



JULY 2014



**Stalin's  
Revenge  
1/35th by  
Mike Picard**

## Model of the Month

**Feature Presentation on July 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

A talk by LTC Frank Frazier, "*Shooting down MiGs in an F-86*"

And a Demo by Rob Booth, "*Building Modern U.S. Jets*"



***PLEASE MAKE NOTE!!!***  
**CLUB MEETING DATES**

**CHANGES :**  
**THURSDAY, JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**  
**AND**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**

# The Prez Notes

## Fellow Modelers:

The question is “What makes the world go round”? The response is sure to include a wide variety of answers. Possible answers to the question might include, Love, marriage, money, laughter, strong internal belief systems, lack of strong internal belief systems, models, models, models, or even Conservation of angular momentum (Physics for the earth’s actual rotation!).

My answer to the question is volunteers. Volunteers make the world happen. Volunteering is defined as an altruistic activity and is intended to promote goodness or improve the human quality of life. There is no financial gain involved for the individual or “Volunteer”! Volunteers get the satisfaction of helping for something they believe in.

Volunteers provide a wide variety of goods and services. Volunteers give blood, take blood, donate organs, and help people in need. Volunteers perform countless, thankless, tasks. The Red Cross is one famous volunteer

organization I’m sure most of us are familiar with.

Alamo Squadron works on volunteers also. We have many dedicated members in our club who provide their time and effort for our club to operate on an ongoing basis. Our monthly Demo’s and Programs are done by volunteers. Many volunteers, both members and non-members, make Model Fiesta a success.

I would ask everyone to consider becoming a volunteer in some small or large way for Alamo Squadron. I realize many times in the past that our volunteers were overused or abused because we did not have enough people to do the work. I do not want that to continue. If everyone would consider performing a small task then no one group of people would have to do all the work.

Alamo Squadron is your club. Can you ask yourself; “What can I do to help?”



Tom Sprawls  
President

# The VP Notes

By Art Nicholson

I was sorry to miss the June meeting, but I was asked to give a talk to the **Navy League in Austin** that evening. I heard that Mike Picard and Matt Neerman put on a great program on armor building.

In July, the program will be on Modern U.S. Jets. San Antonio native **Lt. Colonel Frank Frazier** will talk about flying F-86s in Korea, where he downed two MiG-15s, and flying F-4s in Vietnam. He also served as a USAF test pilot.

Then Rob Booth will talk about building models of modern U.S. jets. I hope you enjoy it!

The club members voted in the June meeting for the contest theme for MF 34, which is going to be "**Lone Star: Any subject having anything to do with Texas or any Texan**". Also, for the IPMS Nationals category being #146, 1/144th scale large aircraft, was elected as our preference for sponsoring.

August 14 will be the meeting date. We moved the date because so many people are going to the Nationals.

Art Nicholson  
Vice-President



# Caracal Models F-4C/D Air National Guard Part 3



A review by Rob Booth - IPMS #37548

Product/Stock #: CD48038

MSRP: \$15.99

Review Type: Build

Product Type: Decals

Company Info: Caracal Models

Company Website Title: Caracal Models

Company Website URL: [www.caracalmodels.com](http://www.caracalmodels.com)

Provided by Title: Caracal Models

Provided by URL: [www.caracalmodels.com](http://www.caracalmodels.com)

is a subject that is not currently covered you would like to see done, visit their website at [www.caracalmodels.com](http://www.caracalmodels.com), and drop them a line via email or snail mail, and while you're there, sign up for their email list to be notified of new issues. Ordering can be done on site via Paypal, or through various on line hobby suppliers and select local hobby shops.

Those of us in Texas cough up an additional 8.25% for maintaining the Republic.



This particular sheet is a continuation of Caracal's Air National Guard F-4 Phantom II series. The options on this decal sheet are: F-4C 63-7556, Louisiana ANG (SEA camouflage), F-4C 64-0726, Arkansas ANG (SEA camouflage), F-4C 63-7411, Arkansas ANG (Euro1 camouflage) which was TACs oldest Phantom, and the subject of a Monogram issue with kit decals shown below for comparison, F-4C 64-0905, Missouri ANG (SEA camouflage), F-4C 64-0780, Indiana ANG (Euro1 camouflage), F-4C 63-7497, California ANG (SEA camouflage), F-4C 63-7644, Cali-

Caracal Models is an Austin, Texas based firm that offers high-quality decals and detail parts for scale modelers. Their subjects include a variety of military aircraft from post-World War II to the present. I have purchased several of their decals sets on my own, and their offerings are typically well-researched and interesting subjects not usually addressed by other manufacturers. The usual 1/72, 1/48 and 1/32 scales are well represented. Shipping/mailling to US customers is free. If there



fornia ANG (Euro1 camouflage), F-4C 64-0918, Texas ANG (SEA camouflage), and F-4C 64-0829, Texas ANG (Euro1 camouflage) which was based at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX – and the subject of this review build.



The kit has the usual Monogram raised detailing, and I gave the build my standard treatments and finishing sequence. Once the kit was built and seams treated, I masked off the canopies and natural metal areas, and then primed with Alclad grey primed. That was followed by some pre-shading, and then I used Testors Model Master enamels for the three-color European One camo scheme applied free-hand with my Iwata Revolution airbrush. After a few days for the enamels to gas out, I applied a couple of light coats of Future to give the decals a gloss finish to apply them over.



Caracal's decals are printed in Italy by Cartograph. You can see from the comparison photos that they are far superior to the detail and clarity provided by the Monogram kit offering for the Arkansas ANG Phantom.

The "TAC's Oldest Phantom" artwork is clearly better, and the razorback in the blue diamond is exquisite. Vertical stabilizer bandings for the other subjects are crisply rendered as well. The set includes stenciling, walkway lines, and national insignia in addition to the aircraft specific markings.



The Caracal decals went down smoothly, and with a touch of Solvaset, nestled down into and over the surface detailing. After sealing everything with another couple of mist coats of Future, I removed the masking from the natural metal areas and shot them with various Alclad metal shades. I sealed the metal areas with some more Future, and when dry, gave the whole thing a rather liberal thinned oil wash for weathering. I removed the excess with a Turpenoid-moistened rag, and



**THE KIT**  
I built a Monogram "high-tech" issue of the F-4C/D pulled from my considerable stash of F-4

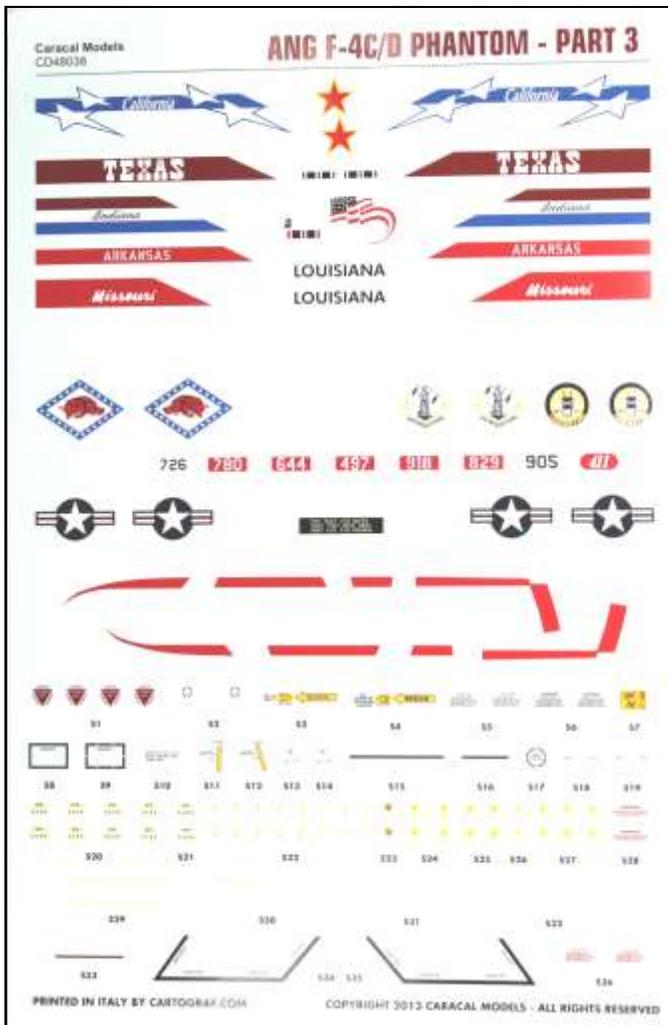
kits, out of the box as a palette for this review. The subject is one I have wanted to add to my Phantom collection for some time, as it was based in my hometown of San Antonio, TX during the mid 1980s. The bird represented is F-4C 64-0829 from the 182nd TFS of the Texas Air National Guard.



when dry, gave the whole model a couple of light coats of Testor's Dullcote. The decals came through great, although I did experience some sil-vering on the walk-way line stenciling, which was entirely my fault for rushing the process. A little more solvaset and brushing in some future would have eliminated the problem.

The gear and other under-wing assemblies were added, and after some final detailing of nav lights, pitots, etc., and I was done. Although not a con-test-calber effort, these decals made a mediocre kit look really good, and I am happy with the end result. It is a welcome addition to my Phantom collection.

Very highly recommended! Thanks to Caracal Models and IPMS for the review set.



# Demonstration

By Mike Picard and Matt Neerman



# Show and Tell



# Show and Tell



# Show and Tell



Dave Herron



Vincent Benavides



Rene Faulk



Gilberto Ojeda



Phil Sanders

# Monthly Contest



**FIRST PLACE:**  
Stalin's  
Revenge 1/35<sup>th</sup>  
by Mike Picard



**SECOND PLACE:**  
Ki-109Q 1/72<sup>nd</sup> by Lee Forbes



**THIRD PLACE:**  
Russian Modified M3 by  
Art Nicholson

# Minutes



7:15 - Open the meeting/ introduce the program for the evening:

Mike Picard and Matt Neerman, two local armor experts, presented a program on Armor and modeling armor subjects. Thanks to Mike and Matt for the information and techniques that were shared.

8:00 – Break

8:10-

- Work in Progress

- Phil Sanders – 1/48<sup>th</sup> Monogram Mirage 2000A upgraded to C
- Dave Herron – 1/48<sup>th</sup> P-40 Tex Hill markings
- Gilberto Ojeda – 1/48<sup>th</sup> I-16 and Bf-109F
- Craig Gregory– BSG Viper
- Vincent Benavides – 1/72<sup>nd</sup> B-26
- Rene Faulk – Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea - Villain sub

- Contest Results

- 1<sup>st</sup> Stalin’s Revenge 1/35<sup>th</sup> by Mike Picard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ki-109Q 1/72<sup>nd</sup> by Lee Forbes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Russian Modified M3 by Art Nicolson

8:15 – Business Meeting

- Standing Reports

- President

- July meeting scheduled for July 10th
- Sponsorship at National Convention
  - The members present approved of the sponsorship of a category trophy at the 2014 National Convention in one of these classes, choice to be made by the Convention Host: Jr. Modelers, Aircraft, Auto or Space/Sci-Fi
- Theme for MF34
  - The Members present approved of the theme for ModelFiesta XXXIV as “Lone Star”- A subject driven by, flown by, designed by, sailed on by, built by, a Texas or in Texas.
    - Seeking volunteers to train for the following positions:  
(To gain experience and insight into these, and other offices and staff jobs for future service)

Contest Director

Vendor Coordinator

Head Judge

Vice President

Treasurer



## Minutes cont...



### Guests and Membership Renewals

Michael Buckley, new member  
Randy Barnes, renewed member  
Sam Casas, renewed member  
Michael Holson, Guest  
Matt Neerman, presenter and guest  
Bob Engle, returning guest  
Peter Ortensie, renewed member

VP- Not present

Sec-Treasurer

Please see Sec-Treasurer regarding membership questions or issues

New membership cycle

Guests (and those members with expired memberships)

Constitution provides for a 3-month "Guest" pass at which time membership is required.

Guests (and expired memberships) will be prorated through September

Staff / Committee Reports

May MISC (Member Information, Suggestions, and Comments)

None

June MISC

Enlarge fields on sign-in sheet

Check FSM for ad costs

Meeting Adjourned

# ***The Warbirds & Warships Gallery:***

## **The Birth of the USS Lexington Museum Scale Model Exhibit at Corpus Christi, Texas**

Almost five years in development, this ambitious project followed an ages-old course: there was a need, a plan was conceived to meet the need, and the plan was carried out. In a nut shell, that's how the Warbirds & Warships Gallery was created.

Located on Tour 4 below the hanger deck, the Museum's initial scale model exhibit was crowded into a small glass-faced compartment that originally served as the ship's "Gedunk" or snack bar. Many of the models then on display were in poor condition, having been damaged by accidents or inexperienced handling. It was obvious to most observers that the entire exhibit was in need of a complete overhaul.

In the Spring of 2008, Randy Barnes, a Museum volunteer and active scale modeler, also noted the exhibit's poor condition. Determined to make a difference, he contacted the Museum's operations and exhibits department offering to donate some of his own model collection to improve the exhibit's collection. Department head, Rusty Reustle, invited Barnes to come in and discuss his ideas in person. As a result of their conversation, a plan for expanding and revitalizing the exhibit was hatched and wheels of the project began to turn in earnest.

The first step was to take an accurate inventory of scores of existing models and correctly identify and tag as many pieces as possible. Step two was to weed the inventory of models that were damaged beyond repair or were unsuitable for display. These initial steps required approximately 50-60 man hours to complete and yielded fewer than a dozen suitable models with which to establish the exhibit. Next, the existing display area was thoroughly cleaned, and additional wiring, overhead track lighting, and shelving was added. Finally, models from Barnes' collection were contributed to the collection, appropriate signage was fabricated and installed, and the exhibit was temporarily re-opened to the public.



*Rusty Reustle  
Director of Operations  
& Exhibits*



*Lex show booth*

Even before a definite design for the new Gallery was finalized, Barnes began assembling the promotional tools he would need to solicit the hundreds of quality models necessary to establish a world-class model display. A 3' x 6' table draped with a Navy blue tablecloth, emblazoned with a 3-foot set of gold naval aviator's wings, combined with eye-catching signage provided by the Museum's art and graphics department, became the familiar trademark of the promotional booth that would tell the project's story at scale model shows and contests over the next several years.

The overall plan was straightforward: go to the modelers and convince them to take a hand in creating the finest scale model aircraft and warship exhibit in Texas. Beginning with a personal presentation to IPMS Alamo Squadron club members at their monthly club meeting in June of 2008, Barnes subsequently made his first model contest appearance with the booth at IPMS Austin's scale model contest in October of that same year. At that contest, IPMS Alamo Squadron members answered his previous call to action, giving a genuine boost to the exhibit's tiny collection with the donation of 11 beautiful Japanese aircraft models selected from their extensive club collection. The project was off and running.

As the job of soliciting models progressed through 2009-10, design and construction of the new and expanded exhibit area was gaining momentum, too. Mr. Jose Garcia, the Museum's Chief Exhibits Technician who was solely

responsible for constructing the new display, teamed with Barnes to finalize the Gallery's design.



*Jose Garcia Chief Exhibits Technician*

One of their goals was to incorporate the space occupied by the POW/MIA exhibit next door into the new display area, effectively doubling the size of the original model exhibit. This required the complete demolition of a steel bulkhead separating the two areas, removal and disposal of countless layers of toxic lead-based paint, as well as asbestos insulation, wiring, and several layers of floor tile. As might be expected, compliance with HAZMAT policies and federal regulations frequently slowed progress on the exhibit to a crawl.



*November 2012 close to completion*

As building progressed, so did the size and scope of the growing model collection. In 2009 a decision was made to include aircraft and warships of all nations and service branches from 1940 to the present day, effectively opening participation to a much larger group of modelers. To help spread word of the project and encourage more talented modelers to take part, the Museum introduced a series of “Exemplary Craftsmanship” awards that were presented to outstanding builders at model contests and competitions. Group participation by IPMS chapters was also encouraged by promising permanent recognition in the finished exhibit for those organizations whose members contributed a total of ten or more models for display. Further, individual donors of ten or more models would also be recognized with a permanent plaque in the completed exhibit.



*2008 View of old exhibit*

During the years 2009-2013 Barnes made numerous collection trips on behalf of the Museum returning with fragile donations from as far away as Ohio, North Carolina, Nebraska, Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and New Mexico, all the while expending over 2,100 man-hours voluntarily constructing models, transporting, cataloging, repairing, tagging, and storing donations, making model show appearances, and continuing to jointly oversee design and construction of the new exhibit. Throughout the lengthy development process, the Museum’s administration and staff, headed by Director F.W. “Rocco” Montesano, continued its enthusiastic and unwavering support for the project. No effort or expense was spared to insure that the new exhibit would be a worthy addition to the Museum’s lineup of outstanding educational attractions.



*Moving the collection into its new home April 2103*

As word of the project spread throughout the national scale modeling community, donations began to arrive from neighboring and distant states and even foreign countries. Eventually, over 125 individual builders and organizations would have a hand in developing the Gallery’s model collection. These included dozens of individuals who skillfully and unselfishly constructed Museum-provided kits or contributed some of the best work from their own collections.



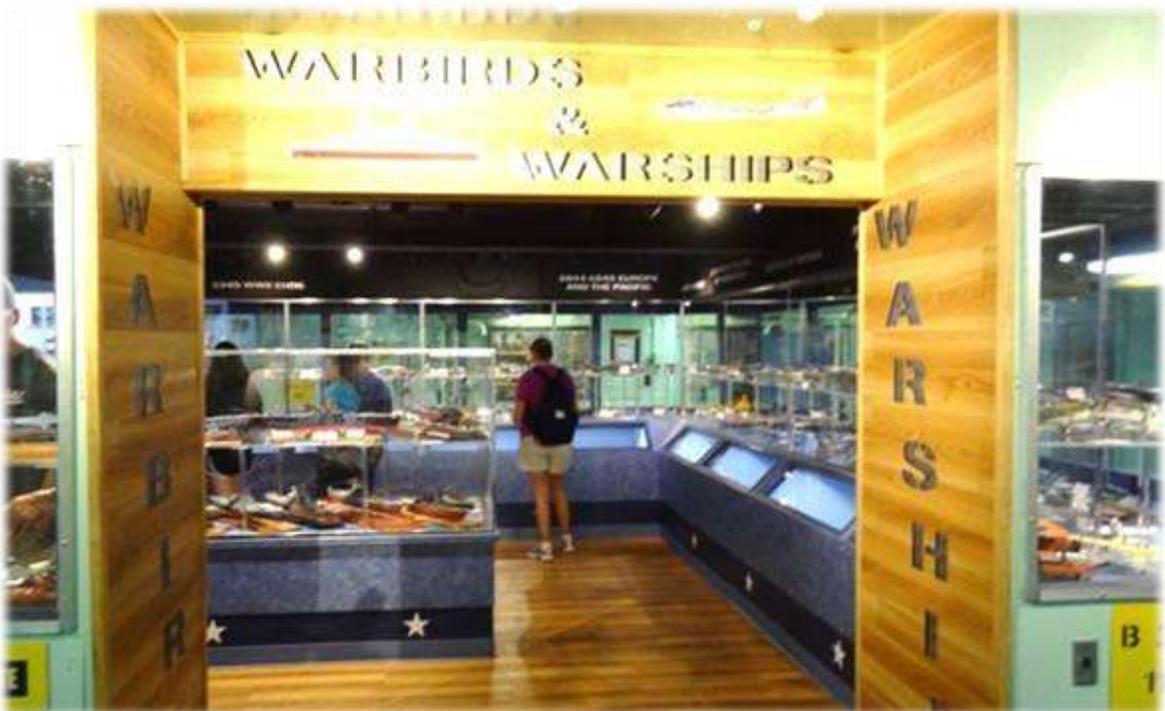
*Alamo Squadron Member and Volunteer builder Ricardo Castellanos*

Finally, on Memorial Day 2013, the Warbirds & Warships Gallery was officially opened to the public as Museum officials, staff, invited guests, TV news cameras, and proud donors looked on. At this writing, over 430+ models currently reside in the Gallery and many other outstanding pieces wait in storage for their turn to “shine” in this outstanding, world-class display. Of note, many of the collection’s pieces are the work of prominent or nationally-recognized modelers and a number have been featured in well-known scale modeling publications and online modeling websites.



*Memorial Day 2013 Grand Opening*

Although officially open for business, the Gallery will undoubtedly continue to evolve and grow as unusual and sought-after models trickle in to fill gaps in the collection. As one might expect, the Gallery is a bit like the never-ending song.



*Open for business Entrance 2014*

# **Proposed 2014 Internal Contest Schedule**

by Mike Picard

**January – Model of the Year**

**February – Club Challenge for Club Entry at ModelFiesta**

**March – Quarterly: The 1960s**

**April – Open**

**May – Open**

**June – Quarterly: Kitbash (Use parts from multiple kits to create something that never existed)**

**July – Open**

**August – Open**

**September – Quarterly: World War I, 1915-1918**

**October – Open, Select Theme for February Challenge**

**November – Open**

**December – Quarterly: Winter Warfare (Anything done up in winter camo)**





# Upcoming Club Events

**Next meeting:** NOTE -> Due to our National Independence Day, we are moving our meeting: 7:15 p.m. Thursday, July 10th, at Northside Ford on 12300 San Pedro.

**August 2, 2014**  
**The HAMS Eight Annual Model Car Show and Contest**  
**Houston Automotive Modelers Society**  
6823 Cypresswood Dr. , 77379  
Spring, Texas

**September 13, 2014**  
**SuperCon 2014**  
**IPMS Forth Worth Scale Modelers**  
2800 S. Center Street  
Arlington, Texas

**September 20, 2014**  
**AutumnCON 2014**  
**Northshore Scale Modelers**  
2031 Ronald Regan Hwy  
Covington, Louisiana

**September 27, 2014**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Sproo-Doo Model Show**  
**Central Arkansas Scale Modelers IPMS**  
101 E. Markham St  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Be prepared for this year's  
**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IPMS**  
**USA National Convention in**  
**Hampton, Virginia!!**  
**August 6-9, 2014**



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# Club Information

## Club's E-Board 2013-2014

**IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron:** The Club was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members. Dues are normally \$12.00 a year, due when the Treasurer tells you.

The Alamo Squadron has been putting on ModelFiesta since 1981. Locations have included the Wonderland Mall, a Holiday Inn, the Seven Oaks Motel & Convention Center, the Live Oak Civic Center and the new location for 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.



President: Tom Sprawls  
IPMS # 35342  
president@alamosquadron.com



Vice-President: Art Nicholson  
IPMS# 36967  
vp@alamosquadron.com



Treasurer:  
Dick Montgomery  
IPMS #14003  
sec-treas@alamosquadron.com



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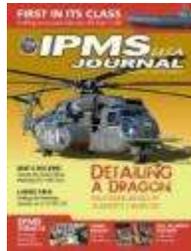
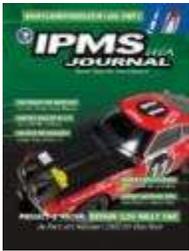


**ARTICLES!! ARTICLES!!**  
We need your writing skills for the newsletter!  
All submission must be turned in by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to next month's meeting. Send your input to Gary Emery at [gary@hillcountryhobby.com](mailto:gary@hillcountryhobby.com)

The Alamo Squadron Newsletter is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, for the information and enjoyment of the members of the Alamo Squadron and its friends around the world. Articles, reviews, news items, ads to buy, sell or trade, and other contributions are very welcome. Send text file, photos and web sites to Gary Emery:  
 gary@hillcountryhobby.com



Jerry Escobedo, newsletter builder, had the opportunity to attend to the IV IPMS Modeling Event in Monterrey, Mexico. Photo: Juan Aguilera Gonzalez, from Leon, Mexico.




Use this form for both New Member applications and renewals for existing members. Your expiration issue is shown just above your name and address on the back cover. You may copy this form if you wish. Please mail form and payment to:  
 IPMS/USA, PO Box 2475, North Canton, OH 44720-0475

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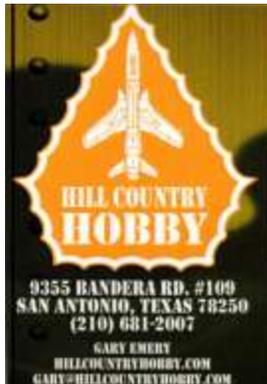
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