

Fokker S.IV Vami Modelsⁱ resin kit

Biplane training

Scale 1:72

The Fokker S.IV has been for many years (some S.IV's were still in service at the outbreak of World War II) the standard basic training aircraft of the Dutch Army air arm. It is said to have been a very reliable and easy-to-fly aircraft, may be even too safe, making the transition to more military style airplanes too difficult.



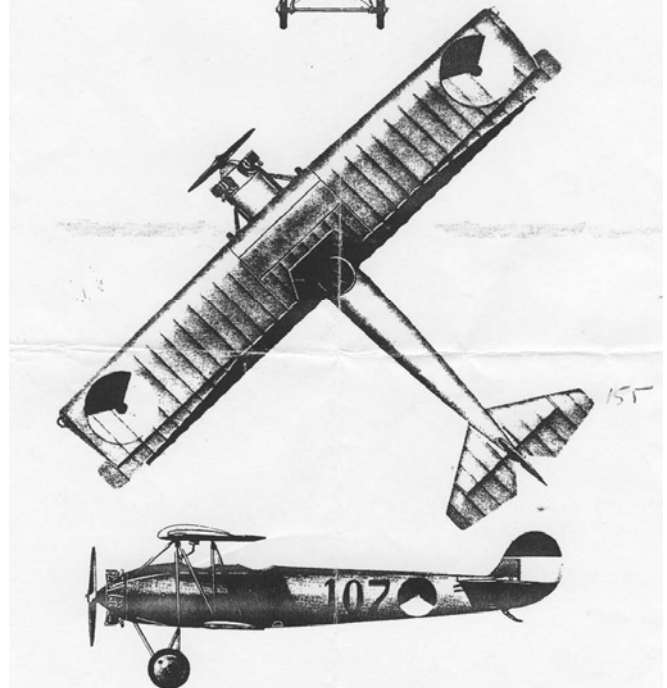
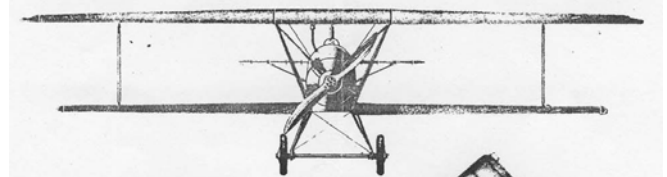
The kit contains resin parts and a very limited instruction sheet, which shows only a three-view drawing.

I have painted the S.IV light grey with black registration numbers, because that seemed the colour on the photographs I had, and the instruction sheet was of no help here. I only knew that the drab olive colour on the box was incorrect; that colour was only assigned to operational fighting planes of the C- and D-series of the Dutch Army. It was also the colour of the single S.IV of the Royal Dutch East-Indies Army (Hooftman, ref. 4), but than the registration was F.S.58 in white, and the engine was a Clerget rotation engine.

Only later I found out that all basic training aircraft of the Dutch Army were painted light blue (Humbrol 115, see ref. 10), which of course shows up as light



S.IV



This Dutch Army training aircraft had an Armstrong-Siddeley 'Mongoose' engine— one of several types installed.

137

grey in B&W pictures. According to the picture below taken from Hooftman (ref. 3) the inter-wing, tail and landing gear struts were painted black or dark grey. So maybe the S.IV deserves a second chance; I might try to build the S.IV of Omega Models.

Alting (ref. 1), Hegener (ref. 2), Hooftman (ref. 3 and 4), Schoenmaker (ref. 5), Wesselink (ref. 6), Vliegwereld (ref. 7), Vredeling (ref. 8) and Fokker Bulletin (ref. 9) give the dimensions of the S.IV, while Hegener, Vredeling and Fokker Bulletin present a three-view drawing.

	Ref.	1:72	model
Span (upper wing)	10.74-11.70 m	149.2-162.5 mm	mm
Length	8.00-8.55 m	111.1-118.8 mm	mm
Height	3.10-3.23 m	43.1-44.9 mm	mm

	<i>Ref.</i>
<i>Engine</i>	Armstrong-Siddeley Mongoose, 130-150 hp
<i>Crew</i>	2

Painting Scheme

Cockpit

<text>

Fuselage

<text>

Wing

<text>

Undercarriage

<text>

Final assembly

<text>

Below some pictures show the finished model.





References

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ⁱ <http://users.skynet.be/vami-models/>