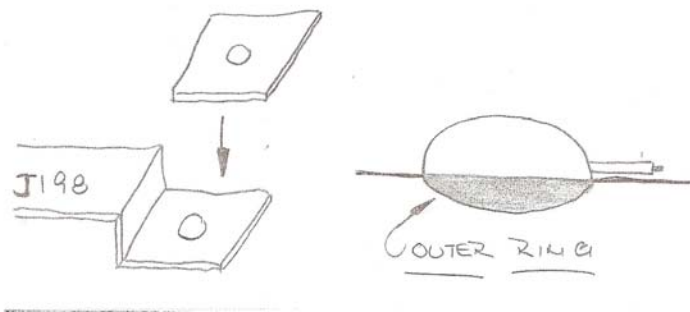


Correcting the **Accurate Miniatures B-25 1/48 Scale** by *Phil Pucher*

Photos by Tom H. Johnson

Per the Modelers Summary in Detail & Scale, "...the Accurate Miniatures B-25s are superb, and they set the standard for detailing and accuracy for the modeling industry." Having recently completed the building of *Dirty Dora*, I would like to offer the following observations/building tips.

The turret dome sits upon a metal outer ring that forms the upper part of the turret pedestal. The outer ring is partially visible in a side view of the fuselage (See B-25 Mitchell/Detail & Scale, Vol. 60, Bert Kinzey, Page 22, and Gunner: An Illustrated History of WW II Aircraft Turrets and Gun Positions, Donald Nipper, Page 88).



**Shim for
raising
Turret
Pedestal**

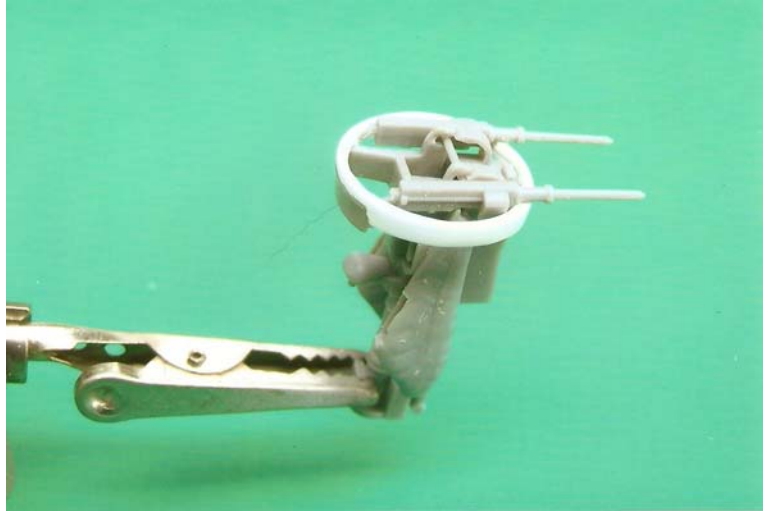
The Accurate turret pedestal is too short, and the outer ring is not included. To raise the *Titanic* (oops, wrong model!) the pedestal, cut a 15/32 inch square shim from .020 inch plastic. Make a 5/32 inch hole in the center of the shim to accept the nub on the bottom of the turret pedestal. Glue the shim over the pedestal mounting hole at the rear of the Radio Compartment Floor (Part J198).



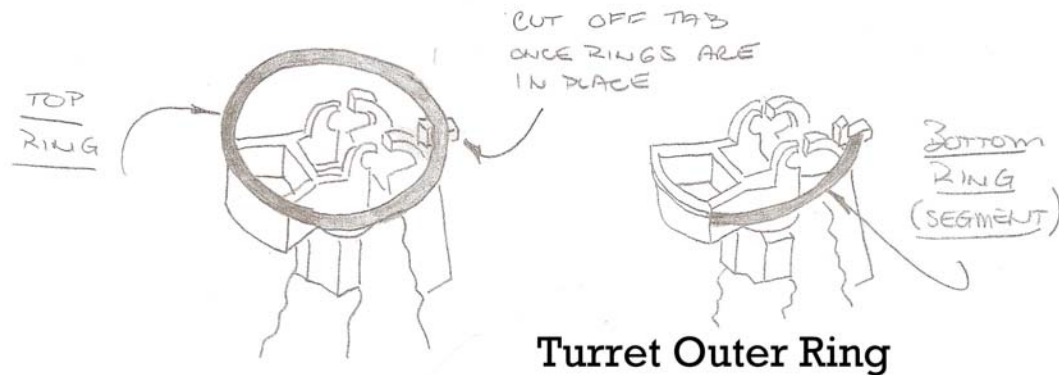
To make the outer ring, cut 2 circles from .040 inch plastic. The outer diameter is $27/32$ inch plus and the inner diameter is $23/32$ inch minus (NOTE: The opening for the turret ring is not perfectly round, so add/subtract a little “fat” to the dimensions; you will have to do some filing and sanding to make sure the ring fits through the opening. DO NOT try to make the opening perfectly round. I did this, and had to add a third segment to one side of the ring.

Align the first ring on the top of the Upper Turret Outer Rim (Part J213) and the top of the tab on the front of the Upper Turret Ammo Box/Cartridge Collection Bags (Part J208) and glue in place. Cut the second ring into 2 segments and cut them to fit under the first ring between the edge of Part J213 and the side of the tab on J208.





Cut off the part of the tab that sticks out past the outer edge of the turret ring. Otherwise, you cannot lift the turret in/out of the opening. Once the glue is dry, file/sand the ring as mentioned above. I found it helpful to use a small pair of needle nose pliers to hold the turret assembly when fitting it to the opening. (See illustration below.)



Changing the height of the pedestal causes the turret dome to sit too high. To correct this, remove 1/16 inch from the bottom of the dome. . Once the aircraft is completed, I suggest gluing the turret in place so it does not fall out when the model is handled.



I have lusted after a good B-25 C/D ever since I got my copy of Warpath Across the Pacific. With all the extra parts that come with the kit and the wealth of decals available, I'll be building B-25s for years!

If you have any questions/comments regarding this monologue, please call me at 585-621-7108, or email ppucher@rochester.rr.com

PHIL PUCHER, February 2008.