



# CB&Q XA-14D "Bomber Box" Excess Height 50' Boxcar



The Burlington "Bomber Box" was a unique high cube car from the late steam and early diesel era. These cars were created in 1942 by adding a 26" increase in roof height to the Burlington's XA-14D 50' single sheathed, double door boxcar. By Forties standards, these cars were gigantic.

The Burlington modified 60 of its 50' outside braced, end door equipped autocars in 1942 to carry B-26C wing sections from the manufacturing plant in Baltimore, Maryland to the assembly facility near Omaha, Nebraska. The roof was raised more than two feet to accommodate the unusual cargo. A steel extension with vertical ribs was added to the tops of the car sides and the roof reattached, a process replicated by a number of other railroads during the war. This took the height of the running board to 17' 3" from rail head. Steel plate extensions were inserted in the ends of the car. The increase in height created a clear opening of 12' 3" at the "A" end, sufficient for insertion of the wing sections. Since other components of the B-26C would fit in standard 50' cars with end doors, the "Bomber Box" with raised roof often operated in combination with other former auto cars. Over 1600 B-26Cs were built in Nebraska, justifying modification of the 60 cars.

With the cancellation of the Martin B-26 program in 1943, the Burlington searched for alternative uses for the raised roof XA-14Ds. The car had a massive cubic capacity for the era. During the period of increased consumer production following the war, the cars were used to carry high cube, light weight loads, such as appliances, furniture and automobiles. The high stacking of appliances and furniture, made possible by the interior height, and excessive sway at the top of the car caused cargo damage, however. The cars were relegated to normal loading and the occasional use when excess cubic capacity was required. The cars operated at least into the 1950s without modification.

The raised roof XA-14Ds carried the typical Burlington white lettering, including the "Everywhere West" slogan and the Burlington Route box herald on the doors.

The Sunshine kit consists of traditional gray urethane castings of major parts and a solid cast roof. All detailing parts, full instructions and a Prototype Data Sheet are included, along with original decals. Appropriate plastic ARA style cast side frame trucks with metal wheel sets are available separately.

- \_\_\_ Kit #22.5 CB&Q rebuilt "Bomber Box" 50' IL, double door, 13' IH car w/ end door, 1940-50s white lettering, \$36
- \_\_\_ TP 40 Plastic, black, non-magnetic ARA design five coil spring trucks with metal wheelsets, \$5.00
- \_\_\_ Part #D1 Kadee No. 5 couplers, \$1.25

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Add \$4.00 for shipping per five kits in U.S. ( MO residents add 5.975% ), Canada \$8.55 for three kits  
**Sunshine Models Box 4997 Springfield MO 65808-4997**

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