

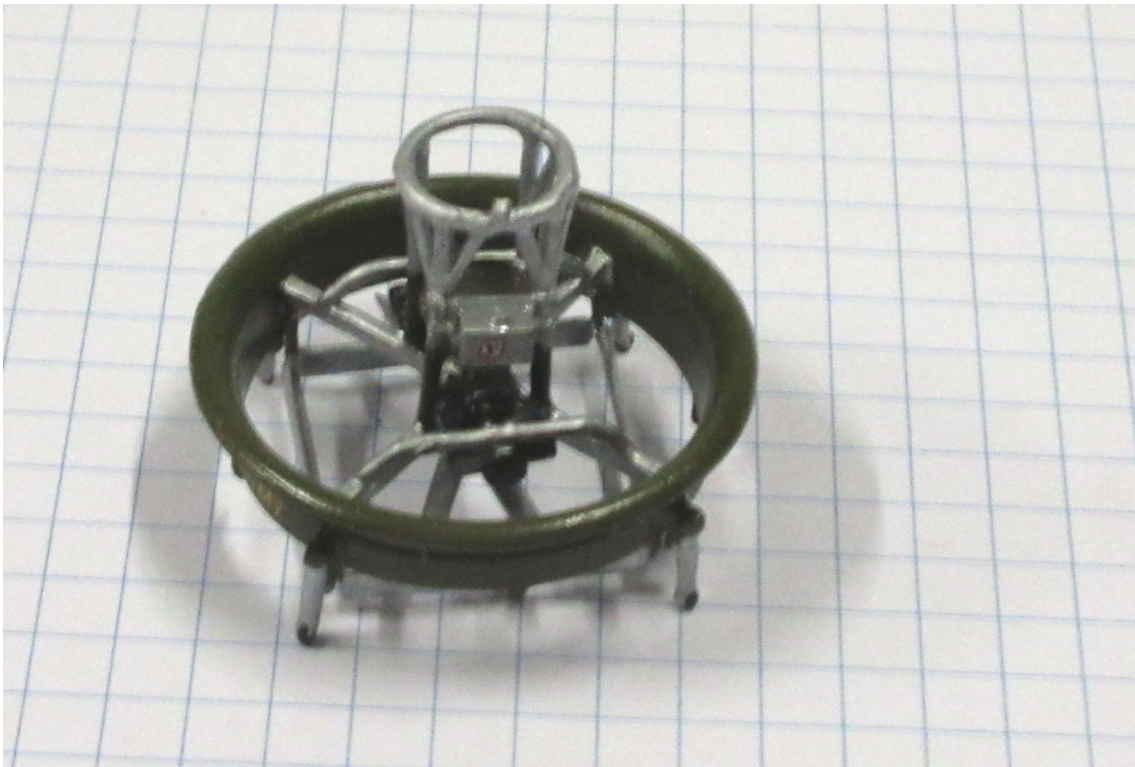
Hiller VZ-1

The Hiller VZ-1 was an experimental rotorcraft tested in the 1950s. It was similar to a helicopter, the duct gave it stability and the pilot controlled it by moving his weight. It was successful but did not enter production

The idea behind the VZ-1 was that a helicopter rotor worked as well below a vehicle as above it. The first VZ-1 was ordered in late 1953 by the US Navy and flew for the first time in February 1955. It was equipped with two 30kW engines with contra-rotating aircrews in a six feet diameter duct. The US Army was impressed by this model and three larger versions powered by three engines in an eight foot diameter duct.

This model represents the second version constructed and flown in the mid 1950s.

Data: *Engines.* three Nelson H-56 piston engines of 30kW each. *Duct diameter* 2.5m. *Height* 2.1m, *Maximum speed* 26km/h. *Empty weight* 176.8kg. *Crew* 1. *Anigrand* 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in September 2010.



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