



FREE GIFT Details Inside

£6.75 - March 22 (issue 126)

Military Illustrated Modeller
AFV Edition - March 2022

ISSUE
126

military illustrated modeller

SEVEN WHEELS ON MY WAGON

*Dragon's 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234
Pakwagen, minus one wheel...*

AFV edition

03
9 770268 832088

DOOLITTLE
MEDIA

Amusing Hobby Neubaufahrzeug • AFV Club's M5A1 Light Tank • KV-1 and 2 references • plus news, reviews and much more...

www.creativemodels.co.uk

Model by Wayne Hall

Model by Jeremy Moore

Get Creative!

CREATIVE MODELS LIMITED

HOBBYBOSS, VALLEJO, MODEL MASTER, MINIART, MASTER BOX, AK INTERACTIVE, MIG PRODUCTIONS, PLUS MODEL AND MANY MORE...

Unit 6-10, Honeysome Ind Est., Honeysome Road, Chatteris, Cambs. PE16 6TG
www.creativemodels.co.uk Tel: +44(0)1354 760022



20



38



28

- 4 NEWS**
Military modelling news
- 8 LITTLE STUART!**
Building, painting and weathering AFV Club's 1:35 M5A1 Stuart Light Tank
- 20 NEW BUILD VEHICLE!**
The fascinating 'Neubaufahrzeug' in 1:35 from Amusing Hobby
- COVER STORY**
- 28 SEVEN WHEELS ON MY WAGON**
Dragon's 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234 Pakwagen, minus one wheel...
- 36 21ST CENTURY CENTURION**
Tamiya's 1:16 RC British Centurion Mk.III
- 38 HARLEM TO HITLER**
Recreating a miniature replica of a famous WW2 photograph
- 46 STEEL COLOSSUS**
Photo-references and background on the Soviet KV tanks
- 52 PANTHER, PAUSED**
A dramatic image of a Panther, knocked out somewhere in Normandy
- 54 WEITER NACH OSTEN!**
An atmospheric diorama of German troops moving eastwards, Russia 1943
- 60 BOOK REVIEWS**
Military modelling-related book reviews
- 62 ORDNANCE DEPOT**
New and recent accessory sets and modelling materials
- 66 SIGN OFF**
A Deutsches Afrikakorps M34 team pose for the PK camera

NEWS JUST IN...



MINIART

- 1:35 Caen 1944 Pz.IV Ausf.H and Kfz.70 w/crews
- 1:35 G7117 1.5t 4X4 Cargo Truck w/winch
- 1:35 Market Garden figures w/resin heads

creativemodels.co.uk

REVELL

- 1:35 Unimog 2t milgl
- 1:72 Merkava III

revell.de/en



RODEN

- 1:35 1938 Ford V8-G81A Special

pocketbond.co.uk



TAKOM

- 1:72 Leopard 2A7
- 1:72 USS Missouri Battleship gun turret No.1

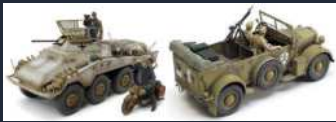
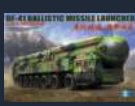
bachmann.co.uk,
pocketbond.co.uk



TAKOM

- 1:72 Chinese DF-41 Ballistic Missile Launcher

pocketbond.co.uk



TAMIYA

- 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234/1 2cm (re-issue)

TAMIYA

- 1:35 Horch Kfz.15 North African Campaign (Italeri moulds, re-issue)

hobbyco.net



TANKRAFT

ProTracks

- 1:35 T-34/76 ChKZ 42-43
- 1:35 T-34/85 Krasnoye Sormovo Factory 112 Late to Post War
- 1:35 KV series 700mm tooth and split
- 1:35 KV series 650mm tooth and split
- 1:35 IS 2 & 3 Post War
- 1:35 Tiger I Early, Late, Transport and Ice Cleats
- 1:35 Panther Early, Mid, Late and Jagdpanther
- Plus 1:35 Tiger II, Panzers HV, T-34s, US Trucks

tankraft.com

WWP

- M107/110 SPH & M578 Recovery vehicle book

wwpbooks.com



AFV CLUB

1:35 M110 8-INCH SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER

All new from AFV Club is the US Army M110 8-inch (203mm) self-propelled howitzer in 1:35! Expect the M107 to follow..

www.bachmann.co.uk



NEW FROM MINIART

1:35 GERMAN CARGO TRAILER

This WW2 German-made trailer is bound to find its way into many a diorama... www.creativemodels.co.uk

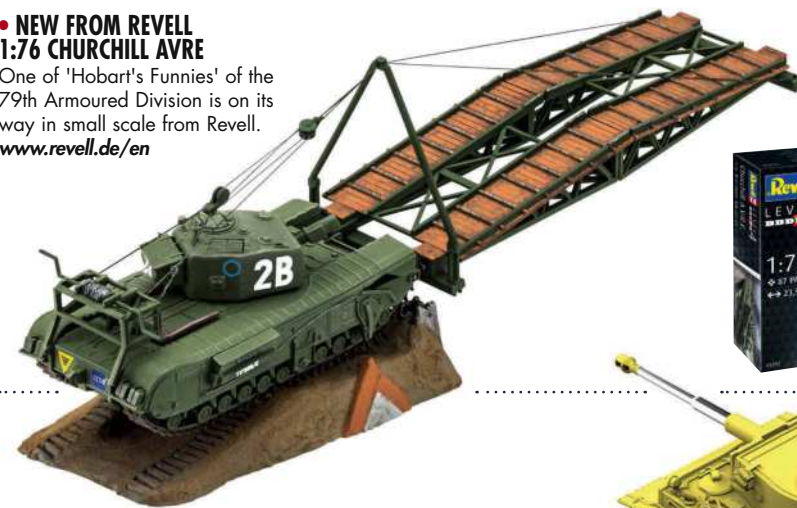


NEW FROM REVELL

1:76 CHURCHILL AVRE

One of 'Hobart's Funnies' of the 79th Armoured Division is on its way in small scale from Revell.

www.revell.de/en

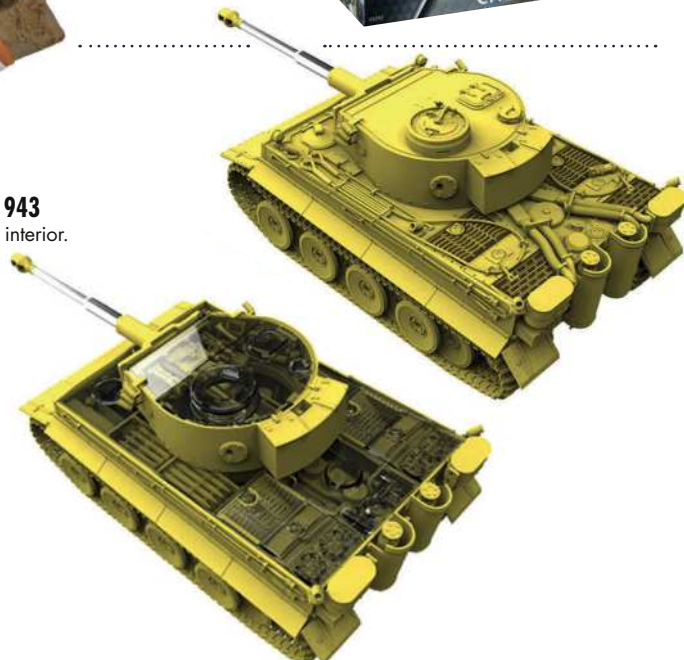


NEW FROM TAKOM

1:35 TIGER I EARLY PRODUCTION, KURSK 1943

This new release from Takom comes with a full interior.

www.bachmann.co.uk





www.light-craft.co.uk

LightCraft



Make the most of your space.

With a wide range of quality magnifier and task lamps **Lightcraft** have the perfect lighting solution to suit your needs.



LC8005LED Compact LED Task Lamp

This new compact task lamp provides the same great quality lighting whilst saving you space, with excellent lighting coverage despite its size.

- 72 SMD LEDs
- Shadow free light
- Inbuilt dimmer switch
- Wide lamp head (34cm)
- 6000-7000K, 90CRI light
- No heat emission
- Space-saving design
- Includes table clamp

LC8025LED Pro LED Task Lamp

A long reach LED task lamp with 3 lighting modes plus dimmer function. The light settings provide a range of options from soft white to cool daylight, this versatility makes it ideal for workshop, office or home.

- 84 LEDs
- 6500K, 90CRI light
- No heat emission
- Accurate positioning
- Wide head for better coverage (59cm)
- Shadow free light
- Inbuilt dimmer switch
- Includes table clamp



For details of your nearest stockist, call or e-mail today:
 +44 (0) 20 8451 6188 sales@shesto.co.uk www.shesto.co.uk
 Trade Enquiries Welcome: www.shestotrade.com

 **shesto**
 Trusted for quality, since 1907



• **NEW FROM ZVEZDA**
1:35 M4A2(76) SHERMAN

The US Sherman M4A2(76) will be with us soon, courtesy of Moscow-based Zvezda!
www.hobbyco.net



• **NEW FROM TAMIYA**
1:48 CHALLENGER 2 MBT

In their 1:48 line-up, Tamiya are to release the British Challenger 2 MBT. It will sit nicely alongside the American M1 Abrams and Soviet T-55 tanks in the range.
www.hobbyco.net

• **RE-ISSUE FROM TAMIYA**
THE HANDSOME SD.KFZ.10 'DEMAG' WW2

German half-track from Italeri was subtly improved and released by Tamiya some time ago. Now that kit is back, which is great news.
www.hobbyco.net



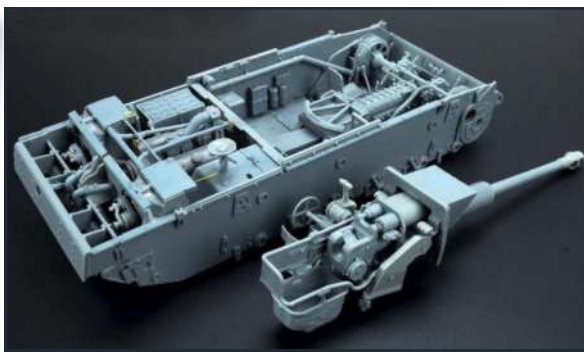
• **NEW FROM TAMIYA**
1:35 SOVIET KV-2 NEW-TOOL

Tamiya has announced the release of an all-new kit the mighty KV-2 heavy assault tank in 1:35 and here is the smart new box-art.
www.hobbyco.net



• **NEW FROM MINIART**
1:35 STUG III AUSF. G

MiniArt's new 1:35 StuG III Ausf. G very specifically depicts the February 1943 production vehicle as made by Alkett! And it comes with a full interior - tweezers at the ready.
www.creativemodels.co.uk



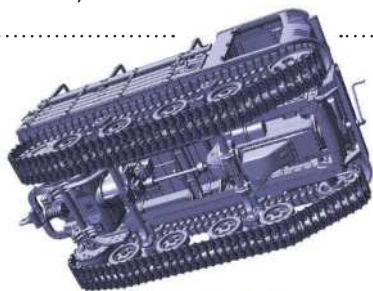
• **COMING SOON FROM TAMIYA**

The iconic Tiger I Early Production (Eastern Front) is coming to Tamiya's 1:48 range, now with an injection-moulded plastic hull, replacing the diecast metal item from the initial release.
www.hobbyco.net



• **NEW FROM ZVEZDA**
1:35 STZ-5 SOVIET ARTILLERY TRACTOR

This Soviet artillery tractor from the Second World War is coming soon as a new-tool release; expect a highly detailed kit.
www.hobbyco.net



THIS MONTH IN TAMIYA MODEL MAGAZINE...

In the March 2022 Issue (317) of Tamiya Model Magazine International we have Tamiya's new 1:35 Soviet KV-2.
Check it out! www.doolittlemedia.com

**Model Craft
FREE GIFT**

**DOOLITTLE
MEDIA**

MILITARY ILLUSTRATED MODELLER LIMITED TIME SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

SUBSCRIBE OR RENEW FOR 24 ISSUES AND RECEIVE A FREE GIFT WORTH £28 RRP!

We have teamed up with our friends at Model Craft so we can offer you a special gift for subscribing with us for 24 issues.

Flexible Masking Tape Set

These making tapes are ideal for Modelling, Airbrushing, Arts, Craft, Hobby and even those smaller DIY tasks. The tape sticks, stays and removes cleanly. It is also U.V. protected for masking in direct sunlight.

This flexible acid free tape is designed to follow curved lines and contoured surfaces without creasing, tearing or paint bleed.

- Precise masking with no paint bleed
- Acid free
- 1mm, 2mm, 3mm, 6mm & 10mm widths, 18m length
- Comes in twin packs, so you receive 10 packs
- 180m of masking mayhem!
- FREE GIFT worth over £28!



* Terms and conditions

While stocks last. Customers attempting to take out this offer after all stock is gone will be contacted before any money is taken. Subscriptions taken out with this offer will not be refunded if cancelled.

Doolittle Media Ltd., Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, Great Britain
W. www.doolittlemedia.com **E.** enquiries@doolittlemedia.com **T.** +44 (0) 1525 222573

24 ISSUE MIM SUBSCRIPTION

24 Issue subscription:- UK; £132, Europe; £160, Worldwide; £180

Renewal/Extension ☐

New Subscription - AFV & AIR issues ☐ Starting with issue No.....

AFV issues ☐ Starting with issue No.....

AIR issues ☐ Starting with issue No.....

Name

Address

.....

.....

Country **Post/zip code**

Telephone Number

Email

Please be aware that all credit/debit cards are processed through PayPal and this may appear on your bank statement

Please debit my credit/debit card for £.....

Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Maestro ☐ Cheque ☐

Card number:

Maestro only

Expiry date..... Valid from..... CCV Code..... Issue No.....

3 digits on the signature strip

If applicable

Signature..... Date.....

Please call our subscription line or mail this form, or a copy, to:
Doolittle Media Ltd., The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK

Tel: +44(0)1525 222573 **Online:** www.doolittlemedia.com

(Photocopies of this form are acceptable) **Make cheques payable to Doolittle Media Ltd.**

Please tick to confirm that you accept with the terms and conditions ☐

LITTLE STUART!

Lim Sin How builds,
paints and weathers AFV
Club's M5A1 Stuart Light
Tank (Late Type)

The US Stuart is one of my favourite tanks. When AFV Club released this M5A1 Stuart Light Tank Late Type (AF35161), I brought it home when it arrived at the local hobby shop. This is a complicated kit and at that time, I don't think I was capable of building it with my skills. After years of practice, finally in June 2021, I participated in a local group build amongst local modelling friends and tried it out. ➤



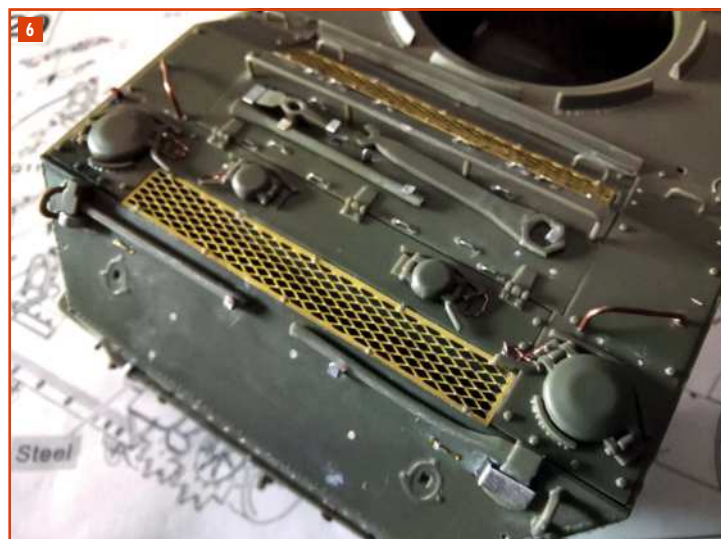
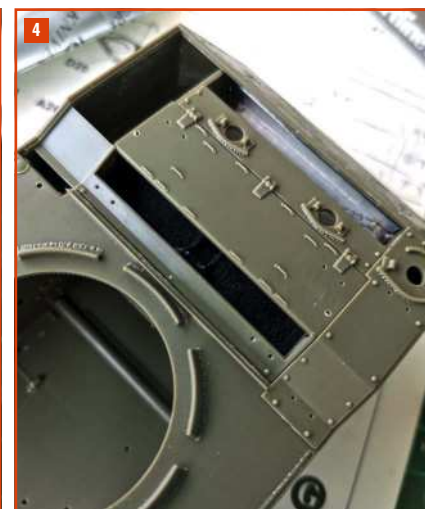
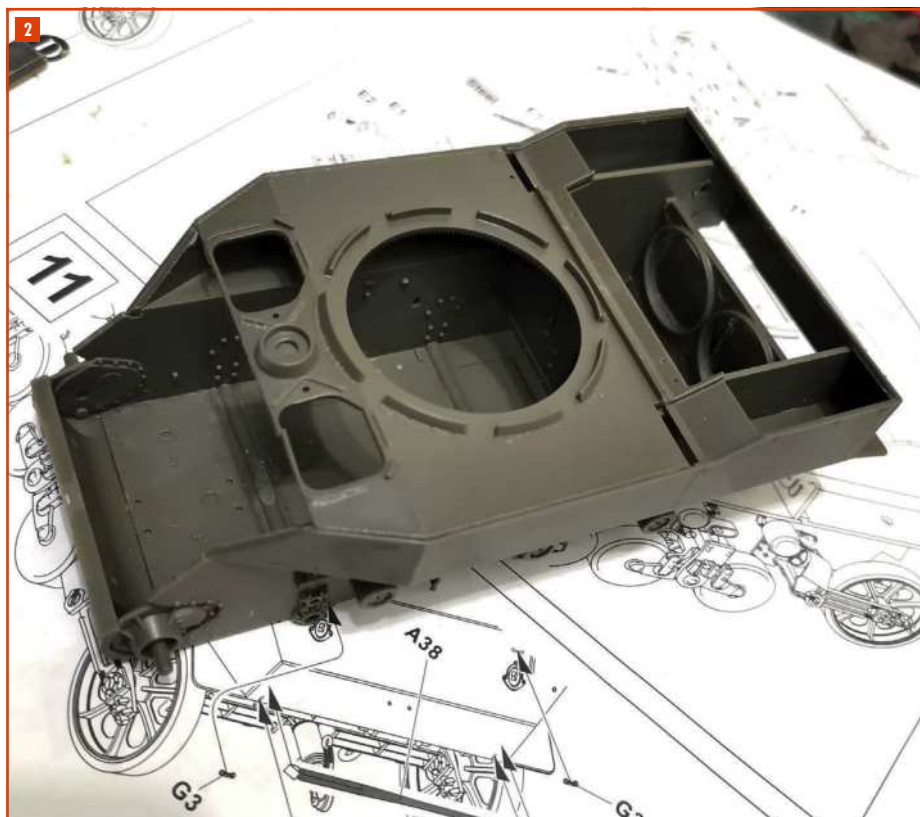


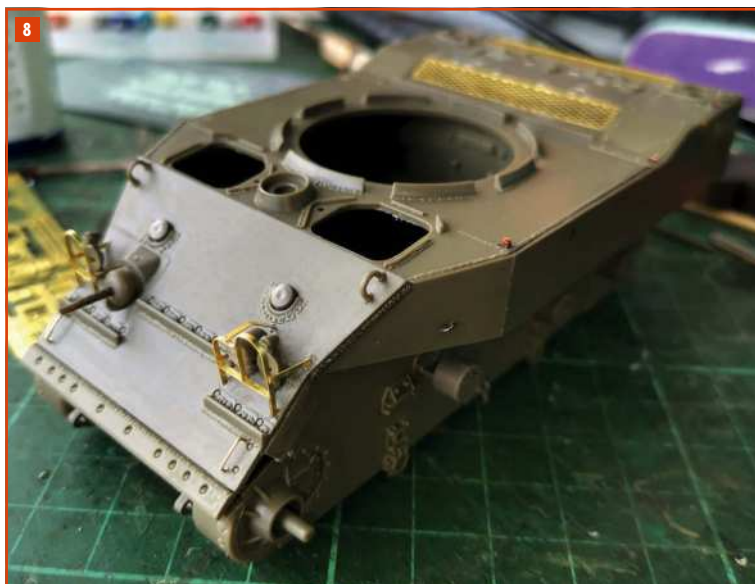


Construction started with the bogies and road wheels (**pic 1**) and the kit provides three different types of wheel. By following the instructions (paint scheme type C), I went with the solid-type roadwheels which required the builder to cut the grease nipples from the sprue runner and glue all sixteen of them separately. But this is the first thing I did wrong! I will let you know in the conclusion. The rest of assembly such as idler wheels and drive sprocket was straightforward, building up with caution and no big issues, the fit of these parts being very good.

The lower hull, however, is a bit tricky as it consists of six separate parts that fit together. I use superglue to build almost all my models and for me it was quite tricky get them in the right place before the glue cures. And as a reminder, there are tiny areas of flash everywhere that are easily overlooked, so make sure to remove them all or else they will affect the fitting and parts will be misplaced (**pic 2**). It seems flash appears mainly on the older parts of this kit. The 1st release of Stuart tank from AFV Club was years ago, since then all Stuart tank family releases from the manufacturer share many of the same parts. I can see the same parts from another earlier release of the Stuart tank from my stash in much better condition.

There are six parts for the engine access doors to fit together across the rear bottom of the lower hull. The fitting here is very tight and I slightly trimmed both ends to fit in. This could have been caused by tiny misplaced when I glued the lower side panel earlier.





UPPER HULL

The kit provides photo-etched mesh on the engine deck, but no engine bay detail is included and it will look empty when look through the mesh. I decided to add some simple detail to cover the empty space. By referring to real photos, I build part of the radiator beneath the engine deck. As not much can be seen, a very rough one will do the trick. Finally, I painted them and applied a very rough weathering (pic 3 and 4). There are twenty super-tiny bolt heads to be cut from the sprues to fit on the etched mesh and only a few extra provided, so be careful when doing this, I lost quite some of them.

One of the features of US tanks are those tiny brackets for straps to pass through to secure the

tools. First, I replaced some of them with photo-etched parts, but they could be easily fall off when I add straps later on, so I change my method. I cleaned off the kit's moulded-on brackets but left the two weld marks on both sides, drilled holes and, finally, glued fine wire to complete them. I also removed moulded-on detail of all tools and scratch-built all the tool holders from thin aluminium, replaced the two large handles with thinner copper wire. The chains on the fuel/oil filler caps were made from thin copper wire, twisted and flattened. There were also some location holes to be filled by referring to the instruction sheet, mainly around the engine deck and the rear slanted armour plate (pics 5 and 6).

The rear stowage box is newly tooled parts. I add some small chains from twisted and flattened copper wire for the locks. I had to paint the stowage box at this stage because I wished to add some MRE boxes behind the photo-etched mesh. The kit provides a decal for the star on the mesh part, but it's not feasible to use it, so I traced the star from the decal sheet and brush-painted it. I did some research and designed the MRE boxes, printed with an inkjet printer but the ink from printer spread and the text or pattern was not sharp. But this was acceptable because not much can be seen through the mesh. Just don't let it look empty! Some basic chipping and weathering was applied to finish this part (pic 7). ➔





FRONT HULL

I had got myself a set of AFV Club 1:35 photo-etched details (TH35008) which is a simple upgrade set mainly to replace light-guards and periscope guards. I replaced the kit's over-thick light-guards with photo-etched parts. The instruction for the hull .30cal machine gun were a bit unclear and I had to search for references to get those parts into the right position. I also drilled a row of holes for the MG barrel's upper side when I found that the kit part missed this detail. There is big sink mark on both the machine gunner and driver sight plug: I almost thought this part was supposed to be like this before I finally figured it out and filled it. There are missing weld marks on both sides where the front armour panel meets the upper hull, so I recreated them with epoxy putty (pic 8).

The driver's windscreen is in one clear part plus two mountings on both sides. I removed the moulded-on wiper and re-build it from plastic plate and thin aluminium. I had to scratchbuild the simple locking pin on both sides of the windscreen too. I planned to glue the windscreen in place only after I had finished painting and weathering the frontal armour and the windscreen parts itself. The hedgerow cutter at the front is straightforward to make, I just added some missing weld seams from epoxy putty and it was done.

TURRET

As I planned to build the turret hatch in the open position, the kit's turret interior part is far from enough. By referring to reference photos and some aftermarket resin parts pictures I found, I scratchbuilt some simple details of the turret interior. Actually,

I can't tell what those things are! I just tried to remake the details with all the material I found at home, I don't think they are correct in terms of scale or placement, just eyeball-pleasers. The 37mm main gun's barrel is a metal part and it's a little loose when fitting to the plastic parts. Be very careful to line it up correctly when fitting it. I also scratchbuilt the two turret seats although their position was too low when I found out later, but I stopped here because I think this is enough (pics 9-12).

When I had finished the interior painting and weathering, I glued on the turret roof and proceeded to add more parts such as periscopes and MG mount on the right side (pics 13 and 14). I trimmed the edge of the kit's MG ammo box and added a bullet belt from an Academy US MG set. The numerous track grousers on the left and rear side of the turret need care when building as they are small parts but attached to large sprue and it's quite a hassle to cut, clean and fit them on to the racks. Not to mention, there's is another thing I did wrong for the build: the lower turret ring part has some sink marks, but I think they are not too noticeable, so I just left them.

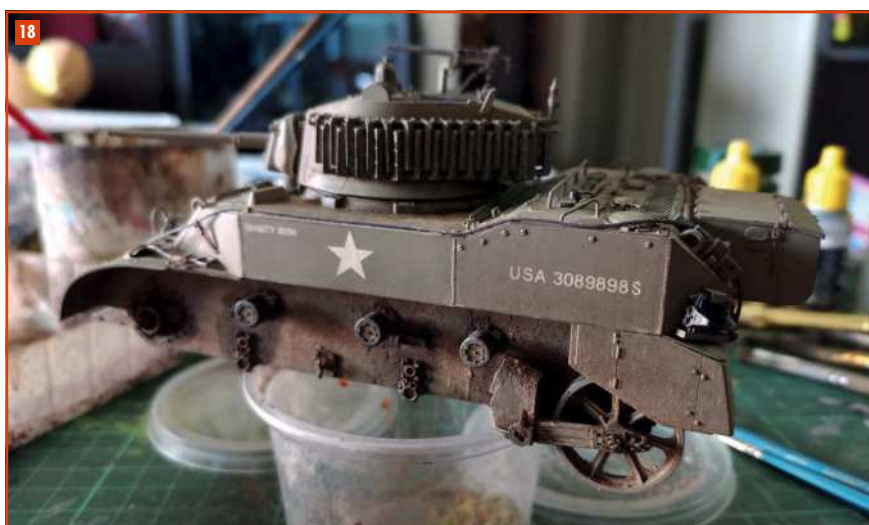
PAINTING, CHIPPING AND DECALLING

When finished all the main assembly jobs, I base-coated them with household flat black and red spray can. I always mix my own paint from basic model paint diluted with cheap artist acrylic paint. For this build, I try to mix my own olive drab by mixing AV Vallejo Olive Brown, AV Vallejo Flat Green with white and yellow brown acrylic paint. At first, I wanted the paint to be more brownish, but I put in too much green, and it became greenish. I don't have a fixed working area and when I was making this kit, it was a bit dark. I only noticed this when I finished spraying the whole model and continued in a different place on other days. But that was okay, since I'd never painted a US WW2 tank in olive green, so I just went with it (pic 15).

Paint chipping at this stage was created using a needle, a tooth pick, a blade and fine sand paper, scratching or sanding down the paint to expose the base-coat underneath. I even used toilet cleaner with a stiff brush on some areas to create heavier chipping effects. I kept the chipping and scratching to minimal, so that the final result was not too excessive.

I had chosen paint scheme 'C' from the painting





guide, which is the 92nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, 12th Armored Division, Germany, March 1945. I had confidence with the AFV Club decals from my past experience but I got lazy and didn't trim the decals precisely before applying them. After I sprayed several layers of gloss coat, flat coat and sanding, I could still see raised marks around the decals. I have no idea why this happened as it is the same process I have been going through for the past few years, indeed the decals provided are so thin and nice (pic 16). To save this, I added some horizontal scratches near the edge of the decal, especially near the unit numbers. This hid some of the raised marks but they still can be seen under a magnifying glass.

TRACKS

The kit's vinyl tracks are quite good for this material, but I wanted better. AFV Club offers individual T16 rubber block track set (AF35019)

which is a simple set that comes with individual pads and end connectors: just simply clip onto each pad to join them, no glue needed. The biggest problem of this set is the sink mark in the middle of every rubber block pad. Instead of filling them, I sanded the pad with very coarse sand paper and created some scratching and wear with a blade. But at the end, choosing this tracks was another big mistake I made...

WEATHERING

After some 'filtering' with oil paint, I then added dust effects with three shades of colour. All dust is either ground pastel chalk, oil paint or highly diluted acrylic paint. I applied the dust by flicking or pin washing (pic 17). When satisfied, I added dry mud to the lower hull and running parts. The mud is a mixture from variety colours of ground pastel chalk, static grass and paper clay. I first applied water-diluted student glue to the area I

wanted, and then dropped the mud by brushing on it, which would prevent it from falling off easily. The same method was used on the tracks. I also use darker oil paint to apply it directly on the area I wish, or flick it with brush at a small area at a time, to create more texture or tonal variation. More dirt and mud were put on the hedgerow cutter as some WW2 photos do show high amount of dirt accumulation here (pics 18 and 19).

I applied more dust effects after the side skirts had been glued on, mainly by flicking. Beware, the long panel side skirts front area was 1-1.5mm too short, so the gaps were filled with plastic-plate. After some dark oil paint pin wash on the desired area, I then applied fuel/oil stains on areas that would logically have such staining, like the area around the running gear, engine deck and around the turret rim. The fuel/oil stain was mainly created by mixing transparent red, green and some black acrylic. ➤



◀ It was time to remove the excessive dust/dirt. I used a half-dry brush to wipe the desired area gently and gradually. Mainly areas around the edges, hatches, upper front armour, upper side armour and some raised hinges. Stubborn dust/dirt was removed by using fine sandpaper and a toothpick. Horizontal long scratching-off of the dirt along the side skirts and lower side armour was created by using needle and wet toothpick (pic 20).

STOWAGE

After all the tools were painted, weathered and

secured by straps, I started to make the stowage. All the fabric elements in white were made of epoxy putty. I rolled and pressed the putty with a brush handle until as thin as I possible, using talcum powder to prevent the putty from sticking to the surface. When done, I cut it into desired size, laid it over other stowage or rolled it up, then gently pressed it with a brush to shape it. If you plan to add tie-down or straps, be sure to create the tightened-up effect too, to add realism (pic 21).

The camouflage net was made from bandage, the rolled-up rope is nylon thread and some more smaller rolled-up stowage made from tissue paper.



The jerrycan and the hanging bag are from Academy and this time I used a laser printer to print the three MRE boxes on top of the stowage. Also, I replaced the kit's nylon towing cable with household metal cable I got online. It was so cheap and the length I bought was more than enough for the rest of my modelling life!

I painted the stowage, following by drybrushing or painting with lighter colour for highlights and darker colours to add shadow. I tend to do this very light as I don't like the super contrast effects. After some dust effects, it's done (pic 22). ➤





eduard
BEST BRASS AROUND

T-62
Zvezda 1/35



Release 02/2022

Cat No. 36476



www.eduard.com

CONCLUSION

Before I wrapped this up, I did some touch-ups here and there, such as using graphite pencil for worn metal effects at the edges, wiped off more dirt, added some paint chipping with a brush and colour pencils on the faded areas, after weathering process. And to add some interesting points, I put some branches and leaves on the hedgerow cutter. And at this point I accidentally found something that frustrated me.

When near the end of the build, I accidentally stumbled upon super-clear WW2 'Shanty Irish' Stuart tank photos, which clearly show its hollow road wheels, metal-type tracks, a big star mark on the track grouser-racks on turret (without track grousers present), different type of spare track placement plus straps securing the jack beside it. The unit number also was roughly placed instead of the kit's tidy one. There could also more marking on the diagonal side armour panel near the shovel and tripod, but it was unclear from the photo angle.

I must say this is a nice kit, although I encountered some problems such as numerous flash and sink-marks plus some fitting issues, but these are not big issue.

The biggest let-down of this kit is the accuracy of the build scheme I chose. So, if you plan to build this kit into the same scheme as I did, and accuracy means something to you, try to search for this photo, I am sure you will build much better than mine. But after all, this is still a very nice kit, very detailed and overall good fit for most parts. Even better, if you don't mind all the errors, just enjoy yourself when building this cute little tank. •

MODELSPEC

AFV CLUB 1:35 M5A1 STUART LIGHT TANK (LATE TYPE) KIT NO.35161

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, flexible vinyl track, waterslide decals

Availability:

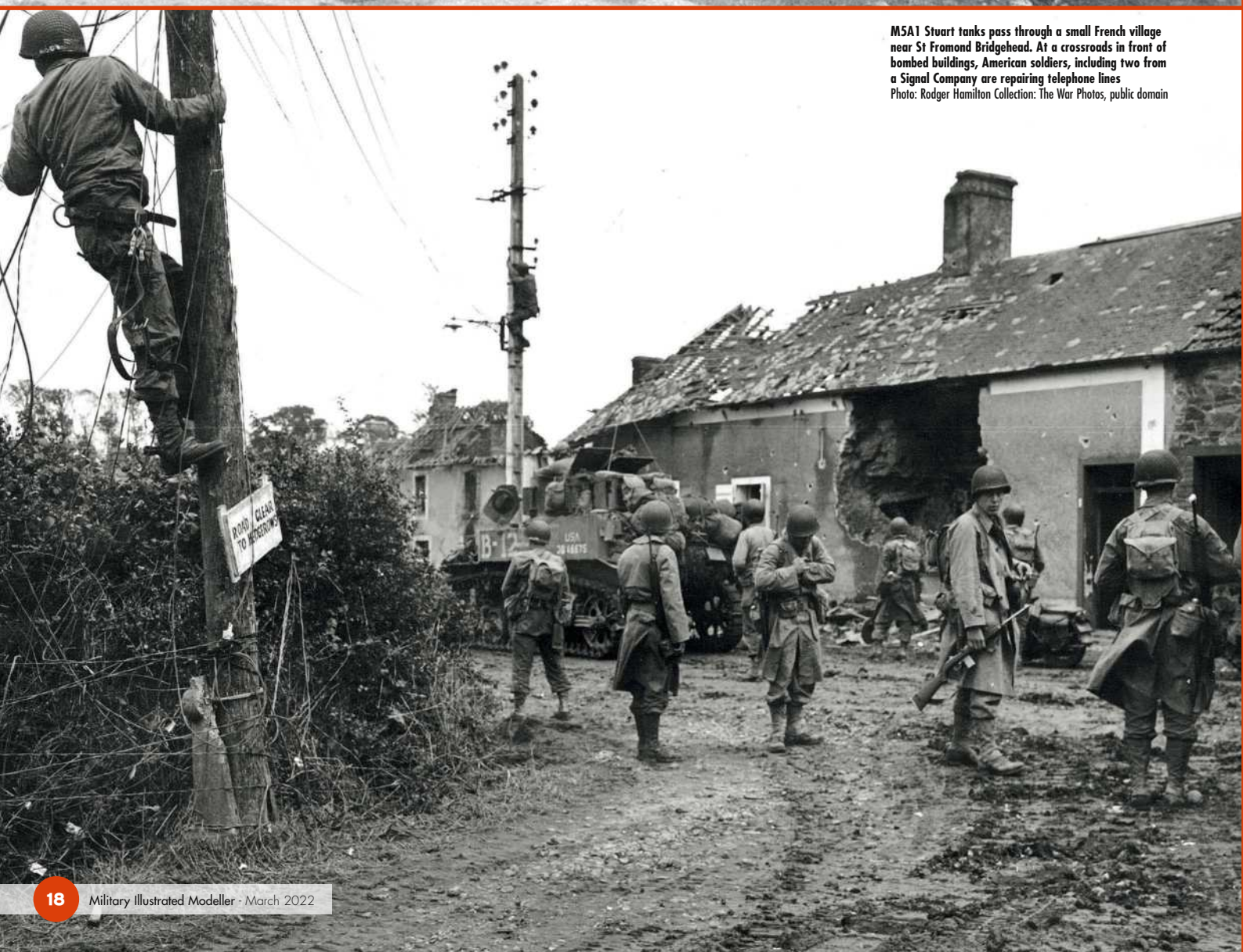
AFV Club models are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by www.pocketbond.co.uk



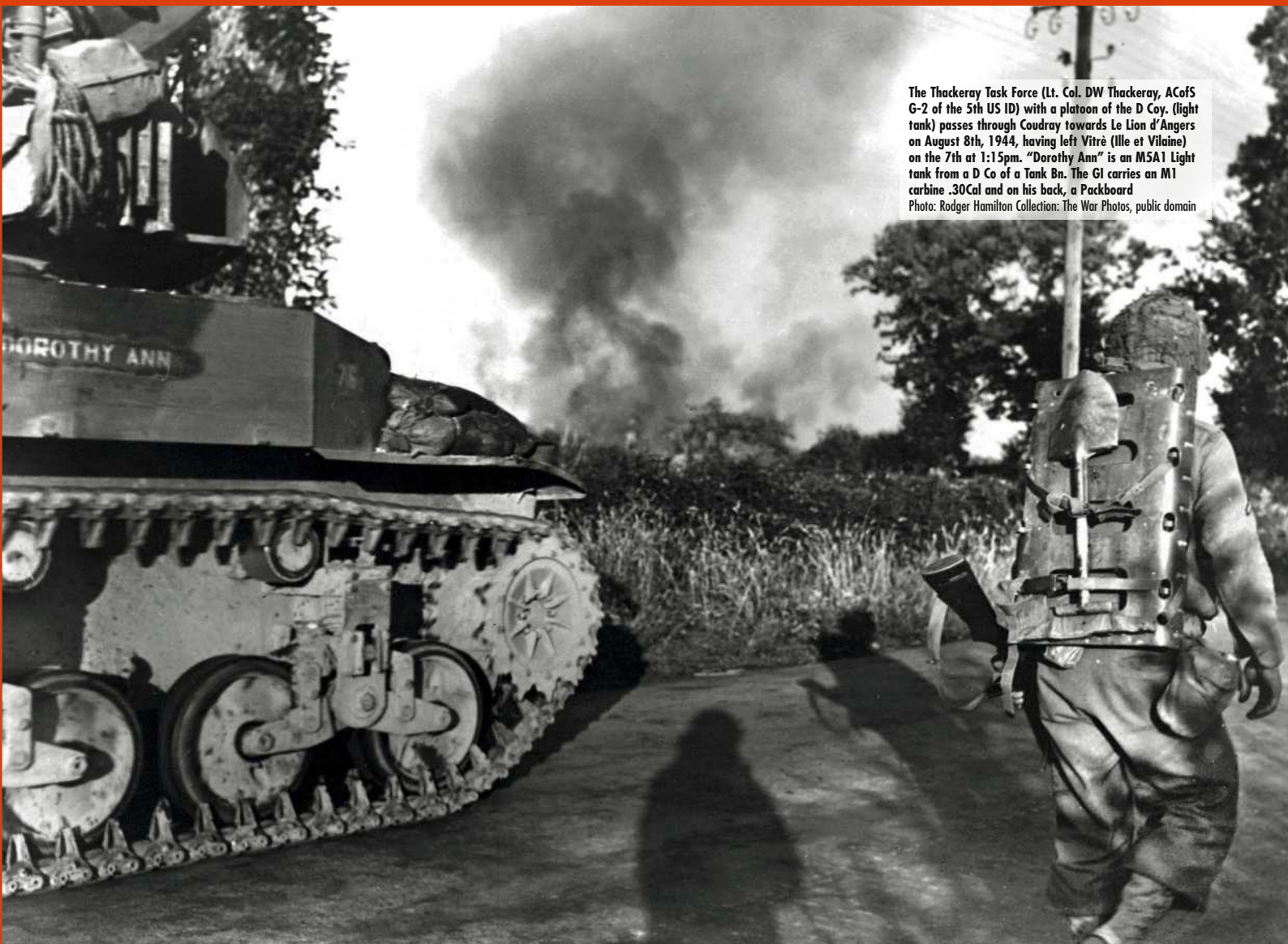




A 4th US Armored Division M5A1 (Stuart VI) tank and a German PoW with a GI in Coutances (Manche), at the crossroads of Avenue Maréchal Pétain (today Avenue Division Leclerc) and rue de la Croix Quillard
Photo: US Army, public domain



M5A1 Stuart tanks pass through a small French village near St Fromond Bridgehead. At a crossroads in front of bombed buildings, American soldiers, including two from a Signal Company are repairing telephone lines
Photo: Rodger Hamilton Collection: The War Photos, public domain



The Thackeray Task Force (Lt. Col. DW Thackeray, ACofS G-2 of the 5th US ID) with a platoon of the D Coy. (light tank) passes through Coudray towards Le Lion d'Angers on August 8th, 1944, having left Vitre (Ille et Vilaine) on the 7th at 1:15pm. "Dorothy Ann" is an M5A1 Light tank from a D Co of a Tank Bn. The GI carries an M1 carbine .30Cal and on his back, a Packboard
Photo: Rodger Hamilton Collection: The War Photos, public domain



An M5A1 Stuart number 4 rolls down the D22 towards Chateaufort sur Sarthe (Maine et Loire), with infantrymen carrying a 60mm mortar
Photo: Rodger Hamilton Collection: The War Photos, public domain

NEW BUILD VEH



ICLE!

Jonathan Anderson builds, paints and weathers the fascinating 'Neubaufahrzeug' from Amusing Hobby

While I enjoy esoteric subjects and specifically the history of armour design evolution in the inter-war and early-war period, two specifics pulled me to this subject; the large, vertical sides with open suspension which offered tantalizing weathering potential and the massive, highly visible exhaust, which would allow experimentation with vivid rust effects. In this article, I will explain how to create two different, nuanced weathering effects by layering dissimilar, translucent mediums, using a rusty exhaust and a dusty tank as our examples. ➤



◀ HISTORY

The Neubaufahrzeug (NbFz) is a fascinating failure of German interwar tank design. Its name, German for 'new construction vehicle' was a cover to allow design and prototype development despite restrictions in place from the Treaty of Versailles. It follows a line of development and fashion that was internationally popular in the late 1920s and early 30s, where many nations attempted to develop multi-turreted tanks to fill a 'medium tank' or 'infantry tank' role. The layout, suspension and general form of the NbFz was inspired in many ways by the British A1E1 Independent and is also seen in the British Medium Mark III and the Soviet T-28, T-35 and SMK. Each had a main turret armed with a reasonably heavy gun and multiple secondary turrets armed with machine guns. They all had rather long forms – potentially good at crossing trenches – and large crews. The general suspension arrangement, with a row of multiple small-wheeled bogies behind a vertical slab side and a partially covered top run of tracks was largely retained through the evolution of these vehicles.

The multi-turreted tanks all were operational failures and this style of design was largely abandoned during the early period of the Second World War. The NbFz had a main turret with a short 75mm gun, with a co-axial 37mm. As well it had 3x 7.92mm machine guns, two of these in independent turrets (one fore, one aft). This level of armament was more than adequate during its deployment. However, it suffered from poor mobility due to issues with its front drive and underpowered engine. As well, while it superficially appears to be built as a rather heavy assault vehicle, in fact it was grossly under-armoured and the front of the vehicle was vulnerable to even anti-tank rifle fire. Only about half-a-dozen were produced and its biggest utility was as testbed and development platform to aid in the creation in what became the Panzer IV.

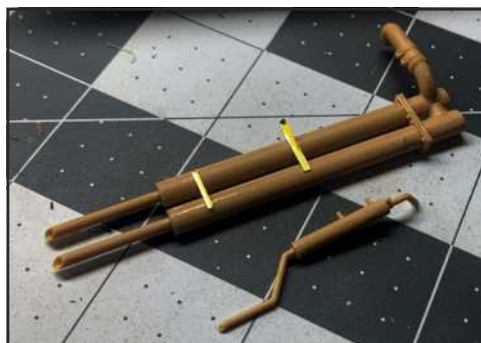
The Germans understood the limited combat utility of the NbFz, but continued to squeeze juice from the project, crowing about these vehicles as modern, heavy tanks in multiple waves of propaganda. Eventually, three were sent to Norway and did see combat. After their front vertical armour was penetrated by British anti-tank rifles, emergent ad-hoc armour was added by attaching large paving stones in front of the weak points via welded bars and wires. This is the tank I chose to model. It is thought some of the other NbFz's saw service on the Eastern Front, but the details are shrouded in mystery.



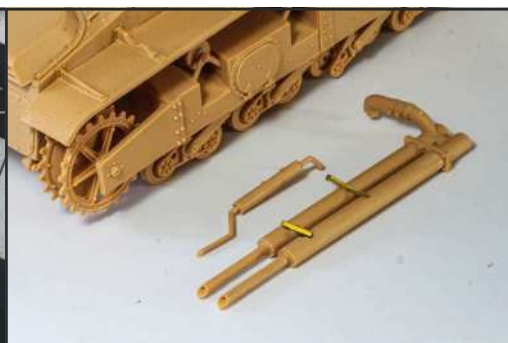
Photos: Bundesarchiv, public domain



Amusing Hobby includes a nice styrene jig to ensure your return rollers are square



The exhaust is easy to build as a separate subassembly and has just enough PE to add detail without complexity



KIT AND CONSTRUCTION

Amusing Hobby hit it out of the proverbial ballpark with this kit. Now a decade old (released in 2011), it stands up to the most recent releases. Specifically, I found the plastic crisp with excellent details and the construction logical with no significant fit issues. This subject has many raised bolts and angular plates, so tight details and excellent engineering are very appreciated. As well, Amusing Hobby included a relative plethora of photo-etch, with working clamps for all the tools and other details such as lifting hooks and brackets included in PE. Kindly, they also supplied most of these in styrene, so the modeller gets a choice about the degree of effort and difficulty. Or, if you are like me, you get backup styrene if you ruin the photo-etch!

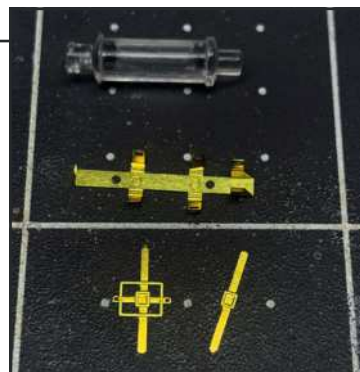
There are a few key components – brackets, fire extinguisher – moulded in clear styrene amongst the other typical clear parts like periscopes, which led to a bit of head scratching until I looked there for the pieces! This was the sole issue I had during construction. I used all the optional photo-etch and considering the size, complexity and detail of the model I would not recommend it as a beginner kit. However, a patient modeller with a couple kits under their belt could certainly tackle this project without worry.

The only aftermarket I added were Friulmodel tracks (ATL-119); I did this mostly for ease of weathering and mounting; those on a budget should be more than content with the detail of the kit tracks. The Friuls were, in this case, a relative bear requiring extensive clean-up and drilling and I doubt they saved any time or effort versus the kit parts.

Later, I did add two paving stones as ad-hoc armour, which I crafted out of Milliput and attached to a metal frame made of left-over PE fret, a small brass tube and some small lead wire intended for fly fishing. Thankfully these tanks were well-photographed (for propaganda purposes) and a quick google search lets you see multiple close-up angles of the actual tanks with these additions. ➔



The kit contains both standard styrene tools and photo-etch enhances tools. Choice without requiring aftermarket!



The fire extinguisher, oddly moulded in clear styrene takes a bit of effort but is highly visible in the final build. You could also use the photo-etch to craft an empty holder



Amusing Hobby provide this kit with its own detail-up set, thanks to the included photo-etch; the lifting hooks on the MG turrets are an especially fine addition



Each MG turret has nearly thirty individual pieces, a miniature kit in itself. But, they fit well and give excellent detail. Even the machine gun barrels are rather nice for styrene!



A profile view gives a good idea of how much photo-etch is involved on each fender. Every latch is a working version

◀ PAINTING

My initial plan was to heavily chip the tank, showing off a vibrant red primer underneath the grey. I thought better of this, but had already primed the tank in a rather gorgeous red using Stynylrez Red Brown primer with Mission Models Red Oxide primer then misted over top. While an odd combination, I find it gives me the excellent coverage, self-levelling and strength of Stynylrez with the vibrant colour of MMP.

Shifting gears to a new goal—a layered approach to dust—I decided to paint the tank grey with some modulation, which would be heavily toned down by the thick dust to come. The primary paint was AK Real Colors DunkelGrau (RC057). Lighter tones were achieved with sequential dilution using Tamiya Sky Grey (XF-19) and some dark shadow tones were created using mild additions of AK Real Colors NATO Black (RC082) and SCC Blue Black (RC036) and even Tamiya Flat Black (XF-1). As per usual, I used the bottom of the vehicle as a test bed for these shades prior to application on the model proper. As well, using the lightest tones I mixed and a small brush, I went back and picked out most of the bolt-heads.

Decals were placed and Solvaset was used in serial application to get a nice, tight adherence. Thereafter, a small amount of VMS Satin Varnish HF top coat was applied and fine Infini sanding sponges were used to remove the edge/step-off from around the decal. With the weathering steps to come, this is critically important! Some relatively minimal sponge-chipping was then carried out, using a slightly lighter tone of grey via the same mix I used to modulate. While I am typically not a fan of sponge-chipping, when it will be largely obscured under further weathering, I do think it is a viable and valuable technique. The tools, rubber road wheels and other small details were hand painted using Vallejo paints and the wood grain was created using first a light tan base colour, then raw umber oil pain streaked over the surface. Thankfully, Amusing Hobby made the large exhaust in a way that it could be easily removed from the vehicle and painted separately, which allowed me to experiment without damaging the rest of the vehicle.

EXHAUST, A LAYERED APPROACH

This was my first time trying this precise method for creating rusty exhaust effects. Previously I've tried a host of options; hairspray chipping, sponging-on Lifecolor acrylics, a wide range of pigments and airbrushed lacquers. This method is very simple. First, a base pattern of contrast and texture is created with hardy, rapid-drying acrylics. Then, a non-opaque layer of rust-coloured enamel is brushed over the top, with a similar function to a filter or glaze, giving a unified rusty finish and toning down the harsh gradients of the painted acrylic.

Here, we started with a hand-mixed medium grey Vallejo base coat. Then using stepwise lighter colours, which are heavily thinned with water (roughly 4:1 ratio, water predominate, but feel free to experiment!), we paint on ovals and blobs of shrinking size, like stretched-out irregular bullseyes. A hairdryer will let you progress each step in just 1-2 minutes. After a few gradients of lighter and lighter grey, you then switch to translucent yellow, then orange, then burnt brownish red. Frankly, the precise colours are unimportant; your outer rust glaze is going to be the predominate tone. Here you must focus most on the patterns and textures.



Stynylrez Primer was used for strength and to unify the tan, clear and metal parts of the base kit



With the complexity of the photo-etch latches, I elected to paint all of the tools on the vehicle, with construction complete, except for the jack block which was easy to remove for painting



The bottom of the tank served as a testbed for a variety of German Greys, for this project AK Real Color was my winner



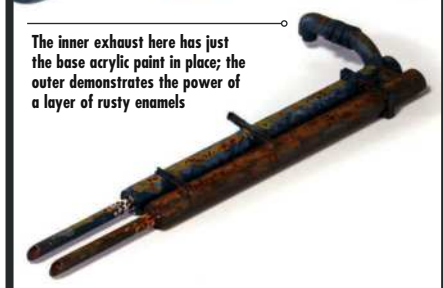
The tank was relatively crudely modulated, using lighter shades on the upper surfaces, high points and on any protuberance, while darker shades were used to add volume to shadows



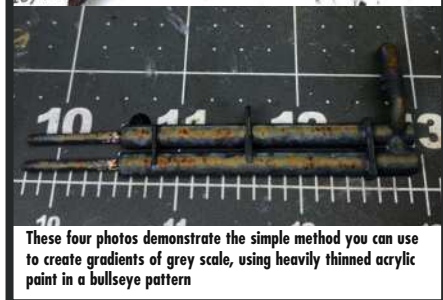
After the modulation, sponge chipping was done along edges and contact points; you can be rather crude because of the amount of dust and dirt that will obscure this stage



The exhaust colours were made with a base of Vallejo acrylics followed by a glaze of Ammo enamels



The inner exhaust here has just the base acrylic paint in place; the outer demonstrates the power of a layer of rusty enamels



These four photos demonstrate the simple method you can use to create gradients of grey scale, using heavily thinned acrylic paint in a bulls-eye pattern



This is how the final exhaust appeared when mounted on the tank; I elected to further tame this effect by hairspray chipping grey paint over the outside



The paving-stone armour was created with sculpted Milliput, secured like on the real vehicle with wires and a metal frame, in this case made of discarded photo-etch fret

Once you have an acceptable pattern, paint on slightly thinned enamel rust effects, such as Ammo by Mig's Light Rust Wash (A.Mig-1004). You can also use Streaking Rust Effects (A.Mig-1204) which offers a darker tone. Other brands would also work; you can also try home-brewing a translucent rust wash with oil paints or enamels. The key here is we are using a dissimilar medium that will not attack the underlying acrylic pattern. In fact, if your first attempt with the enamels is unsatisfactory – too thick, too splotchy – you can just wipe it away with some enamel thinner and try again. In my case, I loved the result, but it was almost too much considering the size and dominance of the exhausts on this vehicle. Once they were nicely cured, I sprayed on hairspray and added a layer of grey paint which I aggressively chipped away, leaving a mostly rusty, previously-painted exhaust.

DUST, A LAYERED APPROACH

When I looked at the bulky grey tank on my bench, even modulated and chipped, it felt lifeless and static. I decided to push forward with a rather dramatic dust effect. I wanted to give dynamism with repeated motifs of gradients, with the dust collecting in thicker layers lower on each surface. As well, I wanted the mud-chutes on the vertical slab sides to draw the viewer in.

Mirroring the approach with the exhaust, I decided my initial layer would be a worn, rain-marked dust that would be thin on horizontal surfaces and thick in corners and crevices. First, I gave the tank a liberal coating of Heavy Chipping

Effects (A.Mig 2011). Then, I created a blend of Tamiya paints (XF-57 Buff, XF-52 Flat Earth and XF-55 Deck Tan) that roughly colour matched the enamel Dust and Dirt Deposit made by AK (Brown Earth Deposits, AK4063). I heavily thinned this Tamiya Paint at a nearly 4:1 ratio with Mr. Color Rapid Thinner to give a truly matte finish. Then, using low airbrush around 12 PSI, I made translucent layers of dust, thicker in the corners and areas it would collect and thinner on the top of the turret. Giving it only a moment to dry, I chipped with a slightly dampened brush. The result was some areas of "pre-dusting" and some areas of a subtle, worn patina of dusk that was rained on and partially worn away.

Analogous to the exhaust method, where we used enamels over acrylics, I now applied the AK Enamel Dust Effects to the tank. Mostly this was airbrushed at low pressure; sometimes thinned with additional enamel thinner. I did this to add a more subtle gradient and softer edge to the dust pattern. As well, it has a slightly different sheen and tone compared to the Tamiya paint, which just adds to the complexity of the finish. But the real reason to use this second step was that I could then attack and wear the enamel dust without disturbing the underlying Tamiya paint, using enamel thinner. Some areas were just worn, or chipped, with a dry brush. Most importantly, on vertical surfaces I used a fan brush to add streaking and rain marks. Lastly, the enamel product also makes a wonderful, focused pin wash, so you can add it around certain rivets, bolts and panel edges where it makes sense. ➤



Prior to layering on the dusting, the tank was painted, modulated, minor sponge chipping was performed including a few metallic edges; and the tools and details were fully painted. As well, a heavy pin was used, understanding it will be toned down heavily



◀ FINAL WEATHERING

With the rusty exhaust and the overall dust pattern settled, the roadmap for final weathering was in place. I used a wide variety of oil paints and oil brushes to re-introduce contrast with focused pin washes and to give more depth to the dust by making highlights and patterns within the heavier deposits. I found the Ammo by Mig Dust Oilbrusher (A.Mig 3518) and Abteilung 502 Dust oil paint (Abt003) particularly useful for this task. On the rear deck, I created stains by speckling on a variety of darker oil colours, heavily thinned. The texture of the fenders was further highlighted by using the AK Enamel Dust & Dirt Deposits as a pin wash. Fuel stains were created with a combination of dark oil paints and the glossy Ammo Fuel Stains (A. Mig 1409)

The tracks were blackened using VMS blackening solution and then pigments that roughly matched the colours of our dust effects were attached using pigment fixer. A sanding stick was used to expose the white metal on the road surface of the tracks and multiple passes of speckled thinned oils added to the variation.

These same pigments were attached to mud chutes to add volume. Pre-war reference photos show some examples of the NbFz with dark, greasy leaks from the return rollers, so I had to add that effect using Abt. 502 Engine Grease (Abt160), one of my favourite oils. To maintain the gloss, I added just a tiny drop of Tamiya X-22 gloss clear to the centre of the grease puddle.

CONCLUSION

Amusing Hobby's kit provides a detailed, easy-to-build example of an unusual multi-turreted German tank, ripe with potential for a host of weathering effects. Using multiple layers of dissimilar chemical products, you can create nuance and depth without danger of needing to strip your project to primer and start over! •



The first step in creating the dust effect was to use heavy chipping fluid and highly thinned Tamiya paints to create a textured dust effect, heavier in strategic areas. Potentially unrealistic, I created a gradient on all major surfaces with dust being heaviest as the bottom, creating some dynamic interest



Once you have your layers of dust in place, it is important to go back around the model and add contrast back with pin washes and oils, like around these turret details

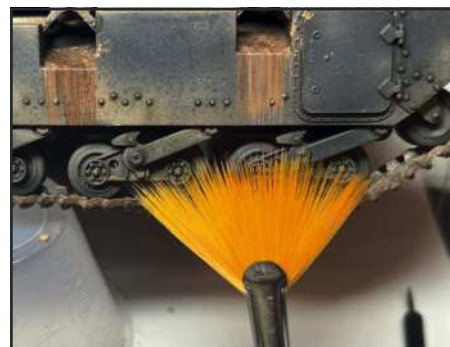


The top photo shows initial chipped Tamiya dust, the middle photo shows the addition of airbrushed on enamel dust and the bottom photo shows the streaking and wear effects created with the enamel effect



Pigments were used to give volume to the mud chutes on the sides of the tank and then the same enamel effects were used to give vertical streaks, along with similarly coloured oil paints. Grease coloured oil paints with a drop of clear gloss mimicked leaking oil

Friulmodel tracks with embedded pigments and sanded surfaces to reveal the white metal are a lot of work but pay dividends



A fan-shaped brush can help you create parallel small streaks and is what I used on the turret sides and mud chutes.



MODELSPEC

AMUSING HOBBY 1:35 PANZERKAMPFWAGEN VI NEUBAUFHRZEUG (KRUPP VERSION), KIT NO.35A003

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Stynylrez: Red Brown primer
- Tamiya Acrylics: XF-1 Flat Black, XF-57 Buff, XF-52 Flat Earth, XF-55 Deck Tan, X-22 Clear
- AK Interactive Real Colors: Dunkelgrau (RC057), NATO Black (RC082), SCC Blue Black (RC036),
- AK Interactive: Brown Earth Deposits (AK4063), Enamel Dust Effects
- Mission Models: Red Oxide primer
- Ammo by Mig: Dust Oilbrusher (A.Mig 3518), Light Rust Wash (A.Mig-1004), Heavy Chipping Effects (A.Mig 2011), Streaking Rust Effects (A.Mig-1204), Fuel Stains (A.Mig 1409)
- Mr Color: Rapid Thinner
- Abteilung 502: Dust oil paint (Abt003), Engine Grease (Abt160)

Accessories used:

- Friulmodel tracks: ATL-119



SEVEN WHEELS ON MY WAGON

Kev Smith makes some key modifications to Dragon's 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234 Panzerspähwagen kit, including leaving off one of its wheels!



The trouble with building a model of a documented vehicle is that a lot of the time, that all important last picture is missing. I thought this was the case when I came to build this model, my interest dwindling when I couldn't find that all-important picture. But after purchasing the Nuts and Bolts Vol.40 some years later, I was pleasantly surprised to find that missing picture amongst the pages. My interest was rekindled!

Every time I start an open top vehicle as a new project, I know that the work and effort compared to other kits is doubled, not only with detailing but also when it comes to painting and weathering phase. But I just love them! So, after a big breath I started the first job, which was to tackle the wheels and suspension. From the start I was going to model this vehicle based on a photograph in Panzerwrecks 4, of a '234/4 belonging to the 20.Panzer Division surrendering to the US troops in Czechoslovakia in May 1945. ➤



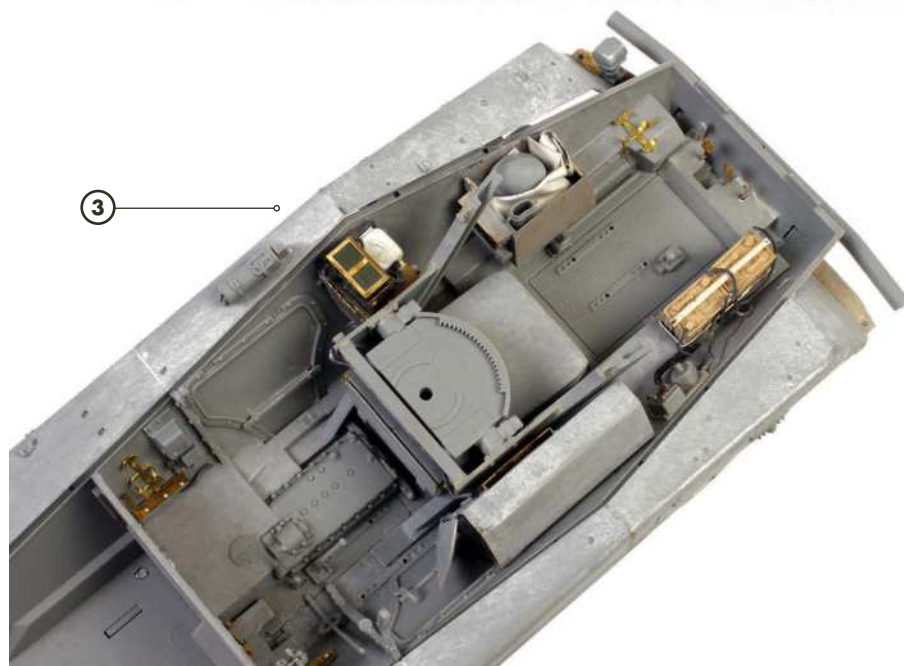
◀ DRAGON'S 2006 KIT

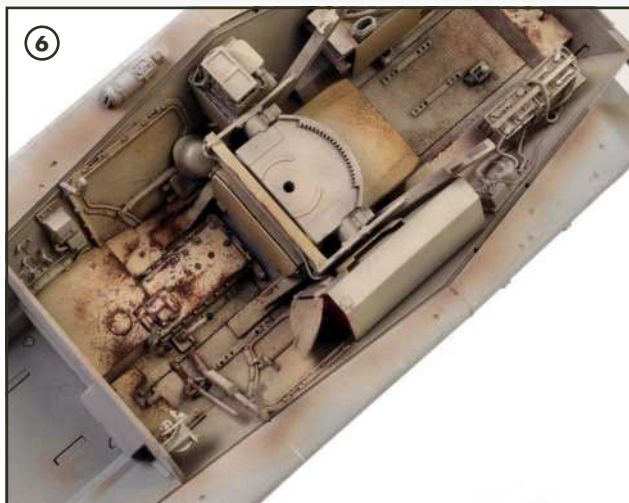
The strain on the vehicle's drive chain must have been immense and the driver must have had real difficulty in trying to manoeuvre the ungainly vehicle. The main problem – as far as the modelling goes – was capturing the weight distribution of the vehicle, in particular, the weight on the front two wheels along with the downward lean to the right. To start, the drive chain and suspension units were built as per the instructions. I added the brake cables cut from lead wire as the units were built up. The wheels are five-part assemblies and build into really nice replicas. However, the wheels, in practically the tyres show some considerable wear in the photographs so to replicate this the sanding sticks were broken out as the next step was to sand off most of the excellent tread detail. After around an hour I had a good idea to where I was going with the level of sanding.

The wheels were then numbered in permanent pen on their inner surfaces so each wheel had a dedicated position on the model. Next step was to flatten the bottom of tyres so the weight distribution could be replicated and a lot more plastic was removed from the bottom of the tyres of the front set wheels gradually reducing the amount as I moved to the rear of the model. Minor surgery was also undertaken on the suspension units at the same time, this involved raising and lowering individual arms to replicate the shift in weight. Once happy with the alignment, my attention returned to the tyres (**pics 1 and 2**). Using the photographs as reference it clear that the front set of tyres are under a lot of weight, which is indicated by bulging of the tyres. To replicate this, Milliput was employed to rebuild the tyre walls until the desired look was achieved.

INSIDE THE PANZERSPÄHWAGEN

A really nice interior is provided by Dragon – well detailed and simple to build – although there are some details missing. The biggest omission is the two large vehicle batteries that sit on the large shelf below the drivers escape hatch. I made a mould of a suitable example of a battery in my spares box and cast two of them (**pic 3**). Once fitted into the correct position, using the Nuts-and-Bolts publication as a reference I added the missing electrical cabling. I opted to use an etched set from Voyager to provide other missing details. Other inclusions on the impressive fret comprise two large ammunition boxes and the driver's stowage bins plus smaller details such as gas-mask holders and foot pedals. All are included in the kit in plastic,





Using colour-washes topped off with graphite from a sharpened pencil, the brightness of the red primer has been dulled down. The personal items of the crew have also started to be picked out by brush

but the overall look of the interior is vastly improved with finer brass details. This is down to personal choice as not a lot is visible on the finished model, but I just can't help myself! With the mount for the Pak in place, construction moved to the exterior of the vehicle.

Before any of the construction on the upper hull was started, I stippled on a thinned mix of Tamiya Putty onto the surfaces to add a little texture. Again, using the Nuts and Bolts 40 as a reference, I added some missing weld seams using Tamiya two-part Epoxy Putty. The Voyager photo-etched set provided some of the finer details, such as the jerrycan straps and tool claps (*pic 4*). The large stowage bin which is mounted to the right of the vehicle was also replaced with an etched offering: dents were 'inflicted' on the bins' sides to give the vehicle that 'lived-in' look. Before the large, one-piece fenders were fixed in place, a sharp blade was run around the edges of the stowage bins doors. It was then a case of fitting the tools to their respective positions after the camouflage pattern had been laid down. The exhaust system on these vehicles is distinctive and built up nicely: I stippled the completed units with Tamiya putty to give a rougher appearance. These also were left off so they could be painted and weathered separately. Captured in the original black and white photograph, it can be seen that the crew has run some wire around the front of the vehicle above the vision ports, presumably so natural camouflage could be attached to the exterior of the hull. This was replicated with thin nylon thread. ➤



The weathered interior ready to be mated with the upper hull





◀ BUILDING THE PAK 40

Construction of the main armament is straightforward. The gun shield for the PaK is provided in plastic and although etched brass updates are available, the part provided in the kit is convincingly thin and well moulded. The gun recoil assembly and mounts build up easily with no requirement for adjustment. I did however replace the flare ammunition box with one off the etch fret (**pic 5**). In the interior, after a black undercoat was airbrushed on, a following coat of the base colour of Mission Models MMP-019 Dunkelgelb Late 1944 was laid down. Over the top of this base, the first steps of the chipping stage can be clearly seen. Thinned MMP-013 Red Oxide was hand-painted onto areas of wear (**pic 6**). The cast batteries and the accompanying wiring can be clearly seen.

The vehicle's camouflage pattern was a combination of MMP 018 Green, and 015 Rotbraun which was masked and then sprayed over a base coat of 018 Dunkelgelb. The tight pattern was then finished by hand in some of the harder to get to areas. After I was satisfied that the pattern was neat and up to standard, the first stage of the weathering could begin. A light layer of XF-57 Tamiya Buff was airbrushed over the entire model (**pics 9a, 9b**). Over the top of this initial dust layer, buff-coloured oil paints that had been heavily thinned were flicked onto the model and left to dry. Thicker layers of dust were applied by brush around some of the raised details, for example the lip that runs along

The unweighted front suspension arm can be clearly observed from this angle



The weathering stage is coming to the final stages. After the pin-washes of Abt. 502 Industrial Earth, and subsequent chipping effects, the pioneer tools were attached, the jerrycans were weathered in keeping with the vehicle. A small amount of fine earth and dried asparagus fern was sprinkled on the logical areas of the model, an old paint brush can be used to manoeuvre the mix around the model and helps to get the soil into those awkward areas. A couple of drops of Gravel and Sand Fixer from AK is then used to fix into place

the lower side of the wheel arches. The tyres were first sprayed with XF-57, concentrating on the tyre walls closest to the hub, followed with a drybrushing of grey oils to pick out the tread pattern. Like the upper hull, buff oils were gradually built up to simulate the build up of dust around the hub.

Wilder products were used to weather the underside of the model: a combination of Light Dry Mud and Light Grey Textured Earth was flicked on to the undersides (**pic 10**). Unfortunately, these aren't available anymore, but similar products can be acquired. To add a little visual interest, oil stains were applied around the bases of the suspension arms.

EXHAUSTING WEATHERING

The exhausts were left off to be weathered as individual items: rust colours were laid down first, then over the top, a layer of hairspray followed. Then the appropriate camouflage colour was then sprayed over the top, and removed with warm water and a suitable brush until the desired effect is reached. Also, the extent of the wear of the tyres can be clearly seen (**pic 11**). And with the addition of a pair of figures, that, the Panzerspähwagen was complete! •

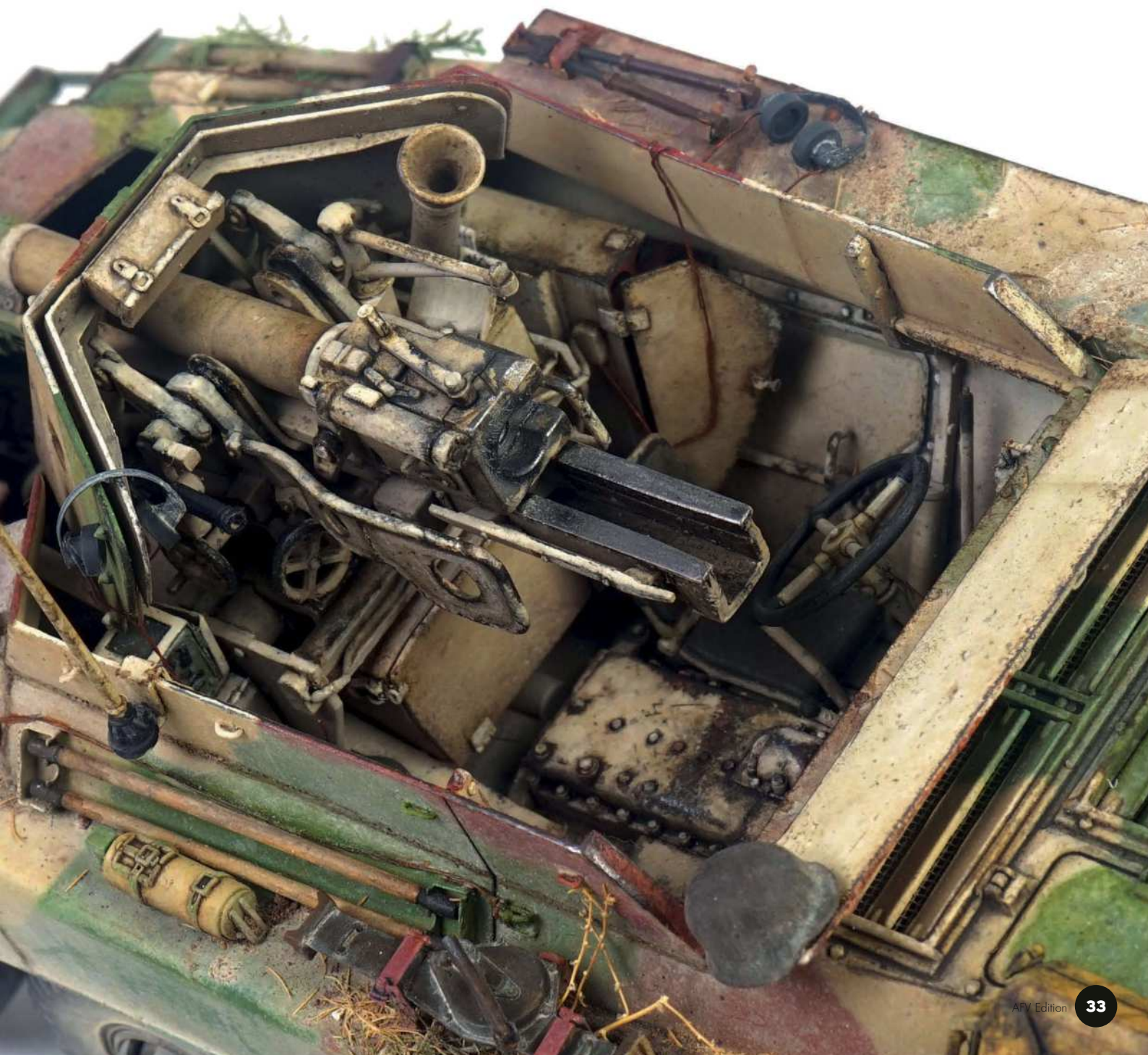


Off-cuts of asparagus fern were cut to size in readiness to be attached to the model. To preserve the delicate greenery, the branches were treated with Gravel and Sand Fixer and when dry, were then attached to the model using reference photographs as a guide. The caption in the Panzerwrecks book suggests that the pine branches were placed to hide the large road wheels, which are a distinct visual feature of this vehicle



15

The finished 234/4. The smaller details were left off until the very end, some personal items have been added to the vehicle these include the radio head sets and a discarded helmet



MODELSPEC

DRAGON 1:35 SD.KFZ. 234/4
PANZERSPÄHWAGEN KIT NO.6221

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Acrylics: XF-57 Tamiya Buff
- Mission Models: MMP-019 Dunkelgelb Late 1944, MMP-013 Red Oxide, MMP018 Green, MMP015 Rotbraun
- Wilder: Light Dry Mud, Light Grey Textured Earth

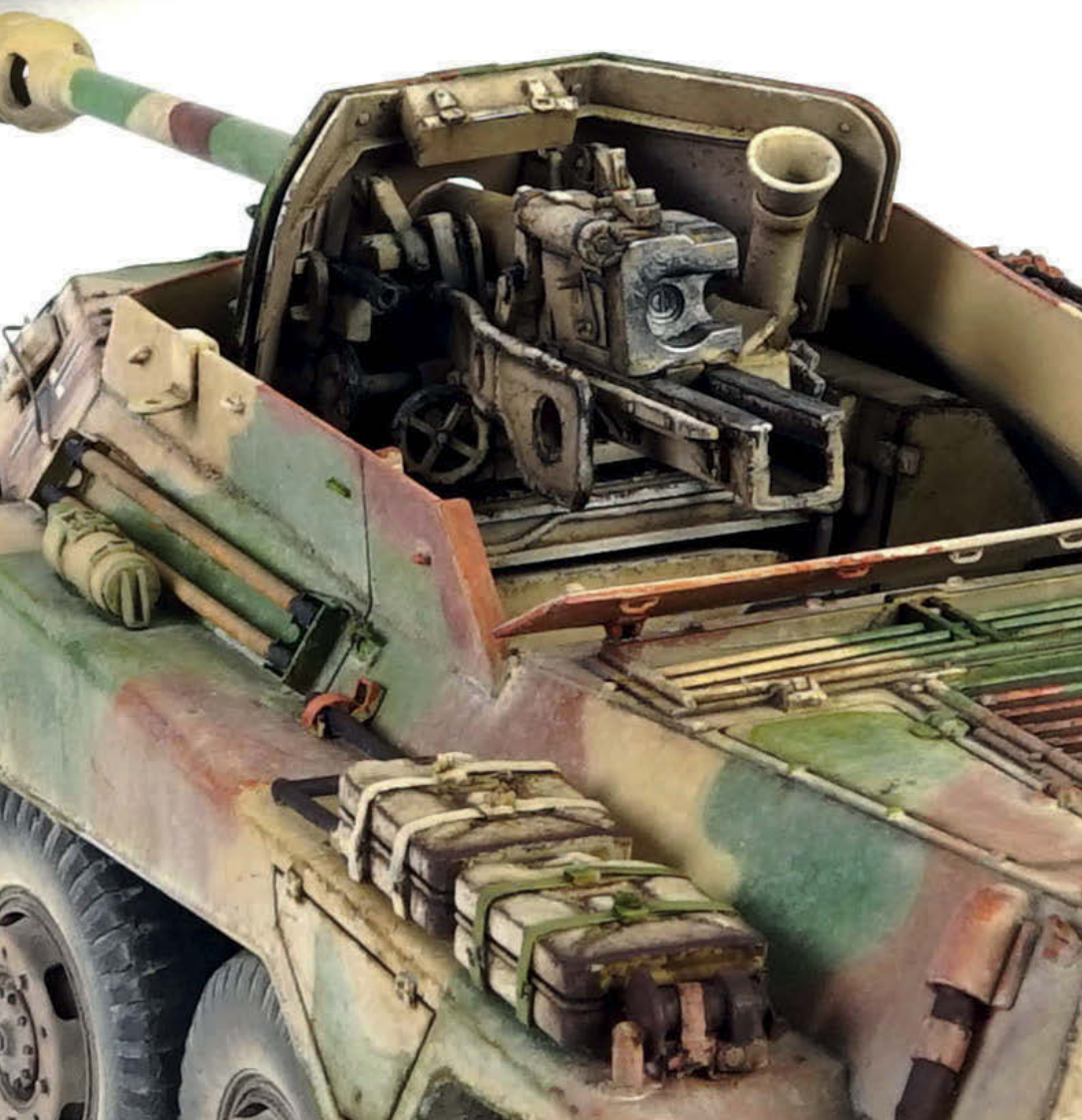
Accessories used:

- Voyager: photo-etched detail set

Availability:

- Dragon models and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net
- Mission Models: missionmodelsus.com





Revell

Build Your Dream!

LEVEL 5
★★★★★



03837 Stearman PT-17 Kaydet, 1:32

LEVEL 5
★★★★★



NEW TOOL

04967 Lockheed SR-71A Blackbird, 1:48

LEVEL 5
★★★★★



03846 Gloster Gladiator Mk. II, 1:32

LEVEL 3
★★★☆☆

NEW TOOL



Parts inc. for in-flight or landed version

06781 Razor Crest™ (The Mandalorian), 1:72

LEVEL 3
★★★☆☆

NEW PARTS



Parts inc. for 1 of 3 possible configurations

06782 Outland TIE Fighter™ (The Mandalorian), 1:65

Available from all good model stockists and online from

hobbycraft

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell

WH-1758523

AFV Edition

35

21ST CENTURY CENTURION



Tamiya welcomes the British Centurion Mk.III to the 1:16 RC tank series

At the end of World War II, the Centurion was developed for the British Army as a vehicle that could compete with powerful German tanks such as the Tiger and Panther. The tank was equipped with a 17-pound gun, which boasted the best British anti-tank capability at that time, along with sloped armour and Horstmann suspension. Although it wasn't ready in time for combat World War II, it did play a significant role in the Korean War that broke out in June 1950. The improved Centurion Mk.III that was dispatched to this war saw its main armament upgraded with a 20-pound gun and greatly enhanced the attack power. Following this war, many versions of the Centurion were developed and deployed by various countries such as India and Israel, as well as European nations. It was been at the forefront for many years in conflict zones, further solidifying its position as a 'masterpiece' of tank design.

Tamiya's kit comes with a control unit that uses four channels to control forward/back movement, sharp and pivot turning at any speed. Gun elevation, recoil and turret rotation can also be controlled from the transmitter. Engine sounds are synchronized with model's speed, while main gun and machine gun firing are realistically accompanied by lights and sound via the DMD Multi Function Unit. Comes with X2 Type 380 motors, X1 type 130 motor plus X2 TSU-03 servos. A four channel RC system, batteries, charger, paints and glues available separately. •

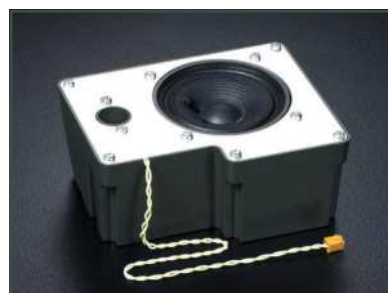
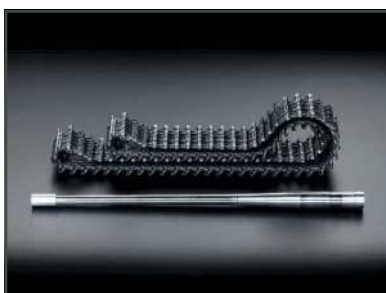
TECHSPEC

- Length 603mm, width: 214mm, height: 187mm
- Single-pin type resin tracks come pre-assembled
- Functioning gun elevation, recoil and turret rotation
- 20-pounder gun barrel is made of high-precision aluminium
- Realistic depictions of cast surface patterns and weld lines
- Control Unit uses four channels to control forward/back movement, sharp and pivot turning at any speed
- The sound of the 650bhp, V-12 engine realistically reproduced
- Engine sounds are synchronized with model speed, while main gun and machine gun firing are realistically accompanied by lights and sound
- Requires a four-channel transmitter equipped with function buttons
- The RC mechanism uses a 2.4GHz radio set that can be easily enjoyed by multiple units without worrying about interference
- A large bass reflex type speaker unit that uses a metal baffle plate is mounted on the front of the vehicle body

AVAILABILITY;

Tamiya models, accessories, paints and materials are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net





HARLEM TO HI

Daniel Buchmeier recreates a miniature replica of a famous WW2 photograph in tribute to the African American soldiers who fought in the conflict



TLER



The inspiration for this diorama started way back in 2009 during a WWII Battle of the Bulge tour with Henri Mignon, a civilian survivor from the fighting at Houffalize, Belgium. On that tour we saw many of the sites where the Allies went head-to-head with the battered German war machine on their last ditch effort to turn the tide of war back in their favour. But one stop near the tiny town of Wereth, Belgium, stuck with me. As we pulled to the side of a narrow road in the misty rain, a tiny memorial rose up that spoke of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion and a massacre that occurred there.

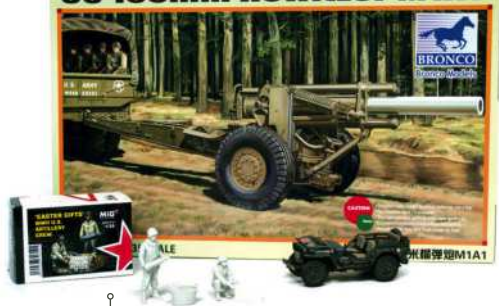
The 333rd FAB was a (virtually unknown) all African American 155mm Howitzer unit and when the Germans launched their attack on December 16th, 1944, the Allies were caught by surprise and many on the 'Ghost Front' were pushed back from their lines, including the 333rd. Eleven members of the 333rd escaped and after a hard night of walking in knee deep snow, were taken in and sheltered by a local family who were fully aware of the danger that all of them were in. Unfortunately, a Nazi sympathizer (a neighbour) nearby gave up the 333rd's place of hiding to the enemy and when the Germans arrived at the house, the men of the 333rd immediately surrendered. The eleven men of the 333rd were subsequently marched to a field, tortured and murdered and left for dead until a snow melt in January revealed the war crime. I had not known of the Wereth Eleven, as most WWII history leaves out any participation from African Americans. This diorama honours the 333rd before the Battle of the Bulge when African Americans were fighting on two fronts, one for equality at home and the other against fascism abroad. •

For the full story visit wereth.org



Technical Sergeant William E. Thomas and Private First Class Joseph Jackson prepared a gift of special "Easter Eggs" for Adolph Hitler and the German Army. Scrawling such messages on artillery shells in World War II was one way in which artillery soldiers could humorously express their dislike of the enemy. 10th March 1945
Photo: National Archives #111-SC-202330

US 155mm Howitzer M1A1



It was the consensus that the Bronco 155mm Howitzer was the best choice, although there are few options to choose from. If I had to rate it, I'd say 5/10

I was so excited to find this figure set from Mig Productions. I didn't even know it existed! It was perfect, and exactly what I needed to tell this story. It is based on a pretty famous photo of 'Easter Eggs for Hitler'



The Willys Jeep is the Tamiya kit with the Aber photo-etched set. Photo/film accessories are from Plus Model



Bronco was smart to offer the metal barrel for their own kit. It's really the only way to go

I had no experience building a howitzer so this was a challenge. The instruction manual for the kit was often unclear for the proper position of parts. This is no Tamiya kit. Luckily, I had some help from Fabio Sacchi on Facebook, who used to operate one and sent me some helpful reference and advice



While there are a few Jeep driver figures, this one from Alpine is the best. It fitted so perfectly in the Tamiya Jeep I couldn't believe it



Starting to arrange the composition. This is where Fabio Sacchi helped immensely when he noticed the cannon was in the incorrect position as well as the raised pointer shield on the left side. I made adjustments for the final



The cast of characters primed and ready for paint. I use Mr. Surfacer 1200 for primer

MODELSPEC

BRONCO 1:35 US 155MM HOWITZER M1A1 KIT NO.CB35073

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, photo-etched brass, machined aluminium, waterslide decals

Accessories used:

- Tamiya: Jeep Willys MB 1/4ton 4X4 Truck (35219)
- Mig Productions: 1:35 'Easter Gifts' WWII US Artillery Crew (MP35-416)
- Alpine Miniatures: 1:35 WW2 US Jeep Driver (35242)
- Bravo-6: 1:35 US Cameraman WW2 (B6-35115)

Availability:

- Bronco: check online
- Tamiya models, accessories, paints and materials are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company limited; www.hobbyco.net
- Mig Productions: www.ak-interactive.com/brands/mig-productions
- Alpine Miniatures: www.alpineminiatures.com
- Bravo-6: www.bravo6.diorama.ru
- Plus Model: www.creativemodels.co.uk
- Aber: www.abermodels.com

A view of some of the photo and film accessories from Plus Model. Tire tracks are always key to incorporating your vehicle into the landscape, I have an extra set of Jeep tyres on an axle specifically for this



Getting the Howitzer 'dug in' was a challenge to get both wings/spades level. The howitzer is also precariously raised off the wheels on a slim geared steel base plate

More help from Fabio as he advised to drill a small hole in the breech plug for the firing pin, as well as adding the firing cord with scratch built 's' hook

Here you can see how well the Alpine figure fits the Tamiya Jeep. All weathering is a mix of Mig Pigments, fresh mud from DioDump and oil washes. Also, Jeep gauges and placards from Archer Fine Transfers





I seriously dreaded hand painting all of these rounds and adding the decals, but they ended up looking really nice. Reference photos show them laying on boards on the ground along with the charges, so I tried to replicate that

I had a person comment online that they thought this was a real photo. That made my day

I made the photographer sign with graphics software and printed it on a laser printer, then mounted it on styrene, attached with wire, then weathered it



I painted the howitzer with top-down colour modulation, then applied various streaks and splatters for weathering. I used graphite for the gears



Detail of the Howitzer. Don't look too close please



The cameraman figure is from Bravo 6 and is beautifully sculpted, as it appears in many dioramas requiring a cameraman

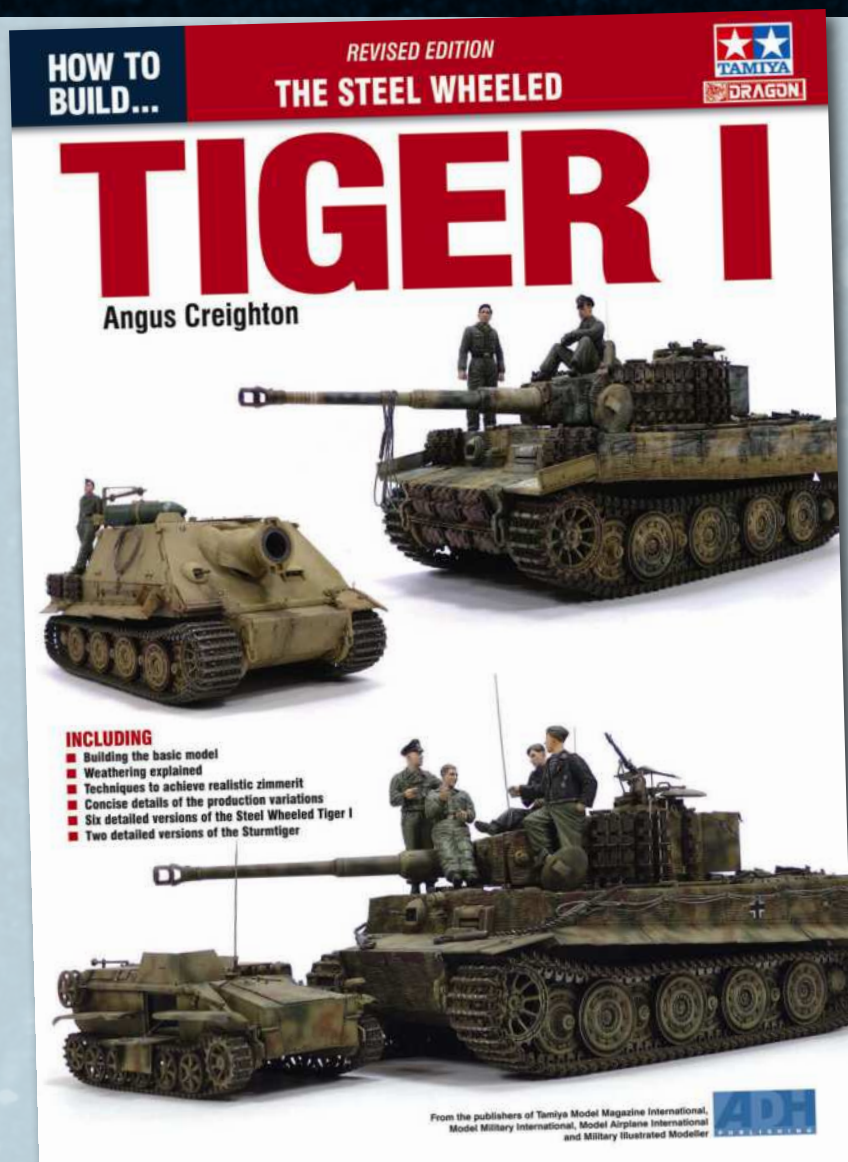
African-American artillerymen from Battery A, 333rd FA supporting the 90th ID prepare the position of a 155mm M1 howitzer, concealed under a camouflage net near Pèriers, Normandy
Photo: US Army Pictorial Service, public domain



American GIs from left to right; M/Sgt. Bennie Burns, Sgt. Vincent MacNeill, Sgt. Frank Mack, Pfc. Riggles McCutcheon, T/Sgt. John A. Barbee and Sgt. Thomas G. Alexander. They are deploying two SCR-625 mine detectors (AKA the "Frying Pan") at the foot of an electricity pole, the wires of which lay on the ground. Another GI in the background, unarmed, keeps cover
Photo: US Army Pictorial Service, public domain



AVAILABLE in the 'HOW TO BUILD...' series



NEW How to Build The Steel Wheeled Tiger I

A New and revised edition of the ultimate guide to building the Tiger I Steel Wheeled version by Angus Creighton.

The new revised edition includes:

- Early-batch Sturmpanzer, using Tamiya's 1:35 kit with factory zimmerit, ModelKasten battle-tracks
- Late-batch Sturmpanzer, using Tamiya's 1:35 kit, Dragon late pattern road wheels, extra frontal armour, no zimmerit, ModelKasten battle-tracks
- Dragon's 1:35 Tiger I (SPzAbt 510 1944-45), ModelKasten transport tracks
- and more...

NOW SHIPPING

**Only
£13.95
plus p&p**

ALSO AVAILABLE Visit doolittlemedia.com for details



PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW ON TEL: 01525 222573

The Steel Wheeled Tiger I book

HOW TO BUILD... STEEL TIGER

Name

Address

Post/zip code

Country

Telephone Number

Please debit my credit/debit card for £

Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Maestro ☐ other

Card No.

Expiry date..... Start date

Security Number (last 3 digits on signature strip)

Issue No (if applicable)

Please mail this form to;

Doolittle Media, The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, United Kingdom

Tel: +44(0)1525 222573 Online: www.doolittlemedia.com

(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

P&P: UK: £2.00

Europe: £4.00

World-Wide airmail: £6.00

Cheques payable to: Doolittle Media Ltd.

Please be aware that all credit/debit cards are processed through PayPal and this may appear on your bank statement

Signature

Date

www.doolittlemedia.com www.doolittlemedia.com www.doolittlemedia.com

STEEL COLOS



SUS



A detail shot of the extra armour added to front bow section, showing the rounded protective housing for the DT machine gun and driver's armoured 'letter box' viewing portal. Of note are the various details of the main gun mantlet which vary from model to model



The KV series of heavy tanks have been favourites of model makers for decades, starting with Tamiya's five different 1:35 variants in the 1970s and '80s and in more recent years, kits from Eastern Express, Zvezda and Trumpeter. Tamiya, not to be outdone, released two all-new kits of the KV-1 and KV-2, along with KV-1s in the newly invigorated 1:48 and appropriately massive 1:16 scales. **Zack Sex** takes a closer look at truly Soviet 'battlefield colossus'

A front three-quarter view of a KV-1 Model 1941 as found in the Central Armed Forces Museum in Moscow. This variant of the KV series features the new, all-steel road wheels (due to shortages of rubber) and featured the first fitting of the Zis-S 76.2mm anti-tank gun



It is the morning of the 20th of August 1941 and the combined armour of the 1st, 6th and 8th Panzer Divisions are powering their way towards Leningrad, the Soviet Union's second city. The Panzers of the Wehrmacht and dive bombers of the Luftwaffe have enjoyed incredible success so far in the opening stages of Operation Barbarossa. Thousands of aircraft of the Red Air Force lie destroyed on their airfields while Soviet tanks have fared little better.

Of the 23,000 or so tanks of the Red Army, 11,000 were available to the Stavka in the Western military districts, most of the T-26s, BT-5/7s T-28 and T-35s proving easy meat for the combat-experienced men of the Third Reich. The Wehrmacht had just under 4,000 tanks from the Pz.I, II, III up to the short barrelled Pz.IV along with several hundred former Czechoslovakian Škoda LT vz.35/Pz.38(t)s.

Amongst the crumbling Red Army divisions, two very different types of armoured vehicle were making an appearance; the T-34/76, KV-1 and KV-2. The former was a well-armoured, wide-tracked, diesel-engined vehicle with a powerful 76.2mm anti-tank gun. The second – named after Bolshevik minister of defence Kliment Yefremovich Voroshilov – was a far heavier affair with frontal armour of nearly 100mm, the same calibre gun and same engine.

The heavy KV could take a lot of punishment but was slower as a result of its thick and heavy armoured hide. That is not to say the Germans were not used to dealing with heavily armoured tanks; they had encountered numerous Char B and

A side view of a KV-1S 'Ekrani' Model 1941 which featured large slabs of extra armour plate fixed to the turret and hull sides with giant hexagonal bolts. These KV-1s had been up-armoured in such a fashion thanks to faulty Red Army intelligence exaggerating the capacity of certain German anti-tank guns of the time



A rear three-quarter view of the KV-1S 'Ekrani' as found in the Finnish Army tank museum in Parola. It is thought to be the only fully preserved variant of this type (there is a hull in Moscow with a later KV-1S turret). The large 27-inch track and initial-pattern roadwheels with internal resilient rubber ring for cushioning is evident here. These vehicles, while well armoured, were now actually too heavy for most bridges in Russia.



Another preserved KV specimen in Parola is this KV-1 Model 1942 featuring an up-armoured cast turret. This KV had beefed up armour and features a distinctive armoured collar around the rear turret DT machine gun. Of note is the Finnish fabricated engine-louvers replacing the original Soviet mesh. The Finnish swastika bore no connection to Hitler's National Socialism but was an old Finnish Army, pre Nazi-symbol



A detail shot of the front bow machine gun, radio aerial pot and welded on appliqué armour, offering extra frontal protection on later KV models. This KV-1 B/model 1941 was supplied by the Soviet Union to Britain as a tank sample during World War Two

Matilda tanks during the French campaign and between 88mm Flak guns, satchel charges and artillery pieces had dispatched these opponents with ease. Besides, the T-34 and KV were only available in quantities numbering just a few hundred and were in the hands of inexperienced crew, lacking fuel and ammunition.

But early on the 20th of August, things were going to be different. On that day, instead of a chaotic charge of tanks towards the Hitlerite invaders, five KV-1s would wait for their prey to come to them. In charge was Commander Zinoviy Grigoryevich Kolobanov with his gunner Andrej Usov and their KV was an up-armoured 'Ekranami' variant which featured extra slabs of armour plate fixed in position with giant hexagonal bolts on the turret sides and upper hull. Just as well, for that morning they would provide some added comfort for the crew.

FAMOUS FIVE

Kolobanov had positioned his KV (No.864) in a copse overlooking a junction – or choke point – on the only road in the area along which the German tanks must travel on the way to Leningrad. On either side of this singular highway were swamps and marshes; Kolobanov has ordered the five KVs to hold fire until he himself started firing and only fire singularly so as to hide the troops numbers. Along with these instructions he had ordered all crews to double the amount of ammunition on board their tanks, with rounds crammed into every space in each vehicle.

Eventually, it is the tanks of the 6th Panzers Division that come into view, trundling down the road. Over forty tanks appear with various support vehicles, their crews, as already noted, being experienced and fairly sure of themselves. Little do they know what awaits them. Swiftly, Kolobanov orders Usov to fire at the lead panzer which he does, obliterating it, the other tank men thinking it went over a mine.

Usov quickly hits the second and then the last vehicle in the column leaving the remaining Pz.IIs and Pz.IIIs trapped and trying to drive off the road, only to get mired up to their hulls in the bogs. They try desperately to return accurate but ineffective fire with their 20mm and 37mm guns. Kolobanov's 'famous five' take plenty of hits but wipe out forty-one Panzers that day, for no Soviet losses.

Across the path of the invading Nazi hordes there are many tales of unknown Soviet tankers in their KV-1s, holding up the teutons by driving over 37mm anti-tank guns having run out of ammunition, or of KV-2s holding forks in roads as they obliterate all comers until they themselves are destroyed by pioneer units using satchel charges and stick grenades. ➤



A detail view of the right-hand side air intake on the Bovington KV-1, showing the thick section of appliqué armour designed to protect the KV turret ring along with segments protecting the rear of the turret ring structure



A view from the left-hand side of the rear engine deck, showing the engine access hatch beneath which is located the V-2K diesel engine, that old Soviet classic also used to power the T-34 and used in some form or other in a vast number of tanks, tractors and Maz tank transporters in the Soviet Union/Russia for decades since. The mesh radiator air vent covers are in stark contrast to the Finnish Army replacements

◀ A NEW GUN

The KV-1 tank would see its main gun change from the original L-11 76mm to the F-32 76mm and to finally a Zis-5 76mm, each more potent than the last. As this happened, the armour would get thicker on the front and sides and material saving and various production techniques would see turrets and wheels altered as needs required.

The KV-2, which came about as a result of bunker-busting requirements during the Finnish Winter War, would see extensive use with a number ending up in German service with extra ammunition and stowage racks, along with Pz.IV cupolas added to their turrets. Ultimately however, the KV series would take the wrong evolutionary road. The KV-1s series were built with lighter armour at a time when the German Panther, Tiger and Elephant were armed with lethal 75mm and 88mm guns were coming on the scene. The KV-1s did however prove useful in the sense that its hull was used to produce the KV-85 tank and SU-152 tank destroyer. These would in turn evolve into the JS-2 or 'Stalin Two' heavy tank and ISU-152 assault gun, both of which would play a pivotal role in the final battles across Eastern Europe and all the way to Berlin in the heart of the Reich.

CONTINUATION WAR

With the KV-1 story it is worth remembering that while the major conflict on the Eastern front moved only one direction after the Battle of Kursk, a small number of captured KV-1s soldiered on with the Finnish Army against their former owners. The Finnish variants had various modifications to their track guards and lights and were painted in an interesting three-colour camouflage scheme whilst wearing the Finnish Army black and white swastikas.

On the Soviet side, a number of KV-1s were used with a motley collection of T-60s, early T-34s, SU-76s and JS-2s in the final offensive of the Finnish Continuation War which ended with the Finns suing for peace. Some of the Soviet KVs in this last battle with the Finns were seen with PT-3 mine rollers as they cleared routes through Finnish defences.

The last major use of KV-1s during the war would see these vehicles reduced to tugs, their turrets removed and plated over with a simple hatch, towing away Pz.IVs in Czechoslovakian territory and battle damaged Tiger 1s after the Battle of Berlin, a humble end for these Soviet workhorses in an army from which very few vehicles were thrown away. •



A profile shot of the right-hand side of the Bovington KV-1's all-steel road wheels, front idler wheel, all-steel return rollers not to mention hefty tracks, which seem very modern-looking for tracks designed in the late 1930s



Detail shot of the all-steel road wheels and return rollers introduced on the Model 1941 variants. Of note is the torsion bar suspension system used in the KV series unlike the Christie system used in the T-34 production series



Detail study of left-hand side front idler on the Bovington vehicle. The idler and rear drive sprocket remained the same on the KV-1S, KV-85 and SU-152 series, while at least four different road wheel types were introduced



The rear of the Bovington KV-1B/1941 cast model turret as distinct from the up-armoured cast variant with raised rear MG ring found in Parola



ABOVE: An imposing front three-quarter view of the KV-2 bunker-buster, also preserved at the Central Army Museum in Moscow. These monsters were created after the disastrous performance of standard Soviet tanks and Red Army heavy prototypes such as the T-100 1939 and SMK Model 1939 and used against the Finnish Mannerheim line and various bunkers and fortified positions. Over 300 of these giant pill-box killers were produced, but as with many weapons designed to fight past battles, the need for fighting fortified positions during the German invasion of Barbarossa didn't really arise



ABOVE: A rear right-hand side view of the KV-2; these vehicles were referred to as 'Dreadnoughts' by their crews. Two distinct types of KV-2 were manufactured, an earlier slanted armoured version, referred to as 'big turret' (only produced in small numbers) and the boxy variant seen here, referred to as 'reduced turret' variant. In a number of instances, KV-2s held up German army columns or rampage over the likes of 37mm anti-tank guns, crushing weapons and crews alike. Flak 88 or artillery guns were usually required to put an end to the behemoths



RIGHT: A rear left-hand side three-quarter view of the sole survivor in the Central Army Museum. The all-steel road wheels not normally found on the KV-2. Despite large losses of KV-2s in the early stages of Barbarossa to technical breakdowns, German flak attack and earth-bound obstacles, the Wehrmacht used a number of captured KV-2s on the Eastern front, most with Pz.IV cupolas and various stowage fittings added. The last active Wehrmacht KV-2 was blown up by its crew when it broke down during the Battle of Kursk. One hull-down KV-2 was also used in the defence of the Krupp Essen plant in 1945



A detail shot of the KV-2 gun mantlet and its modified M-10 Model 1938/40 howitzer. It was capable of firing a 52kg anti-armour warhead or 40kg concrete penetrator. The tank carried thirty-six rounds of ammunition internally



A detail view of the front hull plate on the KV-2 featuring the driver's armoured viewing port and armoured DT machine gun housing. This is no different to the early tank variants but minus the extra appliqué armour of the later 1941 variants



In the Polish Army Museum in Warsaw lies the shattered remains of a Red Army KV-1 Model 1941 with the late-model road wheels. This hulk may well have been destroyed during the campaign to 'liberate' Warsaw in January 1944. Having watched from across the River Bug as the Germans levelled the city and murdered so many of inhabitants, Stalin decided to resume the offensive when the Poles were utterly crushed

PANTHER, PAUSED

On a hedge-lined road somewhere in Normandy, two GIs examine a de-turreted Panther. This image provides plenty of inspiration for a eye-catching diorama! •

Photo: Rodger Hamilton: The War Photos, public domain





This simple diorama has the distant horizon as its central element. In fact, it is the true protagonist of this small diorama, the horizon is evoked by the gazes of the figures and their expressions, a horizon of war that is perhaps approaching. The Panzer III model is from Blitz by Takom, while the figures are from Alpine and Evolution Miniatures. The diorama is made with synthetic grass and natural grass. Finally, a mention of the photographs, they too, like the rest of the diorama, emphasise the looks and the slow movement of the marching bodies. •

Photos, text and diorama by Giuseppe Randazzo aka Artqdp



Weiter Nach Osten!

Giuseppe Randazzo – aka ArtQdP – brings us another of his fantastically atmospheric dioramas: German troops moving eastwards, Russia 1943









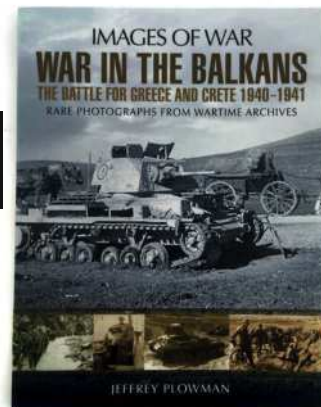


BOOK REVIEWS

WAR IN THE BALKANS – THE BATTLE FOR GREECE AND CRETE 1940-1941

JEFFREY PLOWMAN, PEN & SWORD
www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

This book was first published in 2013, but has just been reprinted which gives readers a new opportunity to grab this superb description of what took place in the period when Commonwealth forces seemed to go from one defeat to another. The expeditionary force sent to Greece was intended to halt or at least delay the Axis advance into the Balkan area. Ultimately this was not successful, but we now know that it significantly delayed the German invasion of Russia, and the Balkan war had a wider impact. The Commonwealth forces were evacuated, with many going to Crete. The German invasion of this Mediterranean island was tougher than they expected, and decimated the Fallschirmjäger as a major force. This book is packed with photos showing the conflict from both sides, and while some photos have been published before, many of the pictures are extremely useful for modellers. Highly recommended. CLS



STURMTIGER – THE COMBAT HISTORY OF STURMMÖRSER KOMPANIES 1000-1002

BY TIMM HAASLER, LEE ARCHER, PANZERWRECKS
ISBN: 9781908032232 • www.panzerwrecks.com

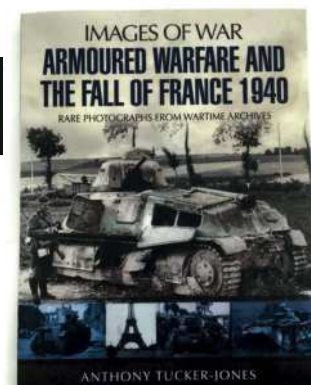
The Sturmtiger is one of those vehicles that are instantly recognisable, and which has a fascination of its own, despite just 18 being made in the last year of the war. The original intention had been to produce a heavily armoured vehicle, able to bring a massive naval weapon within range of fortifications, and fire a rocket-propelled shell containing 125kg of explosive up to 5km distance. By the time these monsters, based on refurbished Tiger 1 chassis, began to appear in autumn 1944, the need for this weapon had gone, and they proved to be a liability. Many were abandoned, having run out of fuel or stuck in a ditch. Several were captured virtually intact, but others were blown up by their retreating crews. This outstanding book describes the development and deployment of the Sturmtiger, with clear text and superb photos. It is particularly useful to have detailed accounts of several vehicles where their fate was well documented. The book contains a mass of information and is supplemented by a separate map showing the key locations of operations. This book also includes colour artwork to show how the vehicles would have appeared, given that the available photos are all black and white. With so few produced, each Sturmtiger was rather unique, and this book enables the modeller to create a faithful representation of a particular vehicle. CLS

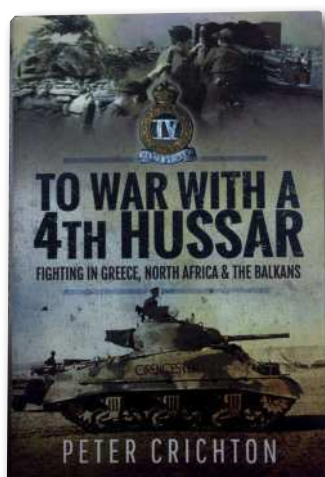


ARMoured WARFARE AND THE FALL OF FRANCE 1940

ANTHONY TUCKER-JONES, PEN & SWORD
www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

From the outbreak of WW2 until May 1940, the period of Phoney War saw Britain, France and Germany getting their armoured forces prepared for the coming battles. When conflict erupted, the German forces swept through Western Europe in a matter of weeks, despite the numerical strength of their opposition. This softback book in the Images of War series, first published in 2013 and now reprinted, describes the campaign and provides the reader with a very good summary of the key events. The highlight of the book has to be the photographs, carefully chosen to illustrate the key vehicle types, and occupying about 80% of the pages. Some of the photos are very slightly fuzzy, but the choice of the pictures is excellent, with the selection showing vehicles, aircraft, scenery and troops. It is unfortunate that the photos of French vehicles invariably show destroyed or captured tanks. A very good and inexpensive summary, this book will satisfy the majority of readers and give plenty of ideas for models. CLS

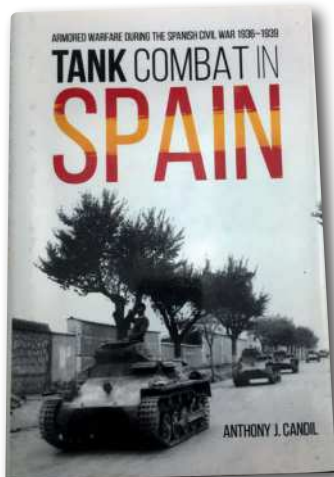




TO WAR WITH A 4TH HUSSAR – FIGHTING IN GREECE, NORTH AFRICA & THE BALKANS

PETER CRICHTON,
PEN & SWORD
www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

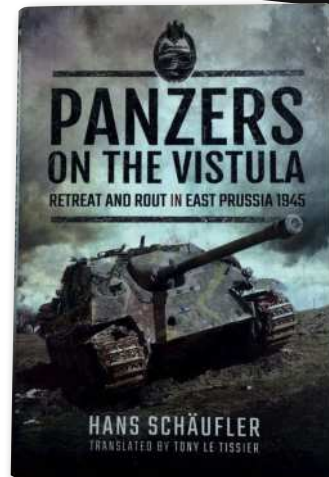
Author Peter Crichton served in the 4th Hussars – an armoured unit – from the time that they landed in Greece in the ill-fated attempt to stem the Axis invasion during the Second World War. After being evacuated from Greece, he was involved in some major battles in North Africa, before being posted to support Yugoslavian President Josip Broz Tito's partisans as they harried the retreating Germans as they withdrew from the Balkan theatre of operation. This new book from Pen & Sword is based on his memoirs, compiled for publication by his son Robert. As such, the information is based on recollections and eye-witness accounts, with all the pros and cons that can follow from this approach. There are some interesting photographs, including Yugoslavian partisans handling a 6pdr (incorrectly labelled 17pdr) anti-tank gun. The great thing about this book is the coverage of events that are little-known, written from the perspective of a participant. A really good read! CLS



TANK COMBAT IN SPAIN – ARMOURIED WARFARE DURING THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR 1936-1939

ANTHONY CANDIL,
CASEMATE PUBLISHERS
www.casematepublishers.co.uk

The Spanish Civil War was in many ways a proxy war for Russia and Germany, giving them a chance to try out weapons and tactics that would within a short period become central to WW2. The armoured equipment came from Germany, Italy and Russia, and the Spanish Republican and Nationalist forces made use of a wide range of tanks, tankettes and armoured cars. Lack of experience with armoured units resulted in the assets being less effective than each side had hoped, but a great deal was learned about how best to deploy armour in combat. This 240-page book, written by an author with experience of the senior levels of the Spanish military, explores the use of the vehicles at the level of unit tactics and at a strategic level, and the book is supported by sixty photos showing Panzer I, I3, T-26 and BT-5 tanks and other equipment. Of particular interest, the book covers the conclusions learned from the use of armour, and an appraisal of the equipment. This book covers aspects that have rarely been covered in other publications, and gives a fascinating insight to armour of the period. CLS



PANZERS ON THE VISTULA – RETREAT AND ROUT IN EAST PRUSSIA 1945

HANS SCHÄUFLE,
PEN AND SWORD
www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

The chaos of the last months of WW2 makes it difficult to understand in detail what took place on the Eastern Front. The opposing armies had little time to concentrate on documenting events, and records are scant. Our best source is to rely on personal accounts, and Hans Schäufler was a Jagdpanther commander in these last days of the war, and is able to describe the combat in clear detail. The result is a fascinating description of the final collapse of German forces, with the eventual capture and internment of Schäufler in Sweden. This book was first released in 1991 in German, but is now available in English, allowing us to begin to understand the tragedy that marked the end of WW2. The translation is excellent, and the book is very readable. The photos in this book illustrate the cold and miserable conditions, with the few frozen German vehicles covered in snow and mud. The photos also demonstrate the widespread use of farm carts, and the German people must have wondered at what had changed since the 'glorious' days of Blitzkrieg. CLS

NEW TITLES FROM OSPREY

www.ospreypublishing.com

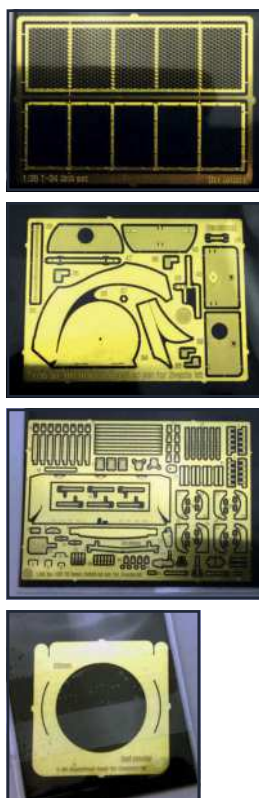


ORDNANCE DEPOT

DEF MODEL, KOREA

This set of details has been released to enhance the Zvezda SU-100 kit, but in reality the parts would be equally good with any of the many similar kits on the market – including standard T-34 kits – which used similar parts. Beware though, some kits have minor size differences and parts may need to be tweaked to fit in places. The set provides replacement parts for areas where plastic moulding has limitations. The air outlet screen on the rear deck is provided as etched mesh with incredible finesse and 3D woven effect. The fuel tank supports are the correct style for these assault guns, and are able to capture the thin metal structure of the real item. The set also includes a shovel and the saw, plus the mantlet cover and other minor parts to improve the basic model. An unusual approach has been to supply replacement inner faces for each hatch, providing extra detail on the catches and other parts on the hatch. It may be worth sanding down the kit hatches before fitting these additional plates, to avoid the result becoming too thick. Finally, a nice feature is a wheel mask, allowing the modeller to spray the wheel centre after painting the tyres. Overall, a nice set to add detail to any SU-100 kit. Excellent parts to improve plastic parts on the model; it may help to thin down kit hatches before adding new interior parts. **CLS**

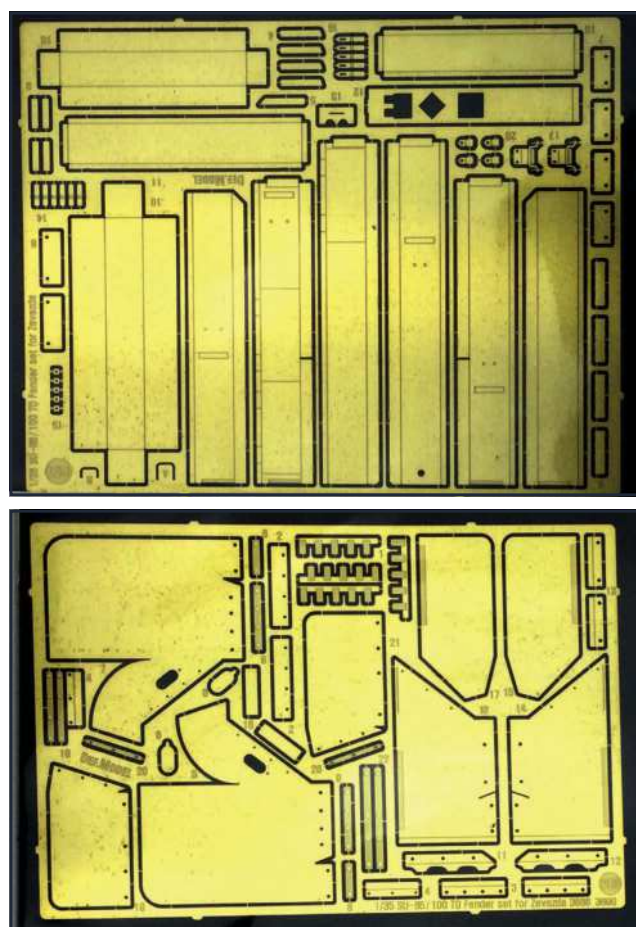
- 1:35 SU-100 TD Basic PE detail-up set (DE35024) For Zvezda kit 3688



DEF MODEL, KOREA

This decal set is available to coincide with the release of a suitable kit from Italeri, but obviously would be suitable for any Easy Sherman with the necessary features for a Korean War time frame. Modellers will need to check references to make sure that the base vehicle is appropriate. This decal set from DEF is done in superb detail, with the register and sharpness of the decals absolutely the best possible. These decals require the model to be sprayed Olive Drab for the markings on the side and turret, and the glacis plate to be given a coat of red to form the background for the main transfers. And they are really striking! The 89th Tank Battalion, known as Rice's Red Devils, painted huge snarling faces on the front of their tanks, with open jaws and big teeth! The intention was to scare the North Korean troops, who were thought to be superstitious, and make them keep their distance. Whether or not this actually had any real impact, the result was to create tanks with a unique appearance, which looks awesome on a model. The decals from DEF include a full set of markings, including shipping and servicing stencils, for two vehicles. The 'faces' of the two vehicles are subtly different, and a modeller could make two specific tanks from 89th Battalion. Overall, an extremely detailed and accurate set of decals for the Korean War. Very sharp and detailed decals for two specific Shermans but there is no indication of the exact shade of red to paint the front of the hull. **CLS**

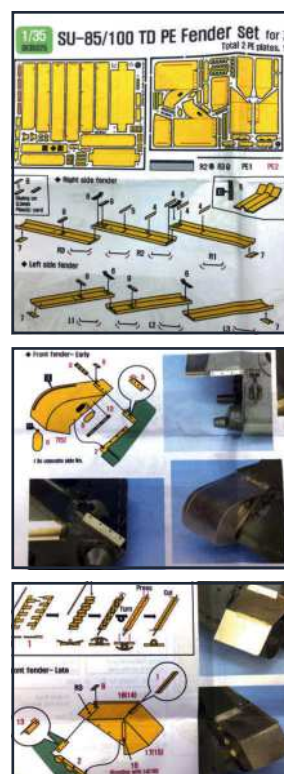
- 1:35 Korean War US M4A3E8 Rice's Red Devils decal set (DE35014)



DEF MODEL, KOREA

Although labelled as intended for the Zvezda kit, this excellent set of etched brass parts will equally well work with any of the other SU-100 or indeed SU-85 kits which are available – perhaps with minor tweaking to allow for small variations between kits. The set includes the track guards, which being brass can be deformed to imitate the damage seen on real vehicles. The modeller is provided with early (rounded) and late (flat) front fenders, as well as the rear fender, and most significant there are the connecting plates and stiffeners for the track guard sections, which are often missing from kits. In addition, the two ZIP tool boxes are provided, along with the interior brackets which are rarely seen on models. The necessary bolt heads are supplied as resin parts, ready to slice off from a casting block, and wire is provided for making hinges. As securing brackets are provided for each fender, it is actually possible to omit one or more fender, leaving the brackets in place as seen in wartime photos. A particular feature of DEF is the clarity of the instructions, illustrated with colour drawings and photos, so that there is no ambiguity on how to assembly the parts. Altogether, this is a set that supplies extra parts that are often missing from similar PE sets, and provides the modeller with flexibility and detail. Highly recommended. More detailed than many other equivalent sets. A few parts are extremely small and inexperienced modellers may find them fiddly. **CLS**

- 1:35 SU-100 TD fender PE detail-up set (DE35025) for 1:35 Zvezda kit 3688

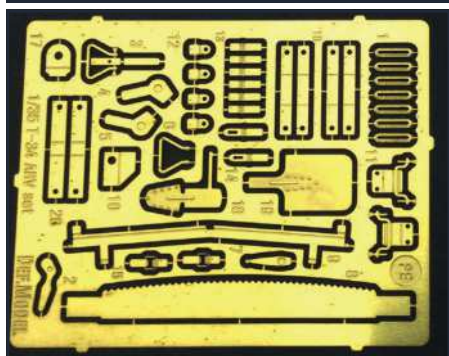
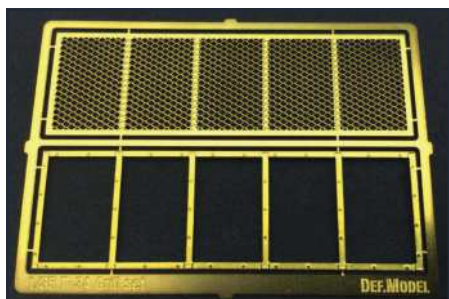




DEF MODEL, KOREA

During WW2 and the years immediately afterwards, the Soviet army lacked dedicated recovery vehicles, using un-armoured tractors and other tanks to drag damaged vehicles from the field. Older T-34 tanks, and those with damaged turrets, were used for this purpose, for towing broken down vehicles to safety. There was a great deal of variation between individual vehicles, as they were essentially one-off conversions at unit level. The most common type was created by plating over the turret ring, and adding hatches as appropriate. The DEF-Model conversion set is labelled as for the Academy kit, but in reality would fit onto any suitable T-34 hull. The resin disk to cover the turret ring is moulded with a rough weld around the edge, and the traces of turret-top features that have been 'welded over' when cutting the plate from the top of a donor turret. The conversion requires a hatch and cupola from the base kit, so modellers will need to source these. The DEF set also includes a number of etched brass parts to improve the hull detailing, including excellent mesh for the air outlet panel. These recovery tanks did not carry any specialised parts externally, and only had hand tools inside the hull. As they served as tugs to haul damaged vehicles, a tow cable is essential, and brackets to hold these are provided by DEF. Although this is a simple set, the quality is excellent and enables the modeller to quickly create an interesting vehicle based on a T-34 hull. Excellently moulded parts to create a T-34 recovery tug but as the cupola and hatch are not provided, the modeller will need to find these. **CLS**

- 1:35 T-34 ARV conversion set (DE35095)



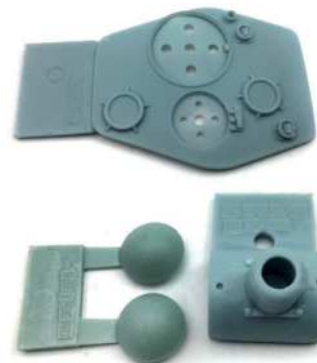
DEF MODEL, KOREA

The T-34 has many variations which differ by date and factory of production. The turret of the late-war T-34/85 has many differences, and as always, discerning modellers will want to get things right! The composite turret from Factory 112 had the long upper plate typical of this factory, with the main casting in several parts, hence the composite structure. This particular turret from DEF is designed for the Academy kit, and uses the mushroom ventilators that were typical of turrets produced at the very end of WW2, but then entered service with a number of nations. Decals for Czechoslovakia and North Vietnam are provided by DEF. The set provides the turret body and roof, which will need some adjusting to fit perfectly. The mushroom ventilators and the correct mantlet are provided, along with a turned aluminium barrel, leaving only the cupola, hatch and minor details to come from a donor kit. The quality of resin casting is superb, with an authentic texture on the turret



body and subtle casting marks for the composite structure. This DEF set can obviously be adapted to use with any T-34/85 from Dragon, Tamiya or whatever, and is therefore highly adaptable as long as the hull has the features typical of Factory 112. Altogether, a very useful replacement turret for 1945 onwards. Excellently moulded parts and replacement gun barrel. The fit of the turret roof plate needs a minor adjustment. **CLS**

- 1:35 T-34/85 Composite turret set Factory 112 Model 1945 (DE35106)



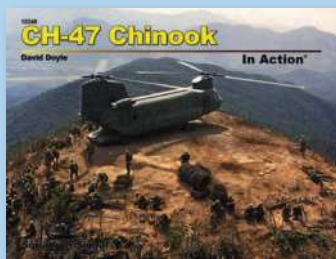
ET MODEL, CHINA

ET Model is an aftermarket producer that has been making top-notch modelling goodies for many years. The newest of their sets to arrive are made via 3D printing technology which is taking the hobby by storm, offering incredible detail and definition in the resin-like plastic the technique uses. We have received a bumper box of their new items, and reviewed here are the first three of them; tracks sets for the WW2 German Elephant tank-destroyer and T-34 550mm stamped links (Type 1940) and a pack of Bosch headlamps and rear lights. The pink resin is rather hard to photograph, but you can hopefully see the detail and precision of the parts shown here. **MIM**

1:35

- Bosch lamp lights for WWII German vehicles (P-35-208)
- Kgs 64/640/130 Schwerer Jagdpanzer Elephant workable track (P35-009)
- Soviet T-34 550mm stamped links (Type 1940) workable track (P35-018)

SQUADRON BOOKS



**10248
CH-47 Chinook in Action**

More than 160 archival colour photos, augmented by 48 vintage black and white images and numerous line drawings, present a clear and concise illustrated history of this iconic helicopter.

.....£14.99



**10249
UH-1 Huey in Action**

Illustrated with more than 220 photos, 160 of which are vintage color, and supplemented by numerous line illustrations.

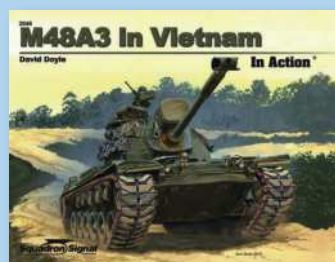
.....£14.99



**10241
F-105 Thunderchief In Action**

Nearly 200 vintage photos – more than half are in original color. These photos are augmented with a dozen line drawings and eight colour profiles.

.....£14.99



**2046
M48A3 Patton Vietnam in Action**

Illustrated with 109 photos, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings.

.....£14.99



**5606
Nimitz Class Aircraft Carriers
On Deck**

Illustrated with more than 300 photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings.

.....£15.99



**12049
LTV(4) Amtrac in Action**

Illustrated with over 225 vintage photographs plus colour profiles and over a dozen colour renderings and detailed line drawings.

.....£14.99



**10235
Helldiver In Action**

Illustrated with 194 photos, many in color.

.....£14.99



**34001
USS Arizona Squadron at Sea**

Illustrated with 288 photographs, 5 detailed line drawings, 7 color illustrations.

.....£16.99



**10263
UH-60 Black Hawk in Action**

Illustrated with over 250 B/W and colour photos.

.....£14.99



**10206
F-14 Tomcat in Action**

Contains more than 175 photos of which most are in full colour, line drawings and profiles.

.....£14.99

**THIS IS JUST A SELECTION
OF OUR RANGE AT
WWW.DOOLITTLEMEDIA.COM**

Editors; Aircraft Edition - Brett Green
AFV Edition - Marcus Nicholls
Publisher; Alan Harman
Graphic Design; Alex Hall
Advertising Manager; Alan Harman
Administration; Gordon Angus
MIM Website; Doolittle Media
Web Team

Printed by;
Micropress Ltd

Distributed by;
Seymour Distribution
2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT
Tel; 020 7429 4000

Newstrade;
Select Publisher Services
3 East Avenue, Bournemouth, BH3 7BW
Tel; 01202 586848
Email; tim@selectps.com

Military Illustrated Modeller is published
on the third Thursday of each month by;
Doolittle Media, The Granary, Doolittle Lane,
Totterhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX UK
www.doolittlemedia.com
Tel; +44 (0)1525 222573

Editorial enquiries;
Aircraft Edition email;
brett@doolittlemedia.com
AFV Edition email;
editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

Advertising enquiries;
Tel; +44 (0)7708 028024
Email; alan@doolittlemedia.com

Subscription enquiries;
Tel; +44 (0)1525 222573
Email; enquiries@doolittlemedia.com

Reproduction in part of any text, photograph,
or illustration without written consent from
the publisher is strictly prohibited. While due
care is taken to ensure the contents of Military
Illustrated Modeller is accurate, the publishers
and printers can not accept responsibility for
errors and omissions.

Advertisements are accepted for publication in
Military Illustrated Modeller only on Doolittle
Media's standard terms of acceptance of
advertising, copies of which are available from
the advertising department. Please write to the
address above. All advertising, circulation and
subscription enquiries should also be directed to
the UK address above.

Subscription rates are;
Option 1 - 12 Issues (AFV & Aircraft) -
1 year UK - £66.00 / Europe - £80.00 /
World - £90.00 (prices include shipping)
Option 2 - 12 Aircraft Editions -
2 years UK - £66.00 / Europe - £80.00 /
World - £90.00 (prices include shipping)
Option 3 - 12 AFV Editions -
2 years UK - £66.00 / Europe - £80.00 /
World - £90.00 (prices include shipping)

For all orders, please call;
(UK) +44(0)1525 222573
or visit www.doolittlemedia.com

**DOOLITTLE
MEDIA**

© Doolittle Media 2022

Military Illustrated Modeller
Issue 127 Aircraft Edition on
sale 17th March 2022



SPATZ PART ONE

Kamil Feliks Sztarbala Builds
Special Hobby's 1:72
Heinkel He 162



FULCRUM OVER POLAND

Academy's 1:48 MiG-29 Fulcrum plus Zack Sex's detailed reference



KOMET!

GasPatch Models's 1:48
Me 163B Komet with the
dedicated detail set and pilot



CHEQUERED T-BOLT

Mark Casiglia presents
his Tamiya's 1:48
P-47D Bubbletop



ON PATROL

A superb 1:35 Jeep
diorama with US
WW2 GIs checking
out the front line



'62 AND COUNTING

Reference images of the
Soviet T-62 Cold War
battlewagon

Military Illustrated
Modeller Issue 128
AFV Edition on sale
April 21st 2022



AIR SUPREMACY

Modelling the Tunguska
SPAAG system in 1:35

...AND MORE!

JUST DESERTS

A Deutsches Afrikakorps M34 team pose for the PK camera in this original Agfacolor photograph from the early-war period. It's interesting to note how polished the machine gun appears and also the variation in the colours of the crew's uniforms. A neat little vignette in the making perhaps? •

See you again next time!



**100%
NEW TOOLING**



STZ-5

**SOVIET
ARTILLERY TRACTOR**

NEW

No. 3663

MORE THAN JUST A HOBBY

SCALE

1/35

PARTS

273

LENGTH (CM)

11,8



CENTURION Mk.III



1/16
SCALE
R/C TANK

Powerful & Realistic Action in Impressive Size Innovative British Tank Becomes an R/C Model!

1/16 R/C Tank Series **British Battle Tank Centurion Mk.III Full-Option Kit**

●4ch transmitter, 4ch receiver, battery pack, battery charger, and batteries for transmitter are separately sold.

(Item 56045)

The Centurion was developed as a British counter to German Army tanks at the end of WWII. First serving in the Korean War, the Centurion showed off its overwhelming strength in saving the Allied forces from crisis many times, and it was said to be the most effective tank in the world. Now, this innovative tank upgunned with 20 pounder gun joins the barnstorming 1/16 R/C Tank Series! The powerful form is captured in style with realistic depictions of cast surface patterns and weld lines. A full range of model and turret motion can be controlled, and sounds and lights are synchronized with motion. It is a rewarding task assembling, painting and weathering this large 603mm-length model. Enjoy building up your own version of a tank which exemplified the British Army's commitment to quality.

[Specifications] ●Length: 603mm (hull length: 476mm), width: 214mm, height: 189mm. Weight (approx.): 3,800g. ●The deep sound of the V12 gasoline engine capable of 650hp is realistically rendered. ●A bass reflex speaker with metal baffle plate gives rich sounds. Speaker unit equipped in the hull front emits highly authentic sounds accompanied by model actions such as main and machine gun burst fire, turret rotation and gun elevation. ●Multi-Function Control Unit coordinates various actions, sounds and lights.



The main gun offers elevation up to 18 degrees and depression of 7 degrees, in conjunction with realistic sound. The turret rotates a full 360 degrees and transmitter controls speed and stopping position.



When the main gun and 7.92mm Besa machine gun are fired, a flash is emitted from orange LEDs installed in the clear part in the tips that depict muzzle flash, accompanied by sound.



Durability is ensured by an aluminum chassis and die-cast components such as drive sprockets and suspension arms.



The gearbox unit offers plenty of power at a range of speeds from slow crawling to top speed.



A large bass reflex speaker unit has metal baffle plate to offer deep, rich sounds.



The control unit facilitates various actions, synchronized with sounds and lights for super realism.



Comes with an optional gun shield canvas cover (bottom) which locks main and machine guns for display models.

★Images show assembled and painted kit. ★Product may vary from images shown.

TAMIYA, INC. 3-7 ONDAWARA, SURUGA-KU, SHIZUOKA 422-8610 JAPAN

Check Tamiya's homepage for the latest releases! [www.tamiya.com] ©2022 TAMIYA