

CETAPULHER ON THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

Next meeting date: Monday, March 19 7:30 pm to 10 pm

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Cover Model: 1/144Me 262A-1a

by Steve Muth

Cover Photo: by Steve Muth

In The Pilot Seat



We are back on track of meeting every THIRD MONDAY of each month. We got a lot going on! This meeting is Monday March 19. We are sticking to having a club con-

test! As for all new members, please consider bringing in your finished kits, even if to put on display for members to peek at. Speak to the regulars about what they think or if there are fixing suggestions. I am a lifetime model builder and I still ask others, or they just volunteer the suggestions. Sometimes I like what I hear, and sometimes not. It's your kit. Do what suits you. Just don't make faces at the guy trying to help you. No brawling necessary. LOL! We also will have more kits for sale, some I have, and some for the club treasury. I have some mags free for the asking politely and if I like you. Hahaha I also have something else for

I hope you enjoyed the raffle that Tom McCabe put on for us last month. Tom is going to be a vendor at Noreast-con with a couple of tables. In fact several club members will be selling kits. I feel living on Long Island is a curse to us model builders. I have sold out with 43 vendor tables. Just about all will be selling kits. I tried to get AK paints, Armor Farm diorama items, Arnold Bayardi who makes diorama products, and they just don't want to cross the bridges and the hotels are expensive for them. How many old kits do we want? Past feedback from modelers at our shows want new kits and items. I conveyed this to vendors

before and Gene heard me. When I go up to his tables he makes sure he points out the new kits, even though many Dragon armor kits are just re-boxing with different decals. An advance e-mail will be going out to our attending vendors to try to bring more choices than just kits.

Doug found a bunch of Make-n-Take kits in his attic last month. We don't use these for the young kids anymore so we will be having another club building contest. If I caught it right from Doug, there are two or three different aircrafts involved (1/72 scale F-14, F-16, & A-10's??). I will ask Doug to check what we have after Noreastcon. This will be done over the summer months and you will have plenty of time to participate. You may use your own decals or buy them. There might be loose details on the build, finish, decals, and spare parts box additives which can be innovative. We had some fun with the Spirit of Saint Louis planes a couple of years back. Joe Yeager swept the wings back for a different look. Yes Joe it was different!

I am still waiting on half the members to tell be when you are available to help at Noreastcon. If you don't have firm commitments yet I understand and will wait. See I can be understanding after giving you a good whipping. I also understand your times will change. Just please keep me informed. A few new members have responded already, thank you for that guys.

If anything new developes, I will send an e-mail or notify you at the meeting.

Keep our hobby alive and well!





In The Bag Kit Review by Steve Muth

1/48 Caudron C.714, Battle Axe

48BA05, \$49.00 in 2006

The Caudron C.714 was a lightweight fighter developed by Caudron for the French Air Force in the late 1930s just prior to WWII. It saw limited production and even less operational use. 35 were assigned to the I/145, the Polish Warsaw Squadron of the Group de Chasse polonaise at Mions airfield on May 18, 1940. By May 25 they were ordered withdrawn due to poor reliability and performance. Never-the -less the Polish pilots continued to use them as there were no other aircraft for them to use and between June 8 and 11, 1940 they scored 12 confirmed victories and 3 unconfirmed victories while loosing 9 in air combat and 9 on the ground. Six were supplied to Finland who also found them to be unreliable and not committed to combat. They were scrapped in December 1949 with 1 full aircraft and one fuselage preserved. The fuselage was given to the French for preservation by the Musee de L'Air.

The Kit

Battle Axe is one of those very small French cottage industry companies that make a very limited number of kits of narrow appeal, unlikely to be kitted by main stream manufacturers. So... it was with great surprise I was able to pick up their 1/48th Caudron C.714. It comes in a sturdy clear plastic bag with a hang tag. In the bag is a single low-pressure injection molded gray/ green sprue with 45 parts, a decal sheet for 3 aircraft - a Polish, a French and a Finnish aircraft – two vacuum formed canopies, and two letter size instruction sheets printed on both sides. Instructions are in French and English and include color callouts by name and FS number. A full color profile is included with black and white drawings for markings and camouflage for the various nationalities. The French decal roundels have separate centers to eliminate registration problems.

The vacuum formed canopies are clear but have some slight ripples (sanding marks?) but the framing is good except for the windscreen that appears devoid of any framing (either that or they are so light that these old eyes just couldn't make them out). The parts on the sprue look to be good but have a satin finish and some parts are a little rough around the edges. The small parts



are decidedly blobby. The gates are reasonably small but will still provide a challenge on the small parts. There are no locating pins and sockets and no tabs either. Ejection pin marks are all in unobtrusive places. There are few panel lines since the flying surfaces were plywood covered and the fuselage was predominantly fabric covered. The panel line that are represented are rather large and deep. The fabric representation looks convincing. Cockpit and landing gear detail is decent but basic. The propeller blades and spinner are separate parts (5) without any positive alignment provisions to get the blade angles correct and consistent.

The engineering of the wings is very good. The upper and lower parts are full span to insure correct dihedral. The lower part is inserted into a recess in the bottom of the upper part which means you get very nice leading and trailing edges. Although, I suspect considerable filing and putty will be required to smooth out the resulting gap around the edge of the lower part. There are no PE or resin parts.

So... Battle Axe have provided us with a

In The Bag Kit Review by Steve Muth

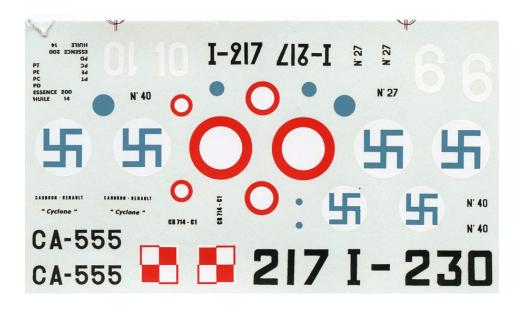
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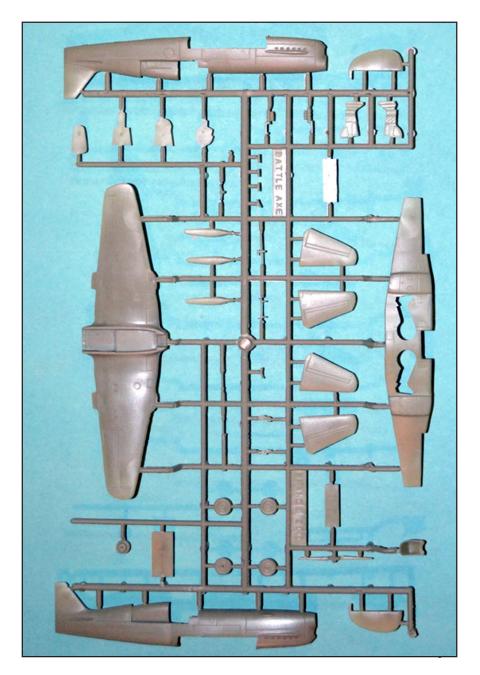
1/48 kit of an obscure plane of early WWII, the Caudron C.714. It is not a kit for a beginner. It will take a fair amount of "modeling" to make a nice model and a lot of work to make a good model. It is mostly there but, as with many older cottage industry offerings, it suffers in the details.

Recommended if you have short run kit experience and want to test/exercise your "modeling" skills a bit. Or... if just have to have a C.714 in 1/48.

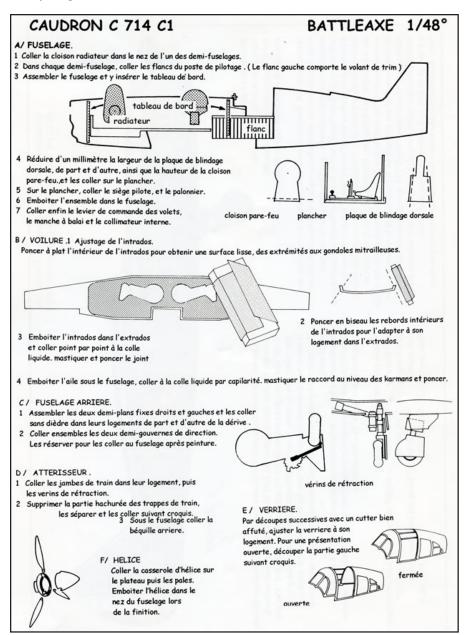
Addendum:

There is one particularly good reference for the C.714. It is "GC 1/145 in France 1940" by B. Belcarz, A Blue Series Book published by Stratus in 2002. 96 pages, SC. It has 1 color 3 view and 1 line drawing 3 view plus 12 color profiles, 74 color detail photos 86 B&W photos, and innumerable tables. I Paid \$19.00 in 2002. Well worth it.





In The Box Kit Review by Steve Muth





In The Bad Kit Review by Steve Muth

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CAUDRON C 714 C1 assembly instructions.

BATTLEAXE 1/48° scale kit.

Before assembly wash thoroughly parts to be painted, in order to remove any remaining molding agent.

A / Fuselage.

- 1/ Glue the front bulkhead (oil radiator) in the forward part of one of the fuselage's halves.
- Glue the cockpit side panels in both half fuselages. The left one carries the trimwheel. 21
- 3/ Assemble now the fuselage and, from the underside, insert the instrument panel.
- The armoured bulkhead, behind the seat, is slightly too wide, with a sharp blade remove one 4/ millimeter on both sides. Repat on the cockpit front bulkhead which is one millimeter too high.
- 5/ Glue the pilot seat and the rudder bar on the floor.
- Insert the floor into the fuselage.
- 7/ In the cockpit, glue the flaps actuating lever, the control column, and the gunsight.

- 1/ Sand the inner and the lower parts of the wing to obtain a smooth and flat surface, from wingtips to the machine guns fairings.
- By carefull sanding, adapt the lower part of the wing which must fit inside the upper wing. 21
- Insert the lower part of the wing in the upper, and glue with small touches of liquid cement. Let dry thoroughly and fill the seam with putty.
- Insert the wing in the fuselage. The center of the wing leading edge goes into the engine's undercowling. glue the wing to the fuselage by capilarity with liquid cement . Let dry thoroughly, then fill the seam in the karmann area with putty.

C/ Rear fuselage.

- 1/ Assemble the two tailplanes and attach them , without any dihedral angle, to both fin sides.
- Assemble the rudder. If the rudder has to be painted (blue/white /red), keep it apart until final 21 assembly.

D / Undercarriage.

- 1/ Glue the undercarriage leas into the wheel-wells holes and then the retraction jacks.
- 2/ Discard the splintered part of the undercarriage doors. Cut the remaining in three, and glue them as shown on drawings.
- 3/ Glue the tailskid under the rear fuselage, .

E / Canopy.

1/ With a sharp blade, trim the canopy to adapt it on the fuselage. For an open canopy remove the left and upper parts of the central canopy as shown on drawings.

F / Miscellaneous.

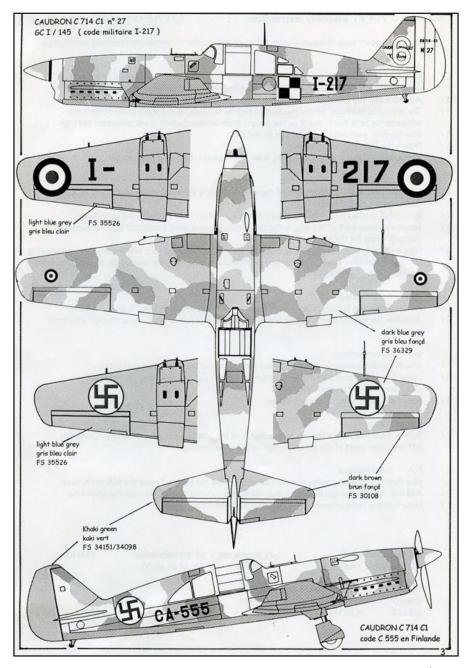
- Glue first the propeller spinner to the back plate, then the blades. Insert the hub in the nose.
- 21 Add now the machine gun barrels in their slots, the external front sight, and the pitot tube.
- Note that the radio antenna masts were only deployed during flight.

SOCRATE sarl BATTLEAXE / JMGT 71. Grande rue - 95760 Valmondois Tel & Fox 01 33 34 69 60 00

FRANCE

MORANE SAULNIER MS 225 48BA02 48BA03

BEECHCRAFT 18 (UC 45)





Me 262B-1a/U1 **Night Fighters** Of 10./NJG11

Continued from February issue of "Red, White, and Sprue" where we discussed the external colors of the Me 262B-1a/U1 night fighters. Here we will discuss the internal colors – the cockpits, wheel wells and gun bay of Red 8.

Cockpit

The cockpits were overall RLM 66 black gray except for the seat frames and equipment brackets between the seats which were dark green. The front cockpit was essentially the same as in the day fighter Me 262A-1a. See Figure 1 through 7. It may be that the dark green mentioned was a dark green primer used a lot by Messerschmitt at this time. This color apparently was not carefully controlled, much like zinc chromate color was not controlled in the US.

Nose landing gear

Nose landing gear strut, covers and wheel were painted dull black like the undersurfaces of the aircraft. These appear to be recently painted on the South African plane and may or may not have been the actual color but rather may have been the standard RLM 02. Since the nose gear was notoriously weak they were probably replaced at various times with standard units cone with its gun camera deleted. See Figures bly black when built. See Figures 8 and 9.

Main landing gear

gear and aircraft undersurfaces (also probably and other published photos. repainted here). The cockpit tub, visible from also aluminum. What is unusual, is that the fu-definitely not RLM 02. selage interior itself, in the area of the cockpit tub, is dull black on the starboard side and nat- All photos courtesy of Mr. Charles Hugo ural aluminum on the port side. See Figures 10 through 12

which were RLM 02. The hydraulic retracting 13 through 15 and 17. The aft firewall/bulkhead strut may be a light green, presumably a prim- is natural aluminum while the front bulkhead er. That is the color seen on the Deutsches Mu- appears to be RLM 02. The shell feed chutes seum's unrestored nose wheel retracting strut. were steel painted black while the shell ejection The wheel well was/is RLM 02 as seen under the chutes, also steel, were probably the same but red preservative still there. An analysis of peri- early photos show them to be lightly rusted inod photos of various Me 262B-1a/U1s reveals dicating they may have been unpainted. They they were a very dark color, so they were proba- are now painted gray. Early period photos show them both to be painted black. The wheel well tunnel between the guns is also natural aluminum. The floor of the gun bay is too dirty to discern what color it was. My guess is that it The main landing gear and wells are where it is natural aluminum based on photos on page gets interesting. The struts, covers and wheels 85 of the Polish AJ Press Aircraft Monograph were dull black, the same as the nose landing 9 "Me 262 Schwalbe Pt 2" by Fleischer and Rys

the wheel well, is natural aluminum. The wing So... there we have it. A lot of very ambiguous spar structure appears to be a mix of various information based on one aircraft. It is worth metals including steel. They may or may noting that a careful analysis of the four aircraft not have been given a coat of clear for protec- photographed in Germany seems to indicate tion. The fuselage interior and strut wells are the nose gear at least were a very dark color and

Gun Bay

The gun bay is the same as the Me 262A. Indeed, the whole nose is the same except for the addition of the radar equipment and a wooden nose

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Figure 1 – The front cockpit of Red 8 looking forward. The main color is RLM 66. Instrument faces are black, and the control column boot is khaki. The flight instrument sub panel appears to be a different gray than the main instrument panel but that may be because they were manufactured by different facilities or the pant just faded or aged differently.



Figure 2 - The port side of the front cockpit reveals the extensive use of wood in the side consoles and floor.

85

Cont. from p 8



Figure 3 - The starboard side of the front cockpit further illustrates the use of wood in the cockpit.



Figure 4 - The front seat has brown leather seat back cushion with khaki seat belts which are probably not the original German belts.

 $Cont.\ on\ p\ 10$



Cont. from p 9



Figure 5 - The rear seat instrument panel contained the radar displays. As seen here they are British equivalents. There are subtle differences with the German instruments which can be seen on pages 178-180 of the Kagero book "Messerschmitt Me 262 Schwalbe" by Murawski and Rys. The panel is shown in the stowed position. In operation it was rotated up to be horizontal.



Figure 6 - Here is the starboard console of the rear seat position. Again, wood was extensively used.



Figure 7 - Here is the port console of the rear seat.



Figure 8 - The fuselage interior seen in the port main landing gear well is painted black. Various parts of the wheel well in the wing are various shades of natural metal from aluminum to steel.

Cont. from p 10



Figure 9 - The nose gear appears to have been painted black. It does not appear to be original paint. However, an analysis of period photos shows the nose gear legs of the captured B-1a/U1s were painted a very dark color, probably black RLM 22. Note the ribbed tire tread pattern.



Figure 10 - Although the nose wheel well appears to be red, this is a preservative applied for the ocean voyage to South Africa and the real color RLM 02 can be seen on the roof where the material is peeling away.



Cont. from p 11



Figure 11 - The port main landing gear viewed from the front. This, also, appears to have been freshly painted black along with well covers interior. Note the tire tread pattern.



Figure 12 - The fuselage interior seen in the starboard main landing gear well is unpainted. Various parts of the wheel well in the wing are various shades of natural metal from aluminum to steel.



Figure 13 - This is an interesting shot of the gun bay. The forward bulkhead and support rods are painted RLM 02 while the gun barrel supports have rusty steel inserts. The shell ejection chutes are freshy painted gray. The shell feed chutes seen behind the ejection chutes are black and in original paint and still retaining some stenciling. The natural aluminum tunnel in the center of the bay is the nose landing gear well.





Figure 14 - The aft bulkhead of the gun bay is natural aluminum. The floor of the bay appears to be wood but other photos in various books show it to be unpainted aluminum. Again, the shell ejection chutes are painted gray, but it is likely they were unpainted steel as seen in Figure 16.



Figure 15- The gun bay cover interior was painted RLM 02 with considerable RLM 76 overspray around the edges.



Figure 16- Starboard side view of the gun bay revealing the rusty shell ejection chutes still with some residual stenciling.



Figure 17- One of the fuel fillers was just behind the radar operators position off set to port. The kerosene smell must have been very bad.

Well, we seem to have filled the room! Plus, there were 19 models on the to make notes on who made what. So... some pieces are naked without table this time and they were all very nice indeed. There were 8 aircraft, 9 Armor, and 2 cars. YHAOS was so caught up in the raffle that I did not get

captions.













1/72 XP-50 by Ray O'Neill.



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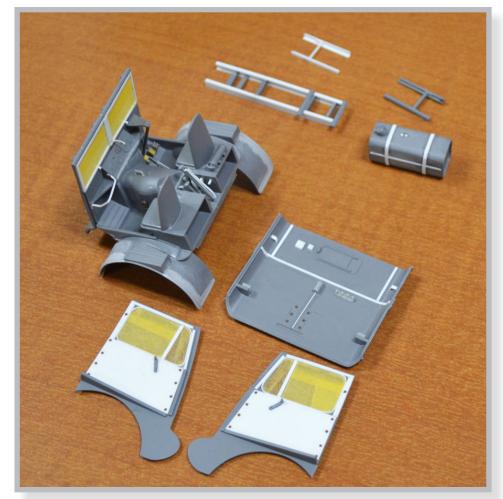






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1/24 Austin Healey Bug Eyed Sprite in work by Jim Boulukos.

Show Calendar Listing for 2018

See Bob DeMaio for details

Date/Day **Event & Location** Website April 7 Mosquitocon Sat 1 Pal Dr. Wayne, NJ http://www.ipmsnj.org April 27-28 2018 Noreastcon 47 Fri-Sat Museum of American Armor Round Swamp Rd. Bethpage, NY http://www.lisms-ipms.org Sept. 17 Patcon 2018 **Hudson Elks Lodge 959** Sun 99 Park Street. Hudson, MA, 01749 www.ipmspatriot.org Armorcon Sept. 21-22 Fri-Sat Crown Plaza Danbury, CT 06810 http://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/event/armorcon-1 Oct. 20 **HVHMG 28** Sat Elks Lodge 29 Overocker Road Poughkeepsie, NY http://www.hvhmg.com Nov. 11 Baycon 2018 Elks Ha Sun 326 Farnum Pike

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