

"FREE WIZARD"
High Performance Model
With 30" Streamer Recovery
When You Purchase
The MAXI-ALPHA

See Page 17 for Special Savings Coupon

"NEW"
WIZARD
Available
Only with
This Offer!

# Alpha

Skill Level 2

- Nearly 3 Feet Tall
- Giant 24" Parachute
- Great for Demos
- Flights up to 500 Feet
- "D12-5" Engine-Powered

Ship Wt. 16 oz. Catalog No. 1291

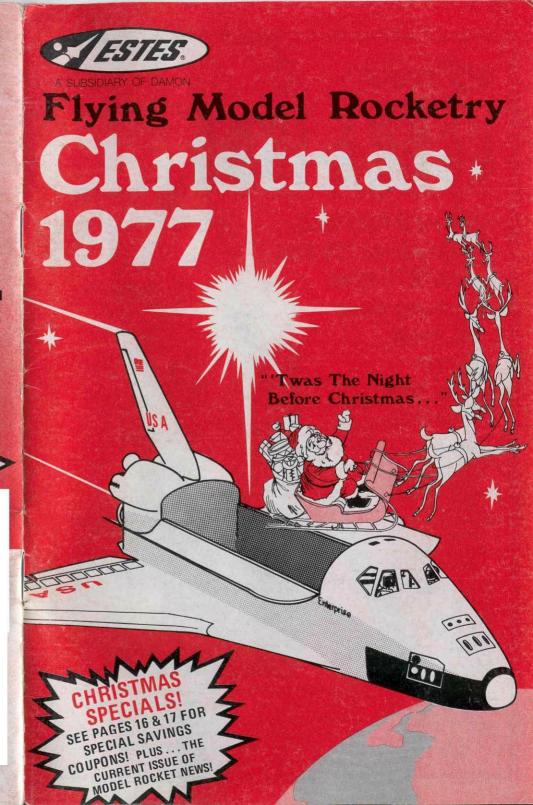
**ONLY \$8.00** 

Inside: Valuable
Savings Coupons
Worth up to \$33.35
in Discounts And



ESTES INDU

A SUBSIDIARY OF





# 

Almost 5 Feet Long

•Flights Over 700 Feet With "C" Engine

 Features Giant Kit Decal

•Big 18" **Parachute** Recovery

Height 59" (1500mm) Body Dia. 1.325" (33.6mm) Weight 3.17 oz. (90 a) 18" Parachute Recovery

Recommended Engines: A8-3 B6-4 B4-4 C6-5 Ship. Wt.

16 oz.



Cat. No. 1294

ONLY

\$5,00

(Unless otherwise stated, all the model rocketry kits in this catalog are hobby kits requiring assembly. Launch system, engines, glue, and finishing supplies are not included. Recommended for ages 10 to adult. Adult supervision suggested for those under 12 years of age when flying model rockets.)

Coming in 197 FLYING MODELS,

Dear Estes Rocketeer:

Another year has passed, and what a year 1977 was for model rocketry and space flight!

The two big events were NASA's successful tests of the Space Shuttle Enterprise, and the release of what may be the biggest motion picture of all time -- STAR WARS.

And the big news from ESTES is that we're going to have real flying models of STAR WARS rockets by early spring 1978!

That's right. As I'm writing this, our engineers are staging test flights of the X-Wing Fighter and the Tie Fighter here on our Penrose Proving Grounds. Not only that, but we expect to have a MAXI-X-WING Fighter -- a huge scale model that will be the same size as the ones used by the STAR WARS special effects team in making the film! This means if you have a movie camera, you can make your own STAR WARS film!

If you're not already a member of the Estes Aerospace Club, hurry up and join; because our members will be getting the very first announcement of our "NEW" 1978 model rockets including our STAR WARS flying models! (See page 14)

We all hope 1978 will be a great year for model rocketry and for you. So, here's wishing you the merriest of Christmases, and may the Force be with you all through the coming year.



**SAVE \$1.00** ON ORDERS OVER \$10.00 See Page 16 For Special Savings Coupon!

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# HANGAR SALE!



#### STAR BLAZER

Skill Level 3

Authentic space vehicle appearance with its forward crew cockpit canopy, structural fairing strips, and stramlined design. Threecolor U.S.A.F. decals and 10" parachute recovery.

SPECIFICATIONS

11.5" (29.2cm) 0.736" (18.7mm) 0.73 oz. (20.7 g) Shipping wt. 5 oz.

RECOMMENDED ENGINES 1/4A3-2T (First flight) 1/2A3-2T A3-4T

A10-3T

STAR BLAZER NOW \$2.00 See Page 16 For Special Savings Conbou! SAVE \$2.00

#### RUSSIAN VOSTOK

Dramatic semi-scale, profile model of the famous Russian space booster which carried man into space for the first time on April 12, 1961. Responsible for establishing a foundation for the Russian space program, Vostoks set 21 world space records during the six missions between 1961 and 1963. Our profile version of this historic space vehicle looks great on display and realistic on the pad. Kit features include preprinted fins, quick-release engine mount, and realistic Russian decor. Big 18" parachute recovery makes for super-exciting flights.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

19.75" (50cm) Length 1.325" (34mm) Diameter Weight 2.4 oz. (69 a) Shipping wt. 11 oz. RECOMMENDED ENGINES B4-4 B6-4 (First

flight) Reg. \$5.00 Cat. No. 1272

RUSSIAN VOSTOK Now Only \$3.00 See Page 16 For Special Savings Coupon!

# **ARCAS®**

SAVE \$1.50 ARCAS NOW \$2.75 See Page 16 For Special Savings Coupon!

smaller 1:3.4 scale version. Kit includes detailed fin ARCAS mounts, authentic ARCAS decal, and 18" parachute.

Weight 1.4 oz. (40 g) Shipping wt. 11 oz.

B6-4 C6-5 Cat. No. 1226

Camroc Carrier Nov Only \$2.50 See Page 17 For Special Savings Coupon!

## Camryd Carrier

model is especially deever 1,000 feet with "C tion and elliptical fins create Kit includes die-cut fins, stick-on decals, molded plastic nose cor and 12" parachute recovery

Weight w/o payload A8-3 (First flight) B6-4

Cat. No. 1266

Reg. \$4.00

Reg. \$8.00

HANGAR SALE! Not Only Do You Get Big Discounts On These Models, These Count Toward The \$10 Total You Need For The \$1-Off Coupon On Page 16!

SAVE \$2.50 SCRAMBLER NOW ONLY \$5.50 See Page 16 For Special Savings Coupon!

# "SCRAHBLER

it to earth. Kit includes two Shipping wt. 13 oz.

e Atlantic Research ( exandria, Virginia.

# SUPER SPECIALS

"LOOK AT THESE SAVINGS"

SATURN 1-B NOW ONLY \$9.95 See Page 17 For Special Savings Coupon!

(1/70th Scale)

Skill Level 5

Completely detailed model of the giant rocket that first lofted the lunar module into earth orbit. A real NASA workhorse. the Saturn 1-B has most recently been used to shuttle astronaut crews to Skylab. Features four-engine cluster power for really dramatic lift-offs. Highly scaled escape tower and stabilizer fin assembly. Includes authentic U.S.A./ NASA decor, quick-release engine mounts, and die-cut balsa parts. Plus big, dual 24" orange and white parachutes for main booster and 12" 'chute for Apollo capsule. Tech report on engine clustering also included.

37" (94cm) 3.938" (100mm) 9.9 oz. (280 g)

Shipping wt. 3 lbs., 5 oz. Cat. No. 1229 . . . Reg. \$15.95 RECOMMENDED ENGINES

B6-2 (First flight) C6-5

(4 engines required, All must be the same type.)

MARŚ LANDER

MARS LANDER NOW \$6.95 See Page 17 For Special Savings Coupon!

Skill Level 5

Displays futuristic concept for a planetary exploration and landing vehicle. Spring-loaded landing gear simulates realistic upright touch-down. Big 18" bright orange and white canopy 'chute makes for a really great recovery sequence. Includes highly detailed body panels, colorful scale-like decals. and quick-release engine mount.

SPECIFICATIONS

12" (30.5cm) Height Diameter\_ (96.5mm) 13.2" (33.5cm

3.0 oz. (85 g)

RECOMMENDED ENGINES B4-2 (First flight) 86-2 06-3

**FLY THE** LANDER NASA DOES!

> Incredibly Realistic!

U

S

A

Santa's Engine Special Save \$1.50

You get three A8-3, three B4-2, three B6-4, and three C6-5 MODEL ROCKET ENGINES, plus Recovery Wadding and Igniters.

> Ship. wt. 16 oz. Cat. No. 1738

ONLY \$6.00

For Special Savings

SOLAR LAUNCH MODEL ROCKETRY'S MOST ADVANCED

Futuristically designed launch control unit that requires only four alkaline pen light batteries for power. Unit is easily assembled in minutes and features safety key, continuity check lamp, ignition button, and 15 feet of light-weight launch cable. Use with Estes Solar Igniters. (Batteries not included.)

Cat. No. 2300 Reg. \$6.00

LAUNCH SYSTEM

COMBINATION OFFER SAVE \$2.00 Buy Both The Solar Launcher & Porta Pad ONLY \$9.00 See Page 17 For Special Savings Coupon

Rocket Not Included.

\$7.50

VALUE

COMBINATION OFFER

Shipping wt. 12 oz. Cat. No. 1450

**ONLY \$9.00** 

Porta-Pad

PLASTIC TRIPOD

Rugged Porta-Pad Tripod Launcher with sturdy plastic girder construction, blast deflector plate, 1/8" dia. x 36" two-piece launch rod, and special tilt-adjustment to compensate for wind direction. Also handles larger 3/16" launch rod for Maxi-Brutes. Can be adapted for rail launchings with Estes "C" Rail.

Cat. No. 2217 Reg. \$5.00.



Skill Level 3
Futuristic version of real interplanetary interceptor. Deep space exotic design makes it the pride of any modeler. Delivers excellent performance for really sensational flights. Dramatic 18" parachute recovery, two

big sheets of four-color decals, and quick-release engine mount. Plus all die-cut balsa parts and detailed plastic nose cone, wing pods and tail cone.

SPECIFICATIONS RECOMMENDED ENGINES
Length 26" (66cm) B4-2 B6-4 (First flight)

Shipping wt. 12 oz. C6-5

Cat. No. 1250 ..... ONLY \$8.00

### **Orbital Transport**

Features dramatic space shuttle concept, Developed for both orbital and near-space missions. Long and sleek transport ship lifts-cff vertically with shuttle riding piggy-back. At engine ejection transport returns via 18" parachute and shuttle becomes gliding re-entry vehicle. Separation of crafts at apogee makes for exceptionally spectacular flights. Includes quick-release engine mount and realistic three-color decals. RECOMMENDED ENGINES

B6-2 B6-4 (First flight) C6-5

Cat. No. 1242 ..... ONLY \$6.00

#### Sky Dart

This totally new rocket-boosted glider design features an internal rear ejection power pod. Streamlined "Business SST" body styling results in a high performance glide along with good reliability. 12" parachute recovery brings power pod back safely. Pat. No. 3,157,960.

RECOMMENDED ENGINES

A8-3 B4-2 B6-2 (First flight) C6-3

Cat. No. 1257 ONLY \$6.00

#### SCISSOR-WING TRANSPORT

#### Skill Level 3

Skill Level 4

This exciting bird introduces the revolutionary new Scissor-Wing concept. Features super SST styling and high flight reliability. Capable of glide times of more than 60 seconds. Internal ejection power pod features vertical stabilizer fins. Comes ready-to-assemble with die-cut parts and two-color decals.

RECOMMENDED ENGINES

COSSOR WING TRANSPORT

RECOMMENDED ENGINES
B4-2 (First flight) B6-2 C6-3
Cat. No. 1265 . . . . . ONLY \$6.00

#### Skill Level 3

Designed for journeys to distant planets this incredible "starship of the future" will be an outstanding addition to your model rocket collection. Performing interplanetary missions within the galaxy, our engineer's conception of the actual ship features simulated hybrid fission-ion propulsion engines, forward crew module and colorful mission decor. This beauty is over 43" long and represents a

Andromeda

unique entry to our own Starship Fleet. Kit features include die-cut parts, highly detailed decals, and quick-release engine mount. Andromeda's flights are of course most spectacular, especially with giant 18" parachute

recovery.
RECOMMENDED ENGINES
B6-4 (First flight) C6-5

Cat. No. 1273 ..... ONLY \$6.00

# GANTANAXI-BRUTES!

# German V-2

Skill Level 3
Giant scale model of the groundto-ground ballistic missile
developed at Peenemunde before and during World WarII. This 1/19th scale MaxiBrute features "D" engine
power, detailed plastic
nose cone, dual 24"
parachute recovery and
pre-shaped fins,
RECOMMENDED
ENGINE
D12-3
Cat. No. 1267

**ONLY \$17.95** 

NEARLY 3-FEET TALL

CHRISTMAS SPECIALI SEE PAGES 16 & 17 FOR SAVINGS COUPONS & ERFE GIFTSI

A 3/16" launch rod should be used for best lift-pff results.

a Maxi-Brute! SEE
PAGE 17 FOR
SPECIAL SAVINGS
COUPON!

# PERSHING-1A

Skill Level 3
This Maxi-Brute is a true scale model of the U.S. Army's surface-to-surface ballistic missile. Our 1/10 scale model is "D" engine powered with three-color decals, pre-shaped fins, detailed molded plastic nose cone, and dual 24" parachute recovery.

RECOMMENDED ENGINE D12-3
Cat. No. 1268 . . . . .

**ONLY \$17.95** 

MORE THAN 3-FEET TALL!

> OVER 3-FEET TALL

# HONEST

Skill Level 3
Our newest MaxiBrute is a 1/9th
scale model of the
famous U.S. Army
surface-to-surface,
supersonic ballistic
missile.

Highly detailed model uses single "D" engine for power and comes with pre-shaped, accurately scaled fins and molded plastic nose cone. Spectacular recovery with giant, dual 24" orange and white canopy 'chutes.

RECOMMENDED

ENGINE D12-3 Cat. No. 1269 ONLY \$17.95

# LTV Scout 1/24th Scale

Skill Level 3 Since its first mission in 1960, Scout has been the launch vehicle for more than 90 missions, holding the record for consecutive successes among all NASA launch vehicles, This model is extremely detailed with many plastic parts and realistically decored with two-color decals. Other features include molded plastic fins and adapter sections, quick-release engine mount and big 18" parachute recovery.

RECOMMENDED ENGINE C6-5 Cat. No. 1287

**ONLY \$6.00** 

OVER 3-FEET TALL!

# SCALE MODELS

## SANDHAWK

(1/10th Scale) Skill Level 2

Skill Level 2
A mighty "D" engine powered, ultradetailed, 30" tall scale model. Actual rocket is a single-stage, solid-propellant vehicle developed for upper-atmosphere research experiments. Our scale version features all plastic, highly-detailed nose cone, payload section, fins and tail assembly. Quick-release engine mount plus 12" 'chute for payload and big 18" parachute for rocket.

RECOMMENDED ENGINES B4-2 C6-3 D12-5 (First flight) Cat, No. 1251 ... ONLY \$6.00

FIREFLY With
Any of These Authentic Scale
Models. See Page 17 for Special
Savings Coupon!

# NIKE AJAX

kill Level 3

The first supersonic anti-aircraft missile, the Nike Ajax, was developed to defend large cities and industrial complexes against enemy bomber attack. Our 12.4 to 1 semi-scale model comes complete with authentic U.S. Army decor and realistic detailing.

Kit includes 18" parachute recobery, die-cut

balsa parts, and quick-release engine mount.
RECOMMENDED ENGINES

A8-3 B4-4 B6-4 (First flight) C6-5

Cat No. 1279 . . . . ONLY \$6.00

Now, From the Smash Hit,

STARWARS, Threepio and
Artoo Invite You to

"INTRODUCE A FRIEND
TO MODEL ROCKETRY"

The Brand New STAR WARS.

Flying Model
Rocketry
Starter Kit
Available
Now!

Build and Fly the

STAR WARS

Proton Torpedo—the

Missile that Destroyed
the Imperial Death Star

Introduce A
Friend And You'll
Receive A "FREE" 10"x27"
FULL GOLOR STAR WARS
POSTER! (Not Available
In Stores!)

Requires 6 volt lantern battery and glue (not included). THIS ROCKET CAN ATTAIN ALTITUDES OVER 1,000 FEET!

Everything you need for lift-off in less than 30 minutes! Very Easy-To-Assemble!

Star Wars Flying Model Rocketry Starter Kit Cat. No. 1420 Only \$13.00

Share the fun and excitement of model rocketry with your friends! Let your pals know about your "farout" hobby! Have a friend get involved by purchasing this "new" STAR WARS Starter Kit. We'll send you a fantastic 10"X27" Full-Color STAR WARS Poster, "Free", for helping us get him started.

**Give This Coupon To Your Friend** 

No other model is more perfect for the beginning rocketeer. Your STAR WARS Starter Kit will give you dozens of enjoyable missions just like the first one.

The high performance Proton Torpedo rocket is very easy-to-assemble with jet black plastic nose cone and fin unit. Features quick-finish fluorescent decals and pre-colored body tube. No painting required! The Proton Torpedo can be launched over and over again and returns via 12" recovery parachute. You need only replace the rocket engine, igniter, and recovery wadding for each new flight.

STAR WARS Launch Control System features futuristically designed hand-held launch controller with arming lamp, safety key, launch button, and 15 feet of launch cable with micro igniter clips. Plus sleekly designed launch pad with blast deflector plate and 1/8"X36" two-piece launch rod. Entire system sets up quickly for launch and disassembles easily for compact storage.

Flight Pak includes three N.A.R. safety certified model rocket engines, parachute recovery wadding, and high reliability Solar Igniters for three exciting flights.

(NOTE: Your Proton Torpedo can also accommodate more powerful rocket engines - the B6-4 which will take it to over 750', and even the C6-5, which will send it shooting up over 1,000'.)

## COMING IN EARLY SPRING! X-WING FIGHTER PRECISELY DETAILED FLYING MODEL THAT LAUNCHED THIS PROTON TORPEDO...

Plus . . . TIE Fighter! Your STAR WARS Collection Won't Be Complete Without Several Of These Fighters Commanded By Darth Vader. Beautifully Detailed, Ready-To- Assemble, With Authentic Decals And Parachute Recovery. (Important Note: These Kits Will Not Be Available To Order Until Spring 1978.)

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## I Want To Get Involved In Model Rocketry

ESTES: 1

YES! I would like to purchase a STAR WARS Starter Kit and launch my own rocket. Please rush my STAR WARS Starter Kit to me. I have enclosed \$13.00. Order From: Estes Industries, Penrose, Colorado 81240

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_\_
City State Zip

Please send my friend a "Free" STAR WARS Poster for helping me get started.

Friend's Name \_\_\_\_\_\_

Address

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Join More Than 85,000 Estes Rocketeers Getting The Most Out Of Model Rocketry

# ESTES aerospace CLUB TODAY!

SAVE 50¢ SPECIAL EAC MEMBERSHIP ONLY \$2.50 See Page 17 For Special Savings Goupon!

You'll discover membership in the Estes Aerospace Club opens up a whole new world of model rocket activities. Membership is permanent, and your membership kit includes:

\*VIPER ROCKET - Club's Exclusive High Performance Design.

\*MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE - Suitable for Framing.

\*CLUB EMBLEM — Official iron-on patch. As you progress to higher skill levels, you receive additional iron-on "thrust" bars.

\*DECAL SHEET - Identify your rockets as part of the EAC fleet!

\*RANGE BOX STICKERS — Multipurpose stick-ons for your range equipment.

\*EAC STATIONERY — Distinctive stationery for notes and letters.

#### \*MODEL ROCKETRY TECHNICAL MANUAL -

Includes information on construction techniques, finishing, stability, tracking, recovery systems, multistaging, and boost gliders, plus much, much, more.

\*COPY OF MODEL ROCKET NEWS — Features free plan designs, technical articles, contest, rocketeer contributions and more.

\*EAC PRODUCTS BULLETIN — Outstanding offers for EAC kits and products available ONLY to members.

### JOIN NOW! BECOME AN ESTES AEROSPACE CLUB ROCKETEER TODAY!!

#### Special EAC Membership Offer . . . . . . . ONLY \$2.50

Be sure to include Special Savings Coupons with your order form.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE!**

ESTES AEROSPACE CLUB MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE THE VERY FIRST ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITY TO ORDER ALL THE "NEW" 1978 ESTES MODEL ROCKETRY KITS AND STAR WARS FLYING MODELS.

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT, ONLY AVAILABLE TO CLUB MEMBERS, IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER, YOU ARE URGED TO JOIN NOW!

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# Christmas/New Years Savings Coupons



A SUBSIDIARY OF DAMON

SAVE UP TO \$33.35 ON ROCKETS... LAUNCH **EQUIPMENT... ENGINES... SPECIAL PRODUCTS.** A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU . . . FROM ESTES!

#### **HOW TO USE THESE SAVINGS COUPONS**

When you decide on a purchase from this catalog, look to see if you can use one of the Savings Coupons. For example if you purchase the Mars Lander on page 6 you can use the Savings Coupon which allows you \$3.00 toward the purchase of this regularly \$9.95 kit. You would tear out the Coupon . . . send it in with your order and your check or money order for \$6.95 plus handling charge of \$1.00 . . . and you will receive the Mars Lander for \$3.00 off the regular price. Be sure to enclose all Savings Coupons used with your Order Form in your return envelope.

All offers good only with the Order Form enclosed with this catalog. You cannot use these Sayings Coupons at your retail dealer. All offers Expire 4-1-'78. Substitutions will be made when necessary.



Toward the purchase of \$10.00 or more from this catalog. Redeemable only direct from Estes Industries.

Expires 4-1-'78

Savings Coupon

#### **WORTH \$1.50**

Toward the purchase of an ARCAS (#1226).

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Expires 4-1-'78

Savings Coupon

#### WORTH \$2.50

Toward the purchase of a SCRAMBLER (#1237).

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Expires 4-1-'78

Series Savings Coupon

**WORTH \$2.00** 

Toward the purchase of a RUSSIAN VOSTOK (#1272).

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Expires 4-1-'78

JESTES Savings Goupon

**WORTH \$1.25** 

Toward the purchase of a STARBLAZER (#0831).

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### THE PARTY OF THE P ESTES Savings Coupon

**WORTH \$1.50** 

Toward the purchase of a CAMROC CARRIER (#1266)

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Goupon

BY CHAIR STATE OF THE STATE OF

**WORTH \$6.00** 

Toward the purchase of a SATURN 1-B (#1229).

(See Page 6)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Coupon

**WORTH \$3.00** 

Toward the purchase of a MARS LANDER (#1243).

(See Page 6)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Goupon

**WORTH \$1.50** 

Toward the purchase of SANTA'S ENGINE SPECIAL \$7.50 Value (#1738)

(See Page 7)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Goupon **WORTH \$2.00**

Toward the purchase of SOLAR LAUNCHER/PORTA-PAD COMBINATION Offer (#1450).

(See Page 7)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Goupon

FREE Package of B6-4 MODEL **ROCKET ENGINES WORTH \$1.70 wher** you purchase an INTERPLANETARY VOYAGER on pages 8 & 9.

#### Savings Goupon

FREE Package of D12-3 MODEL **ROCKET ENGINES WORTH \$3.25** when you purchase any MAXI-BRUTE on page 10.

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Coupon

FREE FIREFLY GLIDER WORTH \$1.50 when you purchase a SCALE MODEL On page 11.

#### Savings Coupon WORTH 50¢

Toward membership in the ESTES AEROSPACE CLUB (#1447).

(See Page 14)

Expires 4-1-'78

Sestes Savings Coupon

WORTH 75¢

Toward the purchase of a SHRIKE GLIDER Reg. \$1.25

(See Page 14)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Coupon

FREE Package of C6-3 MODEL **ROCKET ENGINES WORTH \$1.90** when you purchase a SPACE SHUTTLE.

(See Page 15)

Expires 4-1-'78

#### Savings Goupon

FREE "NEW" WIZARD WORTH \$1.50 when you purchase a MAXI-ALPHA (#1291).

(See Back Cover)

Expires 4-1-'78



Vernon Estes . . . . . . Publisher Dane Boles . . . . . . . . Editor Mary Roberts . . . . Asst. Editor Bob Cannon . Dir. of Publications Charlie Webb . . . . Photographer Ron McClaren . . . . . Staff Artist Steve Garcia . . . . . Staff Artist © Estes Industries 1977

# JAWAS, LASER BURNS AND

# DARTH **WADER**

by Mike Dorffler Photos by Charlie Webb

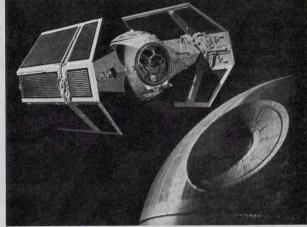
It was strangely quiet as we slowly approached the designated vine covered structure. The "silence" was broken only by the nearby San Diego Freeway traffic and the rapid overflight of private aircraft from an airport located closeby.

As I read the sign on the massive wooden door I suddenly felt a tremor in the FORCE and thought we may have made a serious mistake in coming. It read: "ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK, (signed) Darth Vader." We said nothing but stared at each other not knowing what to expect. We knocked the pre-instructed number of times then moved away from the door. After a few moments, it opened just far enough for one of the occupants to gaze at us with one eye. Then a low voice said, "State your name and business".

"We're from Estes Industries and have come to examine the spacecraft,'

one of us stuttered.
"Ah-h-h, good. You're expected." The door opened further and we entered making every effort to keep our balance as the four heavy equipment cases we carried made movement difficult.

Once inside one could feel the awesome presence of the FORCE. The silence was again deafening. Only the FM stereo receiver blaring hard rock and the sound of hyperactive typewriters kept us from speaking in hushed words. We had safely passed



Darth Vader's TIE Fighter screams past the "ominous" Death Star, to challenge the X-Wing Fighters of the Rebel Forces.

from the outside world into the incredible Industrial Light and Magic Studio where the STAR WARS



Joe Johnston (Right), creator of STAR WARS spacecraft explains detail of Darth Vader's TIE Fighter to Estes photographer, Charlie Webb.

special effects were filmed. It was to be an experience that Charlie Webb, Wayne Kellner and I will never for-

We tried to hide our drooling, pop-eyed, tongue hanging expressions to no avail as we introduced ourselves to the team of brilliant artists (and Model Rocketeers) who made STAR WARS such a success.

We met Joe Johnston, the creator of all the spacecraft used in the movie. He is an outstanding artist and it was his renderings that guided the construction of



Charlie Webb closely examines Darth Vader's super-highly detailed TIE Fighter.

the models used in filming. He was also responsible for doing the "story board" illustrations used to guide the team in filming the action

shots. We met a few of the guys who actually built those unbelieveable models, like Steve Gawley, Lorne Peterson and Grant McCune. We talked to Mas Norihiro, Richard Edlands, Doug Smith and the man who created the computerized camera system to film those fantastic space battles, John Dykstra.



Wayne Kellner (Right), Estes R&D Staff, raps with Grant McCune, STAR WARS model builder.

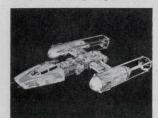
After we visited for about an hour exchanging model rocket experiences, asking thousands of questions about the models and sound effects, and the problems they encountered making the film, we were led into the film studio where the STAR WARS models were stored.

There in one corner were several large, white wooden crates with STAR WARS stenciled all over them. Charlie, Wayne and I waited breathlessly as the first crate was opened. The foam packing sheets were lifted out followed by a huge threefoot square plexiglass dust case. I had to re-adjust my pacemaker as I saw the T.I.E. Fighter for the first time. It was huge! It was nearly two feet from engine panel



Wayne takes scale measurements of Y-Wing Fighter.

to engine panel, and almost as high. The detailing was breathtaking. You could even see the wrinkles on the pilot's uniform. And so it went. As the X-Wing Fighter and



Incredibly detailed STAR WARS Y-Wing Fighter.

the Y-Wing Fighter were uncrated Charlie unpacked his cameras and began to set up the T.I.E. Fighter for picture taking. He took nearly 500 pictures of the models in two days, and some of these



Wayne and Mike Dorffler. Estes R&D Staff, discuss Darth Vader's TIE Fighter.

are shown here just for you. Although all of the models were expertly built and finished, the favorite of the three of us was Darth Vader's. There was only one of this model built where all of the



Wayne compares Estes TIE Fighter to real movie version.

others required several copies. The reason for this was that some needed to be blown-up during the filming.

It took over two years of painstaking work to create and film all of the models we saw. For instance; once a particular flight sequence was decided upon, a model or models had to be placed on

special support stands, the camera lined up and a test shot taken. This strip of film was processed immediately and viewed. If the sequence was not quite right. the models were adjusted and re-filmed.

It's also difficult to imagine that the system John Dykstra used to film the models had not been attempted before. The models NEVER MOVED. All the movement that you see in the STAR WARS movie is in your mind. These fantastic glimpses of spacecraft moving and rolling at high rates of speed were created by movements of only the movie camera. The computer system used to control the movement of the camera system could also remember what was filmed previously and how it was filmed.

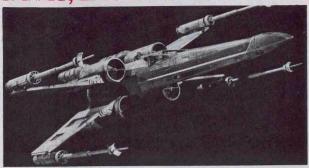


Mike Dorffler meets STAR WARS robot hero, R2-D2.

Remember when the escape pod with C3PO and R2-D2 jetisoned from the Blockade Runner in the beginning of the movie? What you saw was a small model dropped from an opening in a tabletop sized scene with the camera looking down from above. Do vou also remember when the Blockade Runner was hit by a Laser blast from the Corellian Stardestroyer in the beginning? And how the explosion flared up and away into free space? That scene was filmed upsidedown so that gravity would pull all the blast debris down and away from the model.

(Continued Next Page)

#### JAWAS, LASER BURNS AND DARTH VADER

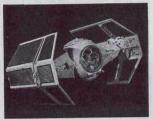


Close-up of fantastic movie model of X-Wing Fighter.

These guys are real tricky and true magicians.

Remember those sound effects? They were all added later, using a very complex electronic sound mixing system. We were really surprised to learn that the T.I.E.

Fighter engine roar was actually an elephant roar electronically "enhanced". Chewbacca's "voice" is actually a mixture of walrus and bear. Artoo's buzzing, bleeping, and chirps were all expertly created on a Moog Synthesizer. All of the work done on STAR WARS is the result of over 900 dedicated people and we only met a few of these. It was an experience to be long remembered.



Close-in shot of Darth Vader's TIE Fighter, Notice superdetailed cockpit.

We hope you enjoy these

photos.
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.

#### **SPECIAL NOTICE** "New" Star Wars Kits

Although we're as excited as you are about our new STAR WARS Kits, the only kit available at this time is the STAR WARS PROTON TORPEDO STARTER OUT-FIT (#1420) featured on pages 12 & 13. Please do not order our other STAR WARS models until you receive our 1978 Model Rocketry Catalog scheduled to be mailed in February 1978. Thank you for your patience as we're sure you won't be disappointed. By the way, EAC members will be the first to receive our 1978 Catalog, so if you're not yet a member, JOIN NOW! (See page 14 for special membership discount.)

#### IRON-ON DECALS For

Your T-Shirts, Wind breakers, and Range Jackets.

Remember all orders received on odd numbered months will be given a "FREE" iron-on decal for your T-shirts, windbreakers, or range jacket. These new Estes iron-ons will feature a variety of super-neat designs. You iron it on right at home to any surface containing 50% or more polyester. Remember these great new iron-ons will be available only with your return mail orders on the odd numbered months (January, March, May, etc.)

#### DON'T MISS AN ISSUE OF MODEL ROCKET NEWS

Model Rocket News is published six times yearly and inserted with return mail orders. To receive your bimonthly copy simply place an order or request the latest issue from: Estes Industries, Att: MRN Editor, Penrose, Colo. 81240.

MR		JBLICATION HEDULE	ON
Vol.	No.	Month	Year
17	6	December	1977
18	1	February	1978
18	2	April	1978
18	3	June	1978

Note: We regret that the MRN is not available as a subscription as we do not have the internal staff and machinery to handle such a program at this time.

YOUR BEST BET IS TO OBTAIN MODEL ROCKET NEWS WITH YOUR NEXT ORDER!

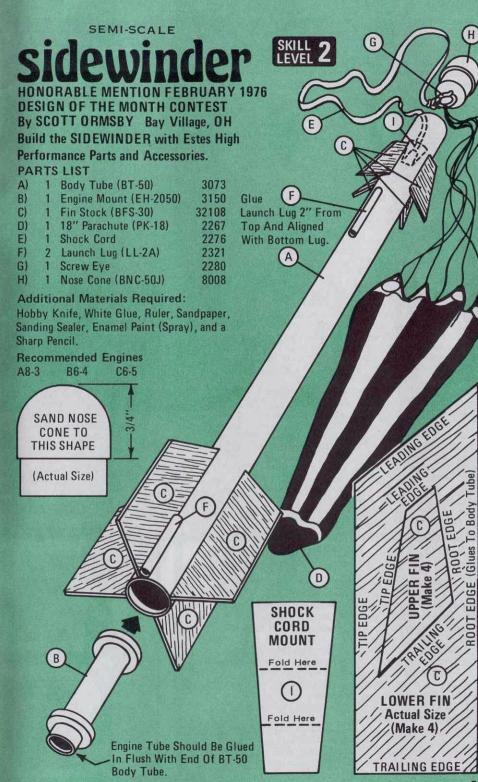
#### Help Us Publish **Model Rocket News**

Got any good ideas for MODEL ROCKET NEWS articles, technical information, cartoons, anecdotes, club news of unusual interest, etc.? Then why not submit them to us for possible publication? Our constant aim is to make MRN a better, more interesting magazine, and you might be just the type of contributor we need.

If you send us photos, please make sure that you pack them between cardboard sheets so that they won't get creased in the mail. All contributions become the property of Estes Industries and cannot be returned. Address all material to: MRN Editor, Estes Industries, Penrose, Colorado 81240.

Should your article or photos be used in MRN, we'll reward your efforts and talent with an Estes merchandise certificate, the amount of which will be determined by the MRN editorial staff.

Hope to hear from vou soon!



# **DESIGN OF THE MONTH WINNERS**

Congratulations to another fine group of Estes Rocketeers for their outstanding DOM entries. First place winners will receive \$75.00 merchandise certificates and honorable mentions will be awarded \$10.00 certificates. Keep those entries coming, maybe you'll be our next winner!

JULY 1977 — First Place Seven-Way-Tie: Ernesto Uribe II, APO New York (Under Water Launch System). Roger Gilbertson, Woodside, CA (Inca 1). Tom Baker, Phoenix, AZ (Lathe). Andrew Dubner, Potomac, MD (Hideaway). Duane L. McVay, Findlay, OH (The 7-UP Rocket). Gordon Bugg, Gadsden, AL (Skysighter: Rocket Tracker). Joseph Schell, Helena, MT (The Black Cat). Honorable Mention: Gordon Bugg, Gadsden, AL (Talon). Jay Rickerts, Oklahoma City, OK (Artemis Clipper). Dan Williamson, Irvine, CA (F-19 Super 'Ceptor). Jonathan Pierce, Charlotte, NC (Excaliber). Eddie Cox, Washington, NC (XV-9 Star Fighter). Alexander Pucciariello, Roscoe, NY (U.S. Intermolecular Space Voyager). Andrew Tuls, Lancaster, CA (Guillotine). Michael Bibeault, Dracut, MA (The Marauder). Michael Webb, Emmetsburg, IA (Anterogator). Erik Downey, Newark, DE (Star Fire). Robert Wenzel, Carmel, IN (Severus). Willie Miller, Tijeras, NM (Side Winder S-X). David Suda, Latrobe PA (Confederate). Tommy Best, Corpus Christi, TX (Defender).

AUGUST 1977 — First Place Five-Way-Tie: Chris Donahue, Northport, AL (Neutron Express). Randy Heald, Lamesa, TX (Messenger 1). Rick Salgado, Los Alamos, NM (Blue Angel). Tony Stockard, Rhome, TX (Sweep-Wing Rocket). Bob Luzenski, Sterling Hts., MI (Electronic Launch Control System). Honorable Mention: Brian Casey, Shorewood, IL (The Venus Explorer). Terry King, West Lafayette, IN (The Pocket Rocket Concept). Karel Chaloupka, Missouri City, TX (Skyliner). Donald Stewart, Anoka,

MN (Dragonfly I). Jack Benz, Loveland, CO (Titan II). Daniel Rick, Dallas, TX (Orion). Jason K. Durfee, Orem, UT (Luna VII). Steve Fox, Christ Church, Barbados, W. Indies (Sprite).

SEPTEMBER 1977 — First Place Tie:
Karl Reissig, Montgomery, NY (Black
Giant). Mike Hilton and Sean Fitzpatrick,
Alexandria, LA (Neutron Star). Honorable
Mention: Mitchell Stepuch, Hanford, CA
(Galaxy). Pete Monfre, Casper, WY
(Shuttle). Dave Amory, Mercer Island,
WA (Daedalus). Melvin Quan, Los Angeles,
CA (Ivan Hoe). Debbie Summa, Bardonia,
NY (Vulcan). Dan Gregory, Brook Park,
OH (Triroc D). Gary Friedman, Lexington,
MA (Freighter X-7). Chris Del Rossi,
Jaffrey, NH (Red Nose Patriot). Steve L.
Gillies, Dillon, CO (Cobra). Craig Power,
McKeesport, PA (Altair 3). James O'Turner
III, N. Charleston, SC (Fatso). Matthew
Queen, Fruitdale, SD (Swift). Mike Bays,
Sand Diego, CA (Commodore I).

OCTOBER 1977 — First Place Four-Way-Tie: Rick Gaulke, Overland Park, KS (Arachnid Destroyer). Robert Vavrik, Longwood, FL (Midnight Streak). Steve Semkins, Irmo, SC (Cosmic-Probe). Michael Annechini, Willingboro, NJ (Planet Probe). Honorable Mention: Peter Byrnes, Victoria, BC Canada (Phaser). Francis Pang, Stockton, CA (Voyager II). Jim Bulkley, Aspen, CO (The Lance). John Dodd, New City, NY (Electron). Lee Dayton, Palmyra, NY (Sky Base International). Greg Yeomans, Vancouver, BC Canada (Centaurus). Dennis Reip, Port Ewen, NY (Voyager IV). Fedel Marquez, Chicago, IL (Hercules I). Bill Cravis, Lexington, MA (Space Witch).

#### WANT YOUR TEACHER TO SPONSOR A MODEL ROCKET CLUB?

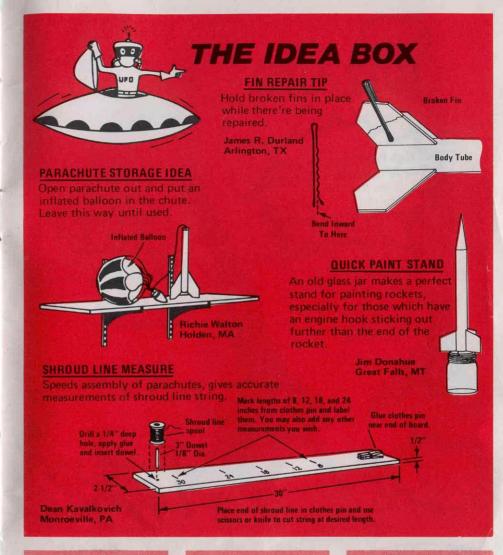
Model rocketry is a fun way to learn about the big rockets, space ships, and science. If you want us to send your teacher some free information about model rocketry as a school sponsored activity, send us your teacher's name, school name, school address, city, state, and zip code.

We will send your teacher a guide explaining why model rocketry is a great school activity. A current catalog with all of our great new rockets will be sent. A list of our many publications on specialized areas of rocketry will be included.

Send your teacher's full name and address (as explained above) to:

Education Department Estes Industries Department 51N Penrose, Colorado 81240









either'



"Remember that station that you talked to last month on your ham radio?"