Random Thoughts



By Modellers, For Modellers

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Also in this issue:

- Kaiser Maximilian II in 1:12
- Nothing digs like... a DEERE!, 1:25
- TA-4F Skyhawk in 1:72
- GMC Fox Armoured Car in 1:72
- F-86A Target Tug in 1:72



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Table of Contents













Editorial Steve Sauvé	3
Kaiser Maximilian II (1:12) Barry Maddin, Truro NS	4
C Fox Armoured Car (1:72) tin P. Bendsøe, Lyngby, DK	9

Cover Comment: Wayne Beattie started with the Airfix kit and added a lot of Barracuda Studios aftermarket detail sets to produce a very fine rendition of an RCN Sea Fury in postwar use. See page 24 for the build article.

Nothing digs like a DEERE! (1:25) Barry Maddin, Truro NS	7
An RCN Sea Fury FB.11 (1:48) Wayne Beattie, Moncton, NB	4
TA-4F Skyhawk (1:72) Frank Cuden, Albert Lea, MN	1
A 'Big Sky' F-86A Target Tug (1:72) Frank Cuden, Albert Lea, MN	7
Cartoons Dave Fletcher	8

Here are some articles that are coming down the 🧨 pipeline. If you have something that might fit in with a related topic to make it a theme issue, please contact the Editor. Heck, if you've got something on any modelling topic, get in touch!

1:72 DH Comet, 1:72 Kettenkrad, 1:48 SEAC P-47D, 1:48 RCAF Ventura, 1:35 Avro Rota, 1:72 CL-52, 1:72 Hurricane, 1:35 Ferret, 1:144 CP DC-4, 1:48 CC-129 Dakota, 1:72 A-4E, 1:72 CMP C15TA, CF-5 Aggressor

Kaiser Maximilian II









Barry Maddin C#6000 Truro NS



A Different Kind of Armour

Kaiser Maximilian II (1527-1576) a member of the Austrian House of Habsburg was the Holy Roman Emperor from 1564 until his death. He was crowned King of Bohemia in Prague on 14 May 1562 and elected King of Germany (King of the Romans) on 24 November 1562. In 1557 Maximilian II had a suit of blued armour made with applied bands of gilt copper ornament,

which has been attributed to Augsburg goldsmith Jorg Sigman. The blued steel gold plated armour is on display at the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wien (The Art History Museum in Vienna).

The Kit

The kit is # 4 of a series of six Armored Knight Series by Imai in 1:12 scale released in 1984 (Fig. 1). The kit consists of two sprues of dark blue plastic

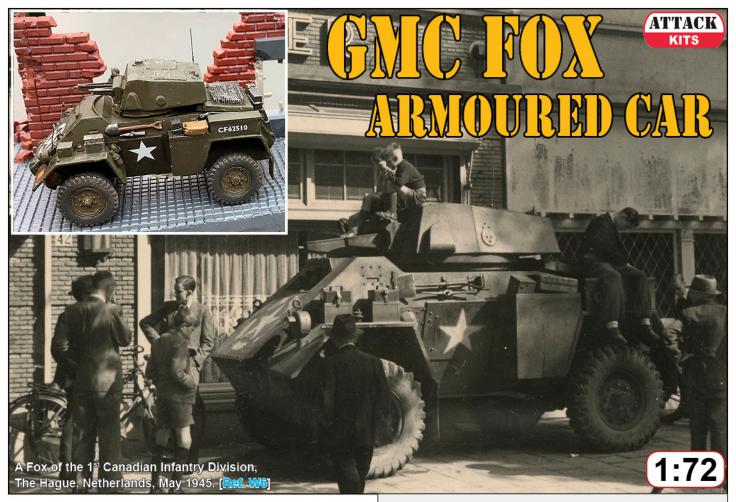


and a weapons sprue in light grey with a length of brown vinyl to be used as the sword belt (Fig. 2). The instruction sheet is simple to follow but has an error regarding part # 20 in the first two steps. The moulding is crisp with the exception of the head which has very soft detail considering the scale. The only other problem was that one half of the helm had a void at the front of the helm (Fig. 3).





4 IPMS Canada



Martin P. Bendsøe IPMS Canada C#6024 Lyngby, DENMARK



4.1

PROJECT BACKGROUND

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This build article came about from the study of the Second World War (WWII) British Humber Armoured Car. I had bought a couple of the fairly recently released 1:72 model by Attack Kits and were preparing to build a Mk. II and a

Mk. III from the box. I usually get carried away, so I ended up building a Humber Mk. III Rear Link and a GM Fox Armoured Car. This story is about my experience converting the Humber to a Fox. And it is a (standard) story of 'the devil is in the details'.

Before we proceed to the building experience let me quote warwheels.net [Ref. W2] to get the history right:

Humber Armoured Car Mk.III

1:72 Plastikery model Prastic model Nf Plastik Modelhausstz Maquette a monter

HOBBY

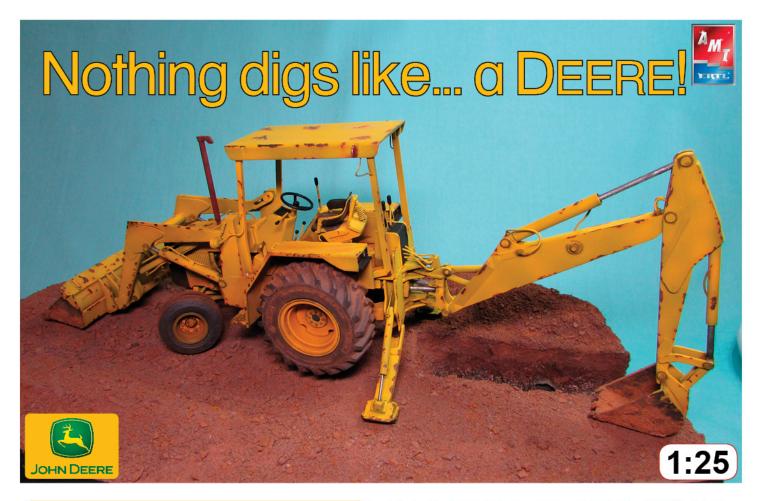
ATTACK
KITS

Hague Municipal Archives: haagsgemeentearchief. nl/mediabank/beeldcollectie/detail/1d9fa87b-1f66-4def-bd99-50d8dfc10252/media/d3d25b0d-e157-7429-78e2-6275aa3cb923

"The Fox Armoured Car was developed as a result of British success with armored car production and use during the early part of World War Two. After assessing the contemporary British vehicles, the Canadians decided to build a VERY similar vehicle to the Humber Mark 3 Armoured Car. Instead of fully copying the Humber, the Fox used a modified General Motors 4-wheel drive Canadian Field Artillery "Quad" Tractor chassis and fitted with a hull similar to the Humber Mark 2 and 3 vehicles; many of the

slight differences being due to using the GM chassis. The most visible feature that differentiates the Fox from the Humber is related to the mounting of the more readily available American .30 and .50 cal armament on the Canadian armoured car; compared to the 15mm and 7.92mm BESA guns fitted to the Humbers."

Simple enough – they are very similar vehicles with



Barry Maddin C#6000 Truro NS



Can You Dig It?

Backhoes have been around for more than forty years. Their compact size makes them ideal for digging ditches for pipe or underground cables, setting up foundations for buildings or creating drainage systems. They are easy to maneuver and have the ability to travel freely on roads. Found on many farms and used in construction for medium duty excavation work the John Deere 310 Backhoe/Loader is a work horse digging or loading. Powered by 52 hp, 2.7 L JD 3-cylinder engine the 310 Back Hoe with its open operator station design, was easy to use with simple controls

and with its stabilizers deployed it was a very secure digging platform. The 310 was made between 1971 and 1975

The Kit

The kit is the AMT/ERTL # 15043 John Deere 310 Backhoe/Loader in 1:25 scale (Fig. 1). The kit consists of 120 parts on four sprues of yellow styrene that clearly shows its age





(Fig. 2). There are prominent mould lines on every part and quite a few sink marks. Fortunately most of the ejector pin marks visible are raised and easy to take care of. The instructions

come as a three page double sided pamphlet with twenty one steps using line drawings and although a simple build there are a couple of spots that need close attention. However it is the only kit of this subject that I know of so a little extra work makes it worthwhile.

The Build

The build starts with the chassis which includes the engine, drive train and frame. Some of the mating surfaces needed to be sanded to provide a flat surface for the attaching part. Fill was needed around the entire drive train as the joint was not flush, even with considerable sanding. I added a seat adjustment



Wayne Beattie C#3174 Moncton, New Brunswick

Project background

When Airfix came out with their new Sea Fury kits a few years ago I knew I wanted one. This had to be an improvement of the old Hobbycraft kit that I had built more than a decade and a half ago. Since I knew I wanted to build one and write an article about it I might as well go all out and get some aftermarket sets.

Bill of goods

For the aftermarket sets I bought most of the sets manufactured by Barracuda Studios out of California (barracudacals.com). The sets that I purchased were:

- ♦ BR48344 Sea Fury Mainwheels Block Tread
- ♦ BR48345 Sea Fury Brass Landing Gear Early Style
- ♦ BR48347 Hawker Sea Fury Complete Cockpit Set
- BR48348 Hawker Sea Fury Gearbay Set
- BR48349 Sea Fury Engine Front and Spinner Set
- BR48350 Hawker Sea Fury Cowling Upgrade

I had originally thought of just getting the cockpit set but when I looked at the kit's landing gear bay and saw all the



ejection pin marks that I would have to fix, it became clear that the resin gear bays became was a good idea for me.

For the markings I wanted a late Sea Fury in Canadian service so I found Fündekals (<u>fundekals.com</u>) had a sheet with several options for various times while being flown

by the Royal Canadian Navy.

The build:

I started the build, of course, with the cockpit. The Barracuda Studios resin cockpit is filled with detail. (Fig. 1) It adds lots more detail than the kit's, but once you put the fuselage halves together the only way you can



24 IPMS Canada



Frank Cuden IPMS Canada C3476 IPMS/USA 4311 IPMS (UK) X55047 Albert Lea, MN, USA



Background

The Douglas A-4 Skyhawk or "Scooter", as it was sometimes referred to, evolved into many different versions, among them being the two-place TA-4F/J renditions. Over the years, I've built two 1:48 scale models of the A-4, one being the Fujimi A-4E with a home-made avionics hump on the dorsal fuselage spine and the other being the1:48 scale Monogram A-4E/F. In addition, I also built five 1:72 Fujimi kits in Aggressor schemes, along with a Bi-Centennial TA-4J, and a modified A-4E to which was added a resin replacement "C" nose. Then there was another1:72 Aggressor A-4E that had a brown and tan camouflaged Mig-17 outline superimposed over the Light Gull Gray upper camouflage and which was repeated on the underside in dark grey. I guess you could say that the Skyhawk is one of my favourite aircraft.

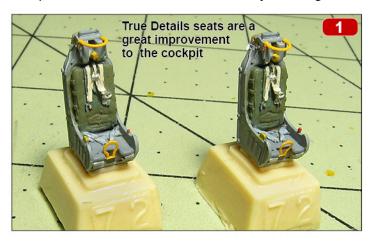
The Project

After seeing a build of a striking one-off experimental TA-4F scheme on the Internet, I visited my stash and pulled out the remaining Fujimi 1:72 TA-4J/F, # 250250 to use as a model canvas for the white and orange hi-viz experimental paint job. It was quite colourful but unfortunately the scheme was never adopted by the U.S. Navy.



The Build

I began the build by painting two aftermarket True Details A-4 ejection seats, (#72408) that I had in my aftermarket bin, Fig. 1. The belts were moulded to the resin seat so I carefully hand-painted them and they looked far better than did the seats provided in the Fujimi kit box. Raised detail was provided on the side consoles so a dry-brushing of



31



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Project motivation

A modelling friend of mine built a very colourful 1:48 scale F-86 Sabre and when I saw the model I asked him who had issued the sheet. When he told me it was Euro Decal's "Very Colourful Sabres", # ED-481001 issue, I took a look at it online and discovered it was also issued in 1:72 scale, #ED-721001. Seeing that the sheet contained markings for a Montana Air National Guard F-86A Target Tug aircraft, that scheme appealed to me and I immediately bought it. With its yellow fuselage and natural metal wings, along with blue trim and white piping, I wondered if the blue trim was a reference to the State of Montana being called "Big Sky Country." As an aside, and researching things a bit, the nickname came about from a Montana State Highway Department promotion in 1962, perhaps in reference to the vast skyline that seems to overtake the landscape. The nickname originally came from a book written by Alfred Bertram Guthrie Jr. entitled, "Big Sky."

Finding the kt

After reading of that history, a problem arose when I saw that Matchbox had issued a kit of the



'A' model Sabre, however the kit was out of production. Courtesy of the Internet, some years ago I became friends with a modeller from the UK and when I told him about my decal purchase, and the out-of-production kit, he said he had one that he would be willing to part with. Sometimes, the gods of modelling are good to me, and with the advent of the Internet, the modelling fraternity has become world-wide.

Another problem presented itself because I wanted to build the model with the leading edge slats in the extended position. After a little searching I came upon a kit collector who happened to have the 1:72 Academy F-86E kit for sale, #1681, and it had the extended ('drooped') leading edge wing slat option. The wheels in my mind started turning and I purchased the Academy kit, thinking I could somehow combine the two kits so I could have a model of an F-86A with extended slats.