

Snippet. 'New' German System: KNIRPS Thanks to Urs Flammer for sending the Ebay ad for the present set. The blurb claimed it to be the first after WW2 and that it was made from a scrap ammunition box. That is credible for the main part, a hinged catch (Figs.1 & 1a). And perhaps the other parts were made from the box itself, who knows? The name KNIRPS (meaning little fellow, urchin, etc) brings STABIL to mind but there is nothing to connect this set with the Walther company: the type face is not, as far as I know, one of theirs, and though some of the parts are similar most vary in detail, from a non-STABIL Road Wheel to square rather than hexagonal Nuts.

36 parts are claimed on the front of the model sheet (Fig.1 & 3) and the 24 remaining are shown in Fig.1. No indication was given of the size of the parts. The Seat (that's to say the catch) was said to be brass and it has the same black finish as the other parts. From the 24 parts, and those used in the models, the parts in the Set could be: 1 Seat; 1 each 3 & 5h Strips; 2 DAS; 1 A/B (though I can't see where it is used); 1 D/B, 2h high; 1 Reversed A/B, 2*1*2h; 2 Wheels; 2 Wheel Discs; 2 Screwed Rods (probably different lengths); 1 Long & 6 Short Bolts; 16 (or perhaps 18) Nuts; 1 Span'driver. But that makes at least 37 parts, even without the Span'driver.

The end of a cardboard box can be seen in Fig.1 and in the original Ebay photo it looks in plan to be little larger than the folded Sheet. The photo shows no printing on its top face and it's not clear if the set was packed in it.

The models are on a single sheet folded in two. Fig.3 shows the front and Fig.2 the reverse side.

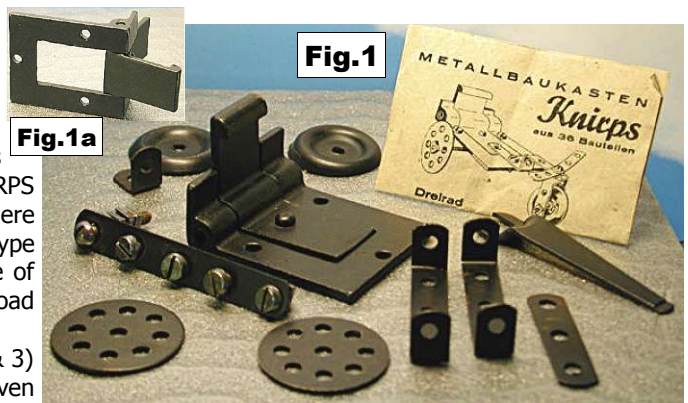


Fig.1a

Fig.1

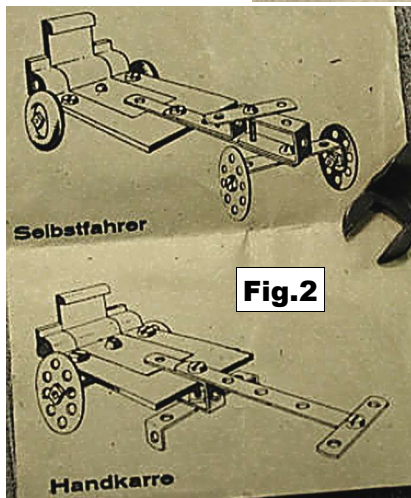


Fig.2

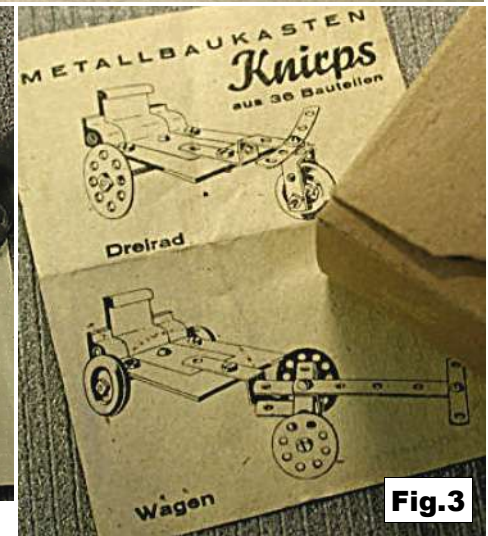


Fig.3

KNIRPS [2]: S1

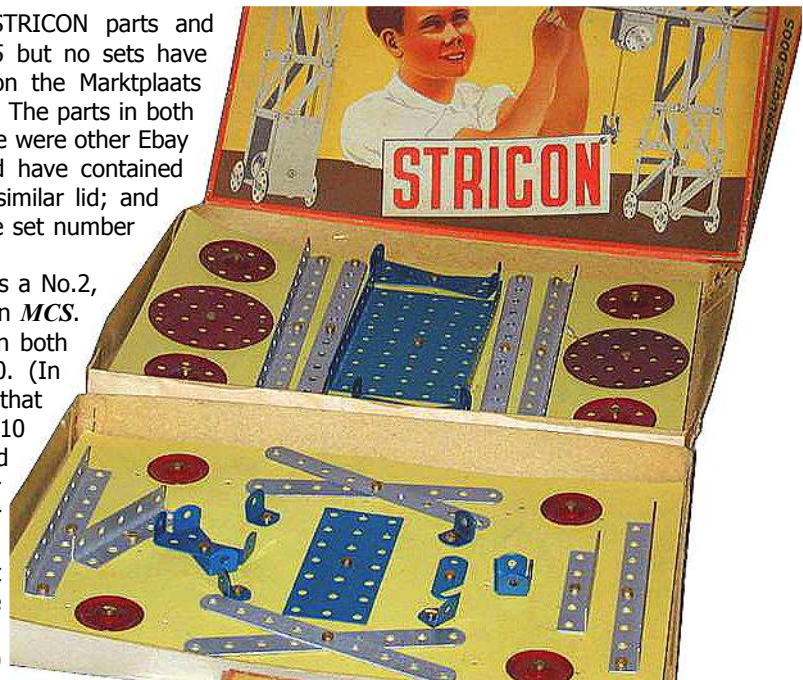
OSN 50/1526

Snippet. Two STRICON sets Notes on STRICON parts and manuals were given in 10/256, 11/275 & 38/1145 but no sets have been seen until now. The two right were seen on the Marktplaats auction site and were said to be a No.1 and a No.2. The parts in both Sets are held to the backing cards by N&B, and there were other Ebay photos showing small fawn envelopes which could have contained small parts & other N&B. Also photos of another similar lid; and manuals with the later cover, as in OSN 38, but the set number couldn't be seen on either the lids or the covers.

There is no reason to doubt that the lower set is a No.2, the parts that can be seen tally with those shown in MCS. The parts in the top set though are those shown in both the old- & new-style No.3 manuals, see OSN 10. (In passing it should have been noted in OSN 38 that compared with the older manual described in OSN 10 the contents of the No.3 in the 'new' manual had been increased from 2 to 4x 13h Strips. The earlier quantity was an error because several of the earlier manual models needed 4 of the 13h Strips.)

The top of the lid can't be seen in the photo right but apart from its blurry set number, it matches the one shown in OSN 11.

The invaluable HONGS website (www.hongs.nl) has photos of 2 sets almost identical to the present ones. The one that matches the lower set right is referred to as a No.2; the top one right is again called a No.1, and its lid and manual both have No.1 on them. Both HONGS boxes measure 30*21cm and if as is likely, all the boxes from Sets No.1-3 were the same size, I suppose it's possible that at some stage a No.3 backing card with parts got put into a No.1 box. It would though seem to be a coincidence too far for the Marktplaats set to have suffered the same misadventure – unless of course the Marktplaats set was actually the HONGS set.



Two ads for STRICON were shown in HONGS. One from February 1947 marked it as available but unlike the other items advertised, no price was given. So it seems likely that this would have been soon after STRICON was launched. The second was from December 1948 and gave the price as F 2.70 without mentioning a set number. Both the no doubt later HONGS sets were priced at F 4.35.

STRICON: S2

OSN 50/1526