AIRFIX CONSTRUCTION KIT

1/72 SCALE MODEL CONSTRUCTION KIT

VOUGHT SIKORSKY KINGFISHER

The Kingfisher was designed in 1937 and the prototype flew in July 1938. Deliveries of the OS2U-1 production aircraft began early in 1940.

The OS2U had an extremely strong construction to withstand the forces of catapult launching and could be fitted with either floats or a fixed wheel undercarriage. In service it proved itself to be both rugged and reliable and development continued with the OS2U-2 and the major production version, the OS2U-3 of 1941 and 1942.

In all some 1,800 Kingfishers were built, 100 of the OS2U-3's being supplied to the Royal Navy. In the U.S. Navy the Kingfisher became one of the most versatile of any aircraft, operating on observation, coastal patrol, dive-bombing and especially rescue duties. The most famous Kingfisher mission was the rescue of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and his crew after they had ditched in the South Pacific; too overloaded to take off, the OS2U-3 taxied 40 miles to safety through heavy seas.

The OS2U-3 floatplane which can be modelled from this kit is that in which Lt. John Burns from the Cruiser North Carolina rescued nine crashed airmen from Truk Lagoon in Aptil 1944 to win the Navy Cross. The alternative OS2U-1 landplane is the Leader's aircraft from observation Squadron 3 aboard the U.S.S. Lexington.

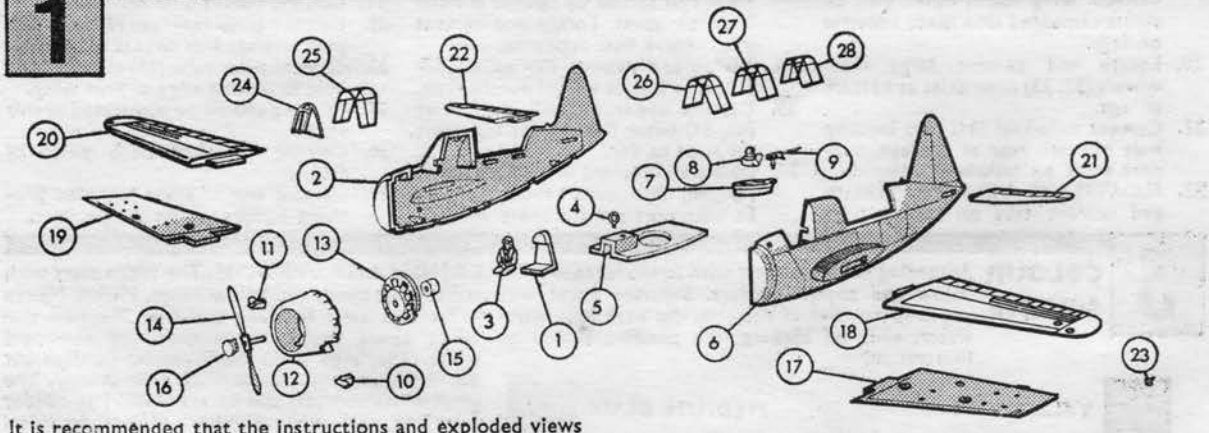
The OS2U-3 was powered by a 450 h.p. Pratt & Whitney Wasp Junior giving a maximum speed (floatplane) of 171 m.p.h. Armament consisted of one fixed and one flexible 0.303 in. machine gun and either two 100lb. bombs or two depth charges.

INSTRUCTIONS

N.B. FOR PAINTING USE "AIRFIX" PAINTS, FOR FIXING USE "AIRFIX" POLYSTYRENE CEMENT

PAINT ALL DETAILS AND LET DRY BEFORE ASSEMBLING (SEE SECTION 3)

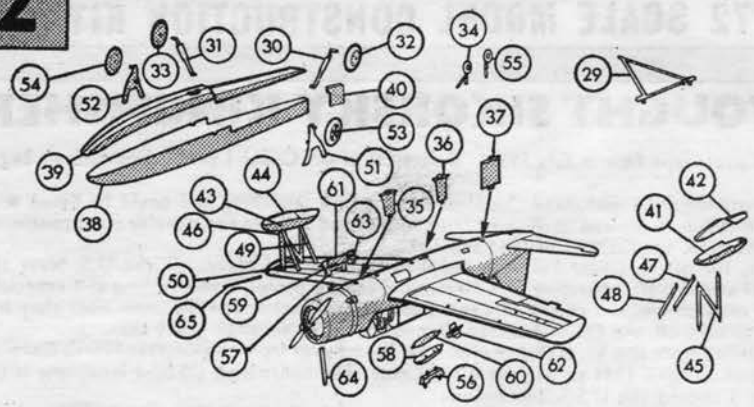
1



It is recommended that the instructions and exploded views are studied before assembly. If it is wished to paint internal details such as crew and cockpit interior this should be done before assembly. It will be noted, two variants, Floatplane or Landplane can be constructed from this kit. The version to be modelled should be chosen before assembly. If stand slot is to be used, for Landplane cut away wall of plastic from large stand slot in fuselage halves, also open up locating holes beneath fuselage or undercarriage supports and tail wheel, and in wing roots for legs. For Floatplane, similarly if stand is to be used, open slot in centre float, also small slots in halves for float supports.

1. Cement side of lug behind top of pilot's seat (1) into cut out in forward bulkhead on starboard fuselage half (2).
2. Cement pilot (3) to seat.
3. Cement D.F. loop (4) into console on decking (5).
4. Cement decking onto ribs within rear cockpit opening in starboard fuselage half.
5. Locate and cement port (6) and starboard fuselage halves together at same time cementing decking over ribs within port half.
6. Locate and cement gun mounting ring (7) into large circular hole in rear decking, then cement gunner/observer (8) into centre of ring. Press pin on gun (9) into locating hole in projection on gun mounting ring. NOTE: this projection is always to rear. Armament is optional, if carried, assembly is positioned with projection and gun pointing to right or left fuselage side as desired. If gun is omitted gunner/observer should face forward.
7. Locate and cement stub exhausts (10, 11) into cut outs in rear and bottom of cowling (12) flush with inside of cowling.
8. Locate and cement engine (13) into rear of cowling, rib within cowling fitting cut out in side of engine.
9. Press propeller shaft (14) through centre of engine, push on propeller retaining bush (15) and apply a drop of cement to projecting end of shaft, check propeller revolves freely.
10. Locate and cement propeller boss (16) to centre of propeller.
11. Locate and cement engine assembly onto fuselage front, rib on cowling fitting cut out in fuselage front.
12. Locate and cement port (17, 18) and starboard (19, 20) upper and lower wing halves together. NOTE: appropriate locating holes must be opened for float struts and bomb carriers if required.
13. Locate and cement tabs on wings into slots in port and starboard wing roots.
14. Locate and cement tabs on port (21) and starboard (22) tailplanes into slots at rear of fuselage sides.
15. Cement landing light transparency (23) into locating hole in lower port wing.
16. Locate and cement transparent front canopy sections (24, 25) to forward cockpit opening in fuselage, applying cement carefully to edges of canopy only.
17. Similarly locate and cement rear transparent canopy sections (26-28) to rear cockpit opening. NOTE: rear canopy sections get progressively smaller from front to rear and if armament is carried omit centre section.

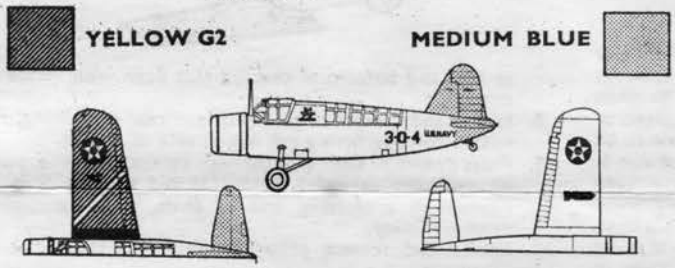
2 FLOAT & UNDERCARRIAGE ASSEMBLY



18. LAND-PLANE VERSION. Locate and cement pins on top of undercarriage struts (29) into locating holes beneath fuselage.
19. Locate and cement top of port and starboard undercarriage legs (30, 31) into locating holes in fuselage beneath wing roots, outer pins on struts cemented into inner recesses on legs.
20. Locate and cement large main wheels (32, 33) onto axles at bottom of legs.
21. Cement tailwheel (34) into locating hole beneath rear of fuselage, support strut on tailwheel forward.
22. FLOATPLANE VERSION. Locate and cement tabs on centre float supports (35-37) into locating slots beneath fuselage. NOTE: sharply tapered support forward, rear support with angle to top and highest point to rear.
23. Cement upper (38) and lower (39) centre float halves together. (NOTE: stand slot should be opened if stand is to be used). Locate and cement onto centre float supports.
24. Locate and cement tab on rudder (40) into slot at end of centre float.
25. Cement upper (41, 42) and lower (43, 44) outer float halves together, set aside to dry.
26. Locate and cement outer float struts (45, 46) into outer locating holes beneath port and starboard wings.
27. Locate and cement single outer float struts (47-50) into inner locating holes beneath port and starboard wings.
28. Cement locating pins on ends of outer and inner struts into locating holes in tops of outer floats. NOTE: outer struts hang vertically, inner struts angled outwards to floats.
29. If beaching gear is to be used cement locating pins in centre of beaching gear supports (51, 52) into slots in centre float sides.
30. Locate and cement beaching gear small wheels (with spokes) (53, 54) onto axles on beaching gear supports.
31. Locate and cement top of float wheel (55) into recess at rear and side of centre float.
32. If armament is to be carried cement bomb carriers (56, 57) into locating holes beneath port and starboard wings.
33. Cement together upper (58, 59) and lower (60, 61) bomb halves then cement bomb fins (62, 63) into ends of bombs.
34. Cement bombs onto carriers.
35. Cement aerial (64) into recess in top port fuselage side to rear of cowling.
36. Cement pitot tube (65) into locating hole in leading edge of port wing.
37. Painting should be completed at this stage.
38. Cement together both parts of stand.
39. Cement arm of stand into slot provided in fuselage on centre float.

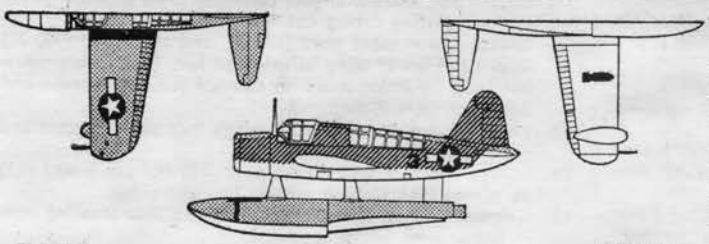
3 COLOUR SCHEME

According to version you wish to model read notes below and apply transfers. Separate sheet into required number of subjects, dip each into warm water, slide off backing into position shown on illustration.



LANDPLANE VERSION. The white stars with red centres above and below wings. Mickey Mouse to fuselage sides between cockpits. The two thin white bands angled above port and starboard wings. The large white band around fuselage cut out fitting around and beneath rear canopy. The small white numbers and letters OS2U-1 to rudder sides and small white numbers 1714 to fin sides. Black U.S. Navy and numbers 3-d-4 to rear fuselage sides. Black 4 above port and starboard wings. Aircraft name to base of stand.

MATT BLACK M6 Wheel tyres, propeller blades, guns, bombs, stub exhausts.
YELLOW G2 Upper wing surfaces.
MEDIUM BLUE Tail assembly.
WHITE G3 Band on cowling.
LIGHT GREY All other surfaces.



INTERMEDIATE BLUE

SEA BLUE

FLOATPLANE VERSION (Colour scheme Non Standard) The large white stars above port and below starboard wings. The small white stars to fuselage sides. The black 3's to fuselage sides below cockpit canopy. The red line with white outline to centre float sides.

MATT BLACK M6 Propeller blades, bombs, guns.
SEA BLUE Upper surfaces including floats.
INTERMEDIATE BLUE (PALE BLUE GREY) Fuselage sides, fin and rudder.
INSIGNIA WHITE (OFF WHITE) Undersurfaces including floats and float supports.
RED G1. Ribs on top of centre floats.