

OCT 18 MEET

This month we shall have a return of the modeling demonstrations. Since I've run out of arms to twist, I'll have to give this one myself. I'll demonstrate various ways to heat-form plastic, including how to get the most out of your Vac-u-form, Stretch-forming and, if we have time, some sprue stretching techniques.

Last month's contest winners were:

Aircraft

- 1 Wayne Snowdon, 1/72 Airfix TBM
- 2 Wayne Snowdon, 1/72 Airfix Hurricane Mk I
- 3 Larry Baldwin, 1/72 Mania Ki-51

Other

- 1 Scott Taylor, 1/24 IMC Yawmaster (converted)
- 2 Steve Cook, 1/35 Tamiya 6x4 Krupp Protze
- 3 Steve Cook, 1/35 Tamiya Anti-tank gun & crew

Congratulations!

We want to remind members that next month will be the last contest before the Model of the Year competition in December.

Portland Contest

To all Military Miniaturists, figure painters, military miniature clubs, military collectors, builders of dioramas, wargamers, model ordnance builders, toy soldier collectors and related hobbyists of all ages, male and female:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE!

On November 14 and 15, 1980, the Military Figure Collectors of Oregon will host the first annual Northwest Regional Military Figure Competition and Exhibit at the Jackson Armory, Portland Air Base, Artillery Gate Entrance. There will be club awards, commercial awards, certificates of merit for miniaturists, a toy soldier display award, a militaria collector award, a diorama and an ordnance award and many others including a Best of Show trophy and Best Junior Award.

All sizes of figures, military or historic, are eligible for awards be they commercial figures, conversions or scratchbuilt. Ordnance entries must include at least one figure. Mail-ins accepted. Entries accepted for judging up to 12 Noon Saturday, November 15, 1980. There'll be door prizes, a militaria collectors flea market, free movies and a static military display. All exhibits open to the public on Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm.

For complete information packet providing details, list of classes and awards, rules, map, accommodations, entry blanks etc. please remit \$1.00 to Noreen Denny, 1539 NE Vista Way, Gresham, OR 97030. Entry blanks will be available at the door.

Rumors

SMDC: 1/72 JB-2 "Loon" (out), air to air missile set (out), Ryan Firebee, XF-85 Goblin

Atlantic: 1/90 727 Alitalia, Air France, British Airways

LS: 1/144 SR-71, Tornado, F-4E "Thunderbirds"

Revell/Brazil: 1/32 Mirage Brazilian AF, 1/32 P-51 RAF, 727 Trans-Brazil, F-27 TAM

Veeday: 1/72 Pfalz D.III & Albatross D.XI Scout (double kit)

Tauro: (updated list) 1/35 A7V (out), 1915 "Little Willie", 1918 Whippet, 1917 "Composite", 1917 Mk V, 1918 Mk VIII, 1918 Mk V, 1917 Schnieder, 1917 St Chamond, 1917 Renault, 1917 Renault-Funk, 1918 Carro Armato, 1918 Ford. (The A7V is reported to be Italaerei quality, 400+ pieces, with complete interior.)

Airframe: 1/72 Siemens-Schuckert R.II

TDM: 1/72 BD-5 (very soon!)

Necomisa: 1/48 T-28A Mexican AF, OS2U-3 Mexican Navy, DH Mosquito (all ex-Monogram); 1/48 XPY-1 Pogo, X-3, F4U-5N Argentine Navy, Spirit of St Louis, 1/160 Ju-52 (all ex-Lindberg?)

Polish Postcards

Dear Sirs!!!

I am interested in your company and would be very grateful for your prospective want to reclamation your company in Poland your fait afuzzy

This is the best example of a continuing series (some 15 so far) of unintentionally humorous postcards I have received from Poland as the result of the Guano Works being publicized in international magazines. The postcards seem to be coming from Polish schoolboys whose English isn't so hot. Each appears to have been dutifully miscopied from some original and contains its own special twist. The machines apparently are interested in obtaining aviation oriented stickers and catalogues. Unfortunately, I have run out so I am asking you for donations of such material. You too can help international relations.

Wesley Moore (525-5040)

Bulletin Board

Bill Hawkins (525-7673, 1602 NE 73rd St, Seattle 98115) wants 200 1/48th scale pilots, Monogram & Tamiya quality, all eras, 25¢ each, any quantity okay. Bill is also looking for Boeing display models in good condition.

Review

AIRFIX 1/72 Avro Lancaster B.III

The Lancaster is certainly one of the most significant aircraft of WWII. If it was strategic bombing that won the war, then a large share of the credit belongs to the Lanc and her crews. The roughly 7000 Lancs dropped over 600,000 tons during the war. This is only slightly lower than the 640,000 tons dropped by the B-17, inspite of the fact that there were 5000 more B-17s! Although we have had 3 1/72 Lancs from the major manufacturers, (Revell, Airfix and Frog) they were among the firms' early offerings and are sadly inadequate by today's standards. Tamiya showed us how it should be done several years ago, in 1/48, but we 1/72 fans have had to wait. It's been worth it!

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This is perhaps Airfix's finest 1/72 kit. It is cleanly molded in 125 parts. (The old one had only 75.) The parts are all flash-free and fit well. The surface detail is crisp, restrained and generally correct. Airfix has taken great pains to break down the model so that it could be molded without sacrificing the complex contours. This is seen particularly in the engine nacelles with the separate radiator piece and the multi-piece turrets. Also the cockpit canopy has separately molded side blisters. Although the cockpit interior is still "Airfix Provincial", decals are provided for the instrument and radio panels. The bomb bay interior is provided and a complement of bombs to go with it. The kit also provides the H2S radome.

I have yet to find any significant error in the kit's outline or contours. The dies seem to have been cut from the MAP drawings. I do think however that the kit (and the plans!) should have more dihedral. Check the photos. Fortunately this can easily be cranked in when gluing the wing halves together. Also the nose turret isn't quite right, being a bit too wide at the base. A little sanding and polishing will remedy this. A few sins of omission include the lack of small fuselage windows (frequently overpainted anyway) and the absence of the large wing tip formation lights.

The decals are also quite nice. Markings for two aircraft are included, PM-M of the 103rd and HW-A of the 100th squadrons as well as numerous walk lines, trestle marks and stenciling.

If building it stock sounds too easy, think of all the conversion possibilities. Beside all of the Wallis wonders to hang in the bomb bay (dam bombs, Tallboys and Grand Slams) there's the radial engine B.II and for a real challenge, the twin engine triple tail Manchester. GR

REFERENCES:

- Aeromodeller plans #2781, by D.H. Cooksey (excellent multiview plans in several scales, details of dam bomb and Grand Slam)
- Aerodata International #10 Avro Lancaster B.I, by Philip Moyes (good 1/72 plans, color schemes, excellent close-up photos)
- Major Archive, Avro Lancaster B. Mk I-III, by Francis Mason (good text, some close-up photos, color schemes)
- Aircam #12, Avro Lancaster in Unit Service, by Garbett & Goulding
- Profile #65, Avro Lancaster I, by Garbett & Goulding
- Profile #233, Avro Lancaster Mk II, by Bruce Robertson
- Profile #260, Avro Manchester, by Chaz Bowyer

New in Town

Although the new kit scene has been a bit slow lately, the new hobby shop department is quite another matter. Tom Weinel has opened a beautiful new shop in Bellevue. It's called "Triple Alliance" and is at 10328 Main St in "Old Bellevue" behind the 7-11. (phone: 453-8939) The hours will be 10-8 M-F, 10-6 Sat and 12-5 Sun. There's lots of parking. Tom is stocking models, figures and games, hence the name. The Grand Opening is this week through Saturday, with 20% off. He's off to a great start!

There's also another hobby shop opening up on the Eastside. This one is in Loeman Village (where the old Sunset Drive-in use to be by the I-90 & 405 junction) at 3610 128th St SE. It's called Arthur Bird Toys and is part of a chain from Alaska. It will cater to a wide range of hobby interests including trains, wood ships, powered models, figures and RC as well as plastics. They expect to be open November 1. One of the principals, Jeff Breece, is looking for modelers that would be interested in doing some pieces on contract. If you're interested, give him a call (shop: 747-7940, home: 941-2188)

American Eagles: Fujimi 1/48 Aerospaiale SA-341B, 341C, 341G Gazelles, Bell 206, 206 HKP-6 Jetrangers, 206B Jet Arrows, Bell AH-1S JGSDF, AH-1S TOW, AH-1G Huey, AH-1J Sea Cobra, MBB Bo-105C, Allouette II; ESCI 1/48 UN Bell 205; Nichimo 1/380 Icebreaker Fuji; Italaerei (now Italeri) 1/72 F-16 A/B, B-25H/J, 1/35 WWII Harley motorcycles, 1/35 Sdkfz 234/2 Puma, GMC water tank; Testors/Italaerei 1/35 M32 recovery vehicle; Minicraft 1/72 F-15B Hasegawa 1/48 Nate.

Triple Alliance: Airfix 1/48 Hurricane; ESCI 1/48 F-4B/J, UH-1D UN markings; Minicraft 1/72 F-15B, Cessna Citation; Testors/Italaerei 1/35 Puma; Microscale several sheets of 1/200 airlines and 1/144 markings for the LS & Crown aircraft series.

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Information for publication should reach the editor before the second Saturday of the month, phone or write: Greg Reynolds, 12819 98th PL NE, Seattle, WA 98033