Book Review The Arado Ar 234

In the Box Kit Review 1/72 EMW A-4b





Next meeting date: Monday, June 20th 7:30 pm to 10 pm

Levittown Public Library 1 Bluegrass Lane, Levittown, NY

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Model: Fire Truck Photo: Al Zygier



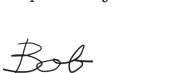
Our meeting is Monday June 20th day after Father's Day. Hang on to your seats guys! Rob Riviezzo is going to be back with a clinic on weathering and mud again. Rob wins many awards in AMPS and IPMS contests and I always am amazed how much time he devotes to his techniques. We know he is an armor builder but some of his methods can be used on aircraft un-

dersides and fuselages.

Well, there isn't anything prepared or settled for Replicon next year. I promised my wife Joanne that when our show was over I would refurbish the den. I didn't expect it to be such an undertaking but it was and I am at that stage of the major work completed. It's like putting a super model together in one to one scale. Destruction of the room was easy. Then begins the spackling instead of putty work, skill saw instead of a dermal tool, sanding, painting with large 3" brushes instead of number 2 brushes, and 9" rollers instead of an airbrush. There are always opssss for touchups. If I didn't think of it in this manner, I'd never have approached doing the room. Sad part is I can't enter it in a contest. LOL!

The fellow who was to come to our meeting looking for a modeler to paint his four-foot F-14 didn't show up last month. I had not heard from him and not sure if he will make another attempt this meeting or found someone to do it.

Thanks to Howard Garcia, he is always into large kits and umpteen parts. He calls me to fill me in on the latest monster kits and the best price. He means well but my wallet says don't listen to him. Well, I avoided sounds from the wallet and at our show I purchased the Soam Art German 35.5cm M1 Howitzer in 1/35 scale. It has been calling to me to build it as I spent the first few days working on my den. I was able to get in a few late nights sitting time to start a work in progress, mostly gluing and puttying until the eyes get heavy and the tools start to drop from the hand. It needs to be placed on a base as all other artillery pieces do, especially if you want to rotate it on the two separate platforms with two moving mounts. No one has done a build review on the kit yet. I am taking some photos as I go along just in case I do one. It's a big howitzer, but not as big as the K5



Leopold!



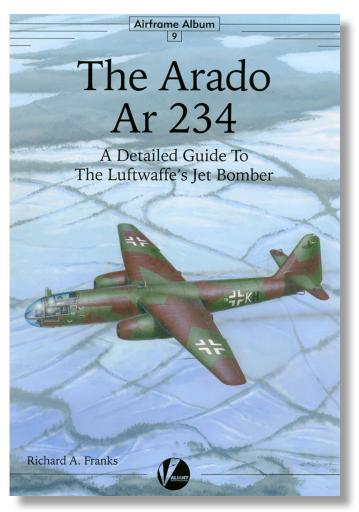


Airframe Album 9 - The Arado Ar 234

a Detailed Guide to the Luftwaffe's Jet Bomber

by Richard Franks, Published by Valiant Wings, SB, 2016, 114 pages

Reviewed by Steve Muth



This book, like the others in this series, is aimed at the modeler and enthusiast. It is a rather complete guide to all the Ar 234 variant and is lavishly illustrated with B&W and color photos and illustrations from the restored Ar 234 at the Smithsonian and aircraft manuals. Primarily a photo reference book, It is composed of several sections: Introduction, Colour side profiles, Technical Description, Evolution, Camouflage & Markings, Models, and 4 Appendices.

The Introduction section is 16 pages with a plethora of B&W period photographs with a brief history of the type including the Reconnaissance, bomber, and proto-

type variants. There is a brief dissertation on each of the machines captured at wars end; including one captured by Russia.

Followed by 4 pages with 20 color profiles in Luftwaffe, British and American markings.

The Next section, Technical Description, devotes 52 pages to well captioned detail photographs of the restored Smithsonian aircraft supplemented by photos and drawings and sketches from Flugzeug Handbuch and other documents concerning the Ar 234. The coverage is excellent with 339 photos. Most are 6 to 8 to page but they are close ups and very clear. Photo reproduction is largely excellent, even for the period photographs. Included are detail photos of prototypes and the 4 jet Ar 234C series.

Following this is the Evolution - Prototype, Production and Projected Variants chapter. This consists of 14 pages of isometric drawings of each type (usually 3 to a page) with callouts and shading showing the differences between the variants. A very useful chapter as there are 33 drawings including the variants with crescent wings. Apparently, there were two sets of wings actually built with one fitted to an airframe, W/Nr. 130028, but not flown before the war ended. This was originally built with 4 jet engines but later revised to have 2 BMW 003s.

The Camouflage and Markings chapter is four pages describing the several marking schemes. It is very comprehensive and along with the color profiles earlier in the book give a very complete picture of Ar 234 colors and markings. Apparently early models had 70/71/65 colors and later models had 81/82/76 colors along with a, presumably unit applied, partial white over coat.

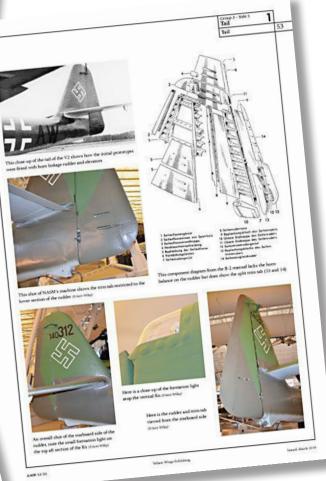
Next is a build section featuring a 1/72 Dragon (#5003) build-up of six pages and a five-page build-up of the Hasagawa 1/48 kit #JT83.

This is followed by a four-page listing of kits, accessories, decals and a bibliography of documents, publications and periodicals. It is a very thorough listing.











1/72 EMW A-4b

by Special Hobby, #72010

By Steve Muth



On September 3rd, 1944 V-2 (Aka A-4) rockets were launched against England for the first time. As the war ground on the launch sites were over-run and Germany was pressured to find a way to extend the range. One result was to add wings to enable it to glide in the mid and terminal phase of its trajectory. At the time this was thought to offer a range increase to 373 miles, or roughly twice the range with minimal changes. The down side was reduced accuracy and a vulnerability to interception as the terminal velocity in the glide was 600-700 kmh. To solve the accuracy problem there was a proposal to install a cockpit in the nose and have a pilot perform mid and terminal guidance; bailing out after making the necessary course adjustments in the final phase of flight.

In the event only two launches of the A-4b without the cockpit were made. The first failed immediately after lift-off due to a malfunction. The second launch was successful but a wing failed during glide flight. The piloted version never reached the hardware stage. It was only a paper design when the war ended.

The Kit

The kit consists of 57 parts for one missile and what appears to be a standard V-2 launch platform. There is a basic cockpit with a seat and a control column. Not much will be visible anyway once the very small canopy is installed. The missile consists of 20 parts with rest being used for the launch table. The parts are packaged in a sturdy end opening box with nice artwork of an A-4b being launched. The parts are all in a sealed plastic bag with a separate bag for the decals and vacuformed canopy. The moldings appear to be of good quality with little flash



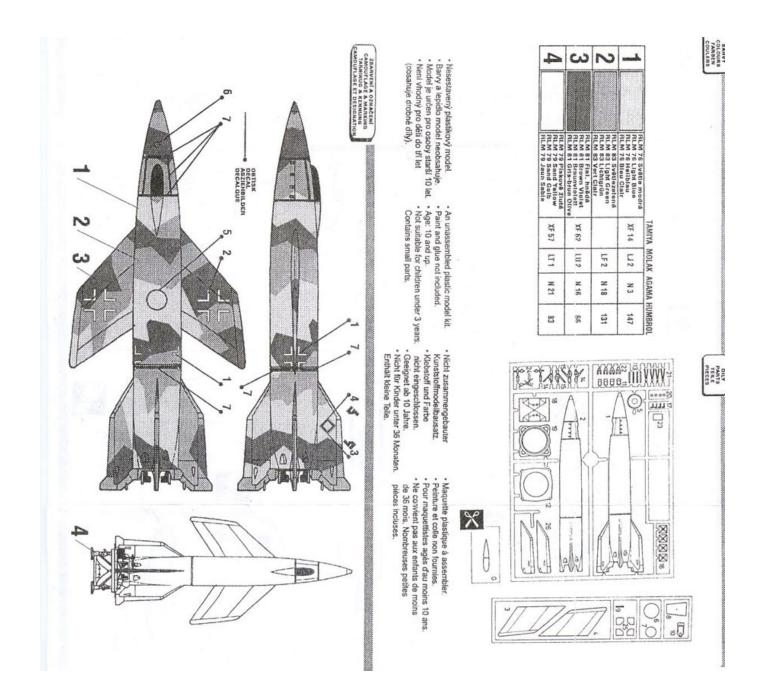
and no sink marks. The panel lines are suitably petite and uniform. The sprue gates are suitably small but the finish on the parts is a little rough. On the negative side there are no locating pins or tabs so you will have to jig the wings and fins. The limited decals look OK but the swastikas are of the split type.

The instruction sheet is a folded 8.5×11 sheet but construction is simple. There is a part tree diagram

and a painting guide.

Without locating pins and sockets this kit is not for the beginner. It definitely is not a shake and bake. I doubt I will be building it any time soon. More likely I will use it as a pattern for building a 1/35 A-4b from the DML kit that I have in my stash. I think that would look neat!

Recommended only for someone who doesn't mind a little work to make a Luft '46 model.

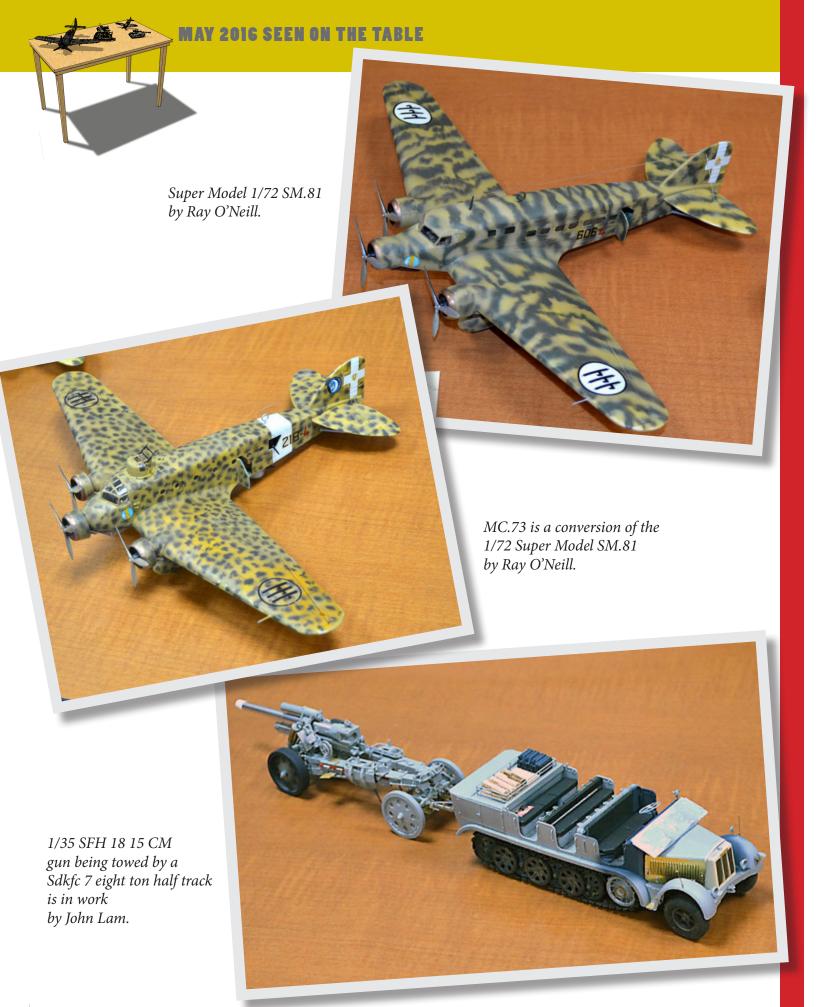




There were 11 nice models on the table for us to ooh and aah over again. Several were works in progress: three aircraft by Fred Seitz and two armor by John Lam. The finished models were by the usual culprits and they were all outstanding. Enjoy.











1/24 '57 Corvette

by Monogram, #2227

By Steve Muth



The '57 Corvette was my first sports car and I loved it! It was white with red interior, red racing stripes and red side cut outs. It was a standard model with a 3 speed transmission and a 4-barrel carburetor for 230 hp. I installed a fast steering kit and heavy duty springs. It drove like a truck up to about 20-30 mph then it was great! Alas, I had to sell it to buy an Austin Healy Sprite to go SCCA racing. I have built a model of the Sprite and bought this Monogram kit of the '57 Corvette but never built it. It has been in my stash for all these years. Ah, the memories. It may be time to build it.

Anyway, on to the kit – There are 87 some odd parts that come in a flimsy top opening box. I counted 87 parts but there are part numbers as high 99!?? The moldings are clean with little flash and no sink marks that I could see. The clear parts are pretty good for that era. The parts are molded in red plastic with one chromed sprue and a

small clear sprue for the clear parts. The red sprues are bagged but the body, rubber tires and clear parts are loose in the box. Injection pin marks are minimal and generally in unobtrusive places. There are parts for several options - Optional wheel rims, a choice of fuel injected engine or carbureted engine and an optional hood scoop for the drag race configuration. Sadly, the logos and such are raised on the front, rear and side cut outs. A little sanding should clear that issue up.

The four pages of instructions are clear but there is no parts tree diagram. There are fifteen assembly steps described.

All-in-all, it is typical of the era, maybe a little better, as Monogram usually was. Having re-examined it I will probably put it near the top of the stack of to-builds. Before that though I have a few other in-process projects to finish.

Recommended.





'57 CORVETTE

The responsive 1957 Corvette reflected the engineering efforts of the legendary Zora Arkus-Duntov. This sleek automobile was available with a sensational ramjet fuel injection system, positraction, and a close-ratio four-speed transmission. With these components, the first high performance Corvette had been born. The potent 283 cubic inch engine produced a phenomenal 283 horse-power, and was capable of propelling this impressive machine through the quarter mile in 14.2 seconds. The synchromesh Borg-Warner gearbox had appeared on the factory backed competition Corvettes, and proved to be a popular option with Corvette enthusiasts. The 1957 Corvette benefited from the same suspension modifications that significantly improved the handling of the 1956 model.

The 1957 Corvette is recognized as one of the finest all around sports cars, ever created. This amazing automobile offered spirited performance and handling previously unknown to the sports car enthusiast. As opposed to its European counterparts, this Corvette was enjoyable to drive throughout the year. This fine automobile stands as a milestone in modern sports car development.

READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Read through the instructions and study the assembly drawings to become familiar with all parts of the model. Each plastic part is identified by a number on the part or on a tab alongside the part. In the assembly instructions and drawings some part numbers will be marked by a star (*) to indicate that the part is PLATED plastic. Do not detach parts from the trees until you are ready to use them.

After cutting off the required part, trim away any excess bits of plastic that are not part of the usable piece. Use a sharp knife, such as a modeling knife, available at your hobby counter. Check the fit of each piece before you cement in place. Use only cement specified for use with styrene plastic.

DECALS Refer to the box photos and rear page for proper decal locations. For a neat job, work with one subject at a time and trim each decal close to the color outline. Follow the directions on the back of the decal sheet.

Do not use too much cement to join parts. All plastic cements contain solvents that dissolve the plastic forming a weld between the parts. Too much cement can soften and distort the plastic, spoiling your model's appearance. The tip of a toothpick is helpful in applying cement to small or confined areas.

Use only PAINTS FOR PLASTICS OR ENAMEL for the parts you may wish to paint. Each illustration indicates color to be used and where the paint should be applied. Allow paint to dry thoroughly and scrape paint away from areas which will be cemented. Cement will not hold to paint.

For better paint and decal adhesion, it is advisable to wash the plastic parts trees in a mild detergent solution. Rinse and let dry. After washing, handle the parts carefully to avoid skin-oil which may affect the adhesion.

IMPORTANT! Scrape Metal Plating Away from all Plated Parts in Areas that will be Cemented. Plating MUST be Scraped Away to Expose the Plastic Underneath. CEMENT WILL NOT HOLD to the Plated Surfaces.

ONOGRAM

KIT 2227

1/24 SCALE

MONOGRAM MODELS, INC.

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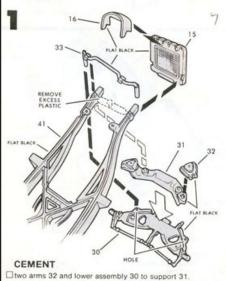
2227-0200

THE ADJACENT CHART LISTS THE FACTORY COLORS, CHOOSE ANY COMBINATION FOR YOUR MODEL OR PAINT AS IN THE INSTRUCTIONS

BODY COLOR	FENDER DEPRESSION	INTERIOR TRIM	UPPER INSTRUMENT PANEL	LOWER INSTRUMENT PANEL	STEERING WHEEL
VENETIAN RED	Beige	Red	Red	Beige	Red
ONYX BLACK	Silver	Red	Black	Red	Red
POLO WHITE	Silver	Red	Red	White	Red
ARCTIC BLUE	Silver	Red	Blue	Beige	Red
		Beige	Blue	Beige	Beige
CASCADE GREEN	Beige	Beige	Green	Beige	Beige
AZTEC COPPER	Beige	Beige	Copper	Beige	Beige .

NOTE: CAR ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS ARE WRITTEN FOR THE STOCK VERSION.

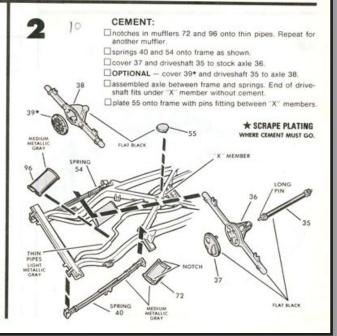
For a CUSTOM VERSION, parts denoted by the large title OPTIONAL will be added or substituted in the assembly. 87975 +2+

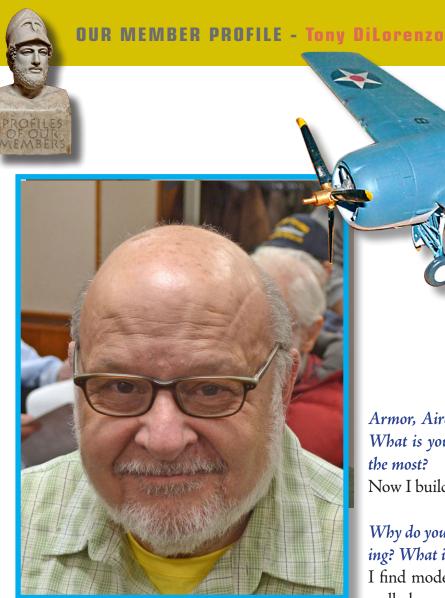


Support to frame 41.

stabilizer 33 to frame and into holes in lower assembly.

Shroud 16 to radiator 15, then assembled parts to frame.





Tell us a little about yourself. How and when did you get started building models?

I started in 1957 when I was 8 or 9 years old. I had a cousin who was in his 20s and built ships. He helped me build carriers and other ships. I built until about 1967 then stopped for a while. I started building again about 1986 and have been building ever since.

What was the first plastic model you ever made? My first model was a 29 cent Lindberg P-51

What is your favorite scale? I build mostly 1/48 and 1/32.

Armor, Aircraft, Cars, Ships, Figures, Fantasy.... What is your favorite subject? What do you build the most?

Now I build mostly aircraft and some armor.

Why do you model? What drives you to keep building? What is your goal (If you have one)?

I find modeling is relaxing. As for a goal, I don't really have one except I have a collection of 1-48 Italian aircraft that I work on.

What is your favorite part of building a model? Painting? Constructing? Weathering? Researching? My favorite part is putting the model together and painting it. I like to airbrush them.

What is the least favorite part?

Decaling is my least favorite part of building a model.

What is your dream project?

I have the Tamiya Caterham Super 7 that I hope to build some day.

How many kits do you have in your stash? How many kits would the kit police find in your house/garage? What would most of them be? Why do you keep buying?

I have something more than 500 kits. They are in cabinets in the basement, It's very dry so I don't have to warry about that. They are segregated by most favored and least favored and they are all logged. When I couldn't remember what I had and started buying duplicates I decided I had to make log of them to prevent buying duplicates.

Describe your modeling space. Is it the kitchen table? A basement workbench? Or a super-sized man cave?

I have a dedicated area in the basement with a separate modeling tool box.

Do you listen to music when you model? What kind?

Yes. I listen to classical music when I model, which is mostly in the early morning.

Do you have a secret ingredient or technique? Do you have a special modeling tip you would like to share?

Don't model when you are pissed off or angry!

Desert Island Kits? Name 5 models you would take with you if you were shipwrecked and had to spend the rest of your life like Robinson Caruso.

1. Tamiya 1/32 P-51. 2. Tamiya 1-32 Spitfire. 3. Tamiya 1/32 Mosquito. 4. Tamiya Battleship Yamato and 5. Hasagawa's F1M1 Pete Seaplane Fighter.

What is the model you are proudest of and why?

I built a 1-48 Tamiya Swordfish that came out very well and also a Hobby Craft A-4 Skyhawk.

What was biggest disaster in building a model?

There were two – a Beechcraft 18 and a Revell 1-48 Tornado.

How many "works in process" do you have and when did you last finish a model?

I have seven in work on the shelf of doom. The last one I finished was in 2012.

What is your favorite tool?

A good set of files.

How did you hear about LISMS and what persuaded you to join?

In 1995/96 I started to read FineScale Modeler. Sal Picataggio and Nick Buro encouraged me to join.

What other hobbies or interests do you have?

I like "O" gauge Lionel trains and have a nice layout in the basement.

What model would you most like to see kitted at a reasonable price? Scale?

A 1/144 Boeing 727 along with a VC10 and BAC 111.

What old kit would you like to see re-released?

I would really like to see the old Revell and Monogram kits that were able to drop bombs. Also I would like to see the large scale Alisson turbo prop engine kit re-released. I think it was in 1/12 scale.



Show Calendar Listing for 2016

See Bob DeMaio for details

Date	Event & Location	Website	Day
Aug 3 – 6	IPMS National Convention 201 Columbia Metropolitan Conve 1101 Lincoln St Columbia, SC		Wed-Sat
Sept 11	Patcon 2016 Hudson Elks Lodge 959 99 Park Street, Hudson, MA	www.ipmspatriot.org	Sun
Sept. 23-24	Armorcon Crown Plaza Danburt, CT	www.militarymodelers.org	Fri-Sat
Oct 22	HVHMG 26 Elks Lodge 29 Overocker Road Poughkeepsie, NY	www.hvhmg.com	Sat
TBA	Baycon 2015 Elks Hall 326 Farnum Pike Smithfield, RI 02917	www.ipmsbaycolony.com	Sun
Nov 12	LIARS Freeport Recreation Center 130 Merrick Rd. Freeport, NY	www.wix.com/liarsmodelcarclub/liars	Sat
Noc 19	Long Island Figure Show Freeport Recreation Center 130 Merrick Rd. Freeport, NY	http://www.longislandmodelsoldiers.com	Sat



Photo: Steve Muth

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Depending upon the size of your purchase, these shops have agreed to provide a possible 10% or more discount if you have our membership card.

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www.alsandtoyandsoldier.com

Alan & Sandy, Shop closed. On line orders only at this time.

Baseline Model Inc.

Eric, 250 Little East Neck Rd., West Babylon, NY 11704, (631)376-0060, Military Model Specialist, old and new kits bought and sold. Retail and Mail Orders. Closed Mondays.

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Gary Weickert, 185 Maple St., Islip, NY 11751, (631) 581-3897, open every Saturday noon to 5 PM. – Vintage Toys & Model Kits, Automobilia & auto Literature. Model kits wanted.

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