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July 2017

# ASMS

## SPPRUE

## EXAMINER



# Farnborough 2016

**SAAB  
Airbus  
Boeing  
Dornier  
Leonardo  
Lockheed  
And More!**

## Unveiling the Lockheed F-35

*Plus -*

### A LITTLE HELP FOR THE TEXAS MILITARY FORCES MUSEUM



*Also:*

Rick Cotton on Armor  
& Floyd S. Werner, Jr. on  
Kitty Hawk's 1/48 UH-1D



News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



## Farnborough International Airshow 2016

By Dennis Price



Westland built AH-64 helicopter

Farnborough International Airshow is an aviation show that allows customers that are in the market to buy aviation products to get together with manufacturers that are offering their latest and greatest. Cargo aircraft, jet liners, helicopters and military aircraft are all there.

The good news was that \$124 billion-worth of orders and options were placed during the 2016 show for aircraft, engines and supply chain items. There were also 110 aircraft participating in the static and flying displays during the trade-days.

On a not-so-bright note, the weather was not good, with the flying display having to be abandoned on the Monday after Airbus had finished its display due to extremely heavy rain that also caused flooding and early closure of some of the display halls. Although the weather improved during the week, it was not good.

Orders were down somewhat from the previous show (in 2014) but that was somewhat to be expected considering the very large orders placed then and with manufacturers having some production lines

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

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- 07/26-29/2017 **IPMS National Convention**  
a Vista Conference Center, Omaha Nebraska.
- 08/12/2017: **HAMS Eleventh Annual Model Car Show and Contest**  
Contact: Rob McQuown: [robert.mcquown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:robert.mcquown@sbcglobal.net)  
<https://www.ipms-hams.org/>
- 09/16/2017: **AMPS Centex Armor Expo 2017**  
Georgetown Community Center  
445 E Morrow St, Georgetown, TX  
Contact: Eric Choy  
Phone: 512-554-9595  
E-mail: [aabsco@gmail.com](mailto:aabsco@gmail.com)
- 09/23/2017: **AutumnCon 2017 Region 6 Regional Convention**  
Contact: Andy Useman - [auseman68@gmail.com](mailto:auseman68@gmail.com)  
<http://www.northshoremodelers.net/>
- 10/14/2017: **Austin Scale Modeler's Society Capitol Classic**  
Travis County Expo Center  
7311 Decker Lane, Austin TX  
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### IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

The IPMS/USA initiative was established to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones, recovering in hospitals, and rehabilitating in specialized facilities. The program is expanding into other areas as well. Some local programs take place in USO facilities, some are centered around active duty personnel and are scattered across the country. The IPMS/USA Support The Troops program is still going full-tilt. The national program director is Jon Emery. Jon is accepting any and all contributions and is sharing them with all of the active programs around the country.

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



# *The* Presidents **NOTE PAD**

*By Randy Bumgardner*

*July is here and with it comes the annual ASMS Picnic and Auction. This year we'll be congregating at the house of our gracious hosts, Jack and Lisa Johnston. I'm sure everyone will have a fun time and head home with some great deals. Of course, as you read this, the event is in the past, everyone had a blast, and our stashes are the happier for our attending it.*

*Aside from the ASMS picnic/auction (piction?, perhaps aucnic?), the IPMS Nationals occurs this month as well. It's in our neck of the woods, sort of, up in Omaha. It's shaping up to be a very nice convention. If you're heading up there, drive or fly safe. Don't start any fights on the flights - they have enough of that already.*

*There isn't a bi-monthly contest this month, however, we do have one coming up next month. In August, we'll have a mobile suit contest for those inclined to build them. Gunpla, Maschinen Krueger, Macross, and everything in between are eligible for the contest. As always, we'll have prizes to entice the entrants...*

*Our big show, the Capitol Classic is drawing near. Think about how you want to help out and volunteer for the show. We need as much help as we can get on the day of the show.*

*Lastly, and not necessarily a club item, the Build 'n' Bull sessions at King's have been expanded to two weekends a month. That's right, double your pleasure! There is an extra Saturday added on the first weekend of the month. So, the Build 'n' Bull will meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.*

*That's all I've got for this month, so, go build something!  
And then, bring it to the meeting to show us...*

Randy



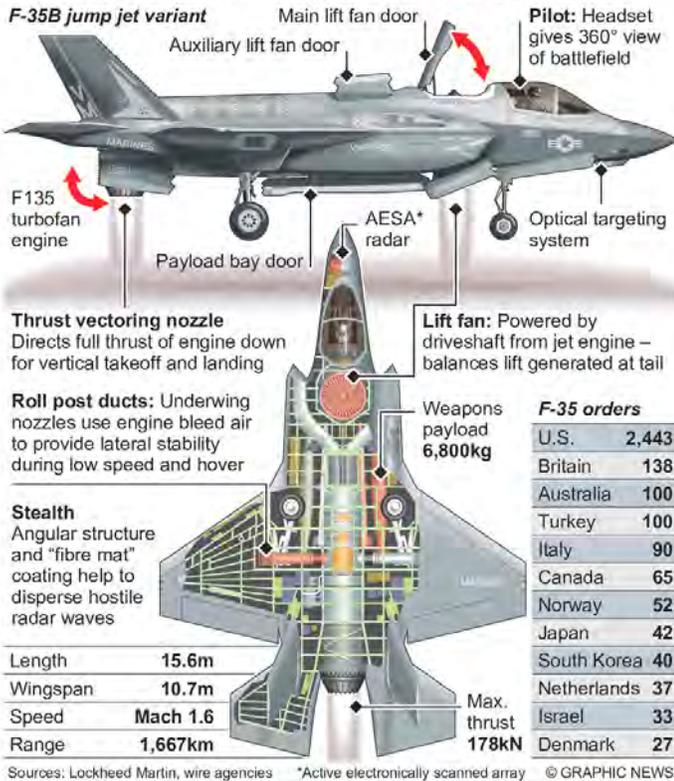


Continued from page 1.

booked for years to come, the exceptions being the Boeing 747 and the Airbus A380 for which production slowdowns were announced. The show also happened after the British vote to leave the European Union/Common Market, which produced some uncertainty (which will undoubtedly continue for several more years).

## F-35 debut at Farnborough airshow

The world's most advanced fighter jet, the F-35 Lightning II, is making its first appearance at the Farnborough airshow in the UK this summer



<https://engtechmag.wordpress.com/2016/07/05/f-35-lightning-ii-fighter-jet-to-debut-fiafarnborough-an-annotated-infographic-fia16/>

Debuting at the show were the F-35 Lightning II; Boeing 737MAX; Bombardier C-series; Embraer E190-E2, KC-390, and Legacy 500; Antonov An.178; Hondajet; Diamond Dart 450; and Gulfstream G500. Overall the static aircraft displays seemed somewhat smaller. In particular the number of Beech aircraft was down following the takeover by Textron and the Fimechanica/Agusta-Westland static display was smaller and under the new name of Leonardo. UAVs and electric aircraft also appeared to be less prominent than in 2014. Now on to the more detailed descriptions of the show participants in alphabetical order of manufacturers.

**Airbus:** Airbus announced the following orders

during the show: 108 A320neo, 104 A321neo, 4 A330-90, and 12 A350-1000. They also announced a slowing of production for the A380. During 2016, Airbus took in net orders for 688 aircraft



and delivered 731 (including the first aircraft, an A320neo for Spirit Airlines, from its Mobile, AL facility), leaving a backlog of 6,874 aircraft, or about ten year's worth of production.

Commercial aircraft displayed by Airbus included: A319-133LR (A7-CJA of Qatar Airways, A320-216WL (9M-AJA of Air Asia, A350-941 (F-WWCF in Airbus colors, and Airbus A380-841 (F-WWDD in Airbus colors. The A350-941 and A380-841, took part in the flying display each of the trade days. An ATR-72-600 (F-WWEH, to be SE-MKE for Braathens Regional was also displayed in the Airbus static area. No military orders were announced at the show, but



exhibited were: A400M (EC-406 in Airbus Military colors, CASA 295M (EC-296 in Airbus Military colors



and CASA 295.MPA (Portuguese Air Force 16712). The A400M participated in the flying display each of the trade days.

**Boeing:** Boeing Commercial announced orders for 91 aircraft (56 B737, 15 B787, and 20 B747) during the show, with MoU's for a further 40 B737. For the entire year of 2016, Boeing recorded net orders



for 668 aircraft and delivered 748 aircraft (490 B737, 9 B747, 13 B767, 99 B777, and 135 B787), leaving a backlog of 5,715 aircraft.

Boeing Military announced orders during the show for 50 AH-64E Apache helicopters and 9 P-8 Poseidon aircraft for the UK. During 2016, Boeing military delivered 65 new & rebuilt AH-64 Apache helicopters, 50 new & rebuilt H-47 helicopters; 4 new C-17, 1 new C-40, 15 F-15, 25 F/A-18, and 18 P-8 aircraft.

Boeing Military displayed two F/A-18 at the show, an F/A-18E (Bu169119 of the U S Navy in the U S Military static park and an F/A-18F (Bu168930 of the U S Navy in the flying display. Neither of the aircraft displayed squadron markings. A P-8A Poseidon (Bu168853 ) of the U S Navy was in the Boeing static area and also participated in the flying display.



**British Aerospace:** British Aerospace exhibited a full-scale model of the Eurofighter EF2000 Typhoon and a real Hawk T.2 (ZK031, coded V of 4[R] squadron outside their pavilion. A Typhoon FGR.4 (ZK356 in Royal Air Force colors performed in the flying displays.



**Dornier/TAI/Sierra Nevada:** Two Dornier Do.328 were present in the static, a turboprop Do.328-110 (D-CTRJ and a Do.328JET (D-BIRD).

They also participated in the flying display on



alternate days. It was announced that a Turkish firm, with help from Sierra Nevada, intended to establish a new production line for an updated



version of the Do.328 in Turkey, with a larger version to follow.

2Excel exhibited a Piper PA-31 equipped with a



Forward Looking Infrared Turret.

**Gulfstream:** Static displays included a G28 , a G450 (N450GA), a G650ER (N650GA), and a G650ER (A7-CGC operated by Qatar Airways).



**Leonardo:** Is the new name for the Italian Finmeccanica Group that includes the old Alenia, Aeromacchi, and Agusta-Westland. Although occupying the same area as at previous shows, the static exhibits were a little more spaced out and



the red carpet was replaced with blue carpet, much better for photography.

Helicopters on static display included an AW-101/HH-101A (with a RAF serial of ZR356, but to be MM81868 for the Italian Navy, two AW-149 trials aircraft CSX81848 and CSX81890, an AW-159 Wildcat HMA.2 of the Royal Navy (ZZ415), an AW-169 (I-RAIR, and an AW-189 of the UK Coastguard (G-MCGR. The Royal Navy 'Blackcats' helicopter formation team flew two AW-149 Wildcat HMA.2



(ZZ515 and ZZ519 during the show.

**Lockheed:** A Lockheed F-35B opened the show on Monday July 11th, flying through low clouds and drizzle. It made a single pass. On the ground was a full-scale model of an F-35A in RAF colors

On Tuesday (July 12th) a USMC KC-130J (Bu168071





of VMGR-252 made a single pass with an F-35B (Bu168727 of VMFAT-501 in a re-fueling formation. This was followed later in the afternoon, during a



brief partially blue-sky event, with a display from a Royal Air Force F-35B.

Within the U S military exhibit area were two F-16CM (1991-0358 and 1992-3918, of the 480 FS, 52 FW, coded SP. Also in the U S military exhibit area, and now under the Lockheed banner, was a U S Army Sikorsky UH-60M (2015-20718 of C/3-501 Avn .

**Panavia:** A pink Panavia Tornado GR.4 (ZG750 from RAF Marham arrived during the trade days for the weekend public days displays.



**SAAB:** A full-scale model of the JAS-39C Gripen was displayed in the static area and two JAS-39C Gripens (268 and 277) took part in the flying displays on alternate days.



**Westland:** A Westland Lynx HMA.8SRU (Royal Navy XZ731) was in the static park.



Dennis





## Help for the Texas Military Forces Museum

By Rick Herrington

I think almost everyone has been to a muster day at Camp Mabry to see the battle reenactments or just to ogle an M1 up close. The Texas Military



Forces Museum is the sponsor of these events and year round provides a resource for modelers and



historians alike. King's Hobby and Mark Hobbs have had a close relationship with Camp Mabry and the Texas Military Forces Museum.

The museum is constantly upgrading its exhibits to make them more interesting and educational to the general public. Now they are doing a major renovation to make the museum an interactive experience for the visitor. Part of the exhibit will take the visitor through the trenches with American dough boys. When finished the exhibits will cover through WW2 and beyond.

The museum is asking for help from central Texas modelers to renovate and update some of it

exhibits. King's Hobby and Mark Hobbs have had a close relationship with Camp Mabry and the Texas Military Forces Museum and Mark is the main contact for volunteering to assist with the museum's efforts. Sunday June 11 I helped Mark and his son Chris



tear down and refurbish some of the exhibits. We spent a couple of



hours breaking down exhibits and moving around model figures and tanks but there's still a lot more





## I'm not really an armor guy, but...

By Rick Cotten

I have a few armor kits in the Cotton Retirement Plan collection of unbuilt plastic. Not tanks, or half-tracks, because I am petrified by those individual-link track doohickey gizmos that Tom Moon and Vince Barrale just love. They scare me.

Just trucks. That's right, military trucks are "armor" .... even though they are called "softskins", and usually don't have any armor at all. Radio trucks, cargo trucks, gun trucks, rolling kitchens and workshops, whatever, it doesn't really matter as long as it's WW2 and it has wheels, not treads, I would build it.

I just like military trucks, for some reason. I have acquired them, over the years, from a variety of sources, none of which can be called "retail", or "Squadron". Truck models, if you stalk the show vendor rooms in a lurid and nefarious manner like most of us do, can be had fairly cheaply, and do not take up the massive amounts of shelf space that a big 1/32 jet or a large ship can. They can be built in a kaleidoscope of interesting camouflage schemes, and a bewildering variety of configurations. Later, they can go into an aircraft diorama, or collection of...well...trucks.

So, having produced a built truck model or two, and having heard no one laugh out loud yet at my efforts at a show where they were actually displayed...to human beings yet...I have decided to enter them at the Austin AMPS armor show in September.

Why not? I am a modeler, which means I have no other worthwhile social life to speak of, except hanging out with other modelers.

The AMPS show is a different kind of model show. Instead of ten or twelve entries in a category laid out on a table, for admiring eyes to gander at, cameras to flash at, and admiring voices to "oo" and "ahh" at, the models are placed on a serving tray, after which they are, one by one, removed to a secretive "judging area", somewhere in the back, populated by secretive serious Treadhead types with serious expressions and seriously olive-drab t-shirts.

There are, presumably, "expert" armor builders waiting in there, in that Top Secret Delta Black Ops Judging Room, to score the model on its technical merit, not against its fellow category members, but instead against a set of modeling standards. Imagine that!

to do.

The museum could use your help. Mark is going to schedule another day when we can use our modelling skills to assist. The date will probably be announced through King's Facebook page so look



for the announcement in the next couple of weeks.  
Bruce Burden and some volunteers from the Austin



modelling community assisted in constructing a Salerno assault diorama for the museum.

**Rick**



They will go over the models with Death Rays and check them from top to bottom, fore to aft. They'll note every seam, fingerprint, glue spot, cat hair and 1/1-scale spider living aboard. Evicting the spider is not up to them. They do not deal in wildlife. They just mark off for it.

When they have done their worst, the model comes out, with a marked score, and often some interesting judges' notes, like "small seam open in the back", or "uneven finish", or "piece of cr\*p, build ships instead", or something like that. The quotes are meant to help the modeler get better, and I, for one, look forward to that. Most take it that way. Only a few cry, stamp their feet, and inquire about the judges' sanity in public. I used to do that, but now I'm just too tired, and resort to nasty emails instead.

There are also the exciting and much-appreciated Tank Buster Challenge categories, where the modeler may submit an aircraft model, fixed-wing or helicopter, as long as that subject can be documented as having busted a tank somewhere. The definition of "busting" is having blown the tank apart with a bomb, or missile, or gunfire, or something like that, not by intentionally crashing into it like a Michael Bay Hollywood movie.

This category allows that other disreputable bunch of which I am a member, airplane modelers, to feel semi-wanted, loved, and respected at this show, too, and not like abject, tolerated subjects of laughing ground-pounder Treadhead ridicule. This is my meat for this show. I can build an almost-semi-decent airplane now and then, and if I really buckle down, I might have a shot at a Third or something. Move over, Kern.

So, I am in the process of working for one of those Tankbuster awards. I have a 1/32 Hobby Boss F-84E, which I loaded up with big, fat bombs, Korean War-style, and I will enter it when the show comes around. It will be a little beat-up, and will sit on an appropriately muddy-looking base, with an equally muddy and disgusted-looking USAF pilot or mechanic standing by...smoking a Camel, of course.

The last time I went to this show, it was housed in the US Army's Camp Mabry complex outside Austin, and was actually in the Texas Armed Forces museum therein...which, by the way, is outstanding if you have never been there. Sweetie loves the place, as she can actually touch and feel the tanks in the parking lot.

She just loves heavy machinery and horsepower.... Now the show is just north of Austin, in Georgetown, Texas, in the somewhat less exciting Georgetown Community Center. Not that Georgetown is devoid of exciting attractions like...well, I don't know, but I'm sure there's something. Never really been there myself. I have been mapping out the restaurants in the area, and there are some interesting-looking greasy-spoon dives to stuff one's self in. I will have to restrain myself, as I am trying to lose some weight. So, it's off to AMPS at the end of summer. With the armor guys. Our fellow modelers. A different kind of show, but hey, a model show is a model show, right? Beats mowing the lawn.

See you there!

**Rick**



**Looking for articles!**

**Desperate!**

**Please.**



## Kitty Hawk UH-1D

By Floyd S. Werner, Jr.



I was very disappointed when Kitty Hawk decided to release this kit in 1/48th scale instead of the originally announced 1/35th scale. But once I got the kit in my hand, I was excited to see kit in person. If I'm hyper critical it is because I'm so close to the project.

The model comes in a sturdy cardboard box with some beautiful artwork on the front. The kit should be marked as UH-1D/H and not just a UH-1D. The only differences are the engine, which is externally identical, and the position of the pitot tubes. The UH-1D has them on the nose along with two FM whisker antennas while the UH-1H, except for the first few, has the pitot tube on the roof. That said the box top Huey doesn't have either pitot tube.

I've looked everywhere and could not find any short shot parts which were a problem with some previous Kitty Hawk kits. This is because KH has changed the company that does the injection molding and the metal cutter. There is a little flash on some of the parts, but nothing too bad. The surface detail is exceptional. There are recessed rivets on the kit. Some have complained about that but in this scale they are perfect representation and not replication of the real thing. Panel lines are recessed.

*DISCLAIMER - Upfront honesty, I had more than a passing hand in producing this kit. Myself and Ray Wilhite, were responsible for providing input for the CAD of this kit and proofing the CAD designs. You'll note that the Werner's Wings logo appears in the lower right corner of the box. Anything I find wrong, you'll know about. If you know me, you know I'm honest. I, along with Ray, take complete responsibility for the kit. Drawings and instructions not so much, we have no input on that. I did provide the four marking options for the US Army.*

Inside of a small cardboard box are all the clear parts. They are thin and very clear. The windshield and upper windows are molded together and because of this there is no seam and the greenhouse is faired in properly. One thing that we discovered was the left side windshield has an angled bracket at the top corner. Not a big thing to me, but it is not quite correct. There is a clear sprue which is packaged inside of plastic wrapping inside a sturdy cardboard box so there is little chance of damage.

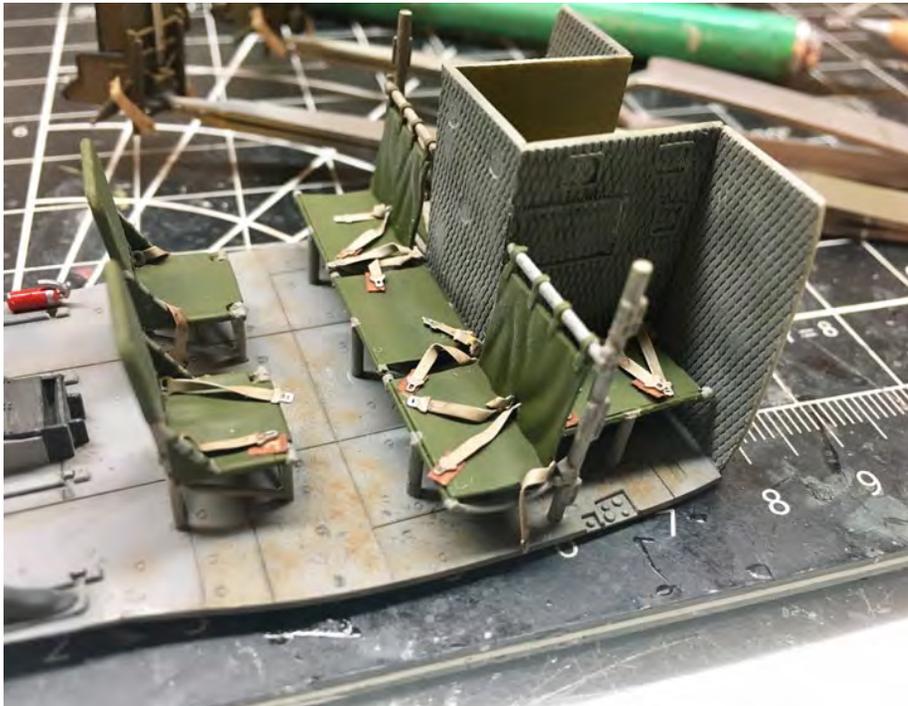
A fret of photo etch is included with a protective film on it. The fret has all the screens and seatbelts that are required for the kit. It also has tie down rings, a first, and tow rings, another first in any scale. The pilot shoulder harness is a little long. We'll see how we deal with that when we get there. There are also bipod mounts for the kits M-60 machine guns.

There are two decal sheets. The first one is the larger of the two. It has the basic markings but limited stencils. This oversight will be addressed by Werner's



Wings shortly, but it should have been caught by KH. We provided the markings manual to the artist. There are markings for four US Army Hueys, One D and three UH-1Hs. There are makings for a German Army, Taiwanese Air Force and a Japanese Army subject. The decals are crisp and in perfect register. The second sheet contains the nose art for the four US Army aircraft and the instrument panel. The nose art is some of the best I've seen. Photo quality. The instrument and center console are included. The instrument panel is on a black background. This is

I noticed was the inclusion of the fire extinguisher is included. The first oops I noticed on my example was the omission of the mounting ledge for the transmission. The floor features an accurate tie down pattern. The detail is impressive. The transmission area and roof has the sound proofing quilt pattern. The instrument panel glare shield has the correct pattern, again a first in any scale. The rear facing seats are replicated for the first time and feature beautifully rendered fabric sagging pattern.



There were some mold marks on some parts. I filled them and then sanded smooth not a real problem. Many will see the three marks on the aft wall as mold marks but they are not. They are holes in the soundproofing. Of course, there should be five and not just three. I used a punch to add some additional detail to them so they didn't look so much like mold marks.

The instrument panel decal is a flat black type which is not accurate for a Vietnam era aircraft. The Vietnam era had light grey instrument panel. This wasn't an issue I just painted it with Gunze and brush painted the instruments. I used some Aeroscale instrument decals to replicate the markings on them.

not correct for a Vietnam era helicopter, but that just means I'll have to paint it. Surprisingly there is a lack of stencil decals

I flat coated the interior with Alclad Flat Clear. When it was all done I sealed the instruments with some Microscale Krystal Klear.

The instructions are printed in a booklet on 24 pages. The instructions are easy to understand, if you are putting everything on the model. Where the instructions fall down is when they don't identify what options belong on which version. Not all the parts belong on every version. Unfortunately, the profiles don't show what should be included on which version. I'll explain what parts don't belong on a Vietnam era Huey as I progress this build.

For the first time, the armored seats are included in the kit. They are really nice looking. These are even better than some resin seats I've seen. One thing I did notice about the interior was that the rear well seats should have two vertical supports and not just one. Something we completely missed. The seats were painted Model Master Field Green.

Let's get started and see how well it fits. Like most models this one starts in the cockpit. One thing that

I did notice that the shoulder harness on the armored seats were too long. I just cut them at the buckles and around the curved portion. Then it was just as simple as lining the two cuts up and attaching them.



That meant that the lap belts were not represented. I used masking tape cut to shape and painted to represent the lap belts. They were very effective.

The seat belts for the rear seats are included on the photo etch fret. I folded and molded them so they looked arbitrarily placed. The one side had a little leather piece so I decided to add this as it would be easy. I just cut some masking tape and painted it Vallejo leather. This was slipped under the appropriate side. The buckles were painted with Citadel Chain Mail silver.

I painted the interior with Gunze light grey. There are yellow stripes around the door and door frames so I added those. Now I did find that there were five different types of warning areas for the door so I just selected the easiest one to paint. The floor was given a wash of burnt umber artist oils. Then some chipped paint was added using a sponge technique and silver paint. Some Mig Pigments Vietnam dirt was added to the floor to add weathering.

I masked the sliding door windows and painted them yellow to simulate the emergency markings on them. Once done, adding the windows was no big deal. The hoist panel was added to the belly. It was missing any locating tabs so just align the hoist along the aircraft center line. Not a big deal. The aft cooler panel has you add a photo etch cooler in it. There is a slight problem. The plastic piece is not rectangular shaped and the photo etch is. You can either sand the photo etch or slice the panel to get it to be squared corners. That is what I did and it worked perfectly.

Kitty Hawk would have you add PE parts PE12 and PE15 to the pilot's door. Don't. They aren't there on any Huey I've seen. One other thing I noticed putting the components together was that Part C24 should be rounded. KH has it square. It is easy to take care of with a quick swipe of a sanding stick. Make sure you add the hoist first before you add C24. Don't forget to add the exhaust. Now is the time to do that.

I elected to have the pilot's door open and the copilot's door closed. Just for variation. So before you can attach the copilot door you have to cut off the 'hinge'. Both doors need to be sanded slightly on the inside of part C66 and C65 the door interior and the actual door. When fitted C65 and C66 should fit flush with the door. Before you can add the clear parts you will need to paint the interior color as this will be seen through the inside of the window. All the windows fit perfectly. Zinc chromate was added to the front bulkhead. Everything fit perfectly. If you are not going to have your engine compartment open don't install parts C36.





Now that the cockpit and engine were assembled it was time to join the fuselage halves. The fit of the cabin was perfect. I did have to thin the attachment points for the exhaust. They were just too thick to fit into the mounts. Once I thinned them down there was no problem. I had previously added the tailboom to the fuselage halves. I don't think one way works better than the other so next time I may just follow the instructions and build the tailboom separately. I had to add a spot of filler here and there but certainly not a lot. Just some very small spots probably where I was too aggressive with nippers and sanding stick. One side of the tail rotor driveshaft doesn't have a panel line which was easy to add. I checked my seams with Mr. Surfacer and the fit was so good that I just removed the excess with some Mr. Thinner.

I test fitted the top part of the nose and noticed that my instrument panel interfered with the fit. All I had to do was remove the panel and reposition it. Then the upper portion of the nose fit perfectly. I checked the fit with the windscreen and I noticed something else, the window was too wide. Oh the horror! Wait a minute, that doesn't seem right and it wasn't. The roof actually spreads the cockpit area slightly and the fit of the clear part was again perfect. All was right in the world. The fit of the roof was very tight. I clamped the roof while the glue dried. It was exactly

like it was designed. Again I was impressed with the fit of the model.

Adding the photo etch to the engine compartment



panels was easy enough. I filled around them to fair them in. It would have helped to bend the forward panel slightly at the top.

I added a green tint to the top two windows. I wanted to try a new product, Ammo (MIG) Crystal Green. I tested the stuff on the bulged window. I was pleased with the results so I taped up the greenhouse windows and then painted the Crystal Green on the inside. I was pleasantly surprised with the results. I'll be using this and the smoke colored clear on my future helicopter kits.



While that was drying I started to get parts ready to put into the windscreen portion of the cockpit. Part A17 does not have the detail that the instructions show it should, which is a shame. I'm not sure what happened here. The detail should have rivaled the center console. At least it is on the top and not seen very easily. Before installing A17 ensure that you open the appropri-



ate holes. If you are doing a Vietnam era Huey don't open the very front hole on part GP1. That hole is for the Wire Strike and since they didn't come into effect until the 1980s, I would forget about them. While at it, I filled the two spots where part PE10 goes on the outside of the windscreen. That is also part of the WSPS system.



The other thing I did which was self-induced was that I removed the nub on the inside of the skids. This is supposed to be there to add the tow rings. I removed mine. What I did instead worked even better I think. I cut the tow ring from the fret flush on one side and the other side I left the stub on. Then I drilled a small

hole in the skid where I should have left the nub and added the ring. This provided a secure mount for the ring. The landing gear was added to the model. Now we were really starting to look like a Huey.

It was time to add the engine panels. They were a little small, around .010. Now before you say I told you so about the modular panels, it was my fault. I obviously sanded the panel too much and had to add .010 styrene to build it back up. I checked on my second kit and by adding the panel right off the sprue BEFORE assembling the fuselage, it fit perfectly. So after correcting my mistake on the engine panels everything fit perfectly. I used clamps and tape to hold things in place while the parts set up. The modular design which was much distained by many proved to be a non-issue. They all fit if you are careful.

I wanted to build up the rotor system now for a break on the airframe. The breakdown of the parts is awesome, especially for painting. I painted the mast Alclad Pale Burnt Metal like an anodized finish.

I needed to build up the M-23 system on the sides. I had to open the holes for the mounts. It is important to open them up before adding the landing gear while you have access to the spots which are marked on the outside of the kit. If you aren't going to add the system you will have to fill the small outline holes. It is important to do that while you have access.

For the blades, I primed them with Alclad Grey Prim-

er, then painted them with Testor's Zinc Chromate,

I filled the cut on the skids with Epoxy Sculpt and when dry I sanded to shape. That little booboo was taken care of. Attaching the landing gear themselves was no problem but you have to be aware of a potential problem. Both cross tubes are labeled A26. They are not identical. The stubs where they mount to the fuselage are different. The narrower mount is for the rear. Make sure you identify them properly.



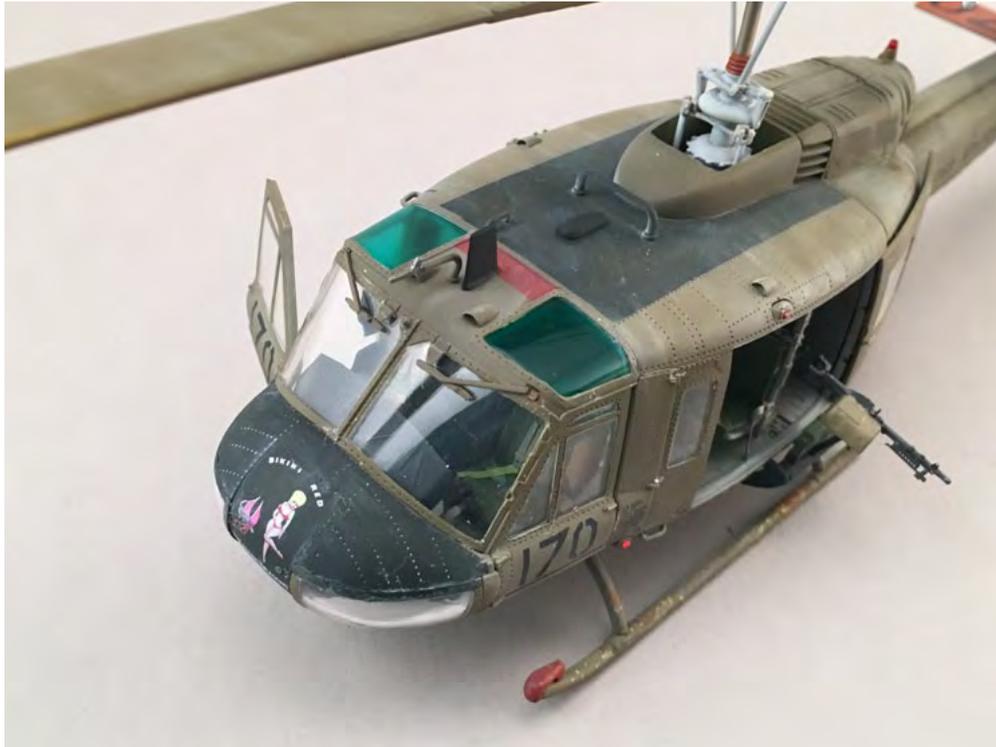
er, then painted them with Testor's Zinc Chromate, just like the real thing. After that was dried I painted the blades with Aeromaster Olive Drab. And then I added a yellow tips again just like the real thing. I did



it this way so that when I sand the blades like erosion would they will be visible just like the real blades.

Don't forget to fill the holes on the nose where the antennas and pitot tube go if you are doing a UH-1H. Those things are for the UH-1D.

I filled the rivets on the roof where the walkway and non-skid area were. I used an acrylic filler from AK and wiped them off with water. The walkway was a diamond tread with non-skid paint on it. The pattern is so small you can't see it in 1/48th scale so I just painted that area Tamiya NATO Black when the time came for it.



Little parts are added to the model, like antennas and some photo etch parts. One thing I did do was drill a #78 hole where the tie-down rings go. Then I slid a new Xacto blade in the hole and wiggled it back and forth. This provided a secure spot to add the tie downs as opposed to the flush mount the instructions would have you do.

I recommend that you bend the windshield wiper protectors to shape and paint the inside of them now while you can. The windscreen was added, like the scoops and pitot tube.

Then it was simply a matter of adding the chin bubbles. When they were dry I added the windscreen. I added the chin bubbles with Elmer's Glue just in case I needed to remove them for cleaning later. The windshield as added with Tamiya Extra Thin Cement. It is a big part that is structural so I thought it should

be sturdier. It was brought to my attention that the belly is missing a strake on the belly. The kit has one but is missing the other. It is shown on the instructions but is not in the kit.

And just like that it was time to get this model ready for primer. I tried to use my Eduard masks for the UH-1Y but they are not the same shape. So I had to

mask off the windows with Tamiya tape and there are a lot of windows. Once the windows were done I used foam cut to shape to fill the door openings. The entire model was then sprayed with Alclad Primer. It was set aside overnight to check for flaws.

Amazingly there were

very few spots that needed just a little more cleanup. Certainly a testament to the kit design by Kitty Hawk. Once they were cleaned up and re-primed I was ready to get some paint on this baby.

The first part of my painting process is to pre-shade with Tamiya NATO Black. I don't just do a panel line pre-shade I spray in random patterns to allow some of the black to show through later and offer up a variation on the base coat. Sometimes I even add a white pre-fade, but not this time. The roof and nose were painted normally with the NATO Black. I like this color because it is not a stark color and looks great in scale.

Once dry I masked off the nose compartment, top of the nose and the roof area with Tamiya tape. Then it was time to add some primer to my kit. I used a very thin application of Tamiya Yellow Green over the entire model. This was then over sprayed with Mig



Chipping Effects and allowed to dry.

Gunze FS34087 was added to the entire model. Then some highlights were added with Tamiya Buff to various panels and on the top of the model where they tend to fade more. What I should have done at this stage was to add water to the model to loosen up the chipping fluid underneath but I didn't and subsequently forgot to do it. So I just wasted that step. No harm, no foul.

This was allowed to dry overnight. The tailboom stripes were masked off and the white was added first. I use Alclad White Primer and Microfiller for white. It covers quickly and dries almost immediately. Then the blue stripe was painted with Ultramarine Blue. After that, the various parts were masked off for the red portions of the markings were added. Skid shoe tips, a red stripe on the roof and the tailboom 'swoosh' were painted with Gunze Thunderbird Red, this was a very bright color but over the olive drab it dulled down perfectly. KH chose these markings without me so I assumed they knew what they were doing with it. I was wrong. The instructions profile is all but useless. I also masked off and painted the top of the elevators with Pactra Orange Acrylic which I've been holding onto for years because I like the tone of the orange. It isn't a very bright orange. For me it is perfect for a Vietnam era helicopter recognition markings.

One of the things that KH screwed up on is the 52 for the left synch elevator. I ended up painting my own. Thanks to Mason Douppnik who drew up the correct font for me. I just printed it out on computer paper, put some double stick tape on the back of it. Then laid some Tamiya tape down on my cutting mat and laid the paper over it and cut out the markings. When I pulled up the Tamiya tape I had a near perfect stencil. I added it to the model and sprayed Tamiya Black. I did have to touch it up but when I was done I was very happy with the results.

The model was sprayed with Future with a couple

of drops of Tamiya thinner. This was allowed to dry overnight.

The first decal I added was the Bikini Red decal on the nose. This would make or break the rest of the model. It fit perfectly. You will have to be very careful applying it as there are two areas where the radio compartment access panel should align with the decals. I got close. I had to paint out the 'weathered' decal and re-add the weathering later. Anyhow the rest of the markings worked well.

For some reason KH did not give you a tail number for this aircraft so I went onto the 170th AHC Facebook page and they were great enough to give me an aircraft tail number that corresponded to my model. So since I have both Cobra and Blackhawk stencil sheets in the Werner's Wings catalog I just cobbled together the correct tail number. The only other problem I had was that the 170th over sprayed their tail numbers with the last three of the serial number in yellow over the existing tail number. Luckily for me I had some dry transfers that matched the markings and were perfectly sized. I must have been living right. The decals were set in place with Solvaset and allowed to dry overnight. I did screw up one place, the warning



stripe on the engine cowling. When I do this again I will not use the decal here. I forgot to trim the excess carrier film off the stripe and because I didn't it didn't look quite right. I ended up cutting and scraping off the carrier film and having to touch up the markings.



It came out okay but I should have known better. Remarkably KH didn't include many stencils in this kit. I just had to live with it for now. Werner's Wings will release a set of stencils and corrected markings for all the US Army Hueys on the sheet. I had to add cut the center of the '0's out to match my photos and had to paint a point on the '7's. It was easy enough to do, but I shouldn't have had to do that. Oh well this is modeling and like I said we'll fix that shortly.

Once everything was on and dried I over sprayed everything with another coat of Future and then Alclad Flat the next day.

While that was drying completely I went to work on the M-60 door guns. These things are little jewels in themselves. Very little clean up here. I did remove the aft mount on the guns. There appears to be two. They are to mount the ammo bag. You can't attach the ammo bag with both of the mounts. I simply removed the aft one and attached the ammo bag. The C Ration can was added as well. I did cut off the mount

on this and flush mounted this. It looked more accurate to me. It is easier to build up the entire assembly first and then paint in this case.

Pay very close attention to the bipod mount and how that folds up. It is gorgeous. The same can be said for the carrying handle and the ring site.

I wanted to have one of my guns pointed down in the stowed position so I attached the swivel at the appropriate angle. I painted the gun Model Master Titanium. The gun components were painted Lifecolor Satin Black. The cover was weathered with a silver

pencil since it is often worn.

This kit is the first time in any scale that we have the pintle mount. I bent mine around with tweezers and then splayed the end out like the instructions show. They worked great and look fabulous. The mounts appear to be black on the Bikini ship so I primed them and painted them Tamiya NATO Black. Various items like the bag were painted in Tamiya Khaki. The C ration can was painted as well in Field Green and also weathered with a silver pencil. I set it aside until final assembly.



Weathering is one of my favorite parts of a model. The first thing I did was add a filter to one or two panels. Nothing drastic but the filter does alter the color slightly. Then a wash of burnt umber artist oils thinned with Turpenoid was added to the panel lines and 'splattered' on the model to further break up the OD color. I added dots of artist oils in white and buff on the top surfaces and then blended them in with an almost dry flat brush with Turpenoid. This was swirled around to blend it and dragged down the side of the model like rain water would be seen.



After the dot filter dried I added chipping with a silver and #2 pencil. I also used a sponge to chip the landing gear with silver and zinc chromate. Various other parts were picked out for chipping such as grab handles, push latches and some wear and tear areas on the roof.

Some dirt was added to the skids to bland the model with the base and the interior weathering. Mig pigment Smoke Black was added very sparingly to the tailboom as per photos. I went light as it is there but not as sooty as a piston engine. Once I was happy I over sprayed the entire model with Alclad Flat again to blend everything together and protect the pigments.

With that the masks were pulled out of the doorways and a little touch up was added here and there. Canopy masks were next and they actually worked pretty well. I did have to clean up just a little overspray then I polished them.

I added all the small parts such as the M-23 system, cargo doors and pilot's open door. The lights were added and the model was set aside while I worked on the rotors.

The rotor system is the best representation of the UH-1D/H rotor system in any scale. I love that the

main rotor blades are separate items. It makes painting them so easy. I like to wear my main rotor and tail rotor blades. I paint my rotor blades just like the real thing. First off I prime the blades with Alclad Grey Primer then this is over sprayed with Alclad Aluminum that is then sprayed with Tamiya Yellow Green primer. The Olive Drab is added and the finally the yellow tip is added. Allowed to dry for a few days, I start scrubbing my blades from front to back concentrating on the tip leading edge and working my way down the blade. Always front to back, like the airflow goes. When I get it to where I like it just stop and wipe down the blade. The next thing I do is use the Tamiya weathering powders sand and mud and streak that from front to back as well. That is all there is to it.

Assembling the rotor system is like building the real thing. Take your time and it will all fit. I think that KH actually got the scissors levers mirrored image from the real thing. Still the build-up is impressive.

The tail rotor is another plus as it is the actual type of tail rotor blade as on the real thing. Again something that hasn't been captured before. All is not great, however, you do need to do something to get it to fit. The gearbox is supposed to fit on the tail by a pin mount, unfortunately KH molded the gearbox as a solid piece. There are two ways to handle this. One, which I did, was to drill out the hole for the mount and the tail rotor output shaft. It worked great but





next time I'll just drill out the hole for the output shaft and cut off the mount part and mount the gear-box flush to the model.

I drilled out a hole on the tailboom antenna on top of the vertical stabilizer for the antenna. The antenna is not included in the kit as it would be impossible to mold thin enough. I used some Albion tubing to add that bit of detail. Adding the rotors and tail rotor blades brought this project to a conclusion.

Ok just as a reminder, I had a large part in bringing this model to the market. That said, I loved the kit and the finished model. Is it perfect? No it isn't, but the detail is far superior to ANY other UH-1D/H on the market.

You can finally build an accurate Vietnam era Huey out of the box. What took so long?

The instructions are helpful but they aren't great. The biggest issue with the kit is the lack

of mounting tabs for the transmission. If you build it like I did by adding the engine then mounting the transmission deck level with the bottom of the engine front you'll be fine.

The shape of the kit is PERFECT. It matches perfectly with factory drawings and looks every bit the part. The fit of the kit was superior throughout. You have to remove all the sprue attachment points. If you do that everything will line up perfectly. I checked my engine cowlings on my next kit, yes there will be another one, and they fit perfectly right out of the box. I'll add them first so I can manipulate them. The fit is very precise throughout.

The clear parts are great. The inclusion of the upper windows with the front windscreens is an ingenious

way to deal with them.

The interior is very good, the best on the market. The front seats need a replacement lap belt and maybe a shoulder harness, but it is all there. I was happy with my results using the PE parts for the shoulder harness. The armored seats are the first time that they have been done correctly in any scale. It would have been nice to have the armor side panels slid back but that isn't a big thing to me.

The lack of detail on the overhead panel is a disappointment. The center console is great right out of the box. I think the only things missing from the cockpit are the windscreen wiper motors and first aid kits.



The cabin is impressive and can be configured in a variety of ways. Many times in Vietnam there were only seats for the door gunners. Everybody else sat on the floor. The M-23 systems are really impressive. The PE

is a nice touch. The inclusion of the hold downs is a nice touch.

The engine and engine area are impressive and good basis for super detailing should you choose to do that.

The rotor system is impressive and is the very first accurate one. The coning is captured perfectly, again the first time ever in kit form. Some won't like the blade flex molded in. I love it. This is the first time that a model has captured the correct blade laminations on the blades with the correct trim tabs and blade tie down setup. I especially loved the separate items which made painting a breeze.

There is the missing strake on the belly. The kit has one but there are two. Most won't even notice it but



it can be easily added with either PE or styrene. Its shape is shown in the instructions and the CAD we proofed but it didn't make it into the plastic.

The 'cutout' on the landing gear is a mystery to me. It is easily fixed with Apoxy Sculpt but we shouldn't have had to do that. The inclusion of the tow rings is a nice touch as are the skid shoes on the bottom. The sit of the model is perfect.

The decals are okay but are lacking some detail and they are not as accurate as they should be on my subject. The nose art is really nice but the other decals need improvement. Werner's Wings will fix that but we didn't want to have to.

Overall I'm impressed.

The look of the finished model to me is perfect. You will need to have some builds under your belt to do it right but it certainly is doable and a very enjoyable kit. Like I said before I've already started another one. That says a lot for me. I'm sure there will be a few more on the horizon.

It is about time to finally have an accurate Vietnam era UH-1D/H. We can finally remember all those who flew in the Huey taking them into battle and ushering in the era of the battlefield helicopter. For those that heard the whop whop of the Huey it left an indelible impact on them. It could mean time to go to battle, rescue or resupply. Nothing says Vietnam like the Huey why it has taken so long to get it correct is beyond me. In 1/48th scale this is an impressive kit. It is the best UH-1D/H in ANY scale. Period. I can't wait for Kitty Hawk to do it in 1/35th scale.

Highly recommended



Floyd

Vendor Web Site:

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

Direct Link to Item:

<https://www.kittyhawkmodel.com/copy-of-kh50003>



## ASMS MEETING

Third Thursday each month

7:00pm - 8:45pm

at the

Old Quarry Branch Library

7051 Village Center Dr.

*Next meeting July 20th, 2017*

**No Reservations Necessary!**



"Brother can you spare a dime?"

### ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

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

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



On The

# TABLE

By Our  
Roving Reporter

Ian Candler, Bob Bethea, Alex Gashev and Rick Herrington brought in armor subjects.



Alex garnered third place in the contest with his 1/35th Zvezda Kursk Panther.



The fabled Procrastinator contest was the theme of this month's meeting. If you haven't participated in it it's where you write down three kits from your stash on an index card and let another member of the club select which one you are to build.



These aren't your ordinary kits. These are kits that for whatever reason you have started and put away or bought and always wanted to build but never got "round to it".

Without any further ado let's see what was on the table.





Bob came in first place with his Normandy bulldozer in 1/35th scale.



to Dave Edgerly's 1/48 Mig 25.



while Tim Robb brought in a stunning 1/48 OS2U-1 Kingfisher.



Aircraft was well represented with subjects ranging from Dave Bottger's 1/48 F-4F, Hurricane, and Fairey Swordfish,





Other contributions included Tim Robb's 1/48 P51,



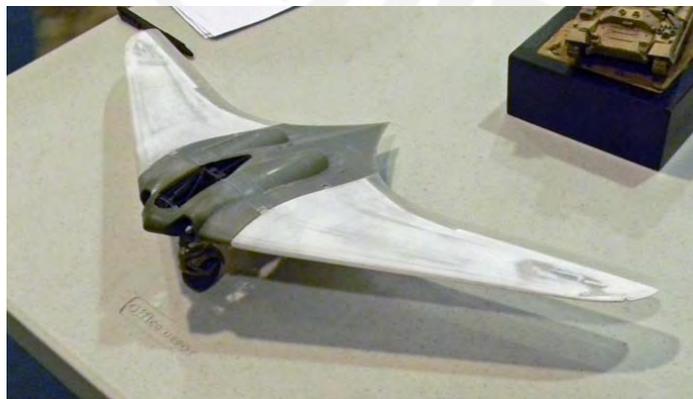
Rick Herrington's 1/72 HE-11 by Italeri,



Ian Latham's 1/48 ME-109,



and Mike Krazan's ongoing SMT 1/32 HO-229.



In preparation for Chicago's World Expo Bob Bethea and Ian Candler brought some cowboys and other subjects for members to marvel at.



Bob's mounted cowboy



Bob's 54mm cowboy figure



Bob's 1/48th Andrea Panzer Officer



Ian Candler's 1/4 scale Lon Chaney bust



Ian Candler's Andrea figure The Trooper in 54mm



Bobbie Wilson and Ziggy brought in their latest and greatest Gunda



Bobbie Wilson's Gundam Tryon 3 1/144th scale



Having built a few of these 1/350th monsters I know how much time and effort is required to build a kit as well as Mike did. Great job Mike!



Congratulations to the winners of the contest and thanks everyone for sharing your models with us.



Ziggy B's 1/144th RX-78-4 Gundam Sniper



Rover

Finally Mike Gilsbach wowed us with his 1/350th scale USS Missouri.





# OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

## Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

First up is 1/700th scale. Some good releases this month.

1/700

**Meng** has continued their line of ship kits with two safe bets:

BB-63 USS Missouri



and Germany's Bismarck.



These kits are snap fit and the plastic is pre-colored, kind of like the Gundam fighting suit kits. My bet is Meng is trying to reach the younger demographic with these kits but at 40 something dollars a kit I don't know too many kids that are going to spend it on a ship kit.

**Aoshima** is releasing another Musashi kit. This is the sister ship of the Yamato and as we all know all things Yamato related will sell well.



**Model Factory Hiro** is re-releasing its limited run IJN Battleship Yamato ultimate kit. They are marketing this as the "ultimate" Yamato kit. It is definitely a multi-media kit containing UV-hardened resin parts, cast white metal parts, photo etch parts and stainless steel parts. The right side of the ship can be removed to display the interior of the ship. It's for the real Yamato enthusiast as the price point is around \$340 depending on what currency you buy it in.



**Trumpeter** continues to release welcome subjects. Next up from them are the USS New York battleship BB-34 and the British battleship that was the pre-



cursor to all modern battleships HMS Dreadnought (1918).



**Pit Road** is giving us another battleship the USS Maryland BB-46 (1945). They are also releasing their version of modern JMSDF helicopter carrier DDH-184 Kaga with photo etc.



1/350



**Trumpeter** is releasing a USS Ranger CV-4 aircraft carrier in two versions. The first will be a 1942 version and the next will be a 1944 version.

Finally, **Zvezda** will be releasing a veteran of the Russo Japanese war the Gangut class battleship Poltava.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit from your stash and build it.

Rick



"Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm."

- Winston Churchill



## The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

Here it is, July, and we're here in the depths of summer. At least in the Northern Hemisphere. New releases and announcements are a bit light this time of year, so we'll get you back to your regularly scheduled modeling time quickly.

First up this month is Tamiya's big 1/32 announcement. Or, rather, their not-to-big announcement.



They are bringing forth a 1/32 Vought F4U-1D Corsair. It amounts to an update of their earlier -1A kit, with new wings, a new runner with a new fuselage, new parts for underwing racks and mountables, and new clear parts. While not the big kit announcement people were expecting, calculating that Tamiya announces a new 1/32 kit at Shizuoka in odd-numbered years, it's still a nice release for a Corsair fan like myself. Perhaps Tamiya intentionally threw a curveball and plans on another big announcement this fall... The Truth is out there.

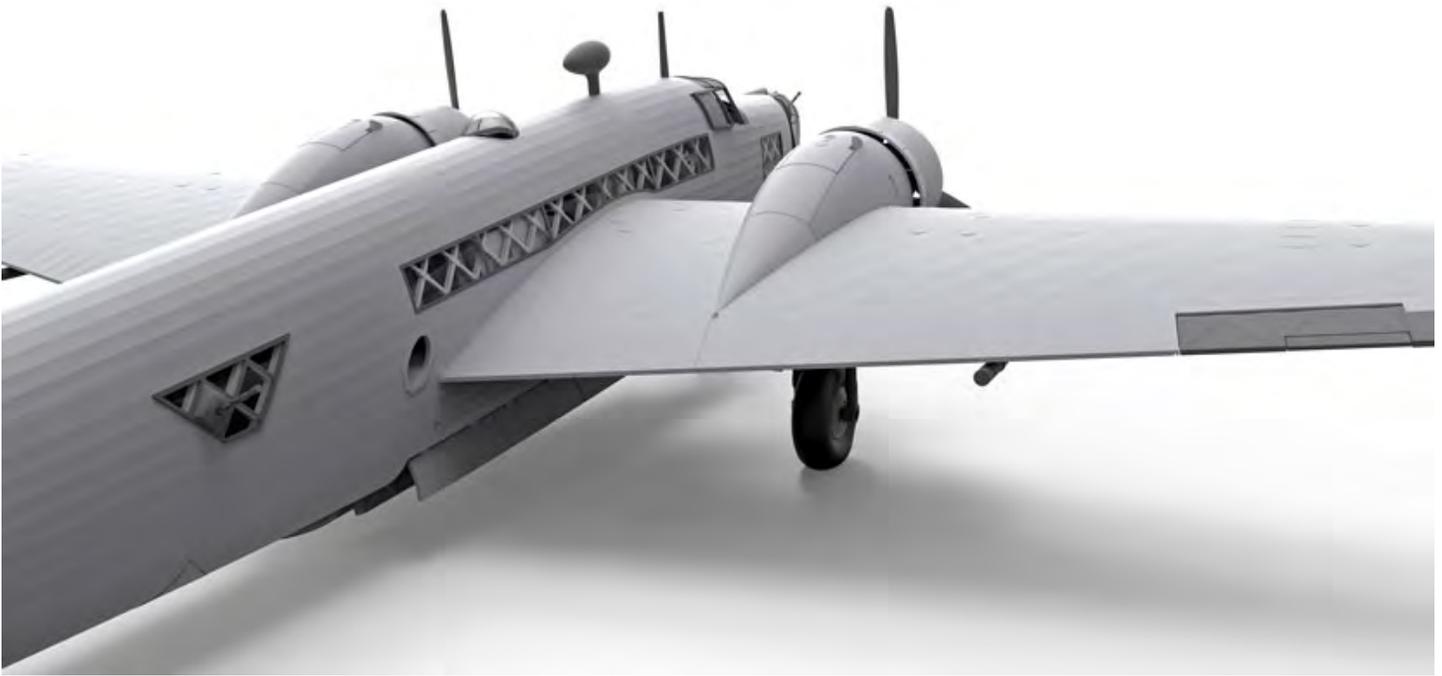
Gaspatch has released a fine set of early war aircraft recently. The Henschel Hs 123A-1/B-1 kits hit the



shelves not too long ago and look to be very nice kits. These kits are 1/48th scale injection molded aircraft that include photoetch and a plethora of marking options. The A-1 kit contains markings for Spanish Civil War and pre-WWII aircraft. Each kit also contains a cardboard jig to assist with the alignment of the main landing gear. Nice.

HK Models have released the second incarnation of their 1/32 Mosquito. This time it's the Mosquito B Mk.IX/Mk.XVI with the two-stage Merlins under the hood. This kit retains the nice details and the full span, single piece wing – incorporating both the upper and lower halves. It is a beauty of engineering to





behold, and just to hold

Lastly, Airfix have announced their intention to produce something for the Bomber Command fanatics among us. In 2018, they plan on releasing the Vickers Wellington Mk.IC in 1/72nd scale. Announced on their workbench blog, the CAD images look very nice and I imagine Airfix, with their current track record, will issue a great rendering of this iconic medium bomber.

Well, it's a short one this month. Back to your benches!  
Go build something and show it off to your friends!

Randy



### This Month In History

*July 10, 1991 - Boris Yeltsin took the oath of office, becoming the first popularly elected president in Russia's thousand-year history.*

*July 12, 1943 - During World War II, in the Battle of Kursk, the largest tank battle in history took place outside the small village of Prohorovka, Russia. About nine hundred Russian tanks attacked an equal number of German tanks fighting at close range. When Hitler ordered a cease-fire, 300 German tanks remained strewn over the battlefield.*

*July 15, 1918 - During the Battle of the Marne in World War I, German General Erich Ludendorff launched Germany's fifth, and last, offensive to break through the Chateau-Thierry salient. However, the Germans were stopped by American, British and Italian divisions. On July 18, General Foch, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied troops, launched a massive counter-offensive. The Germans began a retreat lasting four months until they requested an armistice in November.*

*July 25, 1909 - The world's first international overseas airplane flight was achieved by Louis Bleriot in a small monoplane. After asking, "Where is England?" he took off from France and landed in England near Dover, where he was greeted by British police.*

*July 27, 1953 - The Korean War ended with the signing of an armistice by U.S. and North Korean delegates at Panmunjom, Korea. The war had lasted just over three years.*



## It Figures

By Aaron Smischney

Hello all fans little representations of people and things in small scale!

Let's take a gander at what's new in the world of figures.

First up from a German company called Kellerkind we have a neat post-apocalyptic figure decked out in hockey armor.



Pretty creative! You can get him and other neat figures directly from the



manufacturer. I have ordered from them and had no problems with shipping to the states.

<http://www.kellerkind-miniaturen.com>

Next up we have some updates from Pegaso. First is a 90mm Mirmillone gladiator with the box art painted by the master Kyrill Kanaev.



I love his realistic non-Hollywood musculature. His profile really shows a superb character.

If you prefer your Mirmillone as a bust Pegaso has also announced one as an addition to their growing line of 90mm busts.



These 90mm busts are great for beginners (and experts). The busts are



converted 90mm figures from Pegaso's line and offer a great palate to try out different techniques. They are small as well so they don't take a lot of time to paint. Take a look at the rest of the line, they have something for everyone!

[http://www.pegasomodels.com/products\\_en.asp?prod=Pegaso+Models&cat=MINIBUSTS](http://www.pegasomodels.com/products_en.asp?prod=Pegaso+Models&cat=MINIBUSTS)

Next from Pegaso is a 75mm Viking.



I wonder if we will see this painted by Bethea soon?



Alpine miniatures has announced a very nice new 1/16 scale figure of a WW2 German U-boat watch officer. As usual with Alpine the figure comes with two heads.



Scale 75 has a cool looking Witch coming out in 75mm.

Lots of options here for exploring textures and colors, the sky is the limit!



Let's finish up with another 75mm offering from Black Sun miniatures. Kainan (Conan?) the Damned is another superb sculpt from sculptor Joaquin Palacios.



Available for pre-order from here:

<http://www.blacksunminiatures.co.uk/product/kainan-damned-pre-order/>

Till next time.

Aaron





## Tracked Topics

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings armor fans and hello all y'all armor curious!

Let's start off with the biggest news of the year (in my opinion!) with a Takom surprise announcement of new tools of the US tank the Grant and Lee!



This is really exciting news as the old Tamiya kit was more wrong than right and the Academy kits released 11 years ago had lots of

issues, including a famously incorrect turret shape. Let's hope Takom takes up the torch dropped and maybe start expanding into the Sherman line?



I'll be picking up one of each of these important early WW2 American tanks.

Next up let's check in with Dragon models who have announced some limited edition kits set in the Six Day War, some rare German armor re-purposed by Israel's enemies.

The Panzer 4 in Syrian use is certainly on my list,



with some modified armor and a neat DShK machine gun mounted on the commander's cupola.



The Sturmgeschutz also has a cool different look to it.

The next three we only have artists renderings of, a Jagdpanzer, T-34 85 and an Egyptian SU-100 tank destroyer.

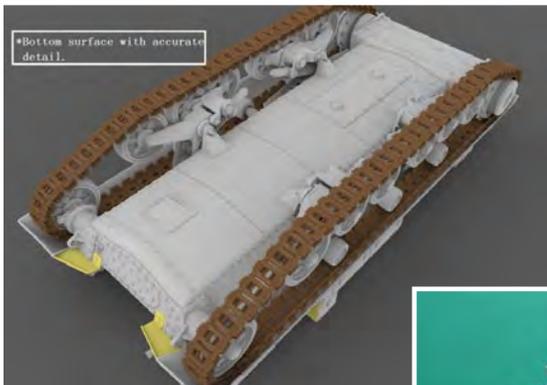


All of these kits have a release date of August, and dragon is saying they are only doing one run of them. Get them while you can!



If you recall from a few months ago a new manufacturer “Gecko Models” announced some interesting early war British tanks. They now have some renders of their A10 and they look really good. It also appears that it will have a fairly complete interior. Let’s hope the plastic is good.

Rye Field Models has announced a SturmTiger with full interior. The CAD looks good.



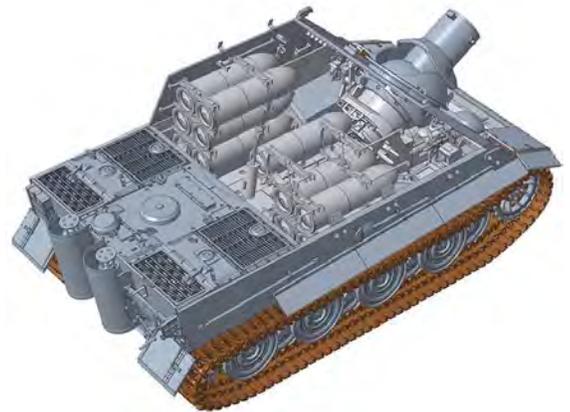
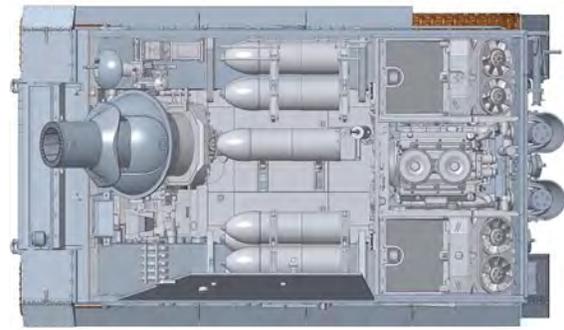
Bottom surface with accurate detail.



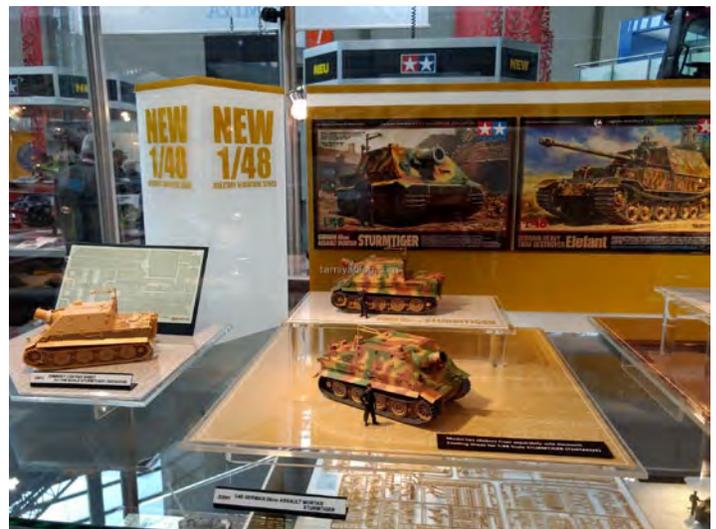
Bonus Tank Crew Figure

The kit will also come with a bonus figure that looks pretty good for plastic.

No news yet on a release date yet, but I assume it will be this year.



Tamiya has also announced a SturmTiger and Elefant in 1/48th scale.



Those are my highlights, till next time!

Aaron





## Miscellaneous

By Golzar Shahrzad

Valom Special Armor, an offshoot of Special Hobby (Czech Republic), has a newly tooled VW for your modeling pleasure. This time it is a 1/35th scale, injection molded Type 825 pickup truck.



DEF Models (Korea) is well known for aftermarket resin kits and photo etch, principally for armor or soft skinned vehicles. They are however seemingly



**DEF-MODEL**  
Detailed Detail Series 2000 611

**1/35** Chinese/North Korean army  
DF35011 corpses winter 1950/51

unafraid of the occasional figure release. There are two new products for your consideration: a set of three Chinese/North Korean corpses and a modern IDF female soldier.

The corpses are in winter dress in 1/35th scale. The IDF figures comes in two sizes: 1/20th or 1/35th depending on your preference. All these figures are cast in resin.



Hasegawa (Japan) has two new kits that caught my eye. One is a 1/72nd scale P5M-2G Martin. The Martin is from their limited edition series and includes markings for one U.S. Coast Guard aircraft. The other kit is a 1/48th scale Kyushu J7W2. This is the first time, to my knowledge, that the jet powered version has been kitted. Armed



Kyushu J7W2 INTERCEPTOR FIGHTER SHINDENKAI 'JET VERSION' Hobby kits

with four 30mm cannon, the Japanese actually built two prototypes of this fighter/interceptor.

Hong Kong based AFV Club has a number of new



model kits coming soon. One of those is a 1/35th scale MIM-23 Hawk Missile launcher. The MIM-23 has been available before from both Adams (1/40th) and Renwall (1/32nd ish). Both of those are 'way older than me kits' (copy right applied for) and suffer because of that. This release should be a vast improvement over those kits. Hopefully AFV Club will get around to doing the M561 Hawk Missile loader/transporter, as well.



AFV Club also has two other kits that may peaked my interest. There is some debate about whether these are really Hobby Fan kits, but it is the same parent company, so AFV Club it is. One is a 1/35th AirCat



air boat. This represents a small riverine craft utilized during the Vietnam War and comes with a display base and two figures (boat pilot and machine gun operator). The next kit is in 1/35th scale and is of a U.S. Artillery firing platform. This air transportable firing platform was also developed during the Vietnam War. Both of these are resin kits.

Not to miss out on a good marketing opportunity, Fine Molds (Japan) has two new 1/72nd kits that reflect the recent news from both Syria and North Korea. One



is the SM-3 anti-ballistic missile, the other a Tomahawk cruise missile. Both kits contain parts for two missiles and come with display bases for either in-flight or at launch. Nifty!

For fans of the Maschinen Krieger Universe, Love Love Garden (Japan) has a new addition to their line of fighting suits.



One of their newer kits is a 1/20th scale Ma. K.026 New Alternative World C4 type 80. This is a resin cast, fixed pose kit that depicts the latest iteration of the fighting suit used on Earth after World War IV (2807).

Of course, if your modeling interests don't trend toward fighting suits perhaps Atelier iT (Japan) can help. They have a Maschinen Krieger pilot that might be of interest. This fixed pose figure of Pilot Corporal Yulia is in 1/20th scale and cast in resin. Suggested retail price is around thirty dollars.



Plus Model (Czech Republic) is probably better known for their after market/accessory kits but they delve into complete kits, now and again. This time



they have a 1/35th scale Road Roller (steam roller to us older people) Detroit Diesel 3-53 coming soon. This resin kit has a MSRP of 150.00 USD.

Model Factory Hiro (Japan) has three 1/12th scale fully detailed Ferraris to grace your display shelf. There is a Ferrari 156, a 312B, and my favorite



a D50. The D50 can be had as either a B, C, or D model. The D model has markings for the Monoco Gran Prix in 1956. These MFH kits are not for the faint of heart or pocketbook. The D50 will set you back about nine hundred American.

Tamiya (Japan) has an interesting amalgamation coming soon. A German 3.5 ton truck with 3.7cm Flak 37. This kit is in 1/35th scale and comes with fig-



ures. The AHN truck, conscripted from the French, is actually an ICM kit. The AA gun and figures are from Tamiya.

Go build a model!

Golzar



**“A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools.”**

**- Douglas Adams**



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