Snippet: AUKI This small German system was mentioned in 15/412, and since then a few details and a better photo of a set have been given in *Baukästen* (p219). In addition several other sets have been seen on Ebay. The parts are silver looking, and, by scaling, their hole pitch is probably 12.5 or 12.7mm. The name AUKI came from the first letters of the maker's name – August Kirchhoff. Notes on a similar, or perhaps identical, system from the same maker are given on the next page.

Leading Particulars

Name AUKI METALL-BAUKASTEN

Country Germany

Maker August Kirchhoff, Carthausen-Oekinghausen, Westfalia (near Lüdenscheid).

Period 1949 to 1960s.

Hole dia.

Hole pitch Probably 12.5 or 12.7mm.

Sets Said to be 3 basic sets and 2 accessory outfits, but see below.

Colour Unpainted. Plates & Strips look silvery; Wheels nickel.

Boss Possibly none.

N&B

Axle Perhaps Screwed Rods are used.

DP Gears have quite coarse teeth, about 14 DP (Mod.1.8).

Remarks METALL-BAUKASTEN [3] is a similar system from the same maker.

SETS In *BK* it is said that there were 3 basic outfits and 2 Ergänzungskästen, a word that usually means linking sets. The lid of the set in *BK* has no indication of set number. Another from a similar size box (again partitioned into 6 compartments) has on it 'Standard Nr.2' & 'Inhalt wie Nr.1 und 1a' (Contents as No.1 & 1a). So far so good, but the lid of a larger outfit has 'Ergänzungskasten' at the top of the label, and '3' in a circle outside it. The set looks genuine, and if so, it doesn't seem to fit with the pattern of outfits suggested in *BK*.

Boxes The No.3 box is red outside and blue inside (the bottom is shown in the next column). All the others are plain brown card inside & out.



Labels. The label on the BK box is just like the manual cover above. The Nr.2 label is the same but with yellow

panels for text on either side. The No.3 label covers nearly all of the lid and is light blue with the outlines of a bridge & other items in white. In its centre is the manual cover with a slab of small print under it, and as already noted, with Ergänzungskasten at the top.

All the labels have the AKC logo with the 'C' standing for Carthausen presumably.

PARTS The main parts that can be seen in the various sets are:

- Strips with well rounded ends, up to 9h long. **Twisted Strips** about 5 & 7h long, with only a hole at each end. Probably a 5h **DAS**
- A 7*5h **Flanged Plate** with a central 3*3h cutout and slotted holes in the flanges.
- 3*3h & 7*3h Perforated Plates with square corners.
- What are probably A/Gs, 4 & 5h long.
- 2 **Pulleys**, one about 2h Ø, and one 3h with 2 holes in its face, plus 4 small holes, or more likely rivets or spot welds.
- A 5h Ø **Disc** with 8 outer & 4 inner holes, although in most sets the part has only the outer ring. Possibly a 4h Wheel Disc.
- Various **Brackets**. A 2*2h **Corner Bracket** with a sharp inner angle.
- Screwed Rods and a wire Handle Crank.
- A Screwdriver about 12cm o/a with a long wooden handle and a short blade.

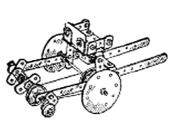


And only in the No.3 (above):

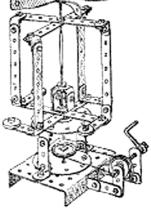
- Formed Road Wheels a little over 2h & a little over 3h Ø.
- **Gears** of about 2 & 4h \varnothing with about 14 & 28 teeth. Its possible that they are made from 2 formed discs like the STABIL 1926 patent type (see 13/349).
- An 8h Wheel Disc.

MANUAL A manual is shown with the unnumbered set,

and with sets 2 & 3. In all cases it has the cover already shown. The models from the one page available are shown right & below.



AUKI: S1



OSN 28/818

Snippets. More on AUKI This account is based a number of sets seen on Ebay & elsewhere since the last note on this 44-part, post-WW2 German system in 28/818, plus information kindly supplied Joachim Kleindienst. He also gave permission to reproduce images from his website www.baukastensammler. de (Figs.2, 4, & 7). In passing, the site has good photos & other information on a variety of German sets and is well worth a visit.

Some of the AUKI parts resemble STABIL but the hole pitch is 12.0mm. There were 3 main sets: Nr.1, 2, & 3, plus linking sets 1a, & 2a. It is now known that the main parts were aluminium and that eventually each set was also available with the aluminium parts coloured, perhaps painted but more likely anodised.

The Parts Pp 2-4 of Joachim's AUKI manual show the Illustrated Parts; they are as in Fig.4 after rearrangement and with their size reduced. Some actual parts (from Joachim's small '5-tray', see later, set) are shown in Fig.2, and others can be seen in Figs.5-7. Most of the parts are light alloy but some Brackets and nearly all the circular parts are nickelled steel. Of the latter the 1.5 & a few of the 2.7cm Ø Pulleys look to be aluminium. Below some notes on the parts (called by more usual names) with those seen only in Sets 2A & 3 marked '‡'.

- **Strips** #1-1f, 3,4‡,5,6‡,7,8‡,9h long, with mostly well rounded ends, but some have a larger radius. A **Twisted Strip** #2, about 5h long, with only a hole at each end (the 7h size mentioned in OSN 28 seems to have been a mistake). DAS #25‡, 1*5*1h.
- #7, as #8 but with a central 3*3h cutout. It is shown with round holes in its flanges but they are slotted in Joachim's set.
- error).
- 2.6cm Ø, and 3.7cm with 2 holes in its face.

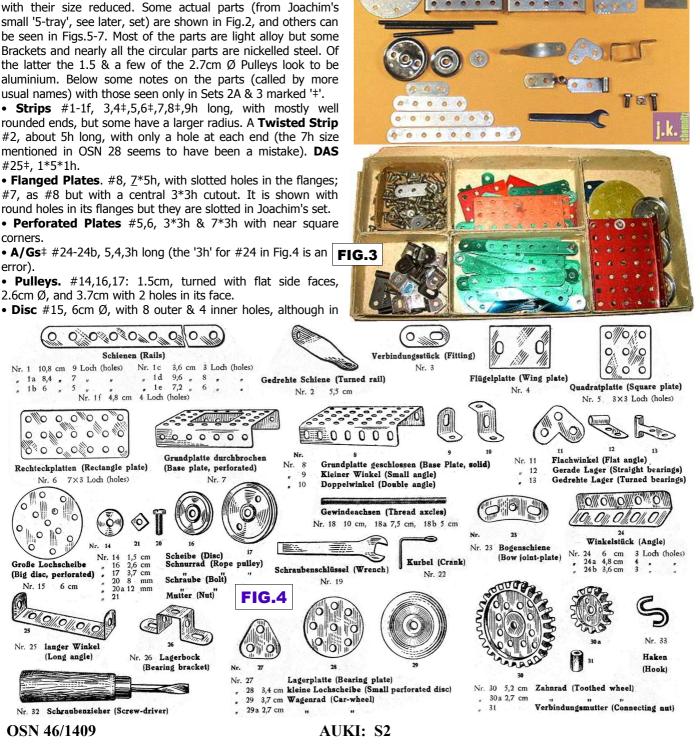


FIG.2

most sets it has only the outer ring. Wheel Disc #28‡, 3.4cm Ø.

- Road Wheels‡ #29,29a, formed, 3.7 & 2.7cm Ø.
- **Gears**‡ #30,30a, STABIL 1925-style of 5.2 & 2.7cm Ø with 14 & 28 teeth.
- Various Brackets: Flat #3; Angle #9; Reversed Angle #10, with a slotted centre hole. Corner #11, 2*2h with a sharp inner angle. **Double Bent Strip** #26‡.
- Bearing Brackets #12,13, for the Screwed Rods (as in STABIL).
- Slide Plate #4. It was most likely

introduced to be used as part of the crosshead in the Press





shown in Fig.6. Early versions had
Hook #33‡, wire (at the rear of

rounded holes. the Car in Fig.7).

- Screwed Rods #18-18b 10, 7.5, 5cm long.
- Handle Crank #22, wire.
- **Bolts**#20,20a, 8 & 12mm, cheeseheaded, but roundheaded in a few sets. **Nut** #21.
- **Screwdriver** #32‡, about 12cm o/a. A wire one has been seen in a few sets. **Span'driver** #19.
- **Tyres** for the 2.6 & 3.7cm Pulleys. These are not in the Illustrated Parts and were probably only in later sets. The larger size is suspect because it has only been seen in one (of the two known) 'Standard Nr.2' sets.

The Sets All but 4 of the 19 sets seen are in plain cardboard boxes about 30*15*21/2cm. Their label is identical to the manual cover, with 2 boys making models, that was shown in 28/818 (also in the centre of the Fig.1 label), and the same

size. The parts are in 5 trays, as in Fig.3. One corner bay houses the N&B etc and was fitted with a lid. The lids in different sets vary in colour & design, and one is plain cardboard, but all have AUKI on them.

It isn't certain if any of the sets are complete but the maximum quantities of the main parts seen in any of them is: 1 each of the Flanged Plates; 2 each of the Perforated Plates & 6cm Disc; 16,16,13,6? of the 3,5,7,9h Strips; 8 of the Twisted Strip; 4 of the Slide Plate; and 4 each of the 3 sizes of Pulley.

No number can be seen on any of these sets and one might assume that they are the smallest Nr.1 set, or perhaps there was only one unnumbered set originally. There is a doubt though because 2 of the sets have the same 5-tray box, but their lids have yellow panels added on either side of the usual lid label, and on the left one is 'Standard Nr.2'. 'Standard' is a German word and I wonder if it was the designation used for the 'plain' sets after the coloured ones were introduced. As for the 'Nr.2', it seems unlikely that all of the 5-tray sets would be either

Nr.1 or Nr.2, so perhaps the same box was used for both sizes. In which case the quantities above would no doubt relate to the Nr.2.

The contents of one of the 'yellow label' Nr.2's matches the other sets but the other includes 4 DAS, and the 2.6 & 3.7cm Pulleys are both fitted with Tyres – the only set in which the larger Tyres look as if they might be original parts.

2 of the sets in the 5-tray boxes have coloured parts and one is shown in Fig.3. The other set has the same colour scheme with red Plates, green Strips, & a yellow 6cm Disc. Also in Fig.3 there looks to be a dark blue part poking out from under the Disc. In both sets the Twisted Strips and many of the Brackets look black.

Sets with a quite different type of packaging. Fig.5 is a Nr.3. The centre panel of its lid label (Fig.1) is the same size as the label on the 5-tray sets. Some of the parts are no doubt

'foreign': the letters 'A' & 'E' in the top right bay for example, & others at top left. Also the various balls and the electrical bits & pieces bottom left.

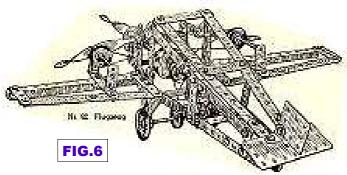
A Nr.2 lid in the same style but smaller has been seen – it measures 32*27cm and its label, the same size as the Nr.3, fills most of the lid.

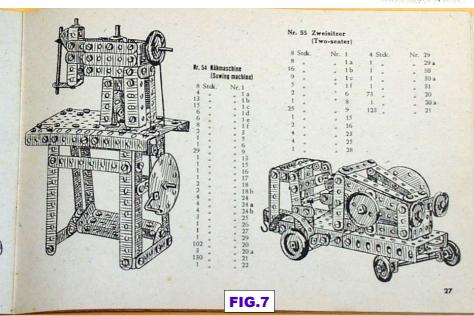
From the parts in the Ergänzungs-kasten (linking set) in OSN 28, which was labelled '3', it can now be seen from the parts in it that it must be a Nr.2a. Also its lid is the same size as the Nr.2 above with the same label except that it has Ergänzungskasten at the top of the inner panel and the wrong set number (presumably a mistake).

The Manuals Most of the manuals seen have the cover with 2 boys making models, as in 28/818 (and in the centre of the Fig.1 label). It scales at about 21* 14cm. One '2-Boy' manual was said to have 16 pages but Joachim's has 36. The latter has no PR but was printed by Buchdruckerei Adolf Kugel in the small village of Milspe, today in Nordrhein-Westfalen).

Early manuals had the cover with the Loco on it, as in 28/819. It is somewhat smaller, perhaps 16*12cm, and one was said to have 8 pages and to be from an early 1950s set.

The models shown here are all for Set 3 except possibly the Press.





AUKI: S3 OSN 46/1410