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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15th May 2018

Leys Institute (upstairs)

20 Saint Marys Road

Ponsonby

COMMITTEE

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Secretary - Brett Peacock	Lance Whitford
Treasurer - TBC	Keith Bunyan

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The Chairman's Bit

Hi Folks,

I hope you have had a good month at the modelling bench.

Things have been progressing here and I've managed to finish off my 1/48 F-86D and 1/48 Type 10 MBT builds and make some good progress with the old Revell 1/32 Hawker Typhoon 1b.

We decided last month the Theme Build for 2018 would be 'The Pacific' so it will be good to see some finished models on the bench in November.

Finally for those that missed the discussion last month. Model X is not running this year in Auckland.

Subs for 2018 are due. Payment via internet banking is preferred just let us know who payment is from..

Thanks, John S

From the Editor

It's show Time in Shizuoka again and the usual procession of exciting new kits has been on show. One thing that caught my eye was the announcement from Asuka that they are working on a new Sherman turret which fills a significant gap in their Sherman range. Asuka's range of Sherman variants have led the way in accuracy for many years. Unfortunately their range has not grown significantly in the last few years. The announcement that a late high bustle turret is in the works is a good step forward in expanding the range of Shermans that can be built from Asuka parts. The turret will obviously be paired with the existing m4A3 hulls but can also work with an M4 composite hull as either a 75mm gun tank or as a rare version of the Firefly. A late M4A2 hull would increase the possibilities. Perhaps next year!



BULLETIN BOARD

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBS *** 2018/19 NOW DUE *******

Subs for 2018/19 now DUE - see below for club account details or see the club secretary

Membership Type	Description	Cost
Full	Living in the Auckland Metropolitan Area	NZ\$45
Out Of Town	Living 75km or more from central Auckland	NZ\$30
Junior	Same rights as full membership for those under 16	NZ\$25

IPMS BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

03 0162 0012960 00

*Please add your name and details
so we know who has paid!*

EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT EVENTS

IPMS Auckland Meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every Month at the Leys Institute (upstairs), 20 Saint Marys Road, Ponsonby

- **15 May** Bring, buy and swap
-
-

MODELLING EVENTS

Nothing new to report the month!

CLUB SUPPORT

The following retailers have kindly agreed to offer IPMS Auckland club members a discount on their purchases upon presentation of their current IPMS Auckland Membership card.

The discount only applies on selected product lines and remains at the discretion of the retailer.



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Accurate Miniatures/Academy 1/48 US WW2 Armament & Ground Service Equipment

In Box review By Brett Peacock



7 dark grey Sprues (85 Parts), 2 light grey sprues (24 parts) & 1 small to Medium sized decal sheet.

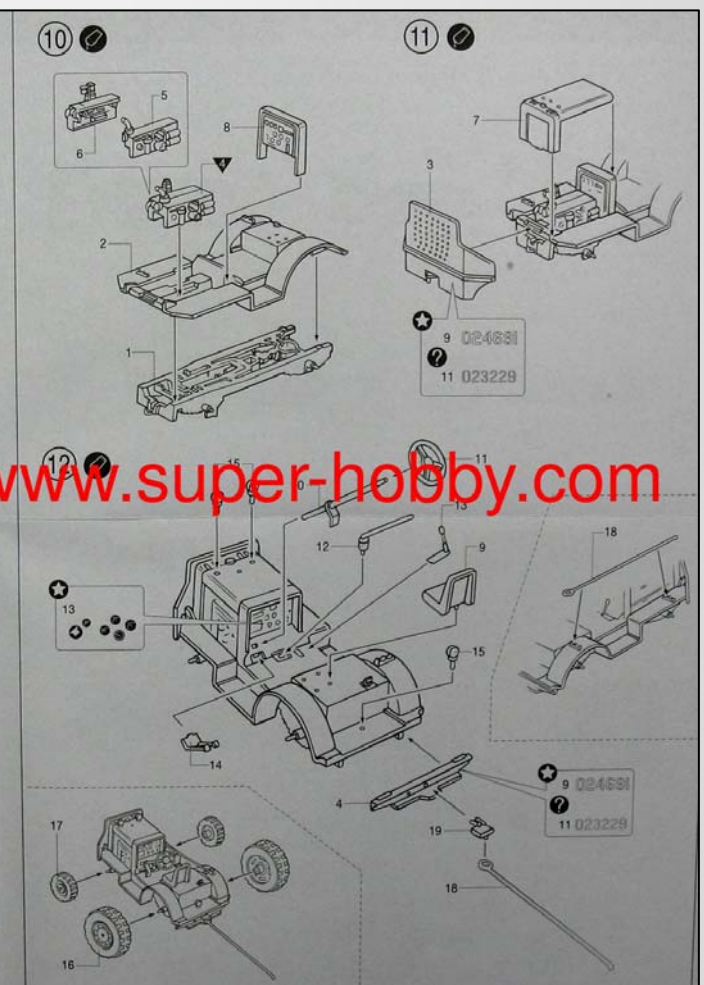
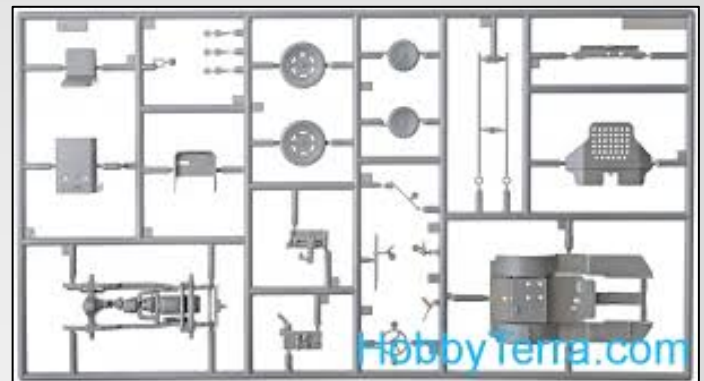
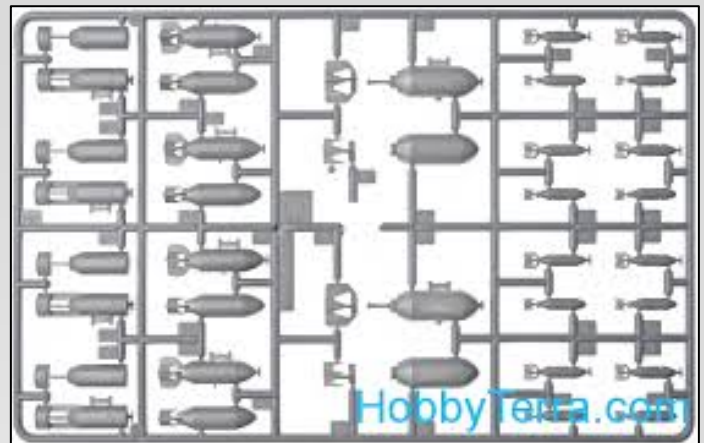
Price: \$20.00 from The Model Room, 2 Averill Street, Papakura, also seen on listed on Trademe.co.nz fairly often.

Academy have re-boxed a number of Accurate Miniatures kits in the past, notably their Avenger, P51s and Mitchells and Sturmoviks. This is one Accurate Miniatures kit that I never saw in NZ before, and it does fill a small gap in my hoard of models – I have the Bomb trolley from the Monogram B17 (3x) and the Tractor from the B-24 (2x) but precious little else of US ground equipment or bomb range except those that come in the kits. This kit, as can be seen in the illustration contains both a tug and a Cart, as well as a range of Bombs and Depth Charges and Rockets.

The box lid and the instruction sheet cover almost everything the modeller needs to know and the decals sheet provides the markings needed, but no chalked slogans or mottos. The large number of sprues is due to the groupings- the tug and cart are on the light grey sprues with the rest on the darker grey sprues. The plastic is unlike Academy's usual beige blue grey so I suspect its part of the stock Accurate Miniatures plastic, moulded before they went under, and held in storage.

Moulding is clean and crisp, if a little bit chunky, but looks the part, and these weapons will enhance any US Military plane's loadout. The decals too are clean and well printed, but I do not know if they are US or Korean.

Conclusion: For \$20.00 New Zealand, this is a good buy and I would encourage anyone to get a set to enhance their next USAAF or USN build.



AC MODELS 1:35 SCALE KIWI SHERMAN CREW Kit ACM35003

A 'Look in the box' by Pete M.



Most New Zealand modelers are aware of the success Wingnut Wings have had with their superlative range of WWI aircraft kits in 1:32 scale, but many may not have heard of one other Kiwi company making a name for themselves (well, himself) AC Models.

Talented modeller Andy Cairns has been releasing resin figures in several scales over the past few years, and has released three kits that will be of interest to builders of WWII New Zealand Army vehicles in 1:35th scale.

The subject of this review is his Kiwi Sherman Crew, and these can be used in either a late Desert theatre setting, or in Italy.



Moulded in a tan resin, this set gives the modeller four figures, the 'Crusader' style turret box fitted to most Kiwi Shermans, and some 'dunnage' consisting of tarpaulins draped over ammo boxes to fit on the rear engine covers.



The four figures in the crew are wearing khaki drill shirts, all with the sleeves rolled up, one is in shorts, and the other three are wearing khaki drill trousers. One arm on each figure is separate, and is poseable to some extent. All are wearing the Tank Corps beret. They are moulded in a 'relaxed' pose, and look to me very much like many of the photos of Kiwi troops, even down to their slightly 'scruffy' look!

Some of the details are a little bit 'soft' such as the faces, but in my opinion the folds of the clothing are very well done. The shirt pockets appear to be a bit bulky, but may well be full of 'ciggies' etc.

There is some flash evident that will have to be cleaned up and there appears to be a few imperfections in the surface of the turret bin that will also need attention.



One figure short of a full crew (maybe the other guy is taking the photo?) but overall, a great set to populate your Kiwi Shermans but may also be used with some modifications with any other vehicles.

Andy credits Jeff Plowman for the research, so one knows they should be pretty well spot-on for accuracy!

Hasegawa 1/48 Mitsubishi A6M-3 Type 22a - Koh (Zeke/ Hamp)

by Brett Peacock



In-Box Kit review: Hasegawa 1/48 Mitsubishi A6M-3 Type 22a - Koh (Zeke/ Hamp) Kit 09170)
68 pieces, 3 Colour schemes. Purchased from Modelair, Newmarket. Retail ??? (NZ) Bought as part of this year's Easter Sale at over 30% reduced.

Historical Notes

By mid to late 1942 the IJN Aviation administration was becoming aware of the shortcomings of their primary Navy Fighter, the A6M-2 Type 21. It was slower than ideal, and new allied fighters like the P38 were significantly faster and the light construction made it vulnerable. Pilots also had commented that its rate of roll was not ideal.

The response from Mitsubishi was to increase the engine power by adding a supercharger to the next model of radial, Remove the folding wingtips and fit a blunt fairing (Not dissimilar to the Spitfire's clipped wingtips.) The result was the A6M-3 Model 32, given the allied recognition codename of "Hamp". It was the fastest model of A6M and the roll rate improved BUT it had a significant drawback – The higher powered engine and supercharger degraded the fuel economy and even with an external tank, it was the shortest ranged model of the Zero, much to the dislike of its crews.

Once the negative feedback reached Mitsubishi they began the changes by adding in some features planned for the next variant, the A6M-5. In addition to the uprated engine and an intake at the top of the cowling, Two of the four wing tanks were increased in capacity and the short barrelled 20mm cannon in the wing was replaced by a long barrel 20mm cannon. The clipped wingtips were again removed and standard folding wingtips fitted to increase lift and improve overall range at the cost of the extra speed. In fact the Model 22 had the longest range of all Zeroes. This mark of Zero was dubbed the Model 22 to link it to the previous A6M-2 Model 21. The changes proved very effective and the Model 22 was the most produced model of the A6M-3. (Fewer than 500 model 32, but over a thousand Model 22s were made. However its time was to prove limited as by 1943 the subsequent A6M-5 was entering production to keep the Zero at least competitive with the new US Navy fighters such as the Hellcat.

Over the last 20 years Hasegawa have been producing a fairly complete family of the Zero fighter, right up to the A6M-8 recently. Thankfully they do go into careful detail about the specifics of each model and include the correct mods to reproduce that. The model 22 has been released in several boxings now, but this boxing (above) was one I have been unable to find any reviews for online, merely summaries of contents. Even the parts illustrations are few and far between. It took some digging to find just the box artworks used here. Both are included to illustrate the colour schemes and the restored wingtips.

The Kit Itself

There are 5 sprue trees of various sizes of Hasegawa's hard pale grey plastic & 1 Clear sprue tree. Very few parts are marked as being surplus. The kit includes: a very nice and complete cockpit (but no belts), a very good radial engine and cowling assembly, adequately detailed wheel wells. Stores consist solely of a standard Drop Tank.

The kit is also in the typical Hasegawa style regarding detail- Fine recessed panel lines, with some raised detail. The cockpit is well detailed and assembly should be problem free.

Instructions are in the classic Hasegawa fold out with very good line drawings and paint callout from Gunze- both acrylics and lacquers. The decals are also classic Hasegawa, a little thick but application in very hot water with some decal solvent and wetting agent should overcome that.

The painting guide had 2 options illustrated, but one option has 2 serials, 183 & 188, indicating there are 3 options in the box.

The marking options (Both from the 343rd Fighter Group) in the kit are:

1: 4-125, from an unknown unit at Rabaul in 1943, in standard Mitsubishi Naval dark green over "sky" green-grey camouflage. This is the box art scheme

2 & 3: 582nd Flying Group, camouflage similar to one but with a wide white chevron just aft of the Fuselage Hinomaru, Tail numbers are 183 & 188 in red with white outlines. No location is given but this scheme is also found in a "Rabaul Combo" boxing in 1/72 scale by Hasegawa.

All the schemes feature a natural metal spinner and front prop blades with red brown rears.



Conclusion and Recommendation

Reviewing a Zero kit is almost like reviewing a Messerschmitt 109 – people tend to roll their eyes a bit and think, “Why Bother?” Well it turns out that the Zero had a rather colourful production and there were many variants, some of which have been largely overlooked, even by modellers and the Model 22 is one of those. I was aware of the Model 32 and the Models 21 and 52, but the Model 32, as one of the larger production runs, was new to me. This may be because many wrecks were assumed to be Model 52's due to the camouflage and similar features. The Model 22 soldiered on until the very end of the war.

Highly recommended



AZmodel Kawasaki Ki48Iib – Sokei (Lily)

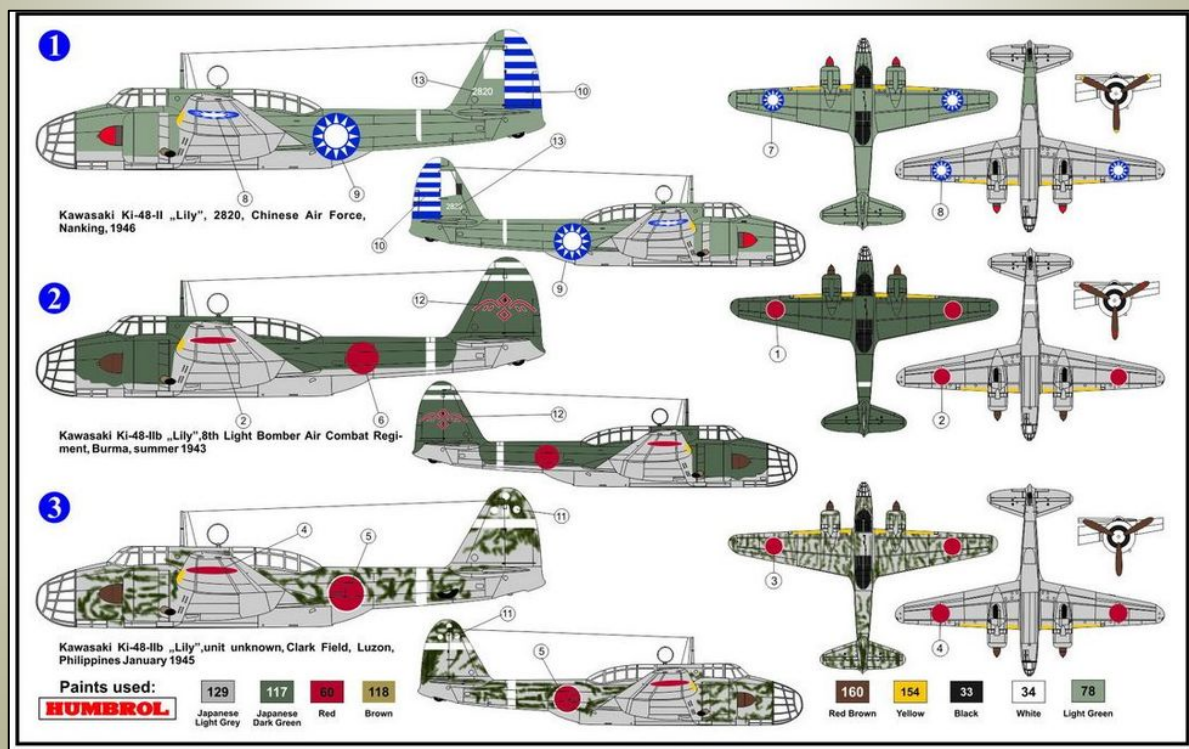
In Box review by Brett Peacock



This is the revised version with the More Accurate Nose and nose glazing, and includes a 1/48 Ki 148 I-Go-1 Rocket guided bomb as a separate kit. Kit purchased from "the Model Room", 2 Averill St, Papakura for \$110.00

105 Grey and 9 Clear parts on 4 grey & 2 clear sprue trees (Ki 48) & 25 grey on 1 grey sprue plus 2 PE parts for the Ki 148 I-Go-1 Bomb.

Markings included for 3 aircraft, 1 Nationalist Chinese from 1946 and 2 Japanese Army bombers, from Burma and the Philippines in 1943-45. A Full colour guide is printed on the Box underside for all 3 options.



The Kawasaki Ki-48 was a Japanese twin-engine light bomber used during World War II. Its Allied code name was "Lily".

The development of the aircraft began at the end of 1937 at the request of the Japanese military high command. Kawasaki received an order to develop a "high-speed bomber". It was inspired by the Soviet Tupolev SB. Kawasaki had the advantage of the experience of designing the Ki-45 twin-engine heavy fighter. However the new design had a number of defects. It could carry only a 800 kg bomb load and was equipped only with three machine guns, which made it very vulnerable to enemy fighters. The aircraft was considered an acceptable light bomber for the first years of the war.

The aircraft served in China from late 1940, replacing the Kawasaki Ki-32, and were widely used in the Philippines, Malaya, Burma, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and the Dutch East Indies. All models continued in service until the Battle of Okinawa during April 1945, when many were converted into kamikaze aircraft armed with an 800 kg bomb. (History courtesy of the Aeroscale website.)



(BTW- Do not buy this kit - Original & Un modified)

AZmodel (part of MPM's Czech conglomerate) originally released this kit a few years ago to initial acclaim and then the major error in the nose contour became known. To their credit they acknowledged the error and have now re-released the kit to include a fix consisting of a new clear sprue with a new nose glazing and an upper front fuselage which requires some minimal surgery. This change alters the whole look of the nose. Another change was the elimination of the complex resin engines and their replacement by new plastic parts, as some critics had felt the resin engines were not as good as resin engines can be. I also suspect that this was an economy to help overcome the cost of the retooled nose. Another economy was the reduction of options in markings from 5 or 6 to only 3. While I understand the reasoning, it would have been a minimal change as they already had the art and decals produced, so changing them would have involved an outlay that was not needed at first.

The revised boxings of the Ki 48 are easily distinguished by the red box end (see artwork in header)

See Comparison image – Original kit outline is uppermost, revised below



While I cannot speak as to the fit of parts – I have seen online reviews that both praise and damn the kit on these grounds, I would suspect that, as a limited run kit, it is a kit that requires that little extra patience and work from the modeller. While Hasegawa do a range of Ki 48 models in 1/72 scale, this is the only game in town for 1/48 apart from a rather elderly vac-form from the 80's/90's. And the Lily was a highly important Japanese Army Air Force bomber type, being encountered from New Guinea, to Burma to the Phillipines to China from 1940 to 1945. And it was used Post war by the Nationalist Chinese and the Indonesians.

The parts Labelled with a 'P' are resin in Step 4.

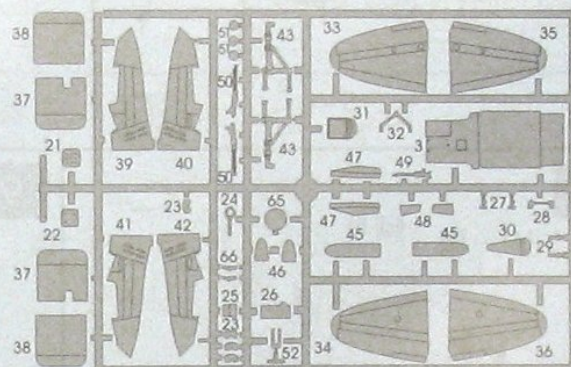
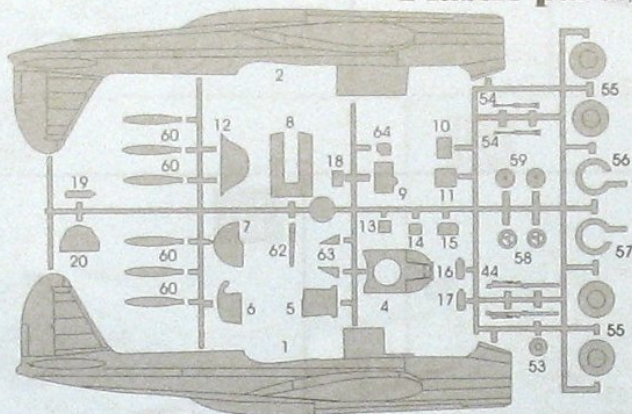
AZ model
Plastic kits

Plastic model
scale 1/48

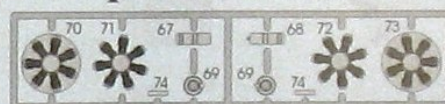
KAWASAKI

KI-48-I, KI-48-II LILY

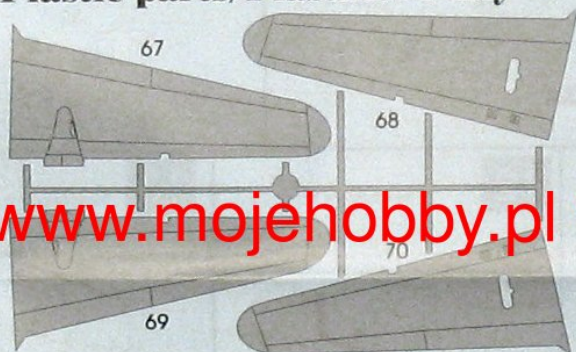
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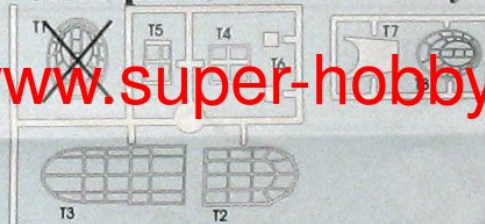
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Plastic parts/Plastikové díly



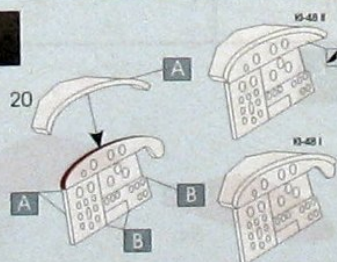
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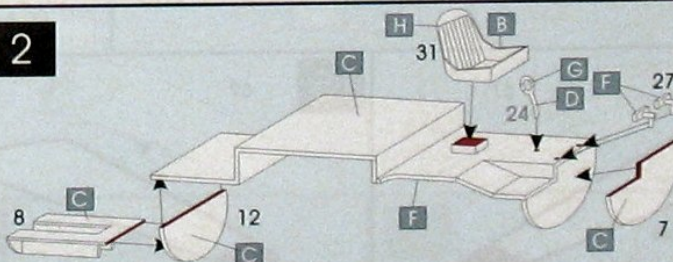
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Resinové díly

www.moje Hobby.pl www.super-hobby.com

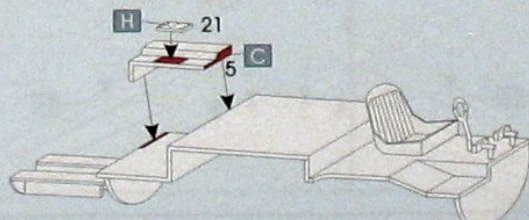
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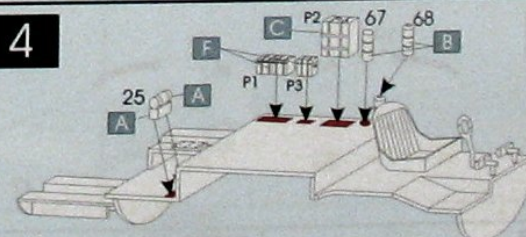
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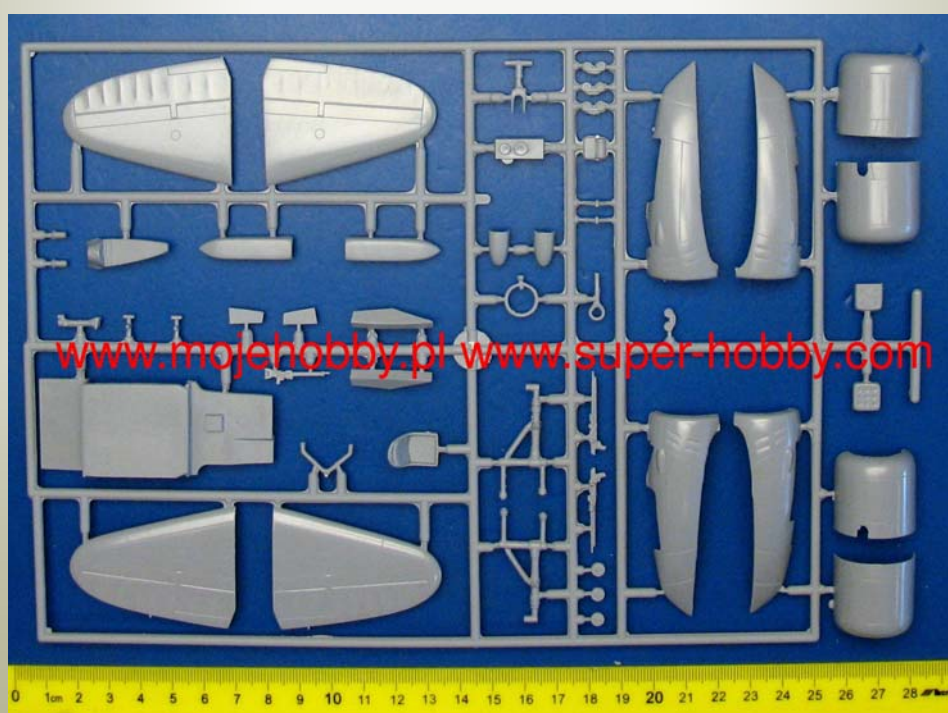
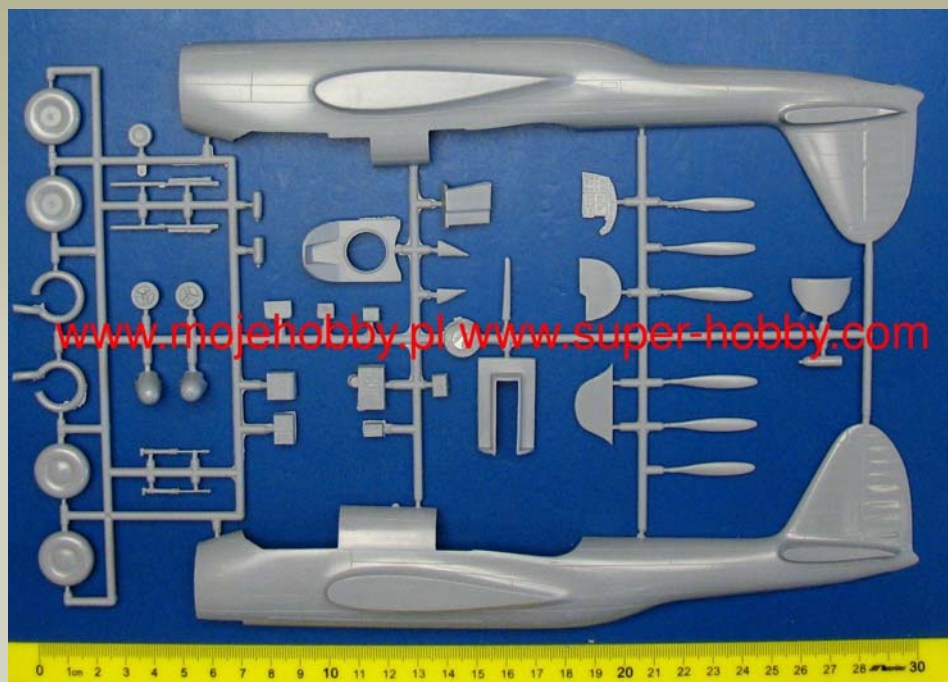


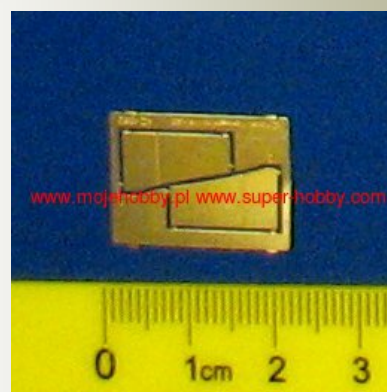
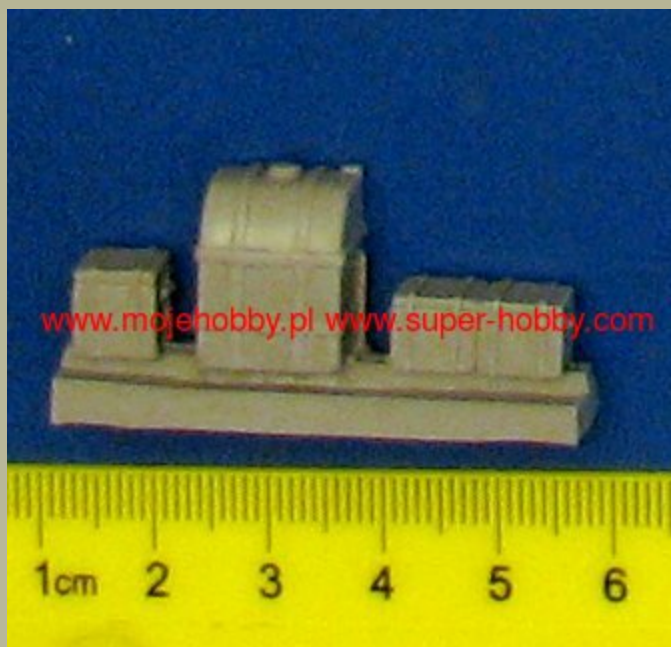
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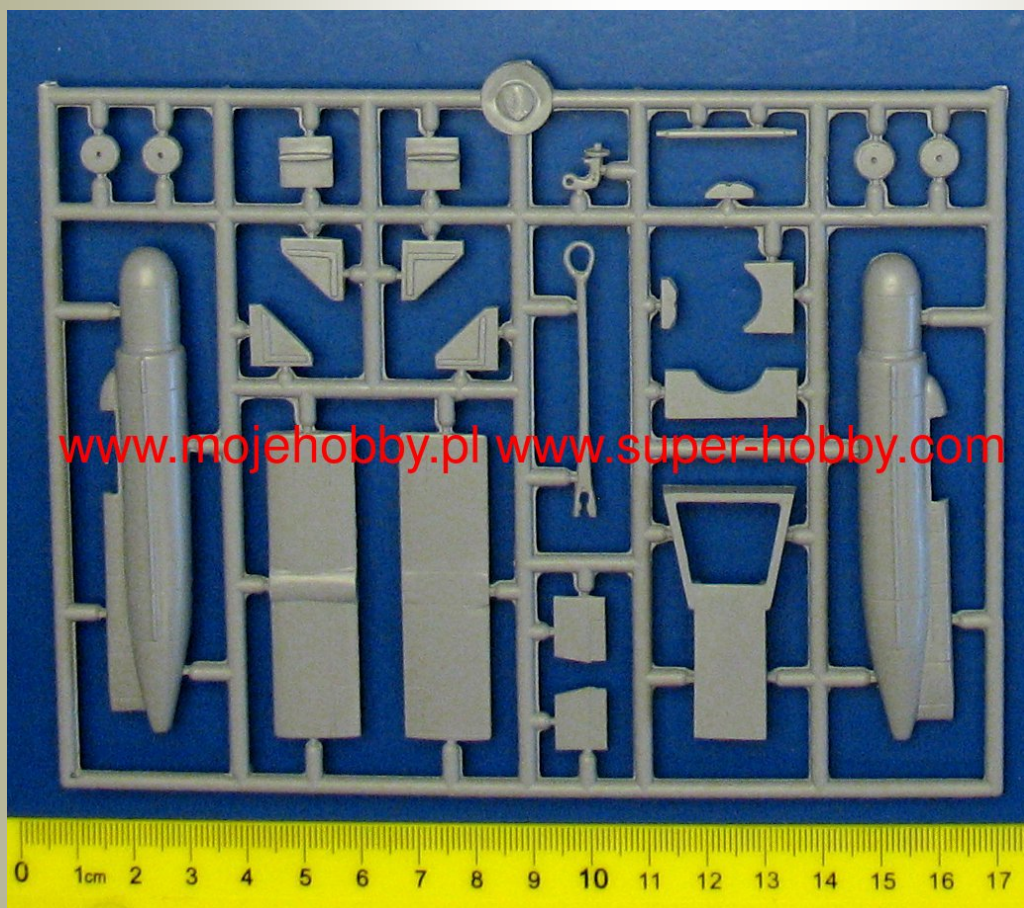
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B	Aircraft Grey Green		G	Leather	
C	Light Blue Grey		H	Dark Brown	
D	Aluminium				
E	Light Grey				







And the Ki 148-I-Go-1



So, onto the kit itself: As outlined above there are 4 grey and 2 clear sprue trees in fairly hard pale grey plastic with moulding that is fairly typical for limited run kits. There is also 1 block of resin parts containing some interior equipment and a large-ish decal sheet with the 3 markings in very well printed and opaque colours,. The detailing on the plastic is fine but some areas will need a bit of re-defining (rescribing) after filling & sanding (which will be required). The instructions are in colour but are not the clearest I've seen, with one or two WTF moments – eg: step 5 tells you to join the fuselage halves BEFORE you put the interior in between them!- NOTE: Do NOT do that! Another economy pops up in the instructions, it tells you how to build a Ki48-Ib as well as a Ki 48-IIb. (yes, AZmodel do make a Ki 48-Ib as well as this Ki 48-IIb) As the Ki 48IIb was the testbed for the Ki 148-I-Go-1, its inclusion in the kit is both welcome and logical. (like putting an Yokosuka MXY-7 Ohka into a G4M-1 “Betty” kit!)



Like any limited run kit there are some detailing shortcomings – No Bomb bay or bombs, no Wheelbay details and a fairly sparse interior. So, any extra detailing is dependent on how much the modeller wishes to add, and how good his or her references are. But, with the revised nose, it is a much better kit of an important WW2 Japanese Bomber, and an Army Bomber, at that. And therefore it is an important part of any WW2 Pacific aircraft collection.

The Lily comes in a modestly-sized top-opening box made of medium strength card and features a very nice cover painting (see header) with a full colour chart on the underside of the box floor. (It took me a moment to work this out, I was looking for a colour chart!) The I-Go-1 missile had only 1 colour option – pale grey with red striping and a yellow and metal ground cart.(included).

GALLERY

CLUB NIGHT MODELS

Check out our Website gallery for photos taken of models at our monthly meetings

<http://ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com>



And as usual - check out the IPMS Auckland website as we're trying to keep the content a bit more dynamic. We won't be regurgitating content found on other websites but will provide links to sites we think are of interest to members.

