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MAGAZINE**
INTERNATIONAL

**ISSUE
334**
August 2023
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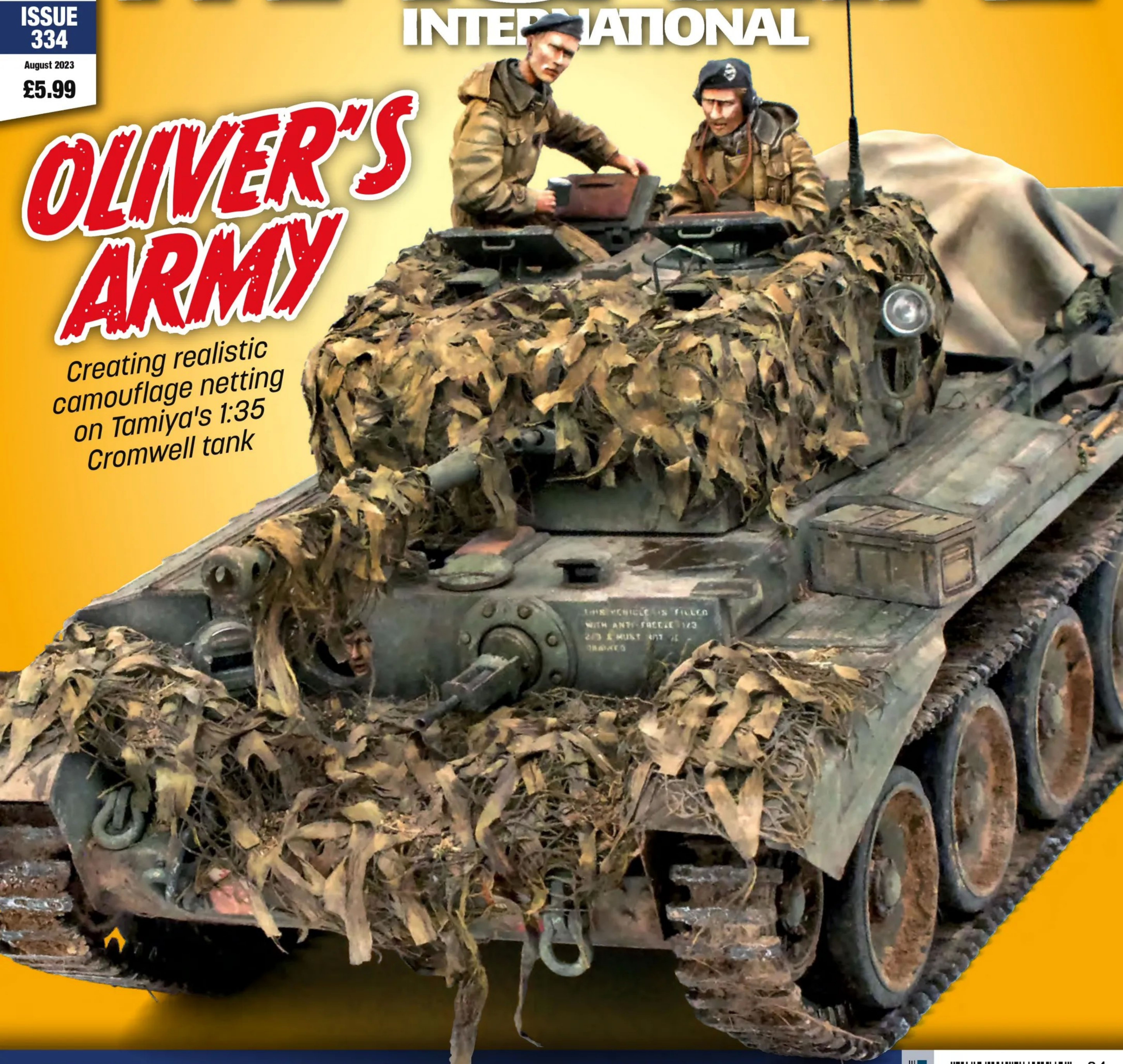
Model MAGAZINE

INTERNATIONAL

**I WAS
PROBABLY A
LITTLE TOO LOW...**
An amazing
Dambusters
diorama in 1:32!

OLIVER'S ARMY

Creating realistic
camouflage netting
on Tamiya's 1:35
Cromwell tank



INSIDE

Shizuoka Hobby Show Part Two, ICM 1:48 B-26K Counter-Invader, plus new kits, books and modelling accessories...

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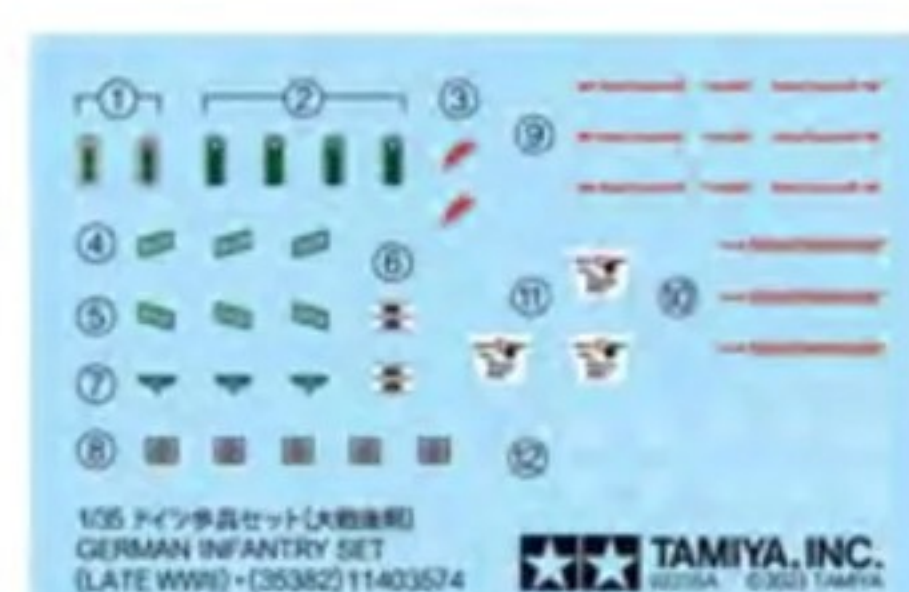
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Infantry to the Front!

1/35 Military Miniature Series

German Infantry Set (Late WWII) (Item 35382)

This detailed figure assembly kit set recreates German infantry from the latter stages of WWII, when German fortunes had begun to wane. Soldiers are artfully recreated in 1/35 scale, with the basic late-war uniforms including camouflaged ponchos. Ingenious parts breakdowns ensure a really satisfying end result while keeping the paint job relatively simple for modelers, and there are plenty of accessories in the kit to add even further life to your creations. Why not pair them with our new Panzer IV/70(A), or another model from our range of late WWII German vehicle kits, making your own dramatic diorama?



Insignia decals are included.

Actual size ▶

★A wide variety of accessories will liven up your creation!



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★Choose mine or stick grenade for this soldier.

★Accessories fit naturally to the figure contours.

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Tamiya Color Enamel Paints (XF) / Tamiya Color Lacquer Paints (LP)
●XF-65 Field grey ●XF-57/LP-75 Buff
●XF-15/LP-66 Flat flesh



1/35 German Panzer IV/70(A)
(Item 35381)



1/35 German Jagdpanzer IV /70(V)
Lang (Item 35340)



1/35 German Tank Destroyer Hetzer
Mid Production (Item 35285)



1/35 Mtl.SPW Sd.Kfz.251/1 Ausf.D
(Item 35195)



1/35 German Infantry Set (Mid-WWII)
(Item 35371)



1/35 German Front-Line Infantrymen
(Item 35196)

1/35 SCALE MILITARY MINIATURE SERIES

From our brand-new Panzer IV/70(A) to classic Lang and Hetzer model kits, there are plenty of 1/35 scale partners for this set, not to mention a range of other German WWII figure sets. Let your imagination go!

★Images show assembled and painted kit.
★Products may vary from images shown.

Check Tamiya's homepage for the latest releases! www.tamiya.com





COVER STORY

28 OLIVER'S ARMY

How to create realistic camo nets for Tamiya's 1:35 Cromwell



36 I WAS PROBABLY A LITTLE TOO LOW...

One of the most extraordinary 'miniature' depictions of a WW2 exploit TMMI has ever seen



6 IT'S SHOWTIME IN SHIZUOKA AGAIN!, PART TWO

TMMI's second report from the Shizuoka Hobby Show

Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL

Issue 334 August 2023

EDITOR Marcus Nicholls
editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

Contents

- 4 NEWS DESK**
New kits and model product news
- 18 RISING STAR**
Converting Tamiya's 1:12 RC213V the 'Estrella Galicia 00' sponsored-machine
- 26 THIRTY YEARS OF FIREBLADE**
Tamiya's second version of the Honda CBR1000RR-R Fireblade SP, previewed
- 46 NEW RELEASES ACCESSORIES**
New and recently issued modelling accessories
- 50 NEW RELEASES KITS**
New model kits reviewed
- 54 VIETNAM WAR DARK-OPS**
Building ICM's 1:48 B-26K Counter Invader with Eduard photo-etch
- 60 BOOK REVIEWS**
New and recent books related to scale modelling
- 64 CONTACTS**
Where to buy the products used and reviewed in TMMI
- 66 THE EDITOR'S PAGE**
Shizuoka City flea market!



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Subscription rates for 1 year (12 issues) are:
Within UK: £55, Europe: £69, Worldwide/USA: £84

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IN BRIEF...



TAMIYA

- 1:10 RC Toyota Land Cruiser 40
- 1:10 RC 2002 Mercedes-Benz CLK AMG Racing Version (Silver Painted Body)
- 1:10 RC 2003 Ford Focus RS Custom (TT-02)
- 1:35 Chasmosaurus Diorama Set
- 1:35 Parasaurolophus Diorama Set
- 1:35 Triceratops Eurycephalus
- 1:35 Stegosaurus Stenops
- 1:35 Tyrannosaurus Rex
- 1:35 Pteranodon
- Modeler's Knife (Blue)
- Bipedal Walking Robot
- Walking & Swimming Duck
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Car Dimension Checker
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Thunder Shot Mk.II Clear Special (Polycarbonate Body)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Manta Ray Mk.II Black Special
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Raikiri Pink Special (Polycarbonate body, MS Chassis)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Neo-Tridagger ZMC Carbon Special (Super-II Chassis)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Neo-VQS (VZ) Advanced Pack
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Super Avante Jr. Black Special (VZ)

hobbyco.net



AIRFIX

- 1:72 Auster Antarctic
- 1:72 Messerschmitt Bf110E Trop
- 1:72 Messerschmitt Me262A-1a/2a
- 1:72 DeHavilland Vampire FB.5/FB.9

airfix.com

EDUARD

- 1:48 Bf110C ProfiPACK
- 1:48 Z-326 Trenér Master ProfiPACK

creativemodels.co.uk eduard.com



REVELL

- 1:32 Bell AH-1G Cobra
- 1:48 Gift Set Northrop F-89 Scorpion 75th Anniversary
- 1:72 Gift Set Berlin Airlift 75th Anniversary (C-54D)
- 1:72 Model Set Leopard 2A6-A6M
- 1:24 Model Set Land Rover Series III LWB (Commercial)
- 1:25 Model Set '71 Oldsmobile 442
- 1:144 Razor Crest The Mandalorian (Bandai)

revell.de



COMING BACK FROM TAMIYA! 1:12 Honda Turbo

The Honda CX500 Turbo was quite something back in its day and Tamiya's fabulous 1982 is due back soon.
www.hobbyco.net

COMING BACK FROM TAMIYA! 1:12 Big Series Lotus

The classic Team Lotus Type 72D 1972 is on its way back from Tamiya, so we can enjoy some serious F1 modelling again.
www.hobbyco.net



NEW FROM TAMIYA Diorama Texture Clay

This useful new material will make the creation of earth and soil in dioramas easier than ever!
Soil Effect, Dark Brown 150g, Soil Effect, Dark Earth 150g
www.hobbyco.net

COMING BACK FROM AIRFIX! 1:72 Folland Gnat

Airfix's 1:72 Gnat T.1 is a tiny little gem of a kit and is on its way back to the model shop shelves.
www.airfix.com



COMING BACK FROM TAMIYA! 1:10 RC Buggy Champ

This absolute classic from Tamiya's 1:10 radio control line can be enjoyed all over again, thanks to a forthcoming relaunch.
www.hobbyco.net





NEW FROM SPECIAL HOBBY Detail sets in resin and photo-etched brass

New from Special Hobby in 1:32 is a German WWII maintenance toolbox and replacement wheels for Revell's recent 1:32 Hurricane. In 1:35 we have a WW2 US M1 bazooka, M18 57mm Recoilless Rifle, AK-74MN (X2) and an MG42 early variant (x2). Finally, in 1:48 we have resin and PE seats for HK Models and other B-25 models.

www.specialhobby.eu



NEW FROM AK INTERACTIVE 1:35 Land Rover 88

This is an all-new 1:35 kit of the iconic Land Rover Series IIA and it is a stunning production - more details next issue.

www.ak-interactive.com

NEW FROM EDUARD 1:35 CH-54 masks

Created for ICM's incredible 1:35 CH-54 Skycrane kit, these masks will help greatly in the painting of the canopy frames

www.creativemodels.co.uk

www.eduard.com



COMING SOON FROM ICM 1:35 Ukrainian MRAP

In 1:35, ICM are soon to release the 'Kozak-2' Ukrainian MRAP-class, Armoured Vehicle, a very topical subject.

www.icm.ua.com www.hannants.co.uk



COMING SOON FROM REVELL 1:24 N1 Starfighter

Here we can see some test shots of Revell's forthcoming 1:24 kit of the Star Wars N1 Starfighter with lots of cool detail! More news soon.

www.revell.de



ERRATUM

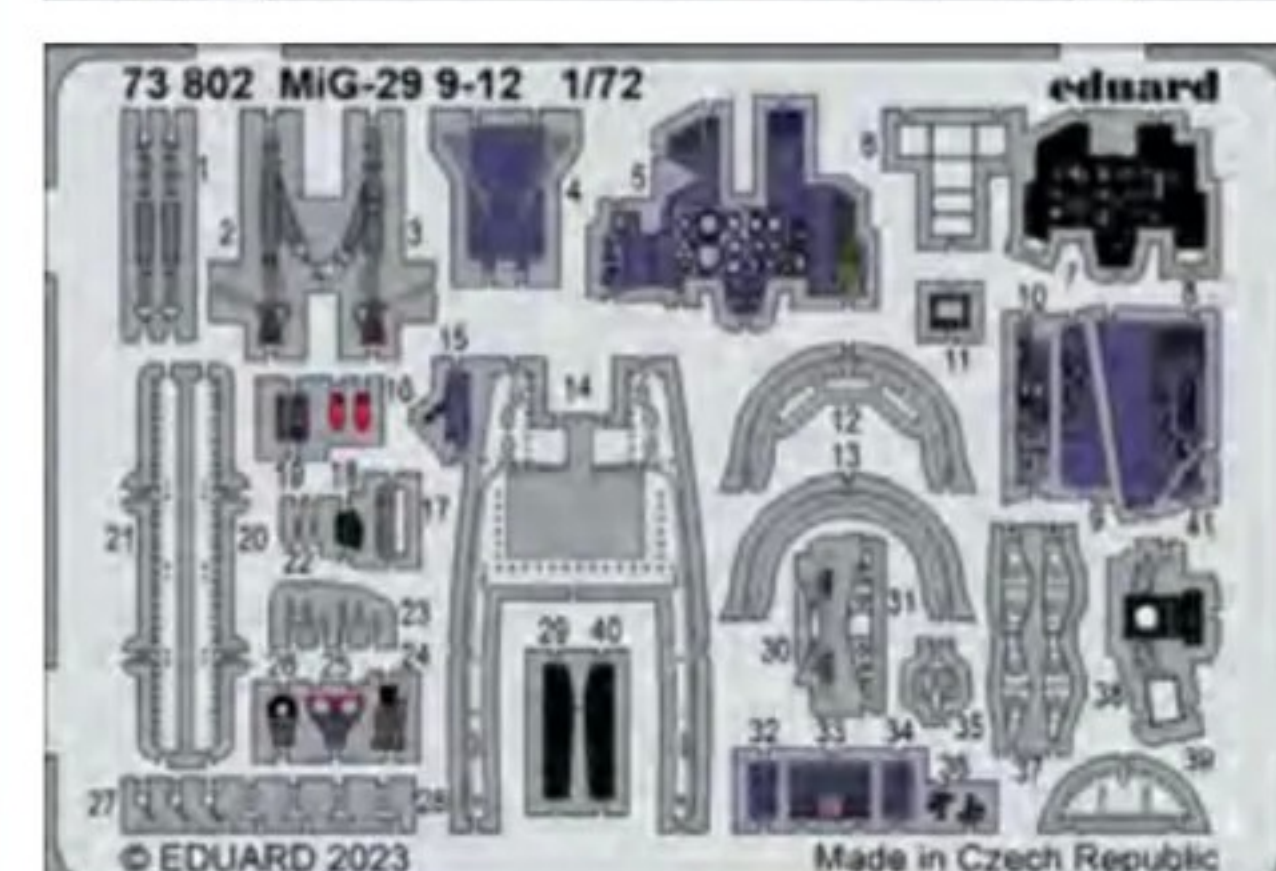
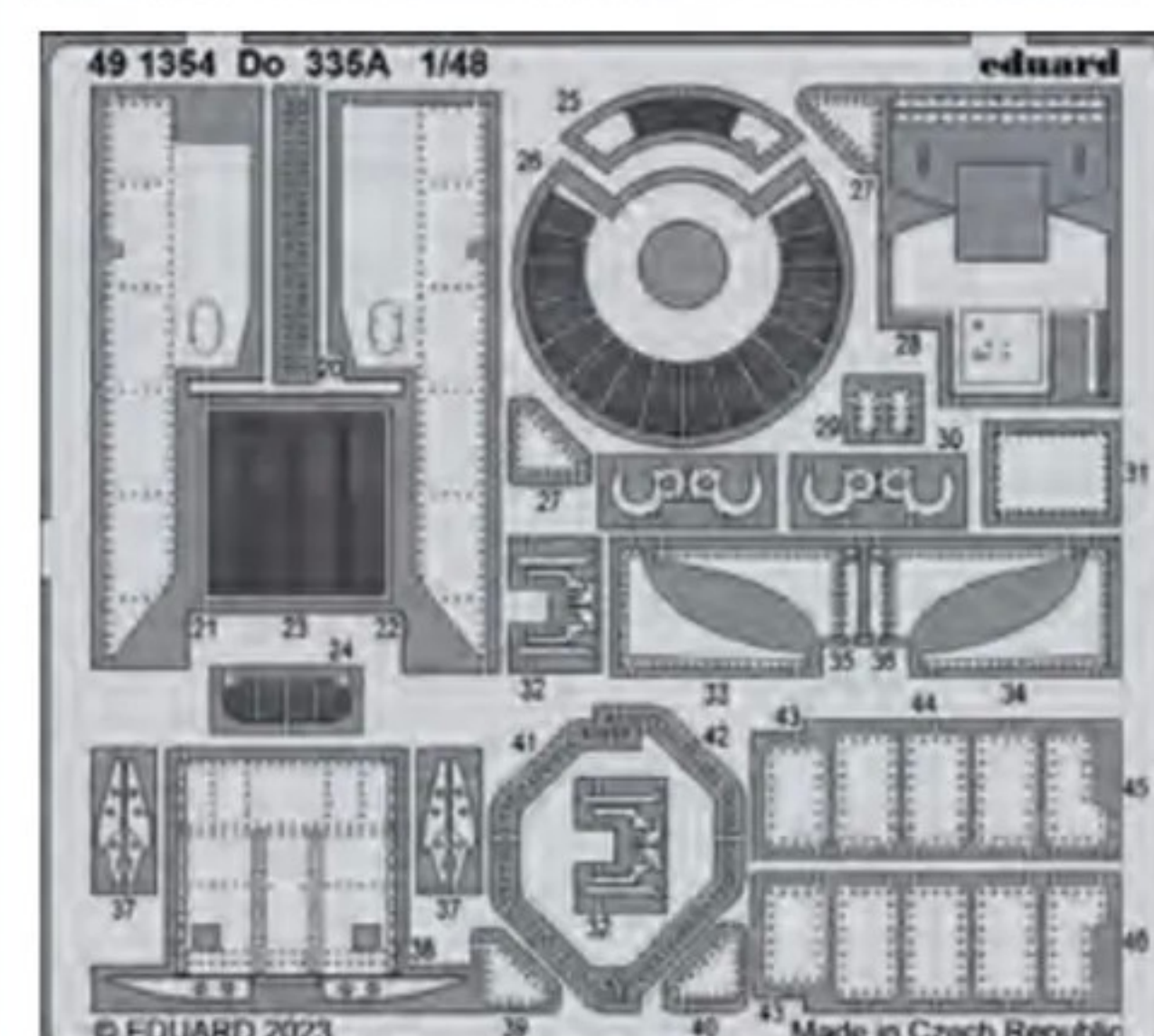
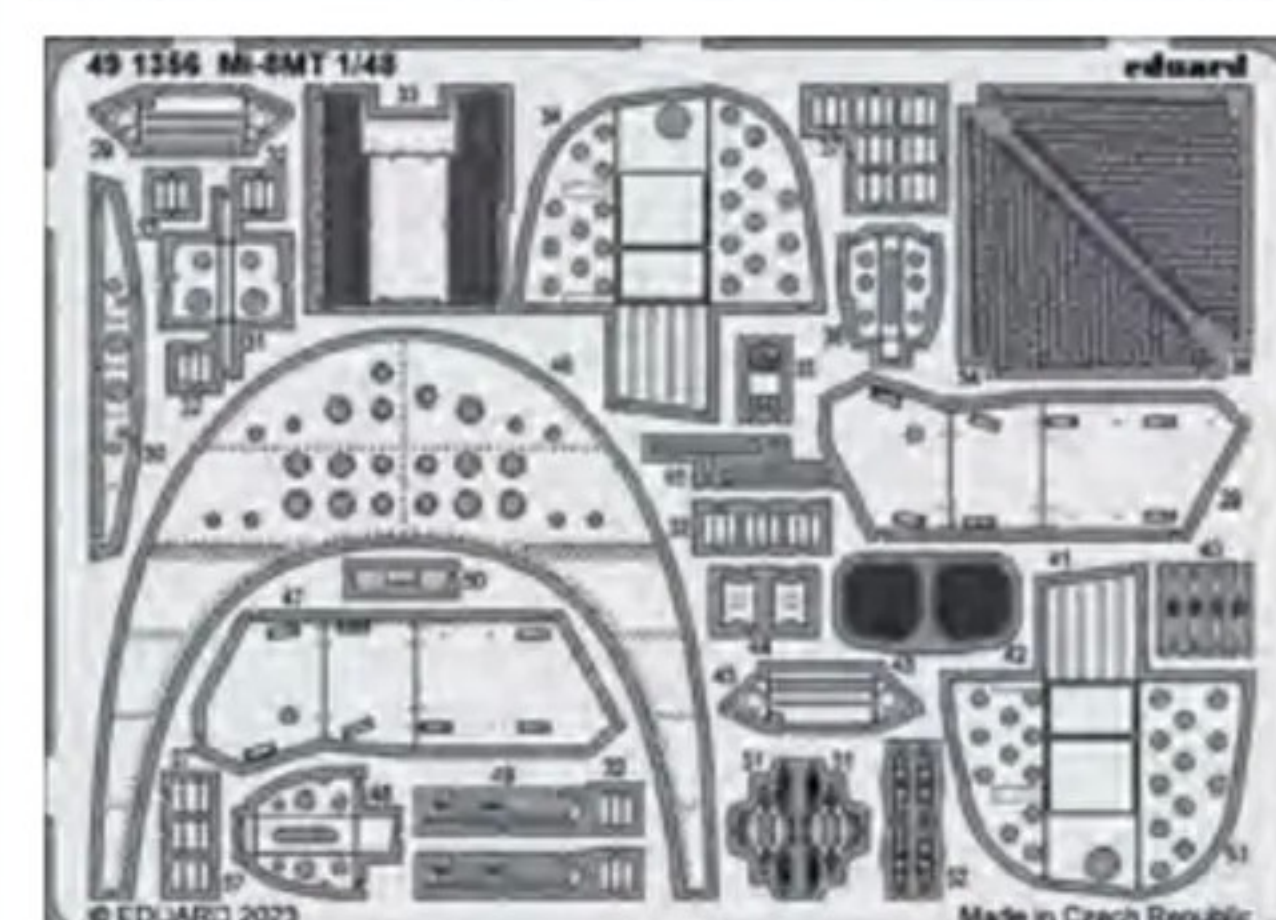
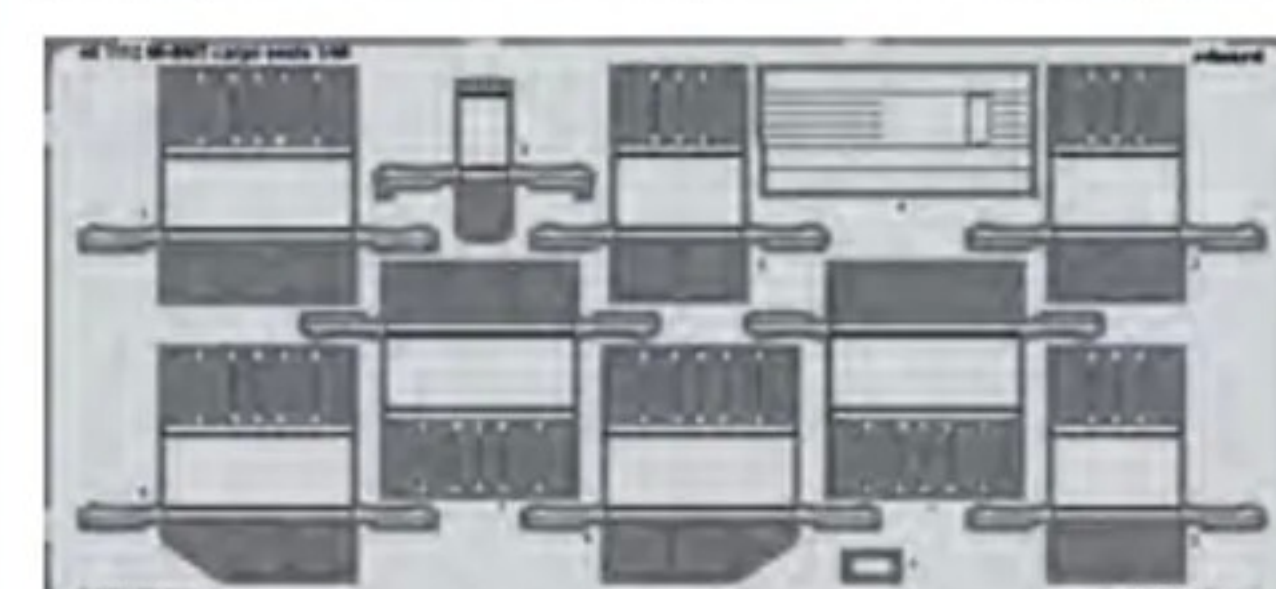
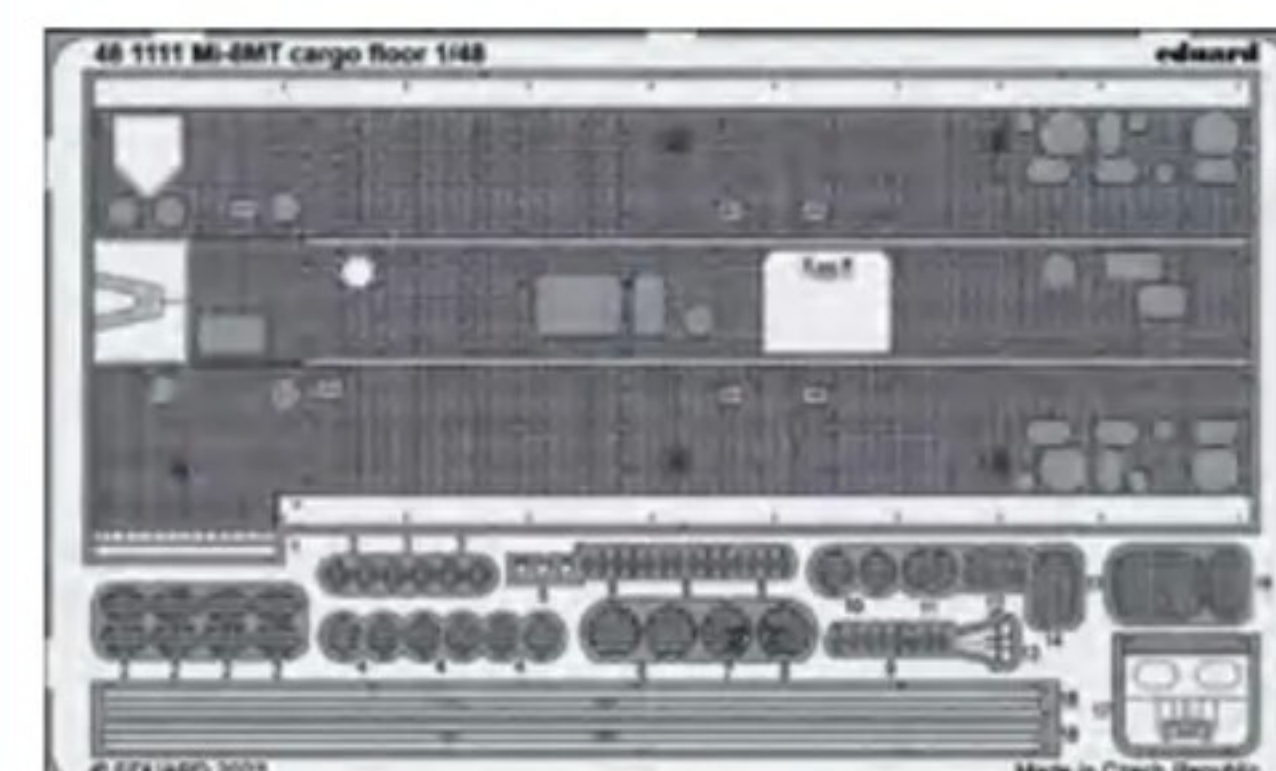
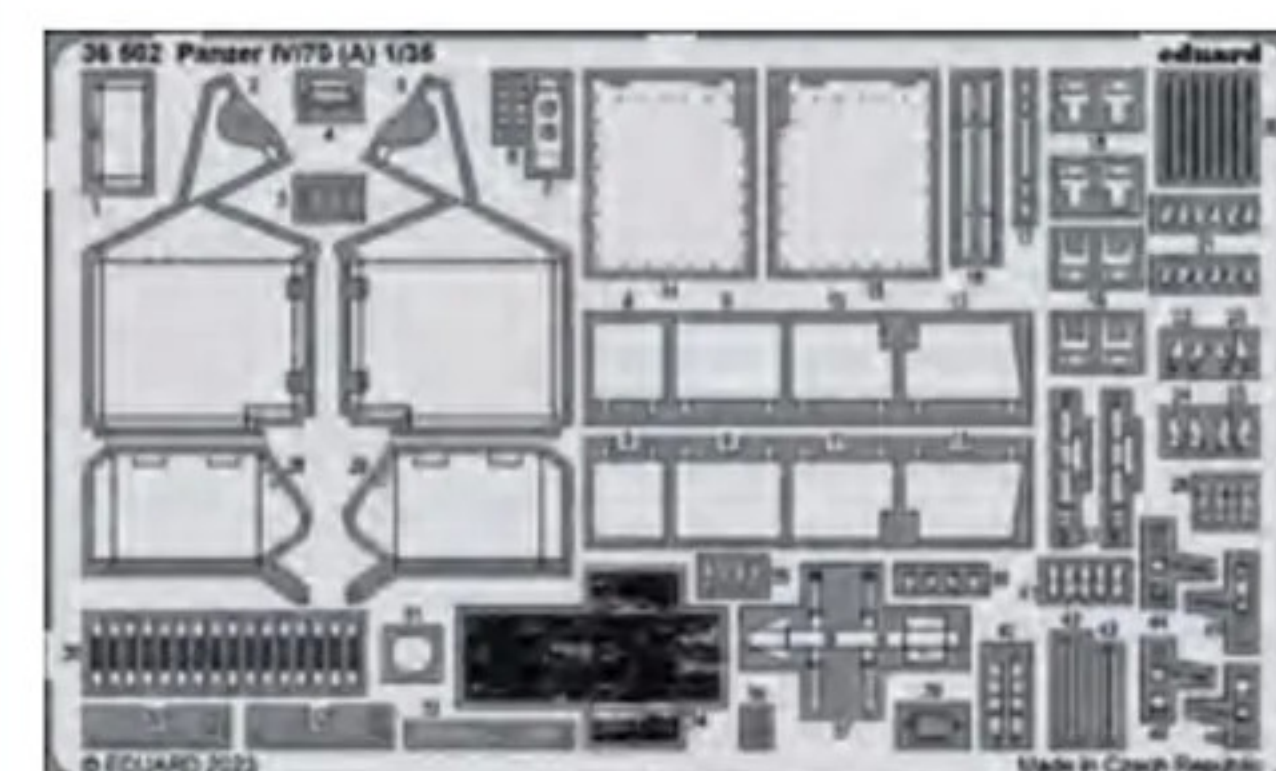
In last issue's Kit Preview on the Tamiya 1:72 F-35A Lightning II, we incorrectly stated the item number as 607921 when it should have read 60792. Apologies for any confusion caused.



COMING SOON FROM EDUARD

- 1:35 Panzer IV/70A (for Tamiya)
- 1:72 MiG-29 9-12 (for Great Wall Hobby)
- 1:48 Mi-8MT cargo floor (for Trumpeter)
- 1:48 Mi-8MT cargo seats (for Trumpeter)
- 1:48 Dornier Do335A (for Tamiya)
- 1:48 Mi-8MT (for Trumpeter)

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IT'S SHOWTIME SHIZUOKA PARK

Last issue I brought you an overview of the hobby trade aspect of the Shizuoka Hobby Show, which is a more formal affair and not too crowded, with mostly suited-and-booted trade folk talking shop and taking in the new products on the many stands. But wow, how that changes on the Saturday and Sunday! This is when one hall of the 'Twin Messe' venue is turned over to modelling clubs from across Japan and it is absolutely incredible, with thousands of models of every conceivable type on show. The place is completely packed with visitors who have come to browse the model club tables and also to buy kits at very

attractive prices from many of the traders, who change the layout of their stands to a more retail-orientated plan for the weekend. The quality of the model making is always impressive, the high standard only topped by the sheer variety of subjects replicated in miniature. It's a fantastic atmosphere, with modelling enthusiasts young and old enjoying these extraordinary exhibits.

For me, it's a great chance to catch up with friends and magazine contributors and also to refresh my modelling 'mojo'; one can't help but be inspired by the wonderful creativity and miniature-making skills on show.

If you get the chance to visit Japan, I highly

recommend timing your trip so it coincides with the Shizuoka Hobby Show in May, you won't regret it. Bring a camera, plenty

of cash and a large empty suitcase because there's lots of cool stuff to take home. Here's to next time! ●



Here we see a scale model of Tamiya's famous 'Spectrum Hall' headquarters, a miniature marvel of an iconic location!

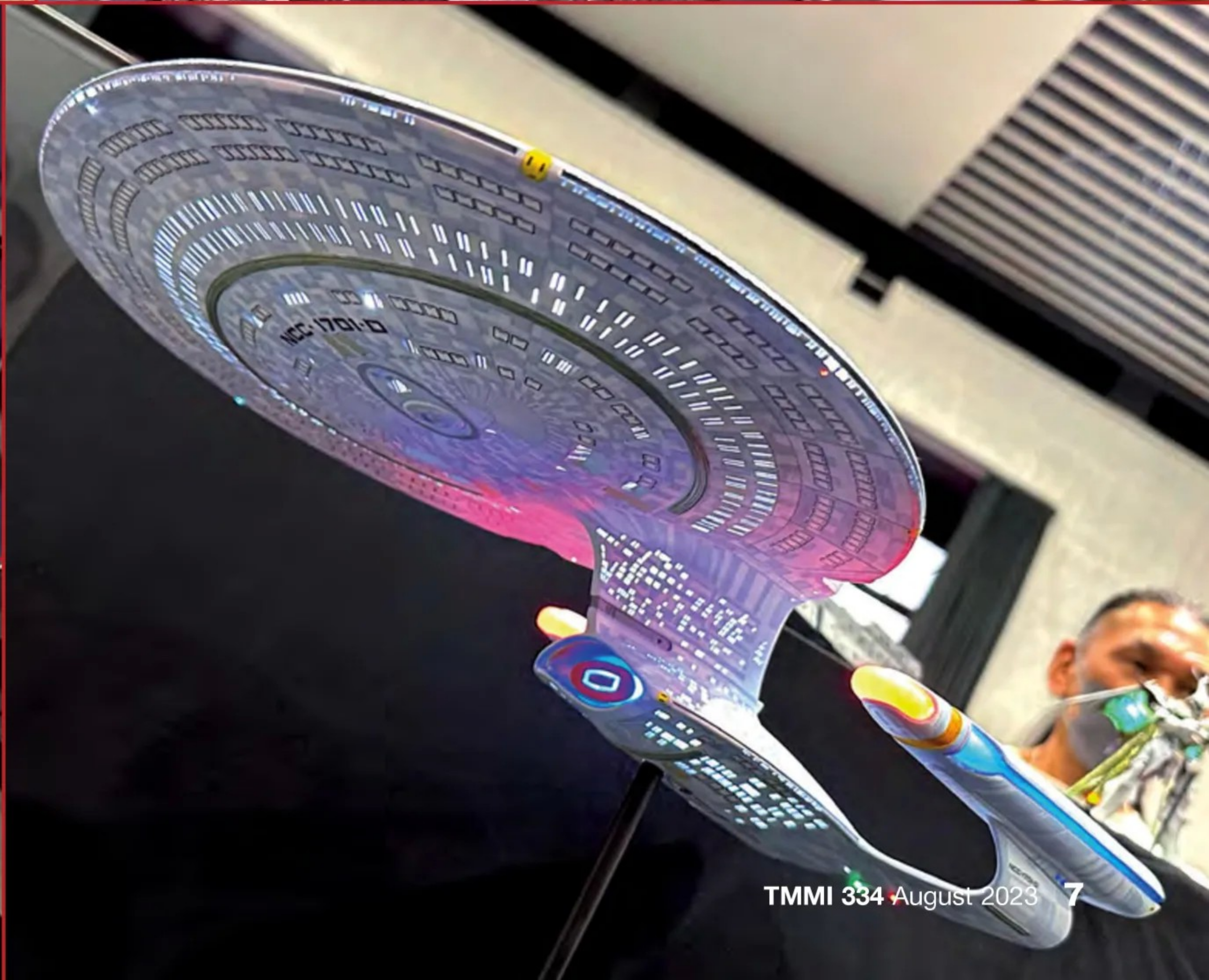
The modellers' show is always packed with friendly and enthusiastic modellers



E IN RT 2:

TMMI's Editor Marcus Nicholls reports from the
'modellers gathering' section of the Shizuoka Hobby Show

THE GATHERING OF MODELLERS



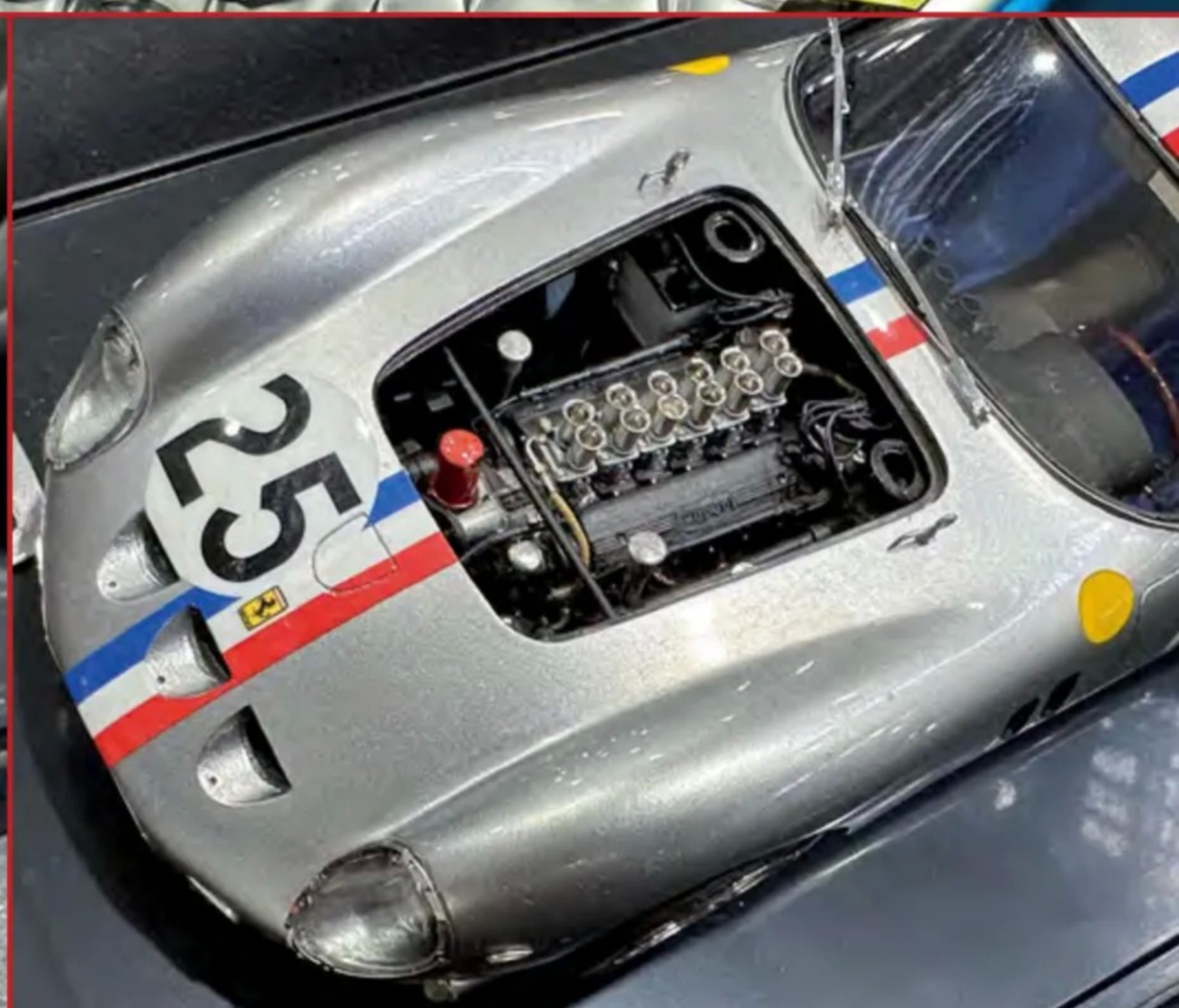


Masahiro Doi is one of Japan's best known and most friendly military modellers and it was a delight to see him again after several years



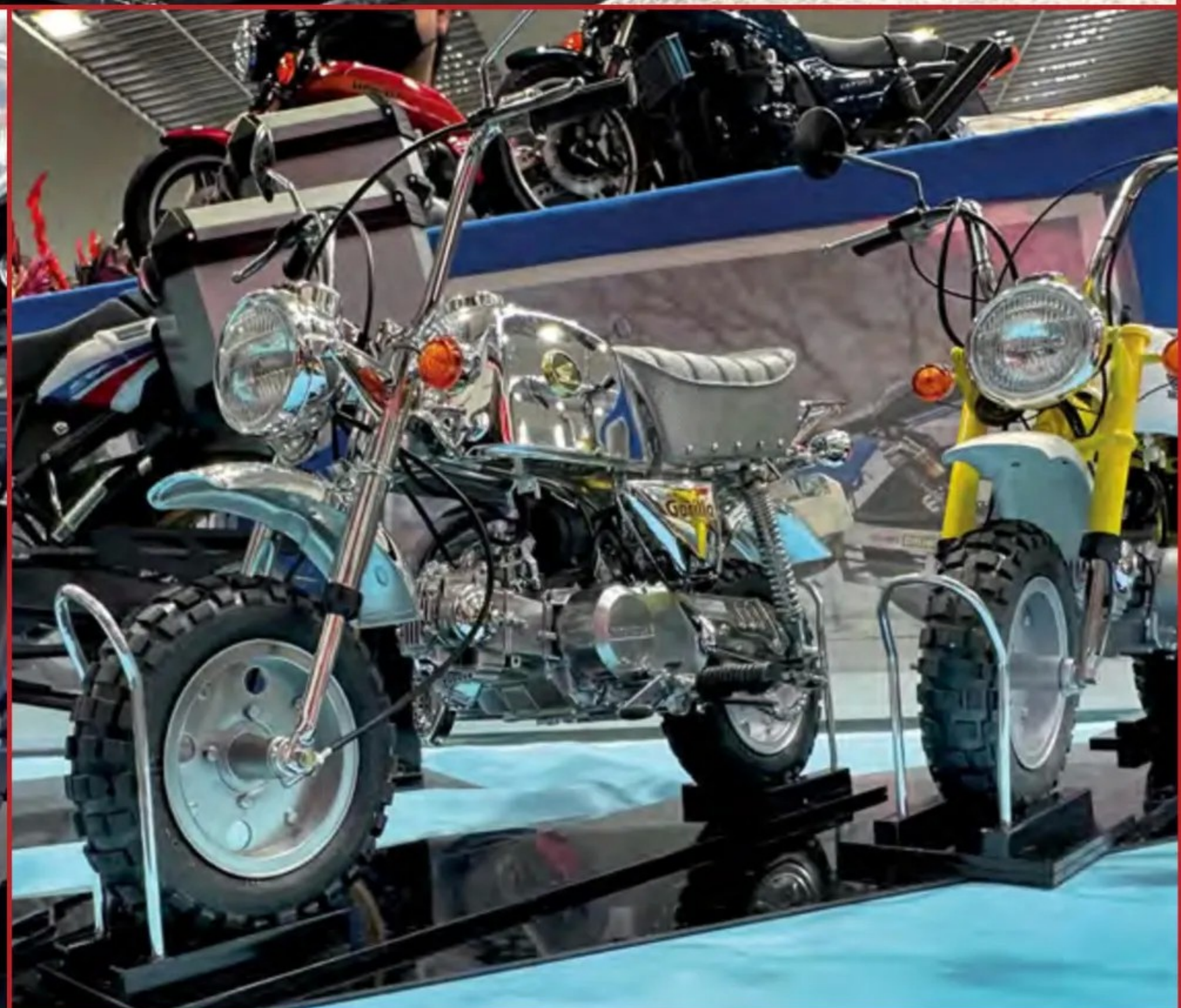


Miguel Jimenez was at the show and as always, it was lovely to see him again - a true modelling superstar



NEWS EXTRA: MODEL SHOW REPORT

SHIZUOKA HOBBY SHOW 2023



**NEW
MOULD****1:35**

WWII British Army 30-CWT 4 x 2 G.S. Truck A1380



BRITISH ARMY 30-CWT 4 X 2 G.S. TRUCK
419th Company, Royal Army Service Corps (Divisional Supply Company),
70th Infantry Division, Tobruk, Western Desert, August 1941.



BRITISH ARMY 30-CWT 4 X 2 G.S. TRUCK
Evaluation unit, Russia, 1944.

Length 156mm Width 66mm Pieces 133

As Britain prepared for war in the late 1930s, the military was not just desperately in need of vast numbers of aircraft, tanks, and guns, they also needed many thousands of trucks and general utility vehicles to support all kinds of operations. The ability to effectively supply modern, mechanized armies with huge amounts of fuel, ammunition, food, and other commodities they would need was crucial to the success of any military

campaign and as the speed of war increased, so these supply lines began to lengthen. Rugged, reliable, and adaptable, these trucks would have a vital role to play in the coming conflict.

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NEWS EXTRA: MODEL SHOW REPORT

SHIZUOKA HOBBY SHOW 2023



Hiroshi Takashima's fantastic 'Easy Eight in the ETO' diorama (not the one he is holding here) featured in TMMI's sister magazine 'Military Illustrated Modeller' Issue 138 (March 2023) and it was a treat to meet him at the show



Shigehiro Yoshida's Tiger I diorama was on the cover of Military Illustrated Modeller' Issue 140 (May 2023) and as with the other guys, it was a delight to meet up with him face to face





You might remember this atmospheric KV-1 diorama from TMMI Issue 331 (May 2023); it was built by Takahiro Sumitomo, who holds up that very same piece for the camera!







This stunning 1:15 M3 Lee was made entirely from plain cardboard; the tracks were fully functional and even squeaked like the real thing!



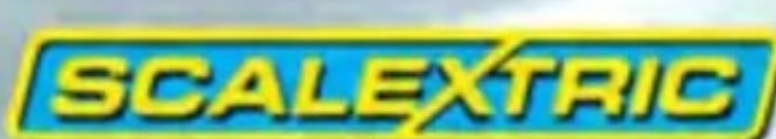
Don't worry, we won't touch the models - not risking a bite from a cyborg spider!





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- ✓ 1/35 scale

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FULL-BUILD: MOTOGP

TAMIYA 1:12 TAMIYA REPSOL HONDA RC213V '14 CONVERTED TO TEAM VDS 2016 ● KIT NO.14130

RISING STAR

Douglas Weir converts Tamiya's 1:12 Honda RC213V to the 'Estrella Galicia 00' sponsored-machine





Last summer when I was building the rather lovely Tamiya Honda CBR1000RR-R Fireblade, I was inspired to have a go at a MotoGP bike, so I picked up one of the Tamiya RC213V kits. To put this into a bit of context, the 'Blade was only my third bike build and at that point I was still a bit intimidated by the bike kits as they are, in my opinion, less forgiving of flaws than car models with more of the components visible to anyone that views the model.

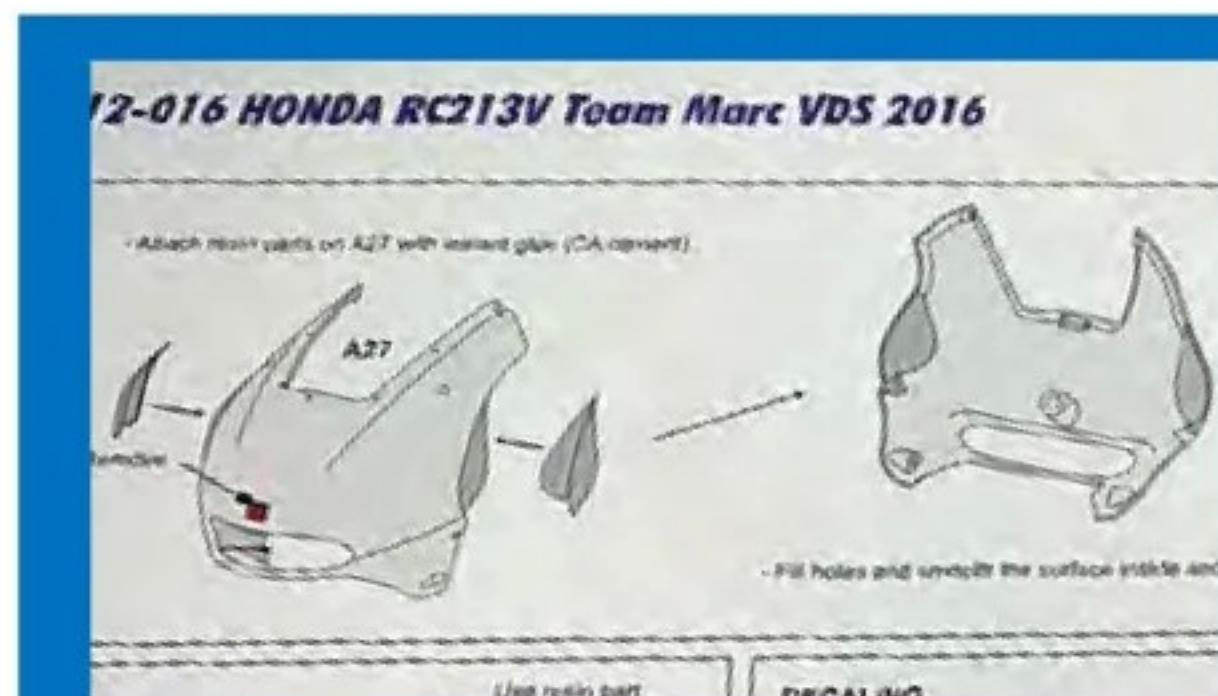
I also really wanted to do the Repsol scheme justice as it's a livery I've always liked (and wished I could have had one of the Fireblades that used to come in the Repsol colours!) but the masking put me off and the kit sat in the pile until a year later (May '22) I decided I'd build it. But not in the Repsol livery. It'd be built in the colours of Team VDS from the 2016 season. In the year between buying and building this kit I'd built a couple of GP bikes in the form of Tamiya's Kawasaki ZX-RR Ninja and Yamaha YZF-M1, I was therefore a bit happier with my techniques and more confident of doing the kit some justice. I also decided to chuck a load of aftermarket detail at it just to make it more interesting! ▶

❶ BODY WORK

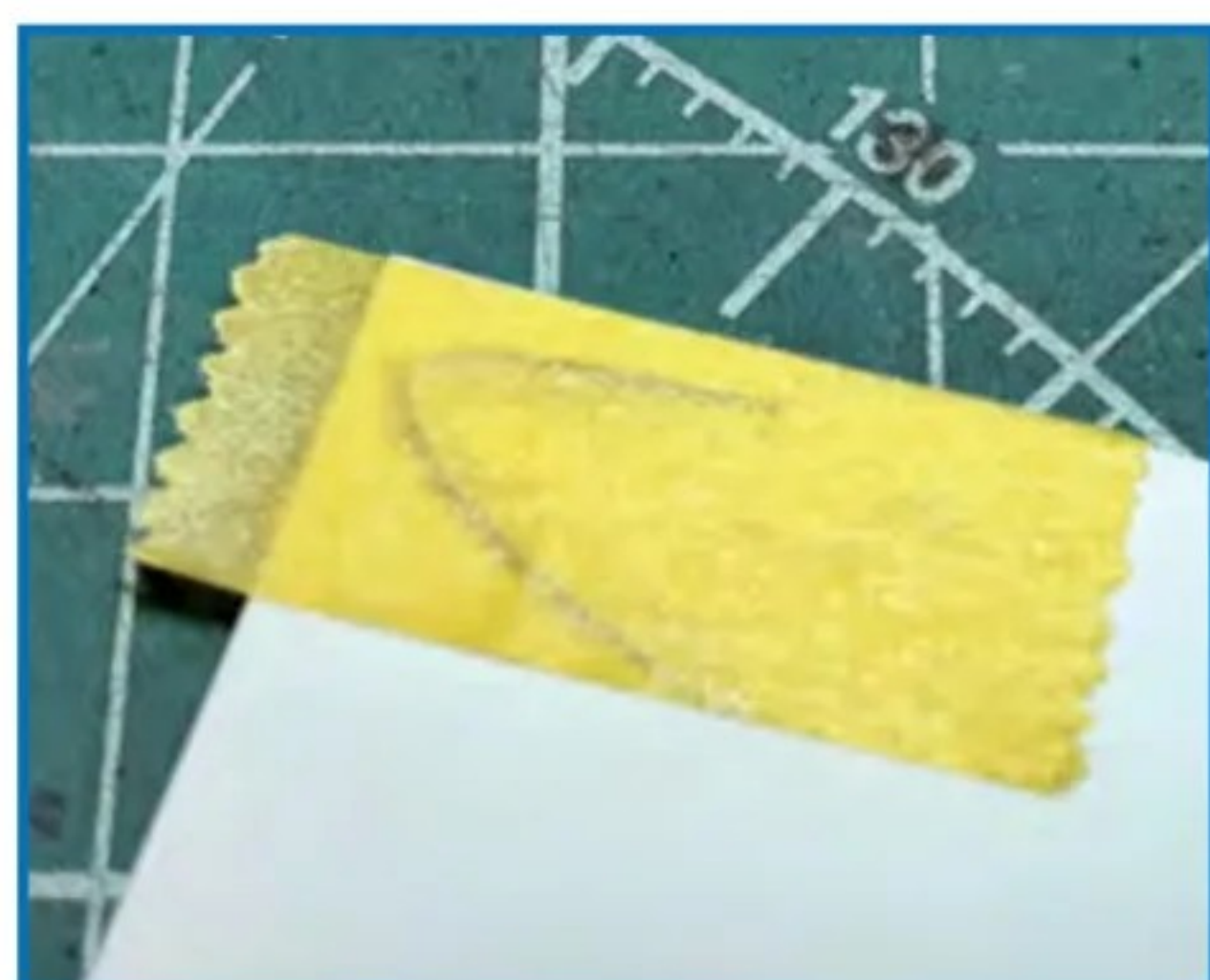
For this build it all started with a good inspection of the Team VDS decals from Blue Stuff. There was some masking required between the blue, silver and black and it was noted that one of the lower cowl ducts had to be deleted as it wasn't present on the 2016 bike. After all the body parts were cut from the sprues and cleaned them up, it was time to delete that offending duct. A piece of masking tape was used to trace the shape so it could then be transferred to a piece of styrene sheet for cutting out a piece to glue in. So far, so good.

Once the glue had cured, it was sanded back flush before adding a bit of sprue glue to fill any gaps that remained. It was then tail chasing for a few days (and becoming thoroughly fed up!) as the area was sanded, filled, sanded, filled etc until happy that the duct was fully deleted and not a trace left. This is also where this build almost came to a premature close with it all being chucked back in the box...

Those parts that needed gluing (front fender, tank fairing, rear cowl, seat and fuel cell) were offered up, glued and left to cure. Once cured any seams were dealt with using some sprue glue as a filler. This was then left for a day or so to fully harden before I cleaned up all the seams ready for some primer to see if any remedial filling was required, I used CA to clear up any residual holes or blemishes.



First things first, time to cut off and clean up all the body parts. Once everything was cleaned up of attachment points and seam lines the parts that needed gluing together were dealt with. Once the glue had cured it was time to deal with the seams, sprue glue was used as a filler with any troublesome bits dealt with, with a bit of CA glue as filler



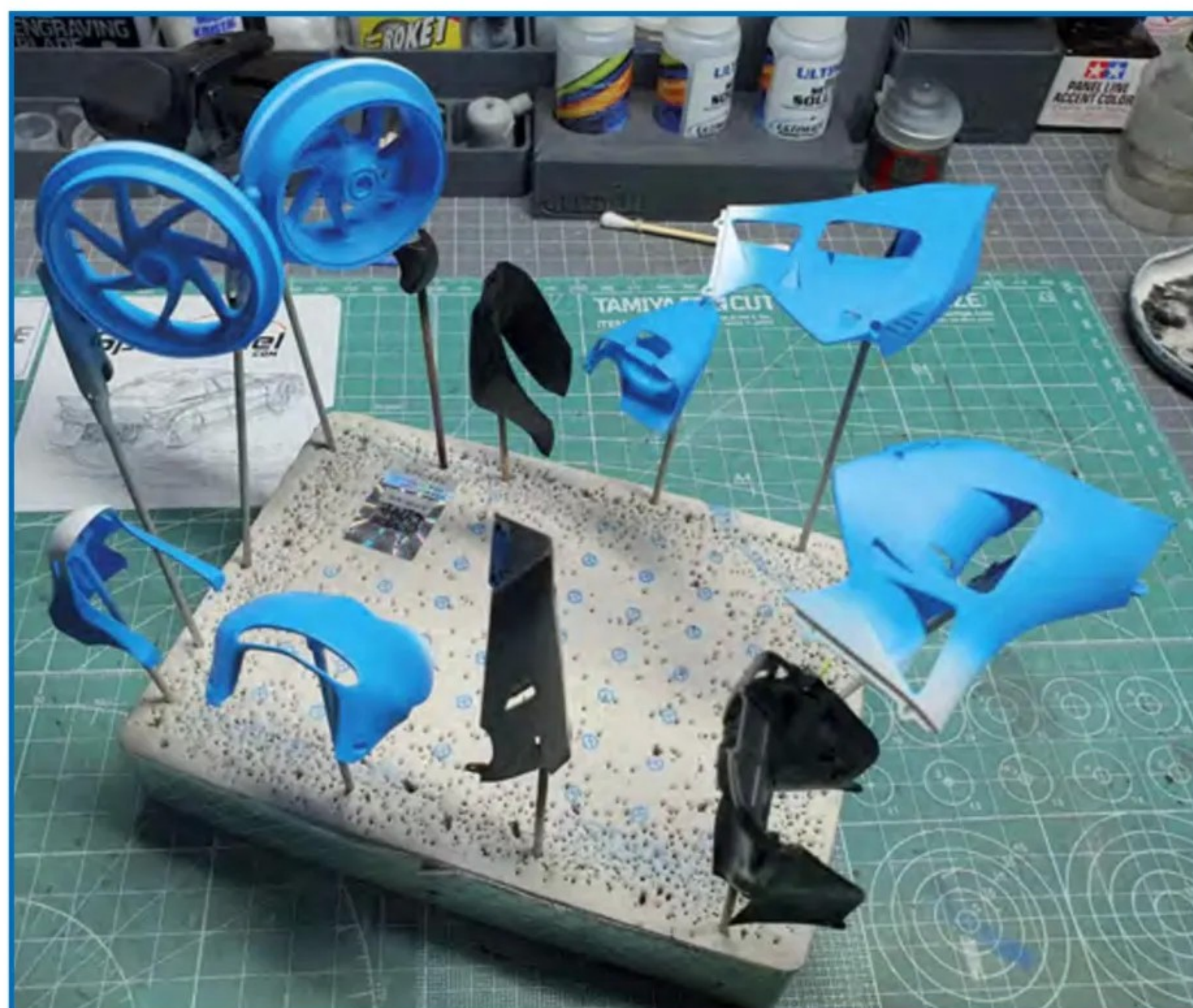
Deleting the duct that wasn't present on the 2016 bike. This is noted in the decal call-outs and needs to be filled. I opted to template a piece of styrene but in hindsight would have happily filled it with a bit of epoxy putty to save a lot of filling/sanding work



The frame was removed from the sprue and cleaned up so that the various magnets could be added to the side fairing and frame mounting points. This meant lots of test fitting and checking that the magnet polarity was right!



The final filled piece alongside the front cowl that has had the additional resin parts glued in place. The resin pieces are supplied with the decals and once glued in place needed a bit of filling and blending to make them an integral part of the front cowl



All the various body parts, including wheels, receiving their first coats of paint. The blue and silver are part of the Zero Paints set for this bike. The black is just Mr Surfacer 1500



Test-fitting the front cowl and side fairings to make sure all the magnets are good and ready to move on to decals

EXTRA PARTS TO FIT

The decals also come with a few resin parts to modify or replace a couple of the kit parts, so while waiting for the filler on the seams to cure the front fairing extensions were added as indicated on the decal instructions. As these are resin some CA glue was used to attach and then fill any gaps. Again, this took a few attempts to be happy that they were blended into the kit plastic and that the seam would be invisible once paint was applied.

Next on the list for the body work was to add magnets where all the screws would normally be found for holding the various panels to the frame. Never having done this before, I was keen to give it a try as I can appreciate why others do it, as it does make for a cleaner look on the finished model. Once the magnets were all glued in with some CA, the moulded rivet detail was centre marked and a small pilot hole drilled so they could be sanded flush. The pilot hole just a guide for later when they would be opened up to fit the PE rivets I planned to use.

Now that all the prep work was complete, it was finally time to apply a coat

of primer to the various parts. The majority of parts were primed with some Mr Surfacer 1500 white for the light blue. A few other parts were either silver or black (or both) so these were primed with Mr Surfacer 1500 black. After the paint had dried a quick inspection of seams was carried out and any necessary remediation done before moving on to the base colours. For the base colours the Zero Paints set for this livery was used, this set consists of the light blue and silver. Once the blue was down, a set of masks were cut and applied using the templates and instructions provided with the Blue Stuff decals. Then parts were re-primed as necessary with Mr Surfacer 1500 black ready for the silver. Anything that was remaining black was left in black primer.

DECALS IN THE NOOKS AND CRANNIES

I approach decals – particularly ones that are required to go over lots of complex curves – with a mix of eagerness and trepidation. Eagerness that I'll start to see the livery come alive, particularly those that are multi-coloured where colour demarcations are pulled

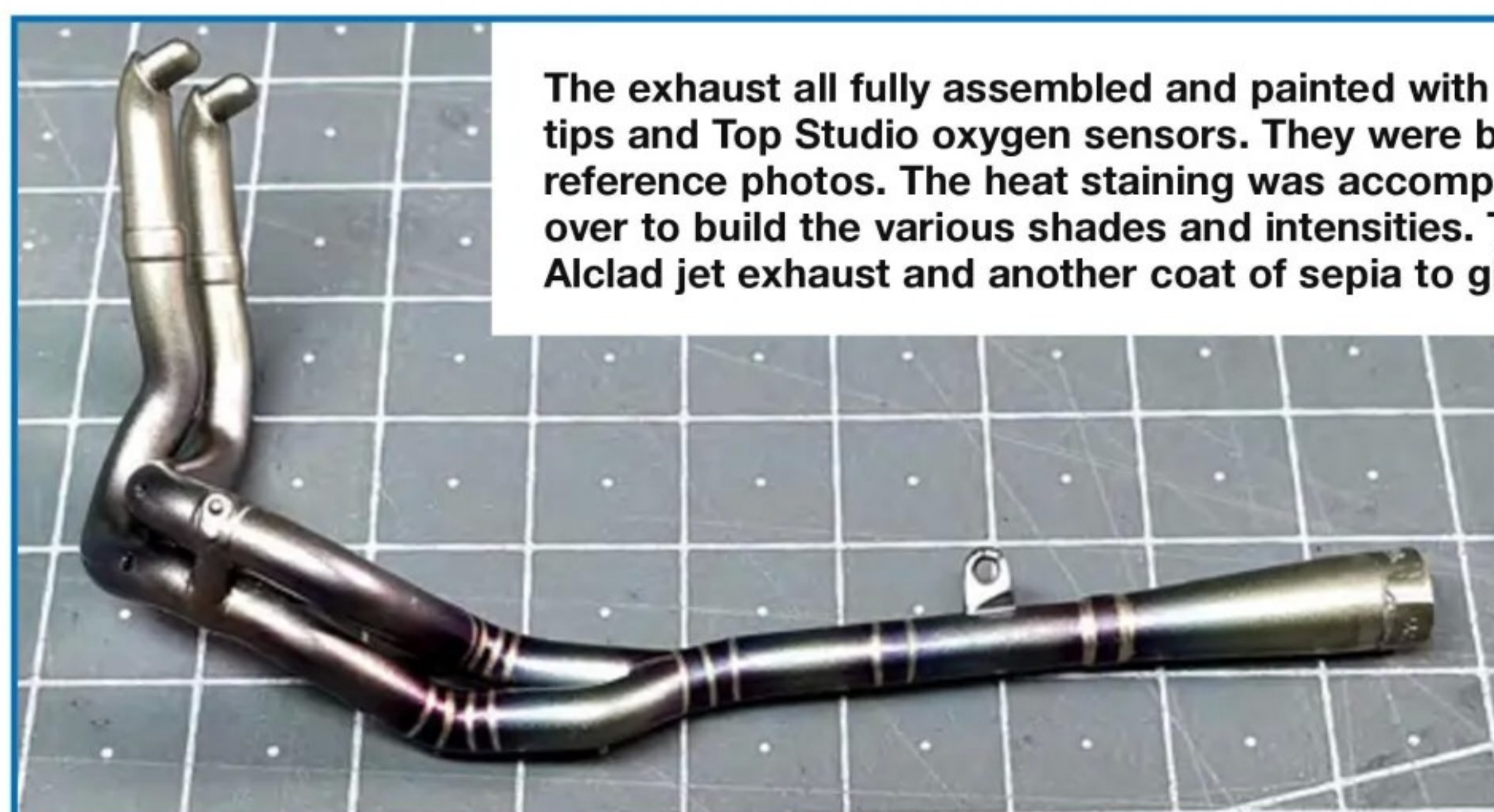


Please excuse the towel! I use it to do my decals so that I have a soft surface to lay the painted parts on. Anyway, decals were all done and they were a joy to put in place. The front cowl and side fairings were strategically taped for added security as there were a few decals that crossed between separate pieces. These were then sliced carefully along the panel lines

together into something more cohesive. Trepidation as I feel I'll ruin something at some point!

The Blue Stuff decals really are a treat to work with, responding well to decal solutions and think nothing of complex shapes that they are required to wrap around. As there were a few decals that cross

panel lines, the fairings were mocked up on to the frame using the magnets and a few strategically placed bits of masking tape to hold everything together reasonably securely. This allowed the decals to be placed and set in position before slicing them carefully along the panel lines with a sharp blade. The single decal



The exhaust all fully assembled and painted with heat staining. The exhausts were made up of the kit pipework, Top Studio tips and Top Studio oxygen sensors. They were base-coated in LP-63 Titanium Silver and then masked for the welds using reference photos. The heat staining was accomplished using Alclad 2 Hot Metal clears (Blue, Red, Violet and Sepia) misted over to build the various shades and intensities. The masking was removed, and they were both given a mist coat of diluted Alclad jet exhaust and another coat of sepia to give that hot tinged metal look and blend and tie things together



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FULL-BUILD: MOTOGP

**TAMIYA 1:12 TAMIYA REPSOL HONDA RC213V '14
CONVERTED TO TEAM VDS 2016 ● KIT NO.14130**

❶ I was least looking forward to? The cat's head. However, it behaved beautifully and happily conformed into the nooks and crannies. With the decals all done they were left to fully dry and after a couple of days the body work was 2k'd with my go to gloss clear from Gravity Colors of Spain.

FRAME, ENGINE AND SWINGARM

The frame was previously glued together to let me figure out the magnets and then use it for doing the fairing decals. It was now given an inspection to see if any seams needed a bit of filling, with everything okay it was now time to make a start on the engine, each part cut from the sprue and carefully glued together. This was then set this aside and while work continued with clipping off the rest of the engine parts and cleaning everything up ready for primer. Next was to build up the Top Studio PE clutch, these are pretty straightforward to build with all the various plates dropped into the basket before the outer cover is then glued in place to hold it all together. The outer cover was painted in Super Metallic Gold and the PE bolt heads glued in place to finish it off.

EXHAUST HEAT STAINING

The last major piece to work on was the exhaust system. This bike has a very distinct exhaust setup with a 'pig-tail' curl to the rear exhaust that exits underneath the seat cowl. It also has very distinct heat staining from all the welds that are required to piece

the various parts together for the curl. To add a bit of extra detail to quite a visual part of the bike the Top Studio metal exhaust cans were added. This required the plastic sections were cut off the kit part, to do this a razor saw was used, and the metal parts were then glued in place with some quick cure epoxy. The metal cans have a small resin piece at the tip which in turn has a couple of PE parts that need to be glued in place to complete them. I wanted to replicate the heat staining as best as I could. In order to achieve this they were primed in black and then base-coated with LP-63 titanium silver.

Then, using reference photos, they were all carefully masked for the weld seams with some 0.4mm Aizu tape. The staining was done with Alclad Hot Metal clears. Starting with the blue then adding some red and violet to build up the colour changes. Once happy I removed the masking tape and gave the whole exhaust a mist coat of Alclad jet exhaust and Alclad sepia to give the whole thing a unified 'hot metal' look. ▶

All the separate parts that had carbon decals applied to them from the Studio27 set. Doesn't seem like much but this was three evenings' work as the decals are pretty stubborn to deal with! The rear hugger and exhaust heat shield have also had the sponsor decals from the Blue Stuff set applied, so they are ready for assembly. The carbon was all given a coat of LP-24 Semi-Gloss Clear to add a bit of variety to the finish



The finished wheels. These were primed in Mr Surfacer 1500 white and the base-coated with the Zero Paints Team VDS blue. The wheel decals were then applied and once dry were given a couple of coats of LP-24 Semi-Gloss Clear. Next was to apply the tyres and tyre decals before moving on to adding the discs. For the carbon braking surface on the front discs I use a mix of LP-3 Flat Black and LP-19 Gun Metal

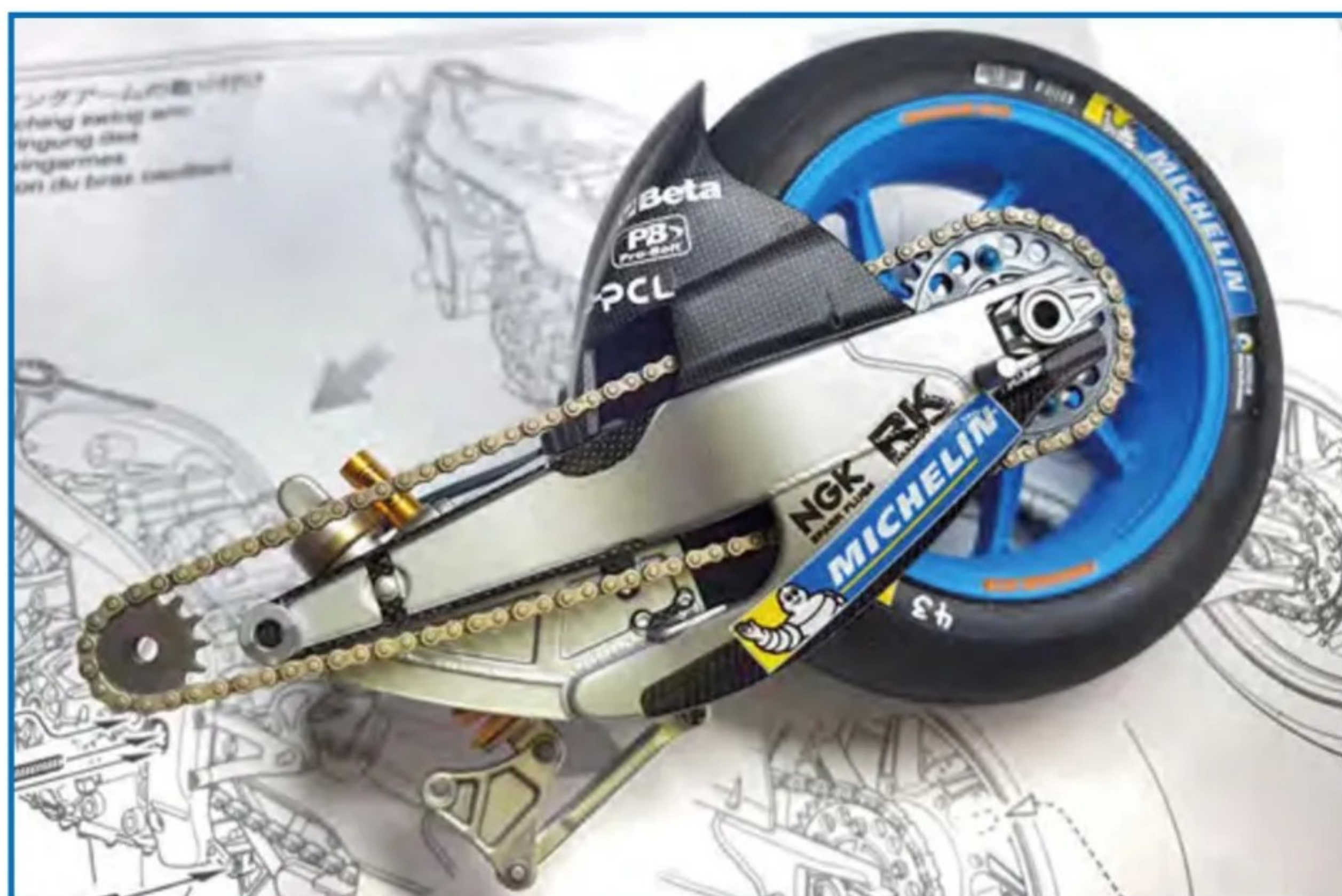


The finished frame and swingarm with the Studio27 carbon decals in place as well as the last few sponsor logos from the Blue Stuff set

The completed engine with Top Studio clutch in place. The hoses on the pump assembly seen at the bottom of the photo had the clamps simulated with some thin strips of Bare Metal Foil



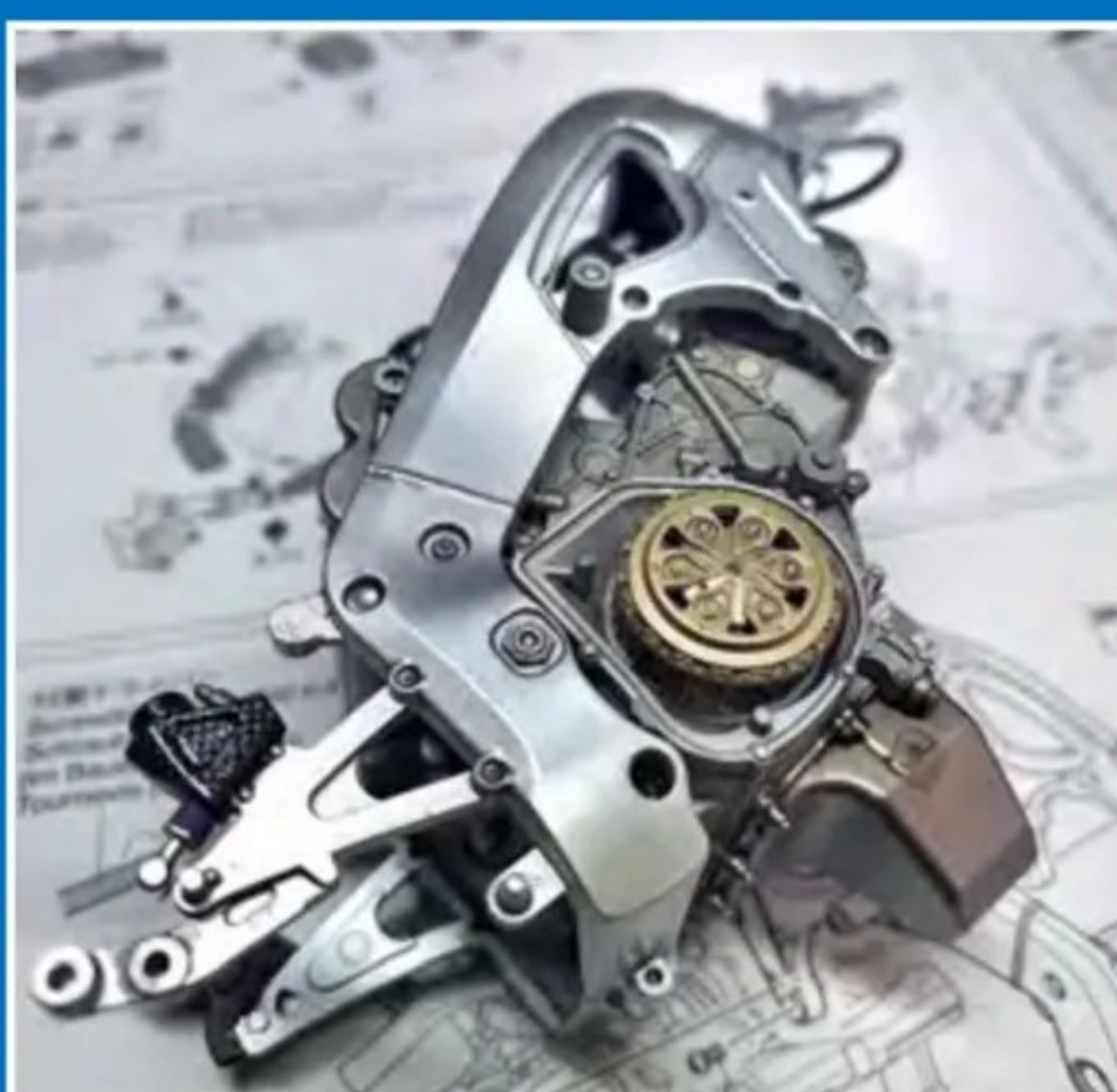
The rear swingarm all assembled and ready for attaching to the main frame. The rear shock has the spring and piggyback reservoir from the Tamiya fork set fitted



The other side of the swingarm showing the finished chain-set. A bit of detail painting on the wheel sprocket for the anodized bolts and the chain was painted with Alclad 2 Steel then the centre was masked off so that the side plates could be painted in gold. A wash finishes things off and brings out the rivet detail in the chain



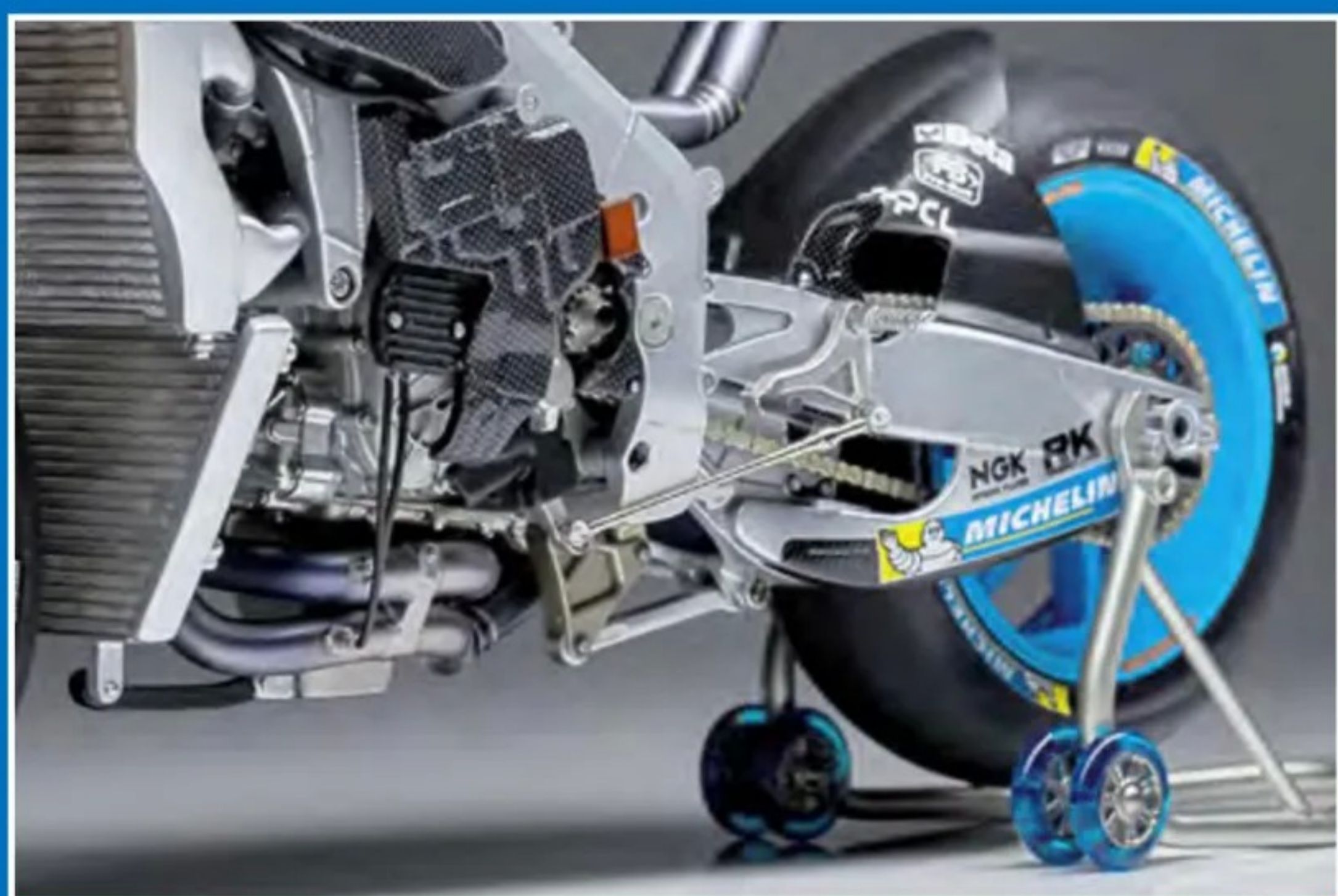
The engine fitted into the frame ready for the swing arm to be added. Note the small piece of carbon from the Studio27 set for the rear brake fluid reservoir cover. The details were picked out with various Vallejo Model Color/Citadel paints and a brush



A detail shot showing the Top Studio shift linkage, resin foot pegs and oxygen sensors on the lower section of the exhaust pipes. The wires for the sensors were run up to the ECU box and glued behind it with a dab of CA. I opted to use the Top Studio resin foot pegs as the Tamiya ones are pretty much just stumps of plastic as they are moulded with the frame. The resin adds some nice detail and is an easy upgrade to do



The front end all built up with the Tamiya fork set. I really love these fork sets as nothing looks quite like anodised metal as well, anodised metal! Everything just slots together beautifully and is then secured in place with the screw down the head-tube. It's a nice touch that the screw head is hidden beneath a tiny little plastic moulded bolt head



The front end all built up with the Tamiya fork set. I really love these fork sets as nothing looks quite like anodised metal as well, anodised metal! Everything just slots together beautifully and is then secured in place with the screw down the head-tube. It's a nice touch that the screw head is hidden beneath a tiny little plastic moulded bolt head



FULL-BUILD: MOTOGP

TAMIYA 1:12 TAMIYA REPSOL HONDA RC213V '14 CONVERTED TO TEAM VDS 2016 ● KIT NO.14130



A close-up view of the front cowl showing the tiny rivets used around the wind shield. These are in place of the moulded in bumps. The moulded rivet detail was sanded away after drilling some pilot holes during the prep stage for the body panels. Another relatively easy upgrade that makes a massive difference to the finished model when compared to the kit supplied rivet decals or trying to hand paint them at the end of the build

FINISHING UP

Once all painting and decals were completed it was time to start assembling the bike. This is just a case of following the instructions, starting with assembly of the swingarm with the rear shock, chain-set, rear wheel and brake disc all added.

The rear brake line was then added, and the hugger glued in place to finish the whole sub assembly. Next was slotting the engine into place in the frame and screwing it in place with the kit-supplied screws. Once the engine was in the main frame and swingarm could be put

together with the large screw that runs through the pivot securing everything.

Moving on to the front end, the Tamiya fork set was used to add detail, this was all assembled with the front wheel slotted in place and secured. The fork was offered up to the frame and the upper clamp added so that the forks could be secured with the required screw. Next the clip-ons were added, and the rest of the vinyl hoses attached as depicted in the instructions. The last job was to open up the previously drilled pilot holes and add all the rivets and fasteners to the body work and only then could I attach everything to the frame to conclude the build.

CONCLUSIONS

I really enjoy Tamiya's bike kits, they may seem a bit intimidating at first but they go together really well and this one was no exception. I look back at this build and it seems a bit odd that I was put off by the masking for the Repsol colours when this livery had a fair bit of

masking and if anything, a slightly more intricate decal scheme. I'm now looking forward to revisiting this kit and doing it in that beautiful Repsol livery. ●

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:12 TAMIYA REPSOL HONDA RC213V '14 CONVERTED TO TEAM VDS 2016 KIT NO.14130

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, synthetic rubber tyres, micro-screws, vinyl tubing, waterslide decals

Paints and materials used:

- Mr Hobby: Mr Surfacer 1500 Black
- Zero Paints: Team VDS paint set
- Gravity Colors: Spain 2k gloss clear-coat
- UMP: Decal Solutions, Polishing System

Accessories used:

- Tamiya: Fork and Detail Set
- Top Studio: Shift Linkage, Foot Pegs, Rivets, Clutch, Oxygen Sensors, Exhaust Tips
- Blue Stuff: Team VDS 2016 decals (12-016)
- Studio 27: Carbon Decal Set

Availability:

- Tamiya models, paints, materials and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net
- Zero Paints, Top Studio: www.hiroboy.com
- Blue Stuff: www.blue-stuff.com
- UMP: www.umpretail.com
- Gravity Colors: www.gravity-colors.com



A6M2-N Rufe

eduard

The ProfiPACK edition kit of Japanese interceptor/fighter bomber floatplane A6M2-N (Allied code name Rufe). Kit presents Rufe serving in Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service during World War II.

RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES:

481109	A6M2-N Rufe landing flaps (PE-Set)
644205	A6M2-N Rufe LööK (Brassin)
644208	A6M2-N Rufe LööKplus (Brassin)
648845	A6M2-N Rufe seat PRINT (Brassin)
648846	A6M2-N Rufe exhaust PRINT (Brassin)
648847	A6M2-N Rufe cannon barrels & cockpit guns PRINT (Brassin)
648848	A6M2-N Rufe folding wingtips PRINT (Brassin)
648849	A6M2-N Rufe gun bays PRINT (Brassin)
648850	A6M2-N Rufe cockpit PRINT (Brassin)
648851	A6M2-N Rufe landing flaps PRINT (Brassin)
648852	A6M2-N Rufe engine complete PRINT (Brassin)
3DL48114	A6M2-N Rufe SPACE (3D Decal Set)
EX934	A6M2-N Rufe TFace (Mask)

#648850

Seaman 1st class, Takio Maruyama,
aviation unit of seaplane tender Kamikawa
Maru, Shortland, September 1942

Takuma Kōkūtai, Takuma base,
Japan, 1944

Kōkūtai 452, Kiska island,
Aleutians, early 1943

Kōkūtai 802, Faisi-Poporang base,
Shortland Islands, February 1943

Kashima Kōkūtai, Kashima base,
Japan, 1944

1/48

#82183
www.eduard.com

ProfiPACK
edition

KIT PREVIEW

TAMIYA 1:12 HONDA CBR1000RR-R FIREBLADE SP 30TH ANNIVERSARY ● KIT NO.14141



THIRTY YEARS OF FIREBLADE

Tamiya has released a second version of the Honda CBR1000RR-R Fireblade SP, this time in a special livery to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the first generation Fireblade

This new release is based on the 1:12 Fireblade SP kit (14138) which was launched back in 2020. We featured this model in Issue 300, October 2020, the being built by none other than Robert Riley and he did an amazing job of it. Back issues are still available at: www.tamiyamodelmagazine.com.

This version comes with a set of high-quality Cartograf decals depicting the red and blue elements of the classic 1990s paint scheme and it gives the bike a whole 'new' look, in a retro kind of way! The same parts will be found in the

box, all moulded immaculately to Tamiya's usual exacting standards. As the base kit is now three years old, there are sure to be aftermarket detail sets out there for it, enabling a superdetailed build of this Honda classic. ●

Availability;

Tamiya models, accessories, paints and materials are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net Also check out: www.hiroboy.com



Carro Armato P40

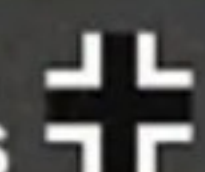
Italian
heavy
tank

Metal gun barrel
Link and length tracks
Photo-etched parts



No 6599

Decals sheet
for 2 versions



1:35
scale



Photoetched parts



B. German Army, Panzer-Kompanie 24, Waffen-Gebirgs (Karstjäger) Elite troops, 1st Platoon, Friuli Region, April 1945.



D. Ansaldo works, Genoa, end of 1943.

6481 Leopard 1 A5

1:35



New glueable Rubber Truck



6595 Sd. Kfz. 10 Demag D7 with 7,5 cm leIG 18 and crew **1:35**



Link-and-Length Tracks - colored instruction sheet

6597 Kfz. 12 Horch 901 Typ 40 Frühen Ausf. **1:35**



Rubber Tires - Decals for 4 versions

6596 M1A1 Abrams

1:35



New glueable tracks or link & length tracks ★ ★ ★



'NET FIX AND CHILL...

Jaffe Lam describes the process of creating realistic camouflage netting on Tamiya's 1:35 Cromwell tank





FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR

TAMIYA 1:35 CROMWELL MK.IV BRITISH CRUISER TANK MK.VIII A27M ● KIT NO.35221

The Cromwell tank was one of the most renowned British tanks from World War II. Named after the Parliamentarian and Puritan victor of the mid-1600s English Civil War, Oliver Cromwell, the Cromwell tank entered service in 1943 replacing the earlier Crusader tank. It was faster, more reliable and had a more powerful gun than the Crusader.

Over 4,000 Cromwells were produced from 1943 to 1945. It formed an important part of Britain's armed forces during World War II and continued to serve in Northwest Europe until the end of the war. It had a 75mm gun and between 95 to 165mm of armour, which made it superior to most German tanks at the time, such as the Panzer IV and StuG III. However, it was still outgunned by the heavier German Panther and Tiger tanks.

During D-Day, the British 7th Armoured Division landed in Normandy with over 300 Cromwell tanks. They played an important role in the initial push inland from the beaches. The Cromwell Mk.IV depicted here belonged to the 5th RTR, 7th Armoured Division, which saw significant action during the Battle of Villers-Bocage in Normandy. The battle took place on 13th June 1944, one week after the Allies landed in Normandy to begin the liberation of German-occupied France. It was the result of an attempt by the British to improve their position by exploiting a temporary loophole in the German fortifications west

of the city of Caen.

After one day of fighting in and around the small town of Villers-Bocage and a second day defending positions outside the town, the British ultimately withdrew from Villers-Bocage with both sides suffering heavy losses. The battle demonstrated the Cromwell's inferiority to the German Tiger in armour and firepower; a problem the British would face until new tanks like the Comet arrived which had a more powerful 77mm gun.

I was intrigued by the recently released TMMI's sister title 'Military Illustrated Modeller' Issue 138 (back issue available at: www.doolittlemedia.com), which presented comprehensive modelling references of Cromwell Mk.IV tank on display at the Tank Museum, Bovington. This reminded me of the old but still good Tamiya's Cromwell tank in my stash. Due to the ease of assembly of the model and the appeal of the hessian tape camouflage net, I decided to go for a build.

CONSTRUCTION

Although this Tamiya kit is more than twenty years of age, it's still a very nice offering and a great starting point for upgrading. Detail is fairly basic but it captures the essence of the Cromwell tank. Assembly is quite straightforward, following Tamiya's precise instructions and parts fit perfectly without major alignment issues. The model was modified using



The tank was upgraded with Aber photo-etch and scratchbuilt parts



The Normandy Cowling was believed to be made of sheet metal probably cutting from oil barrels. Its purpose was to prevent smoke from being sucked into the crew compartment and making the crew sick. The tarp and worn cloth were made from two-part epoxy putty



SKP model workable tracks were used, but it was quite sad that the track profile and details weren't superior to the kit's. Also, I needed to drill holes for every pin and the assembly of the links wasn't very smooth

The model was given a couple of thin coats of Mr. Finishing Surfacer 1500 Black to give it a solid base for paint job



The green base colour was a mixture of Tamiya XF-55 Deck Tan, XF-58 Olive Green and XF-65 Field Grey



Aber photo-etch together with some scratch-building. The front and back mudguards, turret details and rear cowling were upgraded with Aber photo-etch on the engine deck, some unused spare parts were stacked up and covered by a tarp made of two-part epoxy. The turret and side lamp were upgraded using photo-etch and metal rods. I also made an in-situ stowage rack on the track-guard using styrene strip.

The Normandy Cowling at the rear was fitted to prevent fumes from being sucked into the crew compartment was also from an Aber photo-etch set. The kit's gun was also replaced by Jordi Rubio's

metal barrel which I've had for over a decade! Finally, I replaced the kit tracks with some SKP model workable tracks I've had for years, but very sadly the track profile and details are no better than the kit's. Also, I needed to drill holes for all the pins, and the link assembly was not going well. Overall, with some upgrade and the well-engineered Tamiya kit, it's still a pleasure to build even today.

PAINTING AND WEATHERING

The whole finished tank was given a couple of coats of Mr. Finishing Surfacer Black to provide a solid base for the base paint. The base colour used was a blend of Tamiya

XF-55 Deck Tan, XF-58 Olive Green and XF-65 Field Grey. Tamiya XF-55 Deck Tan was added to the base colour for some colour modulation and highlights. The tarp was spray-painted in place using Tamiya Acrylics with the surrounding tank details masked off Decals from Star Decals with markings of the 5th RTR, 7th Armoured Division of the Battle of Villers Bocage in Normandy were applied using a strong decal solution to help them snuggle down and were covered with matt varnish after drying. All the accessories and stowage were painted with AK Interactive 3rd Gen and Vallejo acrylics.

THAT CAMO NET!

Now the tank was ready to receive the special feature I most wanted to depict, the camouflage netting with hessian tape. I only applied the netting at this stage so as not to hinder the application of the decals underneath. The camouflage netting was from the aged but still excellent Verlinden Productions. It was cut roughly to size and laid dry on the turret and the front of the tank. It was then fixed with white glue diluted with water using an old brush in a jabbing motion, until the net was loosely held in place. I didn't dip the net into the white glue solution otherwise it would have laid dead flat on the surface. Next the hessian tape came to play. I bought crepe paper from the stationery store and cut it into strips of 1mm to 2mm wide using a modelling knife with a sharp new blade.

I chose crepe paper since it is very soft, warps naturally and is easy to glue. The strips were then cut to different lengths and placed randomly across the turret and glacis plate. I didn't put all the strips straight up. Actually for some areas, I sprinkled them on the net for a natural look. I then fixed them with diluted white glue in a similar way as for the netting. Similar to the net application, I didn't wet all the hessian tapes so they wouldn't lay totally flat. I repeated the process and laid the netting again. This time the net was cut into smaller pieces and laid to the hessian tape. They were fixed again with diluted white glue and allowed to dry before laying down another layer of hessian tape. After applying several layers of netting and strips, the hessian tape netting on the turret was complete. The netting at the front was finished similarly as for the turret.

To paint the netting, I first coated it and hessian tape with dark brown acrylics. Its shade was gradually lightened with AK 3rd Gen acrylics. After that, the netting and the rest of the tank was ready for overall weathering. Before this, I applied highlights for the whole tank using lightened shades on the protruding edges and raised details. With a gloss coat of Tamiya X-22 Clear applied in advance, oil rendering was deployed. The oil was spread on a piece of cardboard and left for half an hour for the linseed oil to be absorbed. It was then applied dry onto the model's surface, dabbed with an old stiff brush and let dry for a few days. ▶



The camouflage netting is from Verlinden Productions and was randomly laid on the turret and the front glacis of the tank. Diluted white glue was applied here and there using a fine brush stippling on the net. It's recommended not to soak the net with white glue solution before laying it, which will make the net lie flat on the surface



Revell

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LEVEL 5



LEVEL 4



LEVEL 4



LEVEL 3



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hobbycraft

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR
TAMIYA 1:35 CROMWELL MK.IV BRITISH CRUISER TANK MK.VIII A27M ● KIT NO.35221



The hessian tape was a crepe paper cutting into 1mm to 2mm strips using a modelling knife with a brand new blade. The strips were then cut to different lengths and laid randomly on the turret and front glacis plate. I then fixed them by poking an old brush on the strips with diluted white glue



The net-laying process was repeated. This time the net was not placed on the turret but on the crepe paper strips instead. Again they were fixed with white glue



With a few layers of net and strips, the hessian tape camouflage netting was nearly done



The netting was first painted with dark brown acrylic paints

Hessian tape was gradually lightened with AK 3rd Gen acrylics to give some volume



The whole tank was then sprayed with a liberal coat of Tamiya X-22 Clear Gloss to protect against upcoming weathering



Oil paint rendering was used to give some colour variation. The oil was spread on a cardboard and left for half an hour for the linseed oil to be absorbed. It was then dry applied onto the model surface, worked away with an old stiff brush and let dry for a few days



Once the oil dried thoroughly, a dark brown oil wash was applied to blend all the colours.

WEATHERING AND CHIPPING

Once the oil was thoroughly dry, a dark brown oil colour-wash was applied to blend all colours harmoniously. The chipped paint was done in two phases, shallow and deep scratches. For the light scratches, sponge with Vallejo Stone Grey acrylic was slightly stippled on the edges.

Next I moved onto mud application on the lower hull, prior to the deep-scratch depiction. The base substrate was buff-coloured acrylic mud. I placed it randomly on the lower hull and more heavily around the running gear. Dry garden soil was then sprinkled on and held firm while the acrylic mud was still moist. The pigments were held in place with fixer to enhance the mud texture and colour variations. AK Enamels were applied on the pigments to replicate a slurry and filthy look. The wheels, the drive sprockets and idlers were treated with mud similarly. The tracks were smeared with mud and some dried sea grass applied to mimic the vegetation stuck and flicked up while the tank was running. The tracks were also treated in similar way using the weathering enamels. A pencil was used to rub on the treads of the tracks, followed by drybrushing with AK Natural Steel at the tread edges to replicate the wear of the contact with the ground.

Once the tracks were weathered, they were fixed on the wheels with the help of some paper towels and white glue. With the mud application completed on the lower hull, I moved on to the rendering of the dust layers on the upper hull. Again AK Enamels were applied in thin layers. I then applied more enamels for wet stains and contrast. Now it was time to apply the second phase of the paint chipping. Vallejo Dark Rust was applied using sponge stippling at the middle of



The chipped paints was done in two stages, light and deep scratches. For the light scratches, sponge with Vallejo acrylic was slightly dabbed on the edges



The tracks were smeared with mud with some dried sea grass added to mimic the vegetation stuck and flicked up while the tank was running



Pigments were held firmly using fixer to enhance mud texture and colour variations

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR

TAMIYA 1:35 CROMWELL MK.IV BRITISH CRUISER TANK MK.VIII A27M ● KIT NO.35221

the light scratches. I painted and weathered the loose items such as Jerry cans, ammo box, bucket and helmet separately. Finally, I fixed some foliage made from dry plants on the fenders and mud guards where it usually built up. And there we have it! Tamiya's 1:35 Cromwell is a still a great kit and with some camouflage netting in place, it comes alive once again. ●

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:35 CROMWELL MK.IV BRITISH CRUISER TANK MK.VIII A27M KIT NO.35221

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Acrylics: XF-55 Deck Tan, XF-58 Olive Green, XF-65 Field Grey, X-22 Clear
- Vallejo Acrylics: Stone Grey acrylic
- Mr Hobby: Mr Finishing Surfacer Black

Accessories used:

- Alpine Miniatures: Tank crew
- Aber: photo-etch sets for Cromwell
- Jordi Rubio: metal barrel
- SKP Model: workable tracks
- Star Decals: markings

Availability:

- Tamiya models and paints are widely available from good model shops and online.
- UK import and distribution: The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net
- Aber: www.abermodels.com
- Alpine Miniatures: www.alpineminiatures.com
- Jordi Rubio: www.jordirubio.com
- SKP Model: www.demo.skpmodel.eu
- Star Decals: www.star-decals.net
- Verlinden Productions: (out of production, check online for availability)



Vallejo Dark Rust was applied using sponge in the middle of the light scratches



A 2B pencil was used to draw the sheen of the exposed metal parts



Foliage was usually found at the fenders. It was made from dry plants ground using an old coffee grinder



The resin crew is from Alpine Miniatures. However, Alpine box-art shows the loader standing in the loader hatch and the commander sitting in the cupola of a Sherman instead of a Cromwell. To use both figures, I swapped the loader's and commander's bodies, put the loader on the commander's hatch in a standing position and modified the commander to sit at the loader hatch holding a coffee mug. The figures were painted with AK 3rd Gen acrylics and 'washed with oil paints



“Tamiya’s 1:35 Cromwell is still a great kit and with some camouflage netting in place, it comes alive once again...”



***Don't miss out on full-build features
of great models each month!***
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FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED AVIATION

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) ● KIT NO.BF010

Carl Robertshaw creates one of the most extraordinary 'miniature' depictions of a WW2 exploit TMMI has ever seen, replicating the Avro Lancaster BIII type 464 Upkeep test at Reculver, May 12th 1943, as Flown by F/L Les Munro, the longest-lived Dambuster



"I WAS PROBABLY A LITTLE TOO LOW..."

**Flight Lieutenant Les Munro 1943*



FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED AVIATION

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) ● KIT NO.BF010

I had a curious thought in 2012; how to model water? After a little research, like many, I became captivated by the Dambuster tests and that short eight-week period in 1943 that stands out as one of the most evocative of WWII. For the past ten years, this idea has been all-consuming, so to put it to rest, I used Scale Model World '22 as my deadline! I'm thrilled with the reception it received at Telford and being awarded the Bill Nicholls Memorial Bomber Command and the Airscale Trophies. Thank you to Gary Matthews, Joe Brown and Marcus Nicholls for your support, inspiration and positivity, ensuring I didn't get 'too low' and keeping my 'black dog' at bay.

GETTING IMMERSED IN THE SUBJECT MATTER

Throughout the project, I've been inspired by Sir Barnes Wallis. An inventor and aircraft engineer designing for Vickers, he started with airships, famously the R100, then aircraft, namely the resilient geodesic structure for the Wellington. Later, he designed swing-wing technology. Look up this swing-wing story and the Tornado, the controversial TR2 and F111. He also suggested using submarines to transport cargo instead of ships. Wallis designed the Tallboy, which was used against the U-boat pens, V1 and V2 rocket sites and most famously by 617 Squadron, which precision-bombed the Tirpitz in 1944. Also, the Grand Slam 10-ton ground-penetrating 'earthquake' bomb that went supersonic with its high terminal velocity also delivered by 'The Lanc'

TESTING THE WATER

Looking back a few years, we could only dream of a mainstream 1:32 heavy bomber. Now we're spoilt for choice! The Hong Kong Models Lancaster is available as a standard MK.III, 'Dambuster' or 'Grand Slam'. The wings lock and detach cleverly at the fuselage, storing it efficiently. Border Model released the standard MK.III first, not the Dambuster as Wingnut Wings planned. The wings separate at the natural



The 5kg box is huge, and lifting the beautiful art-worked lid, we're faced with twenty-six sprues containing 625 high-quality moulded parts with wonderful detail, topped off with two clear sprues protected by thin foam and bubble wrap. Options include needle and paddle blade propellers, flattened, weighted tyres and anti-shimmy and round-type tail wheels. Bombs, too, and a considerable number of the parts are tiny. The instructions look clear and concise at first but be warned - if you follow the order exactly, you hit dead ends and illogical sequences

joint between the nacelles, like the real thing, allowing you to display the fuselage on its undercarriage. The cockpit detail is on a whole other level, and the Merlin engines are superb, better than the benchmark Tamiya 1:32 Spitfire, Mustang and Mosquito.

The HK and Border kits are two distinct offerings, both with pros and cons. Your budget, level of accuracy, experience and dedication will determine your personal choice.

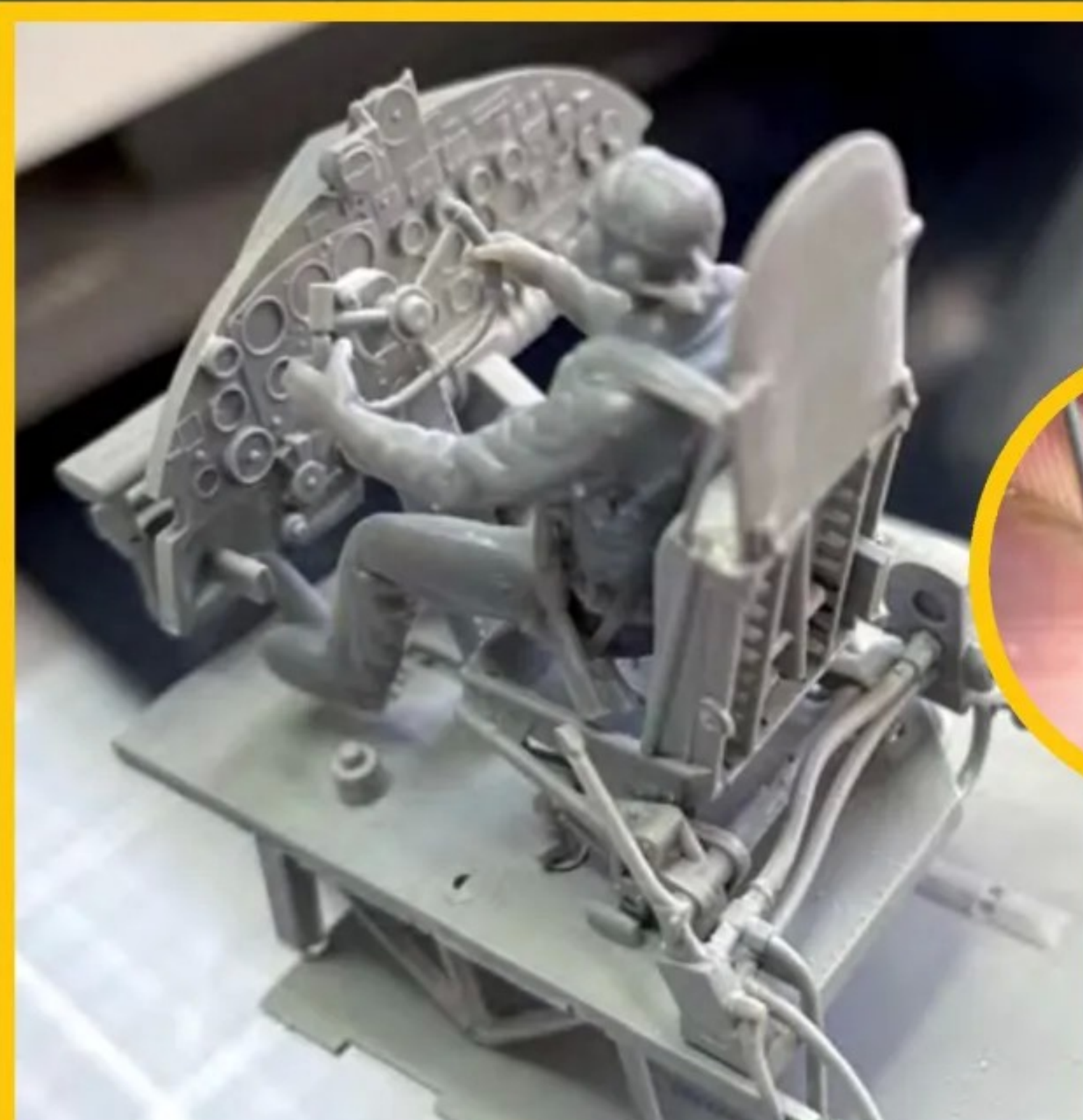
In short, the points for comparison are:

- Canopy glazing: The HK kit is inaccurate, being too squat, but it is crystal clear. The Border Model clear parts are accurate and impressively thin at just 0.4mm but are eggshell-brittle and display spider lines running through them.
- Surface detail: HK Model is more straightforward, with scribed lines and some panels needing correction. The Border Model kit is accurate overall with raised

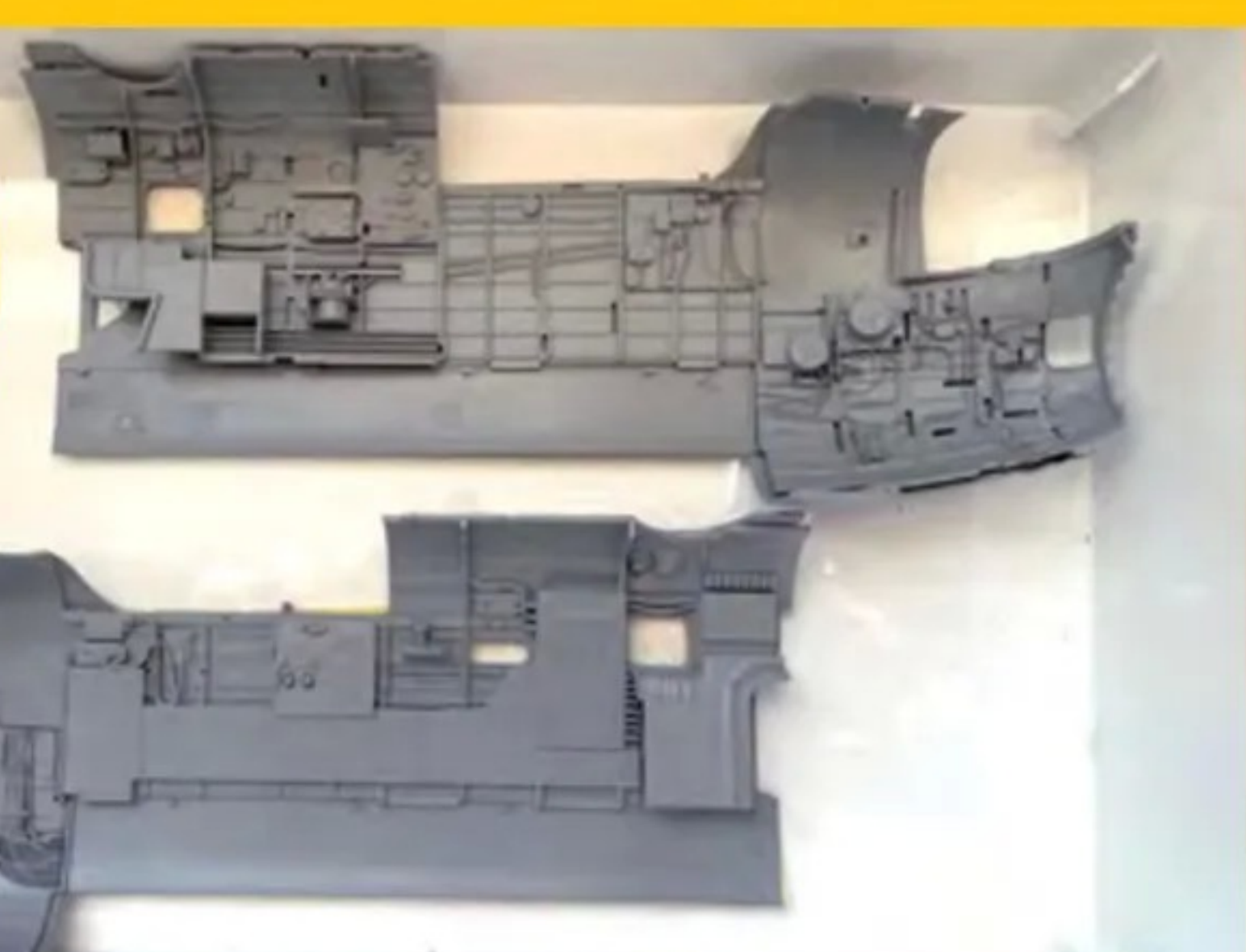
rivets and the stressed skin oil canning effect.

- Panel detail is excellent, but replacing the lost detail creates a challenge.

The Border Model Lancaster is a stunning production. The build experience is, on the whole, good, with some exemplary elements, but be warned, there are some issues. The fit of the front end is precise: recognisably Wingnut Wings with micron-thin tolerances. The back end, though, is less exceptional.



Starting in the cockpit, I'm testing the Tori Factory 3D-printed Pilot. The kit includes two seat options—one with cushion and moulded-in belts, the other with no padding or belts, which I chose, adding padding with Magic Sculpt. Leave the seat separate and glue it at the end of the build. I added scratch-built and Airscale PE throttle levers later



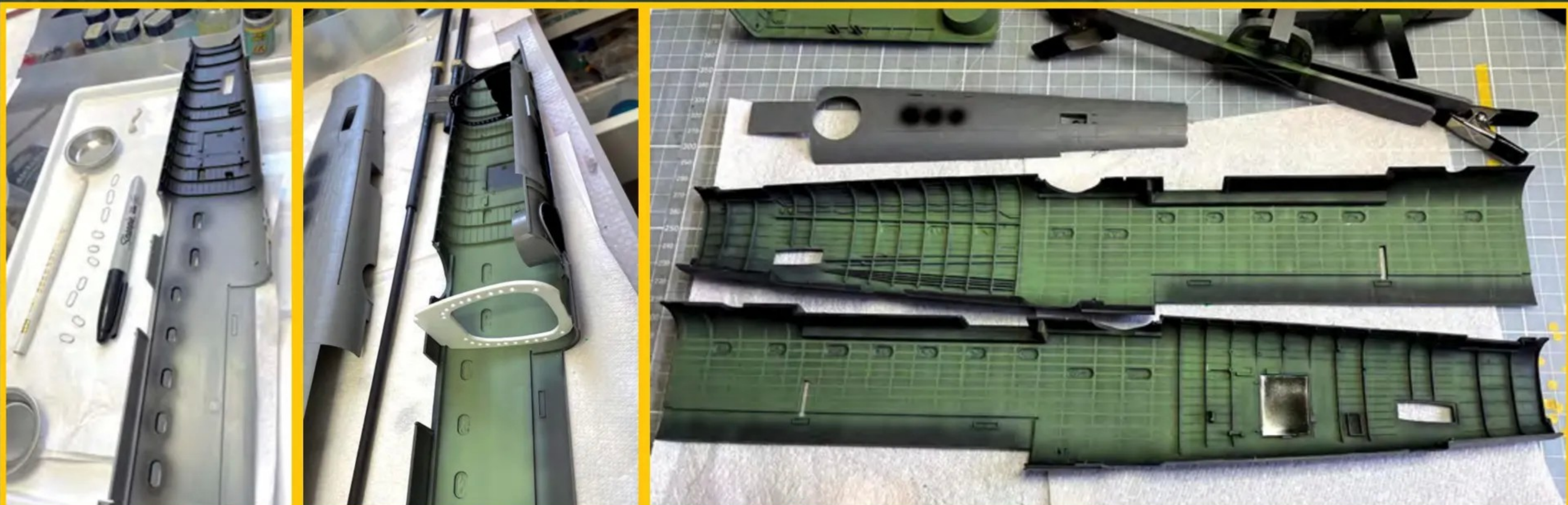
It's best to use a razor saw to remove the delicate parts. Sail needles make perfect mini files to clean inside the small parts. The level of detail is incredible. There are only six parts here, onto which the pipework, equipment, railings, and oxygen bottles are added



AK Interactive Worn Effects was used under the green. Sprues A and B are used to start the build, which is logical

This model likes to drink, and these large jars are just big enough! I mixed 10ml of Tamiya XF-71 and XF-21, with Mr Levelling Thinner, to make a lightened interior green shade to make the detail more visible





Above left; Mr Surfacer 1500 black is sprayed around the openings. There are three similar window sizes, so pay attention to the instructions. Some are too tight, so careful sanding is needed for the chamfered edges to create a flush fit. Run a sharpie around the glazing to hide any edge silvering and I used slow-setting Mr Cement spB black
Above right; Masking the many windows was easy using discs cut precisely with a Dspiae circle cutter. To support my cantilever arm I added thick plastic card ribs. Because the interior might be seen; viewed at eye level, I painted the internal structure using a trompe l'oeil effect. This was actually unnecessary because it's dark inside. If you display the rear door open, it may let in more light, so this effect could pay off

REMAINING GROUNDED

I bought the HK Model Lancaster on its release as I was already committed, having started constructing the cantilever arm and base. Then Wingnut Wings announced their version giving me a big dilemma! I took the difficult decision to wait for the WnW model to come out, but then

the news hit - WnW was closing and more waiting ensued. Somehow, it had to be released by someone. The moulds were too close to being finished and this was too special not to happen. The story unfolded publicly through Covid and lockdowns. December 2021 was the new promised release date, and following

more delays, on 30th June, I could start, and the kit(s) arrived. (I ordered two as a fail-safe).
I've been asked "resin's expensive, isn't it?" "You're brave, cutting up 'that' kit?" "Are those figures expensive?" - And I smile at this; "Have you seen the film?" To each of these questions, the answer is,

YES! and, A LOT! "Are you crazy?" Well, since obsessing over this project, I haven't bought any other kits, only building for Tamiya Model Magazine. I have a workshop where I built the base and store it. I've been singularly focused on this project, and now that it's complete, I can rest!



Putting the outer wing sections together was a straightforward procedure, but what wasn't too clear in the instructions is first fit parts O23, O2 and O24, O1 to the upper wings. A Flexifile sander was used to conform to the leading edges and gets behind the moulded detail of the cable cutters



The matching port vent is sadly omitted from the Border Model kit. I moulded Blue Stuff around the starboard vent, then pressed Superfine White Milliput into the mould to make the replica which was trimmed and filed down and fixed in place using Deluxe Rocket Rapid cyanoacrylate adhesive (superglue)



The internal flaps are fine and delicate, but should they be finished in black or green? The modeller should swap parts O9 and O10 as they're numbered incorrectly. Glue the ribs in place first, the use a straight edge to ensure the trailing edge remains true and not warped in any way



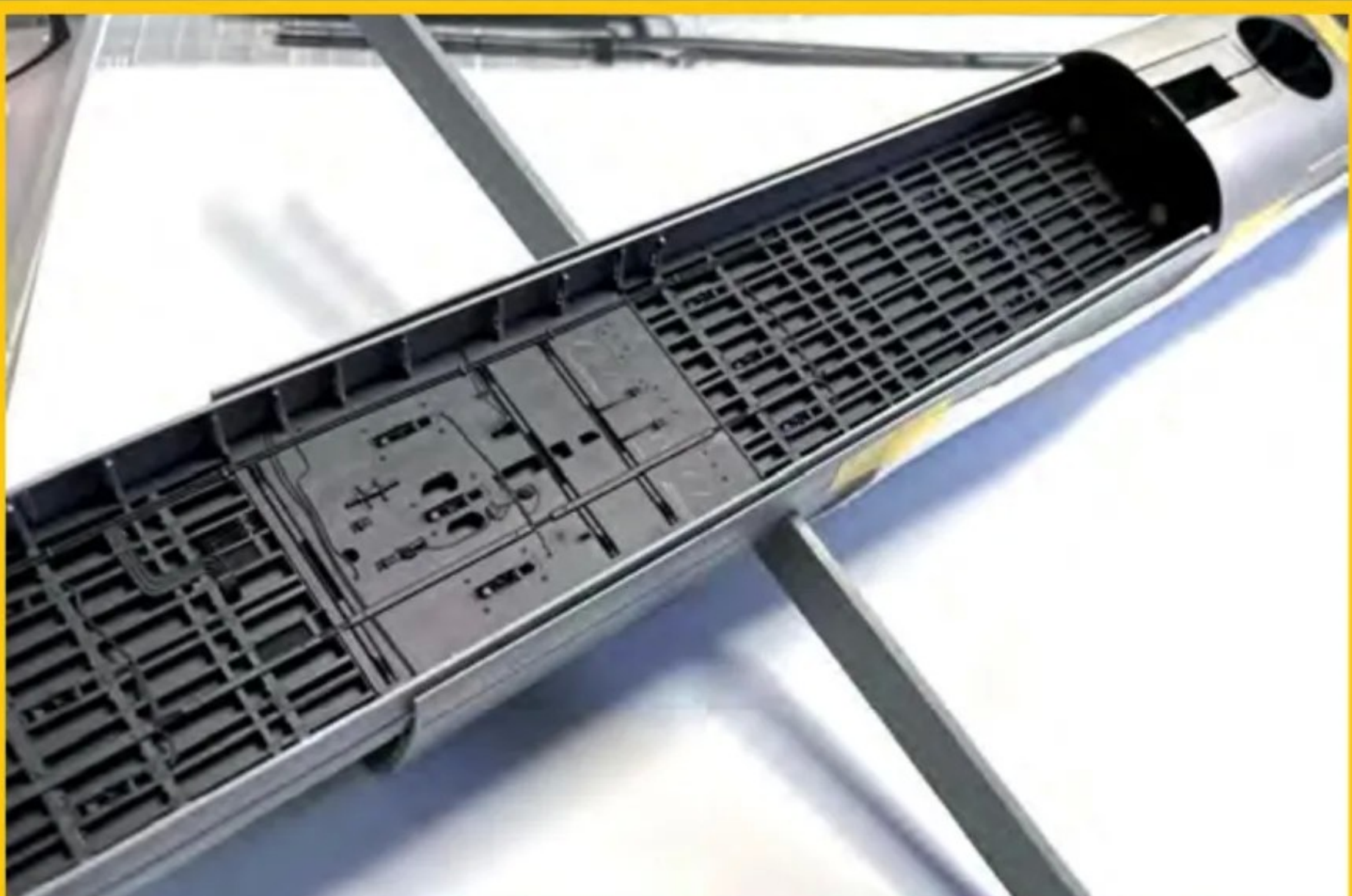
The clear wingtip lights fit poorly but are moulded with divots to paint the bulbs. The surrounds were sprayed black before fixing with CA. Delicate sanding blended them in, retaining the rows of delicately raised rivets



The outer wing insert needs some serious sanding to thin the plastic down to almost nothing (pictured bottom) so it doesn't prize the inner wing open at the leading edge, which should be left unglued until this test fitting stage. When corrected, it forms a naturally clean panel (top)



To enable the outer cockpit parts to fit, we need to sand down the raised ejector pin marks and mould seams on the inner nose, indicated by the hatching



Here I'm test-fitting the rear fuselage section. Fit the bomb bay doors now! Don't fit them at the end, as illustrated. It's a trap that proves impossible due to the tabs and fitment

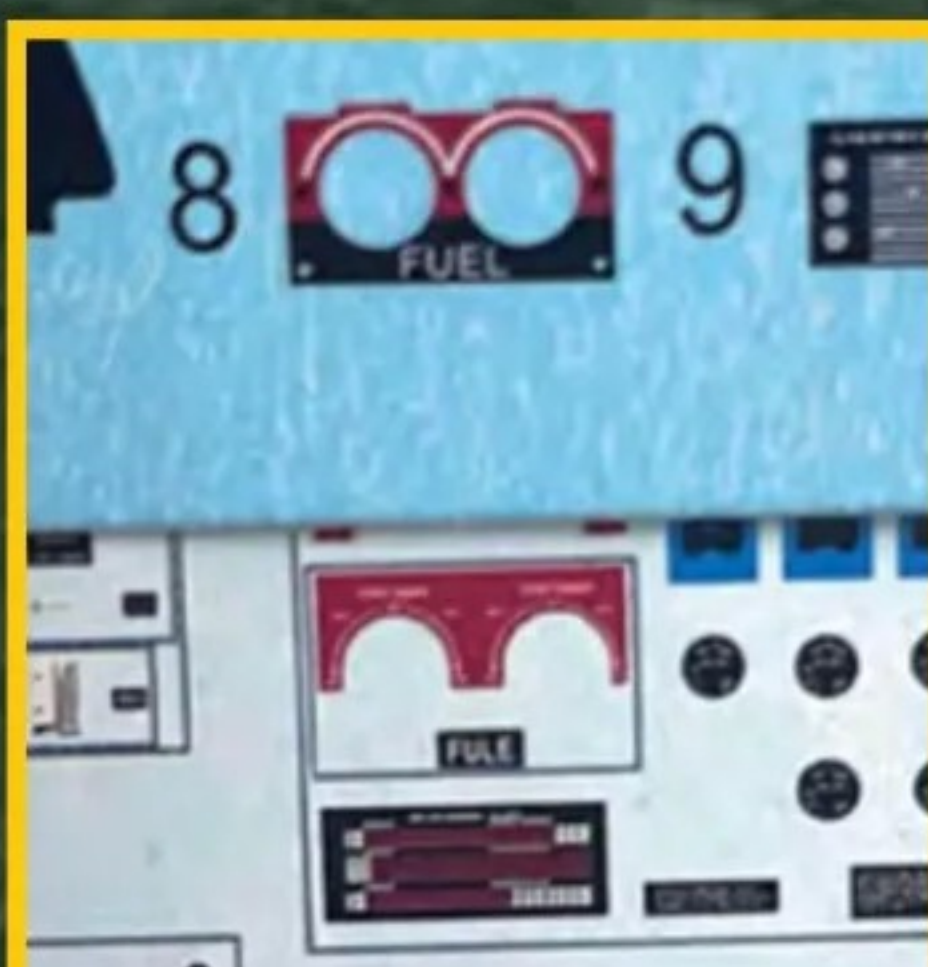
FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED AVIATION

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) ● KIT NO.BF010



I altered the crew figures to fit the cockpit better. The bomb aimer's legs were cut to make his feet touch the floor. Magic Sculpt was used to restore the features. The elbow cushion was modified to conform to his pose too

I gave the crew a slightly 'shocked' look to help the scenario of the spray hitting the aircraft. A wet pallet was used so the Vallejo light and dark skin tones could be worked 'live' on the figures



Left, compare the Airscale spelling of 'Fuel' to Border Model's 'Fule' decal!

The tricky, super-thin kit decals have minimal backing film. They cling to themselves, doubling over, never to be recovered. Best to use a paintbrush, but they still test your patience. I punched individual dials from the Airscale set. These are forgiving and easy to use, helped by Mig decal solutions to fix them



This table is just one part, and this experiment turned out well. I Photoshopped and printed an actual 1943 Reculver air map and applied it 'wet' over clear Elmer's glue, so I could impart convincing folds and creases

RAISING THE LEVEL

I collected all the aftermarket items over time, mostly for the HK kit and I can recommend some for the Border Model kit:

- Master Turned brass

barrels - a step up from the ones in the Border kit

- Eduard Photo Etched Radiators: finer than the kit offering but not perfect

- Kits World Lancaster decals: many choices

available and more accurate sizes and colours

- Fantasy Printshop RAF 8" dull red letter and number codes with no carrier film: essential

- Kits World 3D printed seat

belts which are okay. I didn't use them, but worth considering

- Airscale Generic WW2 Allied Cockpit Placard Decals and WW2 RAF Dial Decals: well worth

MINI REVIEW...



GREEN STRAWBERRY 1:72 'RAZOR CREST' COCKPIT (15722-1/72) FOR REVELL
www.greenstrawberry.cz

We will take a more detailed look at this set next issue, but for now, let's just say this is an essential purchase if you are considering a build of Revell's 1:72 Razor Crest ship from The Mandalorian. 3D-print resin plus photo-etched parts will be found in the box, all carrying some fantastic detail. Highly recommended!

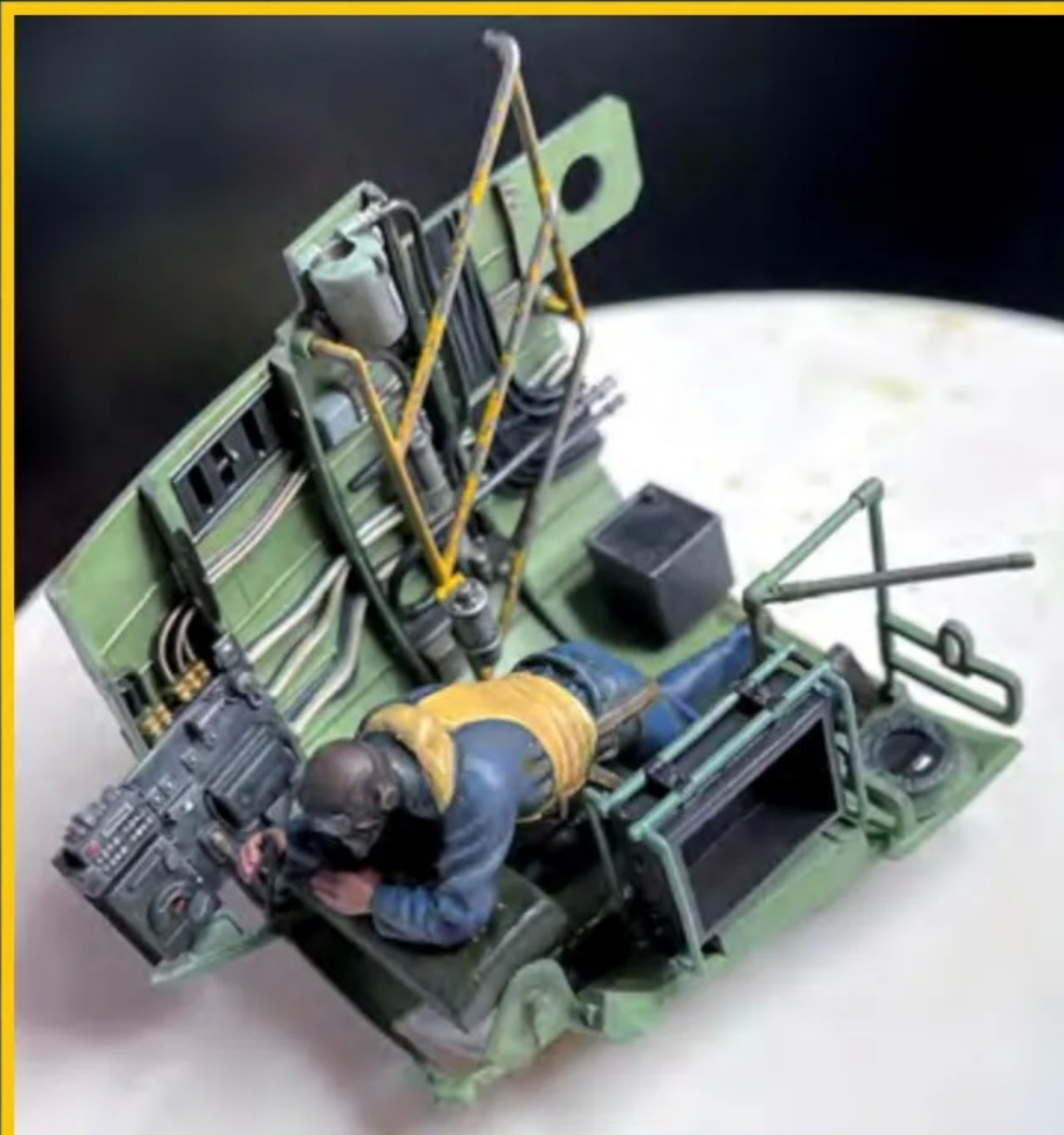




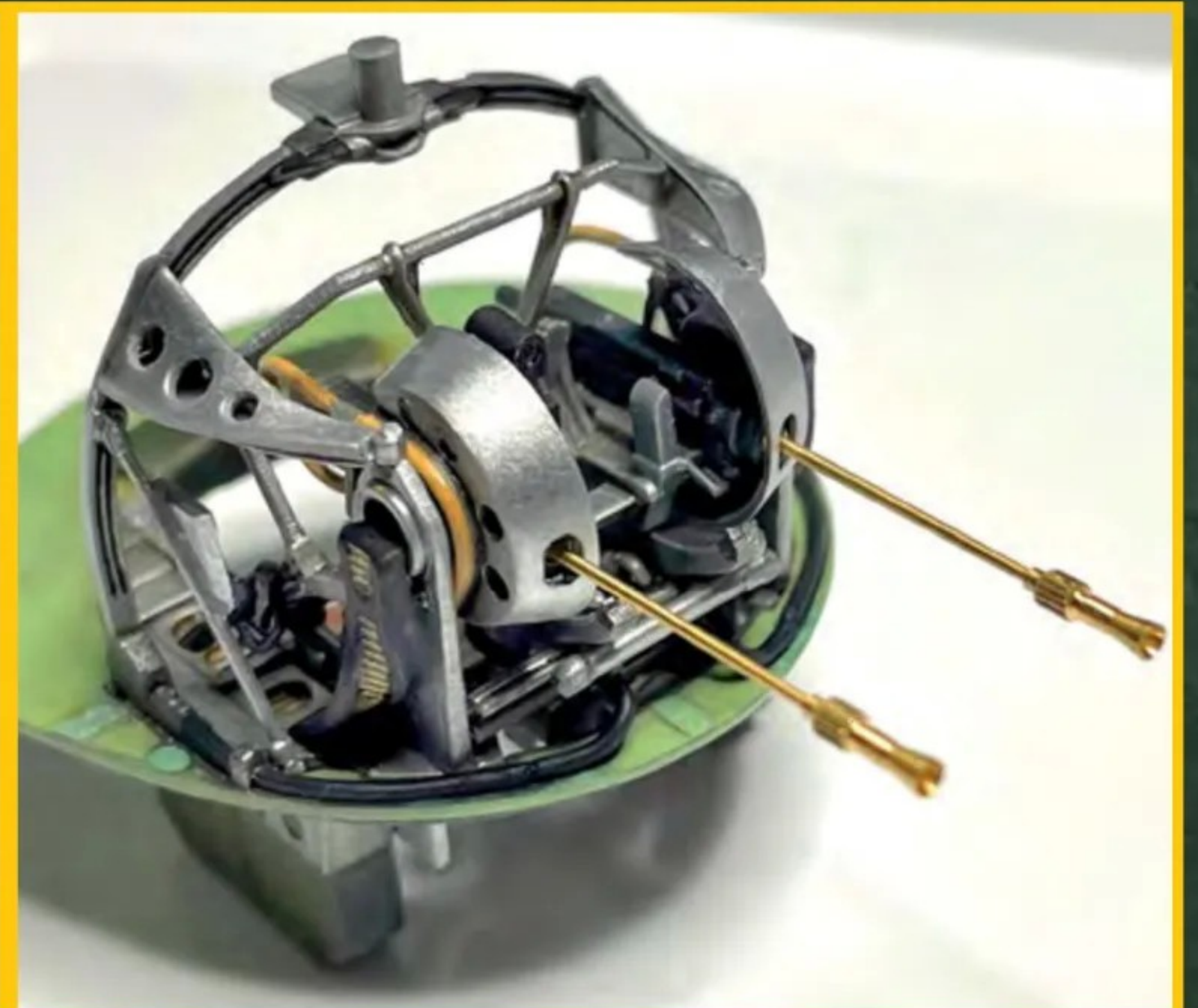
The cockpit is a highlight. The Airscale photo-etched throttle levers replace the kit's. It's a shame most of the detail will be hidden, but it's a pleasure to create this level of finish. The navigator's seat is tricky to fit. Glue the table, wall, and radio stand in place with the starboard half temporarily positioned to align the parts. Then A32 and B42 can be secured. A33 wasn't clear to me, so check before fitting the table and wall. Importantly, parts K1 and K12 are not glued yet

- supplementing the missing or delicate kit decals
- Airscale Avro Lancaster Instrument Panel upgrade (the photo-etched panel doesn't fit the Border kit): the throttle levers and decals supplement the kit parts if you're going all-in
- Archer Resin Rivet Decals 1:72: These are essential to replace the detail you'll remove when sanding away the surface detail
- IconicAir Resin Conversion for the HK model can be modified to fit the Border kit: I only used the Upkeep in the finished build
- Fichkopp Model Company's 3D printed front (working) fairing and Aldis Lamp: These are incredible, super accurate and 100% recommended
- Tori Factory 3D printed Lancaster crew: Nicely detailed, not cheap!

I highly recommend this kit, but only if you're confident and experienced. I would enjoy building another but knowing what I know now, I would make better, more informed choices. Following is what I've learned, and I hope it makes your experience better. Let's dive in... ●



The bomb aimer has a trigger made from brass tube with a thin wire lead. There's a better order to fit the nose parts; first, glue the starboard side G3 to floor G4, then fit these to G12. Then glue the port side G8 to G2 to finish the sequence. Also to note, Glue B46 to F8 later in the build just before fitting the canopy, not as instructed now



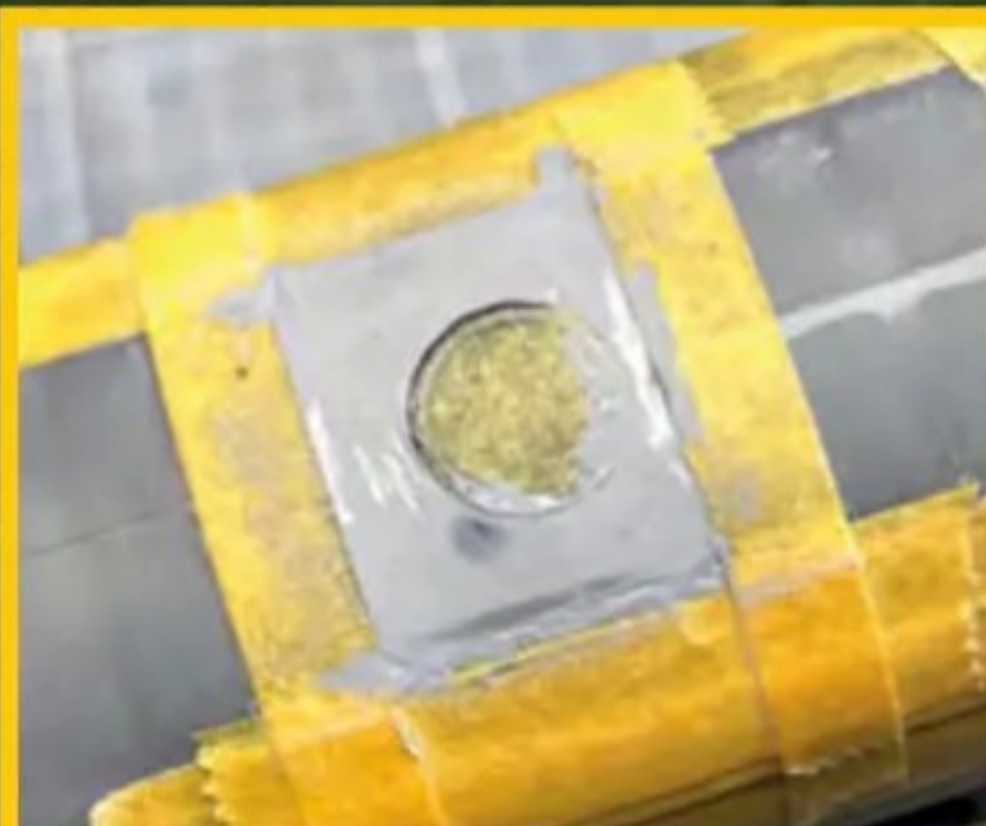
Early Lancs had bare metal framing with green interiors. With careful painting, this little assembly rewards your efforts, but the instructions are vague regarding the ammo feed placement - square blocks fit inside the hubs. Barrels from 'Master' increase the finesse, so drill 1.2mm diameter/2mm deep holes for the jackets and 0.8mm/5mm deep for the barrels themselves



The Border Model kit is engineered much like the real aircraft, providing a robust structure on which to support the carbon-fibre arm that I epoxied-glued to the tailplane and associated reinforcing ribs

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED AVIATION

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) ● KIT NO.BF010



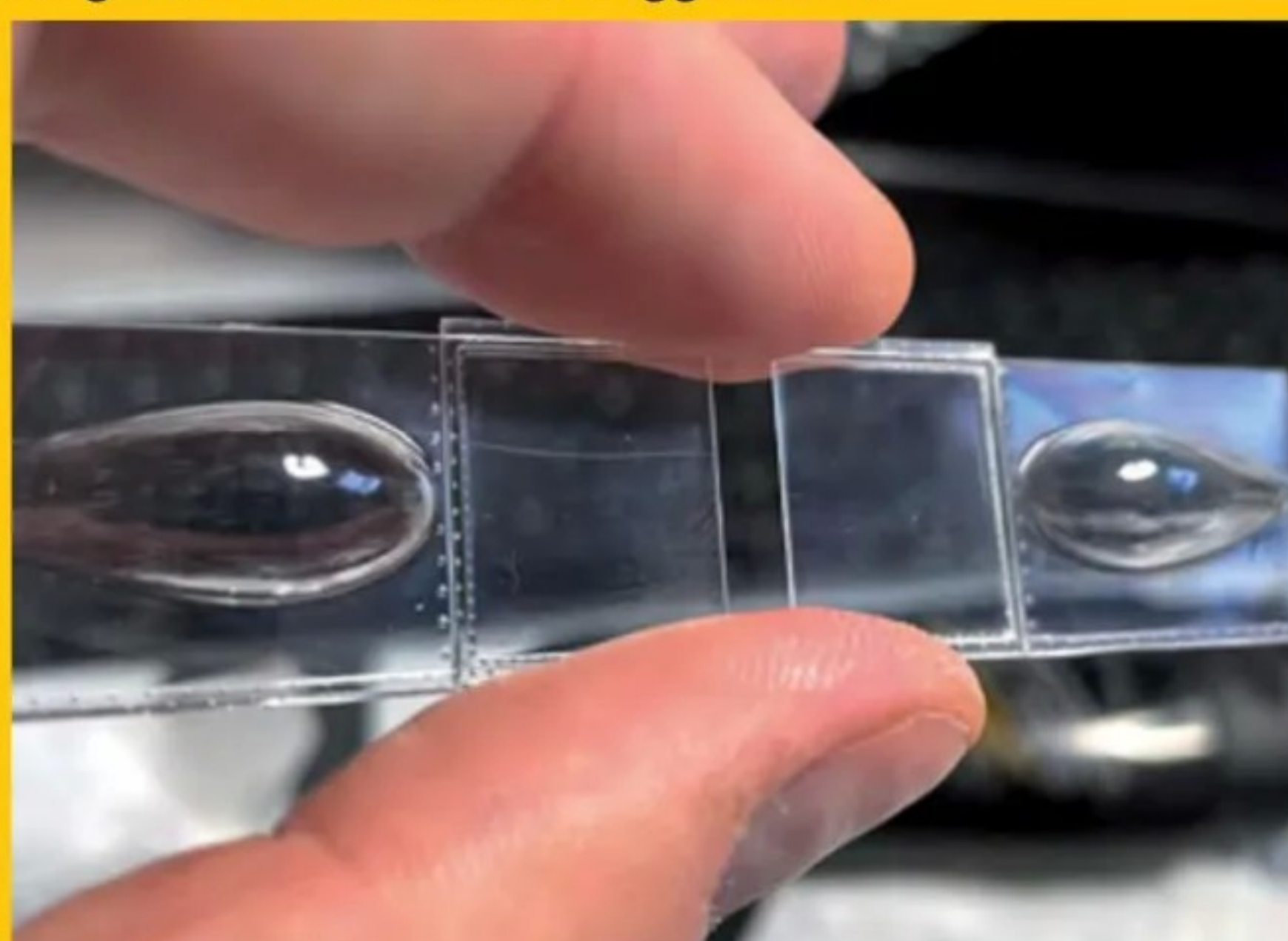
With the ill-fitting hatch windows in place and masked off, the missing surrounds can be reinstated using Mr Surfacer 500



The mid-upper turret blanking panel is incorrect, so it was sanded flush and defined with a No.10 blade

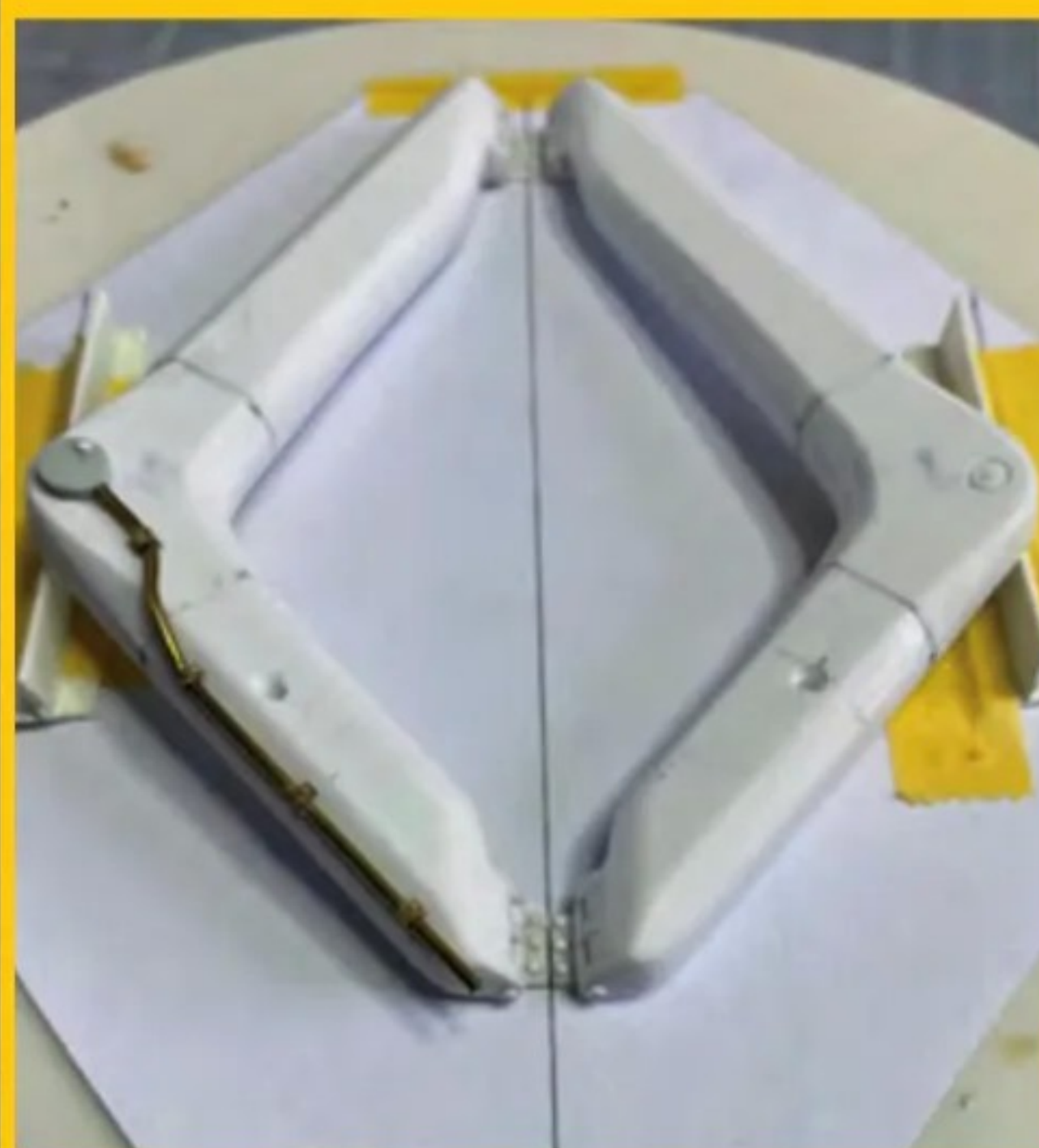
Do not follow the instructions! This is how the rear fuselage fits over the bomb bay (with the doors in place) to meet the front fuselage, with the spar dropping positively into position. The centre-line seam of the forward fuselage and K1 were left unglued to allow some wiggle room

I scratch-built the rear fairing and used wine bottle foil for the reinforcing band, cheers! Note - The Fischkopp front fairing is an exact fit, so don't run the edge strips all the way to the front, as I have here

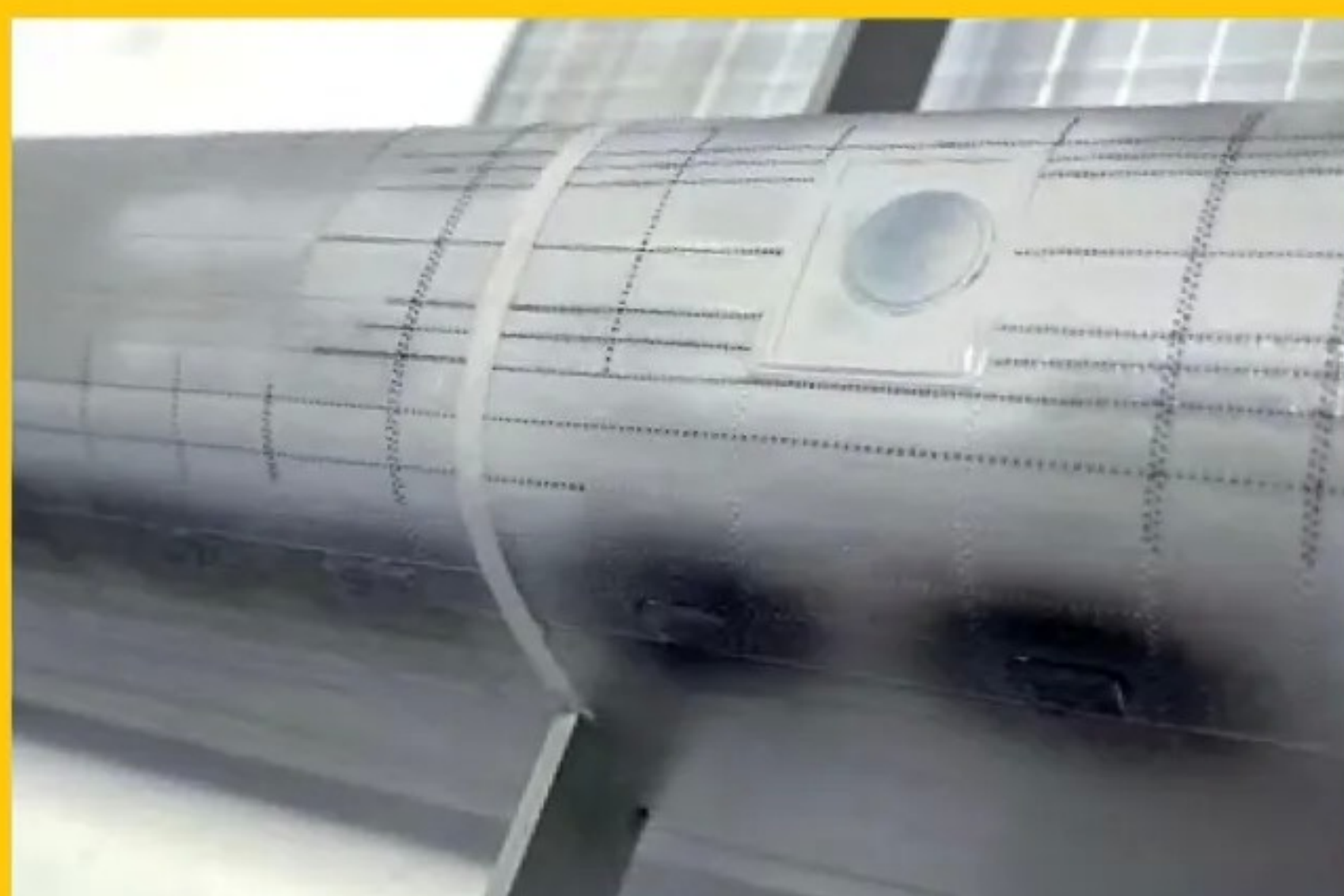


I'm fortunate that my canopy parts weren't broken, but the frames were slightly buckled. I used a fine razor saw and Dspiae single-side cutters to remove them. Using a new blade and Infini micro sanding sticks aids cleanup. The neoprene provides a soft protective surface for delicate pieces. The plastic is very forgiving, which offers some relief. Above right, by contrast, each brittle 0.4mm thick clear part displays internal mould lines! This is a massive letdown, and (you don't have to, but) my only option was to sand these parts down! (As pictured right)

A Dremel can melt the plastic, so I spent three days delicately sanding the glazing using Micro finishing pads (3200-12000), Tamiya Polishing sponges, compound and Meguires ScratchX. They were diligently cleaned with IPA and dipped in Klear



In the book, Piotr's CAD model accurately observes the photo references, so I used these to scratch-build the calliper arms. The cable release guide is made from 1mm brass tube, with fixings made from thin strips of wine foil; cheers again!



I used the 1:72 Archer rivet set AR88147 to reinstate all the lost rivet detail on the rear fuselage and engine nacelles. A lengthy but essential process using Micro Set, Sol, and Daco Products' strong. Rivets were applied to the nose and bomb bay fairing too



Tamiya LP-1 Black (gloss) was used as a primer, followed by Nato Black XF-69 and AK Real Colour Black 6RP to vary the tones. Mr Color 308 was heavily thinned to add a blueish mottle. Thinned Nato Black then unified the surfaces. None of the paints was true black in reality, but they create an accurate scale black



Settling my quest for the best Dark Earth and Dark Green, I chose Chris Wauchop's mix of Tamiya XF-81 and Mr Hobby 72, both lightened with XF-60 Dark Yellow. Both large jars were filled with 50ml each of paint and thinner - just enough!



I lightened the Dark Green shade with Mr Color 23 to emphasise the surface texture and the sun-bleached leading edges. Tamiya XF-81 creates subtle darker shadow areas. This was masked using Mig Masking Putty to spray the Dark Earth mix at 90° for the soft edge demarcation seen in the Dambuster photo references



This fantastic bomb bay fairing arrived from Fischkopp Model Company, which also offers an open camshaft for the Merlin engines and other state-of-the-art detail upgrades. This oozes accurate detail, and the hinges actually work. Incredible!



I discounted the bright, inaccurate kit decals; and also found discrepancies between the specialist aftermarket companies, comparing the Kits World, IconicAir and DN Models codes. The Kits World decal sheet looked closest to my references. I built up the most appropriate (correct to my measurements) version of the W code on Adobe Illustrator, then painted the codes and roundels. Mr Color 45 Sail formed the base for the aged white fuselage roundels



Using an intuitive rather than scientific approach, the red for the roundels was mainly Mr Color 327 with some XF-64 Red Brown to 'age' the colour down. Mr Color 326 was also 'aged' with XF-17 Sea Blue by eye

This growing pile may look disorganised, but it's a compact production line: Storage at the back, frequently used paints next to the spray booth on the left, tools on the (mobile) tray, and lesser used paints on the right. The hairdryer speeds up the drying process



“You know, there’s such a very thin dividing line between inspiration and obsession that sometimes it’s very hard to decide which side we’re really on...”

Sir Barnes Wallis CBE FRS RDI FRAeS



With the main painting and stencilling sealed with a gloss coat, the camouflage was faded with a thin mix of levelling thinner, XF-2 Flat White and XF-60 Dark Yellow. Ammo PLW Deep Grey was then subtly applied on both the upper and lower surfaces to delicately emphasise the surface texture



The front turret is fitted (without F2 and C1-17), then rotated to glue F2 in place, followed by the glazing. Cotton buds keep the masking tape off the seam so the glue isn't drawn under the tape. The teardrop/de-icer panel B38 is glued last



Finally, a super thinned mix of Mr Color 125 black was feathered, depicting the airflow followed by AK RC071 Black. Heavily thinned XF-52 Flat Earth was concentrated around the exhausts and lightly blown over the wing surface, finished off with Mr Color 45 Sail

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED AVIATION

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) ● KIT NO.BF010



TECHSPEC...

BORDER MODEL 1:32 AVRO LANCASTER B.MK.I/III W/FULL INTERIOR BF010 (CONVERTED TO DAMBUSTER TYPE 464) KIT NO.BF010

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals

Paints used:

Listed within photo-captions

Accessories used:

- Master: turned brass barrels
- Eduard: photo-etched radiators
- Kits World: Lancaster decals, 3D-printed seat belts
- Fantasy Printshop: RAF 8" dull red letter and number codes (no carrier film)
- Airscale: generic WW2 Allied Cockpit Placard Decals and WW2 RAF Dial Decals, Avro Lancaster Instrument Panel upgrade
- Archer: resin rivet decals: 1:72
- IconicAir: resin conversion for HK Model
- Fischkopp Model Company: 3D-printed front (working) fairing and Aldis Lamp
- Tori Factory: 3D printed Lancaster crew

Availability:

- Border Model kits are available from: www.tigerhobbies.co.uk
- Airscale: www.airscale.co.uk
- Archer: (out of production)
- Eduard: www.eduard.com
www.creativemodels.co.uk
- Fantasy Printshop: www.fantasyprintshop.co.uk
- Fischkopp Model Company: (Search on Facebook)
- IconicAir: www.iconicair.com
- Master: www.master-model.pl
- Tori Factory: www.torifactory.com

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Model by Wayne Hui

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New Releases

A selection of the latest full kits in plastic, resin, metal and more!

EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

Eduard's 'Löök' packages provide the modeller with a very easy, 'plug 'n play' solution to upgrading their build without breaking the bank, something we all appreciate. In each box you'll often find replacement resin wheels with better detail and weighted flat-spots, an instrument panel, seat harnesses and more, along with a masking set. Well worth the investment! **TMMI**

1:48 Brassin Löök sets

- SR-71A (644160) for Revell
- Mustang Mk.IV (644111) for Eduard
- Su-27 (644144) for GWH



MINIART, UKRAINE

www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

New sets have arrived from the always-prolific manufacturers MiniArt, who soldier on despite the horrors in their home country. Very sensibly, they have relocated to Poland for the safety of their staff. Designed to compliment their new-tooled Pak40 (to be reviewed next issue) we have a set of 75mm rounds, boxes and four empty casings, the latter slide-moulded to allow the creation of open ends. Decals are provided for the rounds and cases and the detail is top notch. In 1:48 we have a set of oil and fuel cans from the 1930s and '40s of various designs and decals are provided for many of them. Fantastically creative stuff, as always. **TMMI**

1:35 model accessories

- 7.5cm PaK40 Ammo Boxes with Shells Set I (35398)

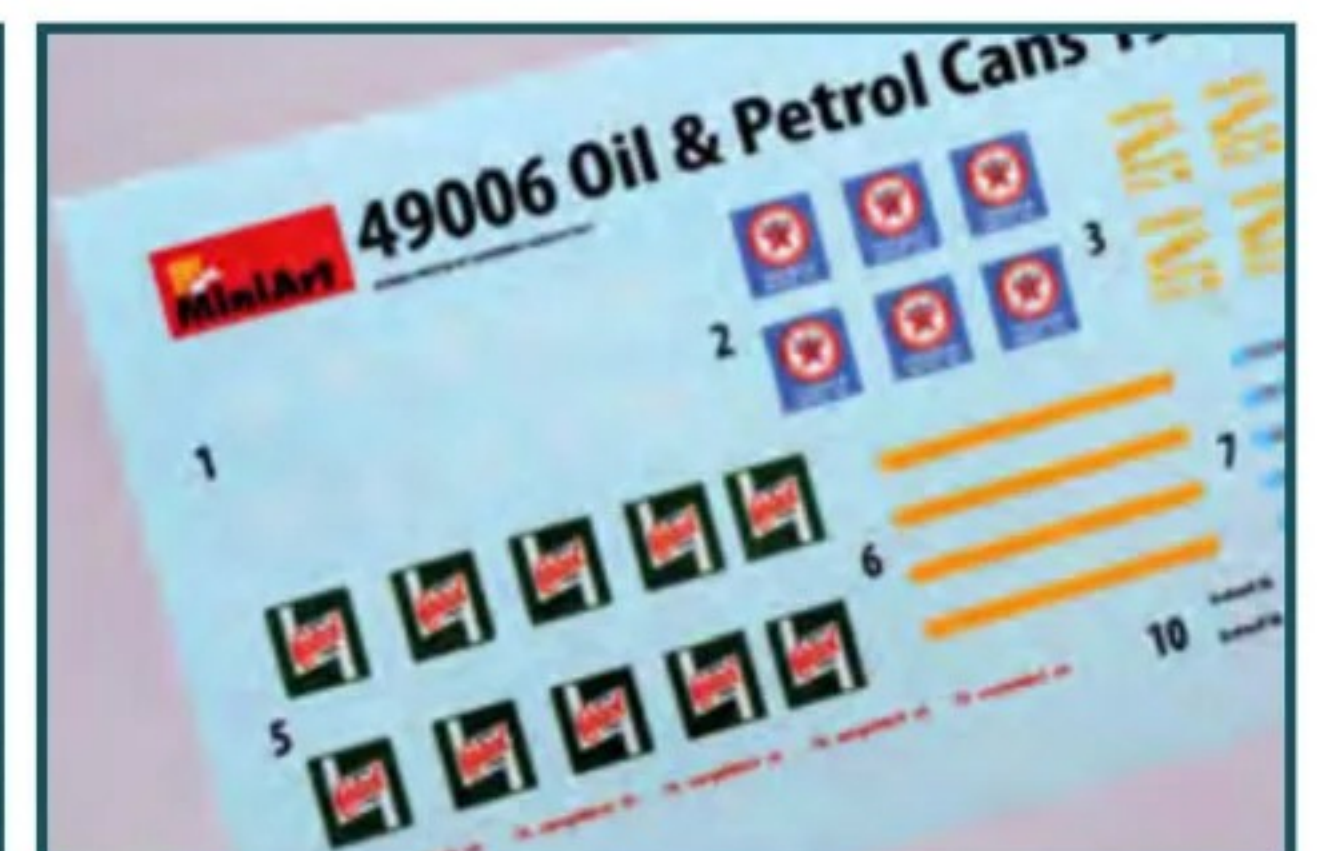
1:48 model accessories

- Oil & Petrol Cans 1930-40s (49006)

35398



49006



PARACEL MINIATURES, VIETNAM

www.paracelminiatures.com

In recent times there have been several pickup truck kits released by various manufacturers (Meng, AK Interactive) but no-one to crew them! Paracel Miniatures from Vietnam have put that right with these two sets of resin figures in their 'Africa Series' that depicts the tragic guerilla-wars that have happened on the continent over the decades. The figures are incredible; they have been sculpted to reflect the body shapes of the young warriors and the poses are brilliantly life-like and full of action. Just a little clean-up of the resin castings will be needed and they can be then assembled with CA glue (superglue) and painted with regular modelling paints. Weapons and accessories are included. **TMMI**

1:35 figure sets

- Pickup Crews, Africa Series (AFRI-3501)
- Pickup Passengers Africa Series (AFRI-3504)

AFRI-3501



AFRI-3504



New Releases Accessories

A selection of the latest full kits in plastic, resin, metal and more!

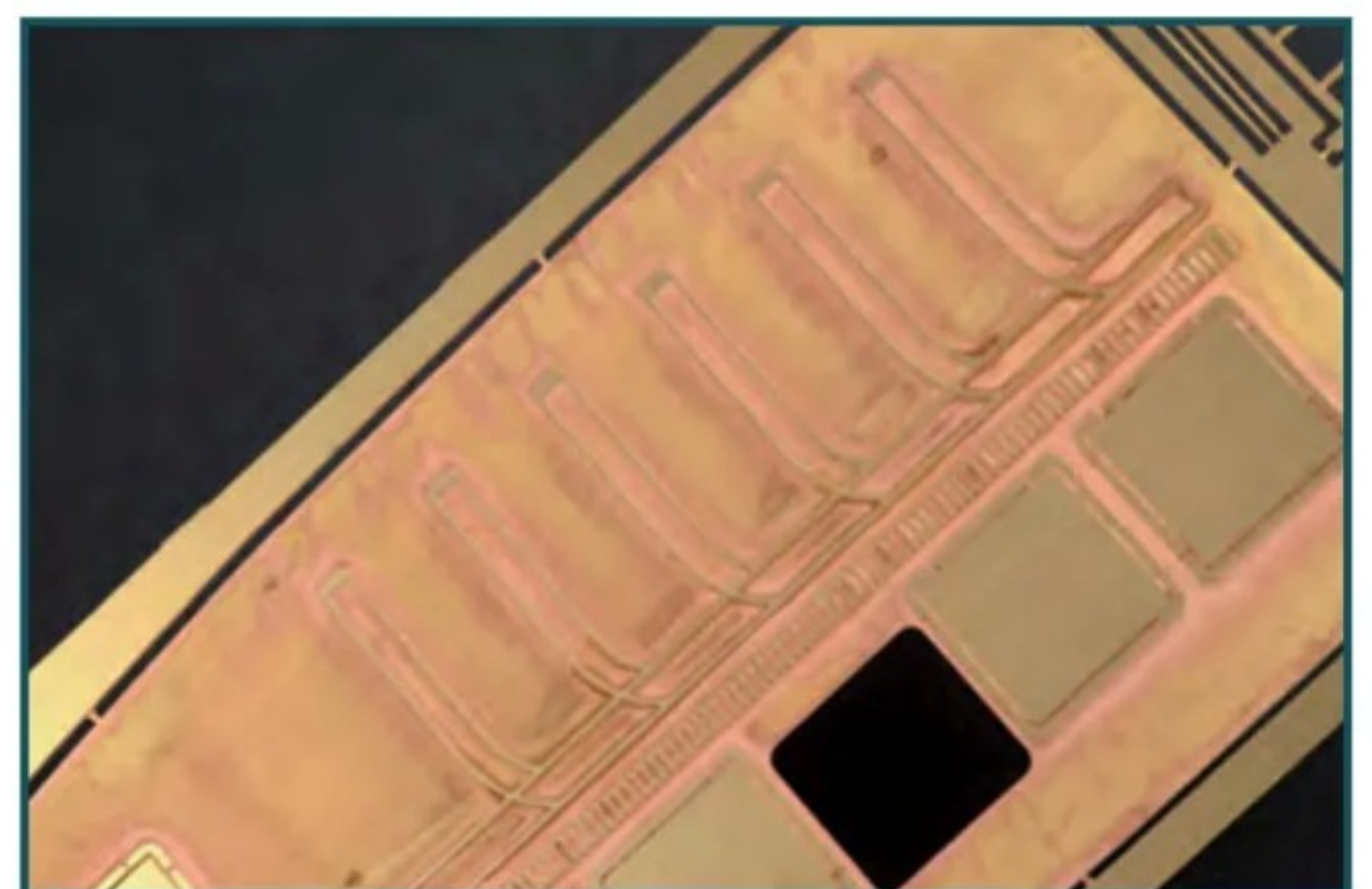
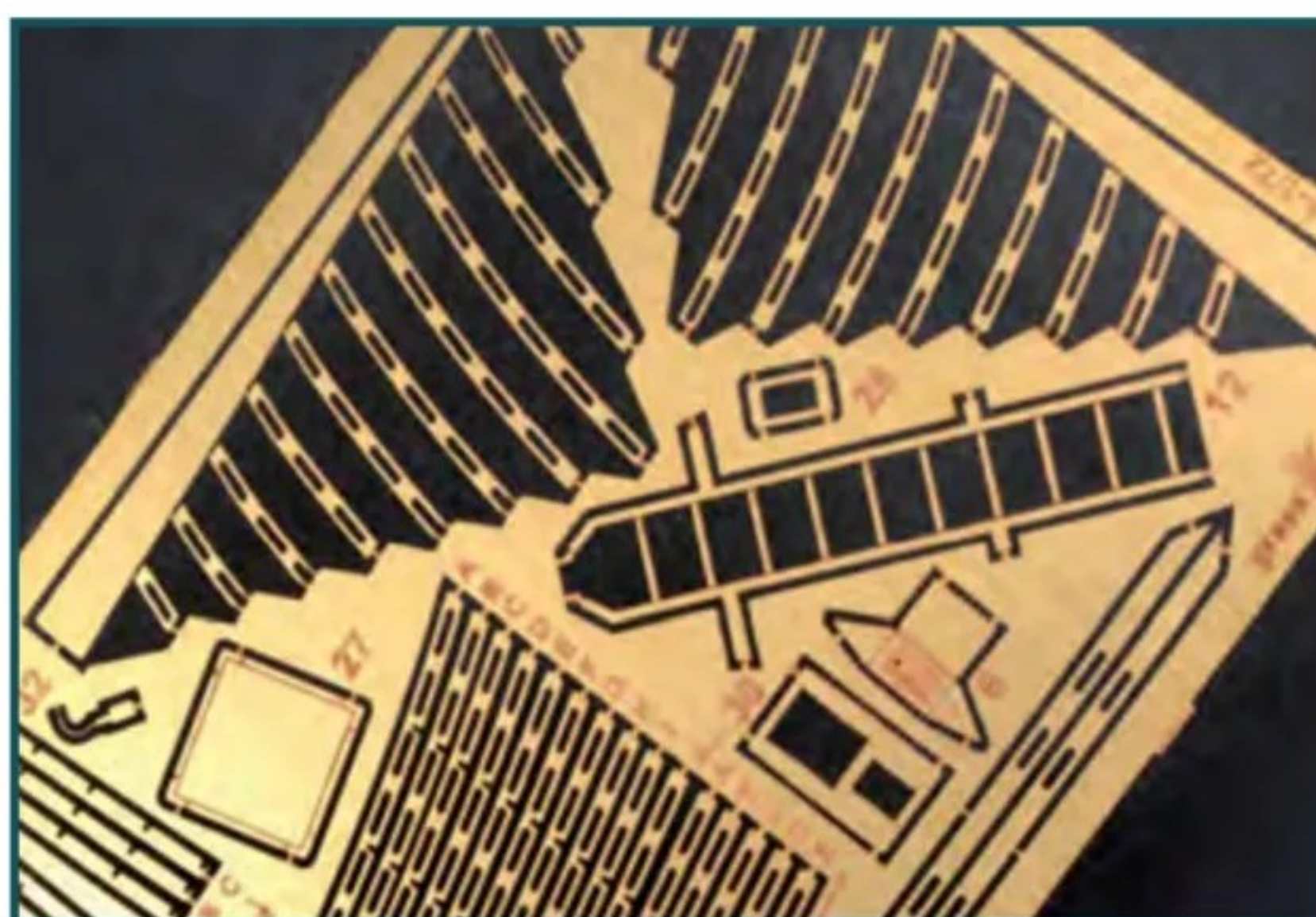
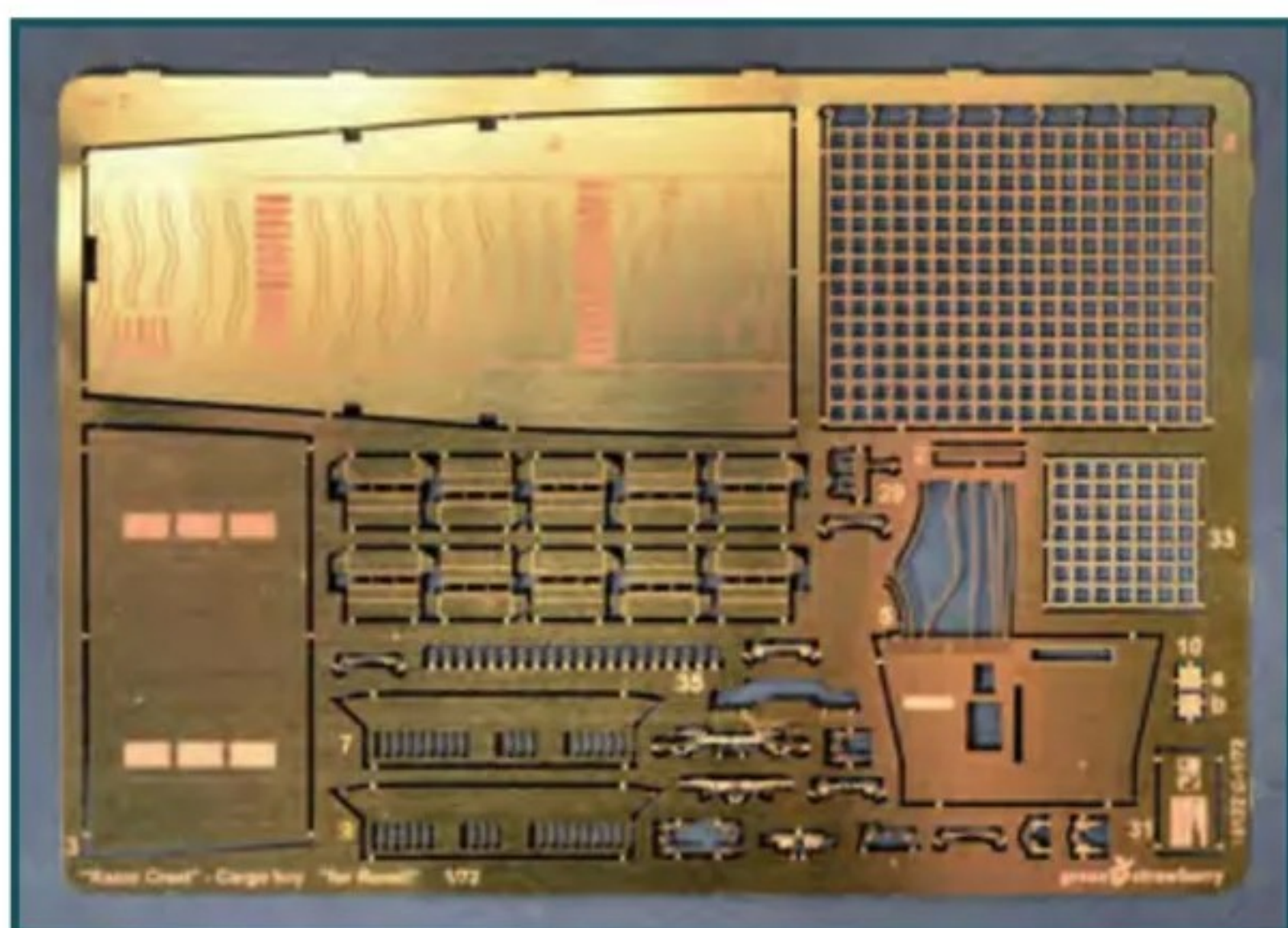
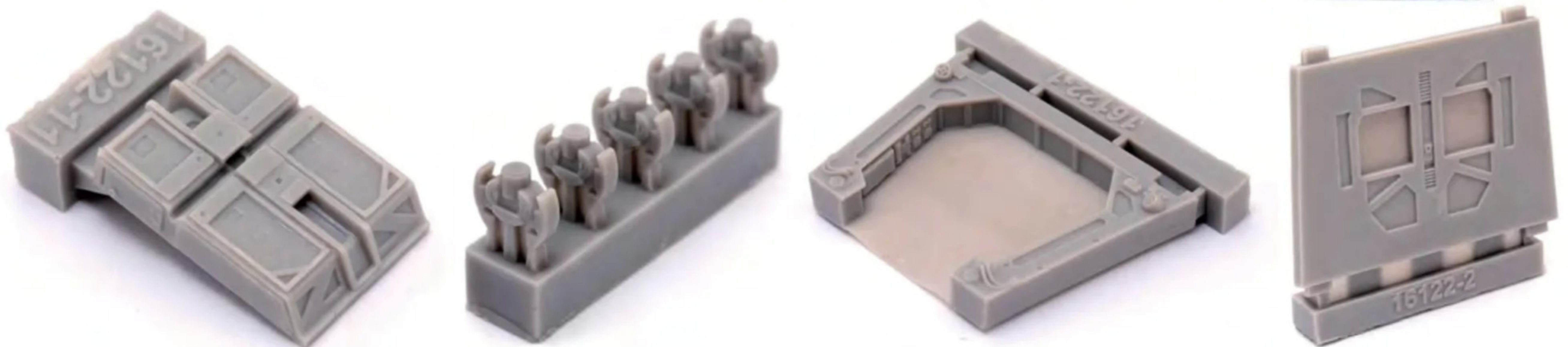
GREEN STRAWBERRY, CZECH REPUBLIC

www.greenstrawberry.cz

Until recently, Green Strawberry was a new company to us at TMMI, but boy, are we glad to have made contact with them! They offer a wide range of upgrades for numerous science-fiction models, with a distinct leaning towards Star Wars and Star Trek hardware. We only had space to look at one of their sets this month, a cargo bay for Revell's wonderful Razor Crest ship from the Disney+ The Mandalorian TV series, and wow, what a set it is. The pack contains no less than six frets of photo-etched brass plus over twenty, flawless 3D-printed resin components for the interior and it's mighty impressive. The detail is fantastic and well-designed instructions are provided. We will be putting this set into action in a second build of the ship, in TMMI soon.

TMMI

1:72 science-fiction model detail set
- Razor Crest Cargo Bay (16122-1/72) for Revell



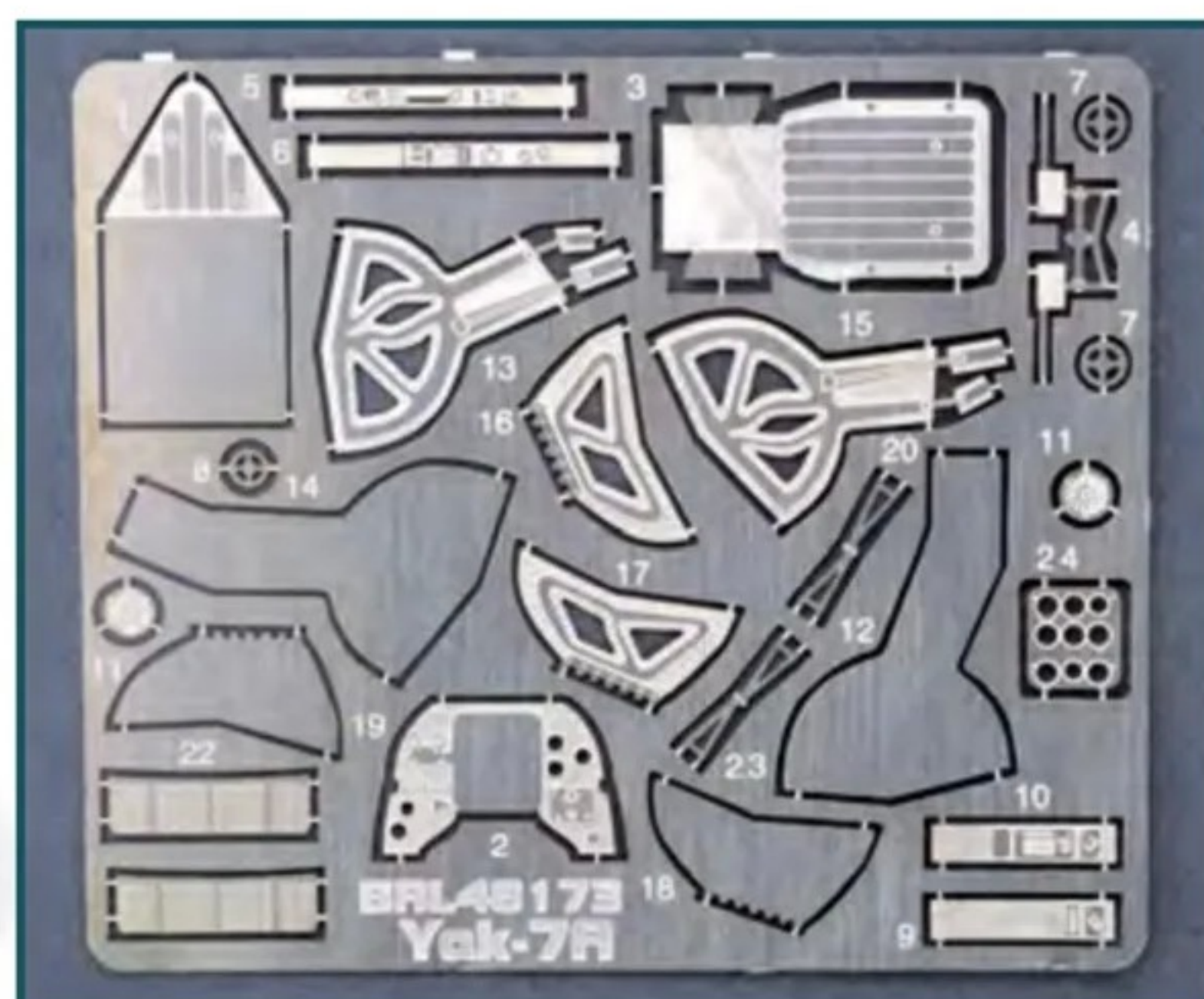
BRENGUN, CZECH REPUBLIC

www.brengun.cz

Brengun have created a pair of superbly detailed AGM-88 missiles here, ideal for fitting to a number of US jets; data-stencil decals are included. Also new is a concise but well thought-out photo-etched set for ICM's 1:48 Yak-7A kit, including undercarriage doors, seat and radiator faces. Top quality as always. **TMMI**

1:72 model accessory
- AGM-88 HARM (x2) (BRL72275)

1:48 photo-etched set
- Yak-7A (BRL48173) for ICM



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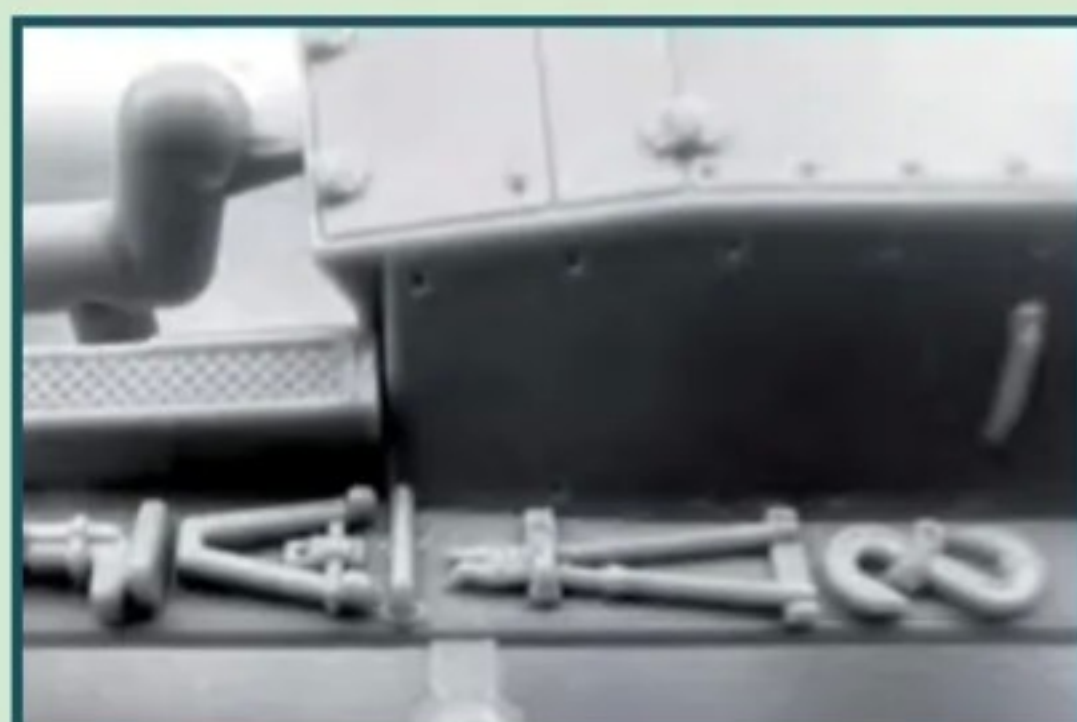
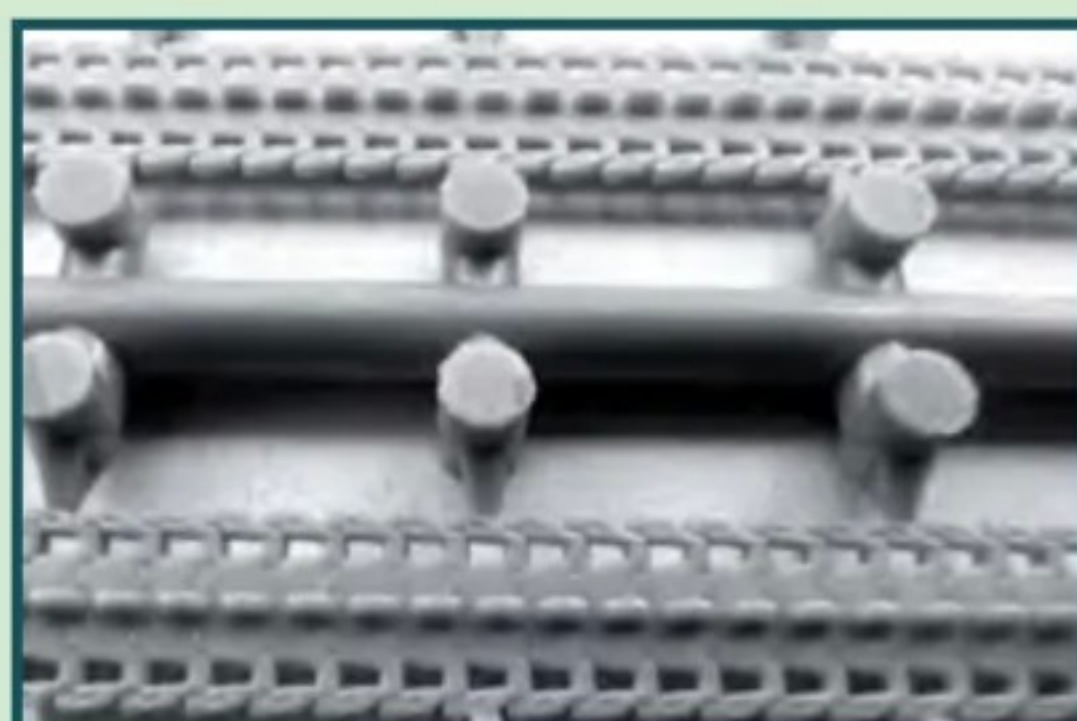
SCALE: 1:72

MATERIALS: IM, WS

ITEM NO.7636

Even before the outbreak of WW2, the Sturmgeschütz (StuG) was seen as an inexpensive way to fit a heavier gun onto a Panzer III chassis, resulting in a low and powerful vehicle. The StuG went on to become a very successful weapon system, gradually fitting more powerful guns and shifting from infantry support to an anti-tank role. The Ausf.B version of the StuG is an early war version, mounting a short 75mm gun. A few were available for the invasion of France, but this version saw most service in the Balkans and Russia. This StuG from Dragon is a simple but well-moulded kit, with an intermediate suspension consisting of the later sprocket and early style idler. The tools are moulded in place on the track-guards and the level of detail is very good for this scale. The lower hull tub is particularly well detailed, although the faint outline of the side doors should be removed for this version. The 'Neo' tracks are assembled from long runs of hard plastic, with bends at positions indicated in the instructions. There is even a jig to create the required sag in the top run of track. This results in a very detailed appearance to the track-work. The decals are superb, with insignia for several units although only one is shown in the instructions. A little research online will show the placement for the other StuG units. **CLS**

-  Fantastic detail, particularly in the tracks and hull
-  Decal placements are only explained for one of the many options



ICM, UKRAINE

BM-21 'GRAD'

www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk

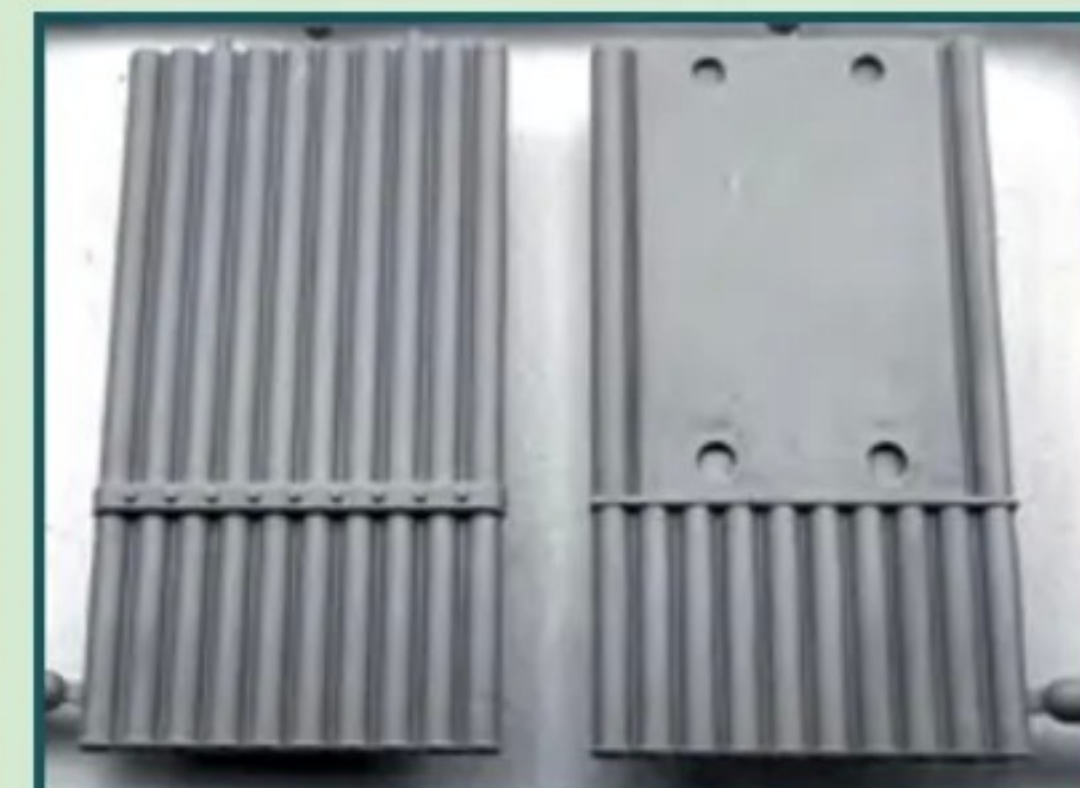
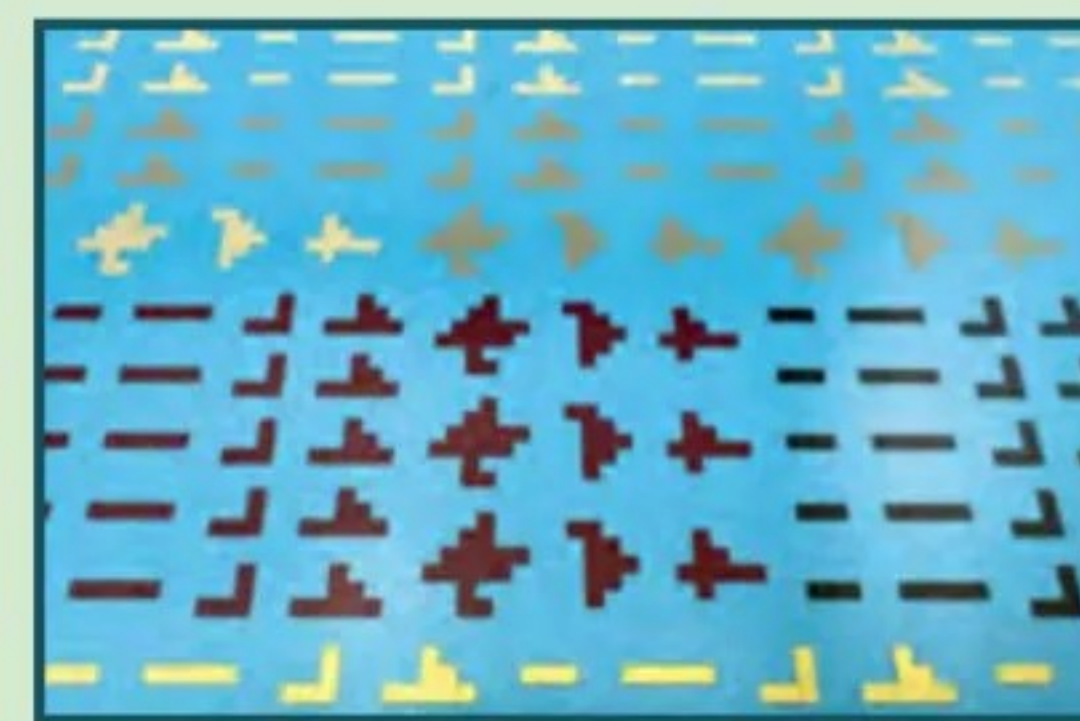
SCALE: 1:72

MATERIALS: IM, WS

ITEM NO.72707

The URAL trucks have been widely used by Russian and other allied armies since production began in 1977. It was an obvious step to mount the MLRS Grad system on the back of this ubiquitous truck and in this form it has been seen widely on our screens since Russia launched the invasion of its Ukrainian neighbour. The BM-21 Grad is used by both sides and Ukraine has captured a number since the invasion began. This kit by ICM is in their Brave Ukraine series and shows the 40-tube rocket launcher pack mounted on a Ural-4320 chassis. The chassis parts are moulded in black plastic, reflecting that these trucks are produced with the lower parts painted in a protective black material. The upper parts of the kit are in grey, requiring an overall green colour, over which the digital scheme is applied. ICM has made life easier for modellers by providing decals for the patches of digital camouflage, both in the current scheme and in the 2021 colour pattern. The Grad fires 122mm rockets and is being widely used by Ukraine and by the invading Russians, so this kit is certainly topical! Moulding quality is exceptional, but the one-piece cab with open grille is really striking. In all respects, a superb little model. **CLS**

-  Very clever decals for the complex digital pattern camouflage
-  All we need is a crewman or crates of spare missiles



TIC SECTION, F; FABRIC, IM; INJECTION MOULDED (PLASTIC), ITL; INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINKS, LC; LIQUID CEMENT, LCC; LASER CUT CARD, LLT; LINK AND LENGTH TRACKS, MC; METAL CHAIN, MMA; MACHINED METAL ALLOY, PER STRIP, R; RESIN, SVT; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), VF; VINYL FIGURES, VFP; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), WC; WOVEN CORD, WS; WATERSLIDE (DECALS)



ICM, UKRAINE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES IN EUROPE, 1918

www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk

SCALE: 1:35

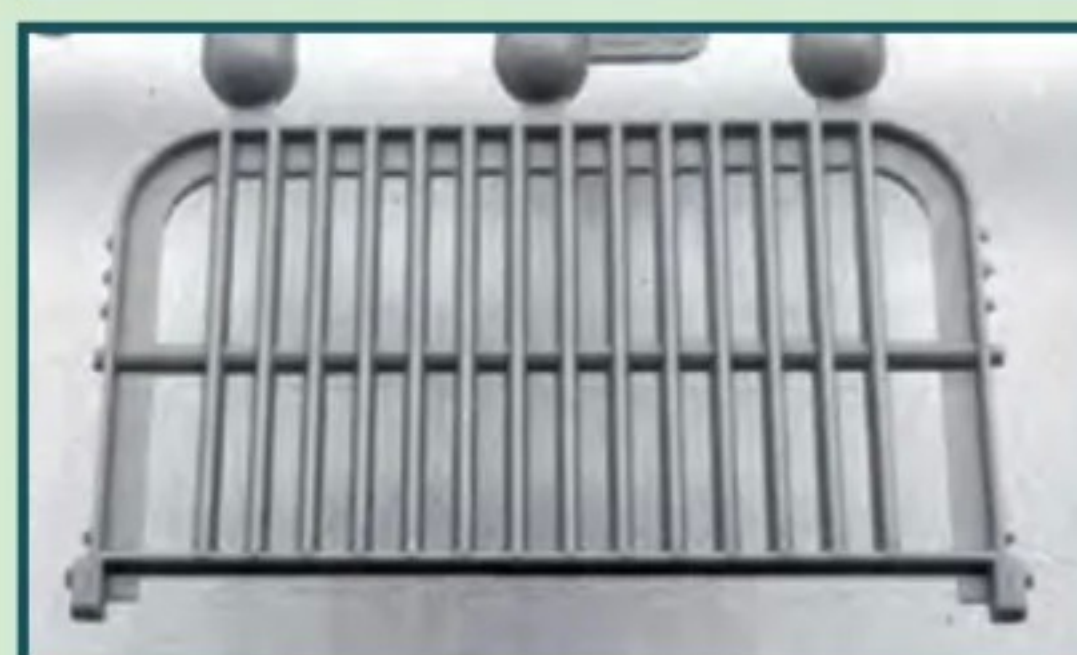
MATERIALS: IM, WS

ITEM NO.DS3518

The US Army began to arrive in Europe in 1917 and in the final months of WWI the 'Doughboys' represented a sizeable contingent, causing the German forces to finally give up hope of victory. This release from ICM combines FIVE kits in one huge box, bringing together three vehicles and two sets of figures, allowing the modeller to create an exciting scenario with vehicles typical of the end of WWI. The instructions for the kits come in a folder and each kit is separately packaged to avoid confusion. The vehicle kits include the Standard Liberty B truck, of which over 7,500 went to Europe, this truck being an early attempt to get a standardised military lorry. Then we have the FWD Type B, of which 14,000 went to Europe, an early four-wheel-drive chassis that gave good mobility. Next is the Ford Model T ambulance, which was a common vehicle used by all of the allies, with over 4000 being supplied. Lastly, there are two figure sets, consisting of infantry figures in behind-the-lines poses and three sets of drivers in similar non-combat headgear. The vehicles and the figures are simply outstanding in their own right and in combination will create a scene typical of anywhere in the American sector in WWI. By combining all of their US sets in a single box, ICM have created a very cost-effective way for modellers to get the whole collection in one go. **CLS**

+ All of ICM's outstanding WWI American kits in a single box!

- All of the drivers are the same and are without weapons or helmets



ITALERI, ITALY M.T.M. BARCHINO

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:35

MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS

ITEM NO.5623

The Italian Navy (Regia Marina) developed a number of weapons to attack ships in port and the Motoscafo da Turismo Modificato (modified speedboat) was built in small numbers for this purpose. The high-speed boat was essentially a floating bomb, which could be quietly steered at a stationary vessel. When suitably close, the single crewman locked the rudder, engaged high speed and dropped himself over the rear of the boat. The intention was that the boat would collide with the target, crumple and sink, detonating when just below the surface for maximum effect. The crewman would inevitably be captured, if he survived. The Italeri kit first appeared in 2007 and has been re-released. The kit comes with two figures – one standing, one driving – and a neat little display base if required. The detail is sharp and precise, with etched parts for some of the fine details such as wingnuts. The model makes up into a super little boat, effectively demonstrating how fearless the operators must have been. The Barchino had limited success as a weapon, but the model captures the essence of this unusual device. **CLS**

+ An extremely detailed model with many fine parts and two figures

- Decal placements are not clear for the two specific boats in the instructions



A selection of the latest full kits in plastic, resin, metal and more!



MINIART, UKRAINE

T-34/85 PLANT 112 SPRING 1944

www.creativemodels.co.uk

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.35379

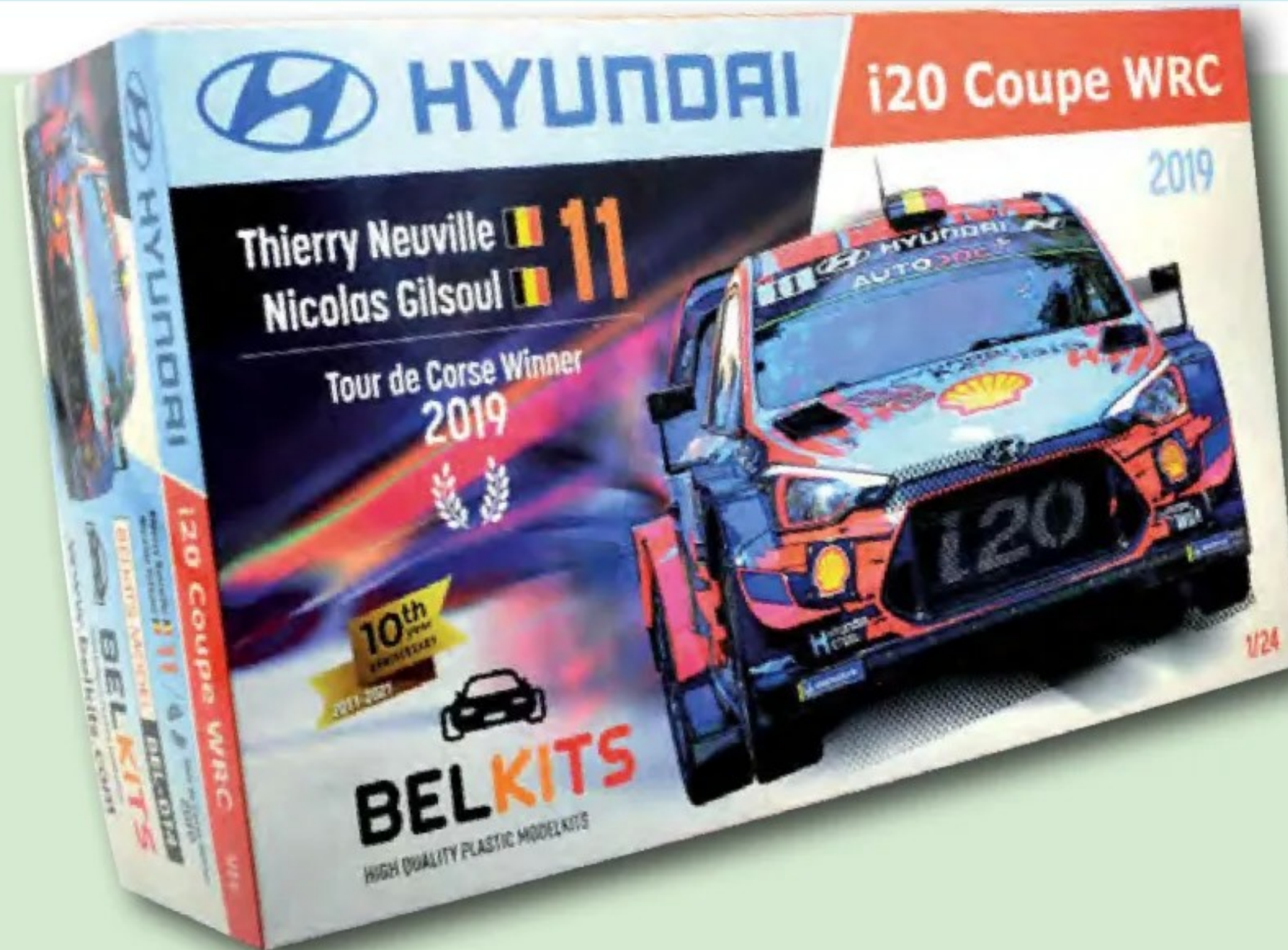
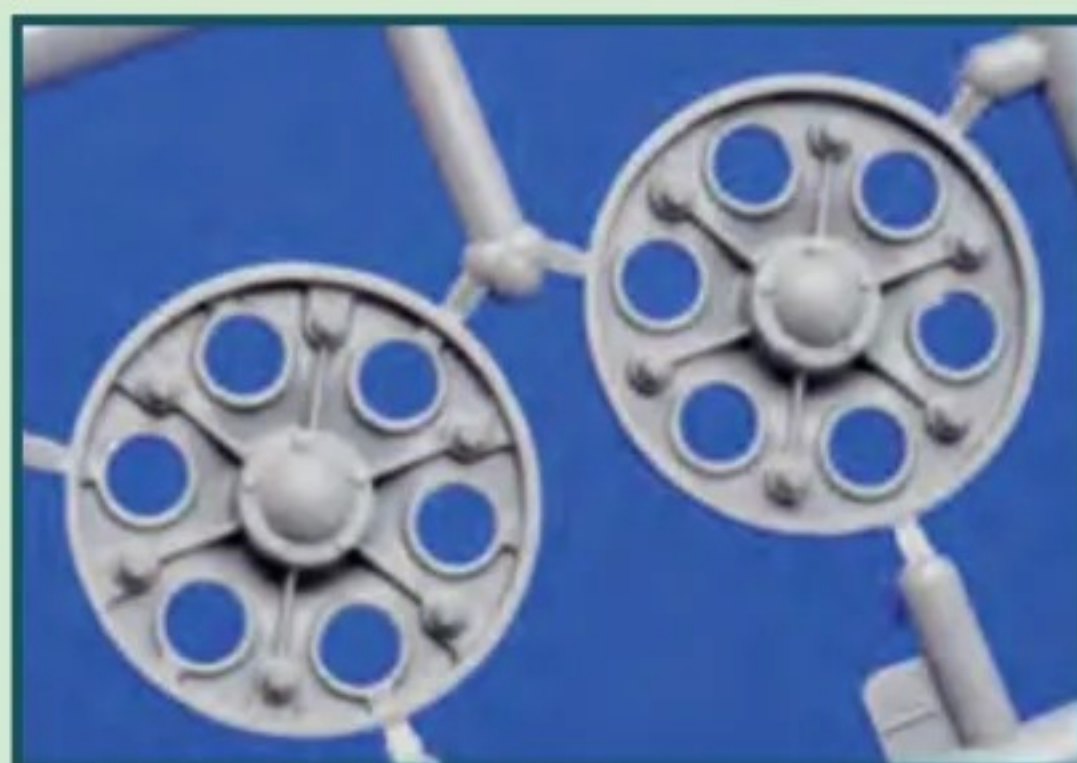
Here we have MiniArt's latest kit of the most important tank of the Second World War, the Soviet T-34, specifically the T-34/85 variant, armed with the 85mm gun. As the demands of scale modellers have become ever more intense in recent years, generic representations of tanks and AFVs no longer suffice, so manufacturers have responded by depicting vehicles built in specific factories and at specific periods of time. Hence, we have not just a T-34/85 here, but an example of a tank constructed at the Krasnoye Sormovo Factory No. 112 in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, during the Spring of 1944. T-34/85 kits from this plant and period have already been released by MiniArt, both coming with full interiors, but the model reviewed here has the 'no interior' option which might well appeal to more modellers, as it involves a bit less work. What is certain that, even without a fully-fitted fighting compartment and engine/bay, this is still a highly detailed model with a still-generous parts-count. In MiniArt's usual style, the box is filled with lots of small and mid-sized sprues of grey polystyrene carrying the individual track links, roadwheels and suspension, done this way to allow the maximum flexibility for the manufacturer when releasing numerous variants of the subject, which MiniArt surely do. The surface detail is top-notch with some extremely subtle textures, weld seams and structural features represented in the malleable grey plastic. The photo-etched fret provides the all-important engine cooling grilles plus other fittings and decals are provided for one 'beute panzer' and two Red Army tanks. An excellent depiction of this war-winning machine. **TMMI**



Impeccable subject choice and astonishing detail



Glueable, link-by-link tracks are not to everyone's taste



BELKITS, BELGIUM

HYUNDAI i20 COUPE WRC TOUR DE COURSE WINNER 2019

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:24 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, SVT, WS • ITEM NO.BEL-014

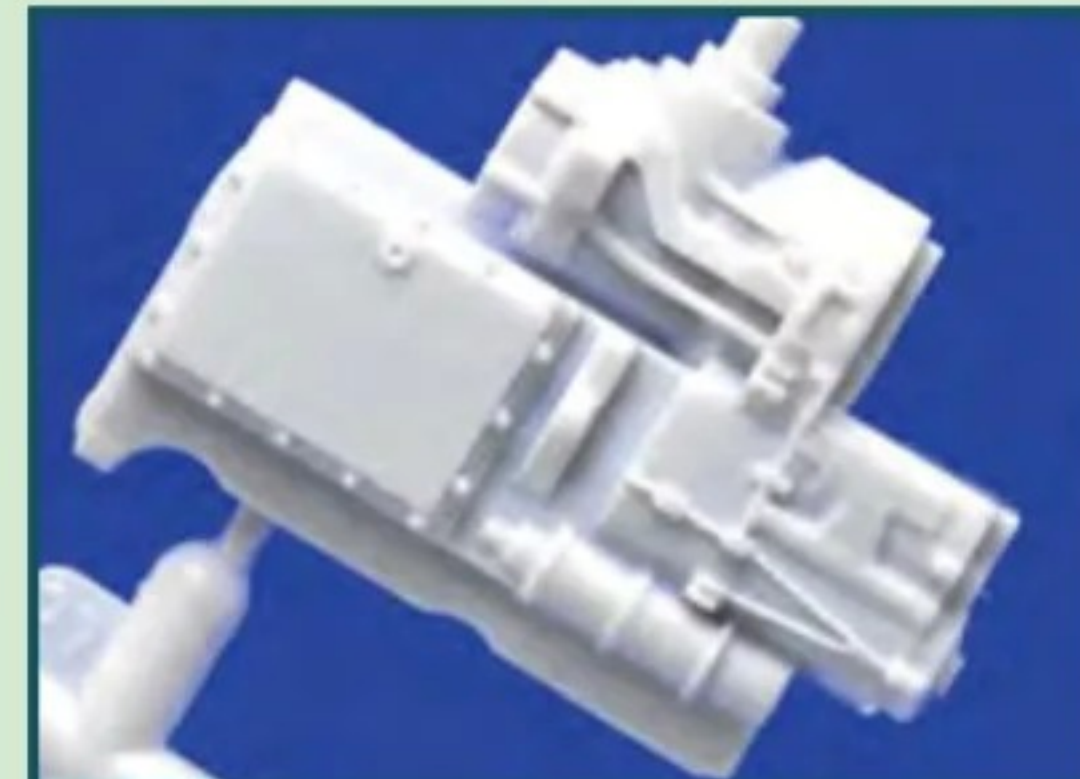
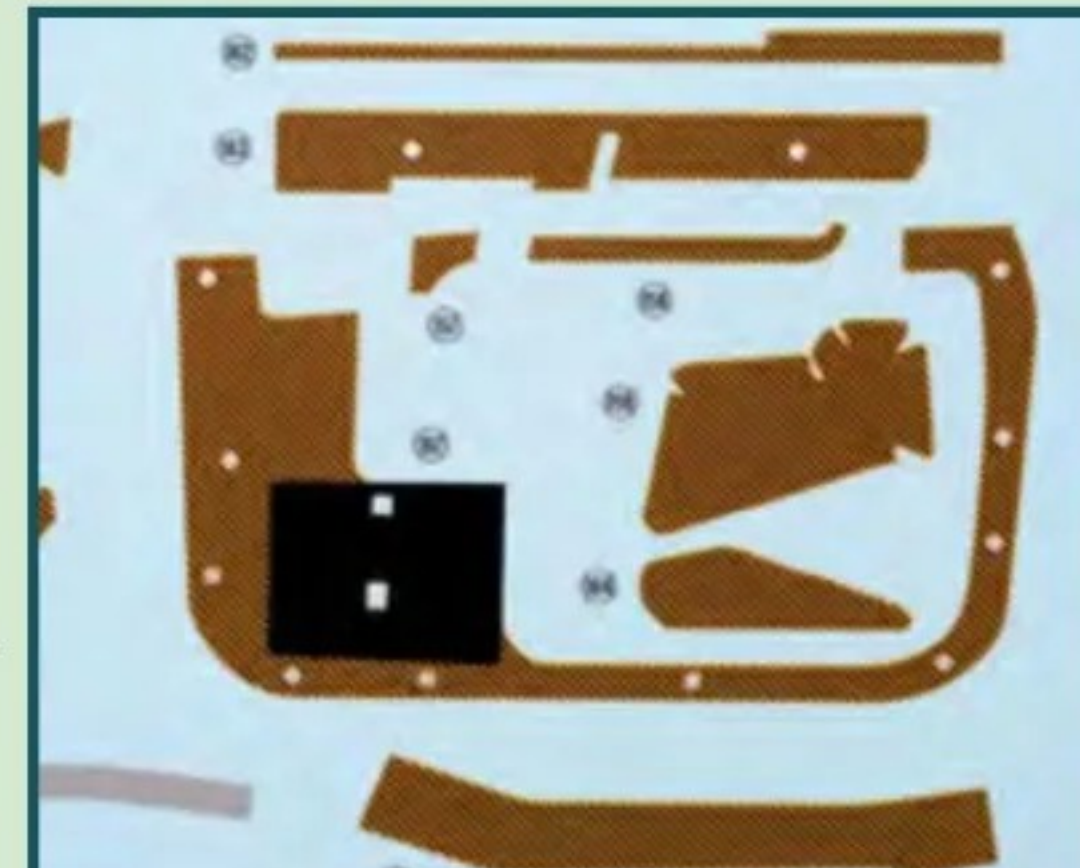
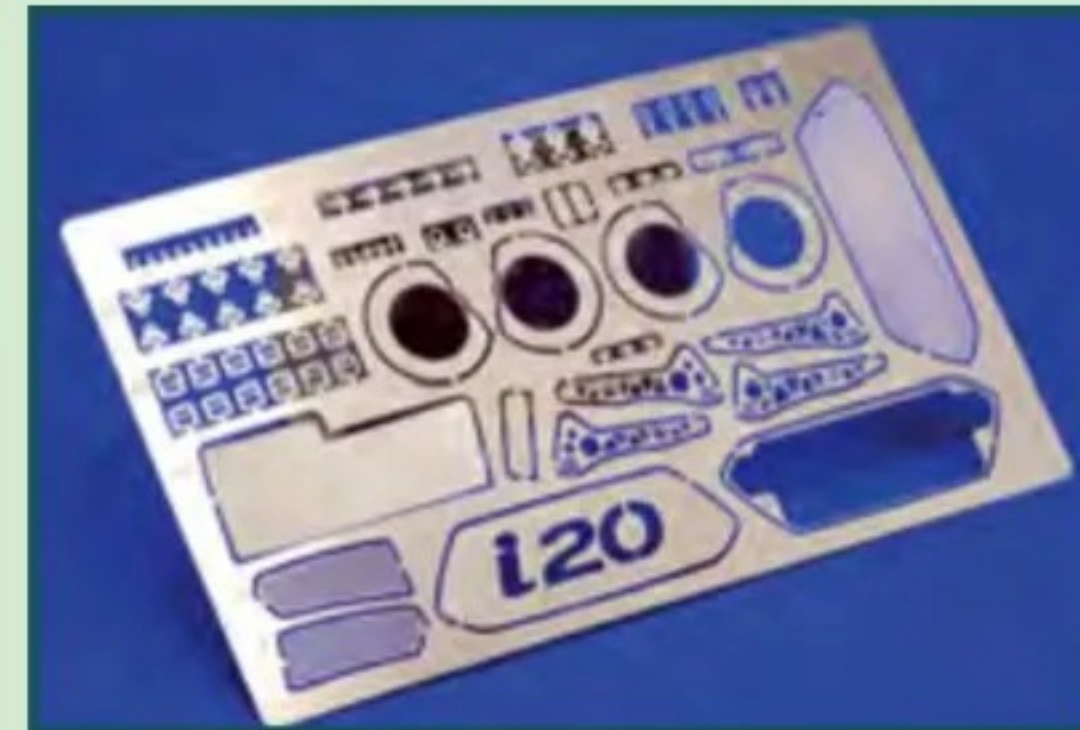
The Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC 2019 Neuville was designed and constructed by the Korean car manufacturer Hyundai for the 2019 season of the WRC (World Rally Championship) and was driven by Belgian rally driver Thierry Neuville and his co-driver Nicolas Gilsoul, also Belgian. The car was equipped with a 1.6-litre turbocharged petrol engine that was tuned to generate over 380bhp, putting all that power through the tyres and on to the road via an all-wheel drive system. In this No. 11 machine, Neuville and Gilsoul achieved second place that season. Belkit's recent release allows you to build the version with which Thierry and Nicolas won the Tour de Corse rally in 2019 and in the box you'll find nine sprues of white polystyrene, one in clear, one in vinyl carrying the mudflaps, brake ducts and polycaps, a bodyshell (of course!), five synthetic rubber tyres, a fret of photo-etched nickel-steel, seat-harness webbing, self-adhesive chrome panels, window masks and three sheets of luscious waterslide decals printed by Cartograf, naturally. Phew! While we're talking about decals, it's important to note the inclusion of extra sections of red, blue, carbon-fibre and Kevlar-effect decal in case one needs to repair any areas of the markings damaged during application. Don't you wish all manufacturers did this? A very thoughtful touch. The kit is a 'curbside' production, ie; there's no engine and the bonnet is moulded shut, with the underside featuring a lower engine moulding and gearbox. The suspension is nicely done but mostly covered up by the protective panels and diffuser anyway! This is a beautifully detailed and very colourful model and will give the WRC enthusiast tons of fun putting it all together. **TMMI**



Everything you need is in the box



Perhaps not quite as straightforward to build as a Tamiya 1:24 car kit





AMATI

— est. 1879 —

Made in Italy by Amati

The Italian Art of Modeling



LIMITED EDITION ARNO XI

Item 1610



FERRARI TIMOSSO RACER

1:8
scale

Length 79 cm.

This new kit, produced as a special *Limited Edition*, includes ready made fiberglass hull, completely planked with mahogany wood ready to be varnished. The superstructure is pre-made in one piece in matt white fiberglass ready to be painted. The seat, cabin padding and headrest are hand made and covered with red simulated leather, ready sewn. All fittings, accessories and exhaust pipes are in solid brass and chrome plated. This kit includes very detailed photo-etched parts to complete this realistic model.

CIWL Orient Express of 1929

SLEEPING CAR N°3533 LX

Item 1714/01



1:32
scale

Length 73 cm.

Carriage frame and bogies in photoetched brass and pressure die-cast fittings, pre-cut acetate windows, decals sheet and adhesive strips, walnut and lime wooden strips for boiserie, laser cut walls made in birch plywood, fine paper to reproduce wall cover and seats set fabric, 6 technical plans, 2 color sheets and building instructions in two volumes.

Item 1614

Plank on frame

Wooden decks

2266 photoetched parts included

16 plywood laser sheets

Building instructions in

2 colour volumes

GERMAN BATTLESHIP BISMARCK

Kriegsmarine 1941



Length 127 cm.
Height 29.2 cm.
Width 18.2 cm.

1:200
scale

FULL-BUILD: VIETNAM WAR USAF AIRCRAFT

ICM 1:48 DOUGLAS B-26K COUNTER INVADER USAF VIETNAM WAR ATTACK AIRCRAFT ● KIT NO. 48279



VIETNAM WAR DARK-OPS

Russell Mardling builds ICM's spectacular 1:48 B-26K Counter Invader and spruces up the interior with Eduard's photo-etched sets



The B-26 can trace its origins back to the A-26 Invader used in WWII. The aircraft was subsequently modified over the following years and was used in conflicts such as the Korean war and was also employed as a carrier of unmanned drones such as the Firebee. During the Sixties the USAF needed aircraft for the purpose of counterinsurgency operations. Therefore, the B-26 family of aircraft was chosen for the task. Modifications consisted of strengthening the wings and adding hard points under each wing for extra ordnance, a larger rudder and wingtip fuel tanks and lastly, dual controls. These aircraft were then deployed to Southeast Asia and being based in Thailand, they made combat missions to the territory of Laos. From 1966 these aircraft were re-designated as attack aircraft. ▶



FULL-BUILD: VIETNAM WAR USAF AIRCRAFT

ICM 1:48 DOUGLAS B-26K COUNTER INVADER USAF VIETNAM WAR ATTACK AIRCRAFT ● KIT NO. 48279

THE MODEL

ICM has released various versions of the A' and B-26 Invaders since 2019. This version, The B-26K Counter Invader, was released in 2021. Upon opening the box, you're greeted with a box full of sprues – ten to precise – nine in grey plastic and one clear sprue. The detail on the parts is very crisp and you will find that quite a number are not to be used in this build as they belong to other versions of this aircraft.

The build starts unusually with the assembly of the bomb-bay. The bombs were built first, which were then painted in XF-13 Dark Green. The rear bulkhead was then glued in place, together with various sub-assemblies that were attached to the bomb-bay sidewalls, including the bomb racks plus the middle section and the forward bomb bay

bulkhead. These parts were embellished with Eduard's photo-etched parts which added rivet detail to the otherwise plain surfaces.

The radar operator's section was then built up and this formed the rear of the bomb-bay. Oddly you are then required to attach the undercarriage bay and door assemblies to the fuselage sides, which does run the risk of damaging them during the build. Thankfully, they ended up being sturdy enough to withstand the building process.

ICM suggests Tamiya X-15 Lime Green for the interior colour, but I concluded that this was very inaccurate. After a bit of research, I narrowed it down to a couple of Mr Hobby paints' H58 and Zinc Chromate Type 1, both of a similar green shade. There will be modellers out there that would have other

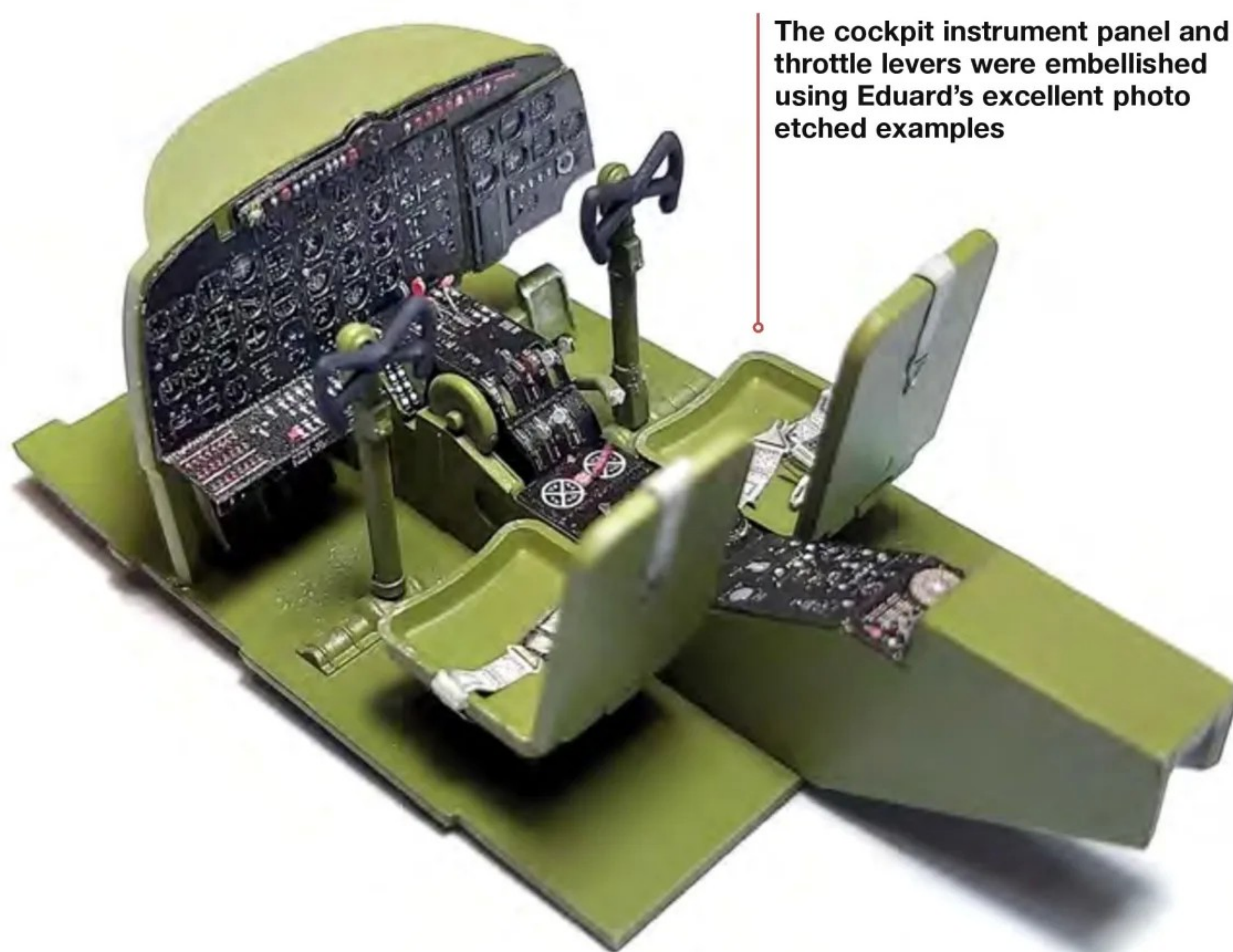
suggestions for this colour, but I decided to use the Zinc Chromate, mostly because it just 'looked right'. Once this was all painted, I used dark pigments to bring out the detail in the bomb-bay side-walls. Photo-etch was then used to give the cockpit sides more detail as the original parts were quite basic in appearance.

THE 'OFFICE'

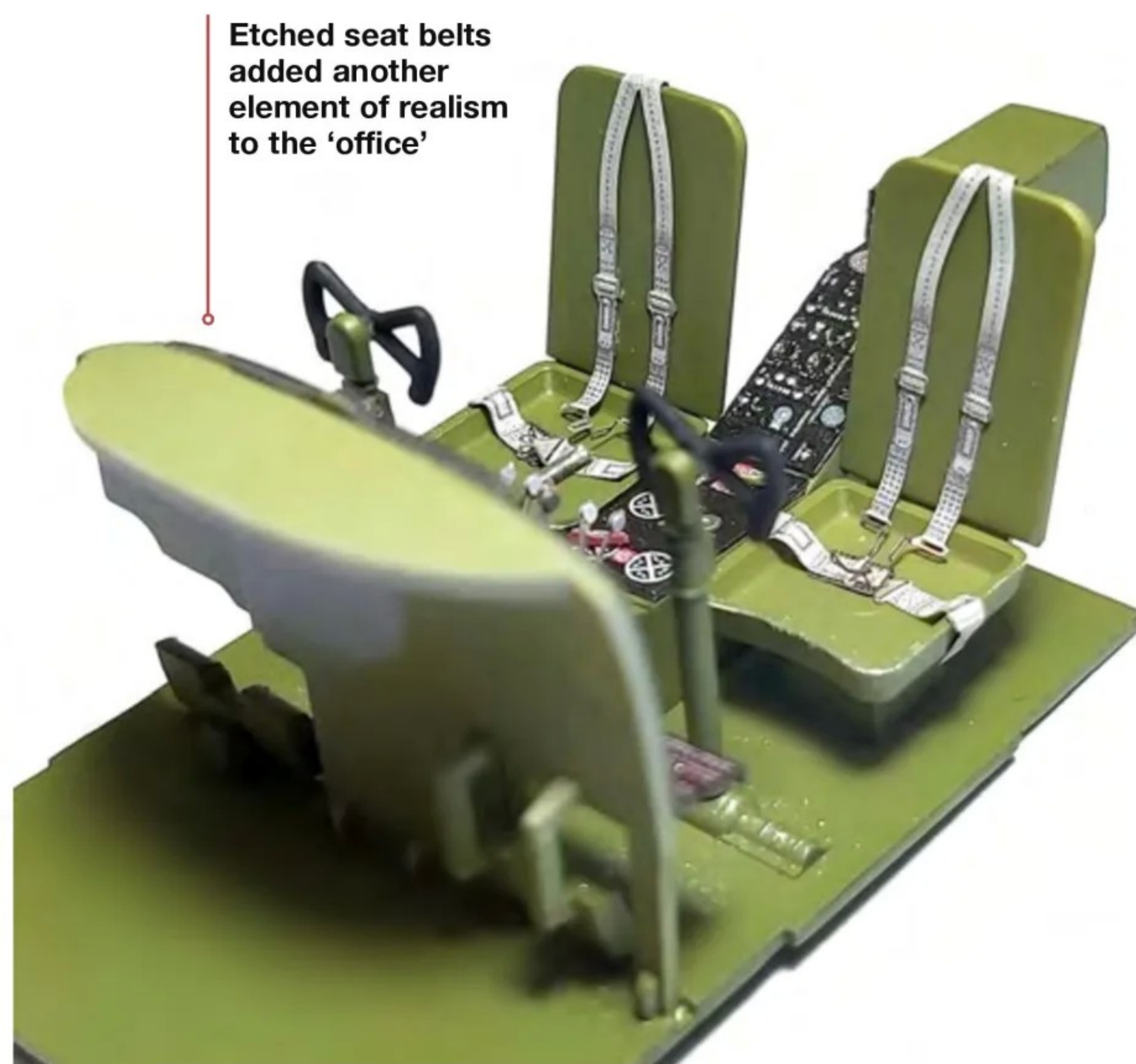
The cockpit has a nice level of detail with a decal for the instrument panel. I wanted to embellish this part of the model with a much detail as possible, so Eduard photo-etch was once again employed to do this. First the moulded detail on the instrument panel and throttle detail between the two pilots were sanded smooth. I fitted the dial detail layer, then the upper layer was glued on, which includes the switches

and dial framing. The throttle detail was then fitted, complete with its levers which were very small and needed a very steady hand to position them correctly. But the result was very satisfying with an excellent level of detail.

Once the control columns and seats were painted and attached, all that was needed were the seat belts to give it a final extra bit of realism. Finally, the cockpit was complete. This assembly was then glued to the cockpit sidewall. With that, the bombs were attached to their racks on the sides of the bomb-bay and the fuselage halves were glued together. These fitted together reasonably well but filling and sanding was required around the joints fore and aft of the cockpit and to the rear of the bomb-bay. The tailplane and rudder were then glued into place.



The cockpit instrument panel and throttle levers were embellished using Eduard's excellent photo etched examples



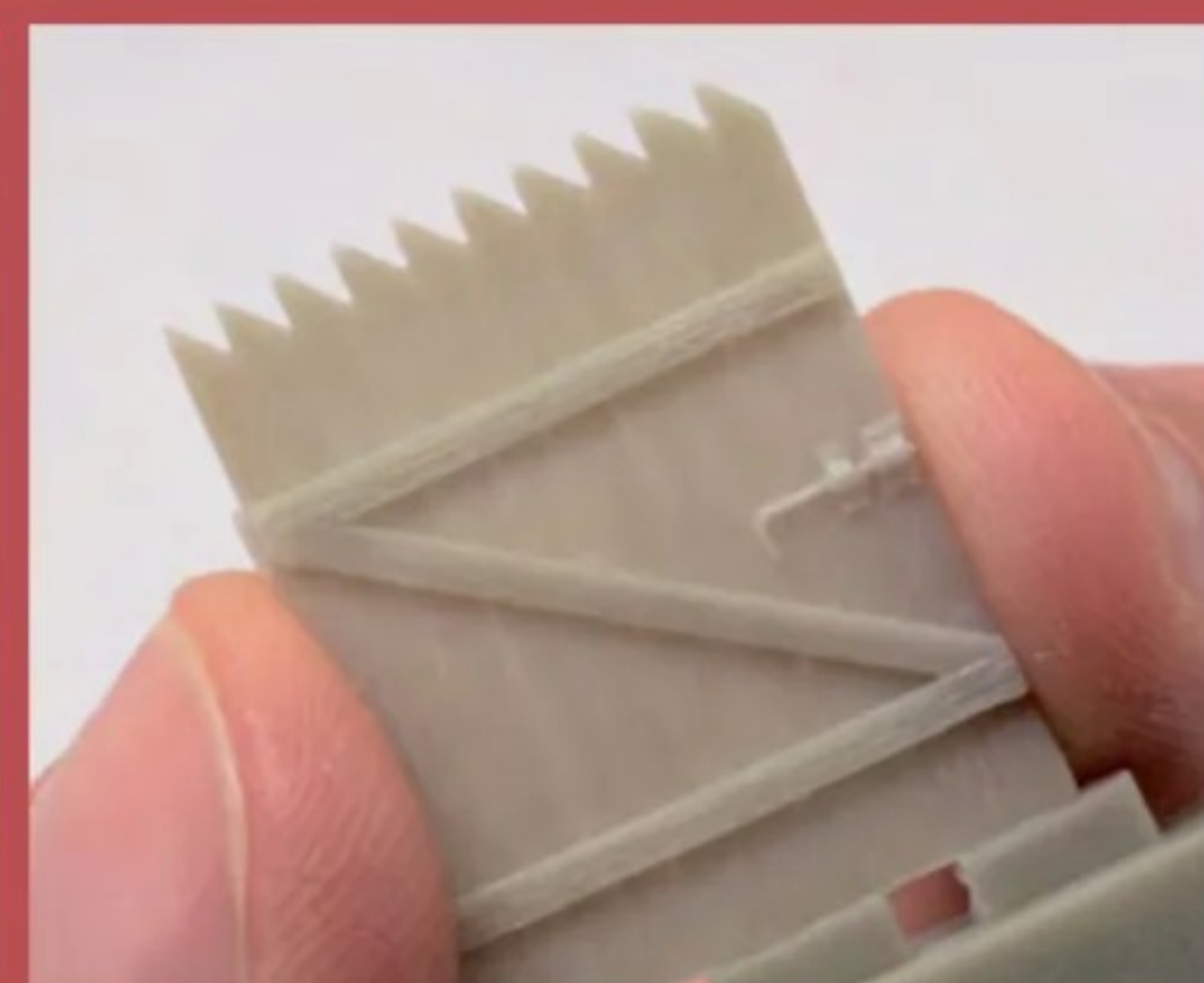
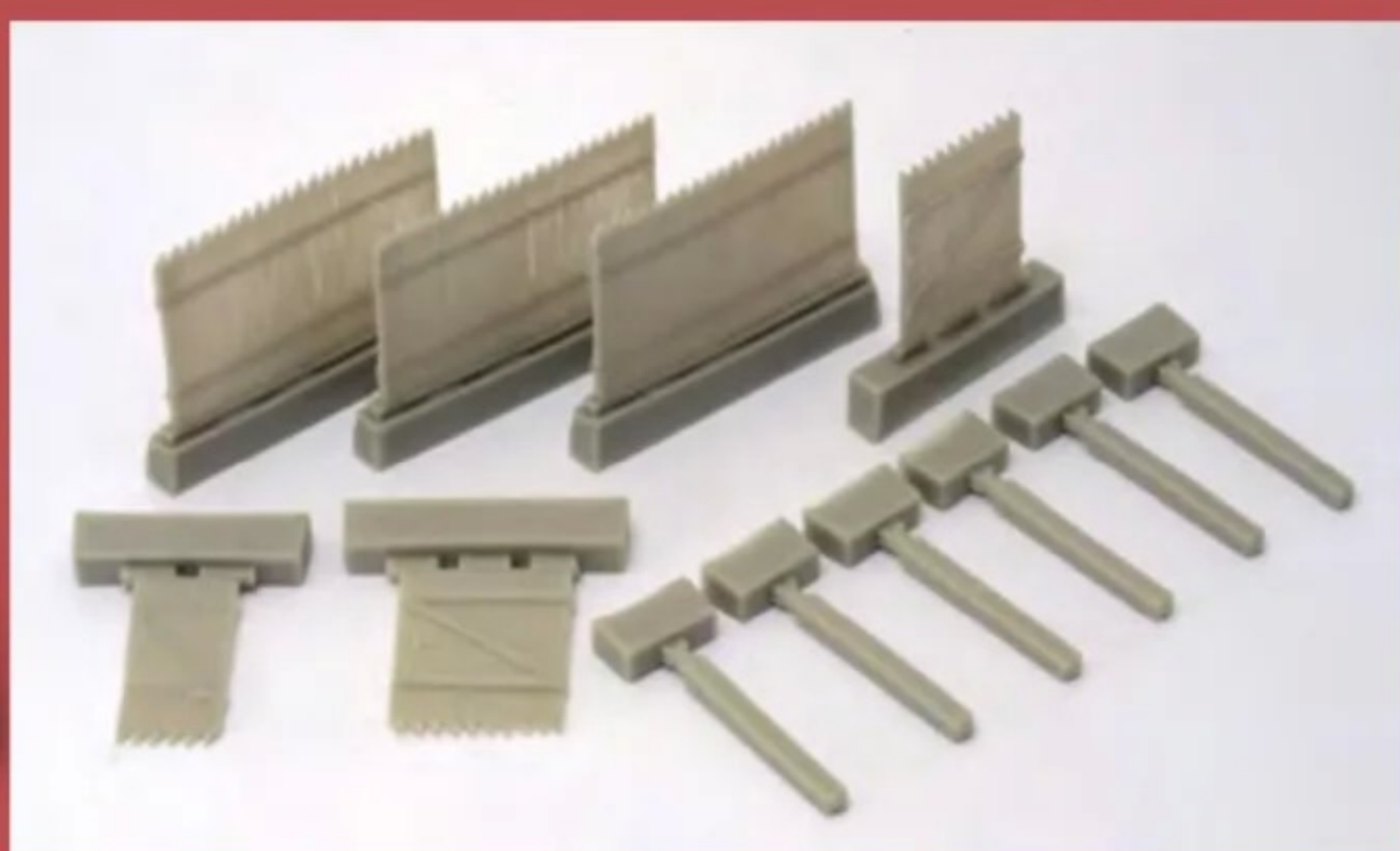
Etched seat belts added another element of realism to the 'office'

MINI REVIEW...



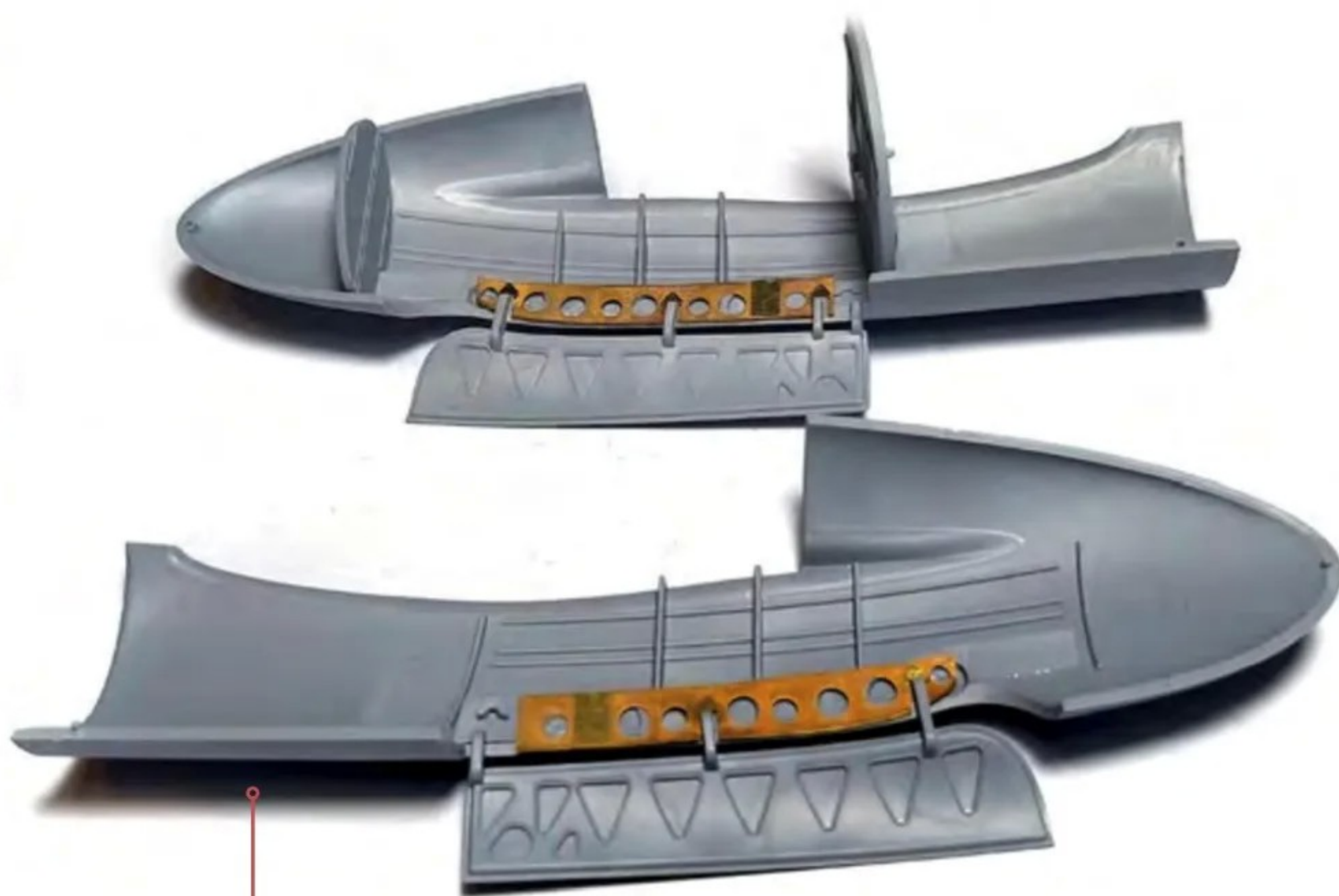
HAULER 1:72 WOODEN CORRAL (HLH72134)
www.hauler.cz

November 22nd 2023 will mark the sixtieth year since the assassination of US President John F Kennedy and if you were planning a diorama of Dealey Plaza in Dallas where the tragedy took place (you probably aren't) then this 'wooden corral' set of resin-cast fence panels would be a good match for the infamous 'Wooden Fence' atop the 'Grassy Knoll'. If not, then the set would look equally at home in a more conventional diorama.





The fuselage halves were painted and weathered. Eduard photo-etch was added to give the cockpit side walls more detail



The nacelles and undercarriage doors have excellent detail, but again were improved by Eduard's photo-etch

AWKWARD NOSE

The nose section is made up of five parts; a bottom piece, two side sections and the front, containing the machine guns. Again, the fit was not great, especially the two parts that form the sides. After a nose-weight was installed – in this case a rather large ball bearing that I'd had for years until I finally found a home for it – the front section was glued into place. The whole assembly was then attached to the front of the fuselage and this too was a poor fit. I used Mr Hobby Mr Surfacer 500 to fill the gaps, followed by sanding, which took a couple of attempts until I was satisfied with the result.

Finally, some re-scribing was needed to restore lost panel lines. Next to be assembled were the wings and these went together without any issues. Once glued, they were held together overnight using clamps. The flaps were then attached and finally the wing tip tanks were assembled and glued into place. The wings were then mounted to the fuselage.

The engine nacelles were next to be assembled. First to be glued to one half were the parts that formed the front and rear of the undercarriage bay. Sidewall detail is good but I added some photo-etched parts to improve an area just above the undercarriage

bay doors, which again you attach at this point and has the sidewall detail moulded integrally. The two nacelle halves were then glued together as well as the firewall at the front, completing this step of the Invader's build.

The frontal pilots' and rear radio operator's canopies were fitted and masked up, ready for painting. Next was the insert that covers the top of the bomb-bay. The fit on this part wasn't great, with quite an obvious step between it and the top of the fuselage along its length. To rectify this, I used a scalpel to scrape along the step until it was flush with the fuselage and then

applied a bead of filler to the seam. Once dry I finished off by sanding it smooth with progressively finer grit sanding pads.

PLANE SUPPORT

The undercarriage is quite a simple affair and it went together without any issues. First, the legs were painted with Mr Hobby Metallics Aluminium and once dry they were burnished to create a realistic metallic finish. They were highlighted with Tamiya enamel colour-wash, which brought out the detail. The wheels come in two halves and these go together nicely with only a slight seem to sand. Once dry, I painted



Problems with the fit of the nose; a lot of filling and sanding was needed to make the join flush with the fuselage



The undercarriage and bomb bays were all pre-painted



An ignition harness was added to each engine. This was a time-consuming affair but well worth the effort



The cockpit now in situ inside the completed fuselage. A small amount of filler was used to fill a few gaps once the two halves went together



The model was given a couple of coats of Mr Surfacer 1500. This gives a lovely and smooth finish for the later coats of paint. Pre-shading was then applied using Tamiya LP-3 Black



The model now all painted and decals applied

the tyres with Tamiya LP-65 Rubber Black which perform perfectly, producing a lovely smooth finish. I then gave them a colour-wash with AK Interactive Landing Gear Dust Effect which produces a lovely weathered appearance. The wheels were then given a final colour-wash, again using Tamiya paints.

POWER UNITS

The engines are a very nice representation of the real aircraft's Pratt and Whitney R-2800s; the two banks of eighteen cylinders have a nice level of detail. Once these were glued together, they were then painted using dark iron, again from the Mr Metallics line. The push rods were then painted and glued to the front and rear of the engine block.

I then used more of Eduard's excellent photo-etch for the ignition harnesses, which really give the engines a whole new level of detail. The reduction gearbox was then assembled, painted and attached to the front of the engines, again finished off with a colour-wash. ICM provides you with a jig that you attach to the back of the engine block to align the exhaust pipes up easily. These were subsequently

the tyres with Tamiya LP-65 Rubber Black which perform perfectly, producing a lovely smooth finish. I then gave them a colour-wash with AK Interactive Landing Gear Dust Effect which produces a lovely weathered appearance. The wheels were then given a final colour-wash, again using Tamiya paints.

It was nearly time for painting, so I used the closed bomb-bay door option as a mask for the painted interior and employed Blu-Tack for the undercarriage bays and engine fronts. With all the clear areas also masked, it was time for the airbrush. First on was the primer and here I used Mr Hobby Finishing Primer 1500 as it produces a lovely flat finish. Once dry, I went over any areas that needed more filling and sanding and then re-sprayed with the primer. I then pre-shaded the panel lines on the model in black before starting on the actual painting. This aircraft was painted in the typical Vietnam War era colours, so the first paint to be applied was 'Dark Tan'. I used Hataka paints for the first time on this build, the Orange Line lacquer paints, which performed perfectly and produced an excellent finish. I then used Blu-Tack to mask the Dark Tan and then applied the next colour of 'Medium Green'. After again masking that colour, the final shade, 'Dark Green'

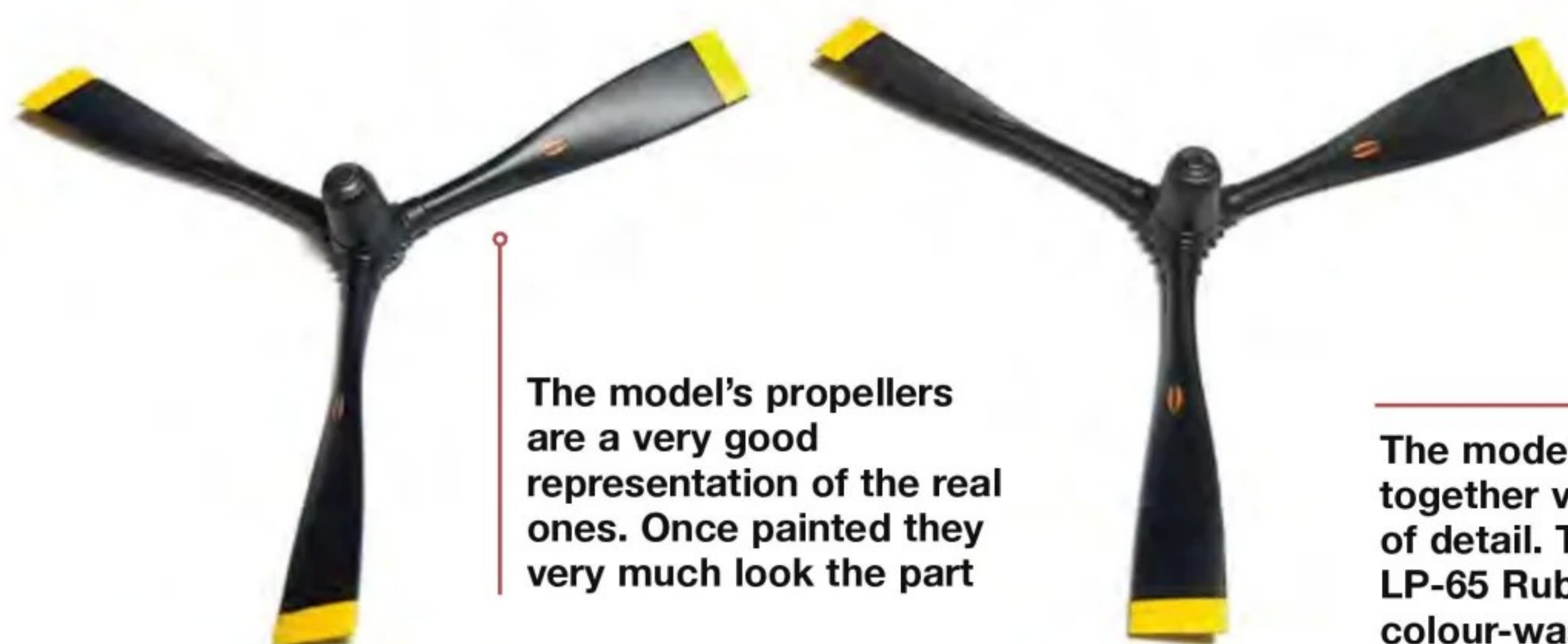
was applied. Finally the underside of the model was painted in 'Night Black' and post-shading was then applied using a lightened version of all the paints, sprayed in the centres of the structural panels.

DECAL PREP

After the painting was complete, the model was given a coat of gloss varnish in readiness for the decals. As this aircraft was involved in counter insurgency there was very little in the way of markings, just serial numbers on the rudder and various stencils on the wing and fuselage. This aircraft was given the name "Mighty Mouse" and this was painted on both nacelles. The decals are very nicely printed but are very thin. Care must be taken when applying them, using plenty of decal solution. They don't like too much moving around once on the model's surface so make sure they're as close to the correct position as possible. Once in place, I used decal softening solution and once settled in, they looked very realistic, with an almost painted-on finish. I then used Tamiya Panel Line Accent Color before spraying the model using flat clear varnish. I then painted and attached the propellers and

bomb-bay doors, once I had taken off the closed ones to again expose the bomb-bay. Various aerals were also fitted. The undercarriage was then glued into place and this was a tricky task as the location holes were not very well defined and quite shallow. Finally, I attached the antenna wire to the model, always a tricky task!

The model was now finished. Well, not quite! I had left the various items of ordinance until last. I used a combination of rocket launchers, Mk.81 and Mk.82 bombs plus BLU-27 napalm bombs. Once assembled, they were painted in XF-13 Dark Green, with the rockets themselves picked out in silver. The BLU-27 was painted in Dark Aluminium and after painting, the decals were applied. When attaching the bombs to the wing pylons the hanging brackets must be removed as you can't get the bomb to sit on them properly. The ordinance set is available as a stand-alone kit, so the bombs aren't specifically for this model and the bombs just sit on the pylons, so when you glue them into place you must hold them until the glue has set enough for them to stay put. With that, the model was finally finished.



The model's propellers are a very good representation of the real ones. Once painted they very much look the part



The model's undercarriage and wheels go together very nicely and have a good level of detail. The tyres were painted in Tamiya LP-65 Rubber Black then given them a colour-wash using AK Interactive Landing Gear Dust Effect. Once dry they have a lovely subtle weathered appearance



CONCLUSION

This was a very satisfying build for me. Sure, there are a few fit issues, most notably the nose section and the area forward and rear of the cockpit canopy, but it builds into a very convincing miniature of the B-26K; I wouldn't rule out building another version of this aircraft in the future. ICM continues to produce great kits and look forward to all their future releases. ●

TECHSPEC...

ICM 1:48 DOUGLAS B-26K COUNTER INVADER USAF VIETNAM WAR ATTACK AIRCRAFT KIT NO. 48279

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

Listed within main text and captions

Accessories used:

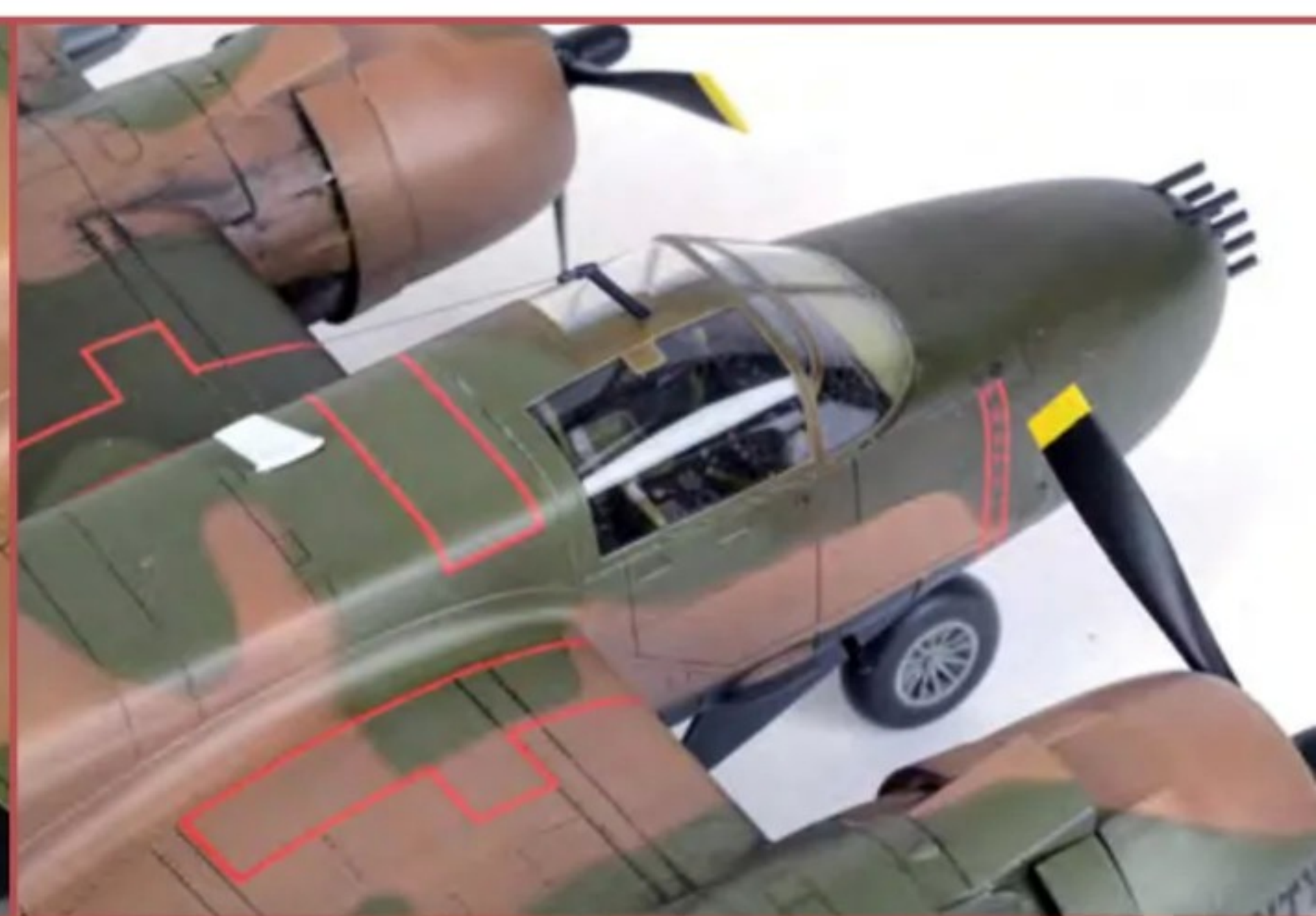
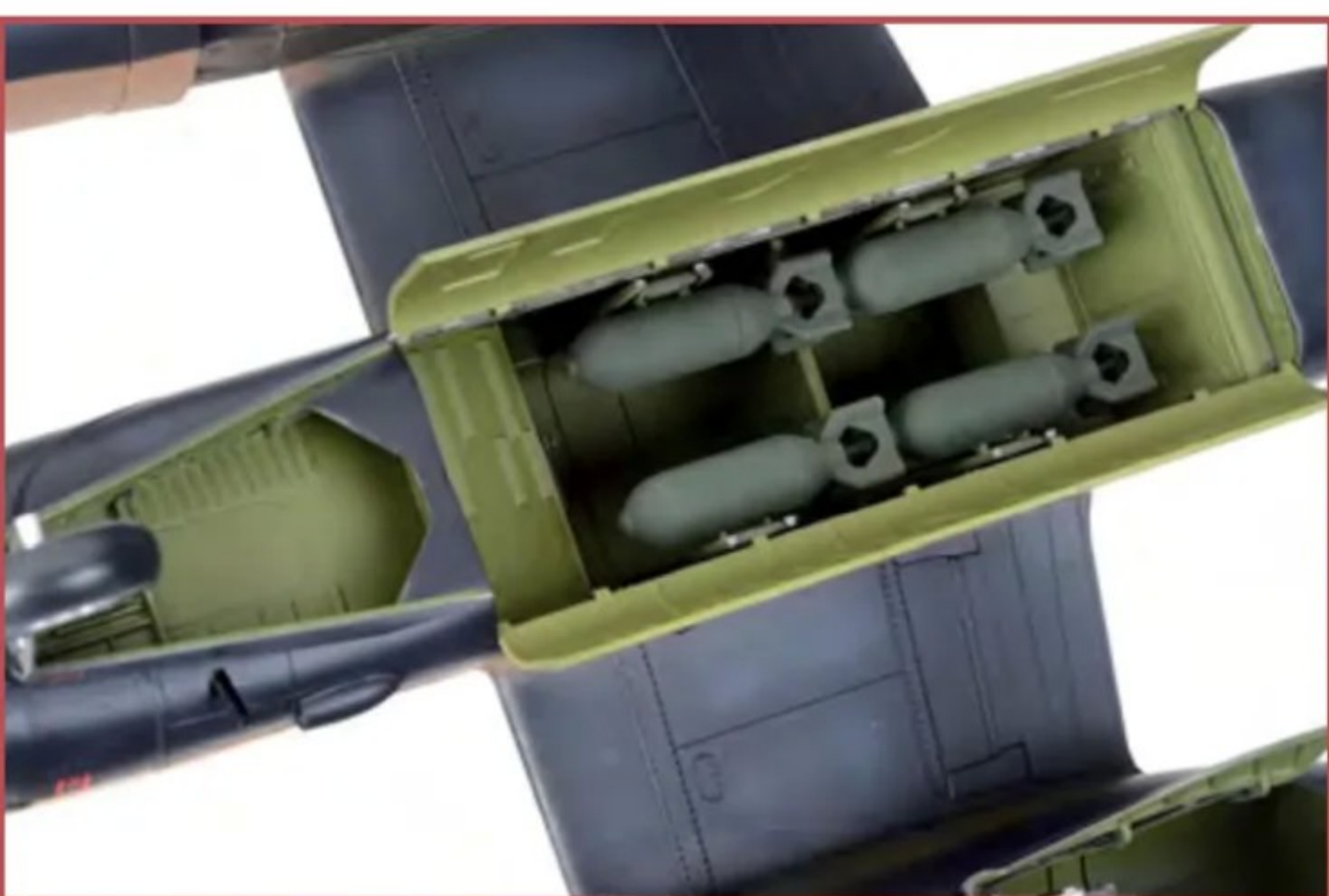
Eduard photo-etched sets for the ICM B-26K

Availability:

Tamiya models, paints, materials and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net

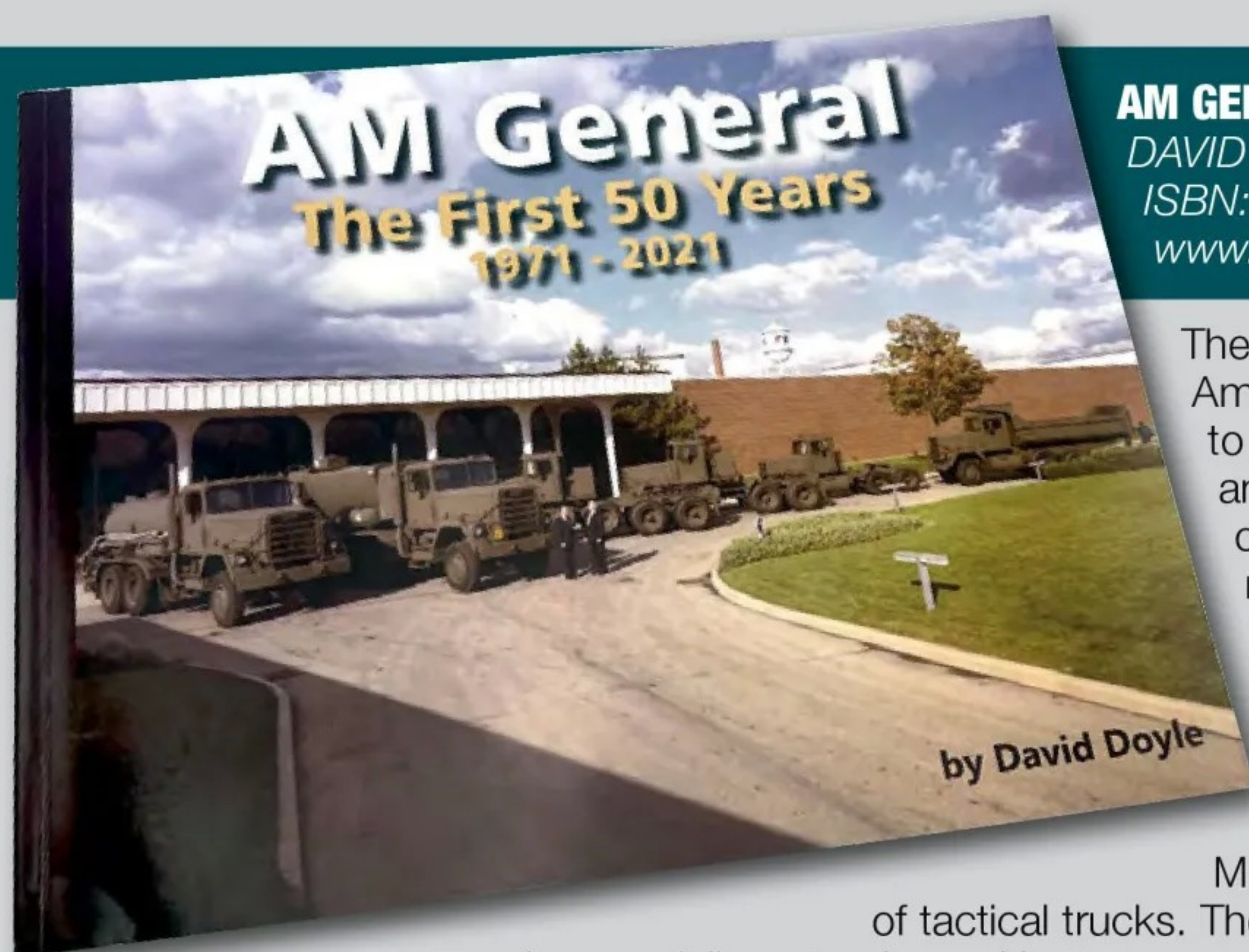
Eduard: www.eduard.com

www.creativemodels.co.uk



Book Reviews

GOT A NEW BOOK? If you are a publisher with a new modelling related title to publicise, why not send in a copy for review here?



AM GENERAL, THE FIRST 50 YEARS 1971-2021

DAVID DOYLE, G-104 PRESS

ISBN:978-1-7750133-2-7

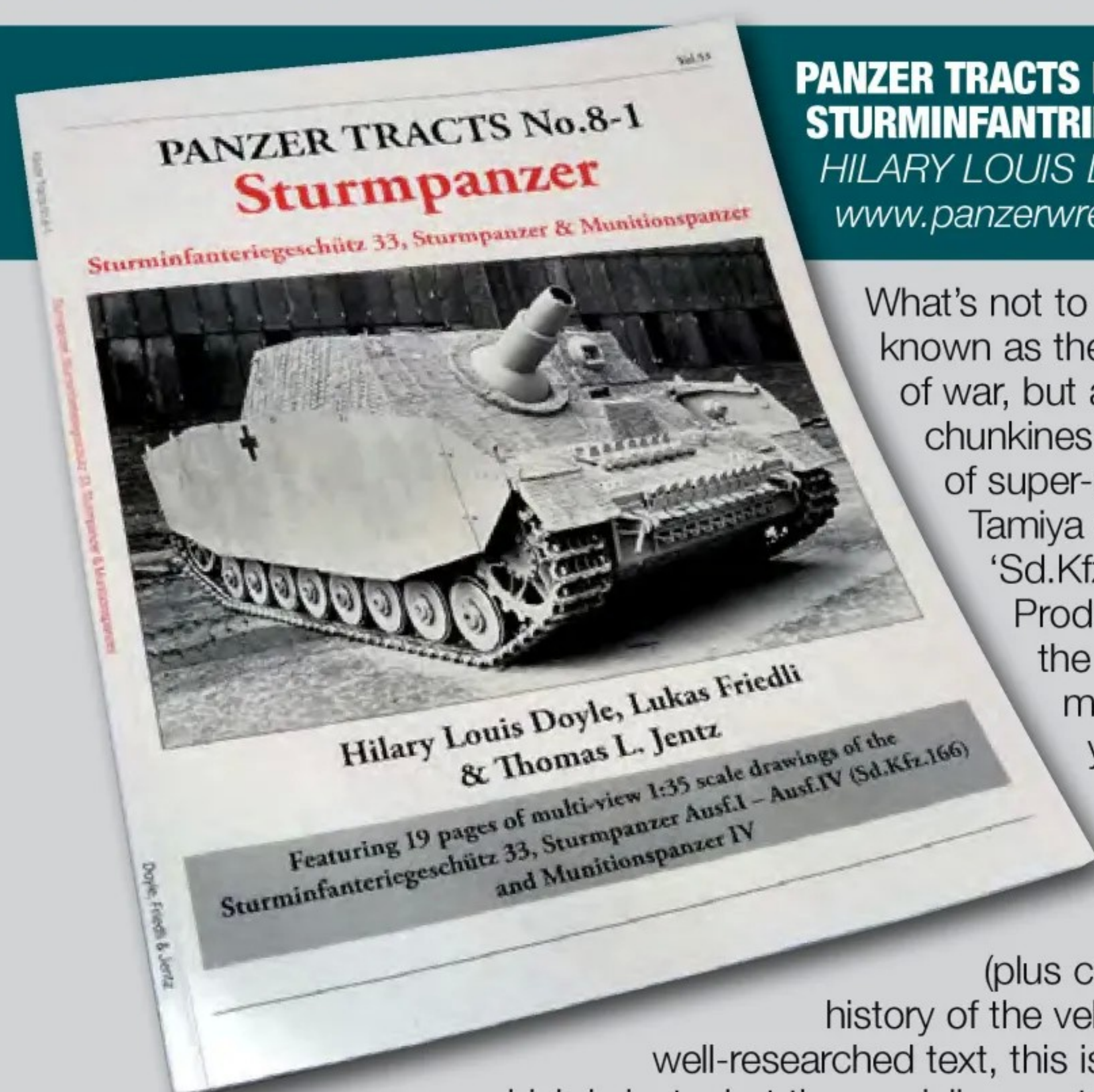
www.DavidDoyleBooks.com

The General Products Division of American Motors was set up in 1970 to take over the work of the defence and government products division of Kaiser Jeep, which supplied military vehicles as well as less glamorous items such as mail vans. The new facility was built at South Bend, Indiana and this sprawling complex produced significant vehicles such as the M151 Mutt and the Hummer family



of tactical trucks. The production lines churned out

buses, delivery trucks and battery-powered vehicles. However, military trucks included the famous Hummer and much of this book deals with the production and modification of this vehicle which featured in so many modern conflicts. Arnold Schwarzenegger was the first civilian purchaser of a Hummer and he eventually owned 30 of these beasts! This book by David Doyle is a detailed history of the AM General plant and the various products that rolled out of the factory. The vehicles, both military and civilian, are very much a central part of the US psyche and as such the book covers the complex scene where trucks of all sizes met the needs of the moment. This includes the rushed production of up-armour kits which arrived in Iraq less than a month from when the need was identified. This book will appeal to anyone interested in the story of vehicle production in the US and the book is full of excellent photos of the items in the factory and in service. **CLS**



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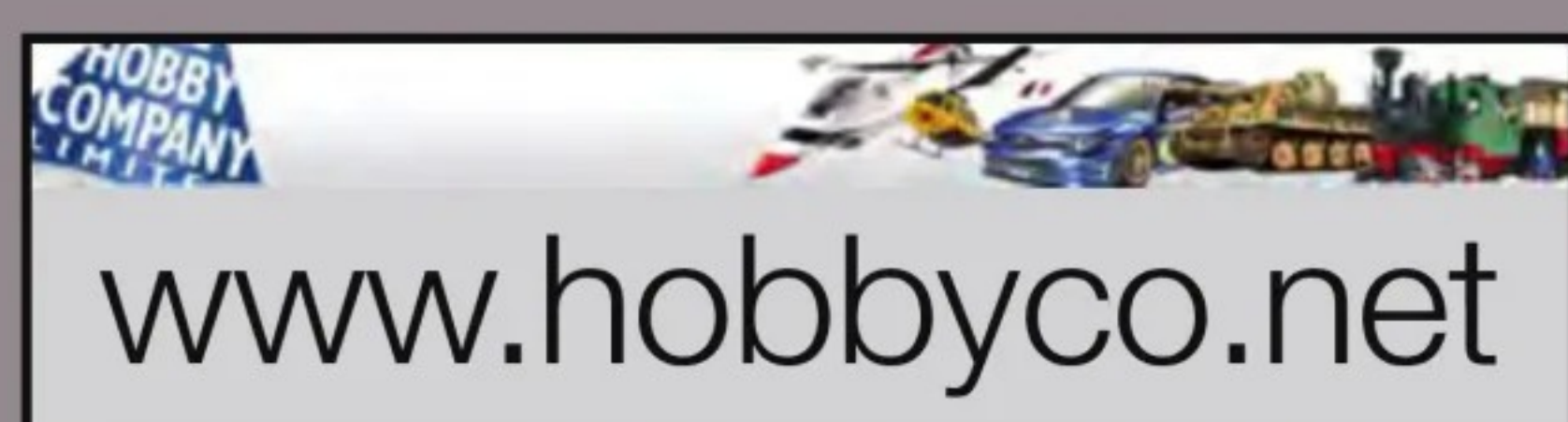


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ISSUE No.334 AUGUST 2023 PUBLISHED ON JULY 20th 2023

Editor; Marcus Nicholls Publisher; Alan Harman Graphic Design; Alex Hall

TMMI Website; The Doolittle Media web team Advertising Manager; Alan Harman

Administration; Gordon Angus 'Steppingwolf' tribute-act Manager; Bjorn Toby-Wilde

Distributed by; Seymour Distribution, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT Tel; 020 7429 4000

Newstrade; Select Publisher Services, 3 East Avenue, Bournemouth, BH3 7BW Tel; 01202 586848 Email; tim@selectps.com

Tamiya Model Magazine is published on the third Thursday of each month by Doolittle Media Ltd. Editorial enquiries; editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

All other enquiries to; enquiries@doolittlemedia.com Tamiya Model Magazine, The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK.

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FLEA MARKET SHOPPING IN JAPAN!

One of my very favourite parts of the Shizuoka Hobby Show is the so-called 'flea market' which takes place in a conference room within the Twin Messe venue. It's just a few Yen to enter and inside you'll find retail stands selling towering piles of rare and exotic models – secondhand and new – along with accessories and a few toys, plus general scale modelling grooviness you'll not find anywhere outside Japan. There's always a few model car specialists offering kits of very unusual subjects from manufacturers I have never heard even of! I could spend hours here.

I usually end up buying something and this year was no exception. I finally managed to pick up one of my 'holy grail' kits, Tamiya's 1:24 VW Golf Racing Group 2 from 1978, for a very good price. I'll probably never build it, I just love the scheme and the early Golf GTi is one of the greatest car designs of all time, in my view. I also met up with the lovely Norio Takemura (below right), a real gem of a chap and great modeller. New Zealander Andrew Cairns of AC Models (also below right) had a table in the room, showing off his amazing resin figure sets, more on which in a forthcoming issue of TMMI.

Here's a few photos from the flea market to give you a flavour of this part of the event. I can't wait to get back! ●

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EDITOR'S CHOICE

LIFECOLOR US AIR FORCE 1960-1970 CAMOUFLAGE VIETNAM WAR AND COLD WAR (CS62)

Lifecolor's acrylic paints are superb quality and this set caters specifically to modellers building USAF aircraft in the 'South East Asia' scheme, always an eye-catching camouflage for scale aircraft. Almost as cool as the six paints is the new style of packaging featuring a slide-out tray instead of an opening lid, which would always tear during opening. Tops marks all round!

www.airbrushes.com





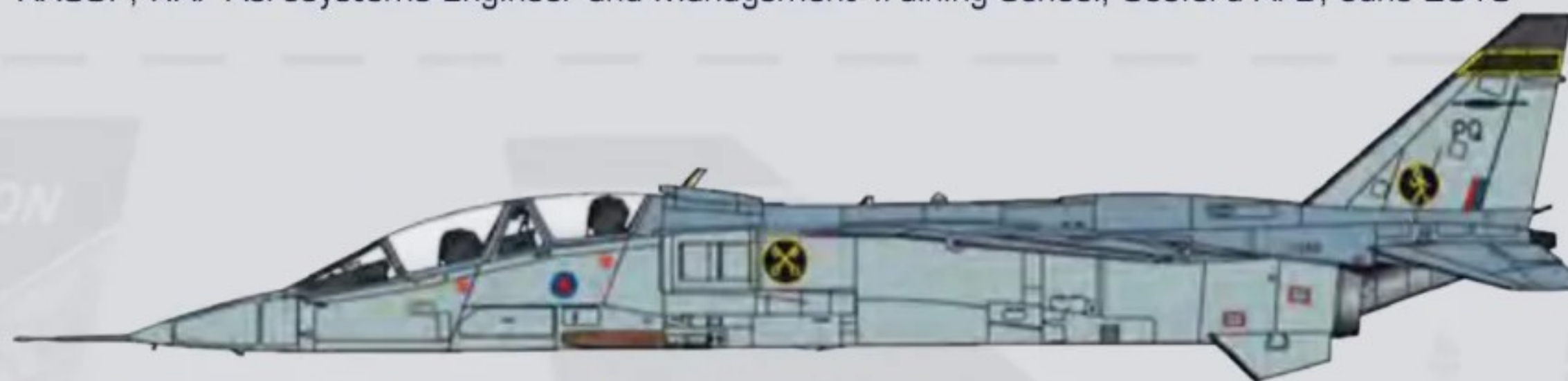
WILD CAT

Italeri bring us a highly accurate and detailed 1:72 scale model of the RAF Jaguar

Consisting of 78 parts across 3 sprues, this kit comes with a detailed cockpit that can be viewed through an open or closed canopy. Accessories include fuel tanks.



XX837, RAF Aerosystems Engineer and Management Training School, Cosford AFB, June 2018



XX841, RAF No.16 (R) Squadron, Coltishall AFB, July 2003



XX835, RAF 6th Squadron, No 238 Sqn (LTF) special livery, Cosford Air Show, 2018



XX845, RAF 6th Squadron, Coltishall AB, 2005

Decals are included, providing the colours of 4 different RAF squadrons including the famous black 'Trainer' livery



Originally conceived in the 1960s as a jet trainer with a light ground attack capability, the requirement for the aircraft soon changed to include supersonic performance, reconnaissance and tactical nuclear strike roles. The aircraft was used in numerous conflicts and military operations in Mauritania, Chad, Iraq, Bosnia, and Pakistan, as well as providing a ready nuclear delivery platform for the United Kingdom, France, and India throughout the latter half of the Cold War and beyond. In the Gulf War, the Jaguar was praised for its reliability and was a valuable coalition resource. The aircraft served with the French Air Force as the main strike/attack aircraft until 1 July 2005, and with the Royal Air Force until the end of April 2007.



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**LOCKHEED
MARTIN® F-35A
LIGHTNING II**



34th FS, 388th FW,
U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command

**1/72
SCALE**

Game-changer Incoming!

Lockheed Martin calls the F-35 Lightning II a “game-changer,” a key to aerial warfare, and it has been delivered to units since 2015. Following on from the release of our 1/48 scale F-35A kit, Tamiya is proud to welcome the F-35A to our 1/72 War Bird Collection with all-new tooling. Inheriting the faithfully recreated form of the F-35A based upon extensive research, the kit features ergonomic parts breakdowns of sections such as its nose and engine nozzle. Refined molded depictions of radar absorbent material (RAM) coatings, detailed cockpit and landing gear bays are also eye-catching features compared to other 1/72 scale kits. Check out this “game-changer” kit with your own eyes.



1/72 War Bird Collection (Item 60792)

Lockheed Martin® F-35® A Lightning II®



1/72 scale
Length: 218mm,
wingspan: 148mm.

- Suitable size for collecting.
- Masking stickers for canopy and sensors are included.

① Comes with a pilot figure depicted with helmet mounted display (HMD). ② The nose landing gear bay has realistic depictions of details such as ribs and side boxes. ③ Ordnance parts are included to recreate AIM-9X and GBU-12, and depict the “Beast mode” with ordnance attached to all six of the weapons stations.

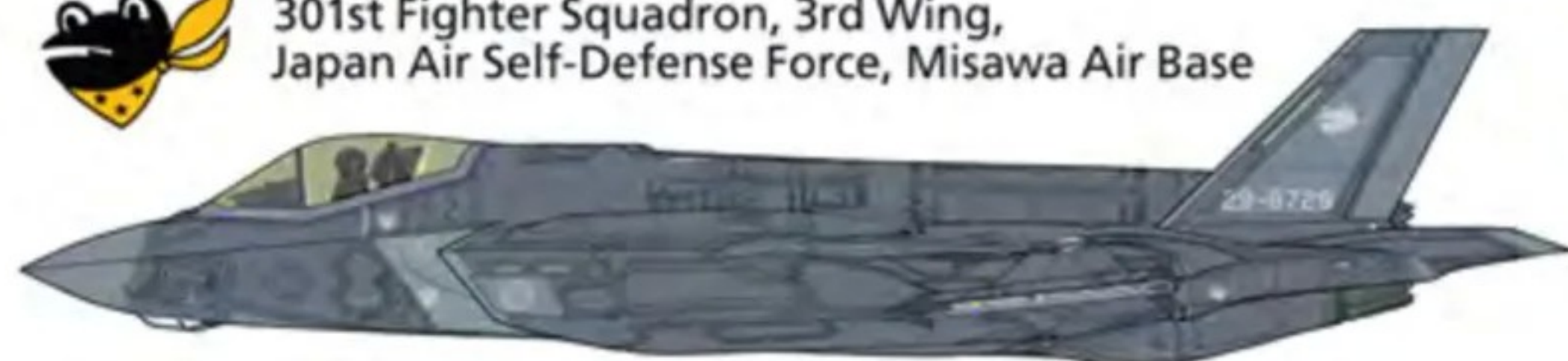
Painting the Lockheed Martin® F-35® A Lightning II®

Tamiya Color Lacquer Paints (LP)

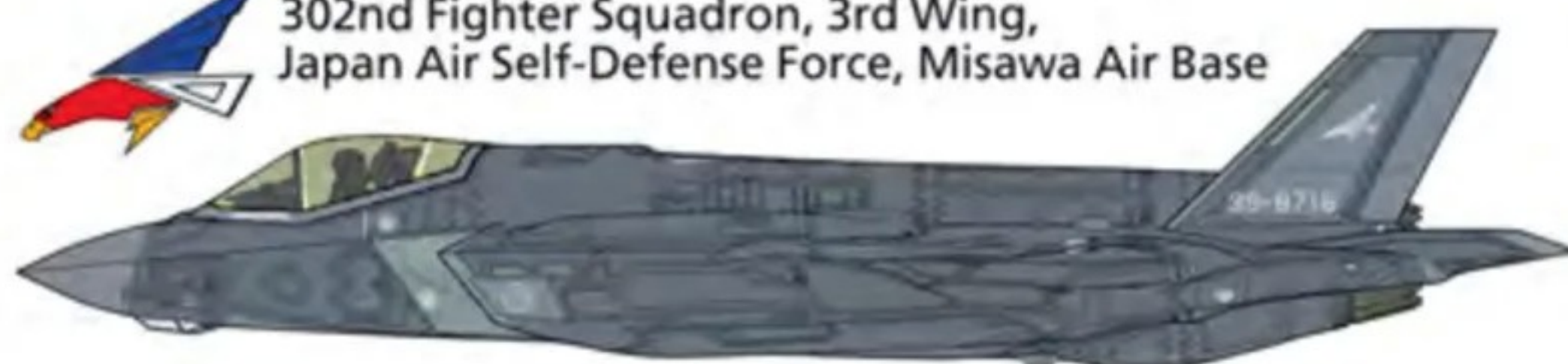
- LP-14 IJN Gray (Maizuru Arsenal) ● LP-15 IJN Gray (Yokosuka Arsenal)
- LP-36 Dark Ghost Gray ● LP-59 NATO Brown



301st Fighter Squadron, 3rd Wing,
Japan Air Self-Defense Force, Misawa Air Base



302nd Fighter Squadron, 3rd Wing,
Japan Air Self-Defense Force, Misawa Air Base



Comes with 3 marking options.

**1/48
SCALE**

1/48 Aircraft Series Lockheed Martin® F-35® A Lightning II®

The distinctive F-35A form featuring highly advanced stealth characteristics is faithfully captured in style. Choose between open or closed fuselage weapons bay doors, while the interior displays detailed depictions of various cables and lines. A wealth of decals - 9 marking options - are included.



LOCKHEED MARTIN® F-35® A Lightning II®

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