

Now

134

members in

26

countries!

ASIAN AIR ARMS NEWSLETTER—June 2018

Asian Air Arms website and Newsletters support
"Asian Air Arms SIG", a Special Interest Group of IPMS (UK)

ASIAN AIR
ARMS



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JASDF F-15J & DJ Aggressors



Visit Gary Wickham's amazing F-15DJ build here. Click here, then on Model Gallery and scroll to Boeing F-15DJ.

You like Japanese Aggressors?

We'll click here for a fabulous feast, brought to you [by www.airplane-pictures.net](http://www.airplane-pictures.net).



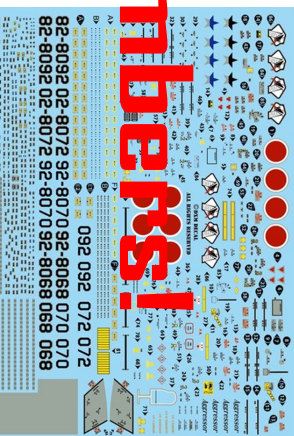
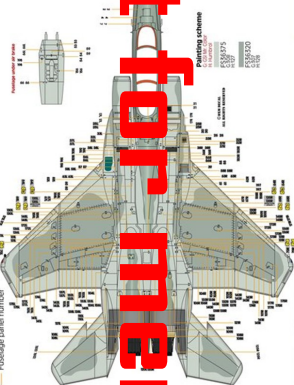
www.asianairarms.com

asianairarms1@outlook.com

DXM Decals

**J.A.S.D.F. F-15DJ EAGLE
AGGRESSOR 2013**

飛行教導隊アグレッサー



F-15s in Asia

REPUBLIC OF KOREA AIR FORCE—F-15K SLAM EAGLE

Heavy metal comes in the shape of the F-15K Slam Eagle of which 21 are on order following the delivery of forty aircraft between late 2005 and late 2008. The first two aircraft arrived at Seongnam on October 7, 2005. At Gwangju, the F-5A/Bs were withdrawn from use on August 3, 2005 and 122 FS and 102 FS reformed at Daegu on the F-15K. Retirement of the F-4D was initiated by the disbandment of 110 FS on September 28, 2007. Official retirement followed on June 16, 2010 when 151 FS made its last flight. 151 FS has now reformed as the third F-15K squadron with 11 FW at Daegu. (Courtesy: www.Scramble.nl)



REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE AIR FORCE F-15SG

The latest addition to Singapore's impressive fighter force is the F-15SG. Twelve were ordered in December 2005 under Peace Carvin V, with another twelve soon afterwards. On April 5, 2010, 149 Squadron was inaugurated at Paya Lebar as the first local F-15SG unit. 428 Squadron is part of the USAF's 366th Fighter Wing, based in Idaho. Its function is to train RSAF pilots in the operation of the F-15SG. (Courtesy: www.Scramble.nl)



10% discount for members!

Pilot Training in Bangladesh (1)

The Bangladesh Air Force was formed in 1973, receiving assistance from UK, Russia and China. In the mid-eighties pilot training was bolstered when France supplied a number of Fouga CM170 Magisters, followed in the mid-nineties when the US supplied twelve T-37s. Pakistan later provided a large number of refurbished F-6s, including FT-6s.

The following squadrons include training aircraft amongst their numbers: 21 Sqn (The Avengers) Yak-130; 29 Sqn (Trendsetters) L-39 & FT-7BG; 5 Sqn (Supersonic Defenders) FT-7BG; 8 Sqn (Vigilance, Valour, Victory) MiG-29UB; 35 Sqn (Thundercats) FT-7BG1. The Air Force Academy Flying Training Wing comprises: 11 Sqn PT-6; 15 Sqn Hongdu K-8W; 18 Sqn Bell 206 & AW.119.

Source: www.scramble.nl

And a very big "Thank You" must go to member [Shadman al Samee](#) for allowing me to use so many of his photos for this article.



Fouga CM-170R Magister Mid-80s>?



Cessna T-37B 15 Sqn. Mid-90s>?



Chengdu FT-5 Early 80s>?



Shenyang FT-6 Mid-80s>?



[Click for video](#)

Aero L-39ZA Albatross 25 Sqn. (1995>)



[Click for video](#)

Nanchang PT-6 Flying Instructor School (1977>)



Some Featured Squadrons



Flying Instructor School



21 Squadron



29 Squadron



5 Squadron



8 Squadron



35 Squadron



Pilot Training in Bangladesh (2)

[Click for video](#)



Guizhou FT-7BGI 35 Sqdn. (2006>)

[Click for video](#)



Hongdu K-8W Karakorum, 15 Sqdn. (2014>)

[Click for video](#)



MiG-29UB 8 Sqdn. (1999>)



MiG-29UB 8 Sqdn. (1999>)

[Click for video](#)



Yakovlev Yak-130 21 Sqdn.(2015>)



Yakovlev Yak-130 21 Sqdn. (2015>)



Bell 206 18 Sqdn. (1981>)

© Shadman Samee

photo-forums.net



Agusta Westland AW.119 (2017>)—Sorry no photo in Bangladesh markings available as yet.

SUITABLE KITS

FOUGA



Fouga Magister—1/48 Kinetic



Cessna T-37—1/72 Academy



Chengdu FT-5 -1/32 Trumpeter



Shenyang FT-6—1/144 Mark I



Aero L-39—1/48 Special Hobby



Nanchang PT-6—1/32 Trumpeter

And even MORE suitable kits!



Convert MiG-21UM 1/144 RetroWings



Hongdu K-8 1/72 Trumpeter



MiG-29UB 1/32 Revell



Yak-130 1/72 Zvezda



Bell 206 1/72 Italeri

A VISIT TO “FANTASY PRINTSHOP” IN FAR-DISTANT CORNWALL!

Fantasy Printshop for Decals



Screen Printers

I'd been trying to find a source of white backing discs to go behind home-made decals. I'd heard that Ray Horwell of Fantasy Printshop in Cornwall might do these and so, one June morning, I headed off west to hunt them out. Set in the attractive town of Bodmin (moor of this later!), Fantasy Printshop is located in a small industrial estate near to the centre of town. A great big smile, a handshake and a welcome cup of tea were proffered in quick succession and I got down to learn of the extent of Ray's operations.

He's been decal making for almost 22 years and so does seem to know what he's on about! Some years ago he looked at a career change of just loafing about - poolside - in la belle France, but the call of Cornish drizzle, pasties and clotted cream proved too much and he returned to take up decal printing again. He told me that the banking crisis of 2007-8 had a huge knock-on effect for quite some years, forcing him to make substantial cutbacks and major price reductions, to the extent that only now have prices returned to those he was charging 10 years ago.

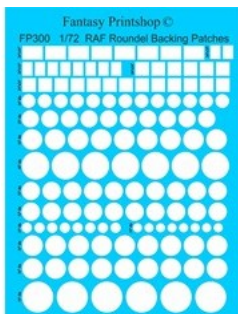
The quality of his print work is amongst the finest in Europe and this is recognised by his retaining clients such as Wolfpack Design, Dutch Decals, Airfile and Battlefront Miniatures. However, I was there to look at his generic decal sheets, being particularly interested in white discs, squares and stars'n bars that could act as underlays to my home-made decals. Ray makes these to fit most aircraft in 1/72, 1/48 and 1/32 scales—they looked ideal and so cash was rapidly exchanged. I also gave in and picked up several sheets of different coloured and width stripes, which will fill many needs, including canopy framing.

As well as printing for designers, Ray also has his own line, namely “Euro Decals” which covers a wide range of British WWII and post-war a/c, whilst “Fantasy Printshop Decals” features more generic items such as swastikas, Remove Before Flight tags, numbers, serials and markings for both RAF, USAF and Germany.

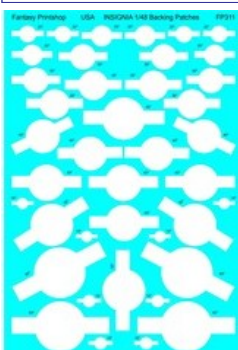
So, an hour slipped by quickly and I had to get back on the road. Ray had given me a great insight into the amazing intricacies of decal production and I was quite bowled over by the fineness of his printing. My last words to him echoed General McArthur “I shall return!”



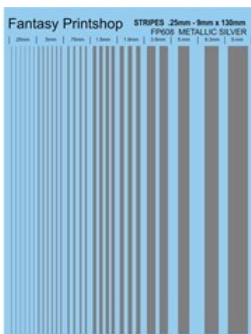
Ray Horwell—printer extraordinaire!



White backing patches 72 & 48

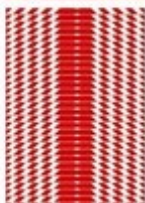
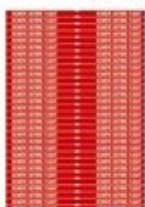


USAAC & USAF
backing patches 72 & 48



Metallic Silver Stripes .25mm - 9mm

FP 1002
Fantasy Printshop © 1999 032
Remove Before Flight Tags



Remove Before Flight tags



ASIANAIR ARMS SIG 2018 MODELLING COMPETITION



WHO WANTS TO BE OUR FIRST EVER WINNER?

November 2018's ScaleModelWorld in Telford will witness an historic occasion!

It will be the first ever modelling competition for Asian Air Arms SIG.

The theme will be "Aircraft of Asian Air Arms since 1945".

It will be open to all-comers—no obligation to be a SIG member or an IPMS member.

[Click here to get full Rules and an Entry Form.](#)

Entry Forms will also be sent out to all Asian Air Arms SIG members and IPMS UK Clubs.

There will be three classes—1/144; 1/72; and 1/48 and larger.

The competition is being sponsored by:

Guideline Publications; Fantasy Printshop Decals; and Modelling Tools UK (Little Cars)
who are kindly donating prizes to all class winners.



....will be donating an annual subscription to any one of their magazine titles!

*Fantasy
Printshop
for
Decals*



Screen Printers

....will be donating £50.00 worth of decals from their Euro Decals and/or Fantasy Printshop Decal ranges!



....will be donating £40.00 worth of goods across their entire stock selection!

SO—what are you waiting for? Get snipping, gluing and painting—fame awaits you!

LIGHT COMBAT AIRCRAFT IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION—An article



[Click here to read a most interesting article from the website of "Asian Military Review", looking at the roles and prospects of the BAe Hawk 200, Alenia Aermacchi M-346 Master/Yakovlev Yak-130 and the Lockheed Martin KAI FA/TA-50 Golden Eagle in the Asian Pacific region.](#)

ASIAN AIR ARMS UPDATE

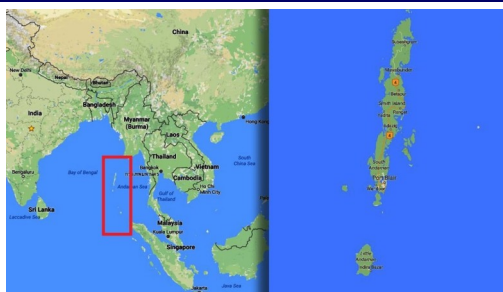
AFGHANISTAN

Jane's reports that the Afghan Air Force recently flew its first operational mission with its recently acquired 'Black Hawk'. Afghanistan is set to receive 159 Black Hawks by 2020 as the United States transitions the country's armed forces over from its approximately 80 Russian-built Mil Mi-17 'Hip' helicopters that are nearing the end of their service lives. The country will also receive further 30 MD 530F Cayuse Warrior light attack and reconnaissance helicopters and six A-29 Super Tucano light attack turboprops.

[Click here for video of Afghan Super Tucano.](#)



INDIA to Base Su-30MKIs Jets on Andaman & Nicobar Islands in Bengal Bay



"Andaman and Nicobar Islands oversee one of the most strategically and economically important sea lanes passing through Malacca Strait. An additional, much larger airbase, nearly 800 km away from the mainland, will greatly increase the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy aircraft reach into the Indian Ocean. Su-30MKI with air refuelling capability will be able to reach all possible target areas in South East Asia," said Air Marshal (retired) Anil Chopra. Work on the existing Shipbur naval air station where the Indian armed forces currently operate the Dornier, Mi-8, Chetak aircraft, has also been expedited to lengthen the runway and build additional facilities. The Indian Navy has so far commissioned four of its eight amphibious landing craft at tri-service command headquarters in Port Blair, where it has also stationed the long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft Poseidon 81. Should the deal go ahead, it's likely that some of the Shin Maywa amphibians will operate from here. This development could be seen as a counter to the expansive aims of China in creating ocean bases.

India is withdrawing from the joint FGFA (Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft) development programme. The Indian version of the aircraft had diverged significantly from the basic Sukhoi T-50 (Su-57/PAK-FA), with 43 changes in the areas of stealth, supercruise, advanced sensors, networking and combat avionics. The Indian aircraft was intended to be a two-seater.



Since 2011, Dassault and India have been negotiating for the sale/purchase of 126 Dassault Rafales. India would manufacture the vast majority but insisted that Dassault must take responsibility for their quality—Dassault declined. A compromise was reached in 2014. Then, in 2016, number was cut back to 36, but progress stopped again. Now, Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa has reaffirmed the Air Force's plan to buy 36 Rafale fighter aircraft. Deliveries of the aircraft will have commenced by September 2019 and are expected to be completed by April 2022.

MYANMAR



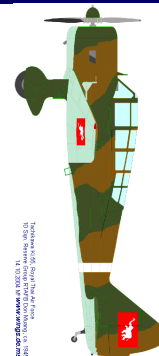
X 30 = Flight Global reports that Myanmar signed for 6 Su-30s in January.

ASIAN AIR ARMS

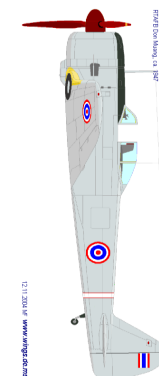


From Japan to Thailand (Not to scale)

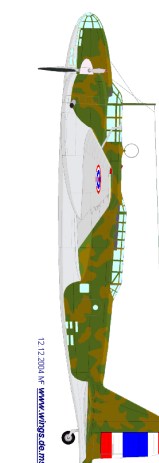
Tachikawa Ki-55 (Ida) c.1945



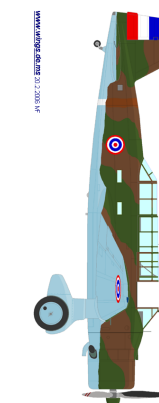
Nakajima Ki-43-IIb (Oscar) c.1947



Mitsubishi Ki-21-I (Sally) c.1946



Mitsubishi Ki-30 (Ann) c.1946



KAZAKHSTAN

Kazakhstan has announced that it will boost its fleet of Sukhoi Su-30SM fighters. 25 fighter jets of this type are either already in use with Kazakh Armed Forces or are currently being constructed.

The Su-30SM is based on the Su-30 MKI export version, an aircraft jointly developed by Russia with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the Indian Air Force. The Kazakhstan Air Force also operates 12 single-seat Su-27s.



Kazakhstan is acquiring four more combat helicopters to boost its strike capabilities. After all of its Mi-24s have been withdrawn from service, Kazakhstan Air Defense Forces are quickly moving to address the gap in rotary-wing combat capability. To fill this gap the country has signed a deal with Russia that provides for the delivery of four Mil Mi-35M helicopters.

SOUTH KOREA

The first of a planned 120 Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI) KF-X fighters is scheduled to enter service in 2026, when it is intended to replace the remaining F-4Es. The KF-X will be a twin-engined aircraft with stealth features designed to fill the gap between the F-16 and the F-35. The programme is being pursued in co-operation with Indonesia, which had agreed to pay 20% of the development costs. However, Indonesia is behind on payments and, according to Korean sources, the programme itself could now be in jeopardy. The KF-X is also slated to replace the last F-5Es in service.



The ROKAF opted for the F-35A to deter the growing threats from China and North Korea and signed a contract for 40 examples on September 30, 2014. The first Lightning II for the ROKAF took to the air at Fort Worth, Texas, on March 19 2018 and the second aircraft first flew on May 2.



BANGLADESH

The Bangladesh Navy has just signed up to two more Dornier 228 twin-turboprop aircraft to be delivered during 2018. The new production aircraft will add to the two Dornier 228 NG maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) already in service with the BN, and will be used to support surveillance and patrol flights for all aspects of maritime security, exclusive economic zone control, and search-and-rescue (SAR) operations.

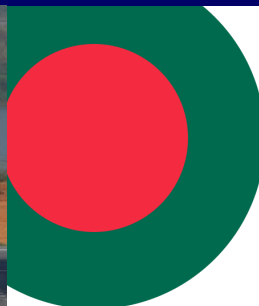


Photo Copyright © Abdul Samad

PAKISTAN



Pakistan has been hunting for new attack helicopters to replace its aging American-made AH-1 Cobras. Now Turkey's ruling party has confirmed that Islamabad has picked the T-129 ATAK, in what is the largest Turkish-Pakistani arms deal in history, for 30 of the sleek, two-seat gunships. It's also a loss — for China, which entered its Z-10 attack helicopter into Pakistan's multi-year competition for its new helicopter. This means the Z-10, produced by Changhe Aircraft Industries Corporation, is back to where it started with zero export successes abroad, beyond the three which Pakistan acquired for aerial trials. The T-129 is based on the AgustaWestland (now Leonardo) produced A-129 Mangusta. Turkish Aerospace Industries is the T-129's prime contractor.

CHINA



XIAN H-6K CRUISE MISSILE CARRIER *

Chinese Ministry of National Defense said several bombers of various types, including the improved Xian H-6K, carried out landing and take-offs at an island airfield following simulated strikes on targets at sea. The H-6K is an upgraded variant of the H-6, which is itself originally a Chinese-built version of the 1950s-era Soviet Tupolev Tu-16 Badger. The H-6K has been re-engined with Chinese-built versions of the Russian D-30KP low-bypass turbofans and improved avionics that include a new indigenously-developed radar and is used primarily as a cruise missile carrier in PLAAF service, utilizing the KD-20 or KD-63 cruise missiles on six wing hardpoints. China is also said to be developing a nuclear-capable air-launched ballistic missile for the H-6K.



China is to receive another 10 Su-35 fighter jets this year. The \$2.5 billion contract for the delivery of a total of 24 long-range 4+ generation super-maneuvrable aircraft was signed in November 2015. Four Su-35s were previously delivered to China in 2016, and 10 more were shipped in 2017.

PAKISTAN/CHINA

In case you missed it, (I did!) last year saw CAC/PAC conduct the first flight of their two-seater JF-17B Thunder. [Click here for video.](#)

Besides having a second seat, the JF-17B exhibits several major design changes to the single-seat JF-17. It has a dorsal spine, possibly for fuel (to compensate for the space taken by the rear-seat). The vertical stabilizer has also been modified; the swept tail houses components for a new three-axis fly-by-wire flight control system. The nose was also enlarged to accommodate an active electronically-scanned array (AESA) radar, which will be a core sub-system of the forthcoming JF-17 Black-Ill.



HONG KONG



Hong Kong based Government Flying Service (GFS) has received three Airbus H175s in public services configuration, becoming the world's first operator of this new variant which enlarges the H175 mission capacity to search and rescue (SAR), emergency medical services, law enforcement, fire-fighting as well as land and maritime border control operations. In 2015, GFS became the launch customer of the H175 in public services version with an order for seven helicopters. The four remaining helicopters will be delivered before the end of the year.

PHILIPPINES



The Philippine government aims to acquire additional FA-50PH light combat aircraft/trainers from Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI). Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana announced plans to acquire around 12 more jets during a symposium of the Philippine Air Force (PAF, Pilipinas Hukbong Himpapawid). However, Lorenzana said that talks with South Korea over a new FA-50 purchase have not yet begun.

The Philippine Navy could potentially receive more Beechcraft King Air TC-90 patrol aircraft from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). The JMSDF has given the Navy five TC-90 patrol aircraft as part of a deal made in 2016. Three of the delivered aircraft are already operational, while the other two are being equipped and painted for Philippine service. [Click here for video of handover.](#)



The Philippines has ordered six Embraer A-29 Super Tucano light attack and advanced training aircraft. The turbo-prop aircraft, selected as part of the Philippine Air Force's ongoing modernization plan, will be used for close air support, light attack, surveillance, air-to-air interception, and counterinsurgency missions. Deliveries to the PAF's 15th Strike Wing will begin in 2019.



Double Cross-Kitting—in 1/32 !

MiG-15bis into a MiG-15UTI

and

Chengdu FT-5 into a MiG-17

From member Meindert de Vreeze in the Netherlands

Tired of waiting for kit manufacturers to make a big scale MiG-15UTI, Meindert took the matter into his own hands and using a combination of Hobbycraft's MiG-15bis and Trumpeter's Chengdu FT-5, he "reverse-engineered" a MiG-15UTI.

And with the bits left over, he was able to make a MiG-17F! [Read his fascinating account here.](#)

From a MiG-15bis



....to a MiG-15UTI !



BIG—VERY BIG—1/32 conversions!

And from a Chengdu FT-5.....



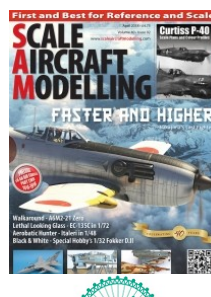
....to a MiG-17F !



ASIAN AIR ARMS AND GUIDELINE PUBLICATIONS

Guideline Publications

Guideline Publications, the premier publisher for military aviation literature, is offering **a 10% discount on all its books** for our members who order through Asian Air Arms.



If you'd like to take advantage of this offer contact me directly.

And don't forget the London Plastic Modelling Show on Sunday 2nd December, 2018.

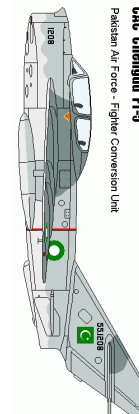


ASIAN AIR ARMS



MiGs & Chengdus

Chengdu FT-5—Pakistan



0406 Chengdu FT-5
Pakistan Air Force - Fighter Conversion Unit

MiG-15UTI Cambodia



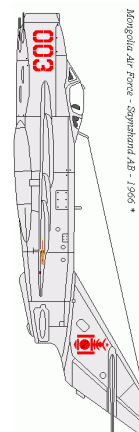
MiG-15UTI Cambodian Air Force, 1960s - 1970s

MiG-17 North Vietnam



MiG-17 no 221 - 10th Airborne BAC CORP, 1960s - 1970s

MiG-17F—Mongolia



MiG-17F (L.F. 5) (Lun 5)
Mongolian Air Force - 1960s - 1966



CASA 212—A long-lived Indonesian workhorse (I)

Indonesian aircraft manufacturer IPTN had been assembling the Spanish-made CASA C-212 during the 1970s and 1980s. Then in mid-2008, C-212-400 production and assembly was moved entirely from Spain to Indonesia. Production of the -400 by Indonesian Aerospace (IAe) got under way, following the transfer of tooling and technologies to the company. This transfer was completed by January 2010. The IAe facilities now have the capability to produce C-212-400s at a rate of about one per month. The initial IAe-produced C-212-400 was completed in 2011. Under the 2006 agreement, IAe is permitted to market the transport version of the C-212-400 in Asian countries. At 2018 the following a/c were being operated by the Indonesian Armed Forces: Air Force—9 (+ 4 on order); Army—6; Navy—6.



BRIAN'S CONVERSION OF A 1/144 REVELL BOEING 737-800 INTO A BOEING 737 AEW&C (ROKAF)



CASA 212 in 1/72 scale



Azur-FFrom



Broplan (Vacform)



Special Hobby



Scratchaeronautics (Resin)



Top Gun (Resin)



Aircraft In Miniature (Vac Form)



CASA 212—A long lived Indonesian workhorse (2)



Air Force
Skadron Udara 4



Army
Skadron Udara 21



Navy
Skuadron Udara 200



Navy
Skuadron Udara 600



Navy
Skuadron Udara 800

PAKISTANI MARKINGS—NOT ALWAYS STRAIGHTFORWARD!



Last month, member Hamza Tariq, in Pakistan, kindly gave us access to his amazing gallery of the Pakistan Air Force. This nicely fits in with this month's "Asian Aircraft Markings—A History" (see column on the right). I was scrolling through, just confirming that the PAF fin flash always has a white leading edge and that the crescent always faces to the rear. And I discovered that this rule does not always hold true for the Army and Navy—see the different formats below. Take a close look at the three Mushshaks and you'll see that all three have different fin flashes. On 146 the crescent faces forward; on 083 it faces back; and 093 it

also faces back but has a white leading edge. Furthermore, two of the codes are in yellow whilst 083 is in very dark grey or black, and the green on the roundel of 146 looks darker than the other two. As they say "Always check your sources"!



New Members

We've gained another 4 members since the last Newsletter—now at 134 in 26 countries!

Welcome to: Glen Dinning from the UK; Akira Watanabe from Japan;
Jiri Kure from Australia; and Ran Yahalom from Israel.



Asian Aircraft Markings A History

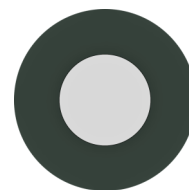
2. Pakistan



Air Force



PAF (Crescent faces rear)



Air Force—Lo-Viz



Air Force—Lo-Viz



Navy (Roundel on early ATR-72
is much brighter green)



Navy
(Crescent generally faces rear,
with yellow border)



Army—usually!



Asian Air Arms

encourages you to join

IPMS

THE INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC MODELLERS' SOCIETY

But, why?

IPMS covers not only the UK but also the whole world!

Over 80 clubs in UK (including 2 on-line clubs) plus 55 overseas branches in over 50 countries (from Malta to Venezuela, Russia to Brazil, Australia to China).

Contact these branches for foreign advice!

Like to concentrate your modelling on particular topics?

IPMS has over 70 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) covering every possible subject, such as: "Battleship", "Formula 1 & Motorsport", "Harrier", "Landing Craft", "Sci-Fi & Fantasy", "Splash—Flying Boats and Amphibians", "Leopard Main Battle Tank", "Aerobatic Display Teams" etc., etc! There is a SIG just for you!

And it's free to members!

Like to keep informed about what's going on in the modelling world?

IPMS Magazine is published six times a year with all articles written by IPMS members and is posted directly to your home.

And it's free to members!

Want technical advice on your modelling themes?

There is a Technical Advisory Service for all topics including aircraft, figures, shipping and military vehicles.

And it's free to members!

Hunting for that elusive decal sheet?

IPMS Decal Bank has thousands to choose from—just ask and they'll start searching for you!

And it's free to members!

Lost an instruction sheet and don't know how to proceed?

The Instruction Sheet Library will put you back on the right path.

And it's free to members!

Wish you could attend the biggest modelling show in the world?

IPMS Scale Modelworld event in November covers three huge halls, welcoming thousands of visitors from all over the world to see the very latest releases and enjoy club displays from UK, Europe and beyond.

And it's free to members!

And what will all this set you back?

About one pint of beer a night for 8 nights a year!

Or to put it another way, less than filling your car's tank just once a year!

Adult membership in the UK from just £22! Equivalent to 42 pence per week or 6 pence per day!!

For this you get:

- * **Free** fellowship with the whole international modelling fraternity wherever you travel!
- * **Free** access to all Special Interest Groups and Technical Advisory Services
- * **Free** weekend entry to the biggest model show in the world!
- * **Free** access to IPMS Decal Bank and the Instruction Sheet Library!
- * **Free** IPMS Magazine posted to you six times a year!

And all this for just 6 pence per day!

Asian Air Arms strongly recommends that you join IPMS.

Join here today! <http://ipmsuk.org/membership/membership-prices/>