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ASIAN AIR ARMS NEWSLETTER 5

July/August 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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WOW! ROCAF F-5E/Fs AT TAIWAN TIGER MEET!

(Photos from Air Forces Monthly—[Click here to visit website.](#))



The Republic of China Air Force's (ROCAF's) 7th Flight Training Wing has painted three F-5E/F Tiger IIs in a special scheme for Taiwan's 'Tiger Meet' – held during an open day at Zhihang Air Force Base.

The three aircraft comprise single-seat F-5E serial 5291 and two-seat F-5F serials 5395 and 5403. The fuselage of each jet has been painted in a tiger stripe scheme, symbolising the presence of the Tiger II at Zhihang Air Force Base.



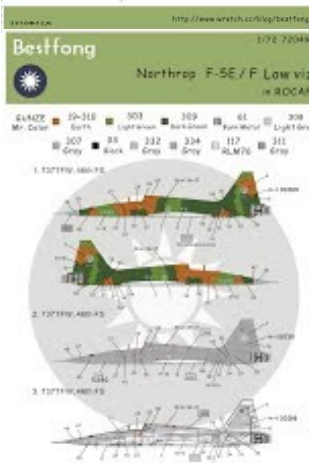
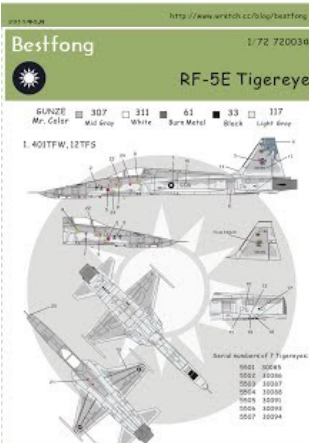
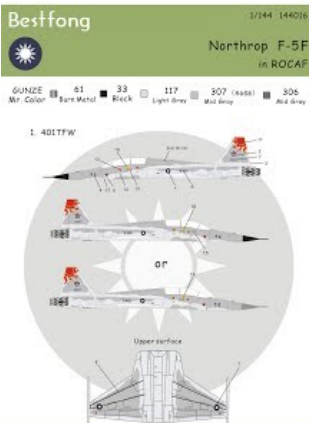
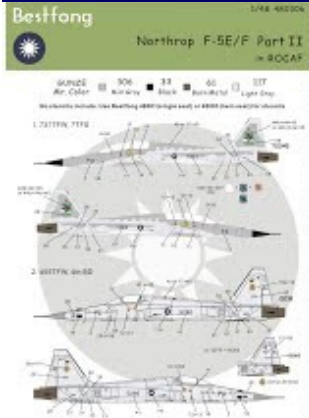
www.asianairarms.com

asianairarms1@outlook.com

REPUBLIC OF CHINA AIR FORCE—F-5A/B/E/F/RF

BEST FONG DECALS

Most available in all scales



F-5A of 3rd Squadron



F-5A of the Thunder Tiger Aerobatic Team 1967-76



F-5B Kinmen National Park



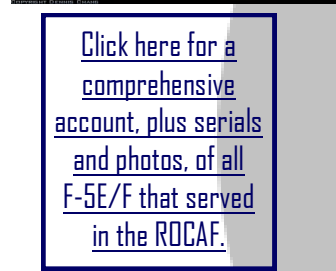
F-5B Front cockpit



F-5B Rear cockpit



F-5E 7th Group, 7th Wing, and cockpit.



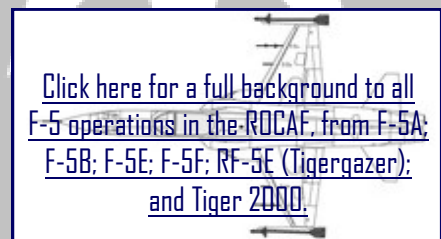
[Click here for a comprehensive account, plus serials and photos, of all F-5E/F that served in the ROCAF.](#)



F-5F of 401st Tactical Fighter Wing



RF-5E Stargazer 4th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron



AN INTERESTING ANECDOTE!

Following skirmishes between North and South Yemen in 1979 the US government rushed into North Yemen 12 F-5Es, and Saudi Arabia sent 2 F-5Bs. Taiwanese sources state 12 ROCAF pilots, plus ground technicians, arrived in North Yemen as no Yemenis were trained to fly and maintain the aircraft. Change in political alliance brought Taiwan to oppose the 1993 Desert Storm war, in which Yemen secretly planned for the Taiwanese to bomb Saudi targets! Alarmed, Taipei immediately recalled the pilots!



Patch for the Yemeni contingent



AN ASIAN AIR ARMS SPECIAL!

CHINESE AEROBATIC TEAMS





CHINESE AEROBATIC TEAMS—1

CAC Chengdu JJ-5

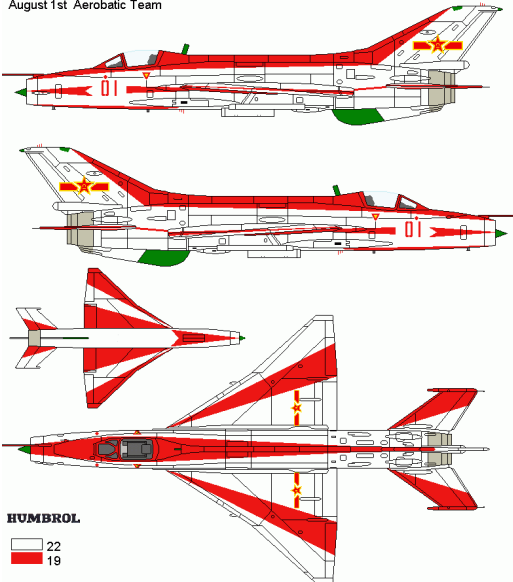
August 1st - People's Liberation Army Air Force Aerobatic Team



Chengdu JJ-5



August 1st Aerobatic Team

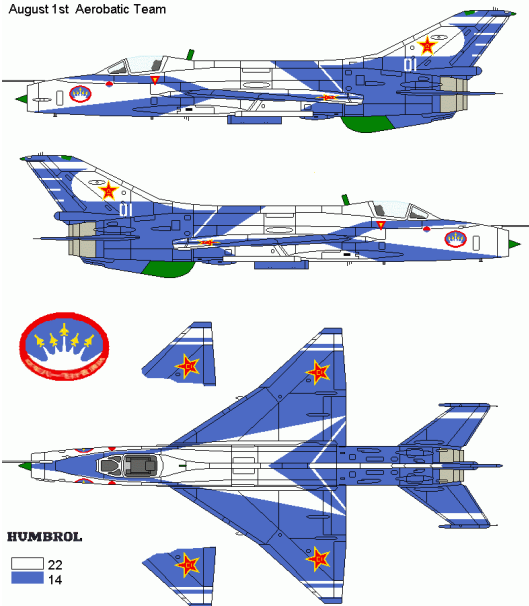


Chengdu J-7EB



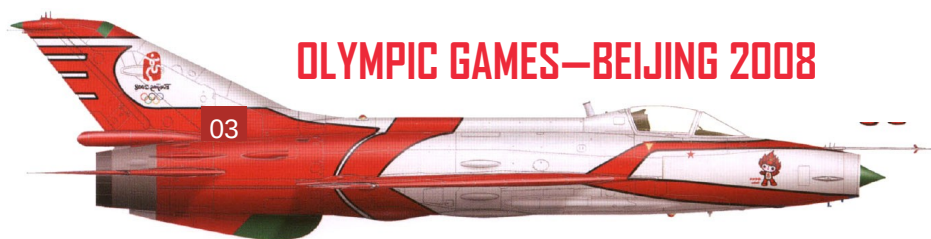
Chengdu J-7GB

August 1st Aerobatic Team





CHINESE AEROBATIC TEAMS—2



OLYMPIC GAMES—BEIJING 2008

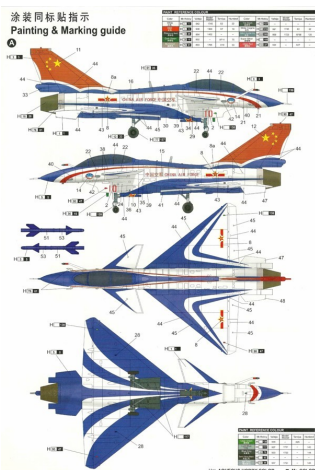


To celebrate the Olympic Games in 2008, the August 1st Display Team received a repaint. They retained aircraft number 01 in the standard blue scheme (see previous page) and painted the rest as follows: 02-Black; 03-Red; 04-Yellow; and 05-Green. The star on the fin was replaced with the Olympic Games logo, and the August 1st logo on the nose was replaced with cartoons of the Olympic mascots. A Beijing Olympics 2008 decal set, featuring six Olympic logos and two of each of the mascots is now available to order only from Asian Air Arms. Prices: 1/144 & 1/72—£4.00; 1/48 & 1/32 £6.00 all plus P&P. For more information contact asianairarms1@outlook.com

PLAAF August 1st Display Team—Beijing Olympics 2008 Decal Set



CHENGDU J-10



This scheme was first publicly demonstrated in November 2009 but was discontinued in late 2010 because of complaints of its similarity to a character in a children's TV series.



David Thomas' J-10AY at Telford 2017



This, the current BaYi scheme, was introduced in late 2010.

And here we have a mystery! I've found this photo on the Net - it shows a J-10 in the scheme utilised by the J-7s. Can anyone throw any light on this?





CHINESE AEROBATIC TEAMS—3

NANCHANG CJ-6



The Sky Wing Air Demonstration Team was formed in 2011, flying Nanchang CJ-6.



[Click here to take a walkaround the Nanchang CJ-6.](#)



NANCHANG K-8 KARAKORUM



The Red Falcons Demonstration Team was formed in 2011, flying Nanchang JL-8.

After a slow start, this video goes on to provide a "walkaround" and much useful information and concerning the K-8. [Click here.](#)



? QUESTION TIME ?

These aircraft below seem to carry the Red Falcons logo, yet the scheme is noticeably different from that above. Anyone know why?





CHINESE AEROBATIC TEAMS—4



Fenglei! The PLA Army Aviation Thunder Aerobatic Team Changhe WZ-10 & Harbin WZ-19



Changhe WZ-10



Harbin WZ-19

... with beer and doughnuts supplied by the Changhe Z-8



AND NOW THE KITS & THE DECALS!



Attack 1/144



Trumpeter 1/144



Trumpeter 1/72



Trumpeter 1/72



Mach 2 1/72



Aeroclub 1/72



Trumpeter 1/32



Trumpeter 1/48



Dragon 1/144



Heller 1/32



Two Bobs 1/48



Hobby Boss 1/48



Trumpeter 1/48



Trumpeter 1/48



Hobby Boss 1/72



Frontpenny Decals 1/72



Two Bobs 1/48



Trumpeter 1/32



Trumpeter 1/32



Trumpeter 1/32



Kitty Hawk 1/48

NOT REALLY ASIAN BUT.....

BIG SKY SCALE MODELS

Tony Clayton—one of our longest-serving members—has just produced a superb resin kit of the
SCHOPF LARGE AIRCRAFT TOW TRACTOR (LATT) - KIT 0181

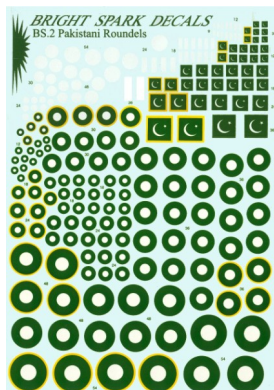


This is the standard aircraft tractor employed by the Royal Air Force to tow heavy aircraft such as the Airbus Atlas C.1, Boeing E.3, Boeing C-17 Globemaster III, etc., and is capable of handling the Airbus A380 airliner. The 1:72 scale kit is cast in resin and includes decals, and is the first of what we intend will be a range of 1:72 scale kits of airfield vehicles and ground support equipment, not currently produced by other companies. Unlike many other companies we will not promise future models until they are available for sale. The price of the kit is £30 plus £5 p&p in the U.K. For postage rates to other countries contact diaerama@btinternet.com. No p&p if purchased at a show. 10% discount on kit price with proof of IPMS or Asian Air Arms membership. If you wish to purchase this kit please send payment via PayPal to: diaerama@btinternet.com, or by cheque made out to: Anthony Clayton, 10, Sunbury Close, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7HU.

[CLICK HERE FOR ILLUSTRATED INSTRUCTIONS](#)

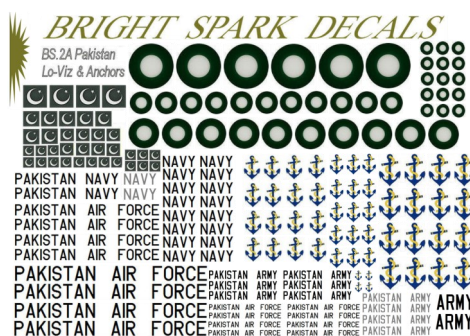
NEW "BRIGHT SPARK" ASIAN DECALS

Another long-serving member, Mick Burton of Bright Spark Decals, has just produced some much-needed decal sheets, covering roundels, fin flashes and titling for Pakistan Air Force (including lo-viz), Army and Naval Air Arms, as well as extensive titling and serials for the Indonesian Air Force.



BS.2—£8.50 (£7.50 to SIG Members)

A BRILLIANT COMBO OFFER!
BS.2 plus BS.2A
for just £12.50
(or a mere £10.50 for Asian Air Arms Members.)
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There will only be 60 made of BS.2—so get in quick!
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ma_burton@hotmail.com



BS.2A—£6.50 (£6.00 to SIG Members)



BS.9A—£6.50 (£5.50 to SIG Members)



BS.9B—£6.50 (£5.50 to SIG Members)



ASIANAIR ARMS SIG 2018 MODELLING COMPETITION



Don't forget our Telford modelling competition!

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

Great prizes from Guideline Publications, Fantasy Printshop and Modelling Tools!

T-33 Shooting Stars in Thailand

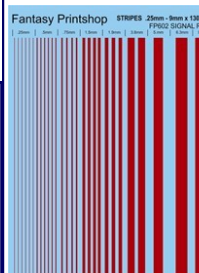


Member Steve Ozel runs a fabulous website devoted to Thai aviation—military and civil—<https://www.thai-aviation.net/> and he's kindly given us access to his huge files on Thai military aviation: the photos here are from his collection.

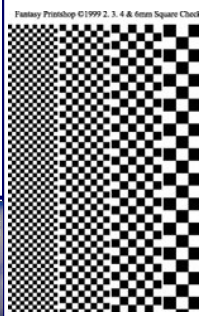
For the complete history of all T-33 and RT-33s used by the RTAF, go to https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/3b4903_fa72b835768a450eb52bclfb2bd0f560.pdf and search for B.FII, (the T-33's Thai designation).

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for
Decals*

Screen Printers



Decal printers of choice for many well-known decal designers. We have our own range of generic decals and can also print the highest quality custom decals to meet your specific needs.



[Click here for a fascinating "walkaround" video of a USAF T-33 with good cockpit details.](#)

[Click here for a 6 part build of Academy's T-33 in 1/48](#)

[In-box review of GW's 1/48 T-33](#)



[In-box review of Platz 1/72 T-33](#)





ASIAN AIR ARMS UPDATE—1

INDIA



India's dual programme to introduce Boeing's AH-64E Apache and CH-47F Chinook rotorcraft has cleared a significant milestone, with first examples of each type having been flown for the first time. Boeing on 27 July released images of the attack and transport helicopters, each sporting a grey livery for future Indian air force service. Their debut flights were conducted in Mesa, Arizona and Philadelphia, respectively. Source: Flight Global Aug 2018



The Indian Air Force is currently in the middle of a major modernization program of its 118 Jaguar ground attack fighters. The \$3 billion program sees that the aircraft will be fitted with new engines, airframes and spares and will be upgraded with new avionics, communication and AESA radars. The effort will probably continue for the next 5-years and will extend the operational life of the aircraft for another 20-years. Main contractor will be India's state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited which will receive decommissioned Jaguar fighters from France and Oman free of charge and will buy more planes from the UK at a throwaway price.

INDIAN BORDER SECURITY FORCE

Russian Helicopters has announced delivery of six overhauled Mi-17-IV helicopters to India's Border Security Force. Work on the helicopters were carried out at Novosibirsk Aircraft Repair Plant (NARP). All six helicopters were originally supplied to the Border Security Force on a loan basis by the Indian Air Force for internal anti-insurgency operations.



SOUTH KOREA



South Korea has decided to purchase the Boeing P-8A Poseidon as its new fixed-wing maritime patrol aircraft (MPA). A report from the Yonhap news agency indicates that lawmakers today chose in favour of the 737-based MPA as part of an acquisition project that could be worth US\$1.7bn. It's believed the order is for four aircraft.

ASIAN AIR ARMS UPDATE—2

LAOS



Several re-furbished Mi-17s have been returned to Laos. According to Russian Helicopters, the LPAAF aviation fleet comprises over 20 civil and military helicopters produced by the company's subsidiaries. In addition to Mi-8/17 type helicopters, the country operates medium-utility Ka-32T helicopters. The LPAAF ordered 12 Mi-17-IVs from Kazan but only six were delivered: the others were cancelled due to a shortage of funds. One Mi-17-IV has since been written off. More modern Mi-17V-5 versions are also apparently active – unconfirmed reports suggest five examples in use.

PHILIPPINES

The Philippines air force has taken delivery of two Indonesian Aerospace produced NC212i tactical transports.

The two aircraft were delivered to Clark Air Base outside of Manila, says Indonesia's defence ministry.

The ferry flight from the IAe's factory at Bandung took four days and involved three stops.

The aircraft were originally slated for delivery in 2017, but this was delayed, reportedly owing to issues with the autopilots aboard the two aircraft.

In April 2013, Airbus Defence & Space (then Airbus Military) entered a deal with IAe to develop the type, an upgraded version of the C212 tactical transport. The two companies first announced plans for the NC212i in November 2012.



NC 212i PHILIPPINES



The Philippines is set to receive several retired turboprop light attack aircraft from the US Air Force. The aircraft to be delivered have been retired from the US military since the mid-1990s, will be provided to the Asian nation for free as part of a general assistance package to the country's military. The aircraft will be a mixture of two OV-10A and two OV-10G+ aircraft formerly operated by NASA. Modifications to the aircraft include a L3-Wescam MX-15Di Electro-Optical turret, Link 16 tactical datalinks, full-motion video, a glass cockpit and the ability to fire the BAE's APKWS GPS-guided rocket. The Philippines is the last operator of the OV-10 Bronco, with its air force currently operating between eight and 10 aircraft. The new aircraft are expected to be operational in early 2019.

TAIWAN

The initial Republic of China Army AH-64E attack helicopters are now fully operational. The Apache Guardians, operated by the 1st Group of the 601st Aviation Brigade in Longtan, declared full operational capability on July 17. All Taiwanese Apaches are incorporated into the 601st Aviation Brigade and are divided into two groups. The 2nd Group attained initial operational capability last year.



?? PRE-WWII MILITARY AVIATION IN ASIA ??

ANY TAKERS?



Brequet XIV Royal Siamese Aeronautical Service 1922

I foresee that "Pre-WWII Military Aviation in Asia" could be appended to our existing website without impeding our current activities. Is this something in which you might be interested? I would struggle to manage this on my own and so would need active assistance from one or more enthusiastic members. Any decision to start this up will totally depend on the level of interest so, if you like the sound of it, please contact me at: asianairarmsl@outlook.com.

Several members have mentioned to me their keen interest in military aviation in Asia before the start of WWII.

From the Japanese-Chinese air wars to the Netherlands East Indies Air Force; and from RAF operations in Afghanistan to the French in Indo-China, it would seem that there is a huge variety of interesting material that could add a lot of interest to our modelling.

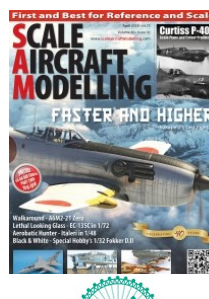


Fiat BR.20 during Sino-Japanese War

ASIAN AIR ARMS AND 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.

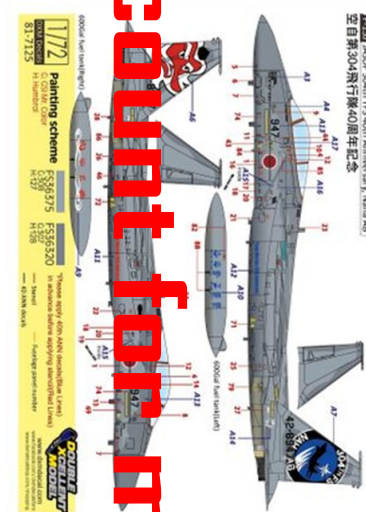


If you'd like to take advantage of this offer contact me directly.

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



DXM Decals



BACKGROUND TO INDIAN AIR FORCE AND NAVAL AIR ARM MARKINGS COURTESY OF MEMBER MICK BURTON OF BRIGHT SPARK DECALS

Member Mick Burton in the guise of Bright Spark Decals has, over the years, produced highly accurate and well-researched decals, supported by extraordinarily informative notes. Mick has kindly given me permission to reproduce here those notes pertaining to his decals of modern Indian military markings. Ensure you also click on the links below to learn more about the topic. Whilst the Indian decal sheet referred to below is now out of print, it might still be found via sources such as E-Bay. Should there be reasonable demand, Mick might well consider a re-print. See page 8 for his latest decals.

BRIGHT SPARK DECALS

BS.1 (3rd issue) and BS.1A (2017)

Indian Air Force and Naval Air Arm Markings

These sheets were produced to meet the need for Indian roundels in both the saffron/white/green colours used since 1948 and the Asoka Chakra applied to aircraft in the period after WW2. The British influence on the IAF shows when the roundel and fin flash sizes are collated, as the vast majority of British types use the same sizes as the RAF, with the same standard sizes being used on other machines. The table lists the majority of types, but it must be borne in mind that there are variations: two being the C-17 and C-130, both of which use a slightly different proportioned roundel. The green on the fin flash is almost always to the front of the aircraft, but again there are examples where this was not the case.

The blue Chakra was the first marking used by post-independent India after WW2 and was applied to the aircraft marked */** on the list, however, the Spitfire T.9's and Tempests were painted in England prior to delivery using the green/saffron version. The blue Asoka Chakras may require an Insignia Yellow background which will need to be added by the modeller themselves, either as a painted disc or cut from solid decal sheet and applied first (the Olfa Cutter is a useful tool for both) with a 3 inch (approximately 1 mm in 1/72nd) border. Some, especially those with a silver finish, dispensed with the yellow background, resulting in the base colour showing through the design's "spokes".

The saffron/green roundels supplied on decal sheet BS.1A are for use on the low visibility Sea Harriers used by the Navy: there is no white middle ring, and, although the colours seem subdued on photographs, this is apparently because the aircraft are not too clean!

The "INDIAN AIR FORCE" and "NAVY" titles in black, in both English and Hindi, are generic and have been sized and styled to best represent those that have been used over the years.

The "SURYAKIRAN" and its Hindi counterpart are sized to fit the Team's Hawk T.132's in 72nd scale, and "INDIAN NAVY" will suit Navy Seahawks, Alizes and other types.

Indian Air Force serials, along with early Navy serials, also seem to follow RAF influence, and these are available on Modeldecals 33 to 36A, 48A, 58 to 61, obtainable from Hannants. Additionally there are numerous free fonts available for download from the internet for self-printing serials on clear decal film.

These roundels may also be used for other scales, e.g. a 36 inch roundel in 1/72 is 24 inches in 1/48.

[Click here for dimensions of markings used by each Indian Air Force and Naval aircraft type since 1948](#)

[Click here for decals of roundels and fin flashes](#)

[Click here for decals of Chakras and titling](#)

New Members

We've gained another 5 members since the last Newsletter—now at 139 in 26 countries!
Welcome to: Michael Palcic from the Irish Republic; Gary Wickham and Alistair Brand from Australia; and Igor Kabic and John Tumbas from Canada.



Asian Aircraft Markings A History

3. India



Blue Chakra



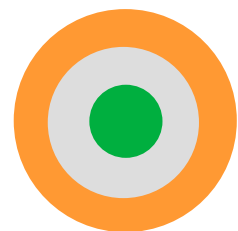
UK-painted Chakra



Standard Indian roundel



Fin flash (not Navy)



Navy—Lo-viz
Saffron and green—no white middle
ring—camouflage grey shows
through.



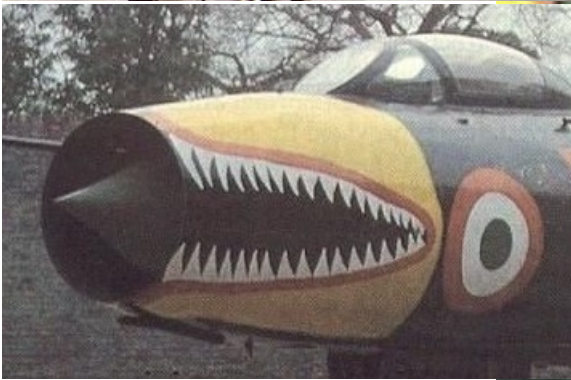
Border Security Force



BSF Fin Flash



INDIAN MEDLEY (Following on from Mick's info overleaf)





MEMBERS' MODELS

This will be a showcase of the work done by various members.
This month we'll look at some of the fine models made by Aidy Abdullah from Malaysia.
(I'm a bit rushed this month, but in future will try to add more details to each kit!)



Canadair CL-41G-5 Tebuan



Sikorsky S-61A-4 Nuri



Mikoyan MiG-29N 17 Sqn.



Mikoyan MiG-29N 17 Sqn.



Douglas A-4 PTM Skyhawk



Douglas A-4 PTM Skyhawk



Northrop F-5B



Northrop F-5E



Asian Air Arms

encourages you to join

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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/>