



Seattle Chapter News

APR 18 MEET

This month's meeting will be business as usual. If I can find my modeling tools and remember what they're for, we'll have a demonstration of one tedious but effective way to make aircraft instrument panels.

Last month we had a very good turnout of models and we were pleased to see display cards with nearly all of them. Unfortunately, our judges had a literacy problem this time, so our results below are incomplete. If you can correct any of this information, please bring it to our attention.

ARMOR 1 Steve Cook, 1/35 Tamiya Skdfz
2 Frank Wood, 1/35 Tamiya M5A1 Stuart
3 Steve Cook, 1/35 Tamiya Horch

AIRCRAFT 1 Jeff Smith, 1/48 Monogram B-26
2 Dan Parker, 1/72 Matchbox AW Siskin
3 Wayne Snowdon, 1/144 Jaguar

VEHICLES 1 Steve Lewis, 1/25 AMT Peterbilt Wrecker
2 Scott Taylor, 1/24 AMT Kenworth
3 ? , 1/24 Camero

Last month we also passed a resolution to ban smoking from the meetings altogether. Please help us see that this resolution is observed which will surely prolong our stay at the Mercer Island Rec Center.

RECON 7

As you can see from the enclosed information, our Regional Convention is shaping up. The speakers which we have scheduled at this time include Col. Leroy Roberts, veteran of the Black fighter squadrons in WWII and jet pilot in Korea; Clayton Gross, US fighter ace who fought against (and beat) the Me-262s; and Franz Stigler, German fighter ace who flew the Me-262s under Galland.

We want to urge you to register as early. Some of the functions may be space limited and will be reserved by order of registration if required.

Room reservation cards are not being sent to local members, but if any of you want them, they will be available at the meeting, or by calling Terry Moore. Plan to be there!

New in Town

CAMPUS HOBBIES: Testors/Italaerei 1/24 Mercedes Benz 540K; Airfix 1/32 Dennis Fire Truck; Matchbox 1/32 Mercedes Benz SSRL, 1/72 Stranraer, Wellington, 1/32 Sea Venom, Tiger Moth; Tamiya 1/32 Tomcat, Revell 1/25 Chev Pick-up, Porsche Turbo-rallye; Hasegawa 1/48 Lear Jet, 1/32 TA-4J; AMT 1/25 Peterbilt Cabover Tractor; Skywave 1/700 Naval Arsenal, Stratigic Airbase, Street Fighting Tamiya 1/12 Cheetah, Datsun 280ZX, Can-Am Lola.

AMERICAN EAGLES: Hasegawa 1/32 TA-4J, 1/200 747 (Pan-Am), 1/48 Lear Jet; Tamiya 1/32 Tomcat; Fujimi 1/144 Choppers; Microscale 1/144 various WWII USAAF a/c; new Humrol colors.

TRIPLE ALLIANCE: Fujimi 1/72 Sea King, 1/144 Choppers; Hasegawa 1/32 TA-4J, 1/200 747, 1/48 Lear Jet; AMT 1/25 "Papa Truck" carrier; new Historex figures; Matchbox 1/72 Halifax; Microscale 1/72 TAC Badges #3, TAC Update, US Spitfires, F4F; Fowler 1/48 Navy P-4; Aces and Aircraft of WWI.

Review TAURO 1/35 A7V

Now that I've spent about 10 to 12 hours working on the A7V, it's really getting dig. Most 1/35 scale AFVs will fit inside of it. The exterior detail is quite good, but all those hatches (except the doors) are molded in. To cut them out and built them open would be a real job. On the inside, the detail is also good, but like most kits, lots of little things should be added. The six Maxim water cooled machine guns are nicely detailed, only needing ammo belts and water hoses. The 57 mm needs a bit more work.

The suspension is great, it all moves, but be careful. Don't glue parts 39 (both) to part 44. They should be a slip fit. Glue parts 39 (both) only to 45. The tracks are beautiful, but also very delicate. I broke six links trying to get the tracks on the wheels.

Overall this kit and its company rate near Tamiya in many ways.

DAN ROWBOTTOM

Material for publication should reach the Editor before the second Saturday of the month. Write or call: Greg Reynolds (821-5875), 12819 98th PL NE, Kirkland, WA 98033

MAY

- 2, 3 Wenatchee Airshow
- 3 Military Figure Collectors of Oregon meeting, 2:00, contact Lee Short, 10608 NE Tillamook, Portland, OR, 97220, (503) 252-0568
- 4 Seattle Military Miniature Society meeting 7:00PM at The Triple Alliance, contact Tom Wienel, 10328 Main, Bellevue, WA, (206)453-8939
- 16 IPMS Seattle meeting, 12:00
- 27 IPMS Portland meeting, 7:30PM, contact Larry Weinstock, 5829 SE Ogdon St, Portland, OR, 97206, (503) 775-6291

JUNE

- 1 Seattle Military Miniature Society meeting 7:00PM
- 7 Military Figure Collectors of Oregon meeting 2:00
- 12-14 RECON 7, IPMS Region 7 Convention, contact Terry D Moore, 14515 6th Ave NE, Seattle, WA, 98155 (206) 362-4009
- 20 IPMS Seattle meeting, 12:00
- 24 IPMS Portland meeting, 7:30PM

JULY

- 3-5 Bellingham Airshow
- 6 Seattle Military Miniature Society meeting 7:00PM
- 9-12 IPMS National Convention, New York, contact Jack Kennedy, 59 Bellwood Drive, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, (516) 535-3292
- 12 Pasco Airshow (Blue Angles)
- 18 IPMS Seattle meeting, 12:00
- 18-19 Paine Field Airshow (Blue Angles)
- 18-19 Bremerton Airshow (Thunderbirds)
- 22 IPMS Portland meeting, 7:30PM

AUGUST

- 3 Seattle Military Miniature Society meeting 7:00PM
- 7-9 Abbotsford Airshow (Thunderbirds)
- 8 Whidbey Island NAS Airshow (Blue Angles)
- 9 Seafair (Blue Angles)
- 15 IPMS Seattle meeting, 12:00
- 15 Corvallis Airshow

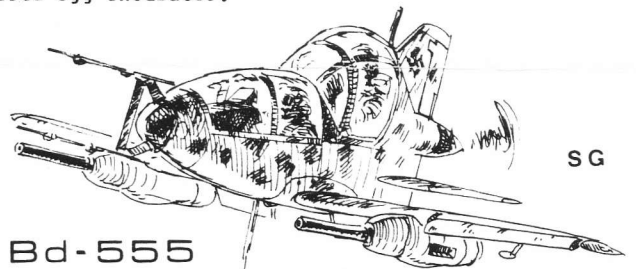
Rumors

HASEGAWA: 1/48 Ki-61, 1/200 A-300, 1/32 F-5F
COMBAT MODELS (vac): 1/32 Nieuport 17, F-105, F8F, Helldiver, 1/48 PBV
KP: 1/72 BH-9/11, Su-7, Il-14, MB.200
REVELL: 1/48 CH-53G Skycrane, Sea Stallion
TAURO: 1/48 M.205, De.520
MONOGRAM 1/72 B-47 (??)
USAIRFIX is apparently unaffected by the troubles of the parent company, which are themselves exaggerated. Current reports are that the flow of kits will not be interrupted.

Figments B to D

Following the loss of his most unusual prototype, as described last month, Sir Ian McBede attempted to recoup his losses by selling his design to various foreign Air Ministries, without concern for political scruple. While it remains uncertain if he ever received any royalties for his efforts, his peculiar aerodynamic notions were at least widely circulated and applied with surprising frequency, as last resorts. One of these instances was the Bd-555.

Following the development of the cavity-magnetron by the British, the Luftwaffe found itself unable to match the RAF's new short wave radar. While research naturally continued along more conventional paths, the RLM realized that, as a stop-gap measure, if the RAF was going to use shorter wavelengths, the Luftwaffe would have to use shorter aircraft. The Bd-555 was constructed in great haste, without benefit of mock-up or wind-tunnel model, which explains the use of McBede's concepts. One of the novel features of the miniature nightfighter was the omission of an intercom between the pilot on the radar operator, to save weight. The radar operator was to place his feet at the sides of the pilot's head and to indicate the direction of the target by "maneuvering" as if the pilot's ears were rudder pedals. The aircraft's first mission ended in disaster after intercepting a formation of Sterlings. The excited radar operator's insistent but conflicting signaling caused the pilot to lose all sense of orientation. The remains of the airframe are being used today 30 miles outside of Meizze East Germany as a solar-powered egg incubator.



Bd-555