

'New' System: TOKA Thanks to Angel Rodriguez Palacios for these notes. They are based on parts and a model leaflet; there was no box with them. TOKA is a small system but it has an interesting selection of parts and some original models.

The PARTS Holes are 6.5mm at 13.7mm pitch, the thread is M6. The parts are shown below, and to an extent in the models. 29 different items can be seen as follows. • Strips, 3,5,7,9,11,17h, & 9h Curved. • DAS, 1*3,5*1h. • Brackets:



Fig.2



Angle, 1*1,4h. Double. Obtuse, 1*1,3h. Reverse Angle. • Triangular Plate 2*2h. • Perforated Plates, 3*3,5h. • Flanged Plates, 3*7h, 2*2h. • Discs, perhaps 20 & 30mm Ø. • Fairing (between the D/B & the Curved Strip). • Screwed Rod, perhaps 40mm long. • N&B, both hexagonal, probably bright zinc on steel, with 3 lengths of Bolt. • Spanner.

The LEAFLET It is single-sided with the heading in Fig.1. The word under TOKA is INNOVATION. The whole sheet can be seen on Timothy Edwards web site. 5 models are shown, 3 small & 2 larger, with 5 or 6 views of each. The best of the small ones is the Sailboat in Fig.5, the others are a Helicopter and what I take to be a Floatplane. The two larger models (below & right) are quite sizeable, the Motorcycle is 20+cm overall and the Helicopter's fuselage is 35 to 40cm long. The Fairing

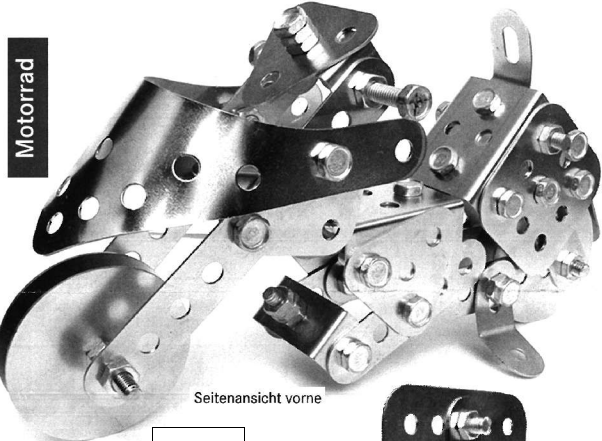


Fig.3



Fig.5

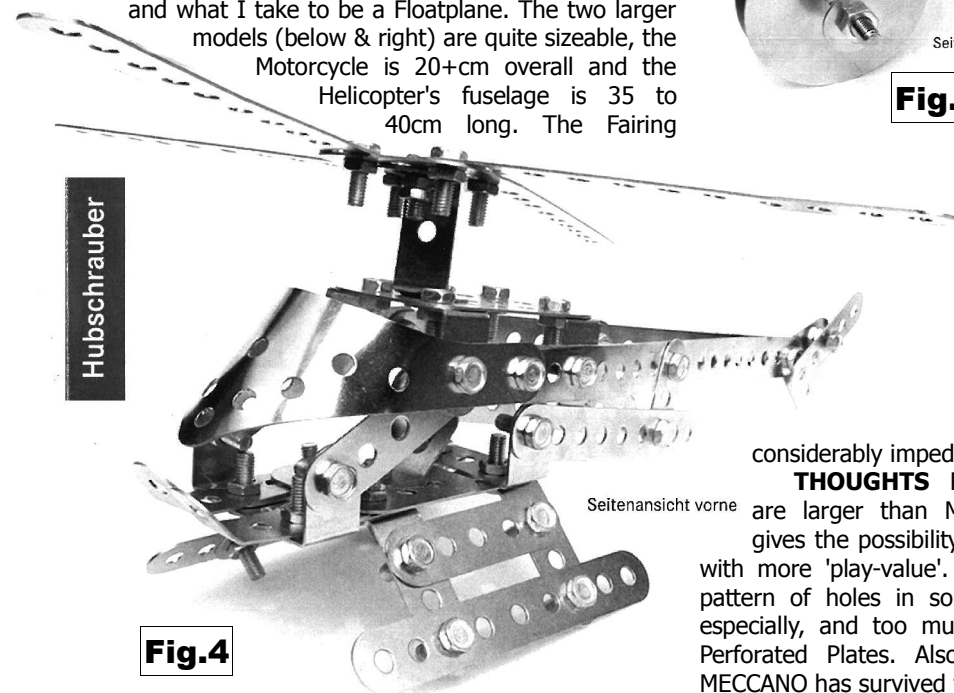


Fig.4

looks well on the latter but it would considerably impede the pilot's view!

THOUGHTS Personally I like TOKA in that its parts are larger than MECCANO & Eitech/'POLYLONG'. This gives the possibility of easier to assemble, larger models, with more 'play-value'. But one of TOKA's limitations is the pattern of holes in some of the parts, the Flanged Plates especially, and too much material outside the holes in the Perforated Plates. Also, beware he who tries innovation, MECCANO has survived for 100+ years against all comers.