorial at the end of the first year without thinking of the changes and improvements that can be made, but I have to admit with MAI that the combination of skilled contributors and the excellent infrastructure of ADH actually have me feeling very content! I would of course like to conclude this anniversary editorial with a big word of thanks to all those who have made the magazine what it is. My personal thanks go to Richard J. Caruana, it is always a pleasure working with you Richard, and I am sure you will all join me in saving how much we enjoy Richard's work each month. Thanks also to the contributors, listed here in the order in which they appeared in MAI: Garry Prettyman,

Steve A. Evans, Jon Cole, Geoff Coughlin, Mark W. Glidden, Rev. John McIllmurray, Libor Jekl, Nick J. Wigman, Jay Laverty, Mike Capell, Jeroen Veen, John Wilkes, Mike Belton, Andy Ieronymides, Jamie Haggo, Ray Rimmell, Pierre Lambert, Mike Grant and Ian Ruscoe. Thank you, gentlemen, without your hard work and dedication MAI would not be nearly as successful as it is. My thanks to all the manufacturers who have been so supportive of us, from the mainstream 'big' names right down to the cottage industry firms, thank you all for your sterling support. And finally, my personal vote of thanks to everyone at ADH, who have worked so hard and thus made working with them so easy. It is a pleasure working with you, ladies and gentlemen, and who knows, one day I may even make the tea!

I hope you all continue to enjoy MAI in the coming months and years as we have a lot planned, and there seem to be just so many new products on the market that I don't think the coming year will be any less frantic than the previous one!

Richard A. Franks - Editor, Model Airplane International

#### ■ BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR?

If any of you out there would like to contribute to MAI, either undertaking Kwik Builds or writing main feature articles, then please do get in touch with the editor, either via email at editorial@modelairplaneinternational.com or in writing via the ADH office.



#### A FINAL NOTE ON THE P-6E DEAR MAI

In Issue 8 on page 65 you featured the Olimp Models I:72 Curtiss P-6E Hawk. The verdict said, "as far as we are aware the P-6E has not been done as an injected kit in this scale before...". Perhaps your reviewer is too young to remember a delightful trio of I:72 US interwar biplanes issued by Monogram in the late 60s and early 70s, which included the P-6E. Keep up the good work.

K. Broddle, UK

Ed Says: Thank you, yes the reviewer was too young, it was me and I was only a few years old when that kit was released. I have apologised to all concerned about this before, but Mr Broddle included a nice little pamphlet catalogue with his letter clearly showing the Monogram P-6E, so I thought we could use this as an excuse to include a scan of it here.

#### ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANY DEAR MR FRANKS

I am writing to you in reference to the article by Richard Caruana on HMS Illustrious at Malta. You may be interested to know that I was on board Illustrious from Gibraltar to Malta having been flown on board together with Dr Andrew Soildon. We were both Guests of Honour on Toranto night. I presented a model of a Toranto Swordfish that was made by John Rox, a member of the North Essex Modellers for which I am Secretary! My main interest in modelling is ships. In the Captain's and Officers' Flat on Illustrious is a model of the ship



#### Letter of the Month

■ The chosen kit will be solely at the discretion of the spensor; on communication will be entered into

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The selected letter each month will receive an aircraft kit from the Academy range courtesy of Academy and their UK importer, Toyway.





#### A MATTER OF SIZE!

I am just returning to aircraft modelling after 28 years. A great help to me, and I am sure other modellers, would be a simple table showing suggested gauges of copper wire and/or solder to act as brake pipes on 1:72, 1:48 and 1:32 bombers and fighters and suggested gauges to act as wiring looms for the various scales of aircraft Regards

Dennis Savage, UK

Ed Says: Your wish is my command. I spent a few hours going over the various gauges of wire offered by Little-cars.com and below are my suggestions for the various uses in each scale. This is just a guide, but I hope it helps.

1:72 Brake Pipes 0.2mm 0.08mm or 0.1mm 1:72 Wiring Looms 0.3mm or 0.315mm 1:48 Brake Pipes 1:48 Wiring Looms 0.2mm 0.5mm 1:32 Brake Pipes 0.315mm or 0.4mm 1:32 Wiring Looms 1:24 Brake Pipes 0.7mm 1:24 Wiring Looms 0.5mm

You can also use 0.9mm for larger diameter pipes in 1:32 and 1:24 and I would recommend 1.0mm tinned copper wire for making supporting pins for butt-joins of tailplanes, vertical fins and wings etc With fuse wire I would suggest 5amp for 1:72, 15amp for 1:48 and 30amp for 1:32 and above.

in her present configuration that I made, and which was flown on board by Merlin #038. It is because I have a long association with the Royal Navy, mainly due to my models, that I get invited to these events with the 'Grey Ladies'. I am sorry I missed Richard, as I am sure we would have a lot to discuss. Captain Bob Cooling's invitation enabled me to be on board for 7 days (2 in Malta and 5 at sea) and I was able to be on the flight deck during flight operations about 15ft from the wing tip of the Harriers as they used the ski ramp to take off, Cor! No.80I Squadron took me out on

the town, Cor! 2 and a young Lt Flight Control Officer looked after me. Incidentally there were 6 Sea Harriers, 6 Merlins and 2 AEW Sea Kings onboard. The AEWs are colloquially knows as 'bags'

Eric Dyke, UK

Ed Says: Thanks Eric, it is always nice to know that our hobby gets us all sorts of places, wish I had the chance to do a few trips like that! Thanks also for passing us the stunning shot of HMS Illustrious sailing in to Malta, which we have reproduced here. Apparently readers, Eric is up on the main island in the photo, lucky devil!

# DOOKS

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by K. Keskinen & K. Stenman ISBN: 952-99432-8-8

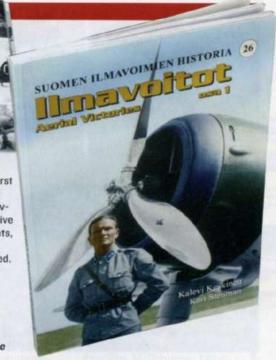
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Continuing the excellent History of the Finnish Air Force series, this latest addition is the first in a two-volume set dedicated to those pilots who achieved an aerial victory either on their own or shared with other comrades. The coverage is arranged alphabetically, so this first part covers A through to M (Part 2 will therefore do N through to Z). The text is split into an initial narrative that just sets the scene for the tabulated data that is to follow and, as with the rest of the contents, this is offered in both Finnish and English. The remainder of the book is that alphabetical list of pilot names along with a bit out their service lives and a list of all the aerial victories they achieved. As with all titles in this series the whole thing is profusely illustrated throughout with excellent period images, covering types form the Gladiator through to the Bf 109!

Verdict: We are fans of this series; it is just the quality of the product, the information and all those stunning images. Finnish AF subjects are so colourful and it is nice at last to get to understand the human aspects of those that flew them. It is deservedly highly recommended and UK customers can obtain the series from The Aviation Book Centre, The Aviation Bookshop or Midland Counties to name but a few.



#### RATING

SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO KARI STENMAN

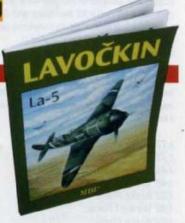
#### Lavochkin La-5

by M. Vestsik & J. Vrany MRI

ISBN: 80-86524-10-8

Price Guide: £10.50 (+£0.60P&P)

- 108-page, 210 x 297mm, laminated card cover
- · Czech & English
- · www.mbi.wz.cz



This series of monographs from MBI is not vast, but it really does produce some real beauties. Their latest addition to the series is this one on the La-5 and it follows on from their previous title on the La-7 (also well worth seeking out). The formula is the same, with a narrative that deals with the design and development of the type, followed by a look at its use in WWII by the VVS and post-war service in places like Czechoslovakia. The final section is a 'technical' one with data, diagrams and photos that will allow you to understand how this brutish looking fighter was actually made. Text is split 50/50 on each page between Czech and English, with all photo, diagram and profile captions also in both languages. All sub-variants of the La-5 are covered, each in their own separate chapter/sub-section, and there are diagrams and scale plans to show you how each differs.

Verdict: Another excellent title from MBI and one ideally suited to the modeller. With the La-5FN due from Zvezda in I:48 later in the year this is a 'must have' title for anyone planning to make it, and also a must for all VVS modellers.

RATING 10/10
SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO CZECH-SIX PUBLICATIONS



#### Yakovlev Yak-23

by A. Osinski Kagero

ISBN: 83-89088-99-I

Price Guide: £6.99

- Topshots No.11025
- . 50-page, A5 landscape, laminated card cover
- · Polish & English
- www.kagero.pl

The colour photographic coverage in this book utilises the preserved Yak-23 in the Polish Air Force Museum at Krakow. As with others in this series this latest addition also contains a little 'extra', this time in the form of a set of die-cut masks for tactical numbers and the canopy in I:48 (probably for the Planet Models or Ardpol kits). Those familiar with the series will know that it offers full-colour walk-around images of the chosen subject and there is no narrative save for the introduction and extensive captions for each image. Just about every inch of the airframe, inside and out, is covered and in this instance there is a good selection of images of the RD500 (Rolls-Royce Nene) engine outside the airframe.

Verdict: The Yak-23 is not that common as a kit, but they are out there. If you like the Yak-23, or Russian aviation in general, then you will want to add this title to the library. It is highly recommended.



RATING 10/10

SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO KAGERO

#### Uncovering the Rockwell B-1B Lancer

by W. Peeters

**Daco Publications** 

ISBN: 90-806747-7-X

Price Guide: 619.75

• 84-page, 215 x 240mm, laminated card cover

· English

· http://ultra.glo.de/daco

Daco seem to be offering two formats of titles in this series, the 'wow' factor IOO+ page beauties we have seen for the F-I6, F-I8 and F-I4, and this, the lower page-count version for which they have so far just covered the T-38 Talon. Do not think that the smaller number of pages reduces the depth and quality of the photographic coverage on offer, far from it! This latest addition deals with the Lancer, or 'Bone' as most seem to call the B-IB. The photo walk-around inside covers from the nose to tail, with all bits in between, with sections looking at such areas as the undercarriage bays, cockpit interior, weapons bays and armament. This latter element includes both the weapons themselves and the large rotary launcher unit carried by the B-I. As I to 3 in the series gave us the F-6, F-I8 and F-I4, and 2I was the T-38, I wonder what titles 4 to 20 will bring us?

Verdict: It may not be as big as the previously mentioned larger format, but it is still packed to the brim with the sort of info we like and of a quality that we really appreciate. With kits of the type in most scales, including 1:48, this is the book to own if you intend to model it. It is not just for the detail freaks either, as the amount and quality of the images means that they give you a real understanding of how and where the B-I weathers in service, which is crucial for getting a realistic finish on your model. Go on, buy it, you won't regret it!



## RATING 10/10

SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO DACO PUBLISHING

#### Lockheed Constellation

By Dominique Breffort Historie & Collections ISBN: 2-915239-62-2 Price Guide: £24.95

• 176-page, 240mm x 320mm, hardback

The Lockheed Constellation needs no introduction, as it is one of the finest airliners ever built. This new title is a celebration of the type and combines a wealth of historical and technical information with a superb collection of colour profiles and a mass of ephemera, all of which combines to make a very visually pleasing title. This is the English-language edition and the narrative is split to look at certain stages in the development of the design. These therefore cover the C-69, L-049, L-649 & L-749, the military L-749s (C-121 & WV-1), L1049 Super Constellation, L-1649A Starliner and finally, USN and USAF Super Constellations. Each section combines excellent historical text with lots of visual elements and a stunning layout and design. There are pages of colour profiles and a section dedicated to looking at the Constellation in details.



#### Albatros D.I-V

by Thomasz J. Kowalski Kagero

ISBN: 83-60445-00-1 Price Guide: £5.99

- Famous Airplanes No.5
- · 46-page, A5 format, laminated card cover
- · Polish & English
- · www.kagero.pl

For those of you not familiar with this series, it is a smaller version of the main monograph range and seems to deal with either WWI subjects, or lesser types form WWII. This fifth title in the series looks at the Albatros D.I through to the D.V series. The main bulk of the title is narrative, in both languages, with a limited number of period photographs. The centre pages contain colour profiles (as does the back cover) and in the centrespread there are two sets of four-views depicting two machines that are offered on the decal sheet also included in the book. This sheet is produced by Techmod and offers both options in I:48 and I:72.

Verdict: These are not extensive titles on the subject, but Kagero have included them to allow them to cover those subjects they don't have enough for in the larger format series. Overall they offer a neat little package akin to an "In Action" title and can be recommended to all.

RATING

8/10

SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO KAGERO

# books

#### **Calling all Publishers and Authors!**

If you would like to have your aviation or modelling titles reviewed here, send copies to the editorial address and we will be delighted to review them

#### Messerschmitt Bf 110 Vol.III

by M.J. Murawski & T. Szlagor

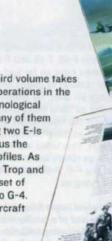
Kagero

ISBN: 83-89088-98-3 Price Guide: £12.99

- Guide No.23
- · 124-page, A4, laminated card cover
- · Polish & English
- · www.kagero.pl

Following on from their previous coverage of the Bf IIO (See Issue 8), this third volume takes up the story where the previous one left off, so deals with the period after operations in the Middle East in 1943 right through to the end of WWII. The historical text is in chronological order and is supported with a good selection of period black and white images, many of them previously unseen. There is a set of fold-out colour profiles in the centre depicting two E-Is plus a colour photo of operational E-Is, and this is supplemented by four pages, plus the inside front, and both inside and outside back covers, that contain more colour profiles. As usual there are a good series of scale plans, in I:48 for the F-2 Trop, G-0, G-2, G-2 Trop and G-3 with a separate large fold-out set of plans covering all the G-4 variants and a set of very useful diagrams showing the changes in the airframe from F-2 Trop through to G-4. As usual there is a free decal sheet included and it offers options for four of the aircraft featured in the colour profiles in both 1:48 & 1:72.

Verdict: This is yet another excellent title in the series from Kagero and one that all Luftwaffe modellers will rightly want to add to their collection.







by James Kightly **Mushroom Model Publications** 

ISBN: 83-917178-4-4

Price Guide: £11.00 (UK inc P&P)

This is another of Mushroom's series of books combining a good mix of narrative with walk-around images and colour side profiles. Basically split 50/50, the historical element takes up the first II4 pages and the photos and profiles the remainder. The test is concise, with details of each mark as well as use by various foreign nations, and in specialist roles like dropping off agents in occupied Europe, ASR and Target Tug roles. There is a little section on preserved examples around the world, and then this is followed by the photo section. This covers just about every aspect of the airframe, with images of various preserved examples plus images form the flight manual etc. The last 24 pages are all colour profiles. Readers in the UK and Europe can obtain a copy for £II.00 (inc. P&P) from the publisher, while those in the USA can find the range at MMD (Squadron) and those in Australia may obtain it from Platypus Publications.

Verdict: The Lysander is now well served in model form, so this title is very welcome. It has a nice concise nature to the text and extensive photographic coverage, and that is just what we

modellers like!



SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO MUSHROOM MODEL PUBLICATIONS

#### Mil Mi-8

by K. Barcz & D. Warszawski Kagero

ISBN: 83-60445-01-X Price Guide: £6.99

- Topshots No.11023
- 50-page, A5 landscape, laminated card cover
- · Polish & English
- · www.kagero.pl

Because the Mi-8 is still in active service, this book uses a number of operational airframes as the subject of the walk-around images. Once again it contains a sheet of decals, produced by Techmod, that offers markings for two of the airframes featured in the book in both 1:48 and I:72. As with others in this series, the main bulk is made up of fullcolour walk-around images of the chosen subject with no narrative as such other than the introduction and captions for each image. Both military and civil versions of the Mi-8 are covered in these photographs.

Verdict: With the type covered in I:35 and I:72 there are certainly some kits out there to benefit from this type of title. It offers excellent images and a wealth of information and the inclusion of the decals will make it even more appealing to the modeller.



SUPPLIED BY: THANKS TO KAGERO

# next issue



Richard J. Caruana colour profiles with all our main features

Plus all the latest news and kit, accessory, decal and book reviews.

## Model

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## THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS

I have already done a thank you in my editorial elsewhere this month, but I thought that as MAI is a brand-new title, it would be nice to have a more personal overview of how this first year has been.

irst impressions are everything in life, and my first meeting with all the team at ADH was certainly something that inspired me from the off. Not only did they have a beautiful location for their base but it was full, and I mean full, of modellingmad folk! ADH have many strings to their bow, so not only were there static models. there were flying models and R/C cars. It was heaven for a total model-head like me! I have been a magazine editor for over a decade now and I know many of the other editors in this field, and included in that mix was Marcus Nicholls, but we had never really spoken at any length. Working with ADH meant that I was now working with Marcus on a monthly basis, something I was a little uneasy about I can assure you. Marcus is, and I am sure many will agree with me, one of THE best static scale modellers in the world. To have him overseeing the whole launch of MAI was good, as it meant there was always a safety net, and I would like to take the opportunity here to pass on my profound thanks to Marcus for all his help and assistance during those early stages of this magazine (nuff grovelling!).

The other element that has brought immense pleasure has been working with such a great group of contributors. It was very comforting to have Richard J. Caruana join us, as we have worked together for years and I don't mind admitting I was a bit 'lost' without his stunning artwork. Starting a title from scratch is always difficult, but ADH had been doing magazines for years and I was therefore fortunate in inheriting the input of a number of contributors right from day one, even before the title was launched. Once the title was announced we were joined by a number of others, some of whom I knew and others I did not. In the last twelve months I have enjoyed seeing these guys' excellent work, and their enthusiasm for modelling has done a great deal to rekindle mine after it had declined in the previous six years - thanks guys.

#### THINGS TO DO ...

Not much to do modelling event-wise, as this is the 'holiday season', but in July there is the East of Scotland Model Show in Dundee on the 1st July and Model Mania at Cholsey Primary School on the 23rd. The biggie though is not a modelling event, but an airshow, Flying Legends to be precise. This will be held at IWM Duxford over the weekend of the 8th & 9th July, so for more details visit http://duxford.iwm.org.uk.



Photographed when it was actually sunny for a breif period in May, the ADH headquarters alongside Doolittle Mill, which dates back to the 16th Centrus.

All good things are also made possible by a load of people who tend to remain in the background, at ADH that is certainly so. My thanks therefore go to the long-suffering ladies at ADH for putting up with my endless emails, constant chatter when I am in the office and failure to be any good at making the tea! Thanks also to Alex and David and Jenni for all their excellent design work throughout the year, to Peter for doing the proofreading. to Colin. Luisa and Mark for hassling me about advertising and finally to Alan for having given me the opportunity to take on this new project and for giving me the space to work with and develop it over the past few months. I have said it before, but will say it again, as it is important in a world where so many seem to find working life a bore, I have really enjoyed this last twelve months and I am certainly keyed up for Volume 2.

My final word this month is to all of you, the readership, for your excellent support. We like what we do, but without others to enjoy it as well it would all be a bit pointless, so your support in buying the magazine regularly is much appreciated. So many of you have gone out of your way to stop by at shows and pass on your praise and good wishes, which has been a real pleasure, and something I have not experienced for many years now. It always does the heart good to hear that what we do is of benefit to fellow modellers, and it has spurred me on to try and cover more and more subjects and try to pass on all those tips and techniques that you are all so eager to learn. All I need now is about 150 pages a month, hummm...!

## Richard A. Franks Editor - Model Airplane International

#### **EDITOR'S CHOICE**

#### **Dutch Spitfire**

The Spitfire is a type well covered in all scales in our hobby, but Dutch Decals have just released this excellent new book along with a decal sheet for some

of the subjects depicted. The 4-page booklet has both Dutch and English narrative, including all photo and profile captions and all technical data etc. The decal sheet, which is available separately, offers eleven options in both I:48 and I:72. We will give a more detailed review of both in a future edition, but for now these are worthy recipients of the 'Editor's Choice' this month, so get them while they are hot. For more details email info@dutchprofile.nl or visit www.dutchprofile.nl.



#### The kit contains 190 parts in total detailing:

Complete cockpit interiors with armoured seats, finely detailed cargo compartment with engraved structure on ceiling and sides that could be considered a "kit in itself, also included ammunition boxes on racks.

Full weapons complement includes 5 x 0.50 Cal. machine guns, 2 x 20MM. cannons and 2 x 2.75 rocket launchers, 1x 40 MM. grenade launcher.

Finely engraved recessed panel lines in two widths, highly detailed on all the fuselage and cargo compartment floor.

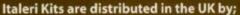


U.S. Army aviation, 1st AV. Detachment, 2/20 ARA, Vietnam 196

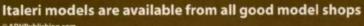




U.S.Army Aviation, 1st AV, Detachment, 2/20 ARA, Vietnam 1967



The Hobby Company, Garforth Place, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG











## **LAST HOPE FOR VICTORY**

1/48 scale HEINKEL He162 A-2 "SALAMANDER" (Item 61097)

Introducing a 1/48 scale model of the revolutionary single engine jet fighter Heinkel He162, which went from development stage to deployment in 7 short months. This all-new assembly kit is certain to satisfy military and aviation model enthusiasts with its attention to quality and accuracy. Carefully designed parts fully reproduce the He162's distinctive form, while the kit is packed with features designed to capture both detail and a sense of enjoyment. Following the concept of our groundbreaking 1/32 scale F-16CJ, the kit includes a replica BMW003 engine that can be mounted on dolly and displayed separately from plane. Optional parts allow depiction of both closed and open engine nacelle, while polycaps enable either display option to be used interchangeably even after assembly. Only this high quality and richly detailed model can truly do justice to the innovative Heinkel He162 jet plane.





Includes 1 pilot figure and 4 sets of marking: Accurately reproduced streamlined fuselage

The world's first operational jet fighter, Me262, is also available as a 1/48 model kit, with three different versions currently available: the A-2a fighter/bomber (61082), A-1a pure fighter (61087) and a Clear Edition featuring transparent parts allowing view of interior of fuselage and engine nacelles.



Messerschmitt Me262 A-1a Clear Edition



#### EXPAND YOUR 1/48 Scale WORLD WITH TAMIYA Russian Tank Destroyer SU-122 (Item 32527)

Tamiya's 1/48 SU-122 model expertly depicts the machine's sloped armor panels and distinctively shaped 122mm howitzer. Realistic detailing of the 1943 production model includes impressive texturing of hull and gun mantlet. Diecast chassis, commander figure and optional fuel tanks round out this high quality kit. Take advantage of the wide variety of AFVs, support vehicles, figures and accessories available in the compact 1/48 scale. Display alongside your 1/48 airplane models for richly detailed and historically accurate dioramas. A whole new world of modeling possibilities is available now from Tamiya.



TAMIYA,INC. 3-7ONDAWARA,SURUGA-KU, SHIZUOKA 422-8610 JAPAN