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RED, WHITE & SPRUE

Volume 27 Number 5

★ LISMS Newsletter ★

May 2020





Next meeting date:

Canceled till further notice

7:30 pm to 10 pm

Levittown Public Library

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In The Pilot Seat



Back in 1981 I build seven Soviet Russian tanks in three months. I may surpass that number in the same amount of months during this stay at home period. I tried using the stay home indoors for an excuse to avoid any outdoor chores, but the wife didn't fall for it. Can't blame me for trying! LOL! No meeting, no social distancing, no clinic, and no model displays. How awful!

Of all the model kits I have in storage, I felt the urge to build a kit I didn't have. On March 24th I ordered a kit from Japan with a delivery time period between April 15th and 30th, timed about right to complete the two kits in progress. On May 4th I contacted the seller to ask what happened to my order because I couldn't track the package here. While waiting for an answer I persistently played around with the tracking number I had and finally reached "Tracking History Details". It indicated that on April 9th my package was sent back to the sender. Yet the seller did not inform me of it. He apologized for the delay and suggested I put in an Ebay claim to get a refund. I did so and the seller refunded me the full amount. The reason I ordered from Japan is because the kit was \$50.00 or more from any US seller and not many US sellers had it in stock. I was fortunate that I found a seller in Connecticut who was willing to give me a discount. I had the kit in about a week, but first I have to finish two other kits in progress. Motto of this story is not to order anything outside the USA until the Covid19 has cleared up. Break open your reserved piggy banks and pay the extra. I'm now down to 3 Piggy reserves and one Wolf reserve.

Are we all in the same boat? I sold many kits on Ebay and built several, the past few months, but during that time other kits make their way into my storage, preventing that storage number to barely budge. On the bright side thought, outgoing kits to make room for incoming.

I want to thank the officers of our club for their efforts to feed the club newsletter, and I also have had time to type up some of my latest builds. If you members have anything to add to the newsletter, please do. Send me the article or info typed up in a Word document, or Pages document, or in the body of your email. Pictures have to sent as email attachments.

Everyone stay safe and avoid this Covid virus!

Keep our hobby alive and well,

Bob



Tamiya Me-262A-1a

Converted with a 37mm Cannon Nose

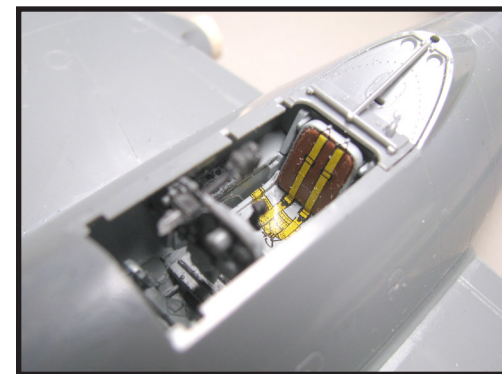
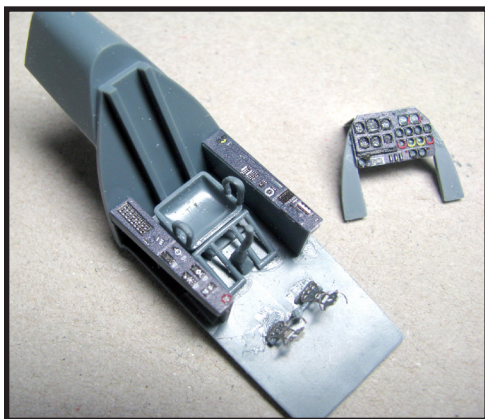


About 35 years ago I saw a couple of pictures in a book of a captured WWII German Me-262A-1a with a 37mm cannon mounted in its nose. Further info wasn't available at that time but I wanted to build it. Lindberg was the only 1/48 scale kit available to use and

Lindberg kits weren't in my kit building choices. Over many recent years I wanted to rebuild this version with a better kit. I don't remember when I found and purchased a Dragon kit of this version at a hobby show. I kept it in my inventory since waiting for that urge to work on it. The time arrived during this Covid 19 pandemic stay at home pressure. I took out the kit but wasn't impressed with the level of quality a Tamiya kit has. I dug out a Tamiya kit and decided to use the partial nose of the Dragon kit on the Tamiya kit.

In my collection of Me-262 reference books I found more details on the aircraft. Only two prototypes were made, and from what I can gather just from these ground level pictures, painted in camouflaged colors. When captured by the British they were turned over to the American Allies. They were marked with large V086 and V087 on the forward fuselage. The National German cross on the fuselage were painted over with the US Star and Bar emblem, but no pictures were shown of the wing crosses. I assume they also were.

The cockpit under construction. I painted the interior pieces of the cockpit before I applied the decals with the Solvaset solution. I knew I was going to close up the canopy so I used the seatbelt decals to add some color and whatever possible visible detail you might see through the canopy. Sorry I didn't take more pictures of this as I went along, but once I focus on the build, I forget to take more pictures.



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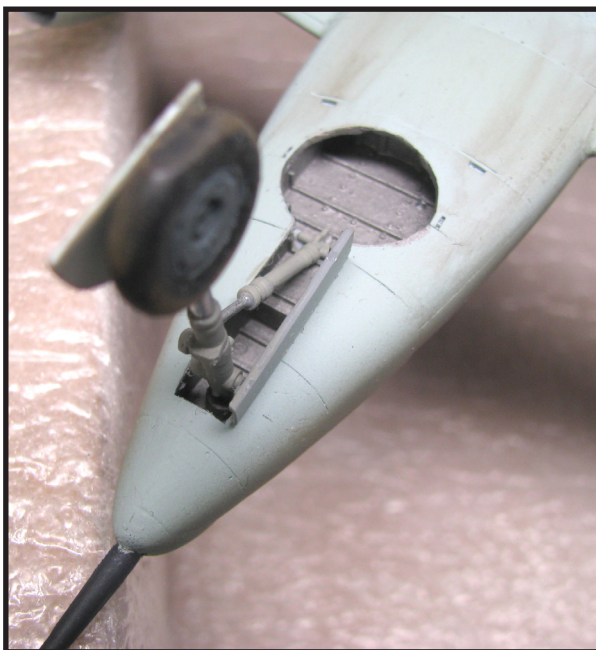
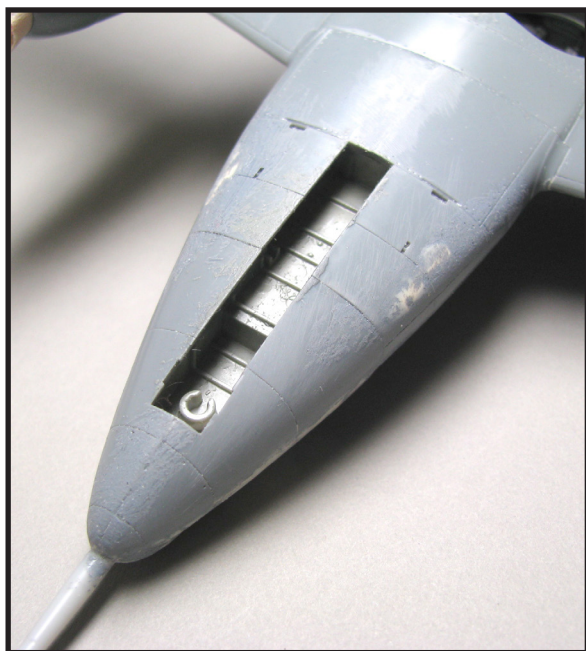
Kit Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 3

Let's not forget that an aircraft sitting on a nose gear might need some balance weight in the nose. My references indicated a change to the nose bay. Unlike the production version of the standard Me-262, the 37mm cannon took up space than the twin machine guns in the upper fuselage nose so the nose strut had to turn 90° to park the wheel. I had to use the nose bay part from the Dragon kit for two reasons. The Tamiya part would have been a deeper well because the strut and tire would have retracted straight up. I needed to show the correct shallow depth space and space above the wheel well to install

and hide fish weights. The picture on the left is what the nose bay will look like after installing the cockpit assembly, the nose bay part and adding the fish weights. The picture on the right shows what you need to cut out for the wheel storage. The strut wasn't glued in place until I was finished painting.

This picture shows a shortened horizontal door and a new door piece attached to the landing strut that you have to make. You can still use the Tamiya strut, arm and wheel.



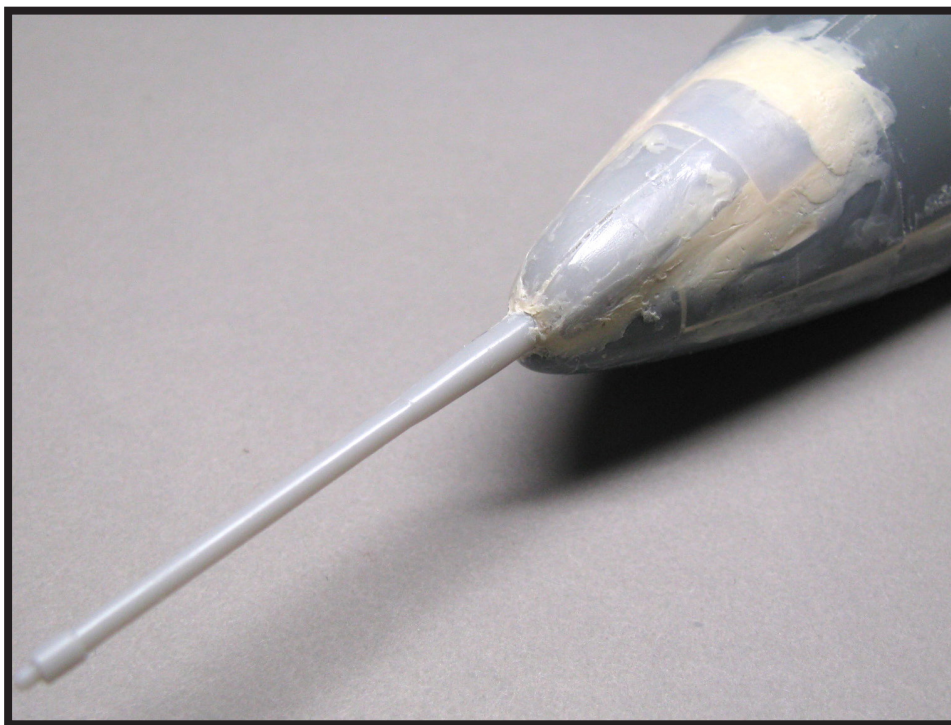
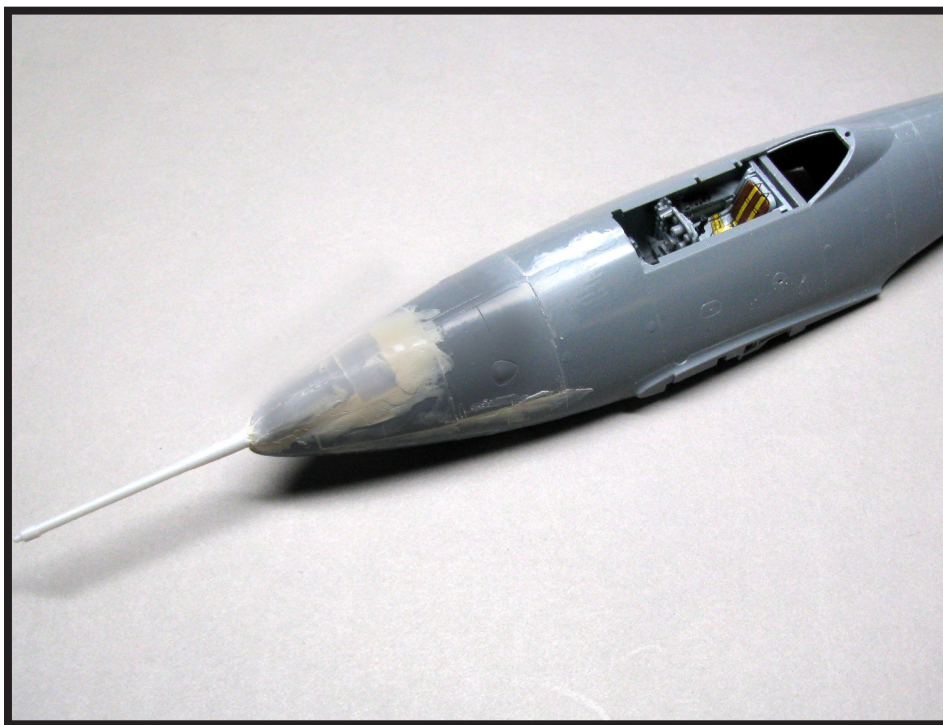
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Kit Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 4

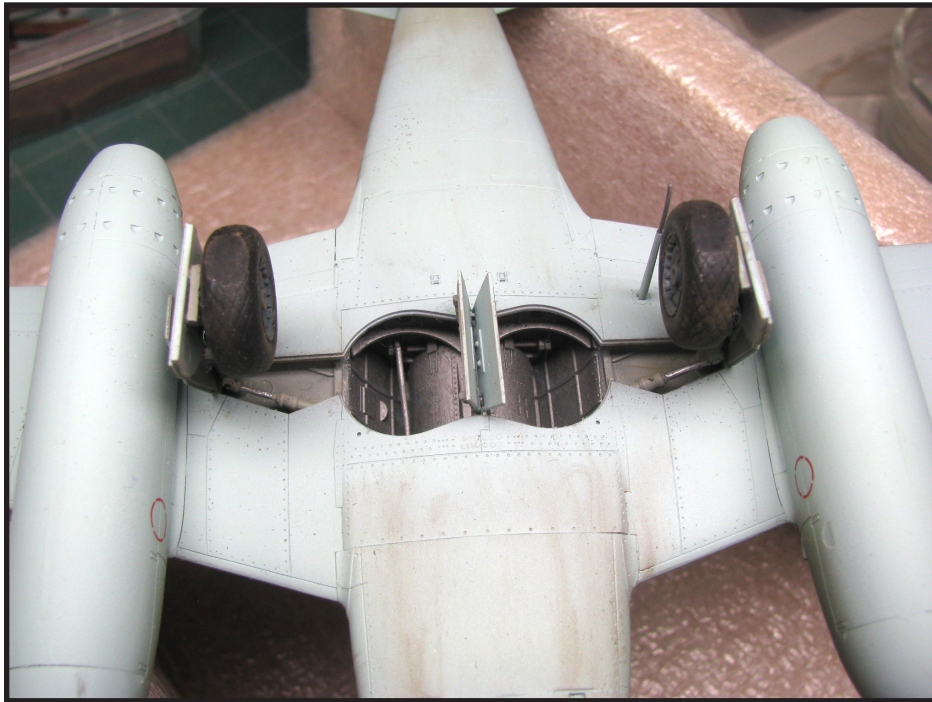
The shape needed for the cannon is really a height extension. I cut off the curved shape on the Dragon kit fuselage and behind it was a separate piece. I glued the pieces on the Tamiya fuselage, added some putty and when ready to shape, I took a few various files to it, then sanded it. If this was 1985 I would have had this shape completed in half the time it took me. My aged eyes and glasses have hindered me greatly that adds anxiety to my patience

when trying to get the correct shape on both sides. You can see the light Grey color of the two Dragon pieces. The putty is in white. In order to get the correct contour shape where you see the putty, I had added additional putty toward the canopy before I was done with the fuselage. The cannon came from the Dragon kit.



Kit Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 5



This picture is showing the main wheel wells and where I filed down the weighted pressure on the tires. No other alterations were needed here.



I masked off the canopy pieces and glued them in place. Sorry again for not showing another picture after adding the canopy and pre-painting condition. My bad.

Kit Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 6



The finished product with the camouflage pattern and markings on one of the prototype aircraft during the test stages: Lichtblau underside, RLM02 Grey and Dunkel-



grün topside pattern. The camouflages were different on both original aircraft.

Stugotz (Sturmgeschuts) III

Dragon 1/35 scale

I added: Bolt on armor plating;
Machine gun and protective plating;
Rear cargo rack with supplies;
Track armor front and rear;
Winter Camo was applied with oils;
AK and VMS pigments and washes;
This is a up gunned and up armored Stug III ausf D
Winter 1943 Eastern Front



1:48 Dewoitine D.520

Tamiya, Dewoitine D.520, French Air Force Fighter

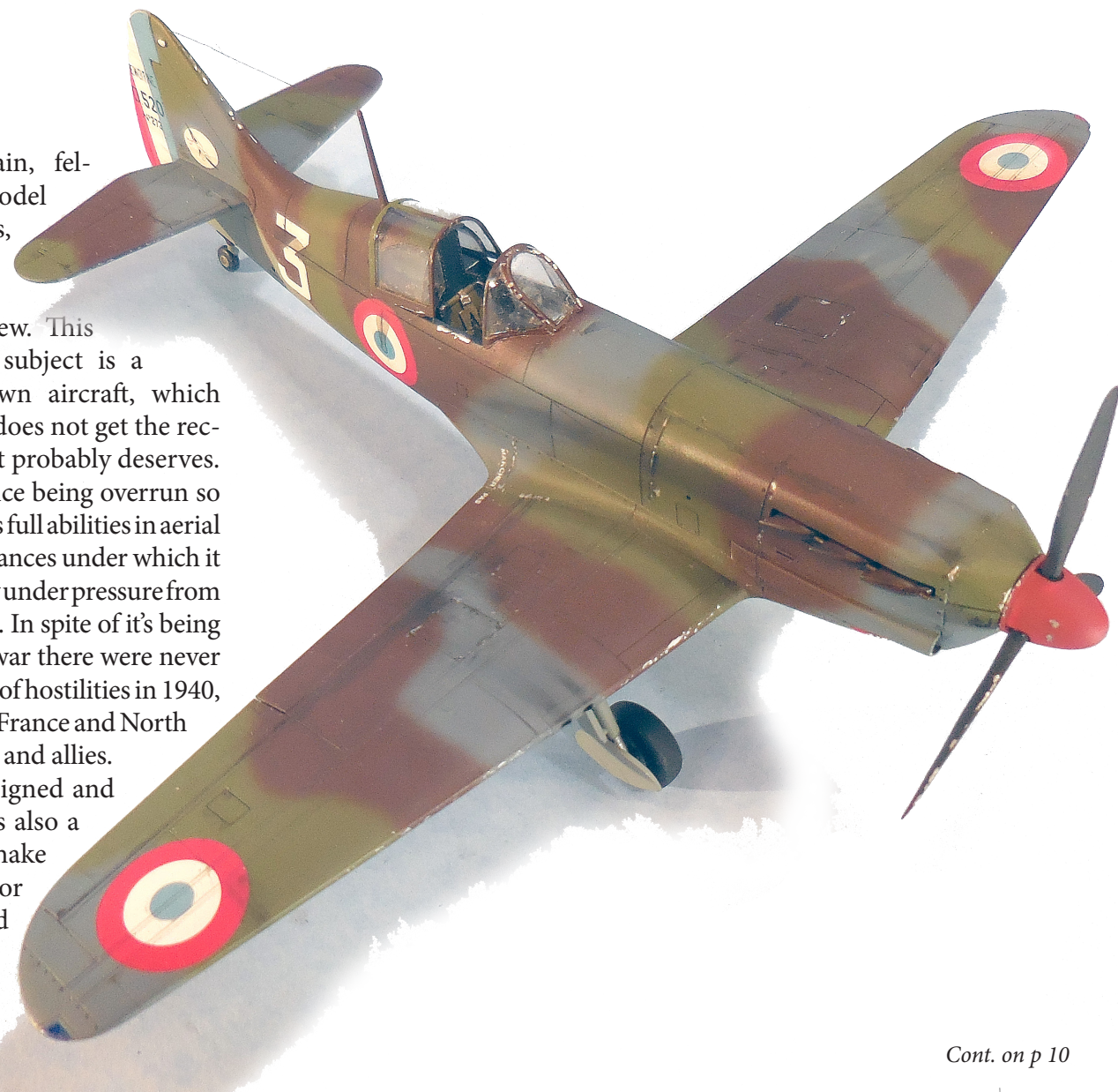


Hello again, fellow model club mates, I'm back with another review. This time the subject is a little known aircraft, which probably does not get the recognition it probably deserves. With France being overrun so

early in the war, The D.520 was never really able to show it's full abilities in aerial combat. This probably has more to do with the circumstances under which it fought. Being short in numbers and it's airfields constantly under pressure from advancing German forces, all contributed greatly to this. In spite of it's being France's most capable fighter aircraft at the start of the war there were never enough of them to effect the outcome. Even after the end of hostilities in 1940, they were still produced for the Vichy forces in Southern France and North Africa: some being used by German training squadrons and allies.

Like other Tamiya kits, this one is a very well designed and thought out kit. Detail inside and out, is spot on. It's also a very simple kit, which pretty much lends itself to the "Shake and Bake" comments often said of Tamiya kits. All major parts line up well, and little to no putty being required to cover up seams and blemishes.

Instructions are clear and easy to read, with eight steps. Three choices of markings are provided for, only the decals are not the best, and this seems to



Cont. on p 10

Kit Review *by Fred Seitz*

Cont. from p 9

be an issue with Tamiya kits. Color callouts are posted within the construction steps. The only issue I found is that the color callout listed for the cockpit is Dark Grey, XF-24. In fact, the cockpit should be painted a Dark Blue color.

I painted the model in Tamiya Acrylics, custom mixed according to the painting guide. I think they pretty good, and when mixed with Tamiya thinner and retarder, sprayed very well. I did finally wind up using the kits decals, inspite of my not being overly fond of Tamiya's decals. They went down well, using a combination of Tamiya setting solution and Walther's Solveaset.

In closing, I would say that this kit is a very nice kit that builds easily. It is of a subject not seen often, and there are many paint schemes to choose from. I had a great build experience and I absolutely recommend it to anyone looking to build outside the normal.

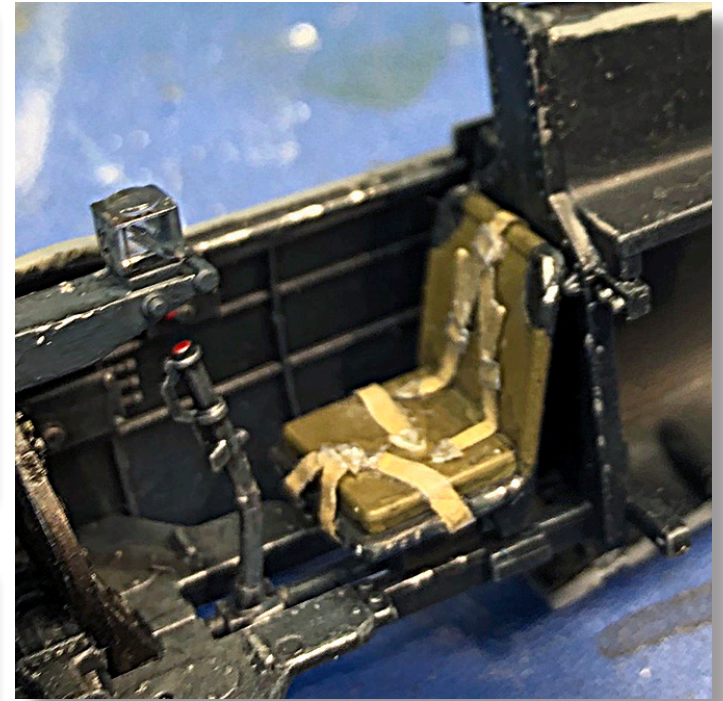
'White 3' was a D-520 attached to the G.C. II/7, 3rd Escadrille, Armee De L'aire, (French Air Force). It was the aircraft flown by French Ace, Adj Chef, Denis Pontains, during the Battle of France in May /June, 1940.



Cont. on p 10

Kit Review *by Fred Seitz*

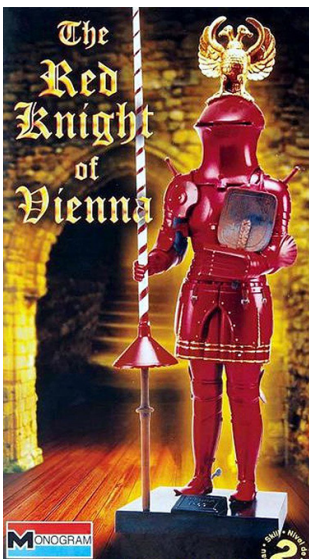
Cont. from p 10



1/8 The Red Knight of Vienna

Another oldie but goodie
Monogram #6522, \$15.00

Model by Evie Bergman



Evie is my 12-year-old granddaughter and has taken an interest in building plastic models of all types. She has very eclectic taste. Recently she completed a Red Knight by Monogram.

The model came in a top opening box and all the parts were bagged. There was little flash on the parts but a lot on the sprues. The sprue gates were quite large which is to be expected on molds dated 1958. Considering the age of the molds the parts looked quite good overall and not much cleanup was required. The fit of the parts was atrocious, however. There were pins and sockets for many parts but few for the assembly of the major sub-assemblies. There is a head and separate helmet so the model can be assembled with the helmet on or off. When assembled the model is quite fragile due



to the absence of mating surfaces of the major sub-assemblies.

The instruction sheet has 4 pages with four major assembly steps, which contain 20 assembly diagrams which are entirely adequate. Color call outs are for generic colors – red, white, brown etc. There was no parts diagram/tree or list. Likewise, there is no PE, Resin, or clear parts. Total parts count is 55.

All the parts were sprayed Tamiya Spray Can Bright Red TS-49 while still on the sprues. They were cleaned up later. The trickiest part was the white spiral stripe on the lance. In the end the body of the lance was left red and white was a piece of white tape wrapped around it. When sprayed with clear the adhesive melted in places and started to unravel and had to be anchored at each end with a clothes pin. When everything dried all was well.

After all the major parts were assembled, all that remained was to paint the head crest gold, the various buckles and spurs steel and the leather straps brown. Also, the head was painted flesh color and brown hair. The eyes were painted black and white with brown eyebrows.

Evie was very happy with the results.

Steve (her Grandpa)



1/35 M551 Sheridan

Tamiya



The M551 Sheridan was deployed on the US mainland with the 68'th Armored Regiment and the *2'nd Airborne division in April of 1968.

They were also deployed to Vietnam in 1969 with the 3'rd Battalion of the 4'th Cavalry Regiment under the 25'th Infantry Division. The Sheridan was used to take on enemy infantry when on highway security duty, and to destroy enemy pillboxes and buildings with M409

HEAT rounds. The Sheridans were not equipped with the Shillelagh missile system for fear of the Soviet Union capturing one.

In all, three hundred Sheridans were sent to Vietnam, and they were also deployed in 1989 in Panama, and in the Gulf War. Active units continued to receive them until September 1996,

and they were used for training purposes until their complete retirement in 2004.

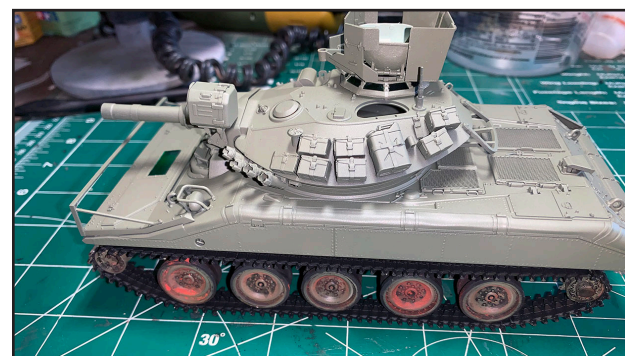
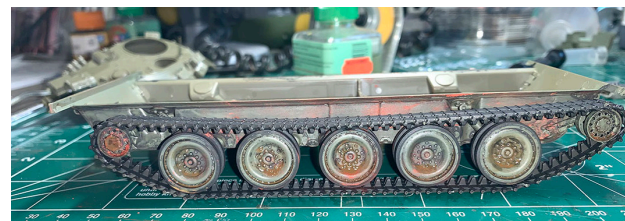
The kit from Tamiya displays everything that we have come to expect from them, crisp detail with outstanding engineering. Unlike most Tamiya armor, the lower hull is a three piece affair with a supporting bulkhead for alignment and strength. Steps one thru eight are all lower hull assembly, and it presented no problems whatsoever.

The tracks are link and length, with the characteristic upper run sag molded right in to the tracks.

The rest of the kit was very quick to go together. I have only one complaint. The ammo boxes that are stored on the sides of the turret require four pieces to complete. In addition there are no positive attachment points. The beveled edges did very little to help the builder with alignment. There are eight of these boxes to assemble and I found it rather tedious and frustrating.

I would highly recommend the optional etched stainless steel set from Tamiya, part # 12687. The set includes turned steel barrel, engine grates, and chain link fencing for the RPG protection. The supplied mesh just will not cut it.

All in all it was a very pleasant build and I highly recommend the kit.



Show Calendar Listing for 2020

See Bob DeMaio for details

Date/Day	Event & Location	Website
Jul-29-Aug 1 Wed-Sat	IPMS National Convention San Marcos, Texas	http://www.ipmsusa.org/
Aug 22 Sat	Mosquitocon <i>Postponed from April</i> 1 Pal Dr, Wayne NJ	http://www.njipm.org/
Sept 12 Sun	Patcon 2020 Hudson Elks Lodge 959 99 Park Street, Hudson, MA, 01749	www.ipmspatriot.org
Sept 24-26 Thu-Sat	APMS National Convention <i>Postponed from May</i> Radisson Hotel Harrisburg 1150 Camp Hill Bypass Camp Hill, Pa. 17011 http://amps-armor.org/SiteShows/ShowMain.aspx	
Sept. 18-19 Fri-Sat	Armorcon Crown Plaza, Danbury, CT 06810 http://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/event/armorcon-1	
Oct 2-3 Fri-Sat	Noreastcon <i>Postponed from May</i> Quality Inn & Suites 8250 Park Rd. Batavia, NY 14020 https://www.facebook.com/Noreastcon49/	

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