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March 2018

# ASMS

AUSTIN SCALE MODELERS SOCIETY



# SPRUE EXAMINER



## Space 1999:

### Eagle Transporter from MPC

- The Masochistic Modeler
- The Cotton Report
- On The Table
- Old Rumors and New Kits

**Plus**

**eduard**  
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GBU-43/B MOAB

Scale 1/72  
Part No. 672160



Green Monkey  
'Thumbs-Up'  
sign of approval

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



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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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### 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

It's March, and Spring is springing into action. The weather is getting warmer, and the yard work is underway here in Central Texas. Be that as it may, I hope everyone's shop time isn't suffering too badly.

For ASMS, it's time for the first Quarterly Contest of the year. This month we have an open contest, so bring in any completed models for fun and prizes. We will have the usual King's Hobby Shop gift certificates and the model which places first will also win model of the month. So, let's see what you have.

Last month we didn't discuss any field trips the club wanted to take. So, let's talk about them this month. Bring in any ideas for a club trip. Ideally, we should limit the trips to a driving radius of about 2 or 3 hours. This is probably best for a day trip without an overnight stay.

If you haven't paid your dues, the discount period has passed. Dues are now \$25 for a single membership and \$30 for a family. Please see our Treasurer for details and to get caught up on this year's dues.

Lastly, as a reminder, our annual club picnic/auction is scheduled for Saturday, May 5th. It will be the final hurrah at Casa Downs-Bumgardner before we depart to California. Bring a side dish to pass, drinks for yourself, and, of course, models. Lots of models. Make sure the models are complete and in (fairly) decent shape. Remember, it's for the children.

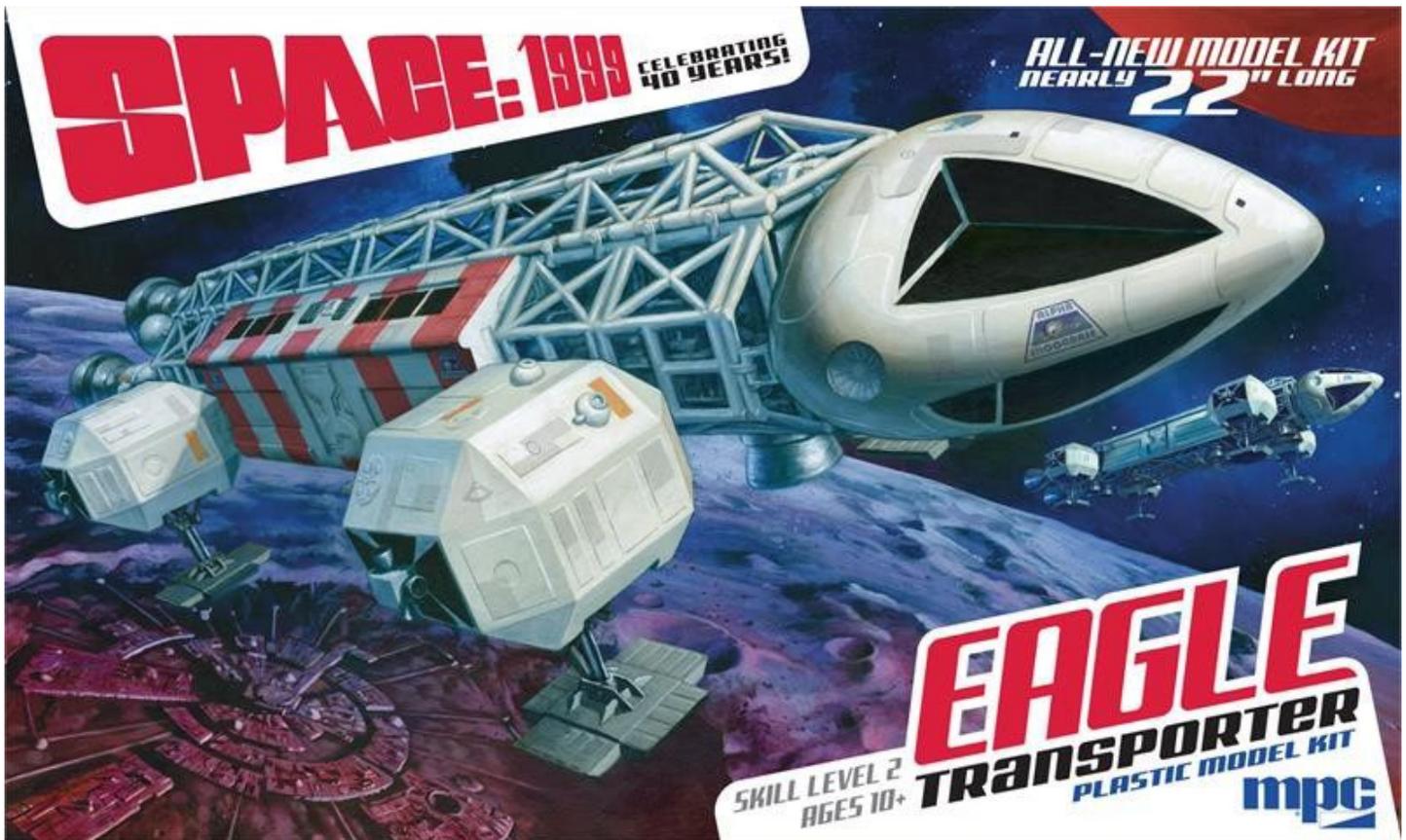
If I've forgotten anything, let me know at the meeting, and we'll chat about it. Now, go build something and bring it to show off!

Randy



## Space 1999: Eagle Transporter from MPC

By Bill Delk



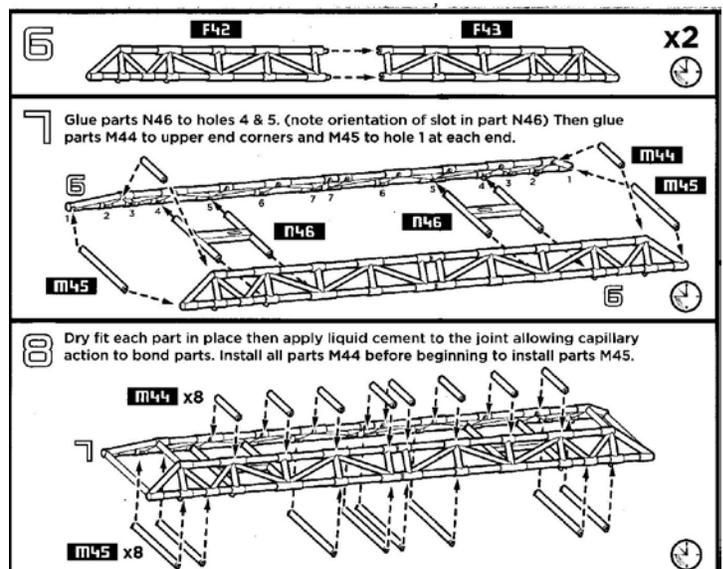
The Eagle Transporter is one of the most iconic and recognized space vehicles in Science Fiction. The British TV show “Space 1999” ran from 1975 to 1977.

The Eagle was of a modular design and could be configured to perform different missions by changing the various cargo pods similar to the present day Sikorsky Skycrane helicopter.

MPC’s 1/48th scale kit comes in a large sturdy box and is well packaged containing over 300 parts in two colors, and off white, grey and clear. The white is supposed to mimic the actual color of the “Hero” filming miniature and could be built without painting the model. It is supposed to be the most accurate of all the previous versions and was extensively researched. It is one half the size of the original filming model and measures out to 22 inches in length when completed.

Construction:

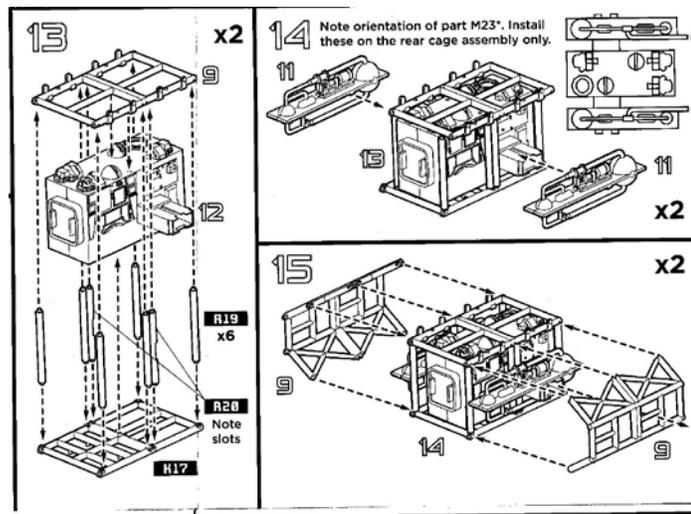
I began by pulling the parts for the main support framework backbone for the model. This consists of twenty six pieces. (Steps 6, 7 and 8).





Get out your sanding sticks or whatever you use to remove seam lines as the bulk of this model's construction consists of round parts. While this construction may look fragile, it is, when assembled quite sturdy and will support the rest of the model. Take care to go slow and make sure that all the parts align correctly and everything "squares up". Let this part of the assembly be put aside several days to dry completely.

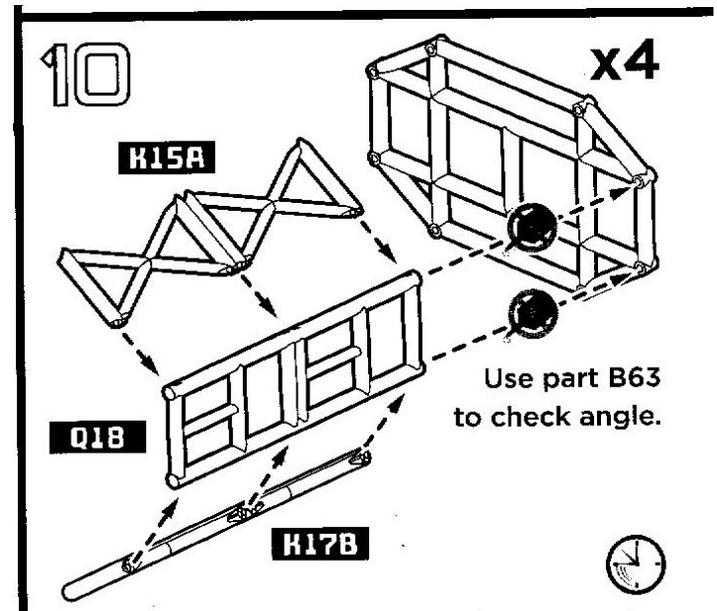
Next I began to assemble the parts for the engine and the front and rear box assemblies. (Steps 13, 14 and 15) Assemble these carefully as you want to keep the seam lines to a minimum so there is not a lot of clean up when they are dry.



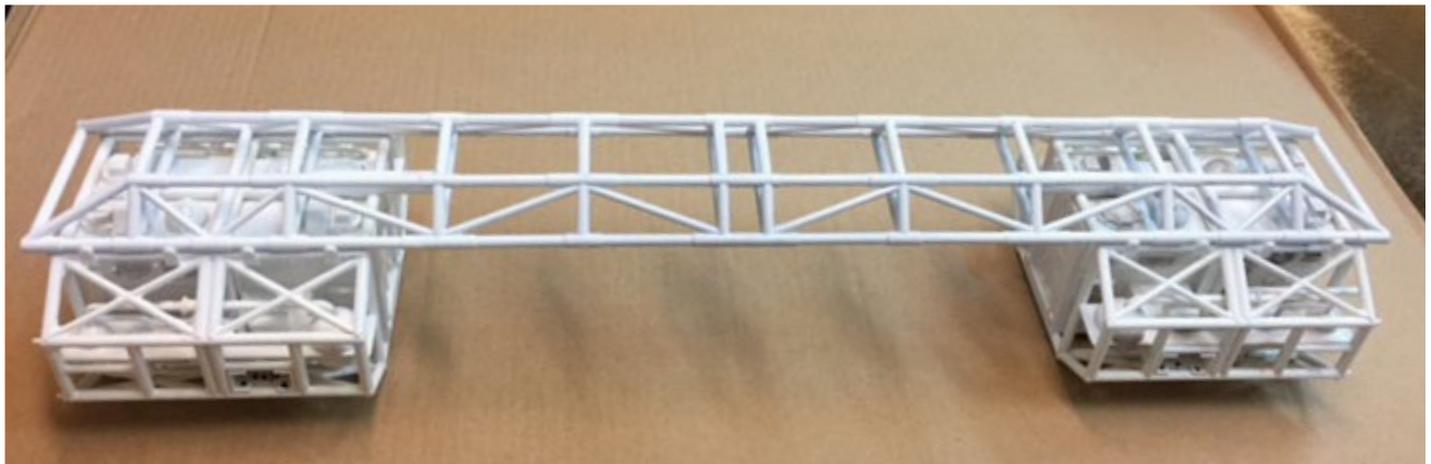
Once the box assemblies are completed prime them to check for fit and seam line problems and putty if necessary. Be careful in the construction here as the front and rear boxes have some subtle differences that I missed and had to pull one of

them off to replace a wrong part. Pay attention to the doors on the end of the box assembly as it is easy to get them upside down. Speaking from experience the small end of the door faces up.

There are some "plumbing" parts that fit on the side of the box assemblies (Step 11) and a pair them has an extra part and these two parts go on the rear box from Step 12.

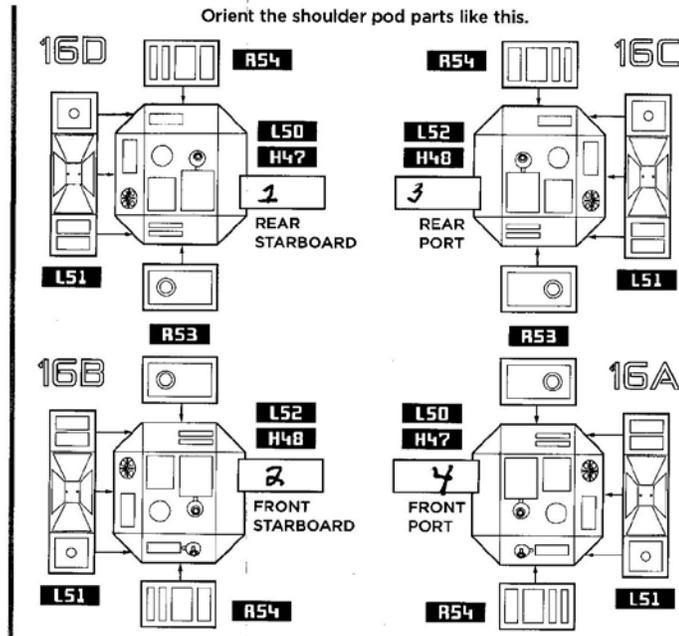


Once these parts are primed and finished another eight mostly round parts form a cage around the front and rear box assemblies. Fit is tight here and it's a bit difficult to get everything held together and glued. Once that assembly had dried another two three part pieces (Step 10) must be glued to that. Part B63 will be used to make sure the angles are correct for this assembly.





The assembly of the four shoulder pods is next. Follow the provided drawing in Steps 16A, B, C and D to assemble the shoulder pods.



Take care in assembly here as there are subtle differences in the orientation of the 6 parts. They should assemble nicely with minimal puttying and sanding if you take your time. In order to keep track of which pod went where I used a permanent marker to label them on the drawing, the mounting shaft, and the box assemblies that they slide into. If I had to do it all over I would leave off part Q58 until



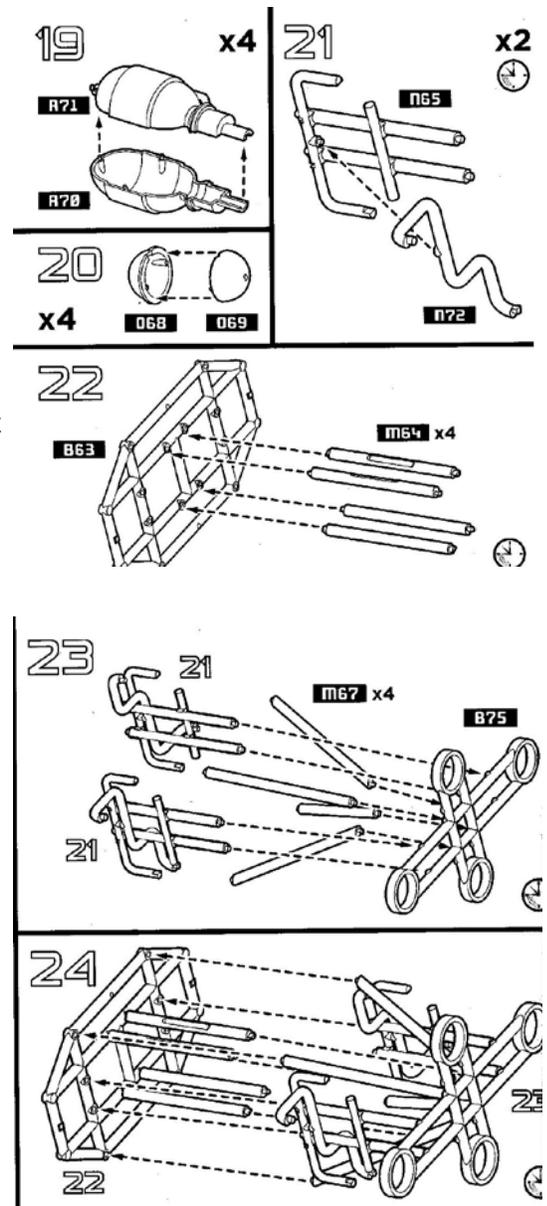
later in the construction and paint the triangular spots on the side of the pod and the rectangular areas on the bottom of the pods rather than use the decals which did not fit exceptionally well.

The assembly of the four landing struts comes next. Construction is fairly straight forward but care should be used when fitting parts 056,057,062,063,064 and 065, as they could be broken easily. Once assembled they will function as a working shock absorber.

The engine exhaust bells were assemble carefully so as not to get glue on the outside and set aside for painting later.

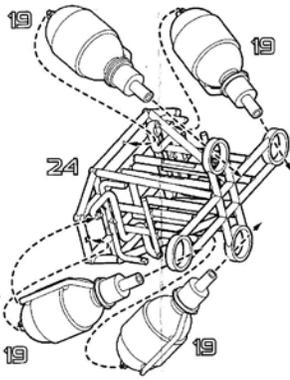
There is an option for a set of turned aluminum exhaust bells and some other after-market parts that cost over \$100 dollars and cost more than the kit itself.

I opted out of that expense as the kit provided parts look good when painted.

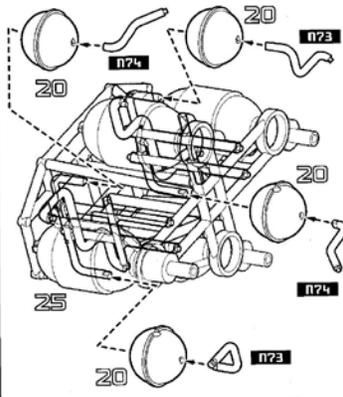




**25** Insert assembly 19 into rings in assembly 24 and click back ends into place on the back frame. Rotate assembly 19 until side tubes meet ends of part N72. Then glue in place.



**26** Place assembly 20 onto ends of part N65. Then add parts N73 & N74 to assembly 20 and attach other ends to holes in assembly 19.



The most intimidating part of the build was the construction of the engine plumbing, Steps 21-26



using parts from Steps 19 and 20.

Steps 23 and 24. More rounded double seamed parts to clean up. Once assembled it builds up into a sturdy construction that the remaining parts fit



into fairly easily. Assembled it looks impressive.

I sanded out the hole in the engine bell where it mounts to the part from Step 9 as it had paint build



up that made a tight fit.

The model is fairly monochromatic. I sprayed most of the assembly with Tamiya white primer. Once the primer was dry I coated it with Future and left that to dry for a few days.

I ran into difficulty with the decals as they are very fragile. I had to let them soak in water longer than I was used to and then placed them on a paper towel until they released from the backing. The black areas on the side pods were large and some of my problems may have been complicated by that fact. Most of the smaller decals went on



with no problems. I also installed the boxes that the attitude jets attach to which caused some problems with the decal application. In retrospect I should have masked and painted the large black areas on the sides and bottom of the pods.



Highlighting the detail on the kit could cause some problems as most of the areas with detail are hidden behind several layers of our favorite tubular cage work. I recommend painting and highlighting the box and cage structure assemblies before attaching them to the front and rear boxes.

All the cage work makes it difficult to apply a wash to bring out the interior details. Careful assembly, pre-painting and highlighting, and application of glue should make attachment of the front and rear boxes fairly painless and with a minimum of touchup painting.

MPC has produced an impressive display model of one of my favorite Science Fiction vehicles.

Bill



## The Cotton Report: Summer Jobs

By Rick Cotton

Probably all of us, at one time or another in our long-ago youth, had a summer job. Unless your family was one of those afflicted with too much money, and you got shuffled off to summer camp, or Europe or something. If you were like me, dirt poor, and wanted spending money for those models we loved even then we had to find a way to get it. I had several summer jobs in my school years, from fishing boat deckhand to hobby shop clerk, to bowling alley “porter” (which translates to “schlub”).

They all had their pluses and minuses. I have already related in another tome my time as a hobby shop clerk, in Pasadena, Texas. The bowling alley gig was short-lived, and not really memorable except for the interesting ne'er-do-wells who seem to gravitate to a bowling alley like flies do to a t\*rd. The summer job that was probably the most fun, however, was the three months I spent in the summer of 1973 at Fletcher Aviation, located near what is today the main terminal of Hobby Airport.

At that time, said terminal was mostly closed, and awaiting restoration, although there was a way to sneak into it (I did, often), and retrieved... uh... items. Don't judge me, no one was using them at the time. I had a huge, 32-inch wide full-color

metal Pan American logo sign, which vanished from my possession long ago... too bad, it would have brought a pretty penny today. I had several other things left over from Hobby's olden days. How I wish I still had them. The terminal was empty, and decrepit, and eerie in its silence. And a twelve-year-old kid had a blast wandering around in it. I never saw a security guard, nor was I seen, but the thrill of being on “forbidden ground” was palpable.

I had a few main tasks at my job. The first was to clean the windshields of every aircraft, of which Fletcher Aviation owned about twenty to twenty-five over the summer. Grumman Tigers and Cheetahs, small, fast, four-place civilian light planes, and a couple of old twins, including a Piper Apache numbered “22 Kilo” – we said it stood for “22 Kamikaze”. I also had to wash planes, and was taught by the owner's son to crank them up, and taxi them over to the wash area. Wow! For a twelve-year-old, this was a whole of a lot of fun!

Clear! (crank, crank, crank, as that prop would start to spin) Rooooaaarrrrr!!!! Release the brakes and roll her into position. I got very, very good at taxiing, and could return the aircraft after washing to its designated parking spot with the nosewheel precisely on the parking number. Occasionally, I would get a secondary job like hand-waxing someone's airplane for a fee, and gladly did it.

All of this happened while Southwest would taxi by, and various business jets and so on. Now and then, an older and more interesting aircraft would go by, but no matter what it was, it sparked my interest enough to look up and see what it was.

I got to ride along on 100-hour checks, when the head mechanic and the owner's son would fly the planes to heat the oil up – couldn't just let it idle to do that, the planes were air-cooled and would overheat quickly that way. Those two guys were pretty ham-fisted on the stick, and we did some pretty exciting turns over Pearland and La Marque, once even doing a couple of faux gun passes at a Cessna.

I even got to fly left seat now and then... enough to where if the other two had suffered simultaneous disaster-movie-style cardiac events, I could have landed the plane safely. Flying is NOT hard... as long as you let the plane do the flying, and just coax it a little now and then when it needs it.



I remember a day when I got in, and was told by the receptionist, “walk out to the end of the flight line – there’s some sort of a fighter plane out there”. I hurriedly walked out there, and sitting on the end of the line, in all its unrestored but flyable glory, was... gasp... an honest-to-goodness, real-live two-seat trainer version Hawker Sea Fury.

Oh, my, it was glorious. It was also enormous. That huge engine, and FIVE-bladed prop. Those big, beefy tires and landing gear. Those gigantic wings, folded up vertically, aircraft carrier-style. Word was, it was on its way to California for a full-blown restoration, and that the owner was an old friend of Mr. Fletcher (a former Navy carrier pilot himself), and he had stopped overnight for gas, food, BS’ing with Mr. Fletcher, and sleep. It would be out of here in the morning, first thing.

Dutifully, I was there at sunup the next morning. The entire staff of Fletcher Aviation, and a few onlookers from other airport concerns were there as well, as the plane was gassed up, and the pilot did his preflight checks, with Mr. Fletcher in tow. Then, he climbed in, fiddled the switches, yelled “CLEAR” (nobody yells “contact”!), and fired up the big Centaurus radial. Blue smoke, flame, sputtering, the big five-blade starts turning, and I almost messed my shorts, I was so in love with this airplane. The wings slowly lowered into flying position... oh, it was so beautiful.

The roar of the Centaurus was felt as much as heard, and it was heard a lot. It was like a hammer thudding into my chest. The windows of the old terminal building rattled, and the Sea Fury slowly moved, majestically, then picked up a bit of taxi speed, and flicked its rudder back and forth. The pilot turned onto the taxiway, the five-blade prop blew bits of dust and gravel into our faces, he eased the throttle forward, and he was off on his way. What an experience to see this close up when you are a twelve-year-old airplane junkie! Or a fifty-seven-year-old one.

The first thing I did upon returning home was to head for the hobby shop, and purchase a 1/72 scale Sea Fury to build. I was a model nut way back then, and I was inspired.

Summer youth-time jobs! Worth every cent sometimes. This one certainly was.

**Rick**

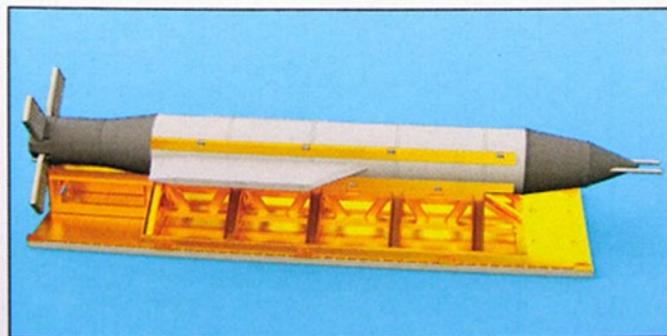


## GBU-43/B MOAB

by Ben Morton

*The website Deagel.com describes the MOAB as follows: the GBU-43/B, also known as Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB) or Mother Of All Bombs, is a 20,000-pound class bomb designed to hit large areas of enemy territory to achieve a terrifying psychological impact. It uses a GPS-based navigation system and a single blast-type warhead. The yield of this weapon is equivalent to 11-tons of TNT, obliterating an area of 200-250 meters radius.*

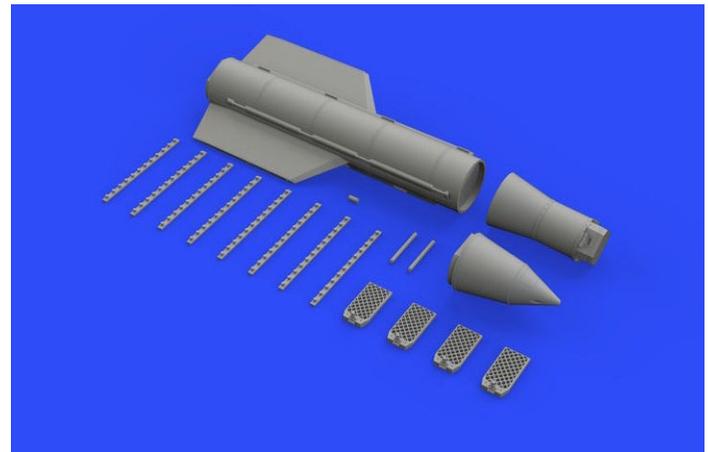
*The MOAB bomb was developed to be available for the Iraq campaign in 2003 (Operation Iraqi Freedom), but finally it was not deployed. It has been designed to be dropped by an MC-130 Combat Talon aircraft. The final developmental test was carried out on March 11, 2003. It was employed for the first time by the US Air Force to fight the Islamic State in Afghanistan on April 13, 2017.*



**GBU-43/B MOAB**

Scale **1/72**  
Item No. **672160**

When this weapon was used operationally in Afghanistan, video of the drop and explosion was all over the news. I kept thinking that somebody is going to release a kit of this beast before too long. That before too long has turned into now.

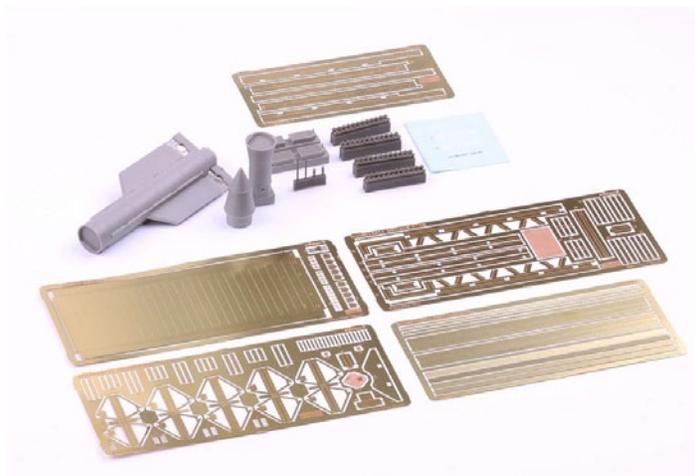
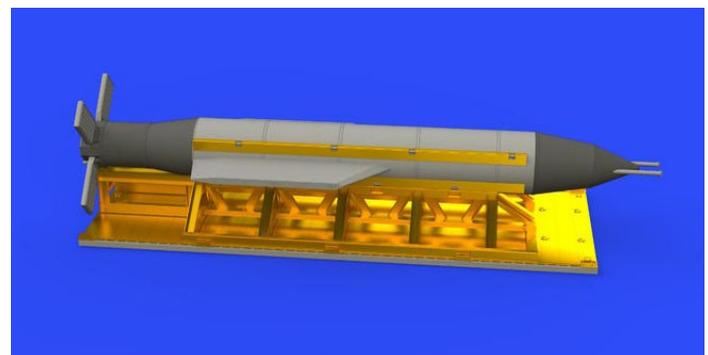
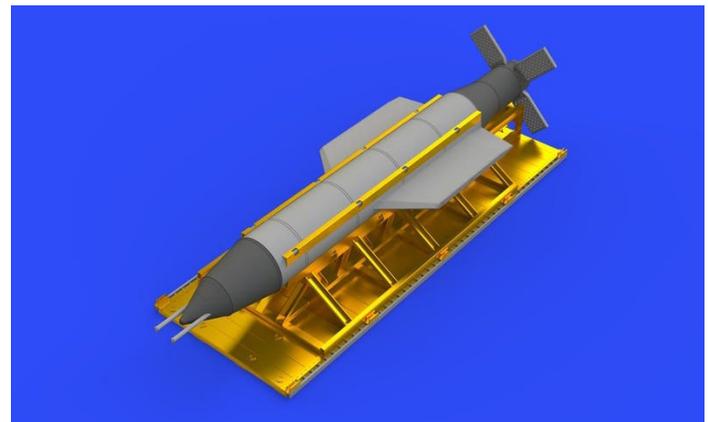


[Note: Eduard has released a 1/48th scale version of this kit. This review, however pertains only to the 1/72nd scale MOAB. After a cursory glance at the 1/48th scale assemble instructions, that kit looks to be a scaled-up version and not at all dissimilar from the its smaller brethren.]

A quick gander at either set of assembly instructions will give you an idea of where all that brass goes should you decide to add this kit to your collection.

<https://www.eduard.com/store/out/media/672160.pdf>

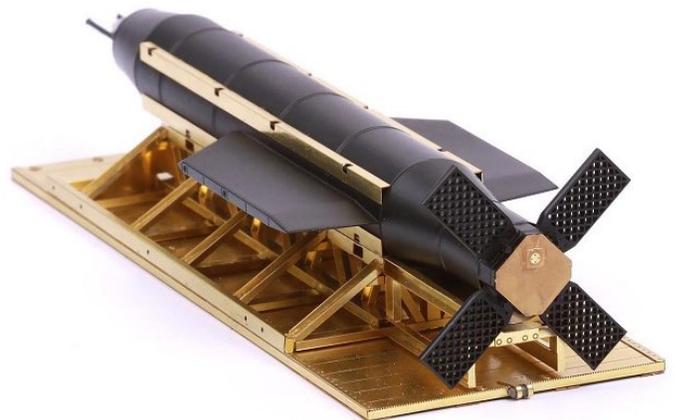
Our pals, Eduard in the Czech Republic, have come up with a 1/72nd scale model of the beast. Their 1/72nd scale MOAB kit contains eighteen resin parts and what looks to be an insane number (five sheets) of photo etch bits plus a small decal sheet. Most, if not all, of that brass is for the bomb cradle/transport platform that you can use to display this beast when finished.



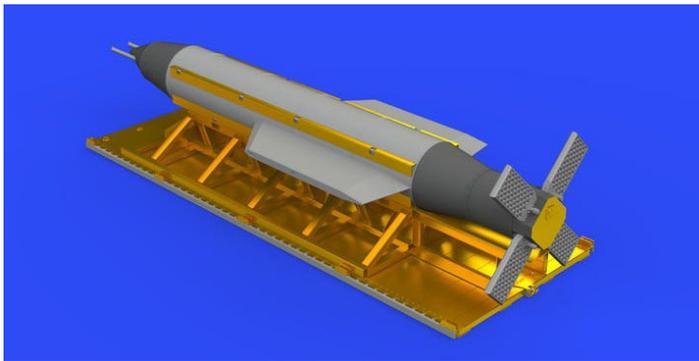
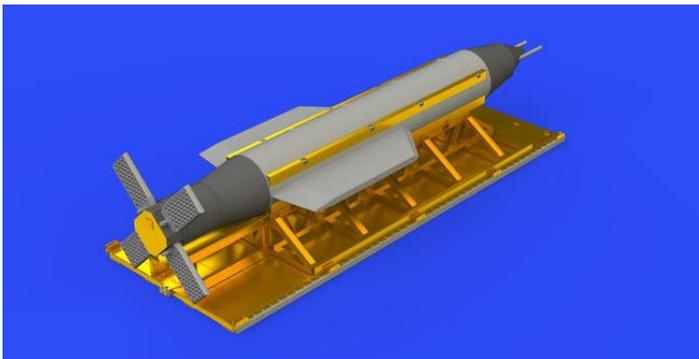


If you are new to folding and assembling photo-etched brass or just don't like the stuff, you may want to steer clear of this kit. While not particularly tricky to assemble, you may spend more time cutting and sanding the parts than you do on actual assembly, or at least I did. It seems to me that this release, is a tad over-engineered and is a more complicated than I would have preferred. It should also be noted that I have zero experience engineering a model kit or any working knowledge of the intricacies of using and/or manufacturing photo-etched brass as a modeling medium.

The transport/launch cradle is either silver or gun-metal gray.



This is pretty much an exact replica of the real thing so intricacies and detail are a must. Eduard's GBU-43/B MOAB will make a most interesting and satisfying addition to your collection once completed. One might even toy with the idea of a diorama featuring this kit with a MC-130H during loading, or launch.



Painting this beast is a snap, you either paint the bomb some shade of gray or go with the green and yellow version that is on display outside the Air Force Ordnance Museum. Operational weapons are gray. There are photos of an overall orange version so you could go with that if you wish. One might even put a shark mouth on this thing...just for grins.



My thanks to Eduard and IPMS/USA for the review copy. Bombs away!

Ben





## The Masochistic Modeler:

Episode III, The Brail Brisfit

by Ron McCracken



The British Bristol re-engined with a Liberty 8, assigned McCook Field number P-37, known as the USB-2, and flight tested between August and November of 1918. It was initially powered by Packard Exp. No. 5 and later re-engined with

The Bristol F2B “Brisfit” was a World War I two-seat fighter with a noteworthy combat record. For the Masochistic Modeler (MM) it was an attractive subject because it combined every imaginable difficulty in construction, especially if done in “brail scale” – 1/72nd.

First, The F2B is a two-bay biplane, meaning two sets of interplane struts on each side – hence double the rigging to be done. But even more painful, neither wing attaches directly to the fuselage. The fuselage is suspended midway between the wings on a spindly-looking series of short struts. Add the delicacy of working in 1/72 scale and you have all the makings of an excruciatingly painful build. Naturally, MM could not resist the challenge!

First, a bit of history. The Brisfit developed such an outstanding reputation that the U.S. Army Air Service selected it for development into no less than four aircraft– two fighters, a bomber, and an observation/reconnaissance aircraft. One of the fighter designs (USB-2) is the subject of this article.

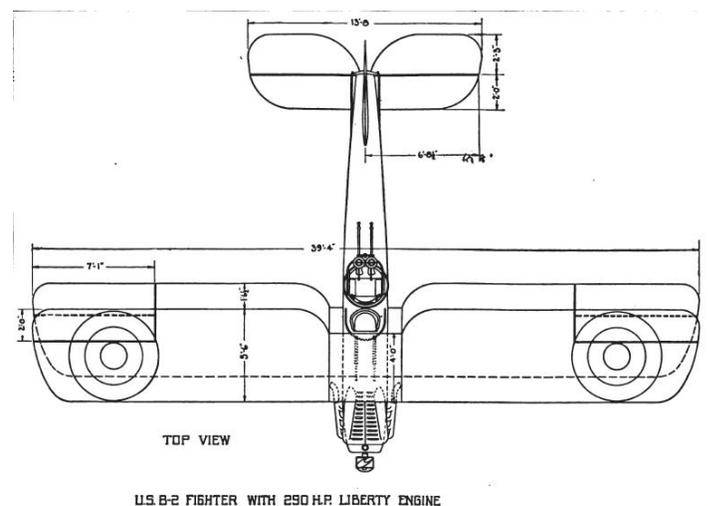
Two British-built F2B airframes were delivered to Wright Field, where the Engineering Division of the U.S. Army Air Service set about adapting them to American-produced engines for use as fighters. The USB-1 was adapted to the new Wright-Hispano

“H”. The USB-2 was adapted to the equally new Liberty L-8. Both power plants were eight-cylinder, water-cooled “V” engines. The Wright-Hispano was a license-built derivative of the Hispano-Suiza engine that powered the SPAD and SE-5, while the Liberty was an eight-cylinder version of the famous Liberty 12 engine that

powered American-built DH-4’s.

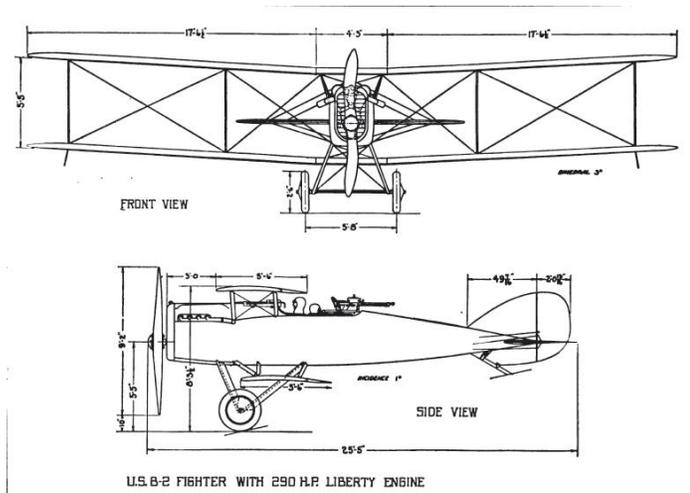
Because of early problems with both engines (basically, both vibrated so badly they nearly shook the airframe apart), only a single prototype of each was produced.

MM selected the best-available kit in 1/72 scale for this conversion – the Roden kit. As is typical of Roden biplane kits, the good news is the same as the bad news. The struts that connect everything





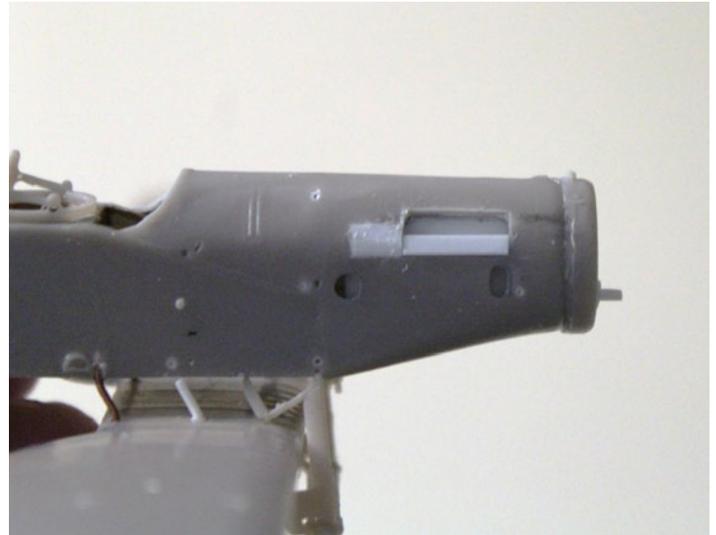
together are very delicately molded, which makes for an excellent finished model, a beastly challenge to get to that point, and an irresistible lure for MM. It took no time at all to conclude that trying to build the kit out-of-the-box would be a disaster. There was simply no way to stabilize all those tiny pieces of plastic into sufficient rigidity.



The solution chosen was to replace the aft pair of struts attaching the lower wing to the fuselage, and the forward cabane struts that attach the upper wing to the fuselage, with pieces of 24-gauge copper wire. MM drilled holes into the fuselage at the attachment points, and holes through the lower and upper wing at the opposite attachment points, and substituted over-long pieces of wire for the struts, CA-glued into the fuselage halves. When it became time to attach the lower wing, the wire struts were inserted through the wing, and once everything had been checked for proper alignment the struts were CA-glued to the wing. This provided a secure attachment with the structural strength needed to keep everything in place during subsequent assembly. Once the glue had set, the excess wire was cut off and the remaining stub filed flush with the underside of the wing.

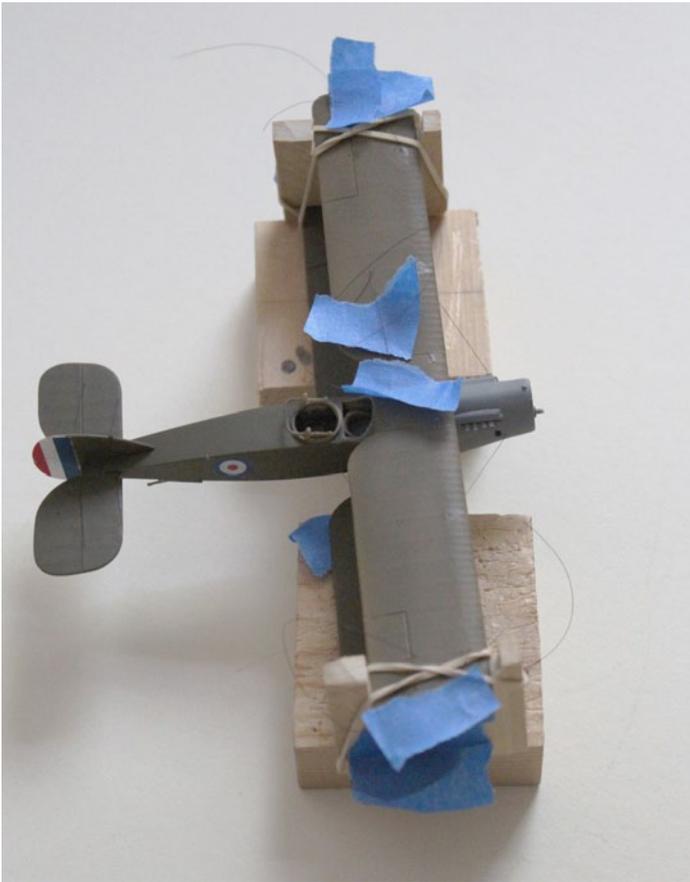
The only actual modification required to the kit was the same as that done to the actual aircraft – adapting it to the different power plant. The Roden kit is based on the F2B powered by the 12-cylinder Rolls-Royce Falcon engine. After consulting dimensional information for the Liberty L-8, I concluded the exhaust stack opening needed to be

reduced about 1/8 inch in length at the aft end and the opening relocated upward by 60 thousandths of an inch. Rather than scratch-build an L-8 engine, I elected to cement blanking plates behind the exhaust stack openings, to which stub exhaust stacks could be attached.

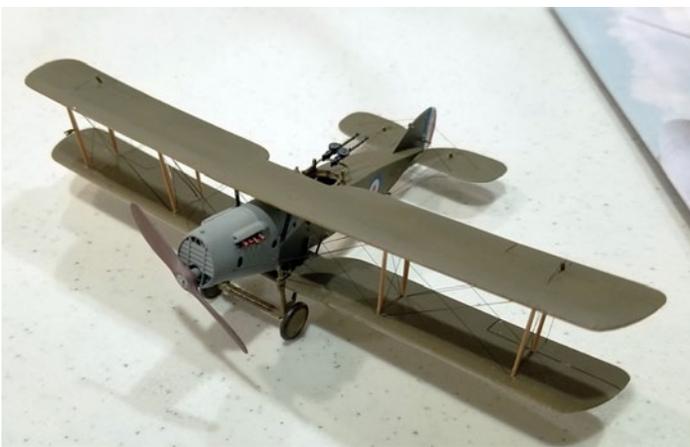


As for the length problem, I carefully cut away the exhaust fairing that overhangs the top of the opening and removed about 1/8 inch of its length. Then I squared the exhaust stack opening, filled in the aft 1/8 inch, cut the remaining opening .060" higher, and built the lower edge up with a piece of .060" square plastic. Finally, I re-attached the shortened fairing over the relocated opening. The photograph shows the Starboard fuselage half with the new exhaust opening roughed in, before reattaching the shortened fairing. Four equally-spaced stub exhaust stacks on each side complete the "conversion".





The next challenge was attaching the upper wing. Like the lower wing, the over-long cabane struts pass through the wing, to be secured with CA. The technique used to set the gap between wings was to make a pair of spacer blocks to fit between the wing tips and hold the wings at the correct gap and stagger while the struts were glued into place and the rigging secured. Two photographs show the spacer blocks, and the blocks in use during rigging.



MM's technique makes the rigging contribute rigidity and strength. Fine monofilament thread is

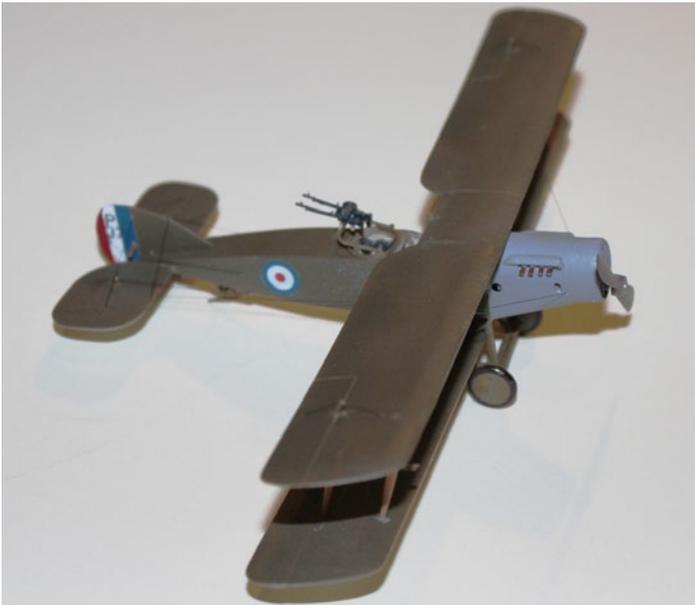
stretched through holes drilled right through the wings, and once the rigging is tight and the wings properly aligned, a dab of gap-filler CA in each drilled hole locks everything into place. Once the glue is cured, the spacers are removed.

The final build challenge are the control actuator wires, which largely run outside the fuselage. To facilitate rigging, MM cut the outer 1/64" off the control horns, and substituted a short piece of heat-stretched plastic tubing. This creates a hole in the end of the control horn through which the rigging can be stretched. It is actually far easier to do this way instead of trying to drill a hole through the actuator.



The only other deviation from an out-of-the-box build is the markings. As far as MM has been able to determine from the few photos available on the "web", no wing insignia were ever applied. The wings were finished in clear-doped linen below, and the U.S. equivalent of British "PC-10" on the topside. The fuselage evidently arrived from the Bristol plant finished in the usual British standard of PC-10 fabric, grey metal panels, with British roundels and rudder stripes— and so it remained.





The only thing, markings-wise, that reveals the USB-2 to be anything other than an F2B is the Wright Field "Project" number (P-37) stenciled on the rudder. That marking, with the "P" above the "37" was aligned to be parallel to the ground when the aircraft was resting on its landing gear. I mention this because what one normally expects to see is lettering running parallel with the aircraft fuselage in flight.



So, there you have it – a USAAS "Brisfit". An easy conversion of a most difficult kit, resulting in a one-of-a-kind model to baffle and bemuse your friends who consider themselves WW I experts.

Ron



- 03/24/2018 **RiverCon VII**  
Bossier Civic Center  
620 Benton Rd, Bossier City, LA, 71171  
Show Theme - "The Great War 1914-1918" - *or the War to End all Wars as a tribute to the 100th Anniversary of World War I.*  
Any subject from 28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918.  
[www.facebook.com/RiverConIPMS/](http://www.facebook.com/RiverConIPMS/)
- 04/07/2018 **Tiger Fest XXIV**  
St. Jerome Knights of Columbus Hall  
3310 Florida Ave., Kenner, LA, 70064  
Show Theme - "The End of WWI"  
[www.facebook.com/IPMSFlyingTigers/](http://www.facebook.com/IPMSFlyingTigers/)
- 04/14/2018 **TMF Contest and Show**  
Bixby Community Center  
211 N. Cabaniss, Bixby, OK 74008  
Show Theme - "The Fabulous Fifties"  
[www.tulsaipms.org/contest-2018](http://www.tulsaipms.org/contest-2018)
- 04/25/2018 **ModelMania 2018**  
Stafford Centre  
10505 Cash Rd, Stafford TX.  
Show Theme - "Bent, Busted, Rusted or Wounded"  
*Any subject depicting, damaged, repair, or in need of repair as well as injured or wounded figures.*  
[www.ipms-houston.org/?page\\_id=11](http://www.ipms-houston.org/?page_id=11)
- 06/02/2018 **ScaleFest 2018**  
Grapevine Convention Center  
1209 South Main Street Grapevine, Tx 76061  
Show Theme - "Between the Wars" [WWI 1919-1939 WWII]  
[www.ipmsnct.net/Scalefest.htm](http://www.ipmsnct.net/Scalefest.htm)
- 06/09/2018 **SoonerCon 2018**  
Council Road Baptist Church 7903 NW 30th Bethany  
Ok 73008  
Show Themes - "The Phabulos 50's"; "The Great War"  
[www.facebook.com/IPMSMETROOKLACITY/](http://www.facebook.com/IPMSMETROOKLACITY/)

### CLUB QUARTERLY CONTESTS:

**March**

**Open Contest**

**June**

**Procrastinator Contest (maybe July)**

**September**

**Bondo Contest**

**December**

**White Elephant Contest**



# On The TABLE

By **Flanged End Yoke**



Mike also brought in an armor piece. Mike built up AFV's 1/35th Wiesel and added a figure from Armor35.



Last month's meeting tables were full.

Let's start with Mike Lamm's 1/72 A-36 Apache by Brengun.



His 1/144 Eduard Mig 15 was a Cuban marked jewel in small scale.

Randy Bumgardner brought in his Hasegawa 1/72nd F4U completed buddy build.



He also shared with us his in-progress Hasegawa 1/200 737-7W.



Bob Bethea continued his run for most prolific modeler with several pieces. The first was two figures depicting the Battle of Hastings in 54mm. The mounted knight has a club because he was a member of the clergy and they were forbidden from using swords to kill men.



Bob brought in another clergy related scene. This one was depicting their introduction to the Vikings called "Fury of the Northmen" in 54mm. Bob garnered the coveted Model of the Month.

Bob shared some in progress German 1/35th DML figures



and a Dwarf also.

Ziggy Bumgardner our resident Gundam master shared his 1/100 Bandai RX-78 Gundam.



Ben Morton, our eclectic model reviewer and columnist brought in three pieces. The first was his completed Hasegawa 1/24th XJR-9.



The second model was a 1/72nd piece from Model-Collect: HEMTT with Pershing II missile.



Your Name: Ben Morton  
 Model: HEMTT w/ Pershing II  
 Manufacturer: Model Collect  
 Scale: 1/72



The third was a Dragon Models 1/35th V-2 with launch stand.

Tim Robb our resident awesome aircraft builder brought in his Monogram 1/48th F-4C with Car-Cal and Two Bobs decals.



Tim also brought in a working toy jet fighter as an example of vintage toys.



Ian Latham shared his 1/48th Hasegawa Hawker Hurricane Mk 1

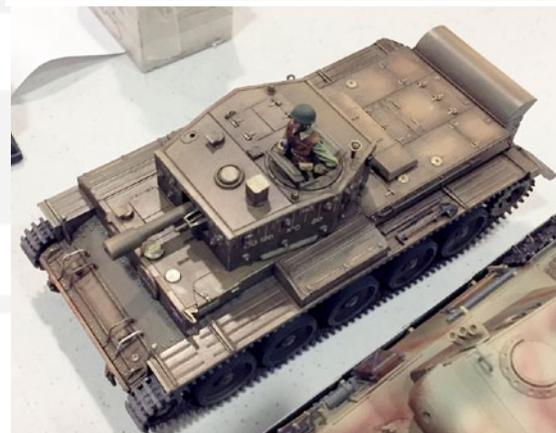


Keeping with the Hurricane theme Ian Candler brought in a Young 1/10th scale bust of an RAF pilot at Dunkirk. Looks a whole lot like Tom Hardy from the movie.



Ian also brought in a Teddy Roosevelt Rough Rider figure from Andrea,

a Tamiya 1/35th Kursk Panther,



and a British Crocodile in 1/35th .



Mike Gilsbach brought in his Piper Cherokee 140 a 1/48th offering from MiniCraft.



Mike K brought in his in progress 1/32nd F-35.



Alex Gashev brought in his completed T-37 by Hobby Boss in 1/35th scale.



Finally Dave Edgerly brought in a Rye Field M1A2 Sep with Legend stowage, a Bronco CWS (Commander's Weapon Station) and a scratch built mount for the CWS, and a Meng M2A3 Bradley. Dave tried out AK paints to finish his M1A2 beast.



Dave modified the Bradley to represent a BAE Systems technology demonstrator with robot & thermal sights and EOD tech.



Thanks everyone for sharing your work. See you at the next meeting.

Flanged





# OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

## Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

1/700

This month's 700th scale offerings are varied.

First up is Skywave's offering of the IJN Battleship Musashi. She's depicted as she was fitted out during the Battle of Leyte Gulf (1944) where she was sunk.



Trumpeter is releasing the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier CV-6.



Flyhawk is offering the British battleship HMS Prince of Wales. You can get a regular version and a deluxe version. The deluxe version comes with brass barrels, 3 sheets of photo etch and some resin bits. The ship is depicted as she was when she was sunk

along with HMS Repulse by Japanese air power.



Combrig has given us an unusual release in 700th this month. The Kosmonaut Yuri Gagarin Communi-



cation ship. This ship was launched to support the Soviet Space Program and facilitated communications with their space craft.

1/350

Only one release in 1/350th scale this month.





Zvezda is releasing a model of the Russian battleship Poltava. Poltava participated in the Russo-Japanese war.

1/35

1/35th scale seems to be the big winner this month. Italeri is issuing every MTB you didn't even know you wanted. First of the releases is the Italian M.A.S. 568 4a Serie torpedo boat.



Next is a British Motor Torpedo Boat (MTB) the Vosper 72" 6" MTB.



Another British release by Italeri is the Vosper MTB-74. This kit depicts a boat involved in the raid on St. Nazaire. If you don't know your naval history the raid by the British was to blow up the only dock big enough to hold and repair the German battleship Tirpitz. HMS Campbeltown an American lend lease destroyer was packed with explosives and crashed into the dry dock. The explosives were time delayed

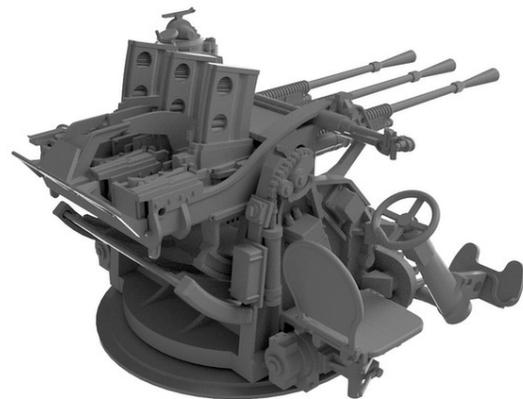


to go off after the Germans thought the raid was over.

Italeri has released a new Schnellboot. On the heels of their previously released S-100 comes an earlier version the S-38. The S-38 boats were the one's that wore varied camouflage schemes. There is no evidence that the boats after the S-38 series wore anything but Schnellboot Weiss (white).



Finally in 1/35th Pit Road has released a scale model of the triple barreled flak gun seen on most IJN warships. The IJN Type 96 25mm triple AA gun looks like a great kit.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit out of your stash and build it!

Rick





## The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

*I*t's March and the year is progressing quickly. We have a short one this month, so let's not waste any time and get to it!

First up, Fly Models will be releasing a 1/32nd scale Sukhoi Su-7 Fitter-A. No release date is given, and it's not on their website. However, they did post the notice on Facebook with an image of the box art. As more news is released, you'll be the second to know.



Next up, Lukgraph is releasing a 1/72 Albatros C.III for the Great War Modelers. No final release date has been announced yet. This is a limited edition resin kit, with markings for three airframes. One of the marking options will be a Polish aircraft, and the other two German aircraft. The marking options will include C766/16 "Dragonile" flown in 1916 on the Eastern Front.



MustHave! Models has just released a 1/48 Me 109/Ju 88 Mistel. This is a mixed media kit that includes plastic and resin bits. You can build two versions, one with the traditional Ju 88 greenhouse or the bomb-nose version of the Ju 88. It's a limited edition kit, so get it now while you still can...



We've saved the biggest for last. HpH Models, not known for their diminutive projects, or kits, have announced another Cold War Warrior project. They plan on producing a 1/48 Boeing B-52H Stratofortress, once they get enough firm commitments. Their target date for release is March 2019. The kit will be composed of the standard HpH fare: fiberglass main parts with resin bits, including clear resin parts, photoetch and other metal parts.





They are also offering the following extra accessories for the kit (for an extra fee, of course):

1. Complete maximum payload of "steel bombs" including their appropriate racks.
2. Complete maximum payload of ALCM cruise missiles including the internal rotary launcher and external racks.
3. A huge landing flaps kit (it is necessary to order this kit simultaneously with the B-52 kit in order to prepare the basic wing parts for the flap installation).

For more information, here is the URL: <http://www.hphmodels.cz/hph/b-52-stratofortress/?lang=en>.

Well, it was a short column this month, don't say I didn't warn you. Now, go build something!

Randy



## ASMS MEETING

Third Thursday each month

7:00pm - 8:45pm

at the

Old Quarry Branch Library

7051 Village Center Dr.

*Next meeting March 15th, 2018*

**No Reservations Necessary!**

### Monthly Meeting Presentations:

March .....	Ron McCracken
April .....	TBD
May .....	Randy Bumgardner
June .....	Jeff Forester
July .....	Bob Bethea
August .....	Dave Edgerly
September .....	Ian Candler
October .....	Milton Bell
November .....	Rick Herrington
December .....	Ian Latham



*Calling all Members!*

**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.



## It Figures

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings figure fans, let's jump right in shall we?

Model Cellar has some new 1/35 scale WW1 Germans sculpted by Mike Good that look, well, good :



they run \$18 individually or \$33 for the set, more info here: <https://modelcellar.com/>

Staying on the WW1 front Tommy's war has a new set sculpted by the master Nino Pizzichemi "Passchendaele". More info here: <https://tommyswar.co.uk/>



Aradia has another weird one out, an Orc Pirate that can also be a shark man. You get both heads with the figure.

Purchase direct from here: <http://aradiaminiatures.com/index.php>





Qing Yi miniatures has an American Special Operations figure that would look great in a diorama, I can't find a place to buy it yet but I'll continue the search.

Finally from Bonapartes Military models we have a spectacular mounted knight, with lots of space perfect for displaying your freehand skills.



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



Till next time!

Aaron





## Tracked Topics

By Aaron Smischney

*H*ello armor fans and armor curious folks!

Tamiya announced an ALL NEW late model Stuart at the Nurnberg toy show and it looks superb! This shares NO PARTS with the ancient malformed 70's Stuart.



From the photos I have seen posted online this is an all new tool. The hull will be “flat pack” like most of their recent tank releases. I have built a few of these flat pack Tamiya hulls and I want to tell you their engineering is outstanding, the end results are square and solid. I am sure this little Stuart will fall right together! For ease of build it also includes rubber band tracks. Now I am not a huge fan of rubber band tracks and was hoping they would do link and length, but I'll live.

Markings are included for both American versions and Soviet lend-lease tanks. It seems like Tamiya is doing a ton of lend lease variants lately as every tank in recent memory has come with Cyrillic slogans and red stars. This one should be hitting our shores soon!

On the subject of tracks Wolfpack is coming out with some 1/35th sets for the Panzer 3 and 4:

**German Panzer III/IV Track 2**  
(40cm Track for Pz.Kpfw. III/IV 1943~1945)

**1/35 Scale**  
WP12004

- 1/35th Scale Track Series No.4
- for Expert modellers
- Track for Pz III/IV Variations after 1943
- Total 216 Links included

**Wolfpack**  
www.wolfpack-d.com

Cooperated with **DEF.MODEL**

Photos by Matthew Long

- Sd.Kfz.171 PzKpfw IV Ausf.H/J
- Pz.Bef.Wg. IV Ausf.J
- Flakpanzer IV
- Sd.Kfz.166 Sturmpanzer IV (Mid. Production)
- Sd.Kfz.162 Jagdpanzer IV
- Sd.Kfz.142 Sturmgeschütz III Ausf.G (Late Production)
- Sd.Kfz.167 Sturmgeschütz IV

I have their earlier releases of the Merkava and Magach (IDF tank) tracks and they are not only extremely detailed and well engineered. they are very reasonably priced. The IDF tracks can be had for around \$15 which is a steal compared to metal tracks, and you won't have to stab yourself with wire to get these to go together. The IDF tracks are workable and rumor is that these will be as well, with click construction. If you are building a tank that comes with bad tracks OR you need tracks for improvised armor these would be a perfect choice. The only downside is that they sell out fast! Next up Takom is continuing its onslaught of M3 Lees with a new Mid version:

WW II MILITARY MINIATURES SERIES SCALE 1:35

**MiniArt**

35279 M3A5 Lee

35282 Grant Mk. II

35209 M3 Lee Mid Prod. Interior Kit

35276 M3 Grant Mk.I

35287 Australian M3 Lee

35217 M3 Grant Mk.I Interior Kit

35214 M3 Lee Late Prod.

35270 British M3 Lee.

35206 M3 Lee Early Prod. Interior Kit

**NEW**  
**LEE/GRANT FAMILY**

Don't forget that Mini-Art will also be flooding the market with M3 family tanks.



I know i have been wanting a new-tool Lee for a long time, and some have been waiting for longer than I have breathed air. Now we are overloaded with choice!

It's a little slow this month on new kit releases, so here are some bonus releases coming soon.

Black Dog makes some really nice diorama/ bases for use with 1/35 and 1/72 scale tanks and figures and their new releases look really awesome and would be the perfect way to make your next project stand out.



First up in 1/72 is a Pacific bunker.



Next is a 1/72 European ruin.

**House ruin (Europe) N°2 base (150x90 mm) 1/72 cat.n.: D72048**

**Warning:** Not recommended for children under 14.  
**Upozornění:** Výrobek není určen dětem mladším 14 let.

painted by Martin Viček

Lots of great detail here, maybe a Russian JS-2 rumbling down the street and hide a German crew with a Panzerfaust in that upper floor?

On the 1/35 scale front they have a corner base for figures, this looks like it would work great for a post-apocalyptic or middle eastern war vignette.

**Corner base (70x70 mm) 1/35 cat.n.: FD017**

**Warning:** Not recommended for children under 14.  
**Upozornění:** Výrobek není určen dětem mladším 14 let.

master & painted by Martin Viček

AK interactive has some new products for dioramas and banging up your shiny models with mud and dirt:

Here is a new product “Neutral Protection”. Supposedly this stuff will preserve real plants, you soak your natural leaves in it and it supposedly eliminates the chlorophyll which can damage paint as it off gases.





Next is a texture product to re-create moss:



How about some dried grass? This one piques my interest

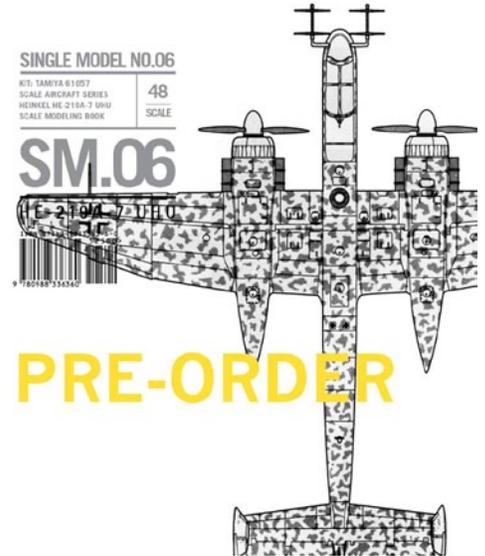


The star of the bunch to me has to be the resin ice, the results look great!



What use are all of these great models and paint products if we don't put them all together? If you need some help figuring that part out Rinaldi is the man! He has some great tutorials and techniques that will really improve your quality. He has some new books coming out in his single model series.. These small-ish size books follow finishing a model soup-to-nuts and he carefully explains each step. If you ever wanted to try the hairspray technique he is the go-to for technique.

Looks like one of them is on an airplane! YES the shiny planes will soon join us armor folk playing in the mud.



These smaller size books are very well priced at \$12 each, but are on sale for \$9 if you pre-order. The technique guides are for sure on my reading list! You can find these and much more on his web-site: <https://www.rinaldistudiopress.com/>



Those are my highlights! See you next time!





## Sundries

By Golzar Shahrzàd

Our first item up for bid has little to do with plastic scale modeling but I found them too cute to ignore.

Johnny Lighting is a company that manufactures die-cast cars and trucks, mostly in 1/64th. These items are geared toward collectors and as such tend to be things that are all the rage. Case in point is a new series of pick-up trucks with tiny houses in tow.



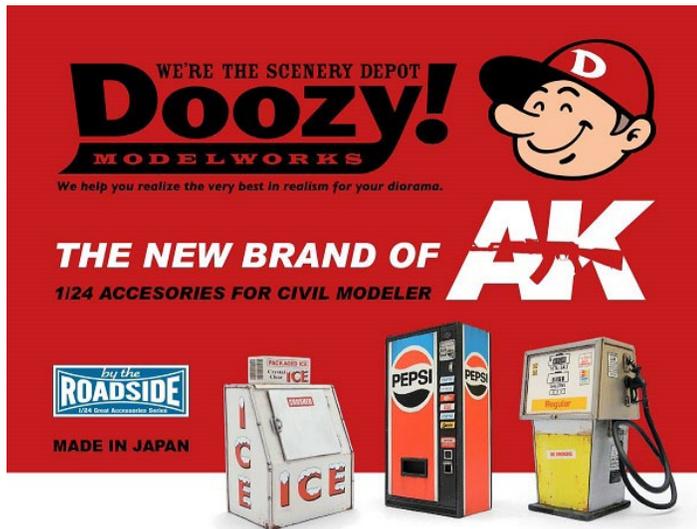
If you missed the tiny house thing here is your chance to be hip and happening in one fell swoop. Johnny Lighting has a Dodge RAM, Ford F-250, or a Chevy Silverado towing your very own tiny house. Just imagine yourself tooling down the road in these beauties and living in less than four hundred square feet. You might need another tiny house just for your model collection.



In other automotive news let's turn to Model Factory Hiro. Among their more recent offerings is a couple of 1/9th scale Harley Davidson and Vincent motorcycles. Model Factory Hiro has both a 1940 and 1947 HD Knucklehead for your enjoyment. If you couple that with the dual release of a 1950 Vincent you'll have a wonderful collection of vintage motorcycles. The Vincent comes as either the Black Shadow or White Shadow. All these motorcycle kits can had for a pittance of the current market value of the real thing.



In the new to me category, our pals at AK Interactive have a series, Doozy Modelworks, of resin accessory bits. They are offering vintage gas pumps, fire hydrants, and various vending machines all in 1/24th scale. Check their website for a complete listing of these Doozys.



about to board a bus, and two different truck drivers. You might be hard pressed to envision the female travelers at a bus station or the hunky looking driver on the open road but then you'd be missing the point of these new figures from Masterbox. These figures seem to be part of the growing trend of designing /sculpting figures from the artwork, instead of the other way round. Not that I won't be sending off for some.



<https://ak-interactive.com/product-category/doozy/>

One final note on new automobile model kits is an offering from Tamiya. They are adding to their 1/20th scale Formula One line with the Ferrari SF70H. This kit is the version of this car that Sebastian Vettel drove to a first place finish at the Australian Grand Prix in 2017. The all plastic kit has 154 parts(molded in red, black, and white), painting masks for the car body, press-on letters for the tire badges, and some cool metallic stickers for the rear view mirrors. It also looks really cool just sitting there. Stay tuned for a complete review in a forthcoming issue of The Sprue Examiner.



Masterbox has been cranking out some 1/24th scale figure kits of late, their latest being the Trucker Series. This is actually three separate boxing. One has two female traveling companions



Platz, in association with Asuka, is producing an injected molded kit of a multi-turreted tank from Daydream Note by Hayao Miyazaki. Hayao Mikazaki directed Castle in the Sky, Ponyo, and Princess Mononoke, among other notable animation films. He also contributed some of his Manga drawings and artwork to Model Graphix magazine, one that included this tank.



The 1/72nd scale kit also features a figure of Akuyaku Colonel. The Colonel may be assembled in two different poses.



Meng Models has two new offerings to the world of Egg/Cartoon models. This time they are offering a cartoon ship of the WWII German Scharnhorst and a World War Toons German Pz.Kpfw. V Panther. Don't overlook these models, they are fun and easy to build (the Scharnhorst is molded in color and snap-fit). No word, as yet, whether or not wooden decks and photo-etch will be available for the Scharnhorst but you will need to supply your own seagulls. Sorry to report that the Panther tank does not come with zimmerit.



If you kinda wanted to get the 1/35th scale release from Takom of the Hanomag SS100 with Meillerwagen and V2 rocket and thought that there just wasn't ever going to be enough room in the display cabinet, then your prayers have been answered. Takom has downsized the whole thing to 1/72nd scale and it should be available soon. No more excuses.



Go build the your model.

Golzar



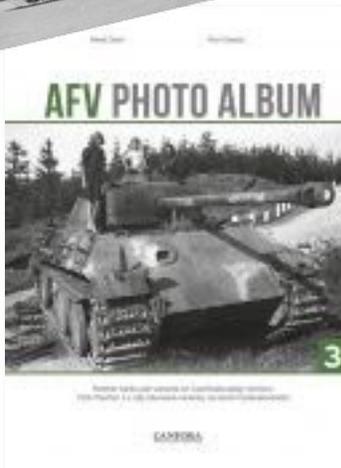
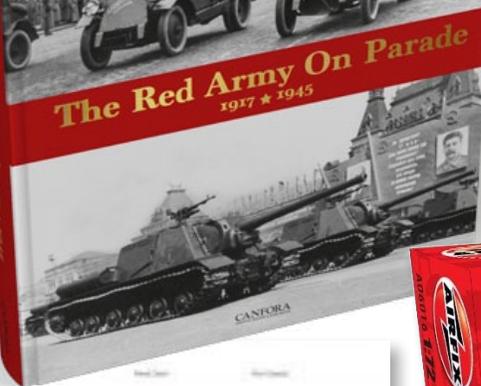
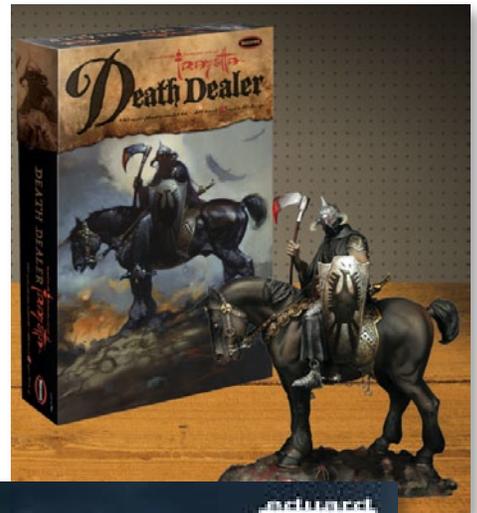


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IPMS/USA is dedicated to the hobby (and fun) of Scale Modeling. It was started by Jim Sage, of Dallas, Texas, in 1964. There are now branches of IPMS all over the world. Our Local Regions and Chapters sponsor Model shows and contests every year, but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

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

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