

Chapter Contacts

Please forward to your members!

IPMS PATRIOT

BILLERICA, MA



Just a little earlyeditor Pip Moss is going out of town, and so thought it better to have his newsletter early than late! What a novel concept! He features several models in this issuestarting with member Bill Michael's super-detailed 1/48th US Coast Guard 36 foot Motor Life Boat from the old Glencoe kit and Bart Navarro's 1/72nd P-51 from the Academy kit; followed by John Walker's nice 1/35 Cromwell Mk VI tank from the Tamiya kit.



In his background material on the Cromwell* tank, Pip mentions that the Cromwell's "Meteor" engine was derived from the Rolls Royce Merlin engine. While I knew that other armored vehicle engines had come from airplane engine designs, this "Merlin" connection was a surprise to me.



*Gearheads are the same the world overthis old WWII Meteor tank engine was photographed at a car show where it was offered for sale as a possible **"MORE POWER"** engine replacement!*

But many other tanks have used engines derived from aircraft use, most notably the air-cooled Wright R-975 radial engine, of which seven thousand had been built by Wright and FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND more by Continental, nearly all the latter for armored vehicle use like the M4 Sherman. (Use of radial engines was one of the factors causing American WWII tanks to have higher profiles than some others.)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wright_R-975

Check this Wikipedia article https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolls-Royce_Meteor to learn how the Merlin engine design had been de-

rated and simplified for armored vehicle use as the Meteor, to the point that reject Merlin parts and even complete blocks from early series Merlins were often used by the Rover company to build Meteor engines. It's a fascinating storythe following links show a Meteor ...lacking the Merlin's supercharger at one end and the propeller reduction gearbox at the other, being run on a "home-made" test stand.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ScUXgKaxBs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=noBznfBa5iY#t=93.258191>

Other newsletters await, so there isn't time or space to comment on ALL the neat models shown in this "Patriot". But I did want to include this enlarged, cropped scrap view of Pip's own 1/48th TBF-1C Avenger



.....from the Accurate Miniatures kit. Shown magnified here large than 1/48th, it's certainly worthy of mention. Now, open the newsletter to see the rest of the model. Nice job, Pip!



IPMS 6390

* The Cromwell tank was named after Oliver Cromwell, the leader of Parliamentary forces against the Royal forces during the English Civil Wars of the mid-17th century, a conflict which firmly established democratic rule by an elected parliament over the concept of royal “divine right” rule. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_Civil_War#The_King.27s_rule