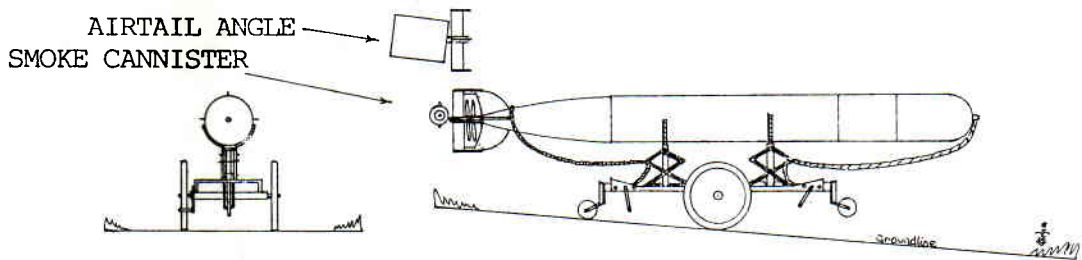


LEAD SLED MODELS

1/72nd Scale White Metal Kit
RAF Torpedo Handling Trolley
And Torpedo



This trolley saw service in the RAF, Royal Navy and Commonwealth Air Forces in several similar versions from the 1920s until the late 1940s. It was used for handling and loading torpedoes onto aircraft, the lifting gear was wound up and down by hand and handling was usually by two or three men.

~~The torpedo can be modelled~~ either as a practice weapon with smoke cannister attached, or as an operational round with or without an airtail. This was introduced during WW1 and was meant to stabilise the torpedo during launch and broke off on impact with the water, it was not always fitted operationally.

COLOUR SCHEMES

1920s/mid 1930s

Usually Dark Battleship Grey, sometimes Black.

Mid 1930s/1941

RAF Blue/Grey.

1941/1946

Predominantly Dark Earth, some RAF Blue/Grey.

Late 1946 onwards

RAF Blue/Grey, sometimes Yellow.

Mainwheel tyres, Black, dollywheels were cast iron and painted trolley colour, the running surfaces often rusty. Lifting mechanism, body colour well chipped and oily, the crutches were bound with rope which was badly stained with grease. Handgrips of winding handles would be bare steel. The general appearance would be well used.

Generally Torpedoes were natural steel, on practice rounds the warhead was usually Yellow or Red, live rounds, Black warhead, sometimes this was left natural metal or with just the foremost six or seven inches painted Black. Often during WW1 groundcrews painted the lower half of weapons in aircraft underside colours, usually this was crudely done. Smoke cannisters should be Yellow or White. Airtail, Natural Varnished Plywood or aircraft underside colour. The propellers should be Bronze or Steel.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Use Cyano-Acrylate or 5 minute Epoxy adhesives. Follow manufacturers advice for safe usage. For filling use car body type fillers.

FETTLE AND CLEAN PARTS.

Drill into axle bar and fit main wheels, then fit dolly wheels to front and rear of body. Fit crutches into holes in floor and fit frames, one to each side, the flat section to floor. Drill two small holes in right side in line with the rods moulded onto the floor and fit winding handles to outside of body, the small pins going into the holes.

The torpedo fins should be seperated by cutting across the rudders at the center then fitted to the torpedo. Two alternative parts are supplied, the practice round smoke cannister and the airtail. The smoke cannister should be fixed to the spike behind the fins and sits level with the horizontal fins

CONTINUED OVERLEAF.

To fit the airtail first remove the spike altogether and fit the horizontal fins of the torpedo into the recess in the leading edge of the tail. The upper surface of the tail should be level with the line of flight. This will give the tail a canted up appearance. Fit torpedo into crutches and make and fit handling ropes from household thread, the illustration shows the positioning of these.

If you have any suggestions for future models we will be pleased to hear from you.

In the event of faulty parts please return part for replacement to:

LEAD SLED MODELS, 42, Belgrave Road, Newtake, Newton Abbot, Devon, England