

Building a Canadian Dream



The CF-105 Avro Arrow in 1/48 scale

Part 1 of 2

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Introduction

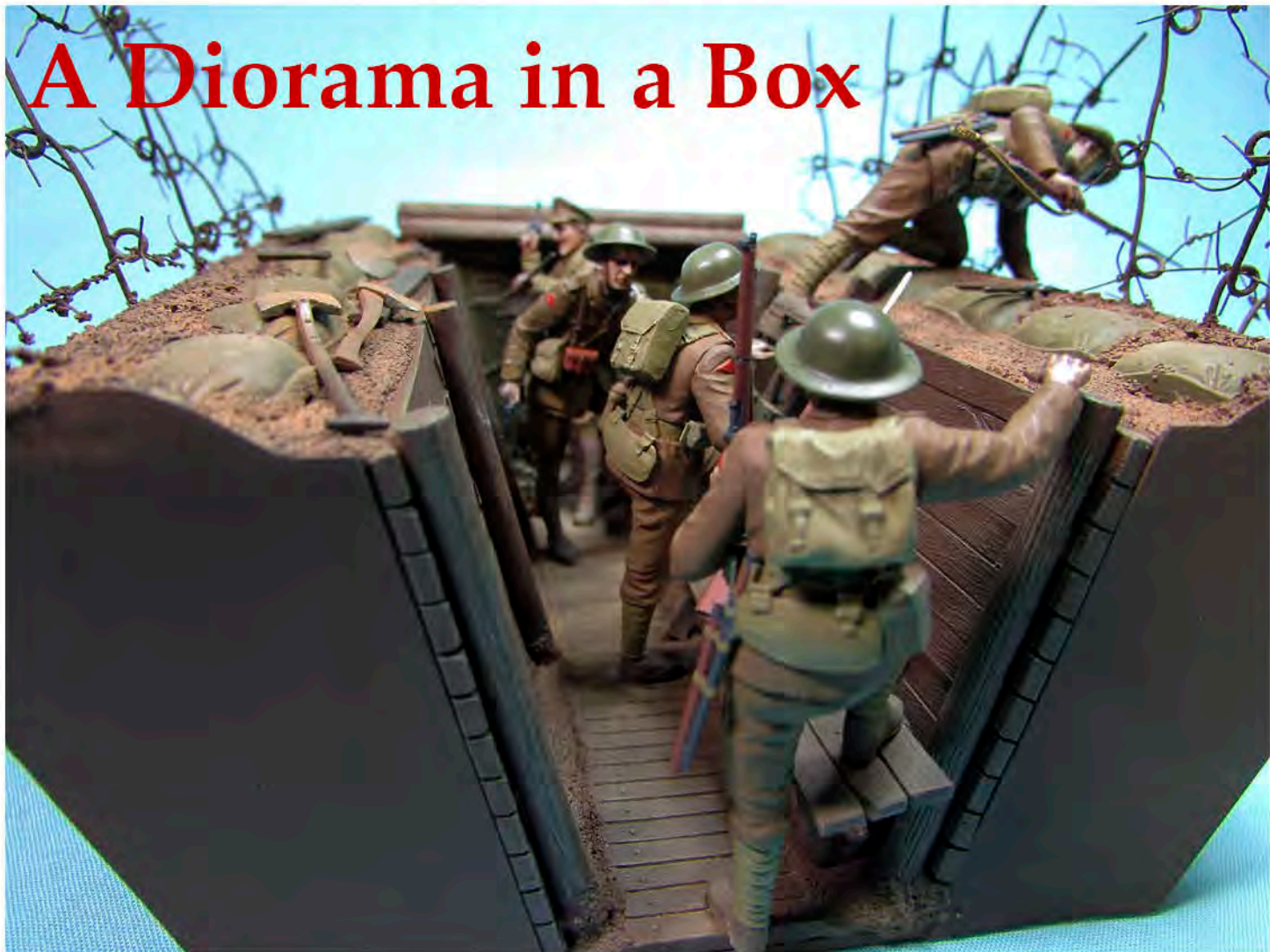
The Avro Arrow remains a Canadian aerospace icon decades after its cancellation. For some, it would have been the best interceptor ever. For others, it was a great achievement in Canadian engineering. The sudden termination of the program on Black Friday, February 20th 1959 shocked the nation. There is still much controversy over the Arrow cancellation and in particular the subsequent destruction of the prototypes.

With its futuristic lines the Arrow remains a favourite among aircraft enthusiasts: it looked so much ahead of its time! **Hobbycraft Canada** released its first version of the Arrow in 1/48 scale in the 1990's. This version lacked details and had shape issues. The re-tooled kit **HC1659** corrected the most noticeable shape errors and slightly improved the level of detail. This kit was my starting point for the project but it was a difficult build and is not on par with your modern 'Tamigawa' kits in terms of fit and details.

My Arrow project became reality with the release of the **North Star NSE 48-001 resin cockpit set**. At about the same time, **MasterCasters** also issued two resin detail sets (**MST 48002 and 48003**) providing improved landing gears/bays/doors, air inlets and exhaust nozzles. The icing on the cake was the 2013 release of **Canuck Models decal sheet WVD48003**. Now I had all I needed to start a high-standard Arrow build!

Early on, I decided that I would make the third prototype, **RL-203**, which was the only Arrow with the Red Ensign flag on the tail. It would be represented as seen during





A Diorama in a Box

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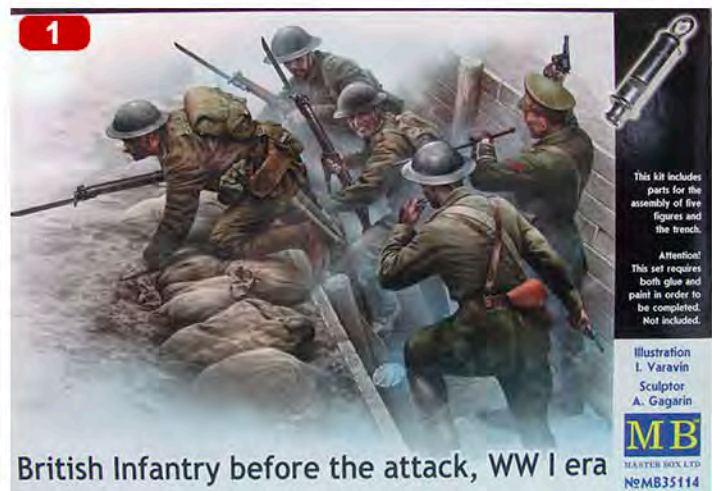


With a number of 100 year commemorative events taking place covering the First World War (WW I) there has been an influx of WW I subjects produced by model manufacturers. This trend has provided a wide range of new subjects for the discriminating model builder from early tanks and vehicles to figure sets. **Master Box** has made a fine contribution with a complete WW I British trench scene.

The Kit

Master Box Ltd has released their item **MB35114** “British Infantry before the Attack WW I Era” which is actually a diorama in a box (Fig. 1). The kit consists of trench walls with a short segment of ground to the front and rear, duck board trench floor, wall reinforcement logs, two benches and a scaling ladder. There are also five figures, two officers and three soldiers who are depicted

getting ready to go over the top. The trench components and figures are cast in light grey styrene without flash and very light mould lines. The figure details are well rendered with nice sharp facial features. The weapons and personal kit is provided on a dark tan sprue from **ICM**, a Ukrainian company. The **ICM** sprue is very well moulded and provides a number of extras to add to the trench scene





A 'Golden' Airshow Tutor



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When I first saw Mr. Wayne Hui's most excellent build of the **Hobbycraft 1/48 CT-114 Tutor** (*see RT Vol. 29, No. 6. Ed.*), I immediately wanted to try my own hand at turning out a decent rendering of the aircraft. Some years ago Mr. Hui designed and had produced a resin aftermarket set for the model and marketed it through the now defunct 'Uncle Bill's' Hobby shop label (Calgary, AB). My search for the resin set, which included flaps, cockpit, speed brakes, instrument panel and seats, came up empty. On a lark, I contacted a fellow modeller and he had both 1/48 **Hobbycraft** plastic kit and

Belcher Bits' all-resin kit and was willing to part with one of them. I wanted something different so after intense price negotiations had ended, I opted for the **Belcher Bits** kit as an acceptable personal challenge. Could I build it and make it look good?

As Mr. Hui had covered the standard CAF military trainer version with his build, I further opted to use the 1967 **RCAF Golden Centennaires** air display scheme, which was included on the **Belcher Bits** decal sheet.

The build starts...

My modelling compatriot mentioned that the **Quickboost 1/48 A-37 ejections seats (QB 48 628)** were quite close to the Tutor seats and, with a little modification, could be

made to look the part. So with a little tweaking here and there, I thought I might be able to come up with something passable while adding scratch-built additions to the cockpit.

Golden Centennaires Tutor 26151 (DND photo REC67-470)



HMAS SYDNEY

a Leander class cruiser in 1/700 scale

NNT MODELL + BUCH



by Gary Barling

C#0014

Ottawa Valley Plastic Modellers
Petawawa, Ont.



BACKGROUND

His Majesty's Australian Ship (HMAS) Sydney was one of three modified British Leander-class light cruisers operated by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). The cruiser was purchased by the Australian government and launched in 1934.

At the start of World War II she was assigned to convoy escort and patrol duties in Australian waters. In May 1940, Sydney joined the British Mediterranean Fleet for an eight-month deployment, during which she sank two Italian warships, participated in multiple shore bombardments, and provided support to the Malta Convoys, while receiving minimal damage and no casualties. On her return to Australia in February 1941, Sydney was refitted, repainted, and then resumed convoy escort and patrol duties in home waters.

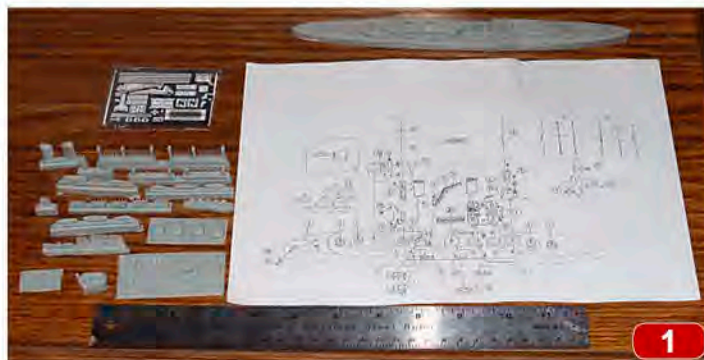
On 19 November 1941, Sydney was involved in a mutually destructive engagement with the German auxiliary cruiser Kormoran, and was lost with all 645 hands aboard. The



Kormoran also sank in the engagement, but most of her crew were eventually rescued. HMAS Sydney was the pride of the Australian fleet, and the whole nation keenly felt her loss.

THE KIT

The NNT Modell + Buch HMAS Sydney is a very cleanly cast model, with no defects, no damage and excellent detail. (Fig. 1)



Starting with the deck, the steel forecastle decking really jumps out in its detail. It is a crosshatched deck that looks very nice. The grid pattern is lightly scribed, rather than raised, but at 1/700 scale it presents a very detailed and pleasing appearance. Accentuating this detail are the capstans, set of bollards, set of cleats and hawse found on this metal deck. The different textures of the grid deck, smooth fixtures and indentation of the anchor hawses promote a lot of ngordinarily clean castings that are defect-free. The castings range from excellent to good. The design of the ship with its numerous platforms and support structures are well executed by NNT in both resin and photoetch. Aftermarket railings are required as, as is the case with many kits of this scale, railings are not included. Other aftermarket items were used in the build as discussed below.