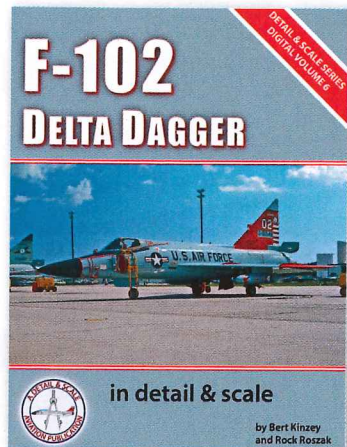


DIGITAL FLYING BLADE

293 pages



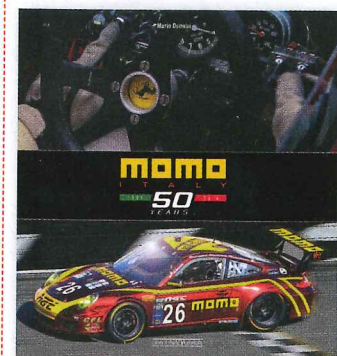
F-102 Delta Dagger
By: Bert Kinzey and Rock Roszak
ISBN: 978-0-9860677-7-8
Price: US \$9.99 Format: e-book
Web: www.detailandscale.com

Those who haven't seen the new digital Detail and Scale publications are in for a treat, particularly concerning the F-102 Delta Dagger. For less than a tenner, one gets almost 300 pages (more than four times the size of the original printed version) packed with information on Convair's classic interceptor,

compiled by renowned authors Bert Kinzey and Rock Roszak. Existing chapters have been expanded considerably, and are joined by new sections on armament, flying the aircraft (incorporating Ken Lundquist's fascinating pilot's report, with five additional articles), drone Dagers and combat over Southeast Asia, in both air-to-air and air-to-ground roles. The original's already impressive collection of photographs has been more than doubled (walk-round shots now cover every conceivable aspect of the F-102), augmented by colour digital artwork and profiles, and comprehensive line drawings. While modellers will undoubtedly appreciate all of this, the section dedicated to kits now incorporates Meng's delightful 1/72 offerings, and provides concise guidance on how to build each into an accurate F-102...surprisingly, even the more modern kits require plenty of work. Notable areas that require change (on all kits) include the correct missile and antenna complements, and whether rocket tubes, infra-red sensor, arrestor hook and strobe beacons were fitted. **SF**

FIVE DECADES OF STEERING

199 pages



MOMO Italy 50 Years
By: Mario Donnini
ISBN: 978-88-7911-607-7
Price: £50
Format: 293 x 270mm
Web: www.giorgionadaeditore.it

Italian firm MOMO has been integral to sports cars and motor racing, via its steering wheels and patented collapsible hub; the latter has been vital in protecting drivers from more serious injuries. MOMO is also renowned for its collaboration with Ferrari, which has used the

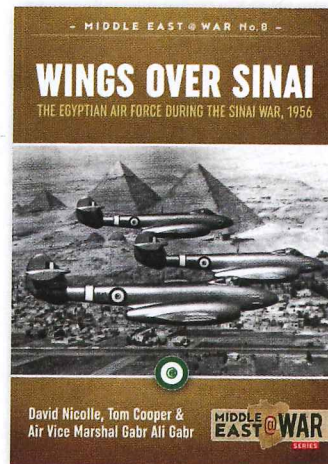
firm's steering wheels on many of its famous and successful race cars. This lavish book celebrates 50 years of MOMO and details the company's history through simply stunning photos. Some are arty studio shots of steering wheels, and MOMO's other items such as seats, wheels and race clothing, but others show actual cars and among these there are real detail treats. Notable views include the rear end of the 1970 Ferrari 512 S, a Porsche 911 at Monza in the same year, and the March 82G IMSA. Other gems are Piquet's 1981 Brabham, Senna's 1987 Honda-Lotus, MOMO-sponsored vehicles in the US from 1978-98, and European events; Porsche 935, Ferrari 333 and Oreca 03 Judd are among vehicles from the latter. When one combines the charismatic shots of drivers with period race material, and detail close-ups of MOMO equipment, one is faced with a sublime reference work no serious auto modeller should be without. **CC**

A CANAL TOO FAR

72 pages

Wings Over Sinai
By: D Nicolle, T Cooper,
AVM Gabr Ali Gabr
ISBN: 978-1-911096-61-0
Price: £19.95 Format: A4
Web: www.casematepublishers.co.uk

Much has been written on the 1956 Suez Crisis, but all too often this has been from either a Western or Israeli viewpoint. The Middle East at War's eighth volume seeks to redress this imbalance, providing analysis from an Egyptian Air Force (EAF) perspective, with significant input from retired and serving EAF officers. This informative volume dispels many myths associated with the conflict, notably that events were triggered solely by the renationalisation of the canal, and the supposed immediate capitulation of the EAF. An in-depth overview of the political situation in the early 1950s leads neatly into an explanation of the EAF's modernisation efforts, with a paradigm shift from British to Soviet hardware. Combat accounts illuminate the proceedings once the attention moves to the conflict, recounting air-to-air and air-to-ground missions with



equal emphasis. Colour profiles by Tom Cooper provide valuable modelling references, as do the black and white photographs; unfortunately, several are of poor quality (being the only examples available), but should be sufficient to determine basic markings. This is by no means a one-sided narrative, and the authors are refreshingly dispassionate in their assessment of the EAF's strengths and weaknesses...and how it failed to address them, with tragic consequences for Egypt just 11 years later. **SF**

SOVIET SHOOT AND SCOOT

112 pages

Su-76 on the Battlefield
By: Neil Stokes
ISBN: 978-615-5583-00-1
Price: £25.99 Format: 302 x 217mm
Web: www.panzerwrecks.com

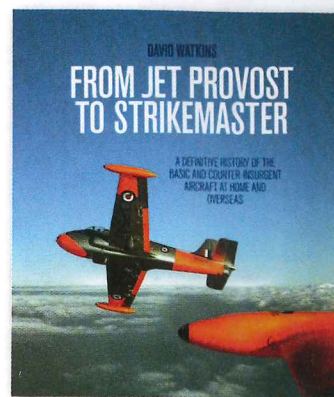
Fans of Soviet World War Two armour will appreciate this magnificent photographic reference dedicated to the Su-76 self-propelled artillery vehicle. More than 100 high-quality black and white shots chart the history of this prolific weapon (more than 11,000 were built) from initial prototypes to the conclusion of the Great Patriotic War in 1945. This is an indispensable guide to the type for modellers, and the author highlights distinguishing features between sub-variants, minor alterations during production runs, and differences introduced by factories to ease fabrication. The text is in both English and Hungarian, and provides a potted history of the Su-76, before the reader is immersed in the photography which, apart from the prototype vehicles, depicts frontline machines. While



there is an understandable focus on Soviet examples, four pages are dedicated to a captured vehicle operated by 5. SS-Panzer Division Wiking, which features an unusual style of Balkenkreuz. Notably, most Su-76s are festooned with stowage, either for the crew or troops being supported, and should provide plenty of inspiration for builders. For modellers who enjoy weathering their armour projects, this is manna from heaven, with vehicles splattered with mud, grime, dust and debris, and painted with varying degrees of camouflage over the usual 4BO Russian Green. **SF**

TRAINING AND MUD-MOVING

224 pages



From Jet Provost to Strikemaster
By: David Watkins
ISBN: 978-1-910690-35-2
Price: £25
Format: 222 x 259mm
Web: www.grubstreet.co.uk

Known to its crews as the 'JP' or 'constant thrust, variable noise', Percival's (then Hunting and BAC) trainer and counter-insurgency aircraft is described here in exhaustive detail. The development of both types is explained, including how the Strikemaster equipment fit was tailored individually for each

customer. Chapters are set aside for RAF service and its Flying Training Schools, with the latter's display teams usually outfitted in attractive and colourful liveries. Mixed in with the serious business of flying and operating the jets are several humorous anecdotes, including how the Queen Mother decided (after a display in bad weather) the Central Flying School's theme should be 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines'. Unfortunately, this wonderful narrative is rather let down by the photos; many are of poor quality and several display characteristics of having been manipulated digitally, further affecting the appearance. The same can be said for the balance between colour and black and white shots, with more of the latter, which is a shame given the colourful liveries and markings applied to both trainers and ground-attack versions. Otherwise this is ideal for anyone considering the types' history and operations...but modellers may find the lack of close-ups and walk-rounds frustrating. **SF**

ARMoured LONGEVITY

156 pages



Centurion 1946 to present
By: Simon Dunstan
ISBN: 978-1-78521-057-0
Price: £22.99
Format: 276mm x 214mm
Web: www.haynes.co.uk

Emerging just 30 years after the tank's first use in combat, and in a period when the useful lifetime of an armoured vehicle was measured in just years, Britain's Centurion defied all expectations, and derivatives remain in service to this day. The type's genesis is covered exhaustively, as its development into a staggering

24 variants (and those are just British vehicles), as armament, sensors and fuel capacity (the type was woefully short-ranged initially) were upgraded. This ability to be modified easily was a major strength for the Centurion, and in part explains its venerable service career, especially when engineering and recovery variants are considered... Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineer versions participated with the British Army during Operation Desert Storm in 1991. Haynes' in-depth walk-rounds and operating guides then follow, capped by a study of the Centurion's role during the Cold War, with operational issues intermixed with humorous interludes, such as firing composite ration tins from Hohne simulators at other tanks! Perhaps tellingly, and highlighting the machine's longevity, the Centurion's finest hour in combat came in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War, when fewer than 100 Israeli Shot-Cal derivatives held out against a much larger Syrian force on the Golan Heights. **SF**

ZERSTÖRER REVEALED

239 pages

Messerschmitt Bf 110
By: Marek J Murawski
ISBN: 978-83-65437-22-8
Price: £27.50
Format: 303 x 215mm
Web: casematepublishing.co.uk



As it did recently with the early Bf 109 and Me 262, Kagero now offers a thumping hardback volume on the ubiquitous BF 110. This work is different from its predecessors, though, in that it eschews the copious amounts of digital artwork afforded to the other books and instead, plays it straight with period photos and history text, and a large helping of colour profiles (with a handful of plan views). This approach makes the book look like one of Kagero's popular softback Monographs, but this is no bad thing...they are renowned for a reason. Here, there is a splendid array of wartime imagery and many shots are useful for modellers in detail terms. Close-up views of cockpit features, the ZFR-1 telescopic gunsight, droppable

weaponry and onboard cannon complement the studies of whole/part aircraft perfectly. Night fighters are well served, and the inevitable end-of-war scrapyard shots are also present...but are nonetheless helpful. Arkadiusz Wróbel's artwork is a pleasing as ever, representing many sub-types of the Bf 110 and varying styles of camouflage, while the larger gatefold illustrations are particularly impressive. **CC**

HILTER'S GUARD IN NORMANDY

160 pages

SS-Panzer-Regiment 1 LAH
By: Stephan Cazenave
ISBN: 978-2-9552499-3-2
Price: €42
Format: 221mm x 306mm
Web: www.panzerwrecks.com

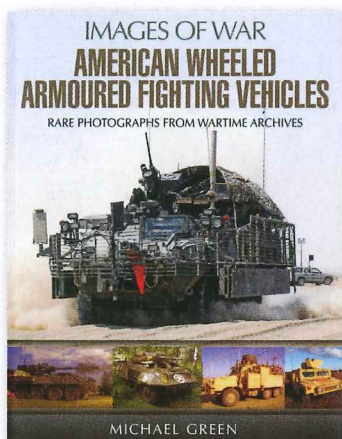


During World War Two, few units earned as much notoriety as the 1st SS Panzer Division Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler (LSSAH). While it garnered praise for its combat exploits, these pale into insignificance against its massacres of civilians and prisoners of war, for which its men and officers were prosecuted for war crimes. This French-language volume details the actions of the unit from April to August 1944, when it fought in Normandy against the Allied invasion forces, mixing what appear to be anecdotal accounts with the official operations diary. Notable individuals, including the unit's most widely known officer, Joachim Peiper, receive separate profiles, and there is a broad collection of portrait-style personnel photographs. What makes this stand out from other books on the subject is the efforts undertaken

to match crew members to tanks, providing (where possible) a date and location for each, bolstered by colour profiles of six Panthers and Panzer IVs. Modellers will appreciate the lavish collection of photographs, operation maps and even copies of identification documents, and there's plenty of inspiration for dioramas, notably with abandoned/damaged or destroyed LSSAH vehicles (many of which are posed with Allied soldiers). **SF**

FAST AND FUNKY ARMOUR

201 pages



American Wheeled Armoured Fighting Vehicles

By: Michael Green

ISBN: 978-1-47385-436-9

Price: £14.99 Format: 247 x 190mm

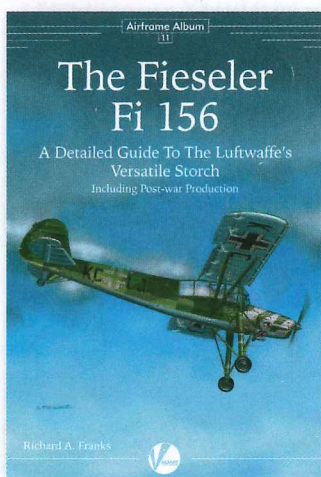
Web: www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

By their nature, wheeled combat machines often endure more serious upgrade activity than tracked 'heavies'. A perfect example sits bold on the cover of Pen & Sword's new softback, in the shape of a Stryker that, due to much additional equipment, looks like a busy space

station surrounded by extensive garden fencing! Chapter one deals with pre-World War Two vehicles, and the fascinating photos reveal the somewhat 'agricultural' look of the period. M2 and M3 scout car fans will enjoy the various shots of these machines, and a real photographic rarity is the image of a field-converted armoured Jeep used during the Battle of the Bulge. The General Motors T17E1 Medium Armored Car also gets a look in; this is handy if one enjoys building British armour, as this vehicle was operated by UK forces as the Staghound. Other machines include the cool M8 Light Armored Car and T26 Armored Utility Vehicle, before the focus shifts to the Cold War, via the V-100 Commando, M706 and Vietnam Gun Trucks. The famous 'Humvee' has a section of its own and the photos reveal plenty of useful detail, and there's also a decent examination of the LAV-25 (and more modern variants after it was renamed Stryker). Closing with Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, this is a handy and inexpensive reference. **CC**

VERSATILE SPOTTER

128 pages



The Fieseler Fi 156

By: Richard A. Franks

ISBN: 978-0-9935345-6-0

Price: £17.95 Format: A4

Web: www.valiant-wings.co.uk

Valiant's latest Airframe Album deals with Fieseler's Fi 156 Storch (Stork) which, despite its ungainly appearance, was a highly effective platform. As described here, this high-winged monoplane operated in the reconnaissance, artillery spotting, liaison and VIP transport roles. As highlighted

by the author, there will likely be disparities between this and other Storch references, mainly due to the extensive cross-checking of information and use of newly uncovered primary source material. The volume follows Valiant's standard layout, with an overview of the type's development and service life, a detailed technical description (doubling as a walk-around feature, such is the quality of the photographs), how it was developed, a colours and markings section (with colour profiles) and finally, three builds. Highlights include isometric drawings depicting variant differences (including post-war and foreign-built examples) and how captured airframes were used by the Allies. The kits comprise offerings from Smør (re-boxed Heller) and Academy, with a quarter-scale build of Tamiya's superlative Storch boxing. This informative and busy volume is rounded off by a comprehensive kit and accessories listing and is recommended for modellers and history buffs alike. **SF**

LUMPS, BUMPS AND GAS

384 pages

The Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker

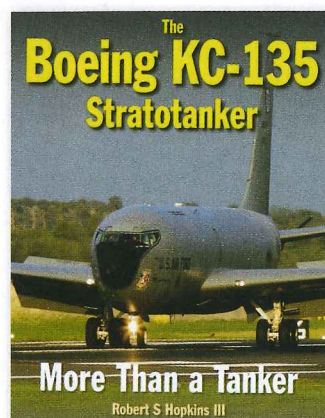
By: Robert S Hopkins III

ISBN: 978-1-91080-901-3

Price: £27.95 Format: 284 x 226mm

Web: www.crecy.co.uk

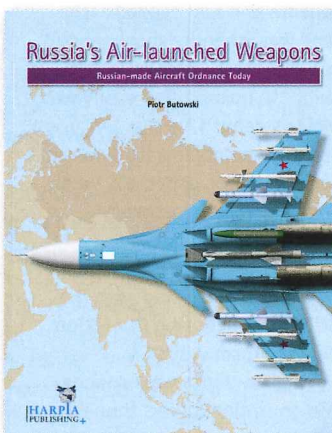
The KC-135 has been the foundation of USAF air refuelling for more than 50 years, serving tactical and strategic aircraft alike. A less-publicised role, though, has been intelligence gathering, executed by RC/EC-135s, defined by their copious antennas and bulky fairings. Thankfully, and due to the many variants, the latter body of assets dominate this thumping hardback. The author knows his stuff, too, having flown 17 different types of EC/KC/RC-135, so the quality of information is assured. The birth of the 'KC' tanker and its operations are described, as well as overseas users. But it is the 'sneaky-beaky' machines that grab the real attention, and this is especially useful for modellers building the AMT/Italeri 1/72 kit, resin/vac-form options or the 1/144 conversion from S&M Models. It's mind-



bogging just how many recon versions were produced, even down to the fascinating Cobra Ball aircraft that fly abeam the Kamchatka Peninsula, tracking Russian ballistic missile launches and re-entry vehicles...but all are described. And the RAF's new 'Airseeker' (an RC-135W Rivet Joint), is also explored. Detailed appendices offer airframe lists by block number, attrition, retirements, Strategic Air Command tail markings and records/achievements. A simply stunning book for any fan of the type, and excellent value. **CC**

SPLENDID STORES GUIDE

92 pages



Russia's Air-launched Weapons

By: Piotr Butowski

ISBN: 978-09973092-1-8

Price: £18.99 Format: 280 x 210mm

Web: www.casematepublishing.co.uk

If there's one area in which modellers err consistently, it's that of weaponry. Besides the painting and detail of the stores themselves, it's also the lack of thought on which stations the items should sit. Harpia's new softback, though, should go some way to educating aircraft builders on modern armament... at least from the Soviet/Russian

perspective. The coverage is split by chapters devoted to subjects such as Strategic Weapons, Tactical Air-to-Surface Missiles, Aircraft Bombs and Naval Weapons, and each focusses on individual stores, nominal/specialist weights, user aircraft and statistics (the latter dealt with via handy tables). Some weapons, including the venerable B8 rocket pod, can be placed on aircraft/helicopters across a wide time-span, but certain stores, the AA-2 Atoll for example, are not represented due to their age; the hint being the book's subtitle, Russian-made Aircraft Ordnance Today. It's not just droppable weaponry that's shown, as gun pods and internal cannon also feature, but although the General-Purpose Bombs section offers much text and a useful Russian-English translation table, the lack of photos is frustrating, and will be so for anyone wishing to build aircraft seen before the advent of more modern bombs. However, there are excellent photos of current precision-guided munitions...this being highly topical given Russia's activities in Syria, with its Su-34s and Su-24s. This is a worthy study, useful for any Russian aircraft modeller. **CC**