

MENG



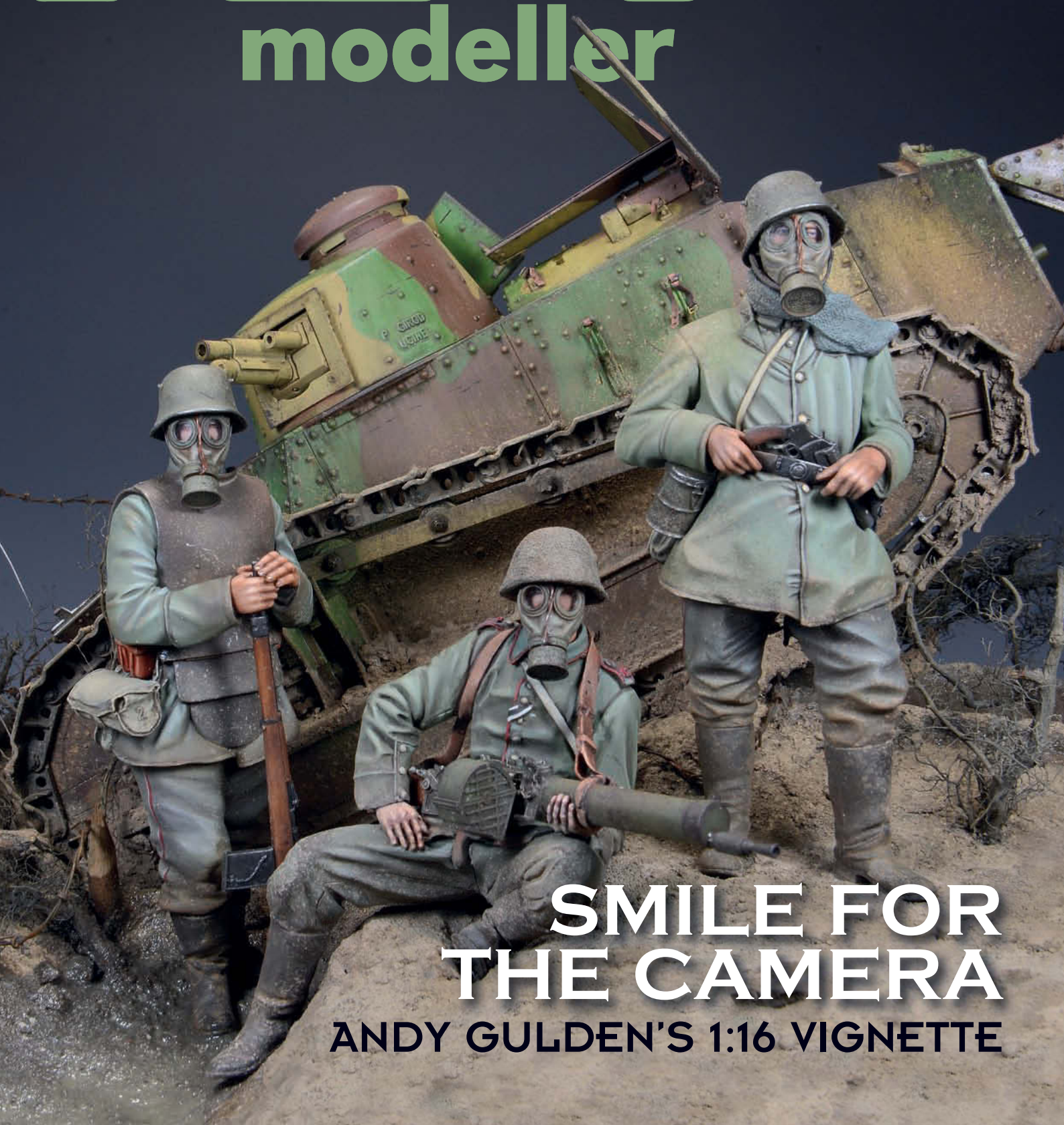
AFV

77

JULY / AUG 2014 · £6.50 UK \$14.95

www.mengafvmodeller.com

modeller



SMILE FOR THE CAMERA

ANDY GULDEN'S 1:16 VIGNETTE

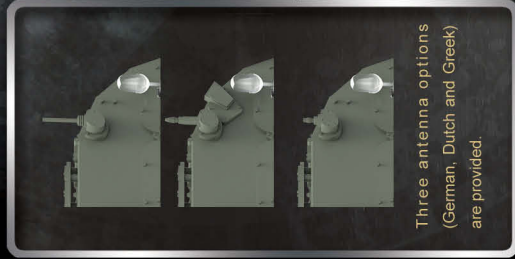
GERMAN

MENG

Panzerhaubitze 2000

SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER

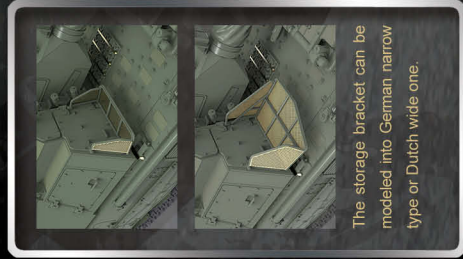
1/35
SCALE



Three antenna options
(German, Dutch and Greek)
are provided.



On the top of the turret, the
anti-aircraft machine gun can
be built as a German MG3
machine gun or a Dutch FN
MAG one.



The storage bracket can be
modeled into German narrow
type or Dutch wide one.



The side of hull can be
modeled without tools.



The muzzle brake with dust cover
is provided.



WWW.MENG-MODEL.COM

CONTENTS

2	Meng's M2A3 BUSK III Bradley- Part 2 Mark Neville gets some colour on the Bradley and creates a simple vignette
10	Bradley Walk-Around Following last issue's look inside the M2A3, a look at the external details.
14	URAL 4320 Domingo Hernadez Martin fuels-up in 1:48
22	"Waiting for the All Clear" Takom's large scale FT-17 set in a dramatic vignette by Andy Gulden
30	MENG's first model contest- Bejing 2014 The Editor is invited to judge and check out the modelling scene in China
40	Keeping Track More new releases
54	AMAC 35 2014 A warm French welcome for our visit this year's show
56	King Tiger 211 The famous captured KT modelled by Liejon Schoot

Meng AFV Modeller is published Bimonthly by
AFV Modeller Ltd
Old Stables
East Moor
Stannington
Northumberland
NE61 6ES
Tel: 01670 823648
Fax: 01670 820274

Editor and Designer: David Parker
email: david@mengafvmodeller.com
Deputy Editor: Mark Neville
email: mark@mengafvmodeller.com
Sales Director: Keith Smith
email: keith@mengafvmodeller.com

ISSN 1747-4183



We are now on Facebook, 'Like' us to follow what we are doing and follow our build projects.

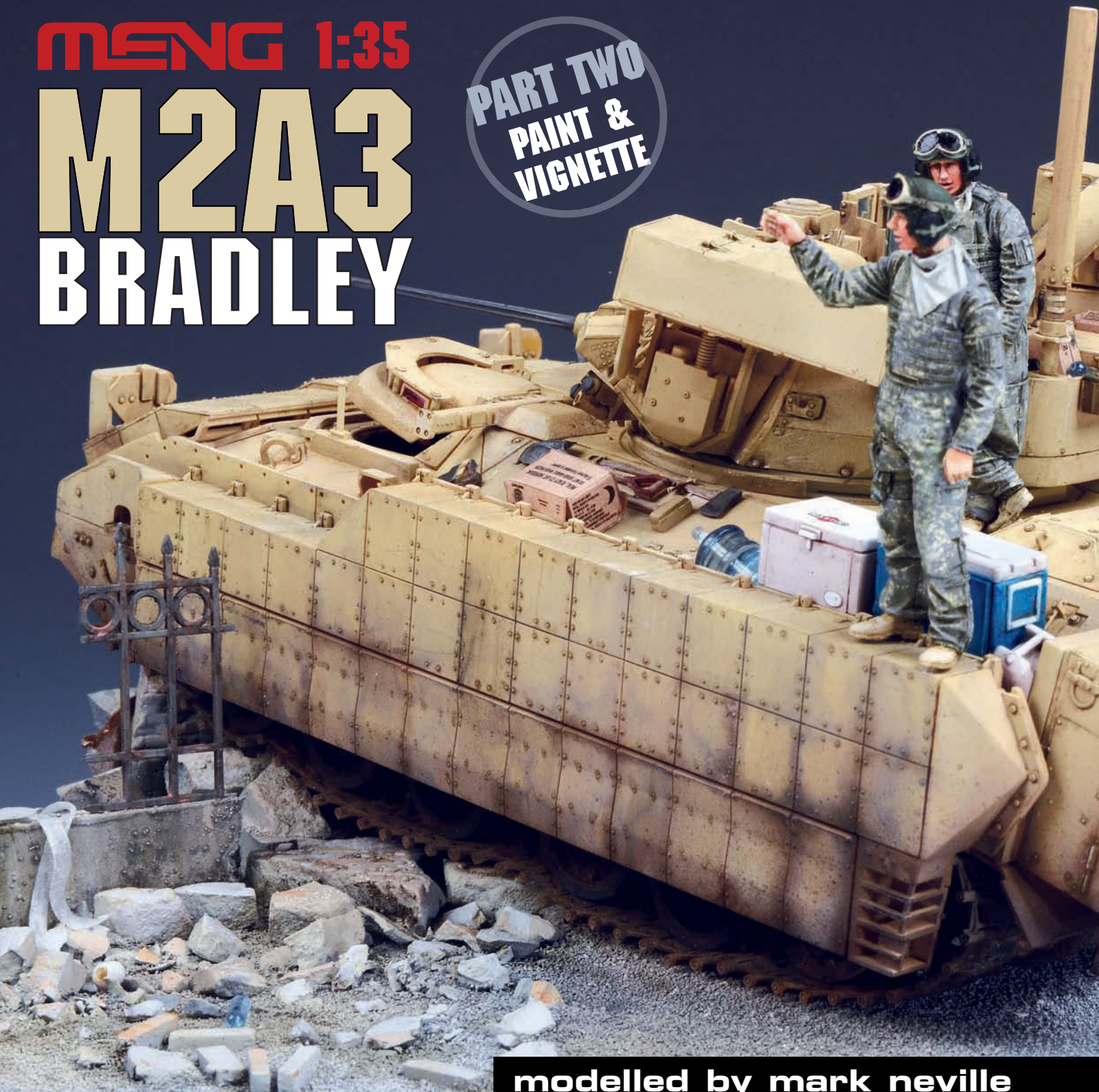
AFV Modeller welcomes contributions from interested parties, but cannot accept any responsibility for unsolicited material.

The contents of this publication including all articles, drawings and photographs originated by AFV Modeller Ltd become the publishers copyright under copyright law. Reproduction in any form requires the written consent of the publisher. Whilst every care is taken to avoid mistakes AFV Modeller Ltd. cannot be liable in any way for errors or omissions.

MENG 1:35

M2A3 BRADLEY

**PART TWO
PAINT &
VIGNETTE**



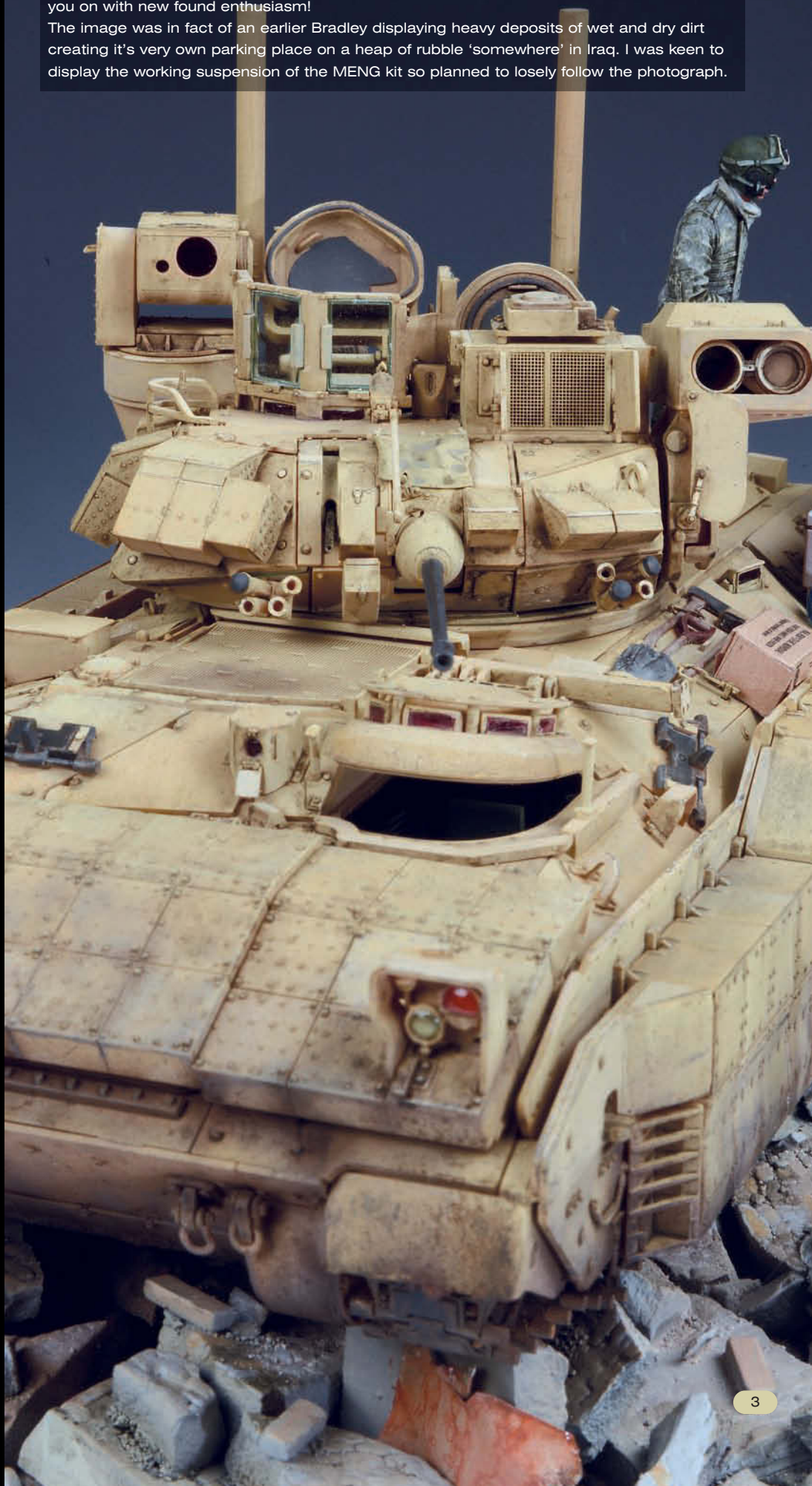
modelled by mark neville





So with the mountain of sprues looking rather bare the Bradley was built and ready for paint. Whilst browsing the 'net looking for colour and weathering reference (a big bonus when modelling modern subjects) I came across THE image; you know the one that either makes you shelve what you're working on and start something new, or drive you on with new found enthusiasm!

The image was in fact of an earlier Bradley displaying heavy deposits of wet and dry dirt creating it's very own parking place on a heap of rubble 'somewhere' in Iraq. I was keen to display the working suspension of the MENG kit so planned to loosely follow the photograph.



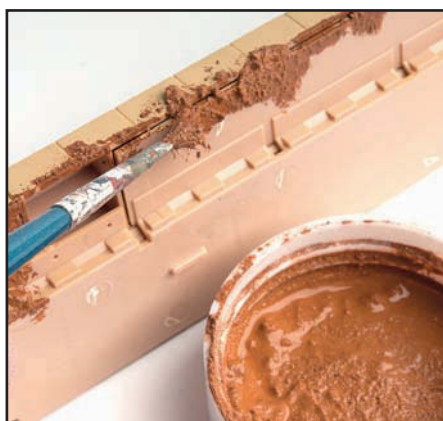
CREAMY, BUFFY, YELLOW...



I must admit, this was a tricky colour to get right as a base for the final 'look' I wanted to achieve. As I planned to give some interest and life to the monotone colour I had to go light, we had to hand some samples of colours which are a good match to the U.S. modern 'sand' (AK Interactive do a good set of colours for modern American vehicles) but I ended up mixing Lifecolor. I went back and forth so many times I'm at a loss to the ratios of what colours, what I can say is that pure white and bright yellow form a good portion, from the reference I found the colour is quite 'clean'. What wasn't going to be clean was the running gear and lower portions of my M2, so the wheels and tracks were left in place for the base coat. I did leave the side armour separate to make life easier.

With all of the optics glass clear parts masked a solid base coat was gradually applied with the Lifecolor acrylic mix thinned with Lifecolor thinners. I added a little more white to my base mix and hit some highlights on the upper-most surfaces with the airbrush. The model was set aside for a day or so to dry out properly.

DIRTY BOY...



Studying closely the photograph print-outs I'd taped above my desk it was clear I was going to need some texture to achieve the desired look of the wheels and lower hull. I think the general impression of the Middle East and Iraq is dry and dusty with most models reflecting this. I'm sure, as anyone who has served in the military would agree, I turned up some photographs of some serious mud and rain storms which has had a harsh effect on the vehicles. My starting point was to add a heavy build up of dirt, I've used a Tamiya texture 'Soil' paint here and also tried some of the new



'Wilder' texture products, all work well with a fine in-scale appearance. It did seem a shame to clog up all of the beautiful wheel detail!! The texture was carried onto the hull sides and bottom, very little of which can be seen on the finished piece.

The next step was to apply an overall dry dirt colour mixed from designers' gouache. I favour this medium for dried-on grime as it dries with a dead flat chalky finish. On the huge ERA block side panels I wanted to create an impression of layers of dirt, some washed away, some dry and some



still damp. This was done with a mixture of close airbrushing and working the surface with a damp paintbrush. For the wetter deposits I airbrushed Corn-Art 'Fertile Soil'. This is a water based artists' ink ideal for fine airbrush work drying to a very slight sheen for the damp look I wanted.





WASHING LINES...

Magic finishing potions; there's certainly plenty to choose from these days and we often find ourselves discussing the pros and cons in the studio. One thing is certain, they offer consistency and convenience whichever brand you favour, and for the more novice modeller or someone wishing simply to improve their standards of finish, they are a fast-track way to some tried and tested effects to bring your models to life. One of the most basic and effective

effects comes from a wash. A dark tone will help visually lift detail by creating a surrounding shadow. I tested some of the new 'Wilder' range on the M2 to good effect. Working on a small area I dampen the surface with clean thinner and using a pointed spotter brush touch the wash on each detail. I was pleased with the squat, wide-mouthed 50ml jars in the range which will avoid any clumsy spillage (my workspace can become somewhat cramped at times!)



CATCH THE HIGHLIGHTS...

More effects were required to lift the detail further and give a scale effect (forcing contrasts between shadows and highlights) the first of these I've used for many years which are described now commonly as 'filters'. A very subtle shift of tone between surfaces and angles will give a monotone finish more interest and realism. For instance, cast, rough, finishes reflect light differently to smooth armour plate and a part at ninety degrees to another will catch the light differently.

Filters can be made from very dilute oil paint, enamel or acrylics and are available as ready to use shades from several brands. As I mentioned earlier, a lighter base coat of colour helps as it's more successful when you richen or darken a colour with a filter.

The M2 is a perfect candidate for this treatment with it's light colour and all the blocks and angular shapes.

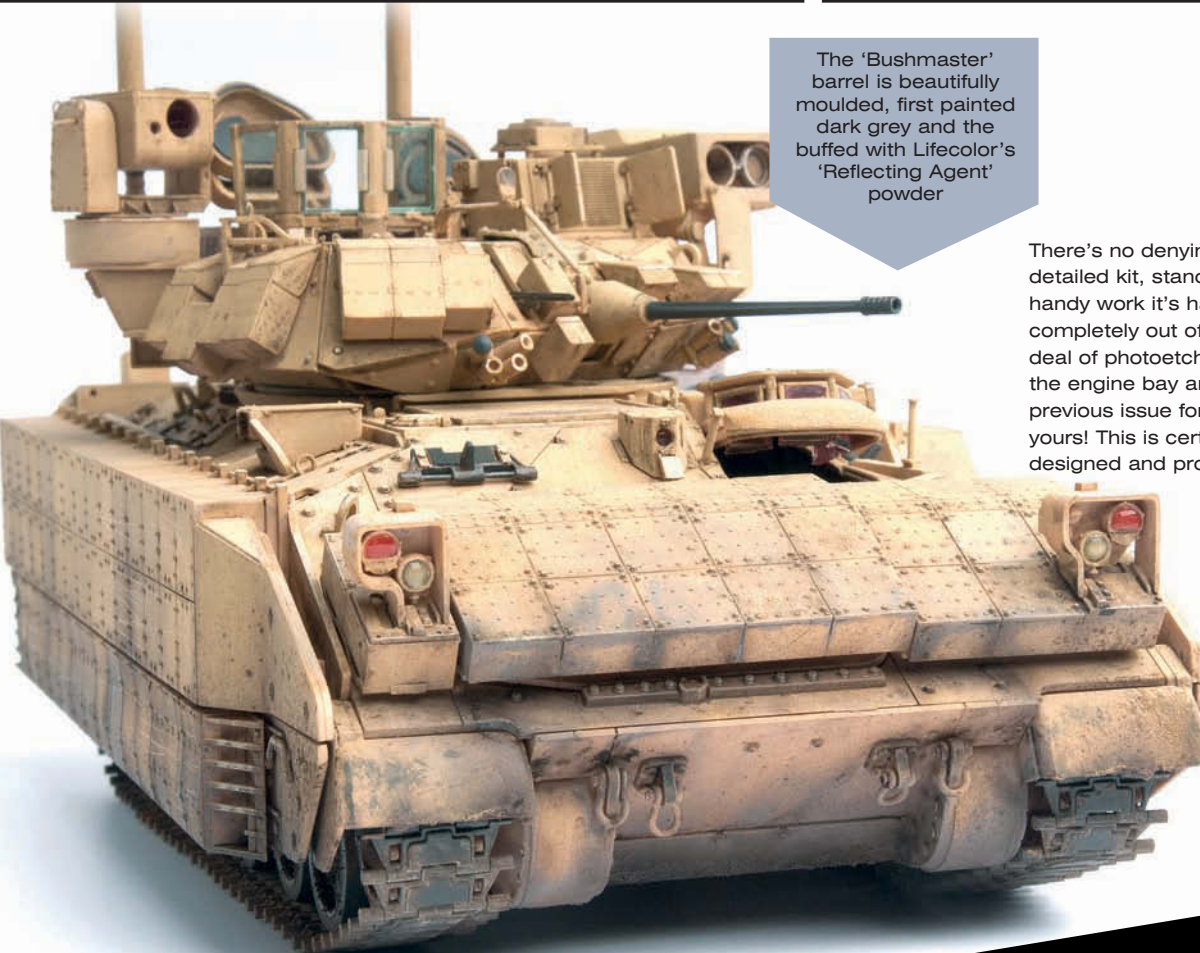
With all the filters complete the Bradley was certainly starting to look more realistic and in-scale with the detail really popping out from the surface I carried out one final step to enhance the depth.

Taking a lightened mix of the base colour in acrylic I worked my way around the whole vehicle painting small highlights, picking out bolt heads and fixings, edges of plates, hinges and the like, it's a little like dry-brushing a lighter tone but more controllable. This is time consuming but I always feel it's worth the effort.

One of the final steps is usually some paint damage, the ever popular 'chipping' doesn't really have much place on some modern vehicles for me, the luxury of colour reference in abundance means there's no excuses for an unrealistic finish! I've limited wear and tear to some careful application of scuffs and scratches with a sharp, soft pencil.

Detail painting of the tracks, tools and various fittings was all done in acrylics following the same shading and highlighting techniques as the rest of the model and some little touches of sparkle with the addition of the light lenses where I painted the reverse of the clear parts with vibrant drawing ink. One final lift was the addition of some stowage from MENG's 'Supplier' range, check out the water bottles, plastic containers and cooler boxes- great touches for modern scenes.





The 'Bushmaster' barrel is beautifully moulded, first painted dark grey and the buffed with Lifecolor's 'Reflecting Agent' powder

MRE ration cartons are from a Tamiya figure set and the water bottles and containers from MENG's 'Supplier' series of accessories

There's no denying this is one incredibly detailed kit, standing back to admire my handy work it's hard to believe it's built completely out of the box without a great deal of photoetch. It seems a shame to hide the engine bay and interior (look back at our previous issue for that) but the choice is yours! This is certainly one of the best designed and produced kits I've ever built.

The kit supplies a photoetched mask for the track pads and tyres. Take a look at our reference shots for colour reference and note only the rubber pads seem to make contact- no polished metal from ground contact.

GROUND LEVEL...

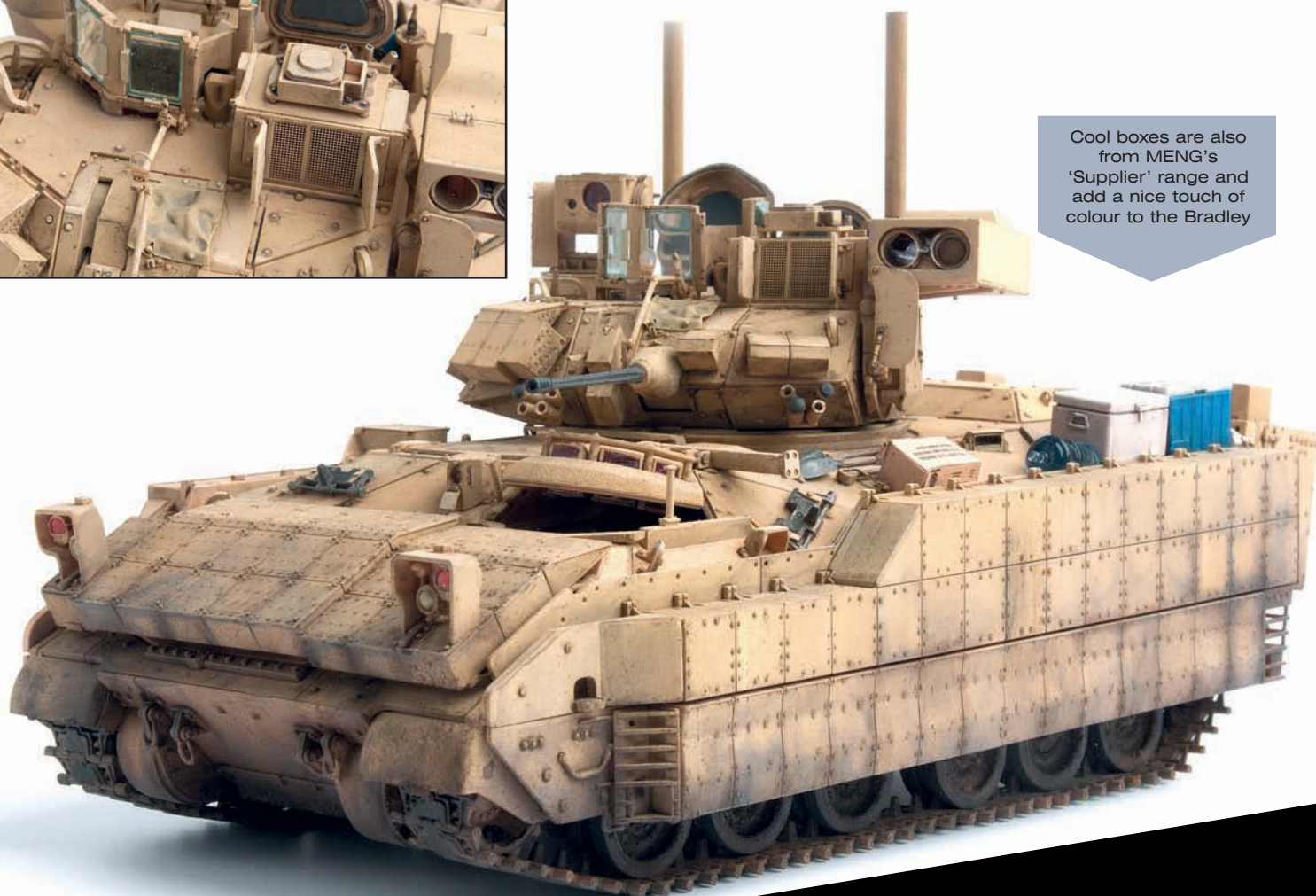


I was so impressed with the design and function of the kit's suspension I decided it needed to be shown off, when I hit on the reference shot on the 'net showing an earlier Bradley negotiating some rubble I was instantly sold on the idea. My initial thought was a screw through the lower hull would allow me to 'pull' the M2 into the contours of the groundwork (I even drilled a hole in preparation) but in fact the weight of all that plastic does the job on it's own! I've found the tracks to be very robust and fully workable, and in conjunction with the free rotating wheels you can play around until you're content.

A simple, inexpensive MDF base (from Pete's bases in the UK) was given a coat of thick PVA glue and the rubble added piece by piece with PVA. The rubble is simply spare parts from plaster buildings broken up in a bag giving a good variation of sizes. The finer texture on the road is grit used in pet cages (available, surprisingly, from pet stores very cheap!) A few heavy coats of aerosol automotive primer seals, fixes, and provides a good base colour.



Cool boxes are also from MENG's 'Supplier' range and add a nice touch of colour to the Bradley



An undercoat is necessary with plaster and absorbent material like the pet cage grit. The sealer coat allows washes and paint to flow properly.



A couple of colours from Lifecolor's Diorama sets were used, gradually built up by airbrushing.



Some warmer tones then added some variation for a more natural look.



Various tones of dark brown washes were flooded around elements and details to give depth. AK Interactive's Streaking Grime gives an effective sheen to represent damp areas. Old and cheap brushes for groundwork!



Some detail painting and highlighting was next with tones of the base colours working gradually lighter.



A final dusting with pigments in certain areas gives the impression of fallen debris and crushed stone, loading a large brush with powder and using a 'tapping' motion gives a natural displacement.



Figures always help bring a scene to life. These guys are from the popular Alpine range with beautiful sharp sculpting and fine casting. That's all well and good, but I am such a lazy (or should that be impatient?) figure painter I had to figure out a 'cheat' for the UCF / Digital camo of the modern U.S. forces. Up close the pattern has a pixilated style of hard edges, but in 1:35 this scales down to random blotches of colour. First I laid down a grey / green base.



Then using a tiny piece of packing foam I proceeded to add 'dab' random speckles of sand coloured acrylic. Some areas were then touched -in with a fine brush.



The only way I could think to add any shading to such a disruptive finish was with various strengths of dark brown and green washes - more lazy work!



It took around half an hour to do the camo. All the detail painting was then done in acrylics with the goggle lenses picked out with drawing ink for a subtle sheen. Flesh tones are also painted in Lifecolor acrylic allowing speedy results.



I think most of us are guilty of having more kits than time, time at your modelling workstation (whether that's your own bench or a tray balanced on your knee in front of the TV) is precious. This is the reason I'd usually shy away from such a complex and detailed kit as this, I'm very pleased I didn't. I would heartily recommend this kit to anyone and hope MENG release some other Bradley versions!

M2A3 BRADLEY





Bare Bradley! With the ERA blocks removed the multitude of fitting brackets are revealed. Note also the lack of the rear mounted air-con units on this vehicle.

M2A3 BRADLEY

**IN
DETAIL**

In the second part of a 'Walk Around' the M2A3 we'll have a look at the exterior for those looking to super-detail the new MENG kit.



Ration boxes stowed in the turret basket behind the commander's cupola



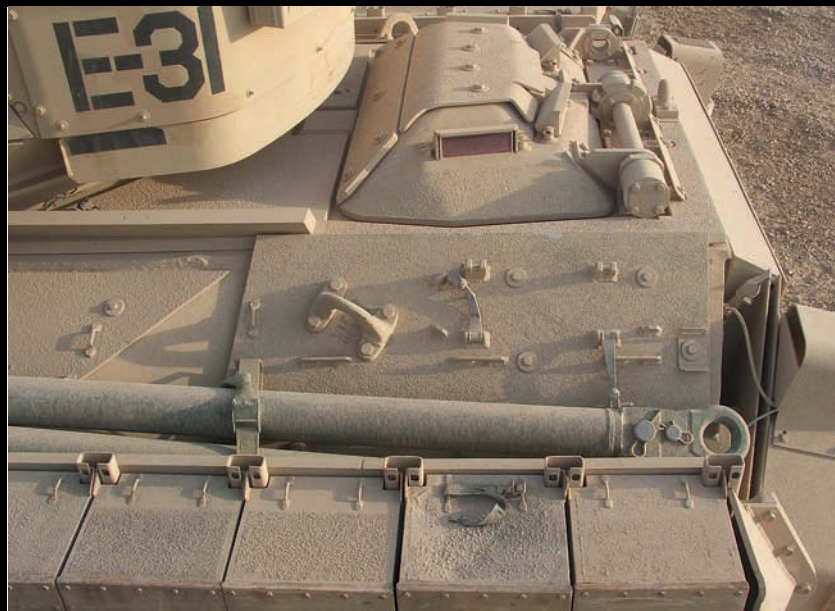
10

The rear of the gunner's vision unit, note the heavy weld beads and the absent bushmaster gun barrel



To the rear of the gunner's hatch an assortment of stowage in the rear bin including a spare drive sprocket

This Bradley carries a towing bar which is strapped down



Underside of the turret showing the complexed multi-layered armour



Note the staining around the intake screen and the distinctive fluted design of the gun barrel



Commander's Independent Thermal Viewer in a folded position



Rear of the CITV showing the heavy welding. The MENG parts allow full rotation and elevation



Gunner's Integrated Sight Unit at the top of the image, note the stenciled text (provided in the kit as a decal).



The Driver's viewer optic shown open and a good close-up of the vision blocks with distinctive reflective finish.



Commander's armoured glass showing some damage

Good reference of the track finishes inside and out, note the contact surface from the tyres. MENG provide a photoetch mask to paint the road wheel tyres and rubber track pads, an excellent help if your Bradley will be finished cleaner than mine!

Driver's hatch, note the empty brackets where the spare trunk link and shovel have been removed





Tow hook detail showing a different colour finish



The tow cable finishes are shown to good effect here, note also the rubber retaining toggles have lost all of their paint finish with a similar effect on the mud flap



Even with the very latest technology, modern AFVs still carry a shovel!



Note the wooden chock and finish on the pick head



These close-ups of the ERA blocks show plenty of scuffs and scrapes, even signs of rust

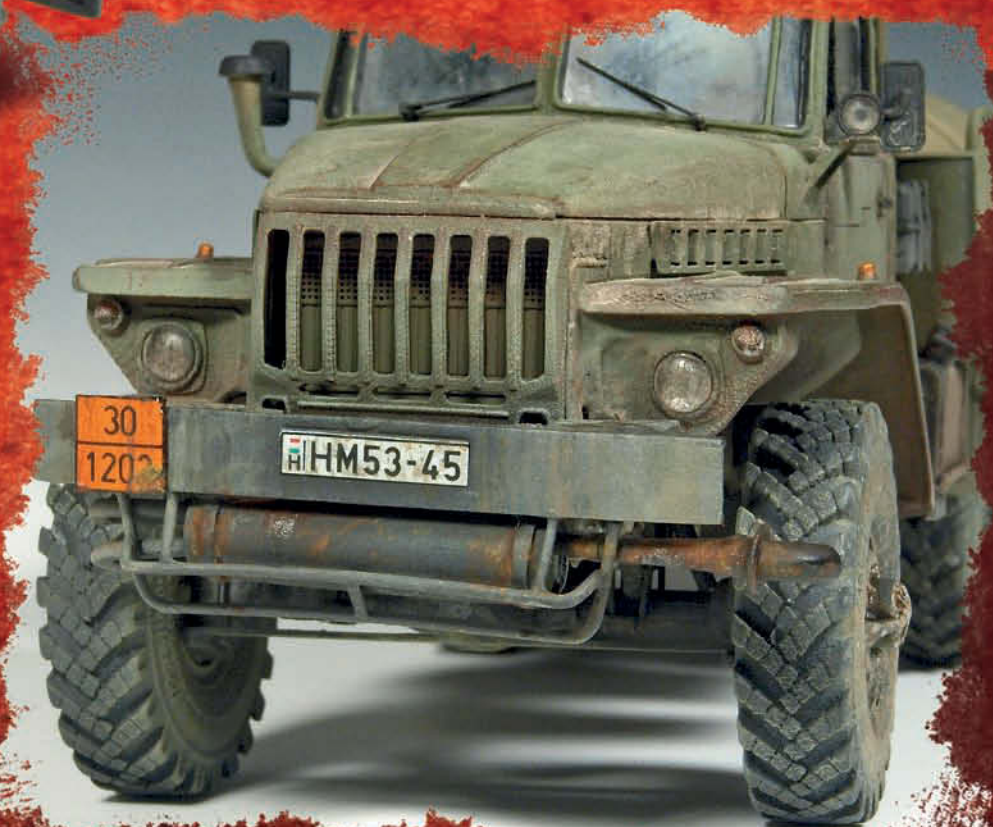


URAL

4320/ATZ-5

**Balaton Modell's 1:48
big Russian bear in Hungary
modelled by
Domingo Hernandez Martin**





The Ural-4320 is a general purpose off road 6 x 6 truck produced at the Ural Automotive Plant in Miass, Russia for use in the Russian Army. Introduced in 1976, it is still in production today. The wheel arrangement for the Ural-4320 was designed for transporting cargo, personnel and trailers on all types of roads and terrain.

One of these versions is the URAL 4320/ATZ-5, a tanker truck used in aerodromes for the supply of fuel to aircraft.

Quarter scale kit

The Hungarian brand, Balaton Modell, specializes in full resin models, vehicle kit conversions and postwar 1:72 aircraft. The finesse is really very good, being resin models they reach a truly extraordinary level of detail. They have recently released this, their first complete resin model in 1:48. From the moment I opened the box, I was impressed with the quality of the parts. Aside from the parts in resin, a sheet of decals provides markings for 3 versions, Russian, Hungarian and German, along with photoetch and a piece of film to make glaze the cab.

I was impressed by the wheels, they really are of excellent quality and give a purposeful look even in 1:48, they are huge!

The build is really simple but I follow certain steps prior to building a model in resin, one of them is to start with the separation of the moulding blocks from each piece and cataloging them so that they are easily identified. I also clean the parts with hot water and a few drops of detergent to remove all dust and dirt that is generated in handling resin. With the parts prepared and dried, I started with the chassis and cab, and the fit of parts is very good making for an enjoyable build.

Considering access during the painting, I left the roof and the rear of the cab separate. The tank assembles without any problem, I had the option to leave all valves of the tank system on show, but

with my impatience to start painting I chose to leave them closed.

One of the pieces that turned out to be a real gem is the cage where the spare wheel is housed, fully constructed of photoetch it has a very detailed and delicate look when built. At this point I started to prepare parts for painting. Smaller items were mounted to cocktail sticks and held by a polystyrene block and everything received a coat of primer, I find this a very worthwhile step with a multi-media kit to provide a safe key for top coats and weathering.



Paint procedure



Looking at pictures of the real trucks, I found many in which the vehicle was pretty clean, it is normal at an aerodrome for trucks to be well maintained and reasonably clean, but by chance I found three pictures of a Hungarian Ural at an airfield with a look of having been abandoned and sun-bleached. Taking the three pictures as reference, I started painting the colours in layers. The cab with Tamiya XF-9 Hull Red and the rest of the chassis with a mixture of Black XF-1 and X-18 Semigloss Black by Tamiya and the tank with a mixture of XF-53 Neutral Grey and Light Grey XF-66, again, Tamiya acrylics. For the following steps I try to protect the work already done by applying a coat of satin varnish, and I say try, because on more than one occasion I have failed and spoilt the effects. I applied the AK Interactive product, 'Worn Effects', followed by a good coat of satin Vallejo varnish and left it to dry all day in a closed container to protect it from dust. The next layer was the dark green- XF-67 Nato Green, here is where I started to get the first effects of wear, using various tools

such as cocktail sticks and a pair of different sized old brushes and water, I removed random parts of the Green paint allowing the initial red to show. More satin varnish and drying time again and another coat of Worn effects, and then a coat of light green simulating faded paint. The process can be repeated as many times as desired, but importantly, maintain the effects so that it looks natural. On the roof of the cabin, you can see the final result of the previous layers; wear the lighter green paint and even the red metal of the first layer.

One of the things I try with my models is to simplify as much as possible the process of painting without having to spoil the quality. I find ready to use products from AK Interactive easy to use and do exactly what the modeller wants. With some patience, you get the effects seen in the photos from various washes, filters and dirt effects. For the cab I chose to reinforce the effects of chipping, so with Vallejo German camo black and red hull, only applied in moderation at points such as fenders,

doors and floor areas where there is constant crew contact. By directly applying pigments dissolved in water, and with appropriate brushes you can get very subtle effects of accumulated earth as you can see in the cabin of the truck.

The last details of the cab painting before assembling it, the roof lights. A base of Tamiya X-11 Chrome Silver and followed a layer of X-26 Clear Orange, the effect is very realistic, I actually prefer this method than using clear parts some manufacturers include in their models. Another aspect to finish the cabin is cut the clear sheet for the glass and attach them to the frames. This is certainly the part of the build I least enjoyed requiring a very precise fit which is tricky to say the least!

The glass in the cab was weathered in keeping with the rest of the vehicle completing the sub assembly.



Faded green will be revealed through the dark green top coat.



The photoetched spare wheel holder adds a delicate touch of detail.

The lower chassis meanwhile received a full treatment first of Tamiya acrylic base colour black with a bit of XF-57 Buff and XF-59 Desert Yellow, not applied evenly, only in areas of accumulation of dust and vertical streaks. Some washes and more dirt were applied when the acrylics had dried. The same process was followed with the wheels but then I added some splatters with acrylics to differentiate it from the chassis and above all, highlight the wheels of this model, which are true gems. More of the AK 'Worn Effects' was used to produce subtle wear and exposed or removed dirt. The effect is very subtle when further layers of weathering are applied.

The tank cylinder is lifted visually with the decals of warning signs, all decals were placed on gloss varnish and set with Micro products, and the decals easily conformed to the detail. I chose the Hungarian version because it displays more markings and the shade of green that could be used. It is important always to protect the decals with varnish after applying them and integrate them with the rest of the model, which I did with Tamiya acrylic clear.

The previously mentioned application of pigments with water can be seen on the finished photos of the fuel tank, with a flat brush and soft passes, you can see the

interesting effect of lines of powder streaking on both sides of the tank, the rest of the effects are representing spilt fuel achieved with subtle washes.

Another detail that I liked on the model was the exhaust, placed on the front of the truck, it was more visible than usual. I used colours from a Lifecolor acrylic set representing rust finishes using a very fine brush and a dose of patience! For side fuel hose I used a piece of hollow vinyl tube that I had saved in the spares box. to give more realism than the kit supplied part. With the hose and a few smaller details fitted the project was close to being finished.





The completed cab showing the multi-layered wear of the green finish achieved with the AK Interactive 'Worn Effects' liquid allowing areas of colour to be removed revealing prior colours.



Initial weathering stages of the chassis and wheels shown above. See how the gradual build up of layers of subtle effects results in the realistic and interesting finish below.



URAL

4320/ATZ-5





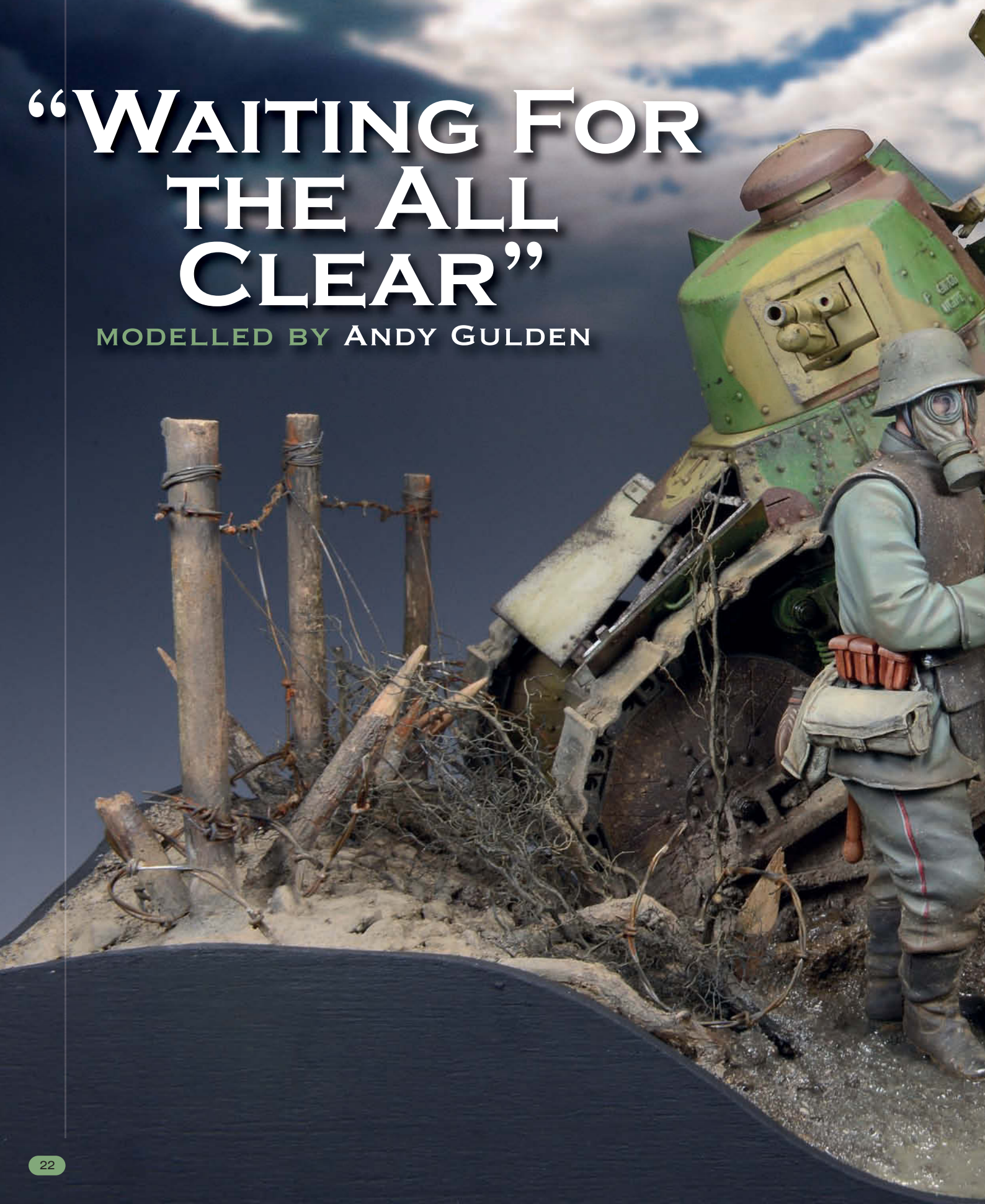
Finally...

Rarely I have enjoyed building a kit so much, I think that it shows in the final result. A very weathered look has been achieved, it must be taken into account that it is not a tank operating on battle fields but despite what one might think, these trucks go through all kinds of terrain and weather conditions and can prove interesting subjects for weathering techniques.



“WAITING FOR THE ALL CLEAR”

MODELLED BY ANDY GULDEN



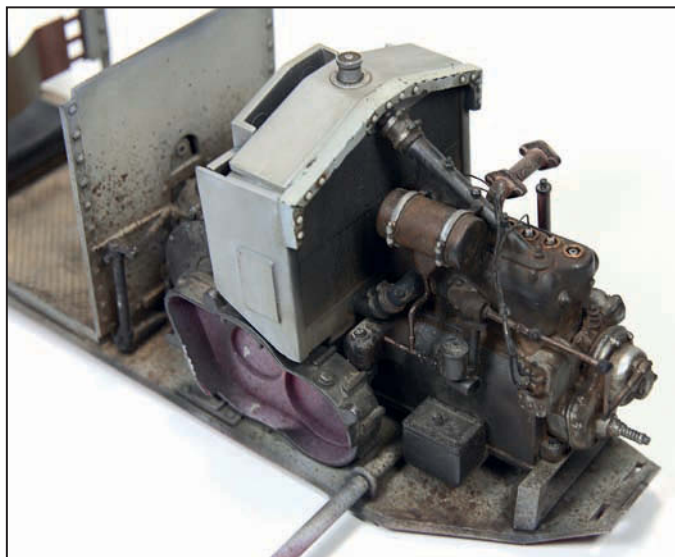


With the centennial anniversary of the commencement of World War I being recognized this year, I have taken quite an interest in the subject lately. Quality scale plastic models from this time frame in 1:16th scale are few and far between so when the Takom FT-17 was announced I could not wait for its release. As I waited patiently for the kit, I began researching a setting that would be appropriate. Many of the personal accounts of the Great War I came across spoke of the utter boredom the troops on both sides experienced waiting for the clouds of toxic gas to disperse. I thought an abandoned tank stuck in the mud with soldiers "Waiting for the All Clear" would be an appropriate diorama to portray the horrific conditions of the Western Front. After a quick search for suitable figures, I was sure I could bring my idea to reality.

FT Background

The Renault FT is a French light tank often referred as the FT-17 but this is mostly a post war misnomer. The FT was the first widely produced tank to have its armament within a fully rotating turret and the now standard configuration of the crew compartment in the front, fighting compartment in the middle and the engine in the rear. Over 3,000 units were produced by the French and close to 1,000 under license as the M1917 in the United States. Many call the FT the world's first modern tank.

The FT first appeared on the battlefield in May of 1918, during the Second Battle Of the Marne. The French Army considered this first engagement a success and they became increasingly present on the Western Front. The Takom kit represents the French manufactured variant with the cast Girod turret and armed with the 37MM SA18 gun.



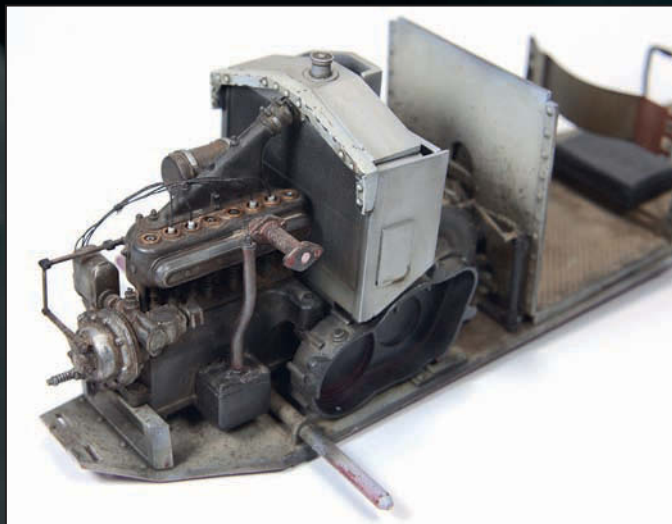
The Takom FT Kit

After picking up the kit and the "Inside the Armor" update set from my local hobby shop (M&Models in Chicago) I was ready to begin. With the FT being the first kit from Takom, I was wary of what I was getting into. I am happy to say it is an excellent and well-engineered model.

I mostly followed the kit instructions but deviated when necessary for the ease of painting the interior. I started as the instructions do with the engine, transmission and radiator. I kept these sub-assemblies separate for painting. I was really impressed by the quality of the moulding and the fit of the parts. Very little filler was needed and most of the seams will be hard to see but I still attended to them none-the-less. The only addition was the spark plug wires for the engine. The rest of the interior construction was just as precise. Once again only a few additions were needed. I ran a cable from the small instrument cluster down to the floor and I wrapped the drivers seat with some lead foil to simulate the fabric. I did skip ahead a bit in the instructions and completed all the hatches and doors so all the interior surfaces could be painted at the same time.

After a few thin coats of Tamiya Grey Primer I pre-shaded all the interior recesses and rivet details with Tamiya Nato Black, concentrating a heavier application along the bottom/floor area especially in the engine compartment. Once dry, all the interior surfaces were painted with Tamiya Flat white and a drop of Flat Earth. A second coat of pure white was sprayed toward the top of the walls. All the mechanical assemblies received a coat of various Alclad metal colours over a base of Semi-Gloss black. Burnt Iron, Steel and Aluminium were all used. Vallejo colours were used to pick out the details.

I started the weathering process on the engine assembly's with a general wash of raw umber oils. A pin wash of lamp black



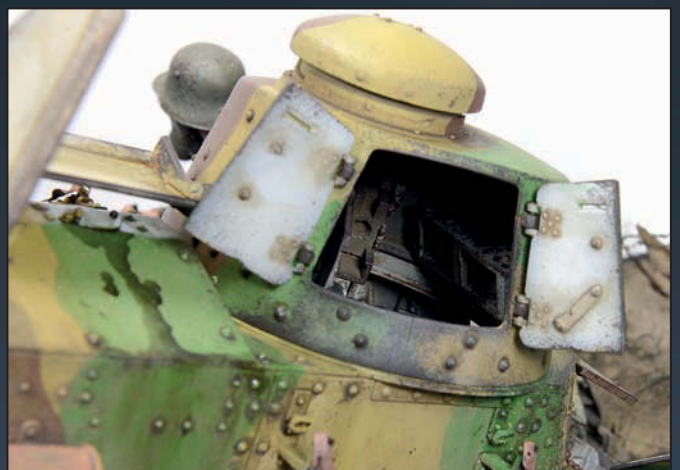


reinforced the deeper shadows and added a dark grimy appearance. The Kursk Earth weathering agent from AK Interactive was liberally applied to all the mechanical parts and set aside to dry. Once it hazed over, a cotton bud damp with mineral spirits was used to remove the excess from the high points. Spills and splatters of AK Engine Grime finished off the process.

All the interior compartments received a round of chips using Vallejo German Camo Black Brown and flat white using a foam sponge and touched up with a fine brush. Various AK washes and filters toned down the white interior. A final application of "wet" AK pigments completed the weathering.

One more final test fitting was done before the walls and engine were secured to the floor. Once the tricky bit of alignment was complete the roof was added and all the





hinges were drilled out for the different panels and compartment doors to make them workable. Takorn should be proud of themselves, this is a well engineered kit that does not have any of the pitfalls that can accompany interior detail.

Once everything was buttoned up, I continued per the instructions. The hull was finished with little effort, only replacing a few of the kit parts with bits from the Inside the Armour detail set. Knowing I was portraying an abandoned vehicle, I left off the tools and storage box and detailed the locations with led foil and buckles for the retaining straps. The turret was next. Once the shell was built, a nasty seam was created along the top, right by a row of rivets. The required filling and sanding wiped out the detail and all the rivets needed replacing. Thankfully the track spurs had extra that could be used. The gun was replaced with the resin version

included in the detail set and the interior was treated with the same painting and weathering steps as the hull.

The suspension and running gear was the last parts that needed finishing. Assembly was straight forward but dealing with quite a few moulding seams and knock out marks slowed the process. The tracks involved a lot of cleanup as well but I ignored the two knock out marks on the inside of each link, knowing the tracks are going to be covered in mud.

A good coat of Tamiya primer was applied to the entire model exterior. Before painting the model, a mixture of Celluclay, sand and white glue, was applied to the underside, running gear and tracks. Once everything dried, a black/flat earth mixture was sprayed over the entire lower hull and used to pre shade the rest of the model. Tamiya Dark Yellow mixed with some white

was applied next to start the main colour. Various shades of Dark yellow and Buff mixed with white was sprayed in random patterns to begin the weathering process. Once I was satisfied with the base colour, Vallejo Flat Green and Brown was brush painted to establish the hard edge camouflage pattern and the areas were filled in using my air brush.

Before I started the weathering process I sprayed a coat of Future floor wax to protect the base coat from the harsh washes and weathering. I began the weathering by adding paint chips with Vallejo Camo Black Brown and Iraqi Sand using a 000 brush and a foam sponge. Next came many filters using shades of yellow, green and brown. Finally a number of pin washes of Raw Umber, Black and a light rust colour. A good coat of Model Master Dullcoat was applied to matt the shiny surface. Mig Pigments were applied



in a random pattern and fixed using tap water sprayed through my airbrush. A light dry brushing of Iraqi Sand finished off the weathering. The exterior accessories were painted using Vallejo colours and artist oils. Tracks were painted with Tamiya Flat Earth mixed with German Grey and finished with washes of Mig Pigments. A quick drybrush with Raw Umber added the final details.

The Base

Once the tank was finished and the figures were partly assembled, I was able to begin the layout. As always, I started planning the composition on a piece of thick cardboard to find the appropriate size base. A reference photo showing the FT at a near 45-degree angle stuck in depression was used as a starting point. The steep angle allowed me to compress the diorama's size and



use a much smaller base. For me, a smaller base is always better for composition. It helps eliminate open spaces that require additional accessories that ultimately look out of place. When a size was decided on, a wood base was cut and the terrain was built up using Styrofoam insulation. 2" wide basswood was wrapped around edge and shaped to the contour of the ground. I carved out a depression where the FT is located to help it sit in the mud, not on top. The entire landscape was covered in Celluclay mixed with white glue and sand. After I let it set up for 30 minutes or so I positioned the tank and the figures in the wet groundwork to get a proper fit. I later removed the figures for painting but left the tank in place. After this first round dried, a thick slurry of Celluclay, white glue, sand and some backyard dirt was applied around the running gear to finish the sunk in look. Homemade barbed wire, fence posts and various obstacles were placed before everything dried.

The groundwork was painted with various thin washes of Tamiya paints thinned with water. Mixtures of Khaki, Olive Drab, Nato Black and Hull Red were used. A final mixture of AK European Dust pigments and water was liberally applied in random

spots to enhance the dried crusty mud look. Vallejo Still Water was used to add the damp/wet areas in the low recesses. It was now on to the figures.

Figures

The two standing figures come from Jon Smith Modellbau from Germany. Without a doubt they are some of the best 16th scale figures I have ever painted. The seated Maxim gunner is from Jeff Shiu and was of a very high standard as well. All three are stock with very little modification. I did change the heads, helmets and added the gas masks using the Jon Smith German Gas Mask update set. I painted the flesh tones with artist oils and the uniforms were base coated with airbrushed Tamiya acrylics. Vallejo and Panzer Aces paints were used for highlights, shadows and detail painting.

Conclusion

This was a very enjoyable project and very impressive initial effort by Takorn. I hope they continue with the large scale subjects. I know I will be waiting patiently!





THE FIRST MENG MODEL CONTEST Beijing May 2014



I think it is fair to say that for most of us the modelling scene in China is a complete mystery, even though today the country is the driving force behind many of the most exciting current kit releases. So I was delighted to be invited to attend the First Meng Model Contest, held as part of Hobby Expo China, to judge the competition along with Adam Wilder of Wilder, Kristof Pulinckx, Editor of 'Art of Modelling' Magazine and Brett Green of Hyperscale, Missing-lynx and Editor of 'Military Illustrated Modeller' and 'Model Military International' Magazines. It was the first visit to China for all the judges so none of us had any idea what to expect.

Pre-judging had already taken place on-line to select the finalists and these modellers had been asked to bring their work to the



Above The competition finalists' models on display on the Meng stand.



Left the four judges pictured outside the exhibition venue in Beijing. From right to left, Adam Wilder, David Parker, Brett Green and Kristof Pulinckx.





Meng stand at the Beijing Hobby Expo, where they were put on display in well lit glass display cases to be judged. As you can see the standard was extremely high prompting a lot of pointing with pens from the judging team.

With the competition decisions made, the judges also took part in a question and answer session with the attendees thanks to some nifty translation services by Sam Zhang from Meng.



Above Questions for the judging team followed by autographs and photos!

Left Also on display was the brand new 1:35 Meng BMPT 'Terminator', a really complex looking vehicle with some great details like the protective sleeves around the twin cannon barrels. The Editor poses for a picture with Mr. Su Wen who was project manager for the new BMPT kit.





Above Zhang Chengxi's Char 2C



Left This D9 Dozer with additional slat armour was modelled by Zhang Luyang





Above Some really great touches especially with the markings on this fantasy A39 Tortoise conversion by Lin Yu.

Below The Meng Pick-up kits were very popular and this Libyan version by Yang Shanjun was entered in the diorama category.



All entries in the contest had to use Meng kits and there were five categories, best Armour, best Aircraft, best civilian, best Diorama and most creative. Winners of each category recieved a trophy, medal and airbrush.



Announcing the winners - Kristof on the mike with Sam Zhang ready to translate.

Below Winner of the Diorama class was this Pick-up based scene modelled by Zhu Xiaozheng



Above The winners, from left to right, Xiang Jinsong, Zhu Xiaozheng, Zhang Luyang, Chen Zexi and Xue Jinbo.



Above The T-90 modelled by Meng Chengxian with a great muddy finish.

Below This Leopard 1 by Li Chen sadly did not make it to the final judging in Beijing as I was very much looking forward to seeing it in the flesh.



Right A pleasingly simple story told by Wang Changbin with his Fall of France diorama.



Above The FT-17 was the centrepiece of this diorama by Chen Weilun.



Below A complete fleet of rebel Pick-ups with scratchbuilt weapons on some and great work on the scratchbuilt crews by Zheng Guangwei. It is not easy to get a crew into the closed cab of one of these.



Below Winner of the Armour category was Zhang Luyang with this stunning M2 A3 Bradley.



Right From this - to this! Some very clever engineering by Xiang Jinsong allows this M2 A3 Bradley to become this Transformer robot! It was the winner of the most creative category.



Below Sun Liang's T-90 featured an immaculate colour modulated paint scheme.



Below More Pick-up fun by Zhu Hao with a scratchbuilt multiple rocket launcher.



Above This Special Forces Pick-up was modelled by Yang Liang.





Inside the Armour
Dedicated to Detail

www.insidethearmour.com
07972 177117
4 Duncombe Lane
Bristol
BS15 1NR

ITA72
One seventy-second of the size, ALL of the detail



Plus Our Own range of Resin, PE and Decals including probably the best selection of Churchill Conversions and Upgrades Available!

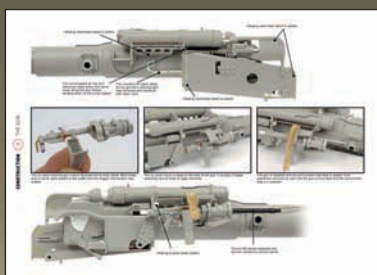




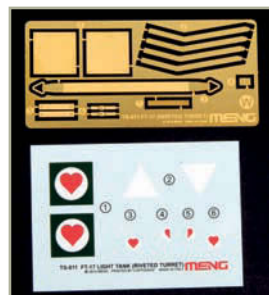
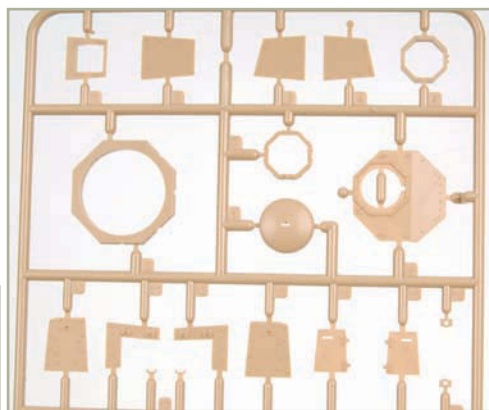
The step by step story of David Parker's remarkable award-winning 1:16 scale replica. Bringing together the three and a half year coverage from AFV Modeller with additional unpublished material and combining archive photographs with walkaround photography of the real vehicle in over 300 pages for the ultimate guide to modelling the King Tiger.

facebook

Keep up to date with AFV Modeller's new releases by liking our Facebook page and visiting www.afvmodeller.com where you will also find our range of accessories, books and back issues in our web shop.



COMING
SOON



MENG 1:35 French FT-17

Hot on the heels of their acclaimed cast turret FT-17 ('cast' your mind back to the Editor's build a few issues back), Meng bring us the riveted turret version of the classic little Renault. In this centenary year remembering WWI there's been a welcome surge of interest from modellers and manufacturers alike. Rather than just popping a new sprue into the box, Meng have taken a completely different slant on this release; gone is the full internal detail (although we still have the driver's compartment) and 'in' is a sweet little diorama base and of course, the new turret. So, much of the kit we've seen before but we're reminded what a little gem it is. Highlights remain the ingenious sprue and moulding of the wheels, the ready to use workable track links, optional wooden idler and sharp delicate detail throughout. The fit on this kit is excellent and it's a joy to assemble, I don't recall the Editor putting any money in our swear-box whilst he worked on it and the only amendment was the replacement of the kit-supplied spring for the

functioning suspension. The new turret is up to the standard of the rest of the kit as you'd expect and there's the option of the 8mm Hotchkiss M1914 MG or the 37mm Putuaux SA18 gun. With the FT being the World's first international tank there's a couple of options on the markings, one of the National Revolutionary Army of China in 1929 and one of the U.S. Army at Verdun 1918, with over twenty nations using it up and into WWII there's many finishing options available. So what of the diorama base? I expected something in vacuum formed plastic but we were pleasantly surprised to find a very detailed multi-part injection moulded presentation complete with sandbags and damaged timber supports which all assembles in around half an hour, something that would take many hours to build from scratch and will paint-up a treat- maybe some of the new textured finishes available would be worth trying here? A great kit and great idea with the base.



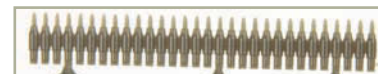
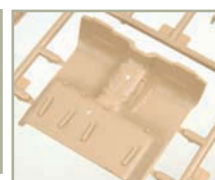
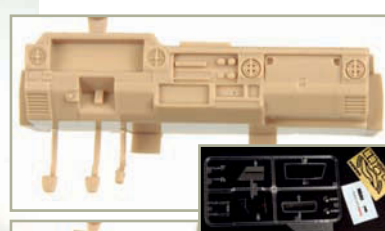
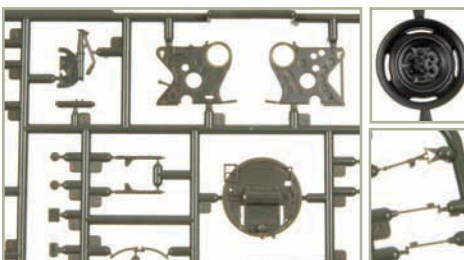
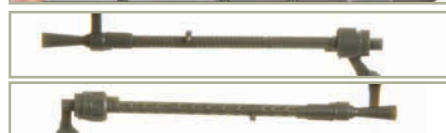
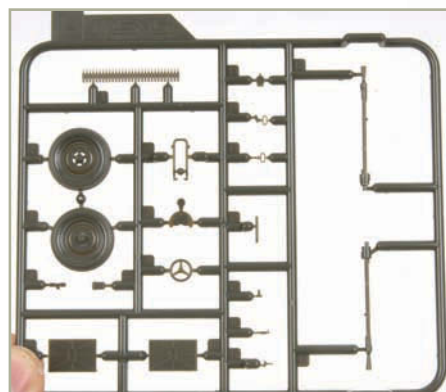
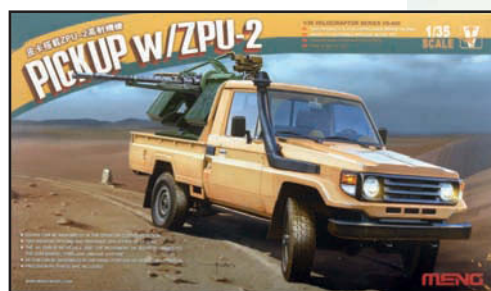
MENG 1:35 Modern US Military Individual Load-Carrying Equipment

Perfect to dress your Bradley build or stow your Special Forces Pickup is this new set of US equipment from Meng. Quite often injection moulded stowage sets can be a little disappointing but this set really pushes the boundaries as the set comes with two flexible plastic sprues with all the straps and webbing elements on them so that you can easily obtain a very natural appearance as

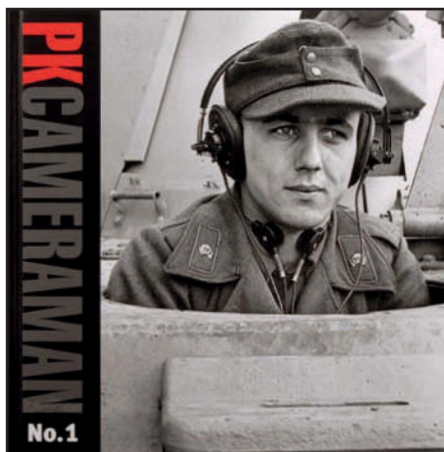
you can see from the rucksack that we assembled. Along with the different styles of rucksacks the set includes the distinctive rigid plastic containers, some very realistic-looking bed rolls, water bottles and a selection of helmets, with and without covers. Impressive stuff and something modern armour fans will no doubt find very useful.



have been de-sprued and only require minimal clean up before assembly and a small jig is provided to align the parts for assembly. The two halves of the track pads are located by a snug pair of pins so adhesive can be kept to a minimum. This is critical to avoid gluing the pins and also to avoid repeating my mistake where I inadvertently glued the tracks to the jig! Lesson learned I only added glue into the location pin holes in the track pads. The set also provides a set of Ice cleats which you can assemble onto your tracks or use to upgrade the cleat stowage on the bow plate of the Leopard. Assembly is time-consuming but the finished result makes it worth the effort with a very realistic appearance and great fit around the kit sprocket.

[illegible]

separate doors, optional roof and an all new gun mount. The gun itself is all new and has superb detail and very fine parts, no need to wait for any photoetch releases- this should look great from the box with optional gun barrels showing hollow muzzles and beautifully fine ammo belts. The gun can be built mounted, towed or ground firing which is a bonus for modellers perhaps wanting to use the gun for say, a Vietnam project, you'll still have a complete pickup intact. These gun-toting trucks are a great excuse to let your imagination run riot, anything goes really with their widespread use around the globe, do a quick search on the web for images and like me, you'll be itching to build one!



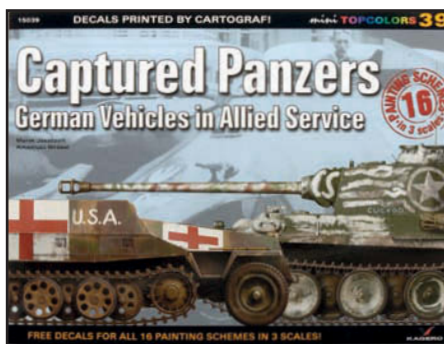
PK Cameraman No.1 Panzerjäger in the West

Published by RZM
Hardback square format
95 pages
ISBN 978 0 9748389 6 0
www.rzm.com

This beautifully presented book is the first of a new series from RZM drawing on the art of the Propaganda Kompanie photographers, this volume documents movements of Panzerjäger Abt. 19 (L) of Luftwaffen Feld-Division 19 as they depart the Belgian town of Eeklo in February 1944. The newly issued Marder IIIs are crewed by Eastern Front veterans and form the majority of the photographs presented in large format with some of the close-up portraits of the crews particularly sharp.

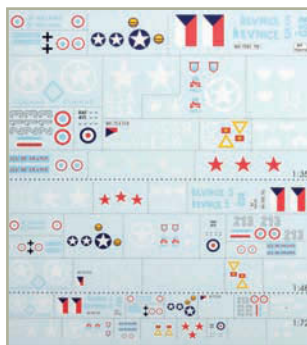


Other vehicles featured are Sd.Kfz 10 and 7 plus some interesting converted civilian car conversions towing flak guns. Some detailed introductory text describes the unit's transfer along with maps and tables. The book has a high quality 'art book' feel to it and homes-in on some fine detail which will be valuable to German armour enthusiasts, certainly one that would take pride of place on the coffee table! Our thanks to RZM for the sample copy and we look forward to the next in the series.



Captured Panzers, German vehicles in Allied service

By Marek Jaszczołt, Arkadiusz Wróbel
Published by Kagero
A4 landscape 18 pages plus decal sheet
www.kagero.pl



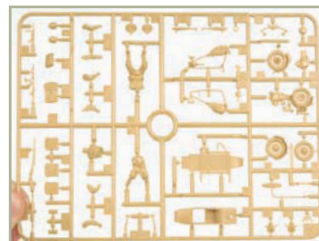
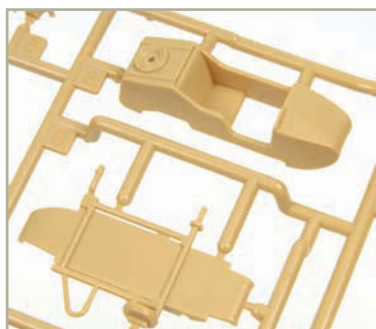
A new 'Topcolors' from Kagero would inspire something a little different for German vehicle modellers with a selection of French, American, Czech and Polish markings of some of the war's most photographed captured armour. Following the regular Topcolors format we have superb colour illustrations with detailed descriptions of the subject vehicles, sixteen in total with the Cartograf decal sheet covering 1:72, 1:48 and of course 1:35. Decal quality is sharp and detailed with realistic hand-applied appearance where applicable.



Tamiya 1:48 German Motorcycle and Sidecar

Looks like a BMW R75 to us, obviously copyright doesn't allow the mention of the brand on the box art. Tamiya still sticking with 1:48 and close to their eightieth release in the series the single small sprue has the immediate Tamiya look of simplicity and high quality moulding, the sidecar is an excellent piece of moulding and although the spokes of

the wheels are going to be out of scale at this small size, the moulding is as fine as you could expect. Separate exhaust and cylinders are well detailed and the two figures are well done and a very welcome addition. A nice, simple little kit but it would have been nice to have two sprues to give us two combos as it's such a small finished piece.





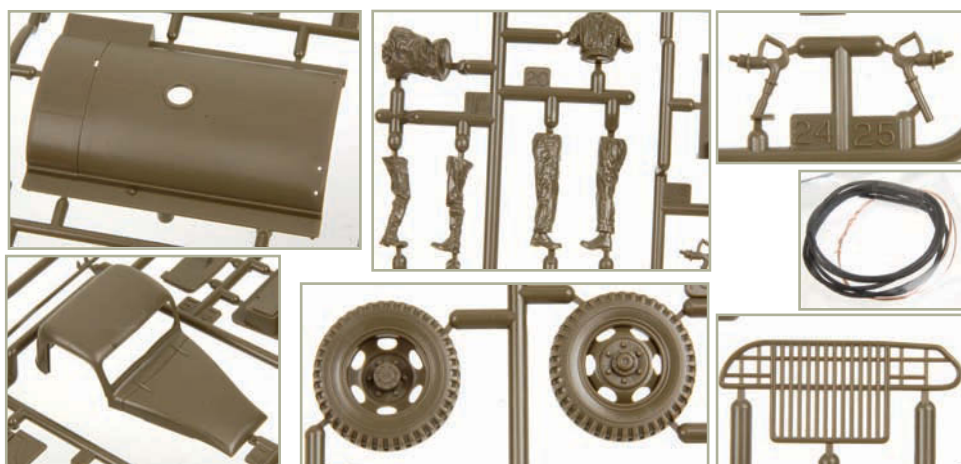
Wilder

A brand new range born from renowned modeller Adam Wilder, developed from his years of experience there's a range of assembly tools and finishing products and a very large choice of finishing effects for vehicles and textured diorama paints, many of which I've given a try on the Bradley in this issue. There's also soldering flux, metal effect powder and metal track 'quick rust' solution, quite a range! The quality of the tools are first rate with five styles of tweezers available, invaluable for photoetch work, and a handy pack of re-usable putty 'Takk' which I've found very useful to have on the bench for all manner of tasks. All of the jars of finishing products are in large, wide bottomed jars holding 50ml which represents good value. All have performed well and do what the label indicates! Have a look over the full range at www.wilder.su and if you're in the UK the Airbrush Company are stocking the range www.airbrushes.co.uk



Tamiya 1:48 U.S. 1/2Ton 6x6 Airfield fuel Truck

Aimed squarely at an aircraft diorama, Tamiya use their base kit of the GMC truck and add the 750 gallon fuel tank. As with all of this series, simplicity of assembly is key whilst maintaining good levels of detail. With five sprues this is one of the more involved kits and provides open or closed cab doors, a separate chassis and a clever way the fueling hose can be displayed. The hose is



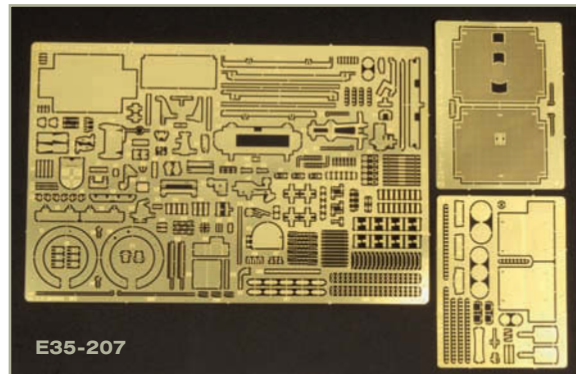
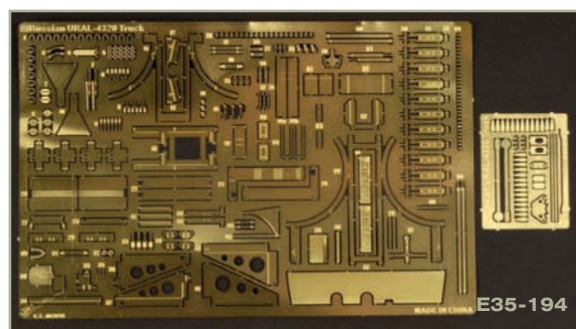
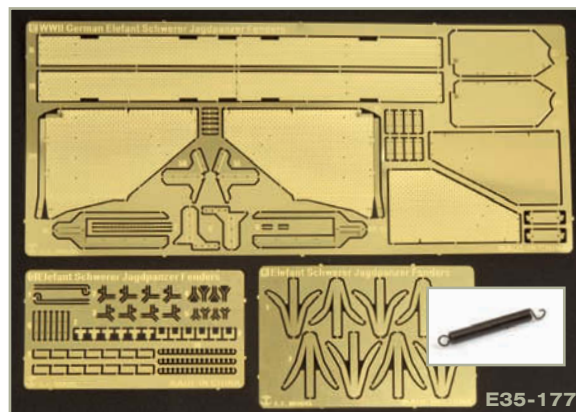
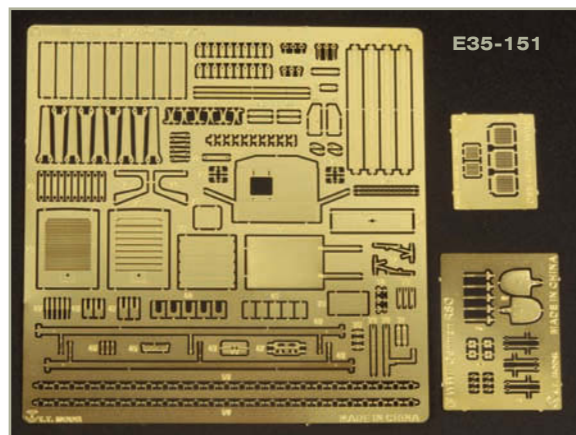
provided as vinyl tube with a wire insert to allow wrapping around the spool and positioning as required to suit your scene. The two figures are well sculpted depicting a refueling scene, a nice out-of-the-box diorama which should take very little time and should prove popular with modellers of winged-things. Our thanks to The Hobby Company, UK distributors of Tamiya.



AMMO of Mig Jimenez

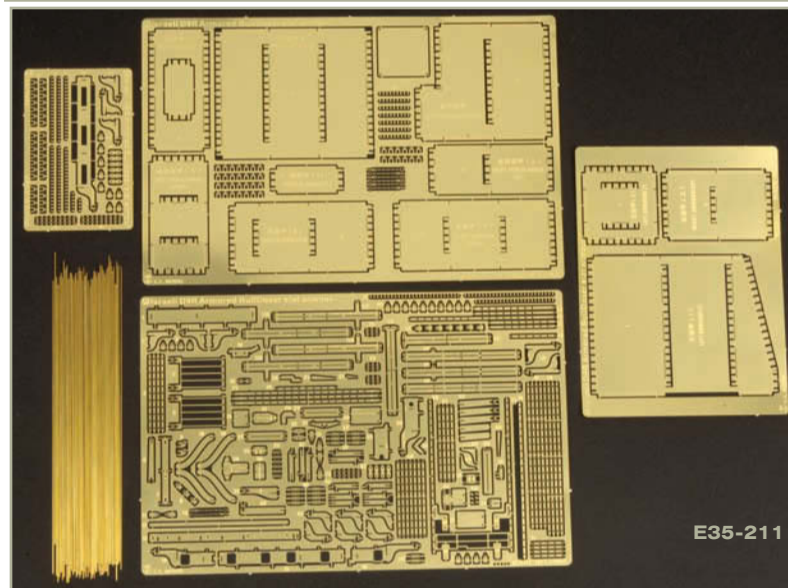
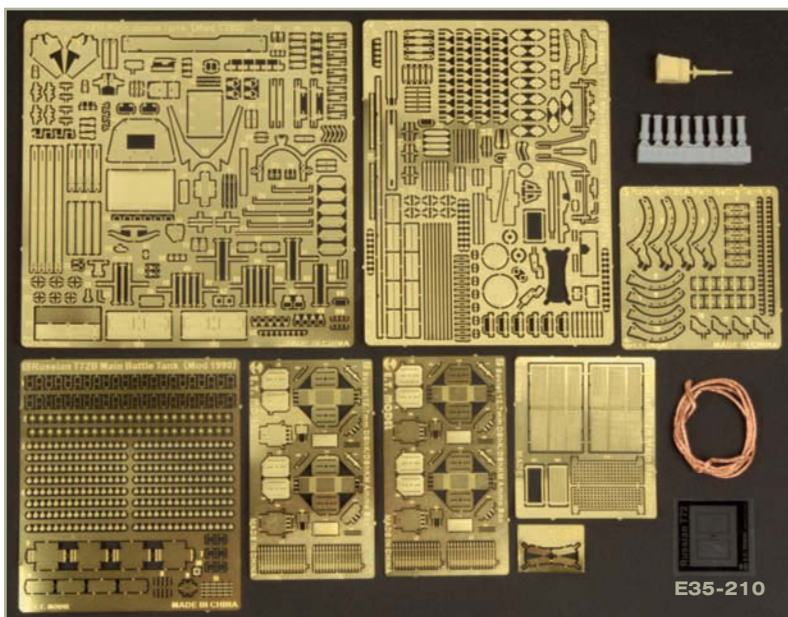
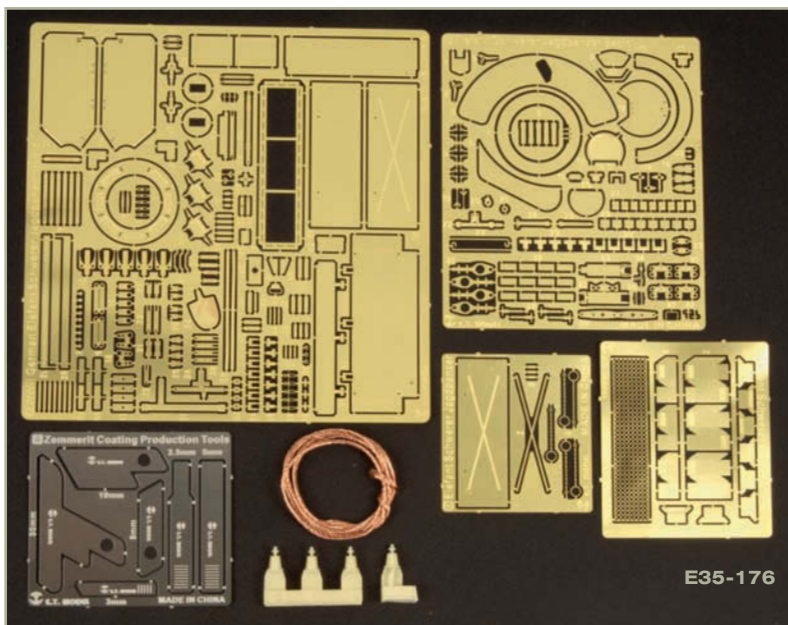
New pigments from AMMO cover a lot of generic colours such as 'sand', 'brick dust' etc these are all packaged in 35ml screw cap jars. A new product is Acrylic Crystal, a tinted clear-coat for colouring clear plastic parts such as light lenses and optics, Smoke, Green, Red and Glass should deal with most armour modellers' needs and would spray or brush straight from the 17ml bottle. Check out www.migjimenez.com for the rapidly expanding range available Worldwide.



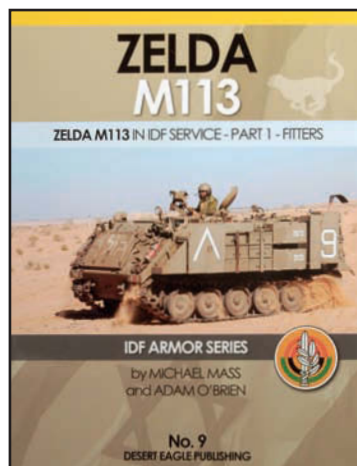


E.T. Model

More from China's E.T. model to raise the bar when it comes to extra detailing in 1:35. Firstly is a small (by their standards!) set for Dragon's RSO Type 470 with some worthwhile additional fittings and a superb front radiator cover, set number E35-151. E35-176 would give a massive lift to Tamiya's 'Elefant' with the usual finer parts are the big fender-mounted stowage boxes, tow cable, zimmerit applicator tool and resin pistol port covers are also included. E35-177 is again for Tamiya's Elephant, a full set of fenders should look superb and comes with miniature springs. A more modern German subject, the Leopard 1 A3/4 from Meng gets a whole host of detailing parts with new tool stowage and tool box and individual ice cleat stowage rails. The set also provides a full set of engine deck grilles and new cupola rings. E35-207. Modern Russian topics with Trumpeter kits covered by E35-194 for the URAL 4320 and E35-210 for the T72-B (mod 1990) which includes copper tow



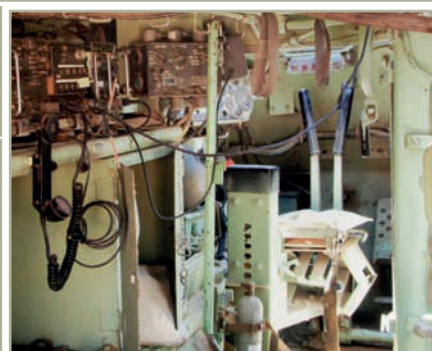
cable and resin smoke candles and all those clasps for the track guard stowage bins - fiddly but very impressive when assembled. Finally, something of a labour of love that would look superb admittedly, a full set of slat armour for the MENG D9R Dozer. E35-211 has some etched frets and a whole bundle of tiny brass tube, not for the faint hearted but the design of the assembly is clever with neat jigs folding from PE brass to drop the rods into and hold it all in alignment while you solder it together. As always, thanks to E.T. for the samples, take a look at their massive range at www.etmodeller.com



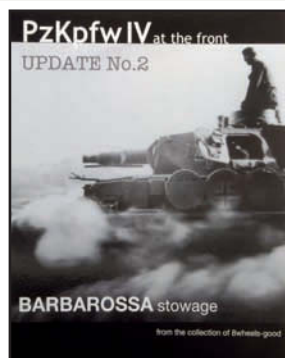
Zelda M113 in IDF service, Part 1- fitters

By Michael Mass and Adam O'Brien
A4 softback format, 83 pages
Published by Desert Eagle Publishing
ISBN 978-965-91635-5-7
www.deserteagle-publishing.com
www.aviationbookcentre.com

Another great visual reference from Desert Eagle Publishing, this first volume concentrating on the modified M113s used as engineers and fitters vehicles that gained the name 'Zelda' and have been in service with the IDF for over forty years. We're given some background information regarding the introduction of the vehicles and the organisation of the technical teams. The full (large!) range of variants is illustrated in excellent detail, large



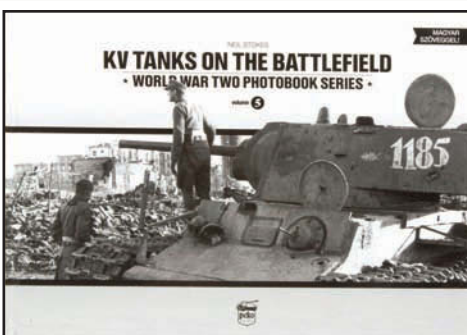
format colour photographs including close-up walk around shots and clear interior images which are ideal modelling reference. There are some very inspiring images to get the creative juices flowing and the age-old modellers' debate about the IDF colours is more evident than ever, literally dozens of different shades are on show throughout! A great reference on a great modelling subject, roll-on volume 2!



PzKpfw IV at the front- Update No.2 Barbarossa stowage

Published by 8wheels-good
softback, portrait format, 80 pages
ISBN 978-0-9563655-9-0
<http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1102388#author-bookshelf>

As avid collector and historian of all things Panzer IV, Chris Ellis, turns up new information he does the right thing and shares it! This is the second update published and builds on the information and images in the excellent 'Barbarossa Stowage' we looked at a while back. Each Panzer Division and their Kompanies are studied in great detail on the subject of stowage arrangements, fascines, fuel cans, spare wheels and all of the typical fittings associated with the early short barrelled IVs. We always find pretty much all of the images in the 8 Wheels Good series are fresh, some better than others but all used to display the relevant research and findings including some absolute gems. A very worthwhile addition to any early panzer fan's library available again from the 'Blurb' on-line, on demand print website with excellent production standards. Visit the Blurb website where you can order this and the other titles in the series.



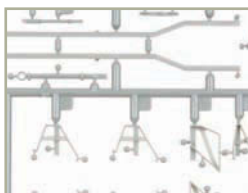
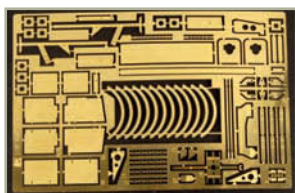
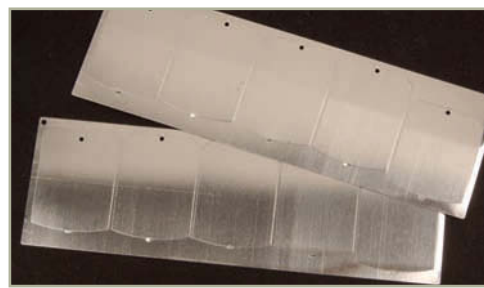
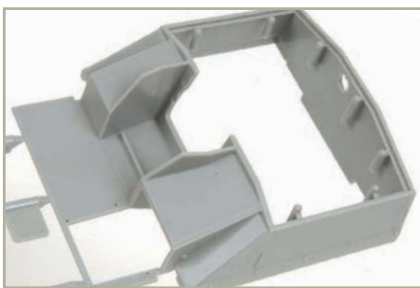
KV Tanks on the Battlefield

By Neil Stokes
Hardback landscape format, 128 pages
(duel text English and Hungarian)
Published by PeKo Publishing Kft
www.panzerwrecks.com

Number five in the 'WWII Photobook Series' focuses on KV-I, KV-II and KV-85 and fans of these Russian beasts are in for a treat. A brief introduction and we're straight into the big images, most (if not all) of the photographs are from German sources as the majority are KO'd, abandoned or pressed into enemy service as 'beute' panzers with some very interesting markings applied by the crews to avoid friendly fire. These sixty-two ton monsters



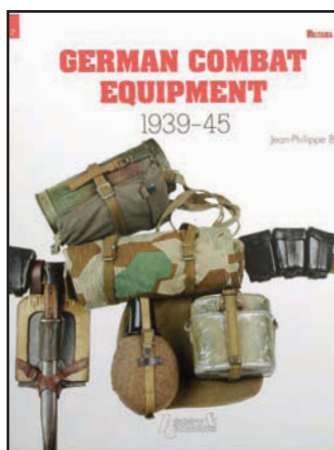
demonstrate their ability in many shots to turn a bridge into something resembling a spilt box of matches! Very detailed captions identify production variations of the vehicles, and with some terrific images throughout this is one of those books which will have you rummaging through your collection for that KV-II you're sure you had...Thanks to Lee Archer of Panzerwrecks for the sample copy.



Dragon 1:35 Sd.Kfz.167 StuG.IV Last Production

Just when you thought they'd missed a one Dragon slip-in another StuG! This one is boxed 'Last Production' so maybe that's it for the Dragon StuG IV series? What's new in the box then? Not too much at first glance, the main difference and cause for a dedicated sprue is the shortened fixings and brackets. These are the versions with the curved bottoms and pivot fixing allowing some degree of 'swing' on the real vehicle. The skirt armour is provided as pre-cut metal allowing crisp detail and scale thickness. As with the previous 'late' release there's the remote MG unit and big

flamethrower exhausts. We're provided with single length Magic Track which some modellers favour and the usual stunning moulding and detail of the Dragon StuGs, really beautiful results from the box. I did notice a small printed paper with an amendment to the instructions, good that Dragon have acted on this notorious weak-spot of some of their kits. Another superb StuG from Dragon but maybe time to move onto something 'new' rather than subtle variants.



German Combat Equipment 1939-1945

Jean-Philippe Borg
Published by Histoire & Collections
Softback format, 64 pages
ISBN 978 2-352503-04
www.casematepublishing.co.uk

Number seven in H&C's 'Militaria Guide' series focuses on personal equipment and is a God-send of colour reference for modellers. Quality large format photographs are the basis of the book with great side-by-side comparisons (no less than sixteen styles of water canteen!) of original pieces of equipment showing not only accurate colour and material, but how and where damage and weathering occurred. As well as the items of equipment the webbing and attachment is shown in great detail along with a chapter on the zeltbahn and the various patterns used. A great visual reference, especially for modellers working in larger scales where the smaller details and textures can be replicated.



Dragon 1:35 Sd.Kfz.10 Ausf.A w/5cm PaK 38

Dragon continue to re-define the meaning of 'stretching sprues' with another combination boxing, this is their 'Demag 1 ton' and PaK 38- both nice kits in their own right so this makes an attractive set. The early Sd.Kfz. 10 has the '250' wheels and comes with the very delicate (read tricky assembly!) Magic track which is ready de-sprued and I'm reminded of the stunning finish on the radiator grille and open bonnet louvres, the bonnet is in multi-parts allowing display of the engine. A folded rear tarpaulin is included with photoetched parts for the frame and also some ammunition storage containers appear new additions. These Demags look very detailed and delicate when finished but aren't

for a novice modeller, this kind of finesse makes for some very demanding assembly in places. The PaK 38 will look great in tow and comes complete with the third wheel and mount used when positioning the gun when detached, we don't get photoetched gun shields with many modellers favour but the plastic is reasonably thin with a tapered edge. Again, Dragon present something highly detailed straight from the box, it's all included- individual track links, photoetch, engine and transmission and even a choice of tyre pattern, all you'll need to add is plenty of time which will be rewarded with the final results.



J'ai survécu dans mon panzer (24th Panzer Division)

Armin Böttger

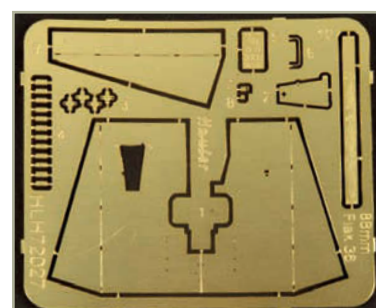
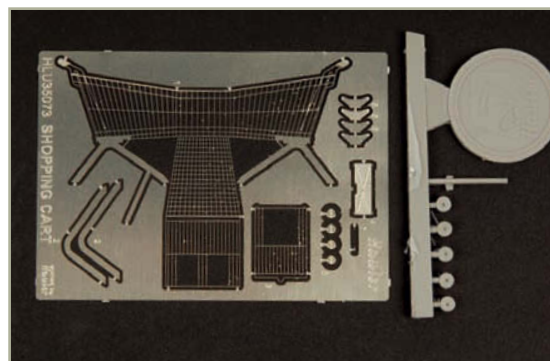
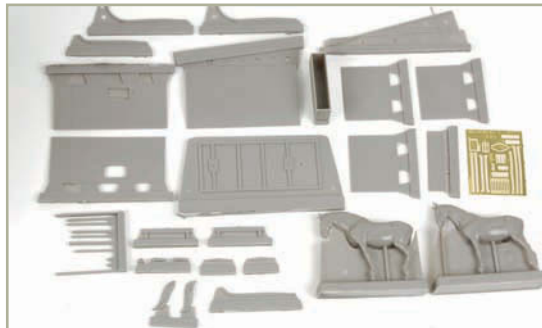
Published by Heimdal

Hardback format, 168 pages, French text

ISBN 978 2-84048-336-6

www.casematepublishing.co.uk

My French is schoolboy level at best (unlike 'Chef' Parker who even has the 'shrug' off to a tee) but I think roughly translated 'I survived in my tank' documents the 24th Panzer Division in action throughout the WWII, language barrier aside, this is a great collection of photographs none, or few of which I recall seeing before. There's a good mix of the troops and vehicles both in action and in more relaxed scenarios with the real stars of the show some beautiful genuine colour shots in Italy, if you're a Panzer IV fanatic the book is worth the cover price for these alone along with many shots from private albums which you're unlikely to see in print again. Even if you don't have an understanding of French the quality and variety of the photos make this a very attractive book for the German armour modeller.



Hauler

Some goodies from the Czech Republic again from Hauler, the first is a full 1:35 kit of a WWII horse-drawn German ambulance. This looks only suited to an Eastern Front scenario due to the sled runners, the construction is simple and production top quality. Separate panels make up the main body and it would be a simple task to open the doors although no interior detail is included. The horses are very cleverly cast in single pieces and very nicely sculpted, some photoetched tack and detail parts are provided on

a small fret. Still in 1:35 HLU35073 is a little gem for a modern diorama in the shape of a supermarket trolley! The main of the construction is a large photoetched piece to fold with resin wheels and even a 'Hauler' trolley token for those real-life shopping trips! In 1:72 HLH72026 is a useful set of various windscreen wipers and HLH72027 will raise the finish on Revell's Flak36 providing the full gun shield in photoetch. www.hauler.cz has more details.



Blitz 1:35 Tracteur KNOX and Labuire Trailer

French purveyors of fine resin, Blitz, continue their releases of some of the more obscure subjects on a Gaelic theme, this time a WWI subject although some of these were still in operation in the late 1930s. What better way to display an FT-17 than this pair? The tractor unit is a pleasingly simple affair, the design of the parts promises a swift assembly without compromising any detail. The cab is an excellent piece of work as a single piece moulding as are the huge wooden wheels and drive chains. The tarpaulin roof adds a very period feel and is well rendered with natural creasing.

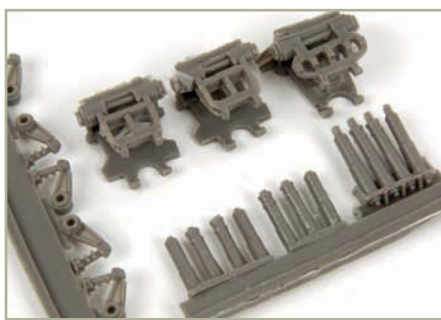
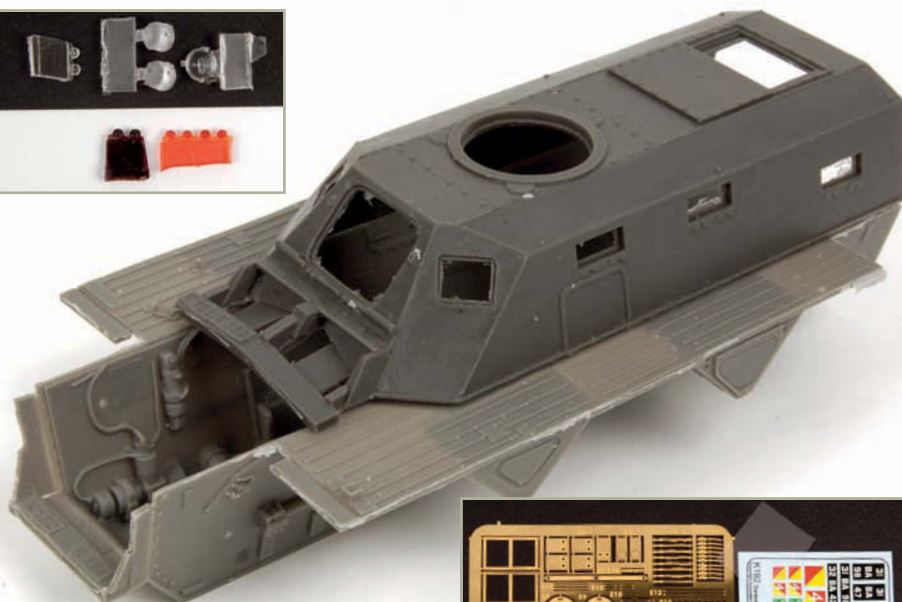
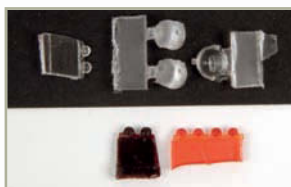
The trailer unit follows the same simple breakdown of parts with a good solid platform to work on, the main platform is an impressive piece of casting with fine and sharp edges and nice rivet and timber grain detail. More impressive wheels on both the limber / articulating unit and the trailer, very nicely cast with superb detail and we're also provided loading ramps and a length of chain to suit any scene with your tank of choice. www.blitz-kit.com has more French subjects to tempt you, very nice quality and something a little different. Merci to Blitz for our samples.

Stalingrad 1:35 Figures

We're huge fans of Stalingrad's figures and have to say these are some of our favourites released so far. This is a selection from a batch of Russian refugees recently released (and also available as a full set) All have a beautiful delicate feel to the sculpting and the resin casting is as good as it gets. This may sound a little giddy, but the character sculpted into these figures is so believable I found myself saddened by their plight whilst assembling them! Further touches of note are the flexible resin used where ultra fine parts would be just too brittle and the crisp detail of the bare feet. These figures could adapt to other periods and situations with little work.

Just superb, www.stalingrad.diorama.ru has more detail and where your nearest stockist is.





Accurate Armour 1:35 Saracen APC MkII/III

The saviour of post-war British modellers (amongst other things), Accurate Armour, have released the distinctive Saracen into their range of resin kits. Available with or without full engine and interior and as an ambulance version and Mk.I the kit follows their usual format and style with a colour instruction sheet (some reference of the actual vehicle will also help with assembly) coloured resin light lenses, a photoetched fret, fine rod and some soft wire for ignition leads. The casting is crisp with the usual clean-up required with some impressive large parts such as the upper hull and lower hull

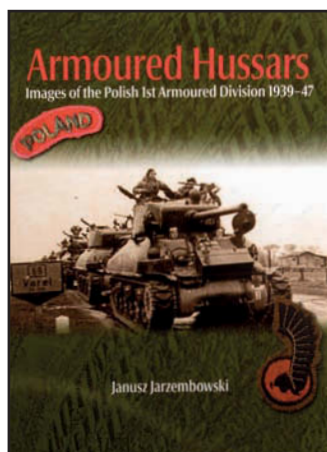
/ chassis. Wheels are a big feature of the vehicle and nicely done with a subtle flat-spot on the tyre, wheels can be positioned turned (which always looks better to me). Decals offer several finishing options, bronze green, green and black and light stone (vehicles used in Aden) AA continue to touch on the more obscure as full kits and conversions, head over to www.accurate-armour.com for more details on the Saracen and other new releases and shop all of their ranges on-line or better still, catch them at one of the many shows they attend.



The Paint Guide For Figures of WWII

Joaquin Garcia-Gazquez
Published by Histoire & Collections
Softback format, 80 pages
ISBN 978 2-352502-98
www.casematepublishing.co.uk

Many books on figure painting have come and gone over the years but this one has a very contemporary feel from the moment you open it with recognised recent figures and the use of acrylics throughout. Joaquin's work is World renowned and his attractive 'Spanish Style' of figure art is explained in great detail throughout this book- to enlarge some of the images as far as they have shows how confident the guy is of his ability- superb! The whole start to finish of the figure process is explained with large, quality images. The WWII period is the focus but the techniques apply to any period with various cloths and camos, leather, flesh tones and weapons and equipment. 'Staging' covers the display of figures explaining composition and groundwork. This is certainly one of the better step by step guides we've seen made all the more inspiring by Joaquin's superb work. Recommended to anyone wishing to brush-up on their figure painting.



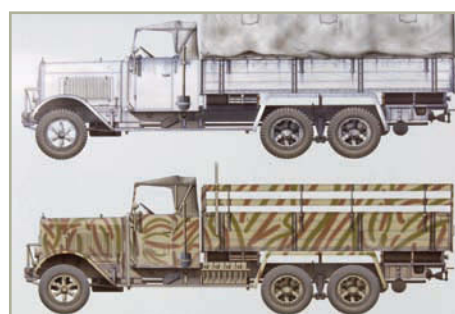
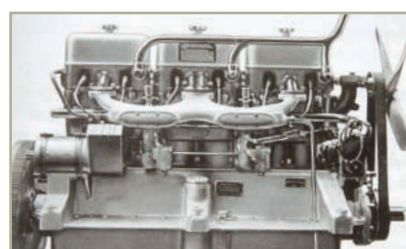
Armoured Hussars, Images of the Polish 1st Armoured Division 1939-47

Janusz Jarzembowski
Published by Helion and Company
Softback format, 128 pages
ISBN 978 1-909384-43-9
www.casematepublishing.co.uk



This pictorial history of the Polish 1st Armoured Division contains some 250 photographs focussing mainly on the division's arrival in the UK and the campaigns in North West Europe until the end of WWII. The series of photographs has been largely unseen for decades and are from the collection of the author's late father, a veteran of the 2nd Armoured Regiment. There's a lot to excite modellers of Commonwealth vehicles from early Valentines

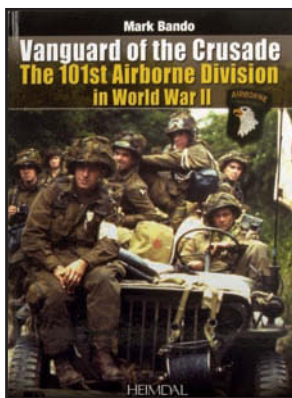
through to Firefly, Cromwell, and a good selection of armoured cars with some interesting KO'd German armour for good measure. It's good to see collections such as this published, not only great modelling inspiration (especially with the number of British vehicle kits on the market these days) but a fitting tribute to the Polish troops.



Medium cross-country lorries 3 ton (6x4)

Holger Erdmann
Published by Nuts and Bolts
Softback format 125 pages
English and German text
www.nuts-bolts.de

Volume 32 from Nuts and Bolts sees a move from their usual armoured vehicle subjects to a rather hefty volume on German 3 ton trucks from Büssing-NAG, Daimler-Benz, Henschel, and Krupp. Nuts and Bolts have become somewhat of a benchmark for modelling reference, the usual format is followed with technical descriptions, factory diagrams, technical drawings and a massive selection of photographs with detailed captions. A large selection of colour walk-around images of several preserved vehicles is excellent reference and the usual modelling section sees builds from Tony Greenland and Vinnie Brannigan. A superb one-stop reference as usual, highly recommended.



Vanguard of the Crusade- 101st Airborne in WWII

Mark Bando

Published by Histoire & Collections

Hardback format, 312 pages

ISBN 978 2-840483-30

www.casematepublishing.co.uk

If you have an interest in the 101st the author's name should be familiar from his other works including 'Breakout at Normandy', he draws upon a unique insight to the history of the division through his forty five year dedication to interviewing veterans (over one thousand interviews). These first-hand accounts make for fascinating reading with unrivalled detail. The book is broken into fifty two chapters documenting every major action the 101st took

part in during WWII in great detail. An overview of the fighting is backed with the first hand accounts and many photographs, as you'd expect there's very few shots of armoured vehicles, this is all about the men who fought. Very much a historical reference (albeit on a very personal level) than a visual reference for modellers, this is a must-read release for any enthusiast of the Screaming Eagles with such unique and detailed content.



La Flak de la Leibstandarte

Pierre Tiquet

Published by Heimdal

Hardback format, 112 pages, French text

ISBN 978 2-840483-78-6

www.casematepublishing.co.uk



Another French only text release from Heimdal describing the action of the LAH Flak units throughout WWII. A wealth of what appear private collection and personal photographs are what will interest the modeller with many half-track mounted and towed guns and some shots of Möbelwagen which must be surely considered rare. With the photographs being from private

sources rather than official, the quality varies but all aspects of the guns from 2cm up to the 88's are covered in the images (around 250) along with supporting vehicles and the WaffenSS crews. More general historical images than specific weapon or vehicle reference.



Riich 1:35 kits

Although these kits have been around for a while we've received some samples from a new UK importer, Inside The Armour, and thought it would be rude not to take our first look at the range. The first impressions are favourable and compare well with other modern mouldings reminding us of Bronco kits, lots of detail and lots of parts. Probably the most welcome in the range is the Universal Carrier Mk.I, long overdue as a modern plastic kit Riich have really done the works on this with full engine and interior detail, link and length tracks (thank goodness!) and even some decent crew figures. Due to the nature of the vehicle there's some

very tiny and fragile looking parts which will result in superb detail from the box. The same applies to the other kits with photoetch included in all and a metal gun barrel with the Mk.IV 6 Pounder (Riich also produce other carrier and 6Pdr versions) The German RSO exhibits some clever moulding of the enormous wheel rims and also includes full engine and detailed chassis. Very impressive kits and a steadily expanding range to keep an eye on www.riichmodel.com or see what's in stock at www.insidethearmour.com who we thank for the samples.



Stonne 1940

Eric Denis
Published by Histoire & Collections
Softback format, 82 pages
ISBN 978 2-35250-306-4
www.casematepublishing.co.uk



Number 14 in H&Cs 'Men and Battles' series focusses on the ferocious fighting around Stonne in France, the French suffering their heaviest military defeat in history. This book documents the men and hardware involved in the fighting with a good selection of period photographs and some colour profiles with the bias heavily

towards the French army. The text is easily read whilst being factual providing a good general overview of the battles and photo captions are well detailed. Not an out-and-out modelling reference, certainly more historical and recommended if you have an interest in French armour of the period.

The Airbrush Company Ltd



The Airbrush Company

@AirbrushCompany



The Airbrush Company Ltd. Marlborough Road, Lancing Business Park, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 8UF

www.Airbrushes.com

01903 767800

sales@airbrushes.com

AMAC

2014

35



The superb Tracteur Knox beautifully presented in 1:72 by Patrick Lapalu

The guys from France's AMAC 35 club gave us their usual enthusiastic and warm welcome to their bi-annual model show held near Rennes in Brittany. It's always worth the long trip for us with great hospitality, great food, great conversation and of course, great models.

Our stand was busy all weekend but we still made time to check out the displays and competition finding some superb armour on show across a wide variety of subjects and scales. A 'grand merci' to all involved with the show and for looking after us so well, see you all again in 2016!

José Duquesue's superbly finished FT-17 observer conversion





Finland's Winter War superbly portrayed in small scale with this diorama

Antoine Puzo's 'The War is Over' vignette was packed with fine details



Some excellent groundwork showed off this T55 Enigma at it's best



Kristof Pulinckx's 1:35 M1A1 AIM strikes a dramatic pose



211



Modelled by **Liejon Schoot**

Tiger 211 belonged to the s.H.Pz.Abt 506 and was found by US Forces near Gereonsweiler on December 15th 1944. The Tiger was abandoned by its crew and except for a jammed turret, was in working order. Tiger 211 has two interesting features, cast concrete around the commanders cupola, and track-pin return brackets welded to the rear hull side extensions.

Before I started building the Trumpeter 1:16 Kingtiger kit I thought a Kingtiger was a Kingtiger, that they are all the same. During research for that build I found out this is not the case. There were modifications during production, some of which even make it possible to tell in which month a Kingtiger was manufactured. Some of these modifications were ordered to be carried out in the field on Kingtigers already delivered to the troops. 211 has armoured covers for the turret hatch torsion bars and has not yet an armoured cover over the engine deck air intake. This indicates that 211 was produced late August-early September 1944.



In October 1944 the armoured cover for the air intake was introduced, and in November 1944 this cover was also fitted to Kingtigers already delivered to the troops. Seemingly this modification wasn't carried out yet on 211. There were also so called 'field modifications', mostly required modifications carried out by field workshops. A field modification can be found on one single vehicle, or on a larger scale.

Kingtiger 211 has two interesting field modifications, track-pin return brackets, and the concrete armour around the cupola. The track-pin return plates I have only identified on 211, whereas the concrete armour around the cupola is seen on more pictures of Kingtigers, a few of the s.Pz.Abt.506 and one of the s.Pz.Abt.503.



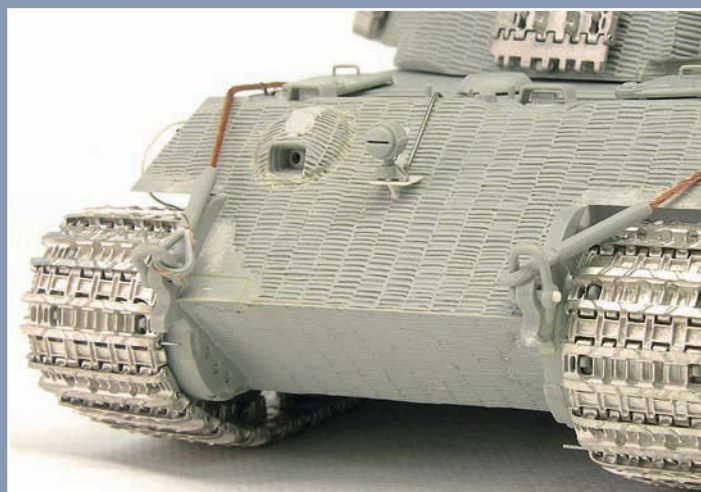
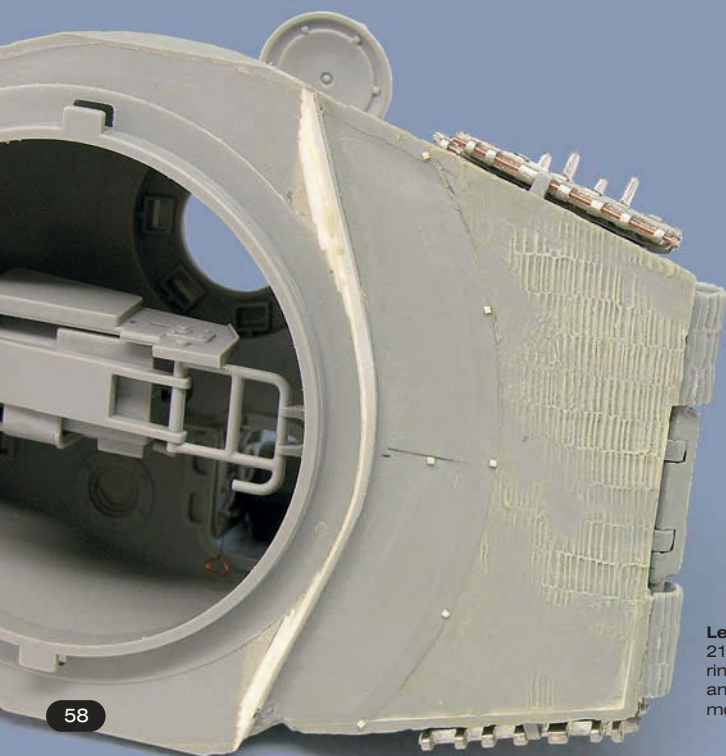
Although Dragon represents the Zimmerit very nicely it is "applied" much too thickly. In reality the Zimmerit would have been applied around all brackets and covers, at these spots you would see narrower bands of the pattern. Some areas on the King Tigers show slight variations in the Zimmerit pattern, for example on the turret rear hatch, turret front side, Kugelblende and interlocks on the rear sides. The kit only provides for two differently patterned turret rear hatches.

With a kit already having on the Zimmerit, I had to remove patches of it to model 211. This was done with a straight sharp blade, gently cutting off the tops of the ridges and then scraping down until I reached the desired depth. With a straight and sharp blade the Zimmerit was scraped off, leaving the surrounding material to scale thickness. Now it is clearly visible that the Zimmerit coating is too thick, grooves are left and need filling.

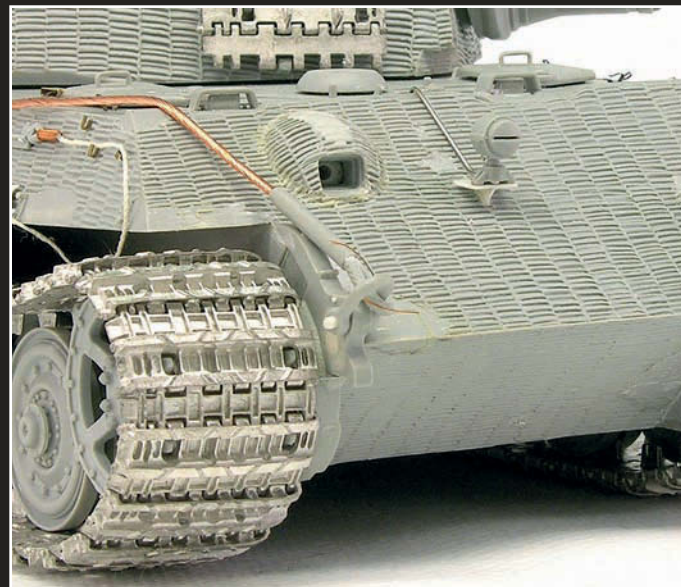
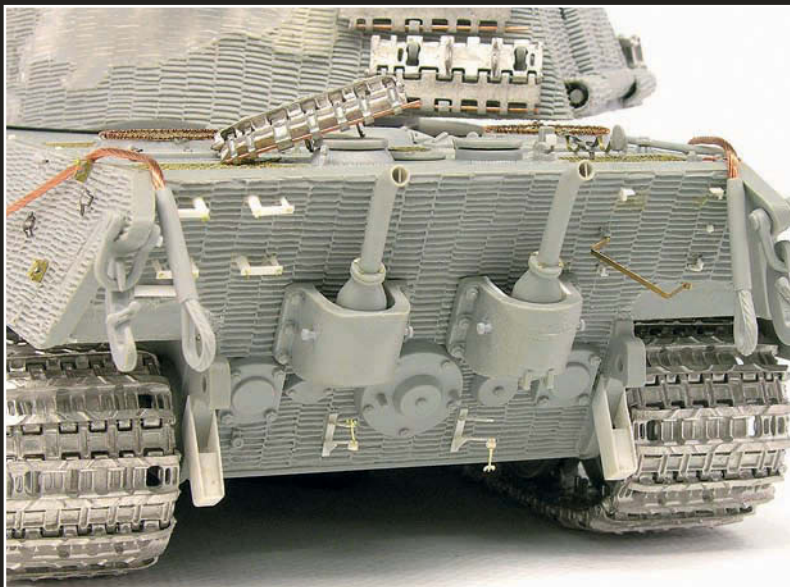
On the turret left front side two track hangers and fixing brackets are missing,

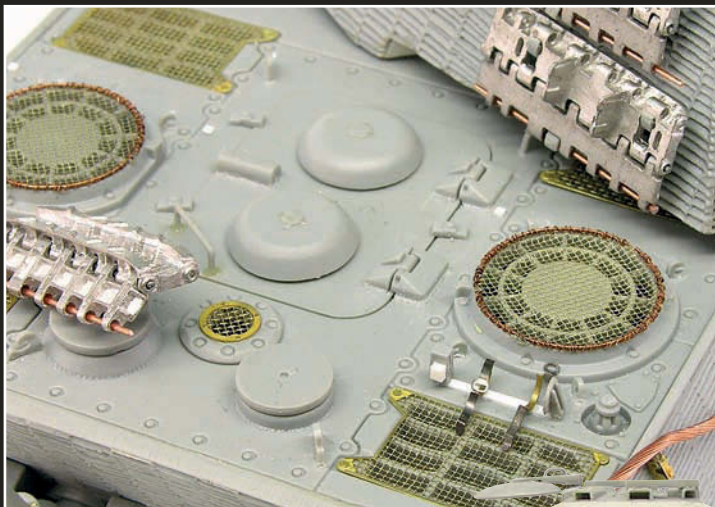
only some welds remain. There are no locations to tell you where to put the hangers, so I used a spare double link to position the hangers. Once the hangers were fixed to the turret I filled the sides with Magic Sculp to simulate the welds and hide the fact that the hangers are on the Zimmerit instead of on the turret side with the Zimmerit applied up to the hangers. For the broken off hangers I removed a patch of Zimmerit and added some welds. The turret's angled 'chins' should also have Zimmerit, and the kit lacks this.

The armoured covers for the rear hatch torsion bars and poison gas detector mounts are thinned to scale thickness. The loaders hatch received welds on the inner side, a strip for the padlock and a pull cable for closing the hatch.



Left The sheet metal cover under the turret rear is missing on 211, possibly blown off by the grenade that penetrated the turret ring. The moulded on cover was cut off, the turret corrected, and Zimmerit was partially applied. The six little squares are the mounting points for the sheet metal cover.





The concrete armour was sculpted with Magic Sculp. Reference shows a ridge where the concrete meets the turret roof. On the left of the cupola the concrete is damaged due to the hit which had also blown off the Zimmerit from the side of the turret.

The hull also needed patches of Zimmerit removing. At the point of the glacis an interlock was scraped out and filled with Magic Sculp to reproduce the welds. The kit welds between glacis and side plates are cut off and new welds were made with Magic Sculp and stretched sprue.

The parts that hold the kit fenders were cut off and welds were added where the hinges were attached. The head light bracket and cable tube are scratchbuilt.

The front left side hull extension (below the towing shackle) is partially broken off, as on the real 211. On the left side all side fenders are missing, four remain on the right. The foremost one is bent a little outward. After thinning the fenders this

Right The Driver and Radio Operator's hatches received some detail on the inner side.





piece was cut loose, received new strips and was bent like in the pictures of the real vehicle. All the strips on the fenders received welds.

Archive photos show no tools on 211, only empty brackets. The kit comes with PE parts, but most of them are oversized. I only used the clamps for the towing cables which are provided in the kit, clasps from Eduard, and I scratch built the brackets for the cleaning rods, C-hooks, jack and jack block. All wingnuts are from Aber.





The exhausts are drilled out, the rod inside the ends is stretched sprue. The armoured covers received lifting lugs (not in the kit) and Mr.Surfacer for a cast steel look. The towing shackles are modified to later types (no nuts) and the locking clips on the C-hooks are cut loose and positioned partially open. The towing cables are twisted from thin copper wire. The track-pin return brackets seem to have been made from steel strips welded together and onto the side extensions. Styrene strips Magic Sculp welds make the ones on the model.

The fire extinguisher bracket is partially scratch built, and the four little styrene blocks on either side of the deck are the





mounts for the anti-mine mesh frames which are missing on 211. All mesh comes from the kit. On the circular meshes I added a copper wire ring around the rim which is attached with very thin copper wire to simulate how the mesh was attached to the rings.

After a coat of medium grey the model is painted with the base colour Dunkel Gelb (Gunze UA204) and the camouflage colours Olive Green (Gunze H405) and Chocolate Brown (Gunze H406) were applied. The camouflage pattern is sprayed on with the turret in the 12 o'clock position leaving the underlying area Dunkelgelb. The anti-mine mesh guards are removed after spraying on the pattern,

leaving "paintshadows". The Balkenkreuz and turret number are handpainted. After the cables, exhausts, concrete and red primer parts were painted a few washes with medium brown were applied. Very fine sand, pastel powders mixed with white glue are used for the mud, when dry a few thin coats of various browns are sprayed on to blend all the colours and simulate dust.

Wartime pictures show 211 in a ploughed field with broken off branches, leaves and some shells laying around. I used a piece of Styrofoam in which the track trails were sanded, a light coat of plaster was applied and fine sand added onto the wet plaster. At this stage I also made the impressions

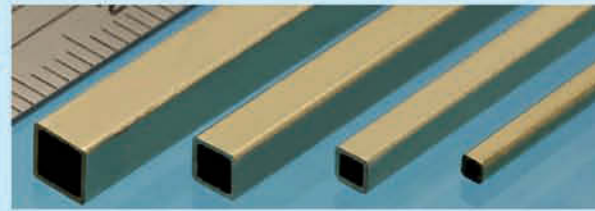
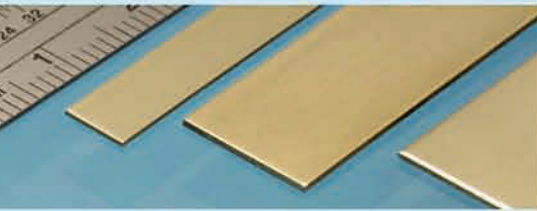
of the tracks. Spare Friul links wrapped around an unused road wheel set made a nice tool for this. Also some boot impressions from the escaping crew are added.

After the model was fixed to the base the ground near the tracks was filled so it looks like the tank is sits deep in the wet ground. When the plaster had dried some thin layers of various browns were sprayed. The branches are plant roots dug up from my garden, cleaned, dried and applied onto the base. I left off the banners with the white stars seen in the pictures as I wanted to represent my model is it was when abandoned by it's crew, shortly before it was found by it's new owners.

www.albionalloys.co.uk

ALBION ALLOYS

Precision construction and finishing materials for the modeller



Model makers, precision engineering companies, TV and film production companies and prototype manufacturers the world over now use our range of metals to create all manner of items.

From scale modelling to avionics, even landing gear on unmanned aerial reconnaissance vehicles, our metals are seen as the product of choice.

Create your own metal stock facility on your workbench – all micro tube and rod is designed to slide fit enabling previously unachievable detail on your next model making project.



Probably the widest range available of precision abrasives for the modeller

The well known and well loved Flex-i-file range is complemented by our range of own brand abrasives and applicators meaning there is a product for every task.

The flex-i-file is unique in enabling the user to sand and finish compound curves. By gripping the aluminium handle you release the tension on the grip band, meaning no more flat-spots on your next project!

Another product designed to aid the modeller is the Touch n Flow applicator. A very clever design that emits just the right amount of solvent and uses capillary action to get the solvent only where required.



Visit www.albionalloys.co.uk for down-loadable PDFs, Youtube links etc. Contact us on sales@albionalloys for details of your nearest dealer

Since 1995 *HobbyLink Japan* has been providing *quality model kits and accessories, worldwide.*



Scan this QR code to go directly to a great selection of scale model kits.



Our greatest service upgrade yet!
Shipping now cheaper than ever!

MENTS-007 1/35 German Main Battle Tank Leopard 1 A3/A4
From Meng



hlj.com/afv



HobbyLink Japan



@hobbylink



hobbylink.tv

Historex Agents

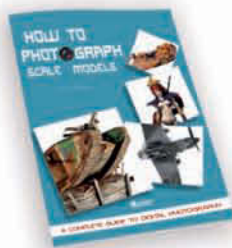
Rinaldi Studio Press



TA01 BOOK TANKART Vol. 1 WWII German Armor £19.95
TA02 BOOK TANKART Vol. 2 - WWII Allied Armor £19.95
TA03 BOOK TANKART Vol. 3 - Modern Armor £19.95
TA04 BOOK TANKART Vol. 4 WWII German Armor £ SOON

ANDREA PRESS

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH SCALE MODELS



- 48 pages
- Format: 210 x 297 mm
- Over 100 full color photographs
- Soft Cover
- Available languages: English

With this book you will learn the basics of photography, the performance of different types of cameras and mobile devices. Build your own photography studio and learn how to control the lighting for your scale model shooting with professional quality.



Miniatures



MJ09-001 1/9th Tiger Ace in Normandy, 'Michael Wittmann' £38.95
MJ10-001 1/10th German Gebirgsjager in WW2 £38.95
MJ10-002 1/10th The Battle of Hastings £41.85
MJ10-003 1/10th 79th Cameron Highlander, Waterloo £31.75
MJ10-004 1/10th 'I'll Be Home Soon Son' £38.95
MJ90-001 90mm German Officer in WW2 £28.85

Andrea Color



ACS1 Flesh Paint Set - The Easy Way to Paint Skin £17.00
ACS2 Black Paint Set £17.00
ACS3 White Paint Set £17.00
ACS4 Red Paint Set £17.00
ACS5 Blue Paint Set £17.00
ACS6 Inks Set - Acrylic inks for figures Satin finish £17.00
ACS7 Silver Paint Set £17.00
ACS8 Gold Paint Set £17.00
ACS9 Green paint set £17.00
ACS10 Field Grey Paint set £17.40
ACS11 Yellow Paint £18.30
ACS12 NMM Paint Set £18.30
ACS13 Brown Paint Set £18.30

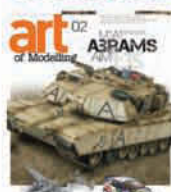


HISTOREX AGENTS, Wellington House,
157 Snargate Street, Dover, Kent, CT17 9BZ, ENGLAND.
Telephone 01304 206720 Fax 01304 204528



HISTOREX AGENTS have been established since 1967
With 47 years of trading we are one of the longest running
Model Soldier Mail Order House's around today.

art of Modelling



ART01 Art Of Modelling Issue 01 £7.95
ART02 Art Of Modelling Issue 02 £7.95
ART03 Art Of Modelling Issue 03 £7.95

PANZER ACES



APML1 Model Laboratory 1 SdKfz 171 Panther G £5.75
APML2 Model Laboratory 2 Junkers 88 A-4 £6.70
APML3 Model Laboratory 3 Tiger I "313" S. PZ. ABT.505 £5.75
APML4 Model Laboratory 4: Great Battles, Kursk £6.70
APML5 Model Laboratory 5 Panzerjager Jagdtiger £5.75
EMP3 BOOK Euro Modelismo Tanks in Russia 1941/42 £16.55
EMP4 BOOK Euro Modelismo Rareties Modelling Armoured £14.90
EMP8 BOOK Euro Modelismo German Army Uniforms £34.70
EMP13 BOOK Euro Modelismo STUG 3 £20.65
EMP14 BOOK Sculpting Figures - Body Language £14.05
EMP15 BOOK Euro Modelismo Vignettes & Sceneries - £30.15
EMP16 BOOK Euro Modelismo Tanks in Russia Part 3 £16.55
EMP21 BOOK Tanks in Russia IV. £18.25
EMPAK BOOK D.A.K. Deutsches Afrika Korps £15.75

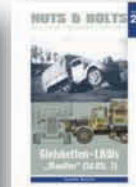
PAP1 BOOK Panzer Aces Profiles 1 - Guide to camouflage £16.25
PANZ41 BOOK Panzer Aces Issue 41 £8.95
PANZ42 BOOK Panzer Aces Issue 42 £8.95
PANZ43 BOOK Panzer Aces Issue 43 £8.95
PANZ44 BOOK Panzer Aces Issue 44 £8.95



NUTS & BOLTS BOOKS



NB21 BOOK Sd.Kfz.251/9 Kanonenwagen Stummel £23.95
NB22 BOOK 15cm sIG33/2 (St) auf GW 38(t) £23.95
NB23 BOOK Panzerjager I - 4.7cm Pak (t) auf P £23.95
NB24 BOOK Pz.Kpfw. II Ausf. D/E and Variants £23.95
NB25 BOOK Flakpanzer IV - Wirbelwind (Sd.Kfz. 161/4) £23.95
NB26 BOOK 15 cm s.I.G. 33/2 Grille Ausf. H. Sd.Kfz 138/1 £23.95
NB27 BOOK 2 cm Flakvierling 38 £23.95
NB28 BOOK Gleisketten-LKWs 'Maultier' (Sd.Kfz.3) £23.95
NB29 BOOK Raupenschlepper Ost RSO and Abarten £23.95
NB30 BOOK Nebel-, Panzer- und Vielfachwerfer £25.15
NB31 BOOK Marder II (Sd.Kfz. 131) £25.15



MrBLACK PUBLICATIONS



SMH-FM1 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 1 £13.95
SMH-FM2 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 2 £13.95
SMH-FM3 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 3 £13.95
SMH-FM4 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 4 £13.95
SMH-FM5 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 5 £13.95
SMH-FM6 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 6 £13.95
SMH-FM7 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 7 £13.95
SMH-FM8 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 8 £13.95
SMH-FM9 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 9 £13.95
SMH-FM10 Scale Model Handbook - Figure Modelling 10 £13.95

Scale Model Handbook Diorama Modelling 1

A new book series on Diorama Modelling from Mr Black Publications covering a variety of themes and historical periods, such as 15th Century, Napoleonic, WWI, WWII and Civilian. This first volume has 9 unique dioramas with 10 Well Known contributors. Articles Step by Step on Construction and Painting, Techniques, How to, Scratch-built, Conversions, Box Art, History. Over of 400 pictures with a lot of SBS photos. 100 pages, A4, Matt laminated cover.

SMH-DM1 Scale Model Handbook - Diorama Modelling 1 £27.95

MILITARY MINIATURES in Review



MMIR57 BOOK Military Miniatures in Review 57 £7.95
MMIR58 BOOK Military Miniatures in Review 58 £7.95
MMIR59 BOOK Military Miniatures in Review 59 £7.95
MMIR88GUN BOOK The Eighty Eight £15.65
MMIRAA28 BOOK Allied Axis The Photo Journal of WWII £12.95
MMIRAA29 BOOK Allied Axis The Photo Journal of WWII £12.95
MMIRCHURCH BOOK The Churchill £15.85
MMIRCHURCH2 BOOK The Churchill Pt.2 £15.85
MMIRHW BOOK Visual History: Heavy Wreckers £15.85
MMIRSOS1 BOOK Son of Sherman Vol.1 - softcopy £38.00
MMIRSTAGH BOOK The Staghound A Visual History £15.85

Allied-Axis

THE PHOTO JOURNAL OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

#118 15cm how

The Big Macks

The D7 Tractor

The Big Macks

The Big Macks

The Big Macks

UK Postage charges

Orders below £20.00 Postage is £1.95
Orders below £30.00 Postage is £2.95
Orders below £40.00 Postage is £3.95
Orders below £50.00 Postage is £4.95
Orders above £50.00 Postage is £5.25
UK Next day delivery Mainland only £6.75



Sales@HistorexAgents.com

www.HistorexAgents.com

Please mention "AFV Modeller" when replying to this advert