

SCALE ModelWorld



2022



The AAA SIG Table...



Well, that's another edition of Scale Model World over, with many happy memories for those of us that were lucky enough to attend. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, we are very conscious that for a variety of reasons, not everyone who is a member of the SIG can attend the show, so I hope this 'Show Special' Newsletter will provide you with a flavour of the show and our participation as a Special Interest Group.

The photo above shows, left to right, David Thomas, Paul Irving and Brian Griffin.





We were very fortunate this year to occupy a prime position in Hall 3, which is actually the first Hall that the General Public enter upon arrival. We were sited next to the Harrier SIG, which had been given 'Special Show' status this year in recognition of their 40th Anniversary display.

The Asian Air Arms SIG managed to fill our double length display area with no less than 58 models representing 21 different Asian Air Arms, which resulted in the presentation of a wide variety of aircraft types, colour schemes and markings, all of which generated considerable interest among other Club/SIG members and the General Public, many of whom stopped by to have a chat or ask questions.

Scale Model World was very much the 'Year of the Japanese F-4 Phantom', which is why we have selected one of the examples on display for our front cover. They were everywhere except, interestingly enough, on our own stand!. Not surprisingly, given its relatively recent retirement from the JASDF and a plethora of new or re-issued kits that feature the retirement scheme markings, there were a large number on display on Club/SIG tables and in the main competition, and we have captured many of them for inclusion in this newsletter. Several came away with Class Winner trophies too, given the skill and craftsmanship on display.



I am delighted to say that Brian Griffin, our founding SIG Leader, made a 'cameo' appearance on both days of the show, and in spite of his pre-show warning that he would attend merely as a casual visitor, he could not help himself and helped us behind the AAA SIG Display Tables on a number of occasions.

All too soon it was over and we set about packing up the display and making the long journey home but full of renewed enthusiasm for the start of the 2023 Show Season, gaining inspiration and rejuvenating our modelling 'mojo' for the creation of new models for future displays.

In closing out this Introduction, I would like to thank a number of people in particular. First and foremost our Show

Coordinator, Alan Smith for his superb support over the weekend, to David Thomas and Paul Irving, who together with Alan and myself were part of the AAA SIG Set-Up/Break-Down Team. We could not, of course, have put on such a great display without the contribution of several other AAA SIG members, so I would also like to call out Robert Adolphus, Andy Binks, John Bryon, Mick Burton, Ian Gaskell, Andy Hardwick, Graham James, Peter Terry and Nils Treichel who all joined the Set-Up team with their own superb replicas....Thanks Guys.

Last but not least, to Steve Komor who has once again pulled out all the stops to put together this Show Special Newsletter in record time. Thanks for your patience and fortitude, Steve.

This 1:72 scale kit of the Dornier Do-228 is produced by Revell of Germany is another of Mick Burton's examples of aircraft finished in the markings of the Royal Thai Navy.





ASIAN AIR ARMS SIG
McDonnell-Douglas F-15J Eagle
303rd Hikotai, JASDF
1/48 Tamiya
Double Excellent Model Decals
Made by: Andy Hardwick

Andy Hardwick proved that you do not need a new state-of-the-art kit to produce a really nice model. This marvellous Japanese single-seat F-15J Eagle, sporting a digital camouflage scheme, was produced using the venerable Tamiya 1:48 scale kit.



ASIAN AIR ARMS SIG
KAI T-50 Golden Eagle
281st Test & Evaluation Squadron, ROKAF
1/48 Academy
Kit Decals
Made by: Jon Bryon

Another regular contributor to both the AAA SIG Stand at shows and the Newsletter is Jon Bryon, who displayed this rather smart Academy 1:48 scale kit of the KAI T-50 Golden Eagle, completed in the markings of one of the early development aircraft for the Republic of Korea (South) Air Force.



ASIAN AIR ARMS SIG
General Dynamics BKh.19 Falcon
Royal Thai Air Force
1/72 Revell
VMS Decals
Made by: Mick Burton

Mick Burton's Royal Thai Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon was finished in a highly colourful special colour scheme.



ASIAN AIR ARMS SIG
Diamond BF.20 Twin Star
604 Squadron, Royal Thai Air Force
1/72 AModel
Home-Made Decals
Made by: Mick Burton

The unusual Diamond BF.20 Twin Star which performs a number of support roles within the Royal Thai Force. This is a 1:72 Scale kit from A Model, again made by Mick Burton with homemade decal markings.



Jon Bryon's superb interpretation of the Hasegawa 1:48 scale Mitsubishi F-2A 'Viper Zero' finished in special markings for a jet operated by the 3rd Hikotai JASDF.

Graham James is a relative newcomer to the SIG, but as a long-standing member and active contributor to the Harrier SIG, it came as no surprise that he would provide a number of exhibits to the Asian Air Arms including this rather smart Kinetic 1:48 TAV-8A Harrier of 301 Squadron in Royal Thai Navy markings.



Nils Treichel is another long-standing member of the SIG and he presented this rather nice Revell 1:72 Scale Westland Sea King in Pakistan Navy Markings for display. This model included a number of aftermarket items to bring it up-to-date, and the dark camouflage scheme contrasted nicely with that on a similar example from Mick Burton which, as an ex-RAF machine, sported an overall Yellow SAR Scheme.

This rather elegant two-seat F-104DJ Starfighter in JASDF Tactical Meet markings was one of those 'No sleep before Telford' last-minute additions to the display, ably produced by Graham James.



Another of Graham James' prodigious output of Harriers. This time a single-seat McDonnell-Douglas AV-8A Harrier of the Royal Thai Navy in the later, overall dark grey colour scheme.

This rather smart Leonardo M-326 Master is the Kinetic 1:48 scale kit which was presented in the markings of 150 Squadron, Republic of Singapore Air Force.



Alan Smith, our Model Show Co-ordinator, decided to inject a little fun into our stand for the benefit of any young visitors to SMW'22 with these three 'Egg-craft', which he had fun building with his grandchildren.



Another of Jon Bryon's masterpieces which has previously been the subject of an extensive build feature in the AAA SIG bi-monthly newsletter, was this AIDC F-CK-1C Ching Kuo of the 7th TFG of the ROCAF and which sported special markings.



Mick Burton's extensive contribution to this year's SMW'22 display included this Pakistan Air Force MiG-19 in 1:72 Scale, a 'golden oldie' from KP of the Czech Republic.



Competition Winners



Long serving Asian Air Arms SIG member and renowned modeler, Ian Gaskell, picked up the Class 1 award for his excellent model of a Pakistan Air Force F-104A Starfighter in an unusual three-tone camouflage scheme. This was an all-round AAA SIG affair, since the aftermarket decals used for this project originate from Iliad Decals, the proprietor of which is an active member of the SIG. Andy Evans, one of the founding members of new publishing house, Phoenix Publications was on hand to provide a very generous award from one of our key sponsors for SMW'22.



Our Class 2 Award for a 'Post War Asian Air Arms Aircraft in 1:72 scale' was presented to Mick Burton for his beautiful rendition of the new Zvezda C-130H, which had been converted into the earlier C-130B model and displayed in Indonesian Air Force markings. The decals for this project were a combination of Bright Spark Decals which are Mick's own range of professional aftermarket decals, and a number of bespoke, home-made items. Tom Cooper, Managing Editor of Helion & Company Publications was on hand to present Mick's awards, which included appropriate and very generous publications from Helion.



Alan Smith, our Model Show Co-ordinator and another long-standing member of the SIG, picked up the Class 3 award for a 'Post War Asian Air Arms Aircraft in 1:144 or smaller Scale' for a lovely little C-130H in an attractive overall light blue colour scheme as operated by the Japanese Air Self Defence Force. Alan also picked up prizes generously donated by Andy Evans of Phoenix Publications.



Robert Adolphus received a special award for his superbly rendered example of the Platz 1:72 Scale Fuji T-1B twin-seat jet trainer, which was finished in some attractive special markings applied to a 5th Technical School aircraft, which commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the JASDF. Robert's prize was donated by Gary Madgwick of Air Graphics Models.



Our 5th Category is awarded to the best model of a Post-war Asian Air Arms aircraft that appears on the stand of another Club or SIG Stand than our own SIG table. The award is granted to help promote the Asian Air Arms SIG to the wider IPMS(UK) and worldwide membership. This year it was unanimously agreed that the award should go to Graham Matthews of the West Norfolk IPMS for his superb 1:48 Scale North American F-86D Sabre Dog which was finished in the markings of the 8th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 5th Fighter Wing of the Philippines Air Force in the mid-1960s. The kit is from Revell and the aftermarket decals are produced by Diego Rogoz, the proprietor of Hi-Decals and another AAA SIG Member. A review of this decal sheet appeared in a recent edition of the AAA SIG Newsletter and I am pleased to report that Graham found them extremely easy to apply to his model. Graham received a copy of the superb Zoukei-Mura 1:48 scale F-4EJ Phantom from the AAA SIG Leader for his efforts.

...and the best of the rest!



This very impressive model is the Trumpeter 1:48 Scale example of the Shengyang J-8B 'Finback-B' twin-engined long range interceptor finished in the marking of the People's Liberation Army Air Force of China.



We have already described the Asian flavour to SMW'22 as being the 'Year of the Phantom', and here is the first of an extensive line-up of Japanese F-4 Phantoms found on the tables and in the competition areas of the show. This is the Hasegawa 1:72 scale kit, which is over 30 years old but still makes up into a nice replica as seen with this example in the competition area. This features a F-4EJ Kai Phantom of the 8th Hikotai 'Black Panthers', the maritime strike specialists, hence the 'Sea Camouflage' colour scheme although somewhat compromised by the bright yellow markings applied to commemorate an anniversary.

This Trumpeter 1:48 scale Chengdu J-7A caught the eye, presented in a superbly rendered natural metal colour scheme and portrayed undergoing maintenance with a variety of scratch-built pieces of Ground Support and Ancillary Equipment.



The IPMS Ireland stand featured this 1:48 scale Fouga FM-170 Magister advanced trainer, which sported a highly colourful Bangladesh Air Force scheme.



Ian Gaskell's Nanchang Q-5, known as the A-5 in Pakistan Air Force service as portrayed here, is an aircraft type that was based on the Shengyang J-6, which is itself a derivative of the Mikoyan MiG-19.



This rather striking vignette featuring two of the early Soviet-era fighters supplied to the Vietnamese People's Air Force of North Vietnam, namely the MiG-17 'Fresco' & MiG-19 'Farmer' with a pair of pilots poring over maps before another mission in Defence of the Homeland.

A nice rendition of the Sukhoi Su-7 'Fitter-A' in Indian Air Force markings.



The vast majority of North American B-25J Mitchell models observed at shows are invariably finished in USAAF markings so it was nice to discover this gem on one of the Club stands, bearing the markings of ROCAF B-25J Mitchell.

The special colour scheme that featured on this 1:72 Scale example of the McDD F-4EJ Phantom was one of the earliest to appear on JASDF Phantoms and incorporated the 301st Hikotai 'Frog' markings on the tail with large Red 'Amigo' titling on the mid-upper fuselage surfaces.



Another JASDF F-15J Eagle, sporting the digital camouflage scheme applied to an aircraft to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the JASDF in 2014, was spotted on another Club or SIG Stand. On this occasion the model was completed using the excellent 1:48 Great Wall Hobby kit together with decals from Double Excellent Models, who specialize in markings for JASDF aircraft.

This Trumpeter 1:72 scale model of the Antonov An-2 'Colt' was portrayed in the markings of the 919th Air Transport Regiment of the Vietnamese People's Air Force, although this aircraft had been pressed into service as a rudimentary gunship with rocket pods mounted on the lower wing surfaces.



A very nice example of the F-86F-40 Sabre, finished in the markings of the Blue Impulse Aerobatic Display Team of the Japanese Air Self Defence Force.



This McDonnell-Douglas F-4EJ, previously operated by the Air Development and Test Wing (ADTW) of the JASDF and sporting a spectacular digital tactical camouflage scheme, was by far the most popular rendition of any JASDF Phantom at Scale Model World 2022. This particular example, a well-deserved Class Winner from the main competition, was the Tamiya 1:32 Scale kit, which utilized an aftermarket decal sheet from Double Excellent Models of Taiwan.



Another rendition of the JASDF F-4EJ Kai Phantom, this time featuring an overall Bright Yellow colour scheme with a Black Fin to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Japanese Air Self Defence Force in 2004.

This rather smart Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XVIII was finished in the markings of the fledgling Indian Air Force in the early 1950s, with a nice contrast between the overall natural metal finish with black fuselage band and wing tip markings.



In an example of mutual cooperation, Alan Smith also provided models to the Japanese Aviation SIG, including this colourful NAMC YS-11 twin turboprop aircraft in the markings of the Japanese Maritime Safety Agency.

Another 1:48 Hasegawa kit of a JASDF Mitsubishi F-2 'Viper Zero' in the standard 'Sea Camouflage' colour scheme with special commemorative tail markings although, on this occasion, it is one of the two-seat F-2B variants.



The Grumman F-14A Tomcat is a favourite on Club and SIG stands at shows and SMW'22 was no exception with several finished in the markings of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force, including this example sporting the more recent Blue/Grey camouflage scheme.





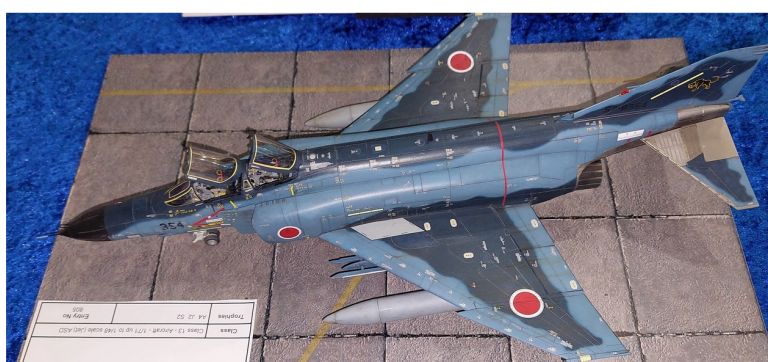
This 1:48 scale Lockheed F-104J Starfighter, displayed in an airborne pose, featured one of the earliest types of special markings applied to JASDF aircraft that took part in the annual TAC Meet (known as Senkyo), which consisted of broad red bands applied to front and rear fuselage sections and contrasting with the gloss white centre section and wings.

This Italeri 1:72 scale Lockheed C-130H was finished in the attractive 'Cloud Scheme' utilized by the JASDF and combining several Blue/Grey hues. The markings come from a recent aftermarket decal sheet produced by Xtradecals of Hannants.



This excellent model of the two-seat Mikoyan MiG-29UB operational trainer features the markings of the Turkmenistan Air Force, which make it a highly unusual and interesting exhibit.

Incredibly, this little gem, which portrays a Japanese F-4EJ Kai Phantom in the striking Black/Yellow 'Flying Phrog' markings of the 301st Hikotai is a 1:144 scale model!



This superb 1:48 Scale JASDF McDonnell-Douglas F-4EJ Kai Phantom was a relative rarity in that it did not feature a special colour scheme or markings but was finished in the rather attractive standard 'Sea Camouflage' scheme applied to Japanese Phantoms optimized for employment in the Maritime Attack role.



This superb model of a McDD F-4EJ Kai Phantom has been finished in one of the special colour schemes applied to aircraft of the 301st Hikotai, the last JASDF Squadron equipped with the type, in 2020. This is the so-called 'Electric Blue' version which contrasted nicely with the black and yellow scheme applied to a second aircraft, which can be seen elsewhere in this 'Show Special' newsletter.

Another 1:48 Scale model of the ever-popular Lockheed F-104J which, on this occasion, features one of the early low-visibility two-tone Blue/Grey trial colour schemes applied to JASDF Starfighters attending the annual TAC Meet.



Several of our members contribute models across several Special Interest Groups in the interests of mutually supporting and promoting each group. Ian Gaskell has been a prolific modeler of MiG fighters, and this superb Eduard 1:48 scale MiG-21PF, in the markings of the Vietnamese People's Air Force, has previously graced our stand although on this occasion it was displayed on the MiG Aircraft SIG tables.

Another image of the impressive Shengyang J-8B Air Interceptor in the overall white colour scheme applied to these impressively large single-seat aircraft.



The Japanese Air Self Defence Force invest heavily in Research & Development and, in keeping with other major Air Forces has, over the years, utilized variants of many front-line aircraft. This Hasegawa 1:48 Scale Mitsubishi T-2 portrays the third production model of the T-2 which was modified for use as an experimental Control Configuration Vehicle (CCV) testbed with the addition of prominent canards as the most obvious additional feature.



A highly colourful example of the excellent Academy 1:48 Scale kit of the Kawasaki KV-107-II-5 Shirasagi finished in a JASDF Search & Rescue scheme.

Another example of Alan Smith's work that appeared on the Japanese Aircraft SIG was this nicely re-worked Minicraft 1:144 C-47 Skytrain kit,, which was converted into a Douglas R4D-6Q and portrayed in the markings of the 61st Electronic Development Squadron on the Japanese Air Self Defence Force.



Another excellent rendition of the Grumman F-14A Tomcat, on this occasion featuring the earlier 'Asia Minor' colour scheme applied to the aircraft on delivery and before they were inherited by the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force (IRIAF).

Several manufacturers have released newer kits of the McDonnell-Douglas (Boeing) F-15DJ Eagle, but the 'second-generation' Hasegawa kit, first released almost 35 years ago, is still the subject of multiple re-releases with new decal markings, including this rather garish JASDF example which sports Aggressor Squadron markings from 2021.



A very nice example of the 1:48 Scale Tamiya kit of the mighty Grumman F-14A Tomcat, finished in the contemporary three-tone light blue/grey low-visibility camouflage scheme that has been applied to the majority of the remaining aircraft in service with the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force (IRIAF).

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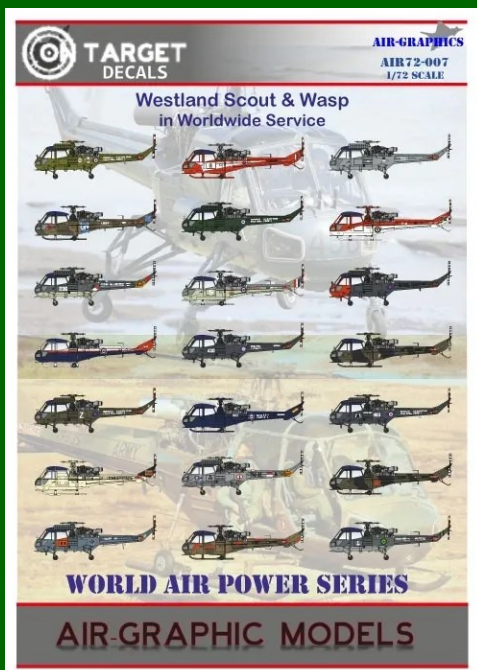


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New Products



I made some valiant attempts to try and discover what new products were on show at Scale Model World 2022 although, truth be told, our first appearance at the show since 2019 meant that I spent a considerable amount of time on and around the Asian Air Arms SIG Stand, which prevented me from seeing everything.

I did however find a few things of interest and these will be the subject of full reviews in the first newsletter of 2023. First up is a relatively new sheet from Gary Madgwick of Air Graphics Models, which covers the Westland Scout and Wasp helicopters in 1:72 Scale. While the vast majority of subjects on this decal sheet are for UK Air Arms, it does include markings for Indonesian and Royal Malaysian Navy examples. During a short discussion with Gary, he also confirmed that there would be several new decal sheets released in 2023 that will be of interest to fans of Asian Air Arm subjects – details to follow in due course.

Wolfpack Design Models were one of the few overseas manufacturers/traders who were able to attend Scale Model World 2022 but they had several kits that will be of interest to fans of modern Asian Air Arms subjects. As a South Korean manufacturer, with a close relationship with Academy Models and a keen interest in indigenous aircraft designs, it should come as no surprise that some of their recent releases centre around

the KAI T-50 Golden Eagle Advanced or Lead-In Trainer aircraft. We tracked down two new boxes which combine the plastic parts of the excellent Academy 1:48 scale KAI T-50, with additional resin parts and appropriate decals to model the ROKAF TA-50 Lead-In Fighter Trainer or the T-50TH variant as operated by the Royal Thai Air Force. Once again, more in-depth reviews will follow next month.

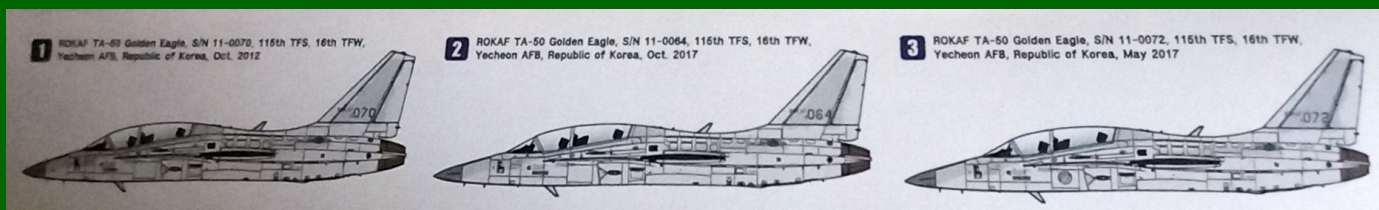
Paul Fernandez, the proprietor of Philippine Military Scale Models and another member of the Asian Air Arms SIG, made a very welcome visit to the AAA SIG Stand, where we caught up with his recent news on new projects too. Paul very kindly provided a number of Philippine Air Force themed resin products in both 1:72 and 1:48 scale. 2022 is clearly the 'Year of the T-50 Golden Eagle', confirmed by the presence



Wolfpack
www.wolfpack-d.com

TA-50 Golden Eagle
ROKAF Lead-In Fighter Trainer

1/48
Scale



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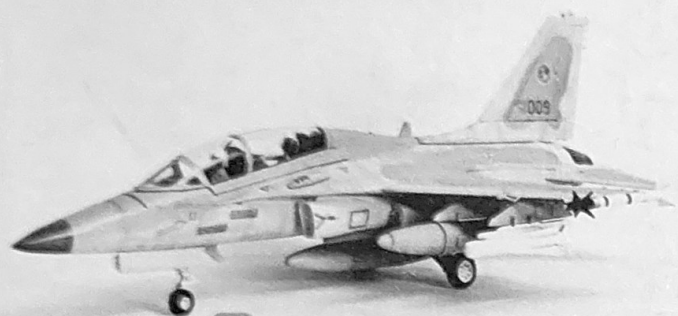
T-50TH Golden Eagle
RTAF Lead-in Fighter Trainer

1/48
Scale

of the ROKAF 'Black Eagles' Aerobatic Display Team that made such an impact on the European Air Show circuit, and the plethora of kits or accessories on show at Telford. Paul has produced a 1:48 scale conversion set to produce the FA-50PH variant of the T-50 that is currently operated by the Philippine Air Force and this has also been released in 1:72 Scale. Both kits are optimized for the appropriate Academy kits and there is also a separate 1:72 weapons set for the same aircraft. The fourth set is a conversion set for the Academy 1:72 scale kit of the Rockwell OV-10M Bronco that is also in service with the Philippine Air Force. I should add that all of the conversion sets also include suitable decals for PAF aircraft. A full review of these unique sets will follow in due course.

FA-50PH WEAPON SET

1/72 Pylon x4, Fuel Tank x2, Sidewinder with cap x2, Python 5 x2 and Mk 82 GPB x2




 Philippine Military Scale Models

FA-50PH CONVERSION KIT

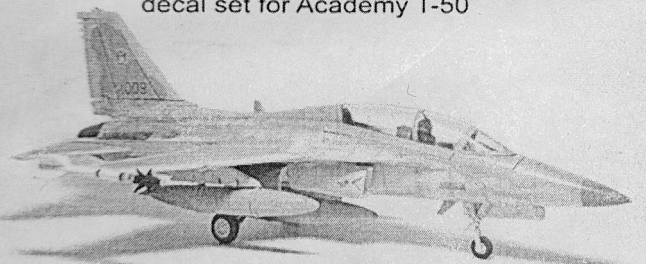
1/72 Landing gear, vertical fin and decal set for Academy T-50




 Philippine Military Scale Models

FA-50PH CONVERSION KIT

1/48 Vertical fin, RWR Receiver, Aerial, Pylons x2, Drop tank x 2, Sidewinder with cap x2 and decal set for Academy T-50



48001


 Philippine Military Scale Models

OV-10M CONVERSION KIT

1/72 Main Landing Wheel, Drop Tank, Propeller and decal set for Academy OV-10



72002

 Philippine Military Scale Models

Tamiya had a full test shot example of their brand new Lockheed-Martin F-35A Lightning II on display. It looks absolutely superb and Asian Air Arms modellers will be delighted to hear that the many decal options included with this kit include JASDF and ROKAF examples.

LOCKHEED MARTIN F-35A LIGHTNING II



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1/48 SCALE



Once again, many many thanks to our main sponsors for their excellent support to the Asian Air Arms SIG and, in particular, their generous donations to our Prizewinners during Scale Model World 2022.

**ASIAN AIR
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