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May 2017

ASMS



SPRUE *EXAMINER*

Don Gentile's P-51D



Also:

- ★ Mike Lamm's Nuclear Mishap?
- ★ Rick Cotton on Ship Building
- ★ Golzar?

*Armor · Aircraft ·
Figures · &
Ships*



Don Gentile's P-51D

By Floyd S. Werner, Jr.



I've always liked the P-51D. Who doesn't? Until recently I didn't really have a subject aircraft. Then I received the Lifelike Decals with the markings for Don Gentile's P-51 that he used during his stateside bond tour. I've always wanted to do that aircraft as Gentile is a childhood hero of mine. It was all it took to motivate me to start this model.

The choice of the Tamiya kit was a no-brainer, but which one? Gentile's aircraft had zero launch rocket rails and uncuffed Hamilton Props so the only kit that has those options is the Tamiya F-51D. Unfortunately

I didn't have that kit in my collection so it was off to the internet, in particular Hyperscale. Within a few

minutes after posting I was lucky enough to have Don Fogal and Robert Wiaderny jump in to help. Now I had two kits so why not build them both? I needed an actual 4th Fighter Group P-51D for my 4FG collection so again Lifelike came to the rescue with a really unique looking aircraft.

Even though it is a great kit out of the box I wanted to use some aftermarket stuff to update it some. The Aires cockpit was significantly better than the kit cockpit

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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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- 06/03/2017: Scalefest 2017: Saturday June 3, 2017 Grapevine Convention Center, Grapevine, TX; <http://www.ipmsnct.net/> or www.facebook.com/ipmsnct
- 06/10/2017: IPMS Metro Oklahoma City and Sooner AMPS Soonercon 2017 in NW 30th, Bethany, OK 73008; <http://amps-armor.org/SiteShows/ShowMain.aspx>
- 06/16/2017: Squadron Eaglequest 26 at the Embassy Suites Dallas DFW Airport North; <http://www.squadroneaglequest.com/>
- 08/12/2017 HAMS Eleventh Annual Model Car Show and Contest
Contact: Rob McQuown - robert.mcquown@sbcglobal.net
Website - <https://www.ipms-hams.org/>
- 09/16/2017: AMPS Centex Armor Expo at the Georgetown Community Center
- 09/23/2017: AutumnCon 2017, Region 6 Regional Convention, Covington, La. <http://www.northshoremodelers.net/show.html>
- 10/14/2017: Austin Scale Modeler's Society 2017 "Capitol Classic": Note new location at the Travis County Exposition Center.
Show Coordinator: Ian Latham - latham.ian@yahoo.com
Vendor Coordinator: Chuck "Obi-Wan" - 717.372.2018 or cmkn4me@gmail.com

ASMS Officers & Chairpersons

Randy Bumgardner, President; president@austinsms.org
 Aaron Smischney, Vice-President; vicepresident@austinsms.org
 Eric Choy, Finance Minister; treasurer@austinsms.org
 Mike Lamm, Secretary; secretary@austinsms.org
 Ben Morton, Newsletter Editor; editor@austinsms.org
 Bonnie Chilton, Assistant Editor Extraordinaire
 Ian Latham, Show Coordinator; showcoordinator@austinsms.org
 Mike 'Hollywood' Gilsbach, Webmaster; webmaster@austinsms.org
 Jeff Forster, IPMS/USA Coordinator; chaptercontact@austinsms.org
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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



The Presidents **NOTE PAD**

By Randy Bumgardner

Welcome to May! Spring is in full swing, and so are projects around the house. Not just spring cleaning, but major projects - repainting the deck, adding a covered structure for a sitting area in the yard, and building an extension to the front porch. So, my glacial pace of building models has slowed even further. Hopefully, that's not the case with everyone who reads this newsletter.

Our May meeting is just around the corner, and everyone who is procrastinating should be thinking about building their project for the Procrastinator's Contest in June. Bring your projects to the meeting, and we can see what you are working on for the contest. Bring in your non-contest stuff as well and show off other projects on your bench.

A gentleman donated a bunch of kits and reference materials to the club recently. His father passed away a few years ago, and the family has been selling it on E-bay. I chatted with the son, and he wants to give the rest to us as he, and the family, are growing weary of dealing with it. I understand where he's coming from. I thanked him for his graciousness and thinking of ASMS. We can discuss how we want to handle the remaining items. My first thought was at the auction this summer.

Speaking of the auction, we need to discuss where and when we will be having our summer soiree. The IPMS/USA National convention is the last week in July, so that reduces the number of available weekends. Put on your thinking caps and we'll talk about it next week.

That's all I've got for now. So, go build something - and show it off.

Randy





Continued from page 1.

so I elected to use it. The Ultracast upgrades for the propeller, exhausts and flaps were essential in my opinion. The uncuffed props are significantly different shaped than the kit. Some Ultracast wheels were available so I used them on one of the planes just for variation.



Construction starts in the cockpit. The Aires cockpit fit real well AFTER I cut the bottom portion of the sidewalls off. This made everything fit perfectly. I did have to sand the aft portion of the cockpit plug to allow the radiator and ducting to fit but it was nothing difficult.

The fuselage half fit well. The lower portion of the duct work needed a little bit of filler. I elected to use a .005 to fill the one portion because it was easier to fill that way. I did have to re-scribe some panels because I sanded them too aggressively.

Because Gentile's machine had the zero launch rocket stubs I had to open the holes in the wings. Don't forget to open the drop tank rack holes while you're there.

The wings fit perfectly and the wing to fuselage fit was also perfect. This is a really well engineered kit. Okay, I know it is Tamiya which is synonymous with perfect fit. I opted to use the Ultracast flaps which are very accurate and don't have the unrealistic cutout that Tamiya molded on their part to allow you to put the flaps up. The fit of the Ultracast was perfect. The horizontal stabilizers fit perfectly and before you know it I was ready for paint.

I primed both models with Alclad Grey Primer and Microfiller. This is perfect for the metallic paint. After fixing a few areas that needed touchup. I laid down a base coat of Alclad Aluminum over everything. Then I masked over a lot of panels and shot White Aluminum around the panels and Duraluminum on the control surfaces. I used AK Dark Aluminum around the exhaust areas. Now that I had a natural metal finish airplane it was time to add some color. The fuselage band was masked off and the entire area was painted in Alclad White Primer and Microfiller. It works great and covers quickly and easily. Once dried the fuselage stripe was masked off, then the tail and the nose. The hardest part was getting the angle of the nose red area. I'd have to see how I did later when I decaled the checkers. The same would go when I added the olive drab anti-glare panel in front of the cockpit.

So while I was painting the second model I painted



one side perfectly and was trying to turn it over in my hand while still holding my airbrush. The model slipped and my hand shook just enough to spill the Alclad Aluminum all over the second model. I cleaned it off as fast as I could while swearing for being such an idiot. It needed to be stripped and repainted.



I elected to put it aside and finish it later. So now I was down to one model. At least it was the one I wanted to finish.

With all that unpleasantness behind me, I had no

choice but finish off the one good model. I added a coat of Alclad Aqua Gloss to the entire model and let it dry overnight. The first decals I needed to apply was the checkers. If they were really bad off I could still repaint it and make it some other airplane. Before I cut the decal from the sheet I put a new #11 Xacto blade in my knife

and using a straight edge carefully sliced the decal where the designed cuts were. What I wanted to do was to cut the carrier film where the decals would meet. This would ensure that they would settle down without any trouble, provided they were well made. I add the decals and I got pretty close with the checkers going down the side of the airplane. The Olive Drab was a ways off. I figured I'd let the decals settle down with Solvaset then I could very carefully mask over the decals and respray the colors. After waiting all night I went back in using Tamiya tape that I had put on my palm two or three times to take some of the tack off and masked over the decal. Some touch up of the silver was done by re-priming in grey so the red wouldn't be visible and then the Alclad Aluminum was sprayed. For the top, I did the same thing for the olive drab. Now I carefully removed the masking tape and hoped for the best. Thank God it actually worked. No decals were pulled up. The decals worked perfectly and met beautifully on the bottom of the model. I did need to touch up a little bit of the white checkers here and there as I was not as cautious as I should have been when



removing the carrier film. Now with that behind me the rest of the decals went down perfectly.

I needed to touch up the American star on the upper surface with some Model Master Acrylic

Insignia Blue but that is to be expected. The decals and colors were now sealed with another coat of Aqua Gloss.

The only thing left to do was to apply some flat to the olive drab anti-glare panel. Small items were added like the pitot tube and antenna. Since the real aircraft appeared to be

brand new no weathering was added to the model. The Ultracast exhausts and prop blades were added. This aircraft was fitted for the zero launch rocket rails which required a grounding strap on the tail. Some EZ Line was all that was needed to make this little addition. I added the clear red, green and yellow to the lights and the model was done.



The only part of the model that gave me any problems was the canopy. The sliding portion of the canopy was a pain to put together. Tamiya



released at least two different clear parts for this kit. The early one had the sprue attachment point on the clear glass and no matter what you did you can't get rid of the blemish. Later Tamiya releases, around the 8th and 9th Air Force Aces release they moved the mounting stubs to the bottom which made the clear parts at least useable. I think if I had to do it again I would use a Monogram kit for the sliding portion. Vacuformed replacement is another option.



The great fit of kit was marred by the molding of the canopy. Tamiya should have engineered this kit better. The Aires interior fit well and was a marked improvement on the kit cockpit. The Eduard Steel seatbelts worked well too. The thinness of the steel makes them easy to form. The Ultracast accessories were significant improvements on the kit items. I think the flaps at the very least are essential if you are going to model your aircraft with the flaps extended, which appears to be a normal position. The exhausts are really nice and much easier than drilling them out yourself. The Unshrouded Hamilton Standard

prop is the only way you can get there from here. If I hadn't already cleaned up the wheels I would have used the Ultracast ones. The Lifelike Decals were some of the best decals I've used. They fit perfectly and looked great.

Overall I'm extremely happy with the final results. I've always wanted to do Gentile's stateside aircraft and thanks to Lifelike I finally added it to my collection. I'll build his war mount, 'Shangri-La' with 30 victory markings shortly. Then I only need to do his T-33 that he died in to complete my collection.

Review Name: P-51D

Reviewer: Floyd S. Werner, Jr.

IPMS No.: 26266

Review Product Type: Aircraft

Review Type: Kit

Scale: 1/48

Manufacturer: Tamiya

Manufacturer website: www.tamiyausa.com

Mfr Stock No.: 61040

MSRP: \$33.00

Provided by: My pocket book

Vendor Web Site: www.tamiyausa.com

Direct Link to Item: <http://www.tamiyausa.com/items/plastic-model-series-20/1-48-scale-aircraft-20000/north-american-p-51d-mustang-61040>



Floyd



Someday I'll do a ship

By Rick Cotton

One of the great things about our hobby is the camaraderie that exists between modelers. Friends and compatriots all, we just love to talk to each other about this madness we call scale modeling.

We love to relate our experiences with each other, usually when we gather in little groups at a show or meeting. Like old fighter pilots relating the time we almost got shot down over Regensburg or Yokohama, we'll swap war stories about that last build, the one that fought us tooth and nail. We will describe in excruciating detail how we grappled to the death with the last build from the first snip to the last swipe of the brush. We will talk about how we "manned up", and defeated Trumpeter and DML, and did it in style. In other words, we will blow smoke up each other's skirts.

"How long did that one take?" is the most common question I hear. The proper response is always 10 to 20 times what the real time was. "A year" is about what I usually say, because it did take forever, and I cannot for the life of me estimate how many hours I spent on that project. I don't WANT to know how much time I spent, that would be depressing. .

"Whose photoetch did you use?" Uh...everybody's.... whatever the heck I had left from the last six ships I built.

"Oh, Gold Medal Models, mostly." I think. Maybe it was Tom's Model works. I can't remember. My leftover photoetch is in a tangled mass, and I use whatever I can pull out of the pile without destroying it. There may be some US Navy-style stairwells somewhere on the IJN Akagi, but I'm not sure.

"What color gray did you use?"

I tell them about Kure Arsenal gray, and Yokosuka Naval Yard Gray, and all that, and about how those colors are no longer in production, and I make my own paint samples from them and match by scientific processes and compare them to Snyder and Short's chips on the Web, and....

B.S. I use Testor's Gunship gray as the base. Close enough. By the time I get through drybrushing and washing it, and rusting it, it will be 49 shades of gray anyway. It's freaking GRAY, ok?

"Don't know about building ships. Always thought about it. Maybe I'll build one someday." I always hear that one.

Why not? Steel ships are not that different from armor, heck, it's all steel plates either welded or bolted together. The only real difference is that my subjects, from time to time in history, sink like a rock.

Being that I like IJN subjects, almost ALL of them have sunk, or blown up, or blown up and then sunk.

The thing that scares them away from shipbuilding, however, isn't the paint. It's not the water, as the ship could be built on timbers. For most newbies, it's one thing, and one thing only:

Rigging.

Rigging frightens away non-ship modelers like a 300lb girl frightens away single guys at a bar. The thought of running all those hundreds of teeny-tiny lines around all of those itsy-bitsy masts and yards and antennas just scares the heck out of them. It should.

It's not the photoetch. Oh, no, armor and plane guys are friends with photoetch, and don't shy away from it. But rigging is another animal, all together.

It is a Zen exercise.

One must have a quiet mind.

One must close all distractions out.

One must be one with the subject.

One must drink, Grasshopper. A beer or two helps. Maybe a sedative. No more, or you will end up tying yourself to the model.

You need some good tweezers, the kind that you would pluck excess nose hair out with, a fine sharp point. You need some good, fresh cyano, and a razor-sharp, new blade in that knife handle. No chintzing out here. A little tape and some 1 or 2lb fly line, or EZ Line, and you are off to the races. Brace the masts. Now add the signal yards. Now add the bracing on the funnels, then the supplementary bracing on the masts. Now the bracing on the boat davits. Now the other mast bracing, no, not the foremast, the MAIN mast. "Which one's the mainmast?" you say. Add the signal yards there, too, now the main radio aerials. Now connect those to all 87 fire control stations. Now connect the secondary connections! Have some more beer. Is your vision fogging or getting blurry yet? Only three or four more nights of this to go...then we add the signal flags and ensigns...the flags, not the junior officers. We'll add sailors later. You did paint the sailors already, right?

What? You don't want to do all that? You want to go build a tank? A plane? Ok.

But keep thinking about doing a ship.

Fujimi is waiting for you.....ha ha ha ha....waiting for you.....

Seriously, think about doing a ship. Start with something simple, like a 1/350th Tamiya USS Fletcher. It fits, it won't fight back too hard, and you can get away with minimal rigging. Or you can spend six months on it correcting and detailing the damned thing, your choice.

Then you can stand in that little group, and proudly announce that you have done your first ship...and see the fear in their eyes as they contemplate your having crossed over to The Dark Side. Mention things like "yards", and "stays", "superfiring" and "hull sheer", and watch them wonder what the heck you are talking about.

You can always go back to cars, tanks or planes later.



Rick



On The TABLE

By Our
Roving Reporter

The Austin Scale Modeler's quarterly contest was held this month. The tables were full with work from our members and the April theme was a contest commemorating Pat Rourke.



Pat's Facebook
Photo

The participants in the contest were bringing in a completed or not so completed kit inherited from Pat's stash when he passed on. First second and third prizes were gift certificates kindly donated by King's Hobby.



Ian Latham took second with his 1/32nd scale ME-109G4.



Third place was taken by Alex with his M-12 self-propelled gun.

Congratulations gentlemen, I'm sure Pat would have been proud.

Adieu, mon frère



Mike Gilsbach took first prize with his converted Ardennes Panther.

Examples of Pat's modeling building prowess is available at:
<http://www.austinsms.org/coppermine/thumbnails.php?album=10>



Also, other kits not ment for the Pat Rourke build found thier way to our meeting.



Mike Lamm's The Trucker



Alex's 1-35 Kamaz truck



Mike Lamm's D.520



Mike Lamm's Hanebu Saucer



Mike Lamm's Hanebu Saucer underside



Mike Lamm's Hanebu Saucer inside

Rick H's Sdkfz 250



Rick H's 1-48th Half track



Tim's Northrop N-9MA 2



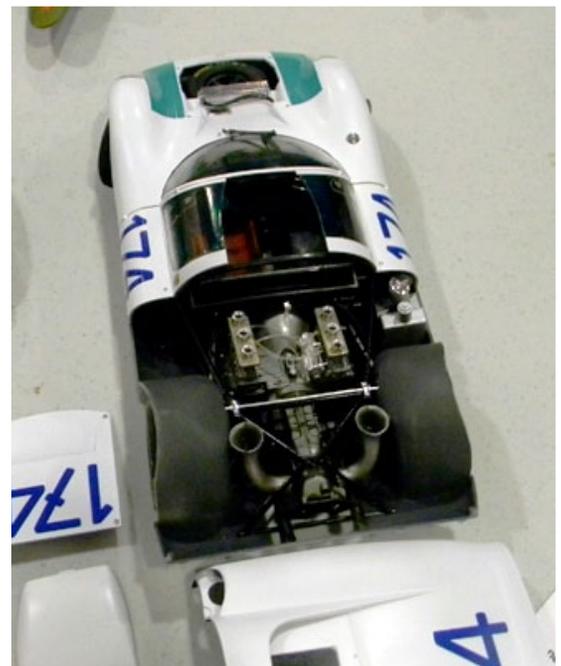
Ziggy's 1-144 Zaku II Ground type.



Ben's Achilles



Dave Edgerly's VW and Porsche 910-6





Bob Bethea's Wasserschelpper



Bruces MAK Krote



Cameron S's I-16

Ziggy's 1-144th
GM Ground type



Ziggy's 1-144 GM
Commander Version



Ziggy's 1-100 GX-9902 DX Doule X Gundam



Rover





Nuclear Mishap?

By Mike Lamm



The late 50s to early 60s were a time of high tension for the U.S. during the Cold War. Following their development and use at the end of World War II, nuclear weapons were being designed, created, and tested at an alarming rate by the major powers of the world. The U.S. had air crews, and planes, loaded with nuclear weapons on the ready line, ready to take off on a flight towards Russia at a moment's notice, and Russia was equally prepared. To maintain the highest level of alert and avoid being completely caught on the ground, it wasn't uncommon for nuclear-armed aircraft to be on "airborne alert", essentially an in-flight, constant ready status in case of "nuclear combat toe to toe with the Rooskies", to quote Maj. "King" Kong from the movie "Dr. Strangelove".



On the morning of January 23, 1961, a B-52G Stratofortress, call sign "Keep 19" took off from Seymour Johnson Air Base in Goldsboro, N.C with a crew of 8, and two MK-39 thermonuclear bombs. Its mis-

sion was a 25-hour airborne alert flight over the coast of North and South Carolina. Each MK-39 bomb weighed just under 3 tons, and packed almost 4 megatons of explosive yield, which was about 250 times the explosive power of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

During the plane's second in-flight refueling over South Carolina around midnight, the refueling crew saw a fuel leak on Keep 19's right wing. As a result, the mission was aborted and the plane was ordered to fly a holding pattern over the Atlantic Ocean to try dumping as much of the leaking fuel as possible before returning to base. Unfortunately, there were problems with the fuel pumps, which meant they had difficulty safely purging fuel from the leaking tanks. To prevent the possibility of a fire, the two starboard engines were shut down, and the crew pulled the circuit breakers to prevent sparks. Still, jet fuel had gotten into the bomb bay, wheel well, and had covered the bottom of the fuselage. The pilot reported that the leak was worsening, and the plane had lost 37,000 pounds of fuel in 3 minutes. At this point, the plane was ordered to immediately return to base. As Keep 19 began its descent to the base, the pilots lost control of the plane around 10,000 feet and immediately ordered everyone to eject. Six crewmen ejected from the plane, with five landing safely and one dying. Two other crewman died in the crash. The surviving crew reported that when they last saw the plane, it was still intact, but at about 2,000 feet above the ground, the plane came apart losing the right wing it barrel-rolled, then cracked in the middle. As the plane disintegrated, the two bombs separated from the plane at about 1,000 feet.

The MK-39 had seven steps to arm the bomb and trigger the explosion, including pulling wires, starting timers and flipping switches. Three of the last four arming mechanisms on one bomb activated, initiating the bomb's arming sequence. The only thing remaining for a detonation was the last arm/safe switch that went un-pulled. The bomb's retard parachute deployed and worked perfectly, slowly guiding the bomb to its target, a tobacco field in eastern North Carolina about 12 miles north of Goldsboro, and 50 miles east of Raleigh.

When the ordinance team arrived to recover the



bombs the next day, they found the first bomb standing upright, its parachute caught in a tree with its nose buried in about 2 feet of dirt, and just one 1950's era switch standing between it and a mile-wide radioactive crater.

The second bomb proved to be a bit more problematic. Its parachute hadn't opened when it released from the plane and it fell straight into a separate tobacco field. Only a few remains of the bomb's nose were found in a 6-foot deep, by 15-foot wide crater, about 2 miles west of the wreckage, but no bomb. The recovery crew began slowly, and carefully digging with hand tools before deciding to bring in some heavier equipment. On the second day, and about 12 feet down, they found the parachute wire and pack. Eventually, the tail section of the 11-foot long bomb was found about 20 feet down.



On day three, the crew recovered the parachute pack and found more pieces of the nose and some pieces of high explosive. On day four, they recovered one of 92 detonators and more high explosive. At this point, they were getting close to the swampy area's water table and trying to dig while pumping out water became a constant struggle, they also started having

to worry about radioactive exposure. On the fifth day, the uranium and plutonium core of the bomb were discovered and removed.

The continuing struggle with the water table became too much to allow for a full recovery of the bomb and its remaining uranium, so the excavation was abandoned. Most of the thermonuclear material was left in place, although the actual core had been removed, preventing a detonation. The hole was filled in with concrete and reburied just over 50 feet underground. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers purchased the land and a small easement, and regularly test the area and ground water for contamination with nothing being found, so far.



Thanks to Google Earth, I was even able to find an image of the bomb's location via the internet.

There are about 15 known incidents of "Broken Arrows", the military's term for an event that involves nuclear weapons, warheads or components which does not create the risk of nuclear war. The details of the Goldsboro, NC incident really weren't known until a few years ago, following the release of a 2013 Freedom of Information Act request. Prior to that, the Pentagon had said there was no danger of a detonation, and that there were no nuclear weapons on the plane at the time of the crash. However, eastern North Carolina was one small switch away from being turned into a very different landscape that January night in 1961.



Mike



OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

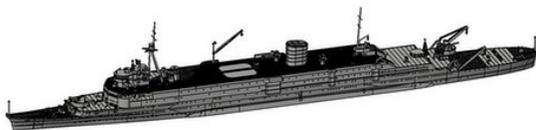
By Rick Herrington

1/700

Aoshima brings us a couple of merchant ships.



Japanese fleet oiler Hayasui includes in the kit a model of the highly successful submarine USS Bluefish that sank her.



Next is a release of the Kanmusu series (36) which include anime girl stickers or a figure as well as a model of the Japanese submarine tender Taigei.



ICM brings us a WW1 German battleship SMS Grosser Kurfurst. She took part in the Battle of Jutland.

Pit Road brings us two new modern JMSDF (Navy) releases. Both are anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare ships.



The first is DD-158 Umigiri and the second is DD-132 Asayuki.

1/350



Hobby Boss is releasing a WW1 British pre-dreadnought battleship the HMS Lord Nelson.



Fujimi brings us two WW2 IJN destroyers. First is the Kagero class Yukikaze and second is the Shimakaze.



The Shimakaze is a DX version of the model and includes photo etch and brass barrels.

1/144



Revell is releasing a small scale Flower Class Covette HMCS Snowberry.

Box Scale



1/350

Zvesda is releasing a Borey-class Russian nuclear submarine the Vladimir Monomakh. This is a Russian boomer.



Masterpeice Models. It's a big box. Enough to hold a 31" resin and white metal model of the Nautilus from Jules Verne's 20,000 Leagues under the Sea. This looks to be a replica of the movie model. You'll have to really want it because it's priced around \$322.

That's it for this month. Pull a model from that stash and build it!

Rick



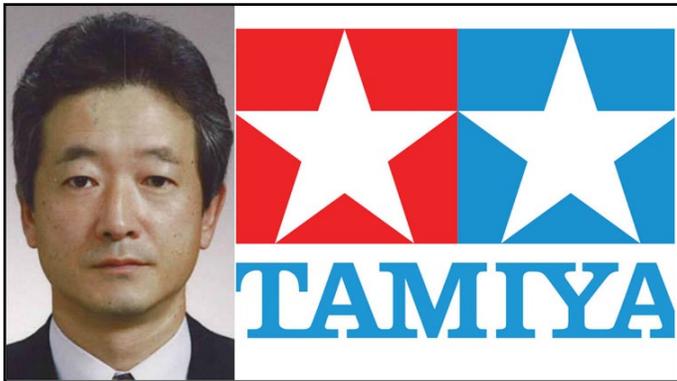


The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

It's May! Our modeling year is almost half completed. Conversely, we still have over half of the year left to build models. You choose. (Glass half empty, glass half full.)

On a sad note, I want to extend my sympathies and condolences to the Tamiya family. Masayuki Tamiya



passed away this week after a long battle with illness. He was the son-in-law of Tamiya's founder and the President of Tamiya. We wish the best for the family during this time.

It's May and that means the Shizuoka Hobby Show is taking place in Shizuoka City, Japan and I won't be there for this year's show either. One of these days.

At the show, rumors abounded about Tamiya's next 1/32nd scale kit. Tamiya announced, and had on display, their next large scale offering – a 1/32 Vought F4U-1D Corsair. Some people were happy, and others



not. I think it's a logical follow-on to their supreme 1/32 Corsair line-up: the F4U-1 and the F4U-1A. I like it.

Another, huge surprise from the show rolled out of the Wingnut Wings booth. On display, they had their next kit release – a 1/32 Albatross D.V/D.Va. But, this isn't just any Albatross – it's a special boxing for Jagdstaffel 5 aircraft. And not just one kit. There are three, 3, tres, drei, kits in the box with markings for



11 aircraft. That's is quite the special release. So, if you missed out in the original, sold out, D.V or D.Va kits, now it your chance to grab one. I heard an MSRP of \$189 being bandied about.



Our Turkish modeling friends, TanModel, have announced a couple of new kits on the horizon. First, they are producing a 1/48 Blackburn Buccaneer





S.Mk.2A/B that should be hitting the market by the holidays this year. At last, a new tool Buccaneer is on approach to a model retailer near you.

Their second announcement is a bit on the esoteric side. It's a 1/24 Baykar Bayraktar TB2 drone. No information on a release date was given other than



“Coming Soon”. In case you're not familiar with it, the Bayraktar is a Turkish tactical UAV, designed and produced in Turkey. It holds the national records for endurance and altitude in Turkey.



Meng has announced their plans to produce a 1/48 Lockheed F-35A Lightning II. Release date for this kit is June 20, 2017. Hobby Easy has them available to pre-order.



Kinetic is working on a 1/72 C-17 for release, challenging Anigrand in the Big Kit market. No date was given



for this release.

Kinetic is also releasing a 1/48 Mirage IIIBE/D/DS/DE/D2Z this month. Mirage fans rejoice!

That's all I have for this month. Now, go build something!

Randy

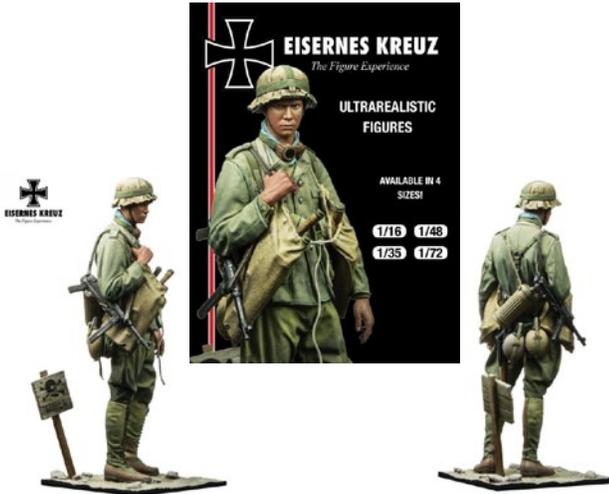




It Figures

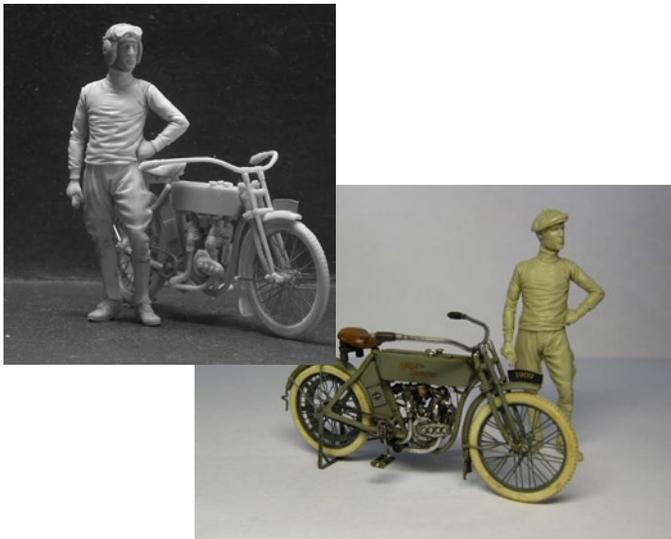
By Aaron Scmischney

Welcome to It Figures, for fans of little people! Let's start out with something just announced and on the top of my list, a new DAK figure in Andrea Miniatures iron cross series.



These will be available in whatever scale you fancy, I'll probably get the 1/16 but the 1/72 is a thing to behold! King's should have them soon.

A newer company called CIX models has announced some really nice civilian motorcycles in 1/35 scale. This scale is usually for armor, but because of the popularity of the scale it should not be very hard to make up a diorama featuring these guys.



That's a lovely early Harley, and the figures are sculpted by one of

the best in the biz Nino Pizzichemi. The figure comes with two head choices. If you can read Italian here is their web site: <https://cixmodels.com/>.

I have had good luck ordering from Italians/Spanish manufacturers by emailing them in clear English asking them how I can order for the United States, I have always been responded to and have never not received my goods. There are some really talented artists over there that would be happy to take our money. Sometimes they direct me to an English distributor, either way don't be shy if you want the product!

For armor fans we have some new crew figures in plastic form a company called Max Factory, I have ordered both sets from Hobby Link Japan (HLJ.com) I'm not sure if they have a US distributor.

First up is a Russian crew and some nice (if not anime looking) female officers/crew.



The poses look great, and you get some nice crew weapons.

Next is their IDF crew.



These look modern era. You also get some really welcome crew weapons and extras, including a Tavor TAR-21 and Tavor STAR-21 weapons.



Jeff Shiu has a new WW1 German with flamethrower coming out that looks outstanding. This is in 1/16th scale and comes with the groundwork, what a great pose!



Royal models has some new figures coming out, these caught my eye.

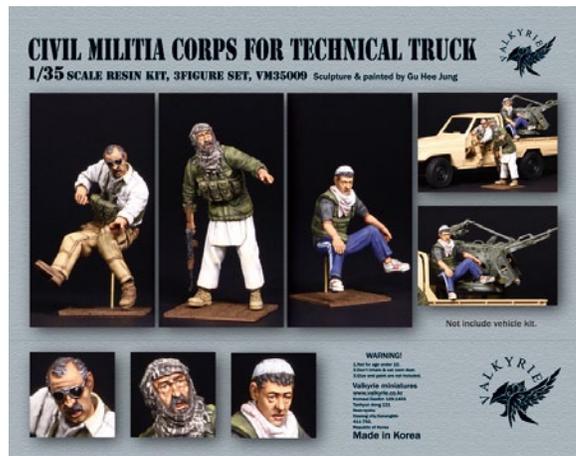


Soldiers in NBC suits. They would fit right in with a post-apocalyptic scene with zombies (Ben!)



It looks like someone has converted them to re-create a popular TV show.

Valkyrie has recently issued a set of 1/35th crew for your Technical Truck. They call them Civil Militia Corps. Other folks call them ISIS.



Those are my highlights until next time.

Aaron



Aaron's Armor

By Aaron Scmischney

Greetings armor fans and hello to all armor curious! The Shizuoka Hobby Show in Japan has just wrapped up and here is the latest news from the world of armor.



Let's start out with Tamiya, who rolled out a big surprise in the form of a 1/16 M1A2 (photos from <https://tamiyablog.com/>).

In 1/35 they have announced a Brummbär, and a set of zimmerit stickers.



Dragon has a whole line of tanks coming out for their "Six-Day War" (1967) series that focuses on the attempt by Syria/Egypt to drive Israel into the sea. This war was probably one of the most interesting break-outs of hostility in the latter half of the 20th century for armor enthusiasts as both

sides had such an eclectic make-up. Dragon is doing both sides justice, of particular interest is the Syrian panzer 4, Sturmgeschutz and a Jagdpanzer. It will be the first time these will be available without kit-bashing or aftermarket. The Syrian T-34 will also be of interest to aficionados as a Dushka (MG) mount for the t-34 has been wanted for some time. Images are from <http://www.themodellingnews.com>



Miniart is releasing a t-60 tank in 1/35th scale with what looks like a full interior.



On to some more regular announcements, in the "when it rains it pours" category we are about to get two early cruiser tanks, one from Bronco and one from newcomer Gecko.

Bronco has box art and cad images, it looks to be a three in one style kit with the ability to decide what variant you want to do.

What's most exciting to me is the cool camo schemes these early tanks had:

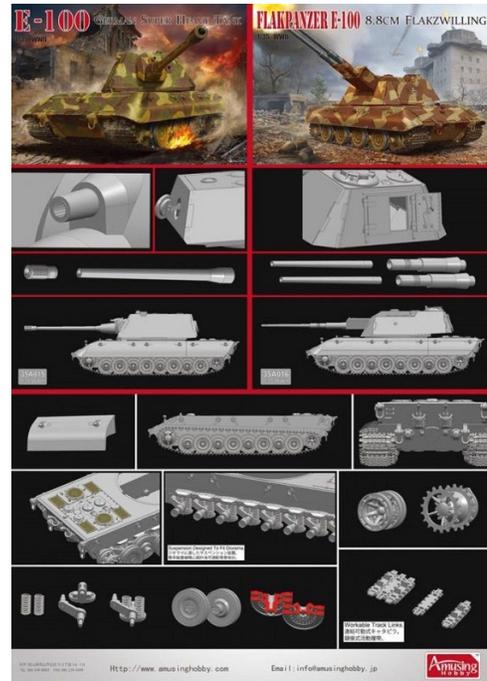
Camouflages and Markings



From Gecko models we get box art for two cruiser tanks, no word yet on release dates. As soon as we get images of plastic I will put it in the newsletter.



its what ifs, this time they are releasing an E-100 and an E-100 flak version both in 1/35th scale.



For those who want to mix some fantasy into their armor builds these can be fun, with no rules as to camo or markings. Add a browning to the cupola or mount a laser cannon, no one can tell you you're wrong!

Since there are so many of these released maybe we should make a new category for these paper tanks at our show?



Regarding paper panzers, let's scale them down with Modelcollect's E-50 and E-75 with full interiors in 1/72.



Amusing hobby has been keeping busy arming the third Reich well into what seems like the 50's with

That's the highlights, till next time! Aaron





Miscellaneous

By Golzar Shahrzād

Ebbro has something for all you budding chefs out there, a 1/24th scale Citroen H mobile kitchen. This injected molded kit will now allow you to put



taco trucks on every corner. This will be a winner for you food truck fans.

Revosys has given us another “What if?” panzer. This is the proposed PzKpfw VI Ausf B/C. It was a Tiger chassis with a panther turret and an experimental tapered bore gun that required tungsten

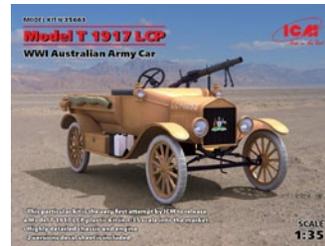


ammunition. The project was cancelled due to lack of tungsten. The model comes with an interior, photo-etch, and workable tracks.

Mirage Models has re-entered the diorama market with the re-issuance of two of their earlier,



complete diorama kits. One is a Firth of Clyde 1940 scene and the other, the Puck Naval base 1925. Puck Naval base was a Polish coastal patrol base established in the late 1800's and in use during WWII. This kit includes a vacuum-formed base, two torpedo boats, port side barracks, crane, two support ships, and a float plane. All in 1/400th scale.



ICM has a new version of their Model T. Although the advertisement for this kits states that this is the first time that this has ever been done. The 1/35th scale injected molded kit is of the Model T 1917 WWI Australian Army car. (We might expect to see some ANZAC troopers from ICM at any moment.) ICM is from that school of manufacturer that thinks that if three parts is good, nine must be better, but this does give the modeler better fidelity to scale for the detailed chassis and engine included in this release.

RVHP is a Czech Republic concern that does resin kits of mostly military adaptations of commercial aircraft.

This time RVHP is offering ten separate versions of the Gulfstream III/IV in 1/72nd scale. Better known as the C-20 in military parlance you can get one in USAF, USMC, USN, Swedish, JASDF, and Irish Air Force, amongst others. The C-20 is used as a testbed, maritime recon, and as a liaison aircraft by lots of folks. The kit comes with white metal landing gear and clear, resin windows.



Takom has another heavy transport vehicle available. This is a 1/35th scale, injected molded kit of the Russian KRAZ 260V tractor with semi-trailer. Takom released the larger and heavier KRAZ-6446 tractor w/ trailer not so long ago. Granted this



release is of a different tractor and trailer but, it appears, that you also get a T-55 to haul around. All of this at a less expensive price point than the earlier transporter kit.

Thunder Models produced a bunch of CASE tractors in various guises and have now added a 1/35th scale British 6x4 Scammell Pioneer tractor to their line-up. There are three separate versions of this widely used WWII era tractor. You can get either a transporter with trailer, an artillery tractor, or a recovery version. It looks beastly!



Meng is adding to its World War Toons line with two new additions. Soon to be available are a Soviet KV-1 heavy tank and a German King Tiger with Porsche turret. No word on any figures to go along with these cartoon-looking, snap-fit designed kits.



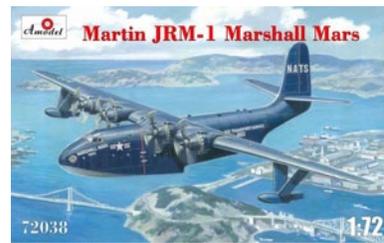
In the world of small airplane models, Mark One has a new kit of the Curtiss P-36A Hawk. There are two

complete kits in the box with marking options for four aircraft. There is a separate release of the export version of the P-36, the H-75. Both kits are in 1/144th scale.

Modelsvit has a 1/72nd scale, injected molded model of the I-320 R-3. This



was a design from the Mikoyan-Gurevich (MIG) bureau. The 3D designed all-weather Soviet experimental interceptor features a VK-1 engine, canopy masks and has markings for one camo scheme.



The scale is small but the finished model will be giant. A Model has a 1/72nd scale injected molded kit of the Martin JRM-1 Mars. This is

the world's largest flying boat. This release features markings for a US Navy craft. The MSRP is listed as \$199.99 (about \$260.00).

RS Models is issuing a 1/72nd scale model of the M-609 Nachtjager. There are actually two versions, one with dual cockpits and one with a single cockpit. The M-609 was a mash up of two Me-309 fuselages to form a heavy fighter. The kit does have some photo-etch included.



Croco is definitely a new manufacturer for me but they do have a small scale (1/72nd) Type 92 Jyu-Sokosha for your modeling pleasure. This release is of the early version of the tankette. Mike Lamm has a full build review of this model on the IPMS/USA website. Click here: <http://web.ipmsusa3.org/content/type-92-jyo-sokosha-tank>

Go build the your model.

Golzar



...”For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple, and wrong.”

- H. L. Menken

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