



Massimo Santarossa's 1:72 Hurricane Mk. XIIA

**BONUS!
FOUR EXTRA
PAGES!**



Also in this issue:

- Building Tamiya's Pzkw 38(t) Ausf. E/F
- Decking Out a KAITEN-II
- VR-1D: Ride of the (Two-Seat) Valkyries
- Introduction to Macross Box Top Artwork
- DH.88 Comet G-ACSR

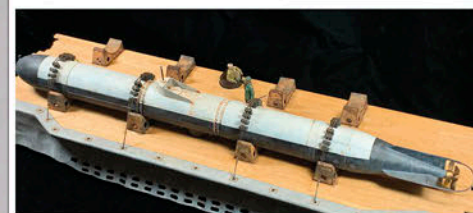
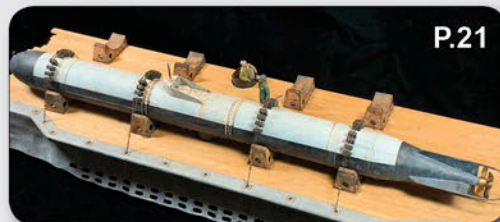


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Cover Comment: Massimo Santarossa converted the Airfix 1:72 kit to a very fine replica of an RCAF Hurricane Mk. XIIA, using scratchbuilt and aftermarket parts, along with some IPMS Canada decals. See page 13 for the build article.		DH.88 Comet G-ACSR Norm Sheppard, Longmont CO	39
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Future RTicles...

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

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“Czech Mate!”



Building *Tamiya's* Panzerkampfwagen 38(t) Ausf. E/F

1:35

Richard G. Guetig
IPMS Canada #3991
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Pan. 38(t) Ausf. E/F

1



The Pzkw 38(t)

Produced in the 1930's, the CKD LT vz 38 was a pre-WWII Czechoslovakian light tank. After the invasion by Germany in March, 1939, this light tank was adopted and renamed the Panzerkampfwagen 38(t). The (t) designation comes from the German word *tschechisch*, which stands for Czech. The 38(t) was incorporated into German Panzer Divisions and served in the Polish Campaign, Battle of France and the invasion of the Soviet Union.

There were several variants of the Panzerkampfwagen 38(t), including the late model Ausf. E/F (Fig. 1). This late version was equipped with a 3.7cm main gun and a 125hp engine that could reach speeds of up to 42 km/h. Production ended in 1942 when the 38(t) was deemed obsolete. Its main gun and armament was no match for

the Soviet Union's fast and powerful T-34 tanks. An exert from German Tank Commander Otto Carius's "Tigers in the Mud" describes how weak and unequipped the 38(t) was in combat:

"It happened like greased lightning. A hit against our tank, a metallic crack, the scream of a comrade, and that was all there was! A large piece of armour plating had been penetrated next to the radio operator's seat. No one had to tell us to get out. Not until I had run my hand across my face while crawling in the ditch next to the road did I discover that they had also got me. Our radio operator had



1:72

RCAF Hurricane Mk.XIIA

The 'Bouncer'



Massimo Santarossa
C#6052
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Being an IPMS member, and specifically a member of IPMS Canada, certainly has some advantages. One of these is the **RT** you are currently holding, being designed as it is for the enjoyment of members. Every so often there is a bonus that comes included with your **RT**, namely a set of IPMS designed and produced decals focusing on unique Canadian subjects. It was just such a decal sheet in the Fall 2016 issue, featuring markings for Canadian-built Hawker Hurricanes, that was the inspiration for one of the projects to come across the model bench.

The Hurricane in question was a Mk. XIIA, produced by Canadian Car and Foundry, and flown by No.1(F) Operational Training Unit. Called a "Bouncer," it played the role of an enemy aircraft in the training of would-be fighter pilots. The Mk. XIIA had a number of uniquely Canadian features, but as this version of the Hurricane did not exist in model form, some converting and scratch building was going to be needed.

The Airfix kit

As a basis, the nicely-moulded Airfix 1:72 Hurricane Mk. I was selected. First released in 2013, the kit comes in grey plastic, has recessed panel lines, good detail for the scale, and is a straightforward build. It does, however, feature the Hurricane's early fabric-covered wings, so to correct this, Alley Cat Models' metal wing conversion was acquired.

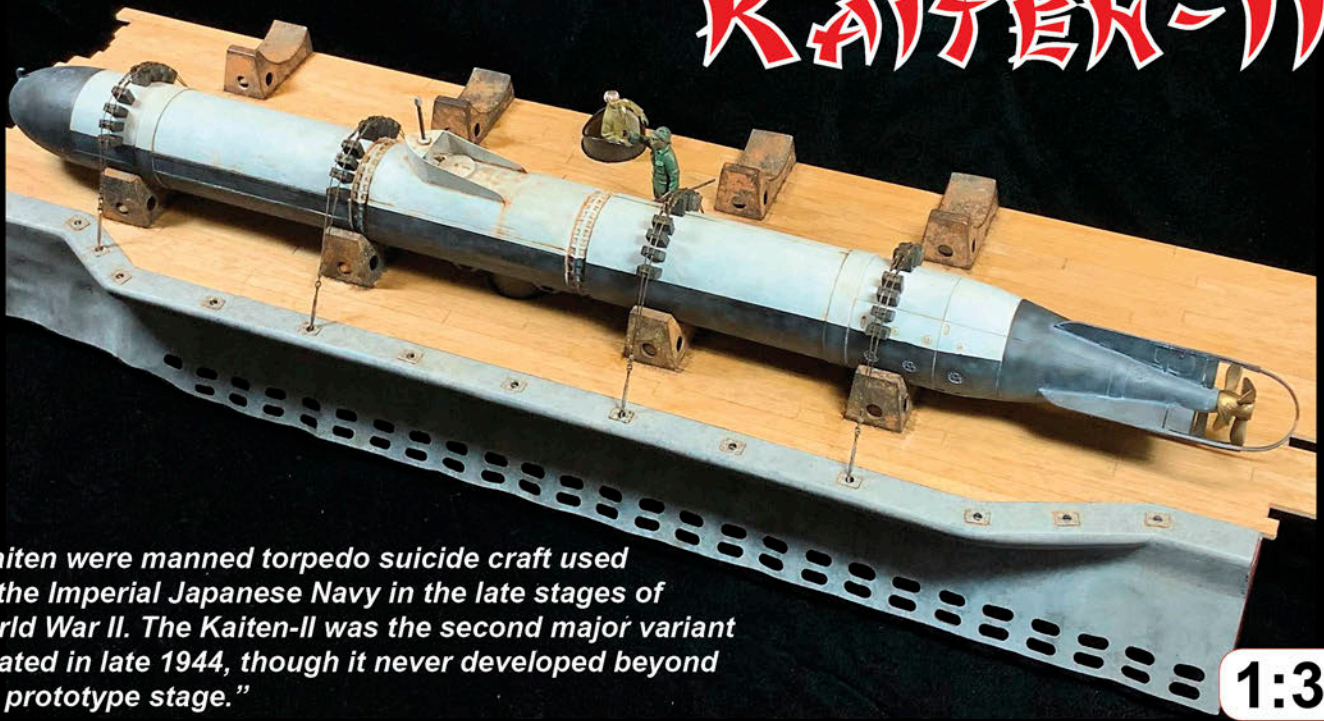
Project Resources:

- ◆ Airfix 1:72 Hawker Hurricane Mk. I A01010
- ◆ Alley Cat Models 1:72 Metal Wing Conversion for the Airfix Hurricane AC72042C
- ◆ Quickboost 1:72 Hurricane Mk. I – Late Exhaust QB72456
- ◆ Quickboost 1:72 PBV-5 Catalina Propellers QB72006
- ◆ Quickboost 1:72 Lancaster Gun Barrels QB72017
- ◆ Kamizukuri 1:72 UK Standard seat belts FP-21
- ◆ IPMS Canada 2016 decal sheet
- ◆ Eduard 1:72 Hurricane Mk. I masks CX390
- ◆ Evergreen Plastic .010" sheet 9010
- ◆ Model Master Dark Earth (ANA 617), RAF Dark Green, Sky Type S, RAF Interior Green, Insignia Yellow, Guards Red, Flat Black
- ◆ Tamiya NATO Black
- ◆ Alclad Aluminum, Steel
- ◆ Winsor & Newton Burnt Umber, Lamp Black
- ◆ Mig Pigments European Dust
- ◆ Doc O'Brien's Dirty Brown, Grungy Grey, Grimy Black
- ◆ Smoke-coloured quilting thread

Decking Out a



KAITEN-II



“Kaiten were manned torpedo suicide craft used by the Imperial Japanese Navy in the late stages of World War II. The Kaiten-II was the second major variant created in late 1944, though it never developed beyond the prototype stage.”

1:35

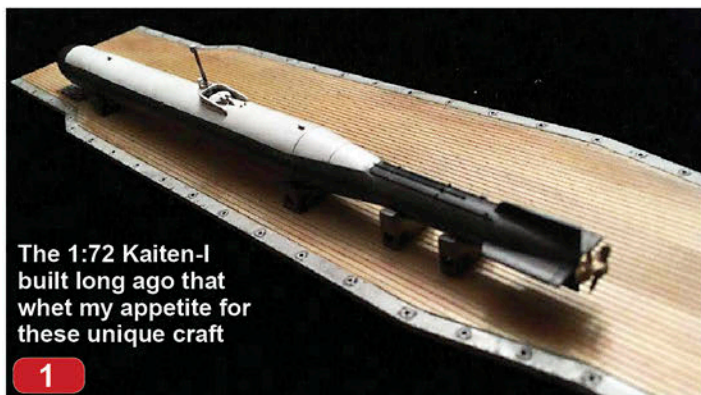
Glenn Cauley
C# 3359
Kemptville, Ontario



Some of my favourite things to build are 1:35 scale midget submarines, man-driven torpedoes, and other unique naval vessels. Fortunately, there is quite a good selection of kits available from mainstream manufacturers (Merit, Bronco, Italeri) and smaller companies (Azimut, MikroMir).

For our Easter 2023 Blitz Build over a four-day long weekend, I chose to build MikroMir's 1:35 Kaiten-II Japan Suicide Craft. I had previously built a 1:72 FineMolds Kaiten-I, and I always thought it would be an interesting subject to build a larger version. (Fig. 1).

Kaiten were manned torpedo suicide craft used by the



The 1:72 Kaiten-I built long ago that whet my appetite for these unique craft

1



2

Imperial Japanese Navy in the late stages of World War II. The Kaiten-II was the second major variant created in late 1944, though it never developed beyond the prototype stage. The Kaiten-II was 54' long, 4.4' diameter, weighed 18 tons, and had a 3300 lb warhead.

BUILDING THE KAITEN-II

MikroMir is a Ukrainian model company which produces short runs of unique and rare military equipment. Building their kits requires patience and elbow grease, and acceptance that they do not have the same quality and ease-of-building as, say, a Tamiya kit.

(Fig. 2) In 1:35 scale, the Kaiten-II measures 19" in overall length and approximately 1.5" diameter. The grey plastic

VR-1D



RIDE OF THE (TWO-SEAT) VALKYRIES

1:72

Peter Shanley
IPMS(UK) 18115
Stockport, England



INTRODUCTION

Big in Japan but less well-known in the West, the subject of this build is the VF-1 Valkyrie, which was first featured in the early 1980's Japanese anime anthology television series, *Macross*. A design that was equally at home in the atmosphere or in space, the 'VF' stands for 'Variable Fighter,' as the airframe can transition between three different functional forms. They are: the self-explanatory 'Fighter'; a mid form which goes by the curious name of 'Gerwalk'; and finally a Japanese favourite, the 'Batteroid'

Kit Releases related to the TV series

The first *Macross* storyline of the anthology TV series featured the VF-1 Valkyrie. It was originally broadcast in Japan in 1982, with Hasegawa releasing their kit versions from 2000 onwards. For the 20th anniversary of the show a prequel to the original story, *Macross Zero*, was released, which had the VF-0 Phoenix and SV-51 as dogfight opponents, with Hasegawa kitting both in 2004.

The most recent TV series is 2016's *Macross Delta*, with the kit version of the show's VF-31 Siegfried being released the following year. Bandai have also released kits of the VF-1, VF-25 and VF-31 but their versions are snap-together, pre-coloured, transformable and, no doubt due to the constraints of transforming them, less-detailed than Hasegawa's more-traditional model kits. That is of course my personal opinion only!

giant robot figure. All three of these have been released in kit form by Hasegawa, but this build will concentrate on the pure fighter version of the VF-1.

Each successive *Macross* storyline introduces a new fighter design, the latest being the VF-31J Siegfried from 2016's *Macross Delta*. Hasegawa has kitted many of the different designs, most in 1:72 but a few (VF-1 standard/Strike Valkyries, plus the VF-19) have been released in 1:48 scale, and these make very impressive models once complete.

THE KIT AND THE CONVERSION

This build is a conversion of Hasegawa's VF-1D two-seat trainer, (Fig. 1) into a photo reconnaissance (PR) machine, designated as a VR-1D. Modifications include a new PR pod, adding armament and an additional sensor, plus a low-vis alternative to the trainer's eye-watering white and bright orange paint scheme.



An introduction to Macross Box Top Artwork

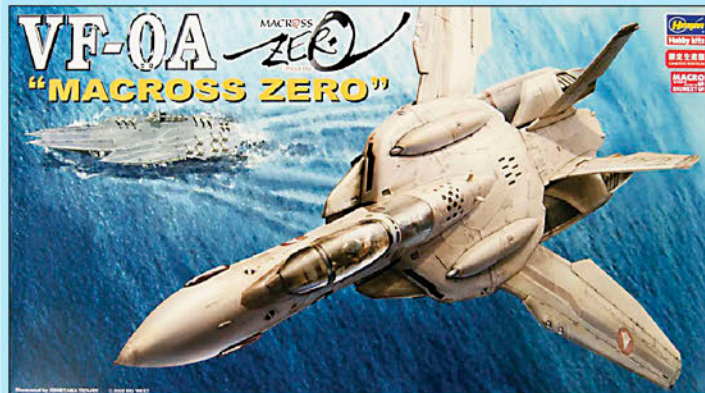
Peter Shanley, IPMS(UK) 18115, Stockport, England



This is an appreciation of the wonderful artwork created by Hidetaka Tenjin for Hasegawa's series of Macross kits, his box top images are a highlight of each new kit release. While great box top art perhaps can't persuade you to purchase a kit you really don't want, I'm fairly sure that bad artwork can put you off a kit you might have been wavering

over adding to the stash. In the UK where I hail from, the most celebrated artist in this field is Roy Cross, whose classic work for Airfix these days appears in hardback editions. The artwork shown here will be less well-known but is no less vital and dynamic, providing the look that your finished model should strive to emulate.

▼ In broadcast order, the VF-1A Valkyrie was the first to appear. But a prequel to the original series revealed that the very first 'variable fighter' was in fact the VF-0A Phoenix, which bears more than a passing resemblance to a CF-18 Hornet. The design was carrier-based and flown in the atmosphere only.



▼ The dogfight opponent for the 'Zero' (which is a good name for a fighter, right?) is the sinister SV-51. It is a product of the unlikely combination of design teams at Dornier, Sukhoi and Israel Aircraft Industries.



▼ Chronologically the VF-1A Valkyrie came next, seen here in the colours of the 'Sonic birds' squadron and about to launch from the deck of the carrier 'Prometheus' watched by the deck handling crew.



▼ Massive armament and booster pack additions leads us to the VF-1S/A Strike Valkyrie which can venture into space from the end of an extended launch arm as in this illustration for the 1:48 kit release.



1:72

DH.88 Comet



Norm Sheppard,
C #3167
Longmont CO, USA



de Havilland and the MacRobertson Air Race

In 1933, Sir MacPherson Robertson proposed an air race to take place between Mildenhall, England and Melbourne, Australia. de Havilland decided that they would design and construct a special aircraft specifically to win that race, and so the DH.88 Comet was born. It was to be a low wing twin engine monoplane of mainly wood construction. Three were ordered by various people at the bargain price of 5,000 Pounds Sterling, well below the cost to produce them. de Havilland having decided to take the loss in exchange for the exposure that would ensue if they won the race. Construction began in March of 1934 and was completed in September. The MacRobertson Air Race would start on October 20th and the red Comet, named Grosvenor House, won easily. After the race, two more Comets were built making a total of five aircraft. Only two originals of these beautiful examples of 1930's design exist today, the airworthy red race winner G-ACSS and G-ACSP Black Magic which is currently being restored to flying condition. A couple of airworthy replicas have been built as well.

Reference: de Havilland, A Pictorial Tribute by Gordon Bain, 1992. ISBN 1 85648 243 X

The Kit

When KoPro introduced their new de Havilland Comet model a few years back, I decided to order a few of them since they were not too pricey. I had built a Frog Grosvenor House kit back in 1968 and an Airfix Black Magic in 2019, so I wanted to build this one as the green Comet, G-ACSR.

The kit consists of two light grey sprues and a small clear

