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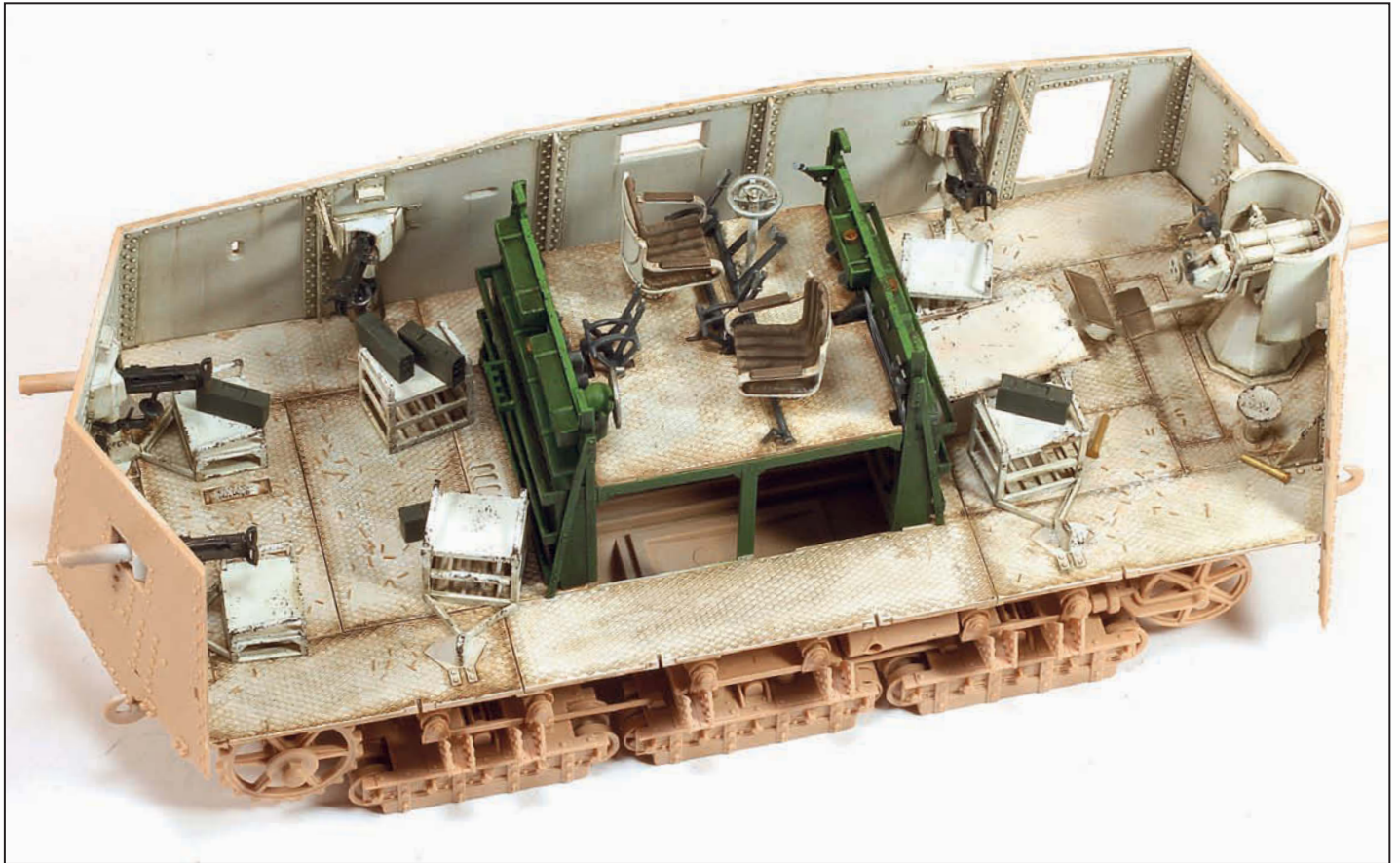
A7V

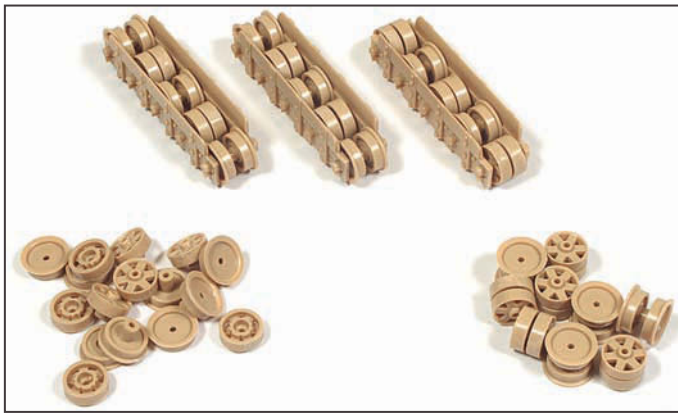
Germany's first Panzer!

Kristof Pulinckx builds the new 1:35 Meng kit

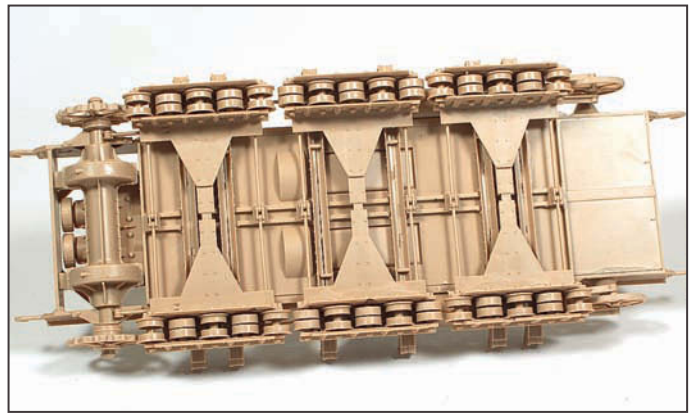
I was not altogether a surprise when Meng announced their A7V. At the moment WWI kits are being released frequently and this is something we only can be happy about. This is the first release of this German tank in the modern era of modelling, but is it good enough to replace the older injection moulded and resin kits only available to date? Let's find out!







The bogies require some cleaning up and take up quite some time. Just put on a nice tune and work through this process.



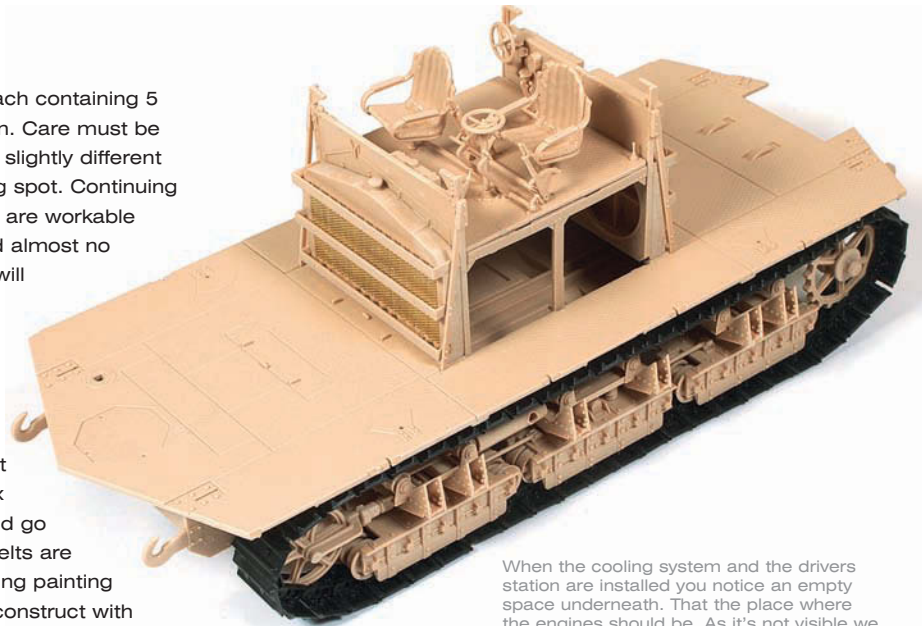
The suspension needs some care to install the bogies in the appropriate places. If placed incorrectly you will notice that they don't fit.

Getting started: the drive train

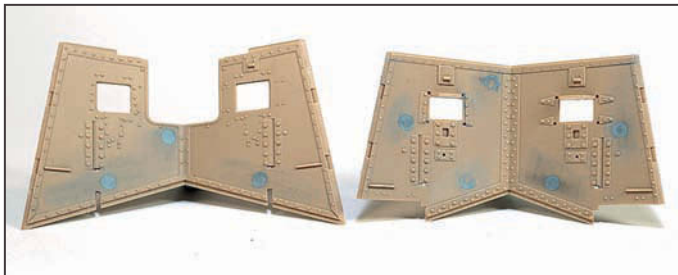
Assembly starts by assembling the six bogies each containing 5 double road wheels and the rest of the drive train. Care must be taken do not mix up those bogies as they all are slightly different and will not properly fit when placed in the wrong spot. Continuing with the tracks, and like in most Meng kits these are workable and easy to assemble. However these tanks had almost no suspension so the effect of the workable tracks will be a bit lost. On the other hand it makes them very easy mount on the model.

Interior

The kit is provided with an interior, not a complete interior as the engines are missing, but it's not visible anyway. The main gun and the six machine guns provided are very well detailed and go together without any problem. Only the ammo belts are left off until after painting for easier handling during painting and weathering. The interior is easy and fast to construct with only a few sinkholes to tackle on the armour plates making up the square armoured box, the distinctive shape of the A7V. During the assembly the interior was divided in a number of subassemblies for easier painting.



When the cooling system and the drivers station are installed you notice an empty space underneath. That's the place where the engines should be. As it's not visible we won't miss the engine at all. Photoetched radiator grilles are a nice touch



On the inside of the front and back plates some sinkholes need to be filled with putty and sanded smooth. These are the only ones that need to be dealt with.



The main gun is well detailed and it needs to be assembled from many well detailed parts.





The machineguns are very well detailed, but I replaced the tip of the machineguns with small diameter brass tubing to make them more convincing.



The 'turret' on top of the vehicle has many hatches and some of them are glued in a closed, half open or open position to give the model some character.



The 'turret' is glued on prior to the painting and the fit is perfect!



The complete interior is painted in a satin white coat mixed from Ak paints.



The interior wash from AK is applied all over the interior. To get rid of the factory fresh appearance.



In the panel lines the Dark Earth Dust & Dirt deposits are applied straight from the bottle and set to dry for a few minutes.

Painting the interior

The whole interior engine is painted with Ak-Interactive White, with the exception of the cooling systems and the housing of the engine which is painted green. Details like the steering mechanism and machine guns are hand painted in their respective colours. When left to dry overnight the complete interior was given a wash with interior wash from AK and again its set aside to dry overnight. Up next the floor is treated with the Brown Earth dust and dirt deposits from AK-Interactive. This rather thick wash has a fine granular pigment and is applied in the panel lines and in corners and edges straight from the bottle. When this enamel paint is air dry a flat moist brush is used to blend in the paint creating a really dirty effect. Some light streaking on the interior walls were painted in various brown enamel paints followed by some sponge chipping with a dark brown acrylic colours. Now all the subassemblies can be brought together and glued in place.

Absolute care is needed when installing the side panels. These must be lined up exactly to achieve a perfect fit. A good trick is to use the roof section as a guide, but don't glue the roof on yet! When dry the interior is finished off with some ammo boxes and spend shells from the machine guns which are made from stretched sprue and painted brass. The spend shells from the main gun are made from brass tubing from Albion Alloys and one end is closed with a disc made with the punch & die and



A moist brush is used to blend in the paint and creating a dirty effect on the floor of the interior.



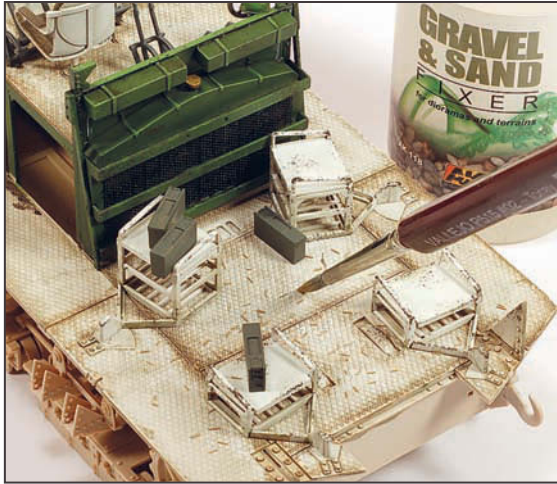
The machineguns are first painted in a dark Grey colour.



Next they receive a wash from Black acrylic paint.



And are finally metalized using Dark steel Pigment that I rubbed on with a cotton bud.



Left The spent cartridges are fixed into place using the Sand and Gravel Fixer. This sort of glue dries out completely flat and leaves no marks, ideal for a task like this.



Above The interior is ready, lots of time and effort went into it, although most of it will be hidden...



The inside of the panels are completely weathered before installing, for the obvious reason of easier handling.



The bolts on the ventilation plats on the roof are covered with a nasty seam. It easier and faster to remove all the bolts, and the seam and replace the bolts by new ones made with the punch and die.



The camouflage pattern is sprayed on according to the instructions which is very handy indeed.



With the markings in place the overall look of the vehicle changes dramatically.

also painted brass. A easy way to glue these spent shells is to use the Gravel & Sand fixer from AK-Interactive. Just apply this fixer on the floor sprinkle in the shells and let it dry. The fixer dries flat and leaves no traces, perfect!

Exterior

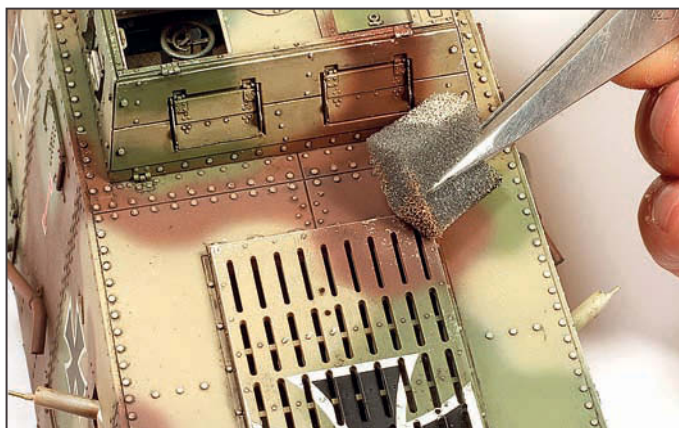
Most parts of the kit are used up for the interior so finishing off the build of the exterior will be quick and straight forward. The only problem, (well problem is too big a word), are the bolts on the two large parts with the cooling sleeves on the roof of the vehicle. A mould seems is running across the bolts and the easiest way to solve this is to sand away the bolts completely and replace them with new ones made with the punch & die. Finally the roof is glued in place and the model is now ready for the painting stages of the exterior.



Weathering starts the traditional way by applying a dark brown wash.



With pinwashes the bolts and panel lines are extra accentuated .



Sponge chipping goes fast and gives great results. Before going directly to your model, test it first on a piece of paper to see if the sponge doesn't contain too much paint.

Painting.

There are only markings provided to make one particular vehicle: Schnuck! And it must be coincidence it's a typical three tone camouflage scheme found on many German WWII vehicles with more or less the same colours, making it very easy to choose the appropriate colours.

Happily Meng provides us with a painting guide for all sides of which makes life again easy. I started with the lightest colour and we choose OIF & OEF US base colour from vehicles in sand

yellow. Followed by Reseda Grün and Rotbraun Shadow all from the AK-Interactive range. After this the paint is sealed with satin varnish mixed from flat and gloss varnish.

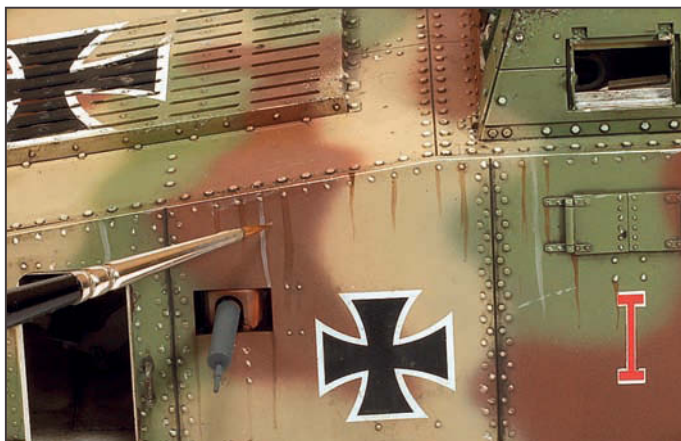
The next day the decals are added but first I removed the transparent film around the decals with a sharp knife and a ruler. Decal softener from Daco Productions is used to help them set perfectly onto the model. The next day the decals are sealed in their turn with another coat of satin varnish.



The deeper scratches and chippings are hand painted with a fine pointed brush.



Both the exhausts are also sponge chipped with some various rusty tones.



A number of brown, light dust and rusty colours are used for the streaking effects. First some lines are painted on...



..and left to dry for several minutes before we use a moist flat brush in downward motion to blend out the lines and creating drips.



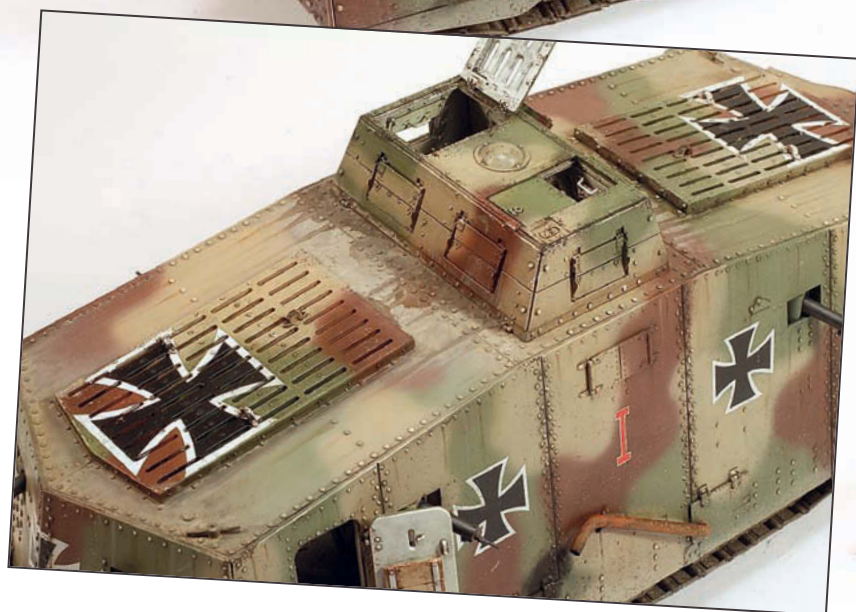
The tracks are painted in a very light earth tone.



The tracks but also the suspension is given a wash to create more depth in the whole.



Afterwards the tracks are drybrushed with the Chipping color from AK to create signs of wear and also to create some contrast.



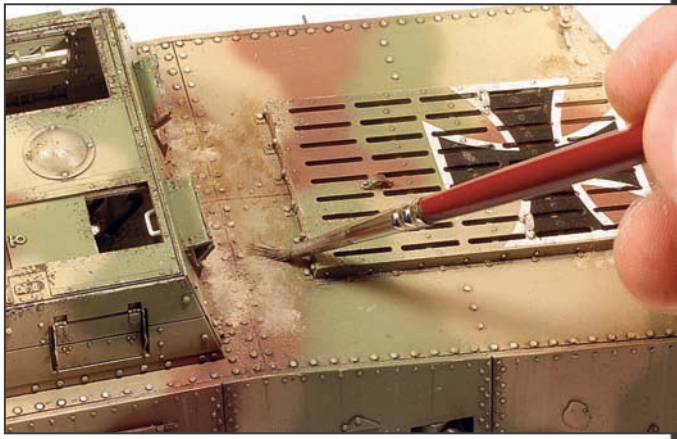
Weathering

This vehicle's operational life was rather short so I tried to keep that in mind for the weathering. The aging process starts by applying a general wash all over the model by using the Dark Brown wash for green vehicles from AK-Interactive. This wash will bring the colours together so the whole looks more uniform. Next pinwashes are used to extra accentuate small details like bolts and panel lines and so create more shadow effects.

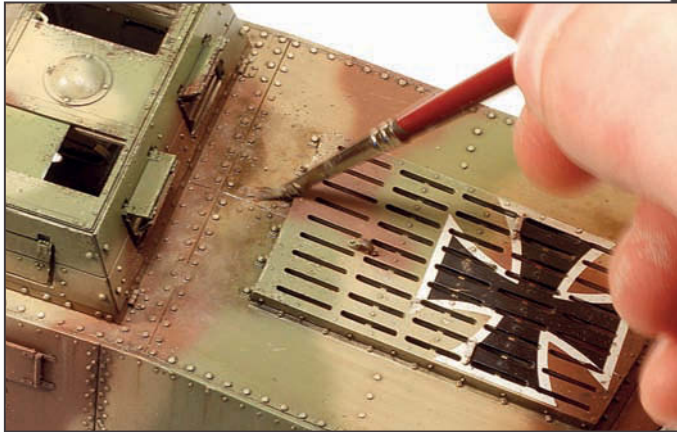
After this comes the chipping phase. This will be carried out use a small brush and a sponge. I started with the chipping of a lighter shades of the base colours to replicate the superficial damage to the paintwork. For the concentrated chipping I used the sponge while for scratches I used the brush.

After the first round of chipping I continued with the darker chipping. Most of the previous applied light chippings will be covered with a dark brown almost black colour, just leaving a



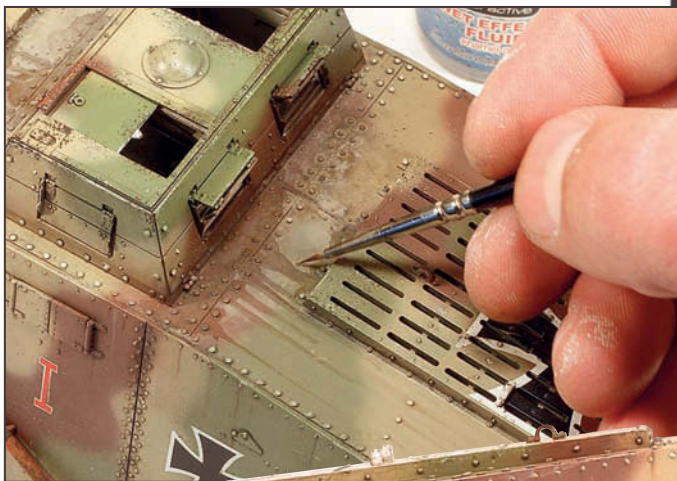


On the roof, some earth coloured pigments are applied...



... and fixed with White Spirit.

When the pigments are dry some wet stains and streaks are painted on using Wet Effects from AK.



small part of the lighter chipping visible and so create a 3D effect. It speaks for itself that this procedure is carried out with a brush because maximum control is needed here.

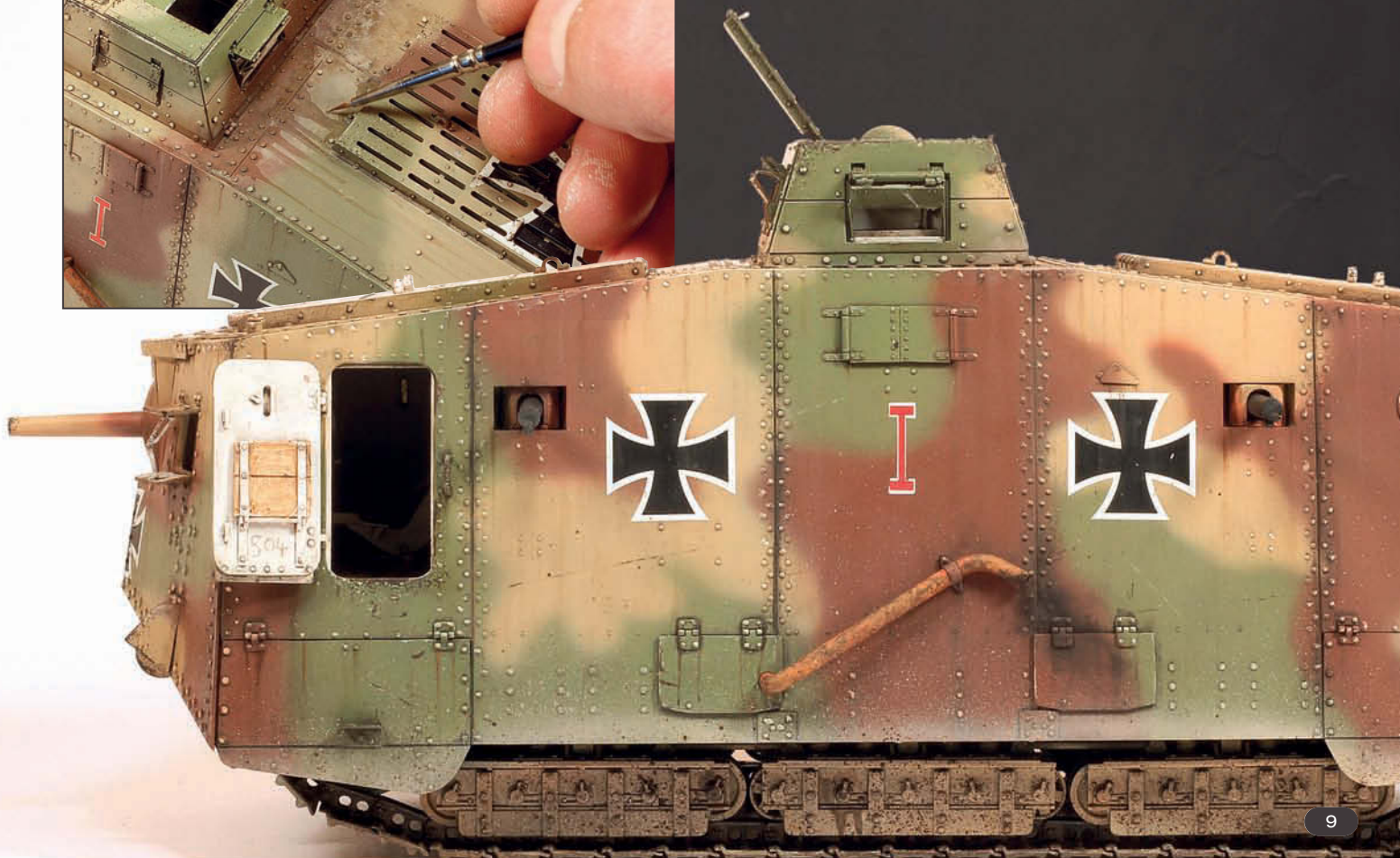
The exhausts are in their turn also sponge chipped with several rusty tones starting with the darkest colours and work our way through using lighter shades of rust. Several brown, black, light dust and rust colours are used from the streaking effects. They are applied with a brush and set to dry for about 10-15 minutes. Next a flat brush moist with White Spirit is used to draw the lines further downward and so creating a line or a drip.

The tracks are painted in a light Buff tone while the suspension received only a light coat of Buff still showing the colour underneath. The suspension and tracks received when dry a wash from the tracks wash from AK and are left to dry overnight. The tracks are next drybrushed with the Chipping colour from AK to create contrast. The ribs that are in contact with the ground are then polished with the Dark Steel Pigment to obtain a natural metal look.

Finally on the top of the vehicle some light and dark brown pigments are applied dry and fixed with some White Spirit. When the pigments are dry some wet stains and streaks are painted on using Wet Effects from AK.

Conclusion

Meng's A7V is a gem of a kit. The construction is straight forward and causes no problems whatsoever. An equal amount of time is spent on painting and weathering the interior as it was for the exterior. In fact you paint two kits for the price of one!



Panzerkampfwagen

David Parker builds Trumpeter's 1:16 kit

Part One



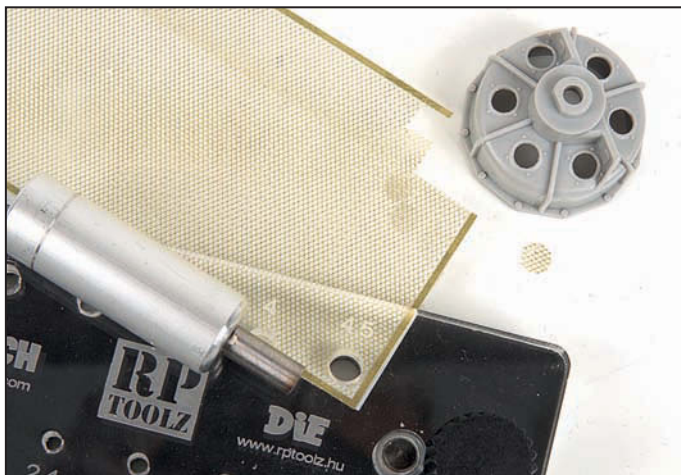
Welcome to the start of my coverage of the new Trumpeter Panzer IV Ausf. H. I am very excited to be starting another of their big tank kits with their potential for enhanced levels of detail and the complete interior. The interior is where I will be starting and I expect to be jumping about between different areas here depending on my references and mood! I am for example skipping the assembly of the engine and the auxiliary generator which is where the kit instructions begin to tackle the components in the bow. My work begins with the gearbox.



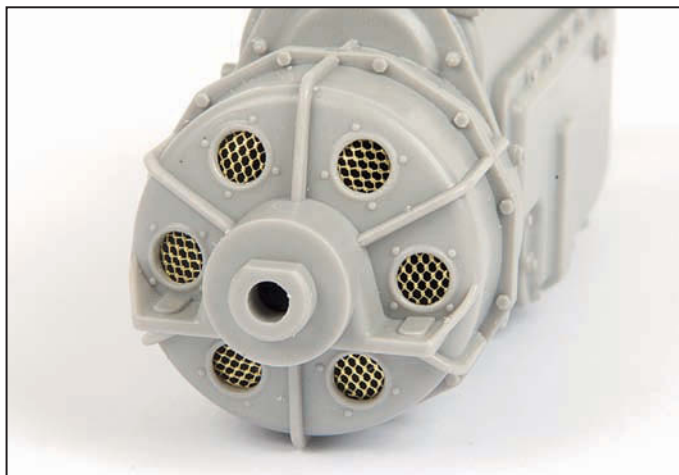
The bell housing on the back of the gearbox comes with solid moulded wire mesh vent openings and an effective improvement is to drill these out like this.



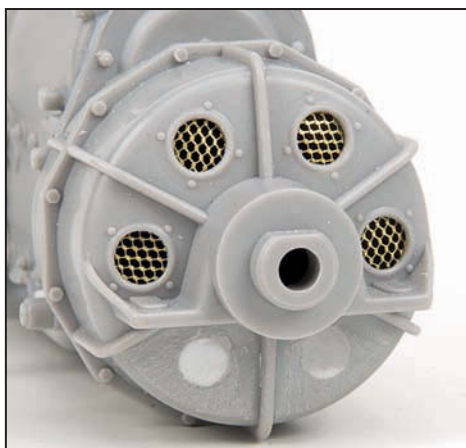
Before replacing the mesh grilles with photoetched parts I also used a burr to thin down the areas around each opening to get a good flush fit with the front of the housing.



I used RP Toolz punch and die to punch discs of mesh, using a backing of plastic card to support the photoetch during the process.



The new discs of mesh were then glued inside the housing for this improved appearance.

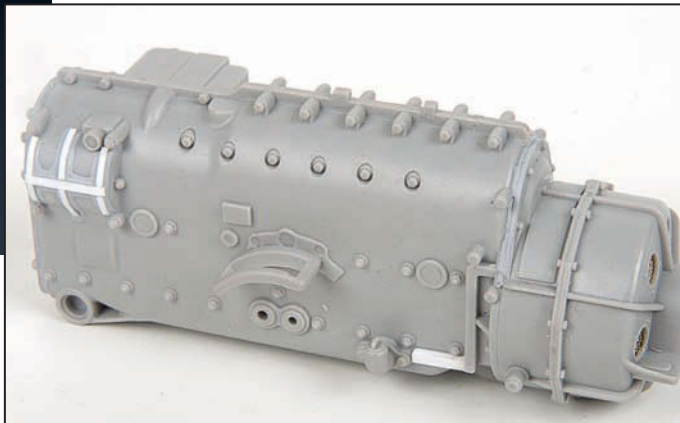


Just as I was feeling quite pleased with myself it was pointed out that the lower section of the housing is in fact solid and although hardly visible when the gearbox is installed I went back and filled these two holes.



Moving on to the driving brake drums I engraved the separating line between the central hub and outer ring with a compass cutter and drilled out the moulded mesh vents as with the bell housing. New photoetched discs were glued to the outside of the drums. I also used filler to blend the sharp transition between the drum and the point where the cooling hose connects. The centre of the drum is still missing some detail and I will need to return to this part I think for more work.

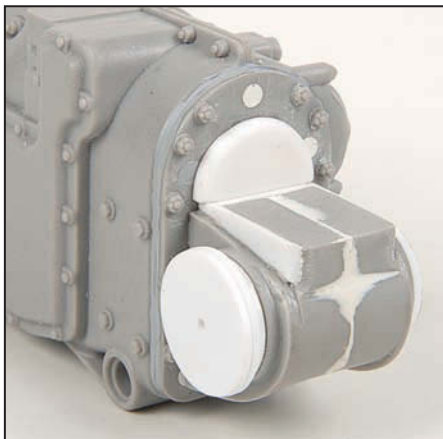




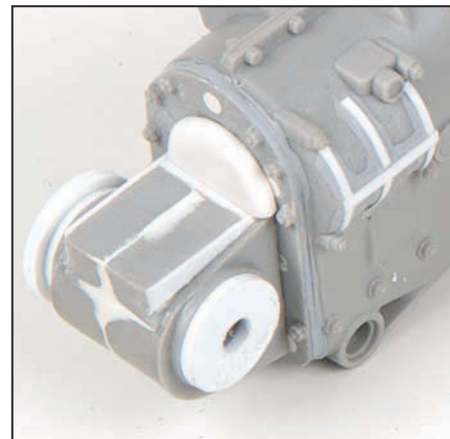
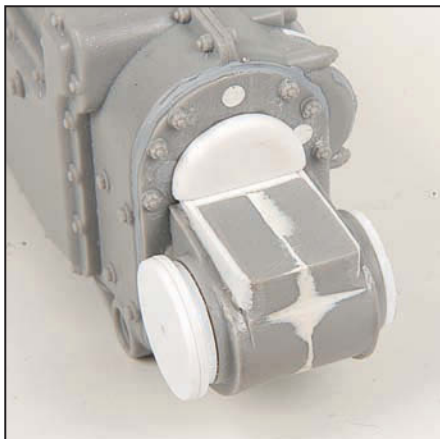
The gearbox provided in the kit is modelled on the type fitted to the early production Panzer IVs, fortunately the differences are not extensive and are mainly focussed on the nose of the gearbox. I added the ribs to the bulged area and the missing bar.



The gate for the gear selector lever is rather heavily moulded so I thinned it and added the notches at each end.



Starting work on the nose of the gearbox and I filled the central seam before starting to reshape the structure. The circular plates on each side were sanded flat in preparation for adding new discs of plastic to create the offset



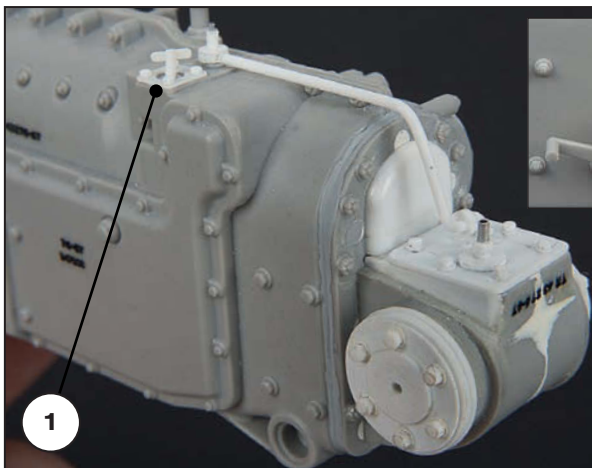
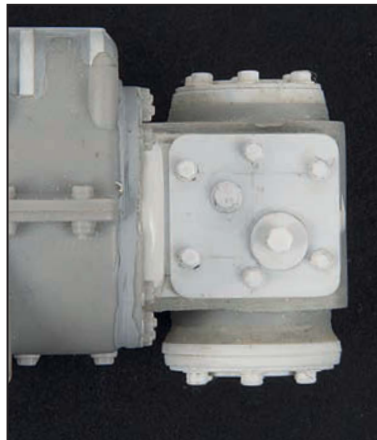
design. These discs had a central hole drilled through each to help accurately align them. The new semi-circular fascia plate was shaped from 40 thou plastic.



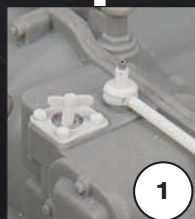
A new top plate was created and the bolt and washer detail was added. The outer faces of the circular plates were also detailed and bolt and washer detail added using the RP Punch and Die sets.



Above The nose of the real gearbox photographed in situ. **Above right** An overhead view of the area showing the offset design of the drive shaft housings which have been blended into the rest of the housing using Magic Sculpt.



The pipework was added from plastic rod and you can also see the casting numbers that are made using spare numbers from sets in the Archer Fine Transfers Surface Details range. **Inset top** a pair of ABER etched

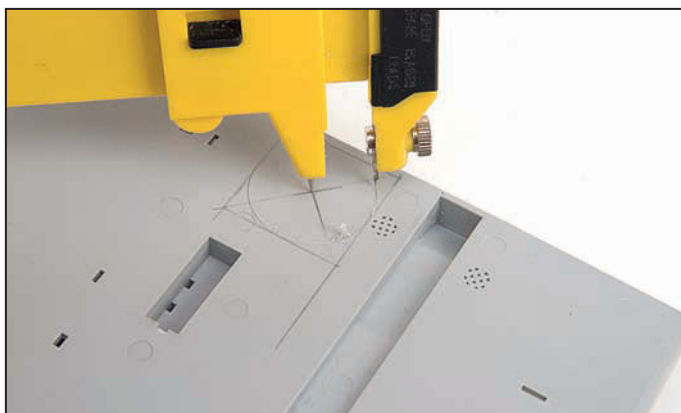


screwheads were added above the gear selector frame. Albion Alloys aluminium tube was used as a socket for cabling that will be added later. A small tap detail **1** was added to the top of the gearbox.

Panzerkampfwagen



Overall views of the gearbox with the gear selector lever now installed. This was detailed with a brass rod added to the inside face of lever arm.



Although the floor escape hatch is present on the exterior of the kit it is absent from the interior. I used the dimensions from the exterior to mark out the position on the underside of the floor panel and cut out the hole with a compass cutter.



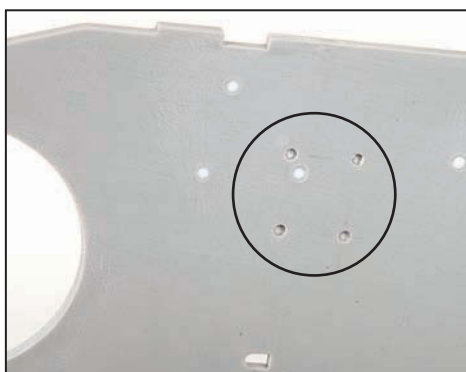
Two discs of different thickness plastic card were then cut to make the new hatch and glued into position.



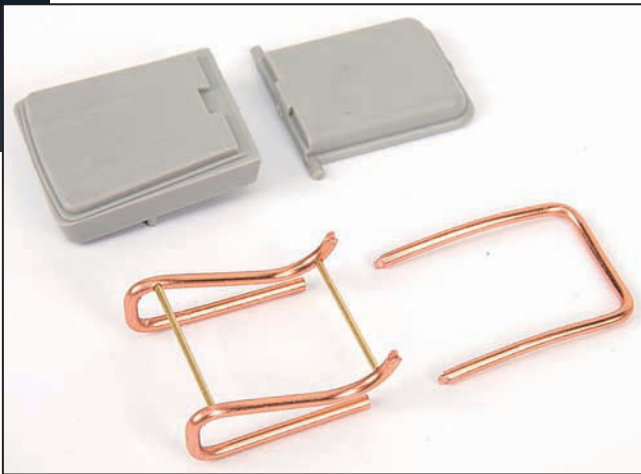
I made the four locking latches with their tapered handles and fitted them ensuring that they were in the locked position otherwise the hatch drops out!



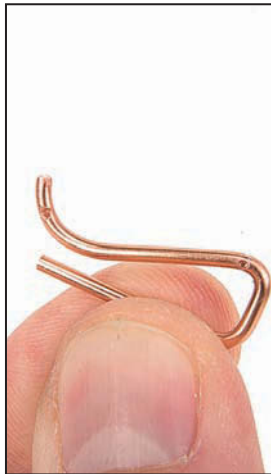
The central grab handle and the tiny directional arrow (which is a weld bead on the real hatch) were the final additions to complete the escape hatch.



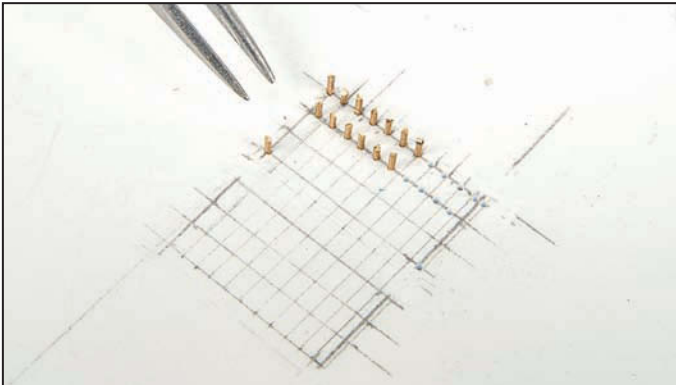
The screw heads on the real vehicle.



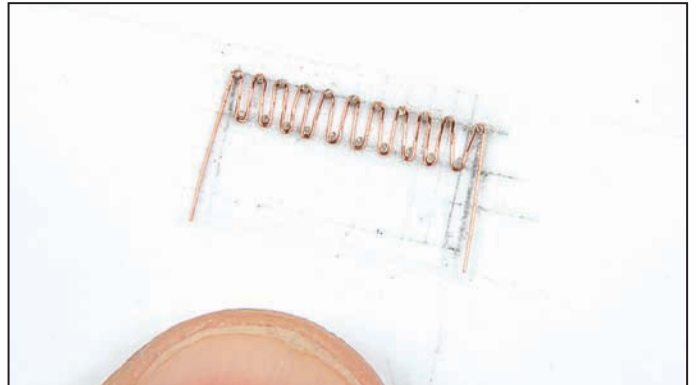
The Driver's seat in the kit bears very little resemblance to the real thing so I started to make my own, using the kit seat a size guide. The sprung design of the frame meant that I had to work in metal and I ordered some 1.5mm



copper wire. Careful bending was needed to create a matched pair of side frame and to bend the seat back to the correct width. I drilled two holes for the cross beams like the real seat and put notches into the jointed section.



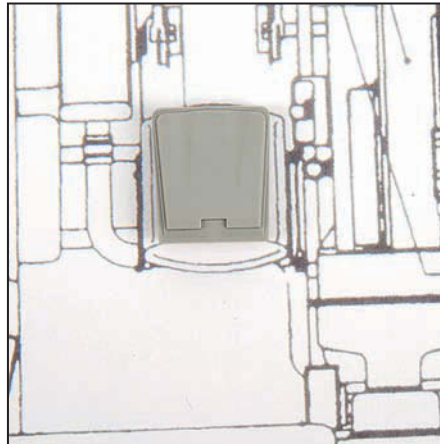
The seat springs on the seat back will be visible so I needed to create these. I decided to make a jig to allow me to bend the wire into the correct pattern. I had two tries at this because the pins I used initially were too thick.



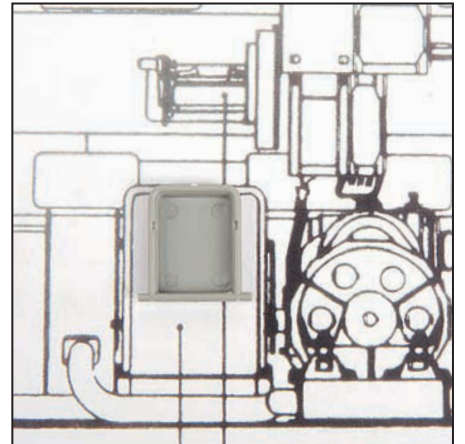
With thinner pins I was able to bend the wire into this shape which is half of one of the springs, with the two halves being soldered together to make the final spring.



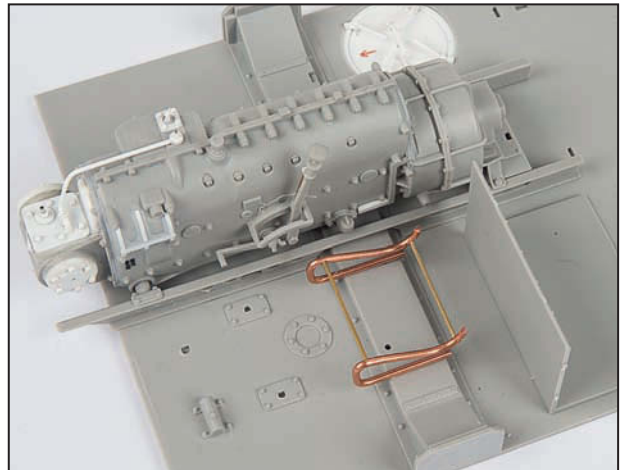
In preparation for adding the seat cushions I filled in the centre of the seat with plastic card. The completed seat springs are also in the picture although I was not completely happy with them.



At this point I was checking the dimensions of the seat frame on the hull floor and it became apparent that it was much wider than my seat. I enlarged some plans and discovered that The kit seat was significantly under scale!



Positioning my new seat in the hull and comparing it with a view of the seat frame on the real vehicle showed how narrow the seat was so I had no alternative but to start again and build a new one.



I was able to re-use the sides of the seat base because these matched the plans and you can see how much wider the new seat frame is!

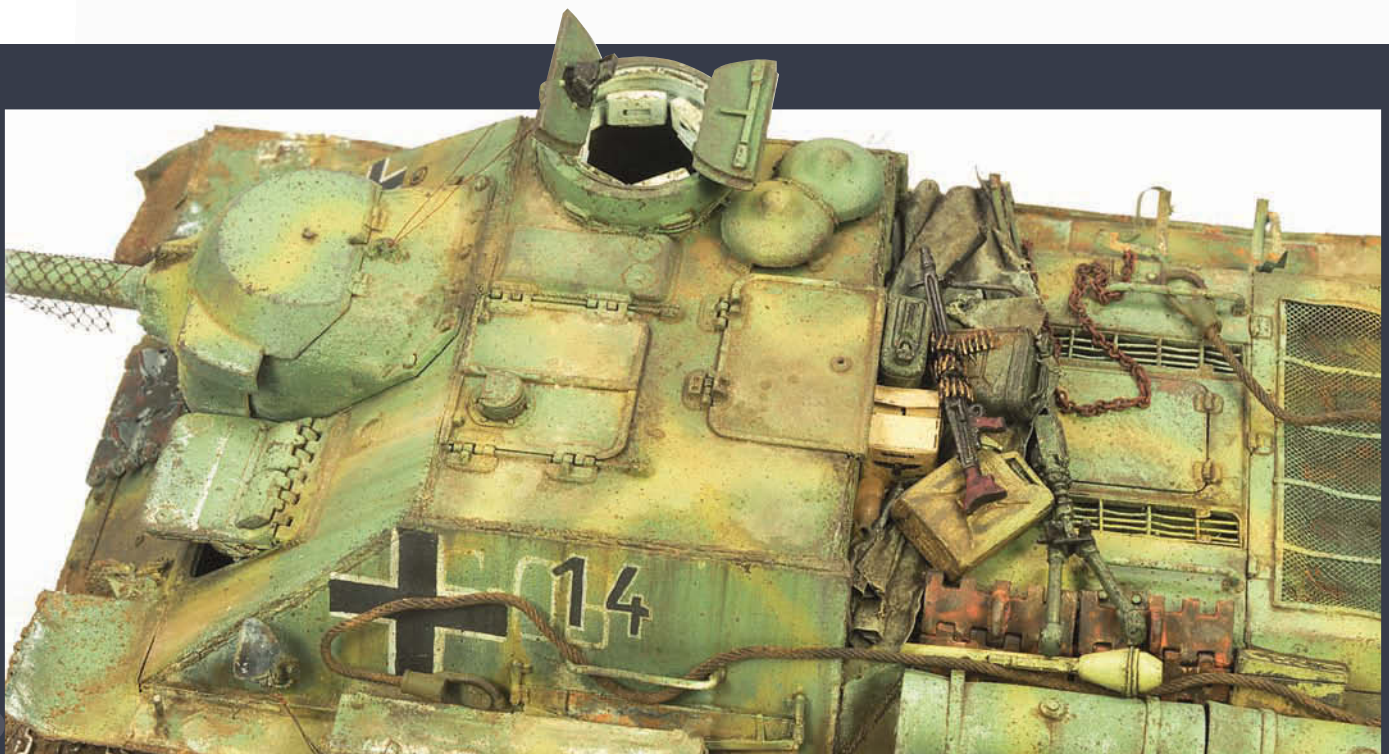
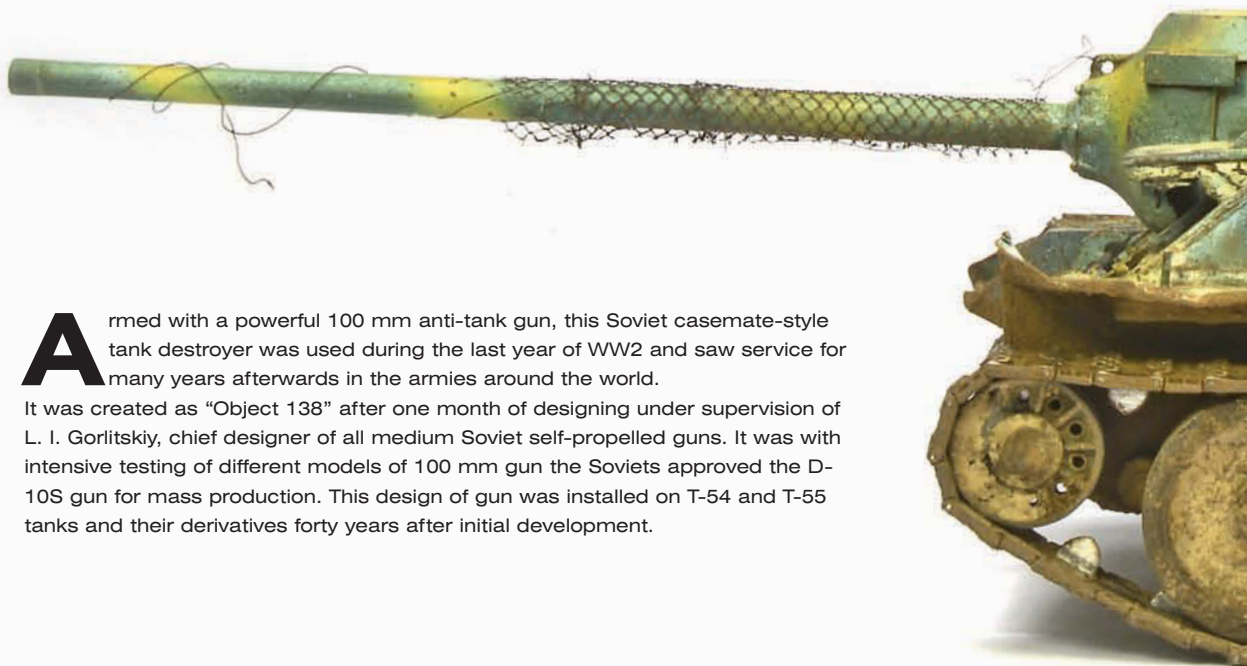
The project continues in the next issue

BEUTE-IFUL BEAST

SU-100 Beutepanzer modelled by
Łukasz Orczyc - Musiałek

Armed with a powerful 100 mm anti-tank gun, this Soviet casemate-style tank destroyer was used during the last year of WW2 and saw service for many years afterwards in the armies around the world.

It was created as "Object 138" after one month of designing under supervision of L. I. Gorlitskiy, chief designer of all medium Soviet self-propelled guns. It was with intensive testing of different models of 100 mm gun the Soviets approved the D-10S gun for mass production. This design of gun was installed on T-54 and T-55 tanks and their derivatives forty years after initial development.



The SU-100 was built at the Ural Heavy Machinery Factory, also called Uralmash, in Yekaterinburg. The vehicle quickly proved itself, able to penetrate 125 mm of vertical armour from a range of 2,000 metres and the sloped 85 mm front armour of the German Panther from 1,500 metres. It was one of the best self-propelled anti-tank guns of WW2.

Mass production began in September 1944. In comparison to its older brother, the SU-85, there were some improvements:

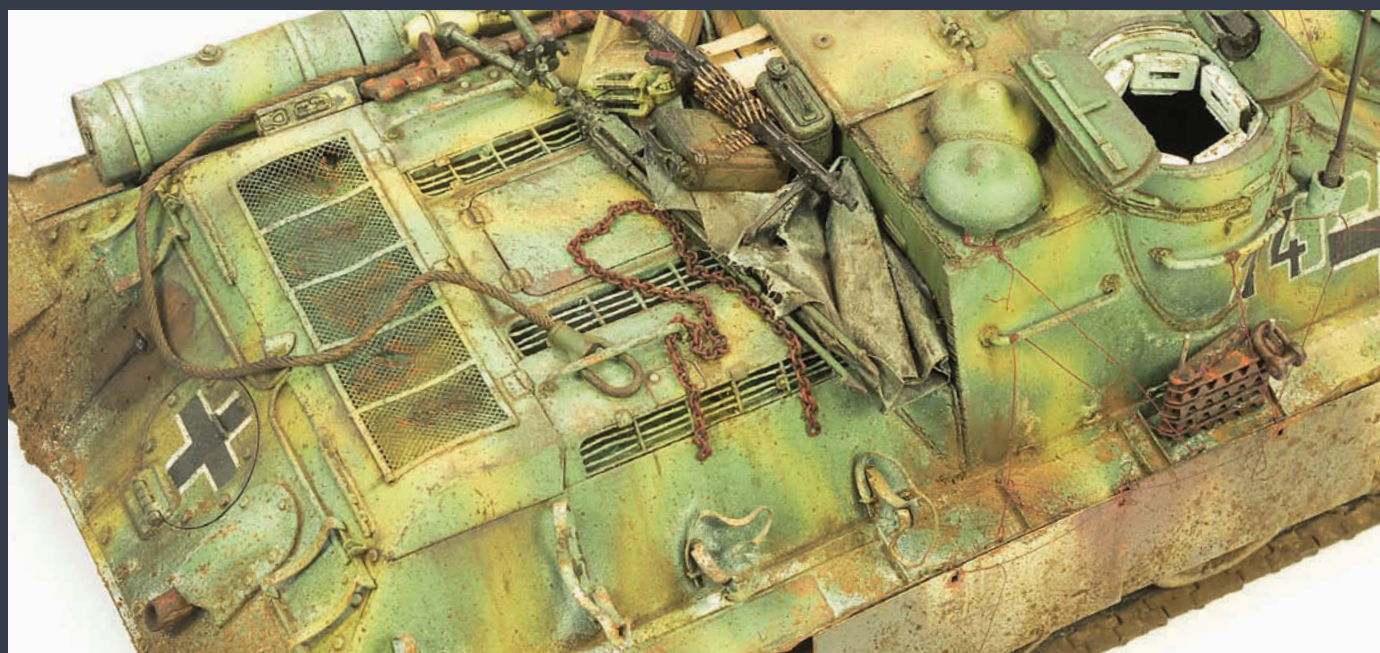
- the front armour increased from 45 to 75 mm;
- the commander's position was extended to a small turret on the right side of the hull which raised his effectiveness.
- for better ventilation two ventilator units were installed.

The SU-100 saw action during the last year of the war. They played very important roles during the fights in Hungary (near Lake Balaton) and in Berlin's capture.

By July 1945, 2,335 SU-100s had been built. They served a long time after the war in Red Army units and even until now some of them are in reserve stocks of the Russian Army.

The Warsaw Pact countries also used the SU-100 as did Egypt, Angola and Cuba. The SU-100 fought in 1956 during the Suez Crisis, in the Six-Day War and the Yom Kippur War (as a modified SU-100M variant to suit desert conditions). Yugoslavs also used them during the civil war and the SU-100 remains in use by the Vietnam People's Army, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China and the Korean People's Army Ground Force.

1:35



Two careful owners...

Because I had an almost finished kit, (assembled by a friend) the possibility of creating an interesting miniature left two options – a typical Soviet vehicle or captured German one.

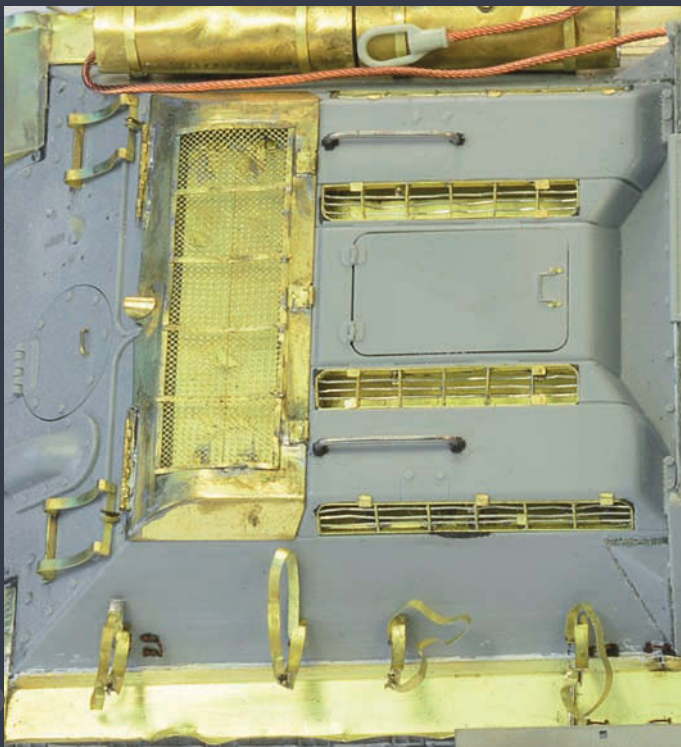


There are hundreds of pictures showing Russian vehicles but I could find only one picture of a German 'Beutepanzer' SU-100. It had been built by other modelers in the past, so of course so to be more creative I decide to modified my idea and combine two ideas in one. I wanted to paint it as the German vehicle but with an old and heavily

worn white winter camo and Soviet markings. On the top of this I planned to airbrush sandy stripes and German markings. The kit was mainly built by friend of mine and my work was to complete it and finish with paints and other weathering products. The main kit is the Dragon 6359 release

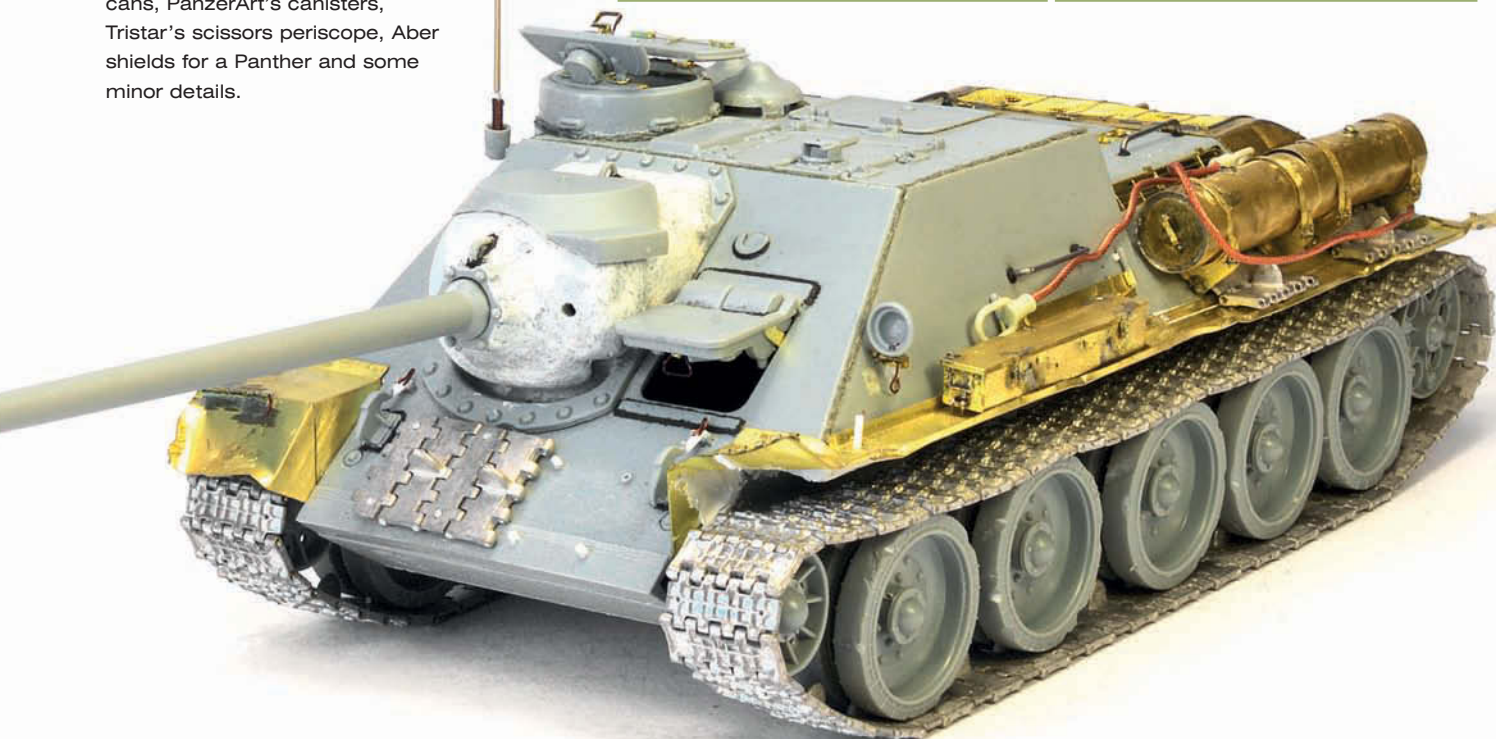
upgraded with Friulmodel tracks for the T-34/85 tank (ATL-09). Photoetch was from Aber 35078, the same as fenders 35A078 and the fuel tanks 35A46. The German look is emphasized the commander's antenna rod which is from RB Model (35A02) and some PE leftovers from my stash.

A simple home-made jig helps me with the assembly of Friul tracks and makes cutting the excess off the wire 'track pins' an easy task.



To complete the list I need to mention the ET Model Ice Cleats EA 35-084 and Eureka XXL towing cable ER-3528.

In the range of additional things you can find here are Tamiya's jerry cans, PanzerArt's canisters, Tristar's scissors periscope, Aber shields for a Panther and some minor details.



Creative colouring...

As mentioned, my intention was to paint the model as the captured SPG so first I prepared a list where I tried to reconstruct the "life" of the vehicle connected with the aspects of painting. I divided it into two parts – Soviet and German. The list created was my guide during this stage. The green

base was created over black primed surface using the AKI Soviet Camouflage set. The Colour Modulation was done mostly with the airbrush, but in the end I used a fine brush to highlight the smaller details.





Now I needed to create the chips and scratches. The Vallejo Model Colour 822 German Camo Black Brown was used with torn sponge and a 3/0 brush to create the first weathering marks.



The remainder of the winter camo accumulated in lower areas, especially near the bolts and fenders. AK's Heavy Chipping fluid helped in this effect and the result was perfect. Over the winter camo's white remains I painted small blocks of white but this time with brush to create some 'mapping' effects. They were mostly covered by the next stages but it was necessary to paint them.



For the wash I mixed dark and light AK washes and applied onto the model previously dampened with white spirit. I did it carefully in the places where details needed highlighting with the shadow. The excess was wiped out with brush soaked in thinner.



To unify the colours I sprayed one layer of grey filter. It equalized the volume of both camo colours giving a more realistic scale finish.



Some of the elements were tinted with oils – yellow, green and grey. I focused on the horizontal surfaces adding to the dimensional effect.





The rusty stains were mainly painted with light and dark shades of oils but here and there I used the Light Rust wash to change the final look of this effect.



Before the next 'German' stage I added mud on the lower parts of the kit as a mix of Dark Mud, plaster and Dark Earth pigment. The fenders were covered by the pure pigments strengthened with fixer.



Panzer paint

When the vehicle was captured its new crew tried to bring it more into line with a German look to minimize unwanted friendly fire. So a new camo with sand coloured stripes, Panther side shields and German radio 'star' antenna helped achieve this.



More washes were needed – "dirty" wash for yellow areas was the first, next I painted the Panzerwaffe markings – this time with stencils made from masking tape. When the markings were dry I went over the area with more chipping effects,



The Dark and Winter Streaking Grime fluids were some of the last effects applied on the model.

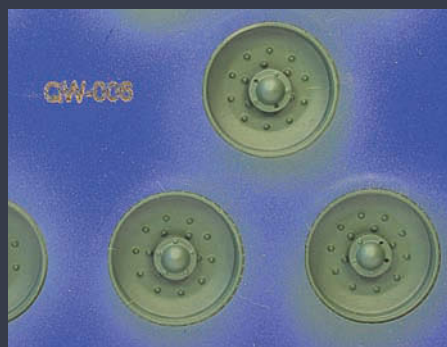


When they dried I focused on the last of the painting effects – Oil Paint Rendering was done with light and dark shades of grey and some small amounts of black.

As I mentioned above, the German crew standardized vehicles to their needs. The camo was sprayed directly to the surfaces without cleaning resulting in a semi-permanent finish (especially over mud) and very tired, layered look. Once the camo was done I focused on the tracks. First they were airbrushed with 'Rusty Track paint'. Then with the wheels

(painted using a 'Quick Wheels' mask) I sprayed a pre-dusting cloud of Vallejo 873 US Field Drab. This is very good shade to prepare the base for pigments and other weathering work. When the mud was dry I applied the oil stains (AK Engine Oil) and polished the tracks, idler and drive sprockets with a 6B pencil. The chassis was now ready and I put all

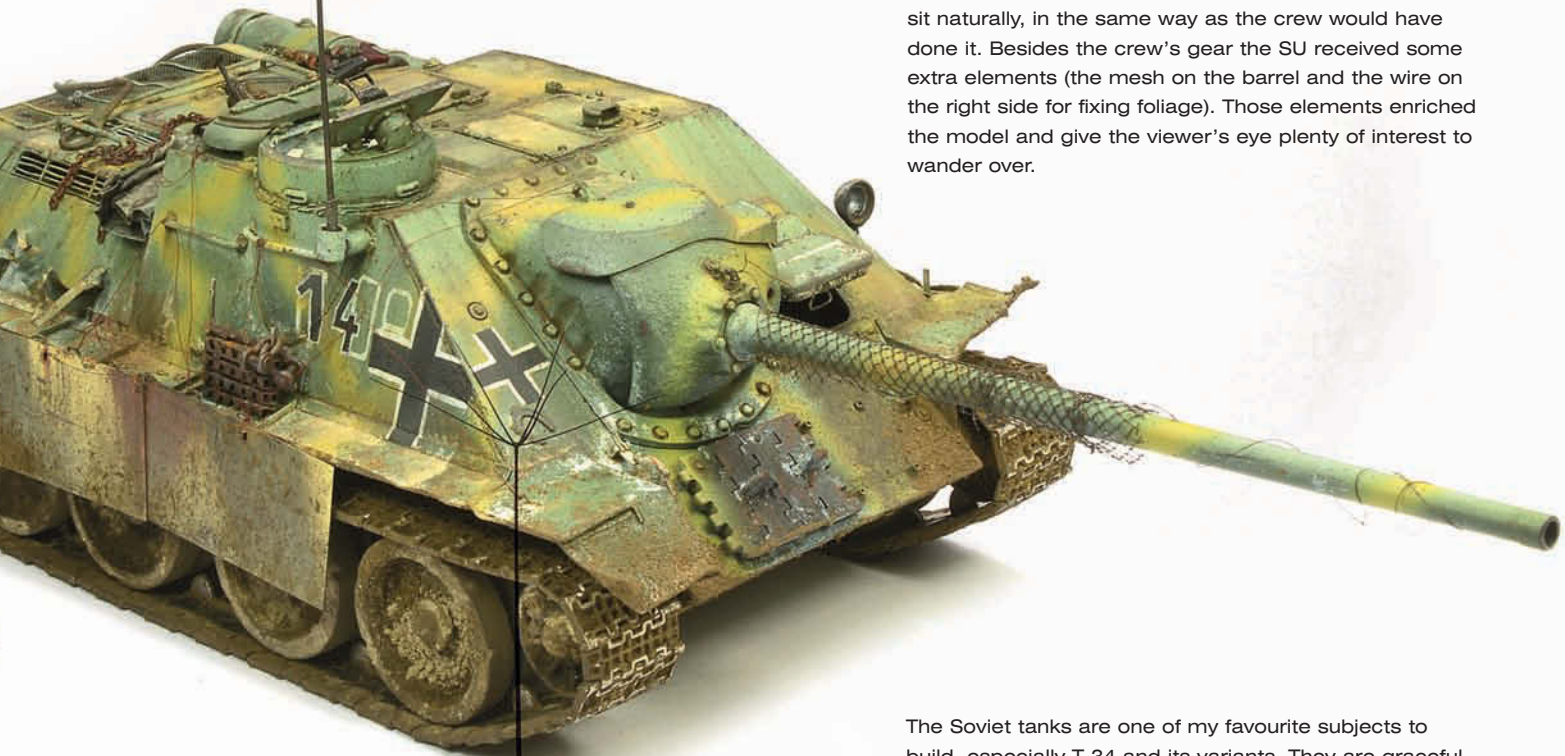
the elements together. I dusted top surfaces with European Earth pigment which is much lighter than Dark Earth. I finished with wet stains mixing Dark Brown wash with Engine Oil effect and Fuel Stains all thinned in different ratios. On the exhausts I showed traces of black soot and added a couple of finishing touches of rust.



BEUTE-IFUL



BEAST



Once the weathering was finished I focussed my attention on additional parts and stowage. I collected them during the building and painting stages and after everything was done I started to paint them and compose them on the model. As always, I tried to make sit naturally, in the same way as the crew would have done it. Besides the crew's gear the SU received some extra elements (the mesh on the barrel and the wire on the right side for fixing foliage). Those elements enriched the model and give the viewer's eye plenty of interest to wander over.



The Soviet tanks are one of my favourite subjects to build, especially T-34 and its variants. They are graceful objects and take well to modelling experiments resulting in eye-catching miniatures. Am I right? Of course!

Robert Doepp describes
his completely
scratchbuilt 1:10 model

Part Two

1:10



"Roll over Beethoven"

Panther commander of the Pz.Brig. 105, Stolberg, September 1944

The Base

I had already decided about the dimensions of the tank parts concentrating exclusively on the outside when I realised that I would have to cut the hatch elevating mechanism if I limited it to the height of the turret section. I thought about a circular hole cut in the base into which the turning handle could sit. Maybe this was what gave me the idea to add a sound system to my project because the necessary hole could serve as a sound conduit, too. The wooden plinth I ordered from a friend was therefore hollowed wide enough to take a small but stunningly powerful speaker, which was capable of being powered by my smart phone via Bluetooth.



Painting

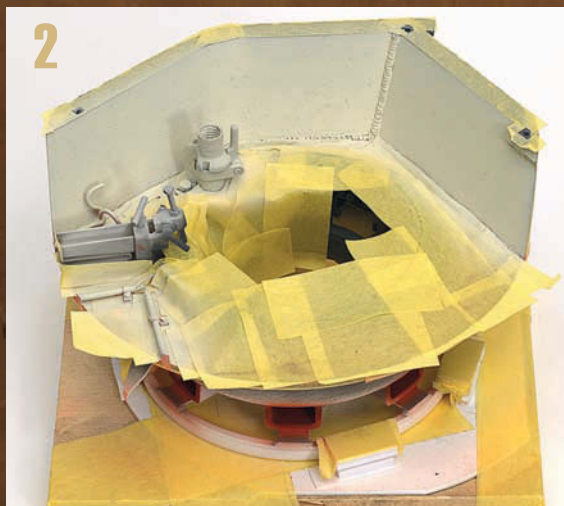
Consulting my references I chose a rarely seen coverall made from "Wehrmacht"-tarpaulin for the figure's uniform. I was looking for the maximum contrast between the camouflaged military items on the one hand and the shiny violin on the other. At the same time I was afraid that the pattern of the disc-shaped tank camouflage and the uniform of basically the same colours would end up in a visual chaos. Achieving the necessary tonal differences between figure and tank section was one of my main targets while painting and weathering.

Panther Cupola

With the already discussed October 1944-produced MAN "Panther" obviously the main components of the turrets interior were rather neatly brush painted after assembly - including all connective elements. Basically while the surrounding areas of the turret were painted in "Elfenbein" (ivory) the copula showed a unique extremely dark colour and the scissors periscope mount was "Sandgelb". Fortunately I managed to find other references as well, which showed different colouration. This encouraged me to

employ some artistic licence to avoid a toy-like appearance and give my model the rough look I was after. On my example the copula's interior was painted with some remaining "Panzergrau" prior to assembly leaving the connective elements in their raw condition. The "Elfenbein" colour was only liberally applied to the side armour plates and some details that were frequently handled while the roof remained Primer Red.

I started with spraying the cut edges with black and the copulas interior with dark grey. Both had to be carefully masked,



when I sprayed the roof plate with Primer Red (Pic 1). For the following steps the spray jobs got increasingly easy while more and more time-consuming masking became necessary (Pic 2). That was the price I had to pay for my decision to firmly fix most of the details with threaded screws!

Most likely the disc shaped camouflage pattern on the Panther was achieved by spraying an extra layer of "Sandgelb" over the pre-applied three colour scheme using a standardised rectangular mask. My friend Harry Steen was kind enough to upscale MXpressions great 1:35 self-adhesive and re-usable material for me,

which proved perfect for the job. (Pic 4&5) The rounded and complexly shaped copula is not the easiest area to be masked. But the original painters had to face the same problems I guess - even more so because they presumably used masks from a non-adhesive material of limited flexibility. Therefore I applied the disc-scheme in



several steps without any concern for regular transitions between the separately masked areas just like my historical role models probably did. Partial turret numbers were also masked and sprayed (Pic 6) and areas of red primer were applied to damaged zimmerit (Pic 7).

The weathering started with a careful washing from Warm Sepia Extra oil paints followed by several drybrushing runs with enamels (Pic 8). I was after a delicate effect to adapt the fresh new tank and at the same time limit the darkening effect. Afterwards the micro-painting started with Vandyke Brown oils heavily thinned with white spirit to mimic extensive fine scratches, which did not completely ruin the paint (Pic 9). In contrast to that for the following chipping (mimicking removed paint layers) only slightly linseed-oil diluted oils were used (Pic 10).

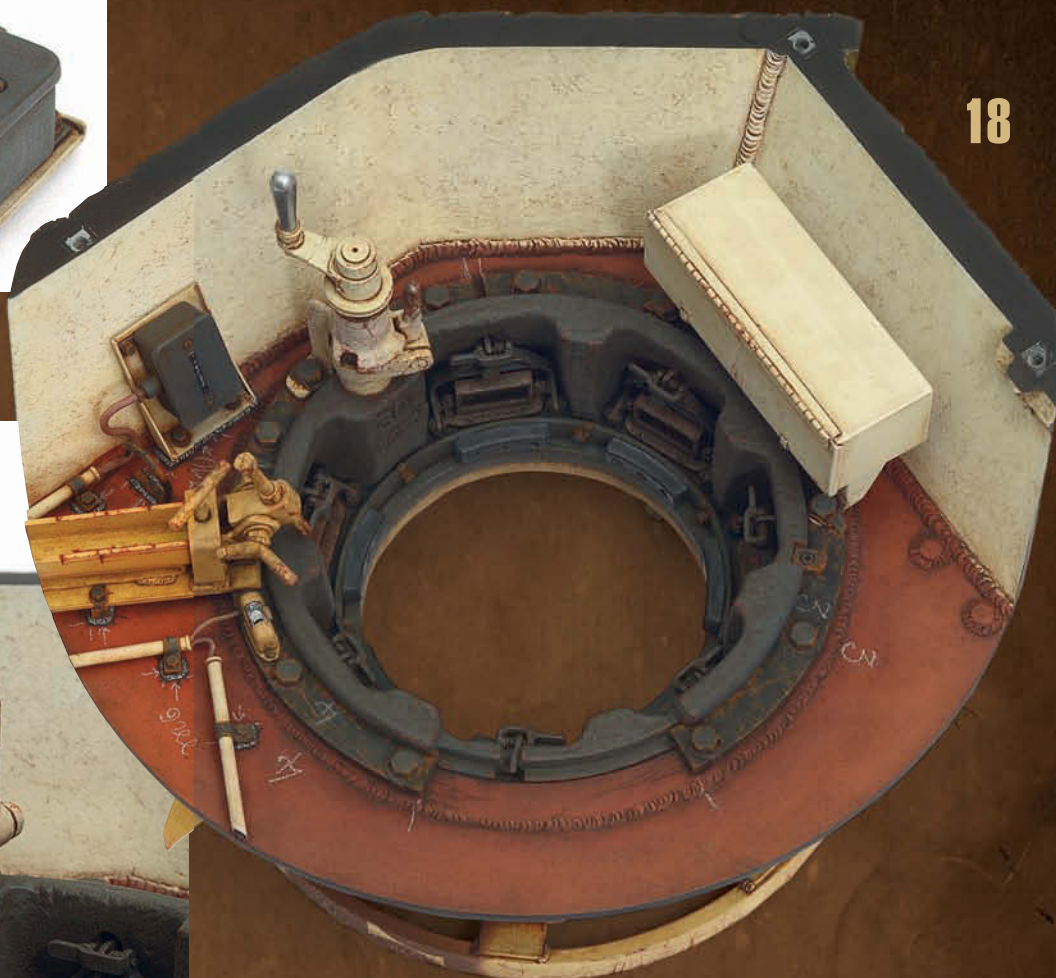
The unpainted metal parts on the tank interior were treated similarly with a variety of rusty coloured oils (Pic 11). Even though I learned from "Nurnberg's Panzer Factory" by MacDougall/Neely about MAN's high quality standards, at the same time the increasingly chaotic conditions of German wartime production become evident in the book caused by frequent Allied air raids.



19



18



20



21



22



Often supply parts were transported or stowed unprotected from the weather conditions. That was my justification for adding rust damage to the interior

In contrast the rain streaks on the outside were reduced to a minimum and almost exclusively based on 502 Abteilung Wash Brown (Pic 12) keeping in mind that newly painted parts would rarely show rust. The application of some dirt remains caused by

men climbing the tank with muddy boots finished the weathering (Pic 13). I used silver Printer's Ink to finish the cupola handle (Pic 14 & 15) and the vision blocks were painted individually with a brown bakelite finish (Pic 16). Finally the various components (Pic 17) could be assembled and Pictures 18 to 23 show the finished interior of the turret and the levels of detail possible in this scale.

23



24



25



26



27



28



29



30



31



Painting the Figure

Anybody who may have compared the violinist with any of my former figures may have noticed that the skin tone is significantly different. I was after a pale basic appearance, because I was afraid that the slightly chubby face would otherwise appear too healthy and unreservedly happy. I wanted it to show the irritating mix of happiness and exhaustion instead. In fact I had to change very little in my technique, besides keeping all shades rather light I only added a bit of blue to the darker shade and the lips and used none of the lighter (and reddish) shadow mixes to smooth the darkening around the eyes. Everything else was done in the manner I have become used to: wet-on-wet application of the prepared oil mixes starting with the darkest shade and going over to the increasingly lighter ones (Pics 24-32).



I was lucky to find a perfect reference for the figure's coverall at the German Militaria trader Weitze's online shop. It showed an extremely dark version of the splinter pattern. The lightest shade was a dirty looking varying brown rather than a sandy colour, fitting perfectly to my plan of creating a tonal contrast with the tank section. I decided to follow it as closely as possible (Pic 33).

The finished camouflage pattern received an outlining with white spirit diluted Vandyke Brown (P34), before the folds



were emphasized by a thin, non transparent layer of the same colour slightly diluted with linseed oil (Pic 35). Afterwards some highlighting was done with Naples Yellow Light in a similar manner. (Pic 36). Then followed staining with Mars Black, Raw Umber and an additional dusty mix was used to further enhance the light and shadow effect (Pic 37).

Final Assembly

I noticed rather late how difficult the final assembly would really be due to the composition: The outline of the tank section had to follow the circular shape of the base with a regular clearance of the turret roof while the hatch elevating system should reach into the pre-prepared hole in the base as well as the figure's outer left leg. In addition the figure touched the





copula at four different points and had to be firmly fixed to them because this was the only way to keep the rather heavy copula from sinking forward. Thus everything had to be fitted extremely exactly. I retrieved the rack I had used for construction and raised it with plastic material to glue the figure to the copula at first and "plugged" the figure in place via the awfully small hole from underneath. Using a single test-fit to the socket I carefully marked the position with Tamiya tape and finally fixed the model all in one go whilst frequently checking the correct clearance of the turret roof. The unavoidable fine gap was filled and blended. Believe me, I have lost some sweat getting everything correctly fitted!

Conclusion

This has been a truly rewarding project. It offered lots of new challenges to me. Casting my own periscopes from clear resin

and adding mirror foil to them, building a violin from scratch and adding the sound effects to the socket are only the most striking examples. The new large scale made a high level of detail and adequately detailed research necessary. For the latter I received great support from several friends and colleagues. I hope they will agree that the result was worth their efforts as to my mind it was worth the total of about 1100 hours I have spent on it!

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful for the support of (in alphabetical order): Eduard Eberl, Jairo Erdmann-Nassarre, Ron Hayes, Manuel Reinher, Per Sonnervik. I dedicate my work to my mother-in-law, Ulla Franz. Her beloved brother Günther took his violin with him to war - and never came back.



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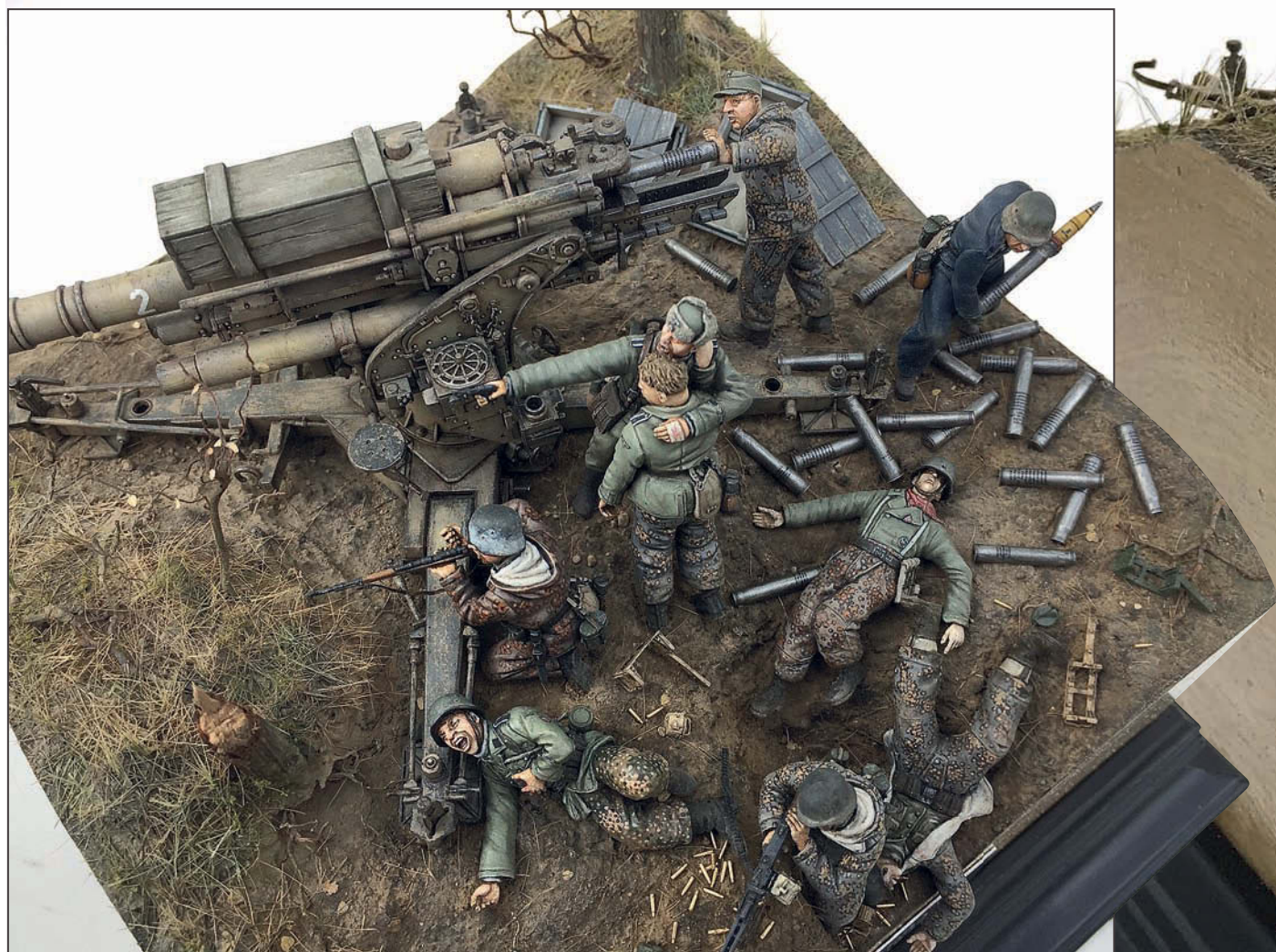
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When you are looking for inspiration to build, you shouldn't only look only at WW2 images but you can also consider WW1 or even Napoleonic era images or paintings and consider translating this into a WW2 subject. This is something that I have done before and also something that happened with this, my latest project. I saw a wonderful WW1 illustration of French soldiers in a kind of "last stand" where soldiers are shooting the last bullets they have and try to survive as the enemy approaches.

My vignette depicts SS.11 Flak Abteilung during their last stand at the Oder in March 45. The Soviet offensive of 1 March had pushed Nordland along with the rest of the depleted III SS Panzer Corps Before them in a desperate fighting withdrawal. Nordland and the rest of III SS Panzer Corps inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet forces, but

**MODELLED &
DESCRIBED BY
ROGER HURKMANS**



PURGATORY



by March 4th the division was falling back to Altdamm, the last defensive position East of the Oder itself. During the next two weeks Nordland grimly held on, inflicting and suffering heavy casualties. On March 19th the battered defenders fell back behind the Oder. The Danmark and Norge regiments had fought virtually to their last man. During this time unit strength was replenished with the addition some personnel from the Luftwaffe and Kriegsmarine.

I feel it is important for figures in a vignette or diorama to interact in some meaningful way, both with each other and with their surroundings. To achieve the desired poses, a variety of commercially figures were used, mainly from the old Warriors range. These were modified by the addition of replacement arms and legs (copper wire armatures, covered with magic-sculp sleeves and trousers). Alternative heads and hands were added from the Hornet range.





The evolution of one pair of figures from the composition showing the poses established with wire armatures. Hornet heads immediately bring life to the composition and then the limbs are fleshed out with Magic Sculpt. The completed figures with equipment and webbing added.

I used Vallejo acrylics for the camouflaged items of uniform, the skin tone and plain coloured items of clothing were painted with oil paints. I prefer the superior blending qualities of oil paints but this is very much a matter of personal choice. For the SS insignia, I used a selection of transfers from the Archer Fine Transfer range.

The flak 88 I have used is from Dragon. The quality of this kit is excellent and only needs a few little extra details like cables and chains. Painting was done by applying first a layer of the original panzergrey,

followed by a couple of thin coats of hair spray. Next came the application of the dunkelgelb, this was then very simply removed with the use of a brush and some warm water. I dipped the brush into the water before removing most of the excess water with a cloth and the brush was then gently rubbed onto the surface of the model focussing mostly on the gun carriage. The dunkelgelb will start to lift as the water dissolves the underlying hair spray. With the base colour in place it was time to move onto the weathering process and I began by applying pin washes of





heavily diluted Van Dyke Brown oil paint. Concentrating on areas such as clamps, weld seams etc. It was important to allow the paint to fade naturally around the details, recreating a subtle shadow appearance. Various parts were similarly treated to filters (very thin coats of diluted paint applied evenly with a flat brush). Highlights were added with the a mix of dunkelgelb and flesh colour. Small scratches were applied with diluted grey and dark brown Vallejo paints. Here and there a spot of dust was added simply recreated using MIG production Buff oil paint, again heavily diluted and added to different parts of the gun.



The 88mm shells I used are from RB and this set contains real turned brass cases. I found these too green so I needed to paint them in Dark Iron from Mr.Metal Color. The decals on the shells are from Archer (AR77022). The MG shells are also from RB Model and I used .50 Cal shells because I could not find another alternative to use, but they are slightly overscale! For the MG42 itself I used the K59 Production model as this kit comes with details on all 4 sides can be modelled in

open and closed positions and has a separate barrel. It is not cheap but in my opinion worth every penny! The round ammo drums and drum cases are from the same brand.

For forming the groundwork I always use blue styrofoam and I cut this to the desired shape and create the levels I needed. Once this was ready I applied decorators plaster filler and before this was completely dry I pressed all the figures, the

gun and 88mm shells into the surface to create a natural "sit". Once these are removed, the ground was treated with a mix of diluted wood glue and vallejo camo blackbrown, followed by fine sand, roots and scenic grass. The sand was permanently fixed with AK Gravel & Sand fixer(AK118). Finally some Plusmodel leaves where added and the groundwork weathered with several layers of strong diluted grey and dark brown tones of acrylic paint.



Finally all the figures, Flak and accessories were fixed to the base and a title plate produced by 'Name It' nameplates from the UK is placed in position.

I can't emphasize enough the importance when making a vignette with figures of telling a story. By trying to tell a story you

will generate interest and capture the attention of the viewer looking at your scene. Think hard about the composition and layout of the figures and try to work in levels, standing, kneeling and lying. This is where studying good illustrations or paintings can really help to establish a composition and to inspire your work.

The title "Purgatory" came up to me when I was thinking that soon all the figures on my vignette will go to the other sidefirst they will have to pass through purgatory.









M51

DAGEM ALEF

Andy Canning tweaks Tamiya's 'Sixty Seven Super Sherman

Ever since seeing Shep Paine's M51 build, in his iconic book, 'Modelling Tanks and Military Vehicles' from the early 80's.....this has been a model I've been looking forward to building.

OK, it's taken me a few years to get round to it, but now with an excellent starting point in Tamiya's recently released M51 kit, a little bit of additional detailing, and some great reference material, I was able to go ahead.



SabIngamartin has released a series of books on IDF vehicles, 'The Lion and Lioness of the Line' volumes proved to be very useful in this build with great period images, line drawings in 1/35th scale and colour plates. These books allowed me to settle on building an M51 that would have served in the Six Day war, in 1967, a 'DAGEM Alef' (initial batch).



1:35

Typical Tamiya

The kit builds as you would expect from a recent Tamiya release. There are no dramas to speak of. The running gear was wonderfully simple to put together, with a few mould seams to dispose off, on both the wheels / tyres and the suspension units themselves. I did elect to add a set of FRIULMODEL tracks. These are far from a cheap upgrade, but they do lend a 'certain something' to the model.

The cast texture on the transmission cover needed a little work, so Mr Surfacer and an old brush came in handy there. Other than that, the lower hull was very straight forward. Moving to the upper hull, I had already decided to use a little etch, for the tool holders, jerry can holders and spare wheel mounts, amongst other small details. The Voyager set, designed specifically for this kit came in very handy !

I soldered most of the etch where I could, as I find this tends to give a stronger final result.

Moving on to the turret, the only major piece of work there was to re-fabricate the dust cover, and retaining brackets, on the mantlet from Magic Sculp, a rubber tipped shaping pencil, and plastic strip.

That done, I made a new mount for the .50 Cal, and added various bit of etc detailing for the back up gun sight and .50 cal securing bracket.

The .50 cal itself came from K59.

The grab rail on the turret bustle extension was cleaned up and installed along with the re-worked smoke grenade dischargers. Various weld seams were added where appropriate, from the muzzle brake to the rear grab rail, again with Magic Sculp.

I also added some casting numbers, to the turret and commander's hatch with the

excellent Archer sets available. These were seated, and then sealed, with acrylic gloss varnish.

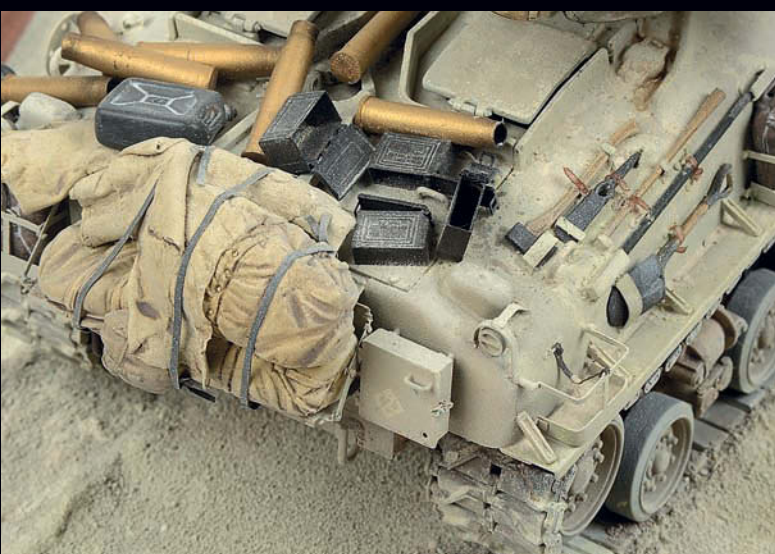
At this point, I decided that I wanted to depict a vehicle with a searchlight mounted. I raided my old DRAGON Premium Edition kit, but when I measured the searchlight, and compared it to the scale drawings it was far too small. So I scratchbuilt one, using plasticard, and Magic Sculp (for the rear curved portion). The problem came with the reflector, as I didn't want to depict a searchlight with a dust cover on. After a little bit of research on the Internet, and I saw that another modeller had used a reflector from a MINI Mag Lite, along with the clear lens so I did the same and after a little trimming, it worked perfectly.





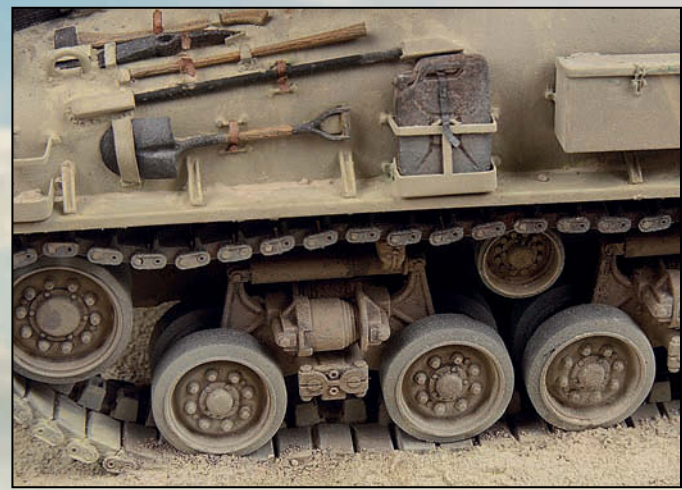
Stowage is a mixture of BLAST baggage from various sets and Magic Sculp, with the items on the rear deck consisting of resin 105mm shell casings, jerry cans and etched ammo boxes.

The rear deck is littered as such with loose items as I wanted to depict a tank that had been in a reasonably sustained firing position.



Base colours

The model was painted, as I always do with Tamiya acrylics. Easy to use, and in my experience, when thinned with alcohol, they spray very well. I mixed up several different shades of a base colour. Subsequent shades were lightened with buff and white, or adding more yellow or grey. I used darker shades low down and lighter shades higher up, finishing on the turret roof. Various details were picked out in different colours, and specific items such as the searchlight where a completely different colour. A variety of Echelon decals were then applied, and the model sealed with Vallejo satin varnish. The tracks were cleaned of release agent, and then bathed in a blacking solution overnight.



Dusty desert

These tanks were completed very close to actually seeing combat, so weathering with regards to chips etc was kept minimal. I used a variety of filters and washes from MIG to bring out the details, and add a little colour interest, then the dust.

Every photo I saw....these tanks were covered in dust, especially the ones serving in Sinai. I was able to replicate this to a degree using the much vaunted hairspray method, and various shades and batches of LIFECOLOR's dust shades. I used 3 layers, always with a slightly different tone, again to try and highlight the impression of an accumulation of muck.

I then mixed a wash of oil paints. Buff and Titanium White. It was more a tinted thinner initially, to see how it would sit and show when dry and it worked well. I then mixed in a couple of batches of pigments, in light shades, to add a texture change. The tracks were weathered in the same manner as the tank itself, to tie everything in.

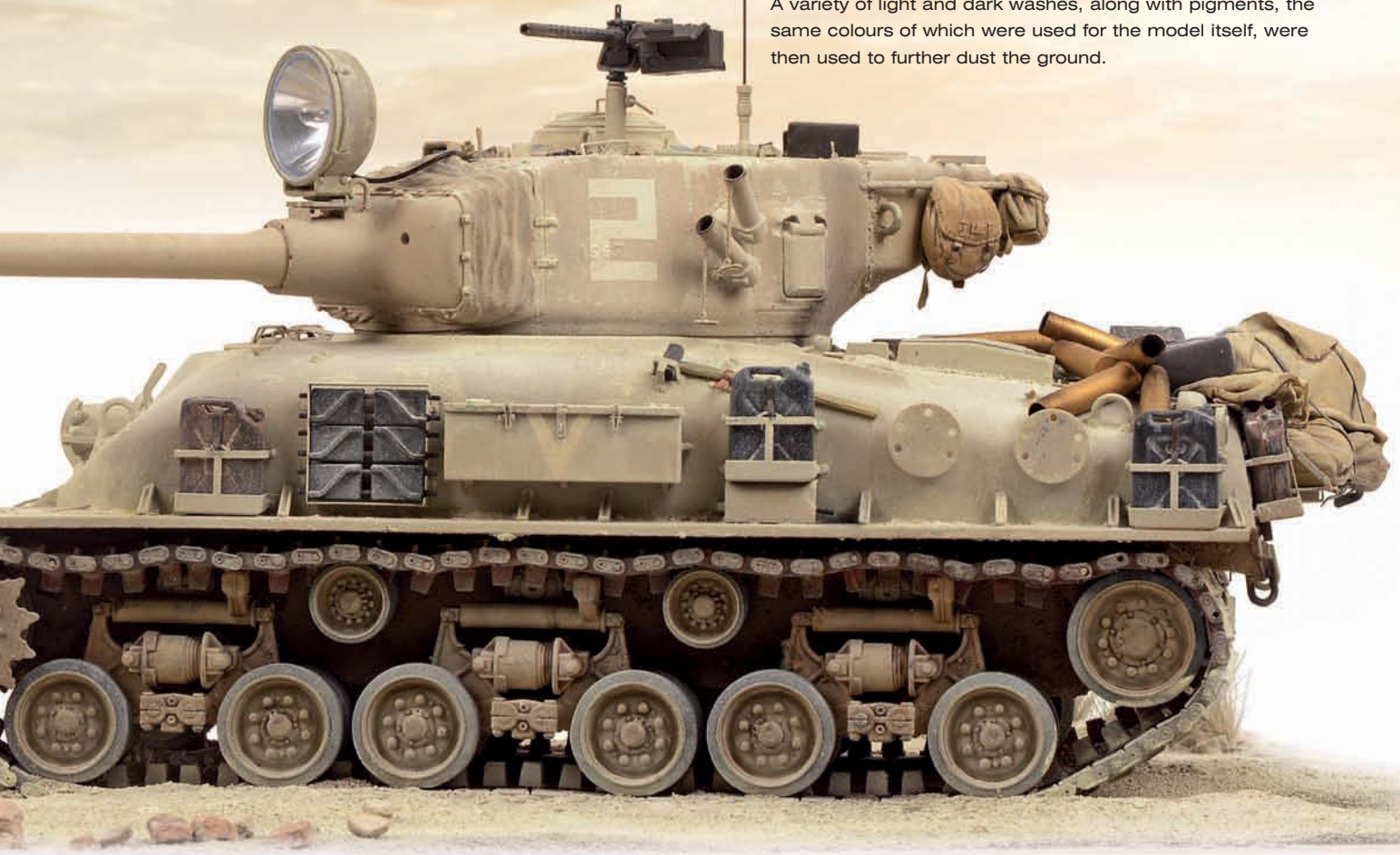


When I was 'dusting' I kept the travelled areas of the M51 pretty clear of any dust, whereas the crevices etc where the dust would gather naturally, were left alone, and dusty! Some localised pigments, and oil paints were used to show some wear and dirt where appropriate, and finally a matt varnish to seal everything up.



Ground level

I masked of the area I wanted to cover, and started with a thin Das Pronto, layer. This was marked where I wanted the model to sit, and then the area below the tracks scooped out, so the model would convey a sense of weight, when looked at. A coating of diluted white glue and chinchilla sand / dust along with some cat litter 'rocks' were then sprinkled and left overnight to dry. After removing the excess sand and dust, I sprayed the sand a variety of tones, picked out the rocks in different shades, and added some sparse grass / vegetation. A variety of light and dark washes, along with pigments, the same colours of which were used for the model itself, were then used to further dust the ground.

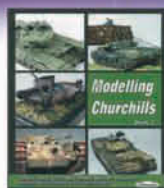


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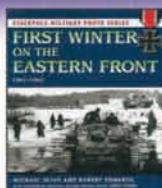
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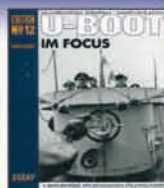
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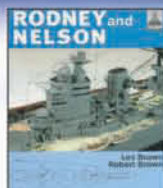
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Lavishly illustrated, this book contains looks at Leclerc prototypes and pre-production, Leclerc's firepower, mobility and much more.
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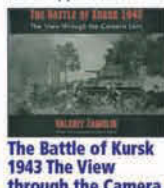
Shipcraft 23 Rodney and Nelson L Brown
In-depth information for the modeller on how to build and modify available kits. Includes a history of the class and highlights differences between ships.
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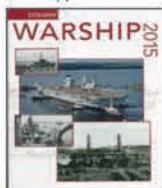
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Full colour modelling book that covers giant suits of armour, piloted by humans - Science Fiction Mechas. Brings together different styles and views.
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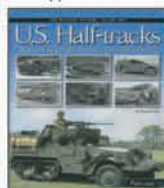
The Battle of Kursk 1943 The View through the Camera Lens V Zamulin
A unique photo study containing more than 500 images that captures images of the fighting, accompanied by expert commentary on them. It contains a collection of the best and at the same time little-known work of the leading Soviet war correspondents.
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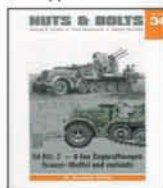
Stalin's Favorite The Combat History of the 2nd Guards Tank Army from Kursk to Berlin Volume 1 January 1943-June 1944 I Nebolsin
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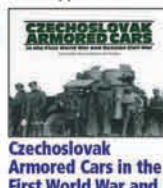
The Military Machine, Volume One U.S. Half-tracks. The development and deployment of the U.S. Army's half-track vehicles D Doyle
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Monographs Special Edition in 3D (3) Messerschmitt Bf 109 Early Versions M Murawski
This monograph devoted to the early versions of the Bf 109 looks at origins and development with coverage of changes made in its first prototypes. B&W photos, colour profiles.
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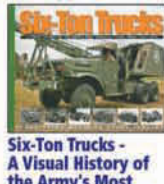
Nuts & Bolts 34 Sd.Kfz. 7 - 8 ton Zugkraftwagen Krauss-Maffai and variants V Branigan
The author continues his coverage of German halftracks with the halftrack 8 tonne Sd.Kfz. 7. Lavishly illustrated throughout with 334 B&W photos, 80 blueprints and profiles.
SB 184pp **£25.99**



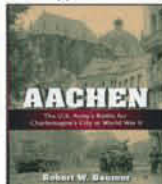
Czechoslovak Armored Cars in the First World War and Russian Civil War T Jakl
This lavishly illustrated book covers the variety of armoured cars used by Czech forces during World War I, and the Russian Civil War, as well as its post-World War II use in Italy and Slovakia. Contains details of armoured car design and manufacturers.
HB 176pp **£33.50**



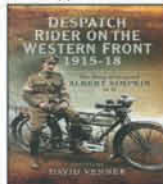
Der Tiger Vol.1 Schwere Panzer Abteiler 501 V Ruff
This first volume covers s.Pz.Abt.501, who saw combat in Tunisia, Russia, Poland and Germany and includes tanks and crews in the field, under maintenance, and after action. Arranged by timeline, place and sequence. 150 black and white photos and line drawings.
HB 128pp **£24.99**



Six-Ton Trucks - A Visual History of the Army's Most Versatile Heavy Truck 1941-1950 D Doyle
With brief introduction, the book includes coverage of the Prime Mover, K-56 Radar Van, Bridge Erector, Crane Carrier, Tanker, Fire Truck and the Truck Tractor in period photos plus more.
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Aachen The U.S. Army's Battle for Charlemagne's City in WWII R Baumer
The dramatic story of the American battle for Aachen, the first city on German soil to fall to the Allies in WWII and chronicles the six weeks of hard combat.
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Despatch Rider on the Western Front 1915-18 The Diary of Albert Simpkin MM D Venner
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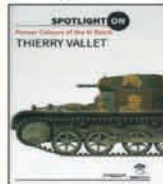
Haynes Enthusiasts Manual VW Kubelwagen/Schwimmwagen C McNab
VW Type 82 Kubelwagen (1940-45)/VW Type 128/166 Schwimmwagen (1942-44). Examines the development of these utility vehicles.
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Armor Photo History #4 British Cruiser Tank A13 Mk.I Mk.II P Brown
History of the design, development and operational use of the A13 Mk.I and Mk.II. Content includes a photo gallery, line drawings and colour profiles.
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Static Model Manual Step by Step (10) Extreme Weathering Building and Painting V Lanna
Step by step colour guide to extreme weathering techniques, featuring specifically Semovente da 75/19 Stricken 1:35 and much more.
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Spotlight on Panzer Colours of the III Reich T Vallet
This study looks at the evolution of German Panzer colours and camouflage markings from pre-war to the end of WWII. Each colour profile includes some explanatory text.
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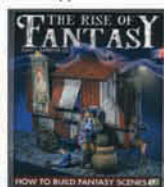
M103 Heavy Tank A Visual History of America's Only Operational Heavy Tank 1950-1970 D Doyle
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SB 120pp **£19.99**



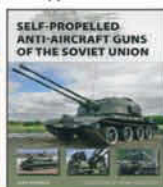
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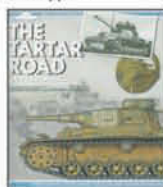
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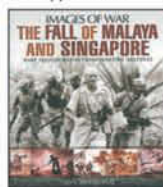
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WM407 Polskie pociagi pancerne 1939 J Ledwoch
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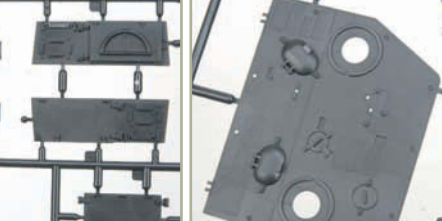
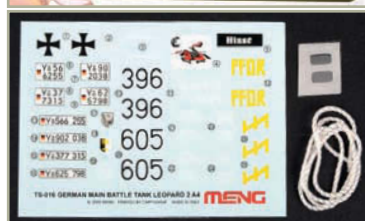
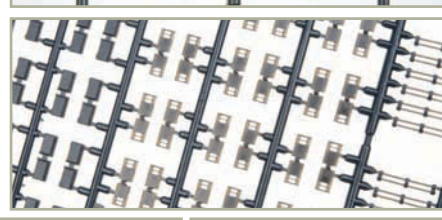
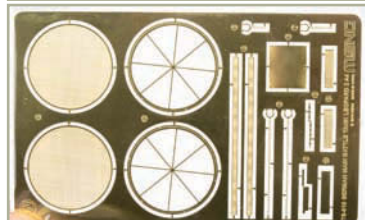
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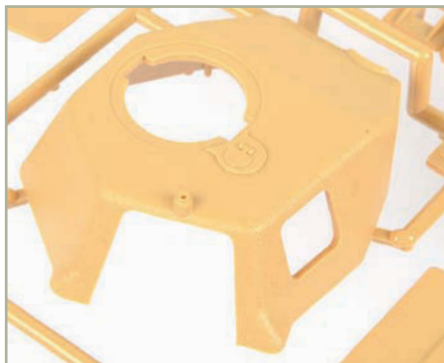
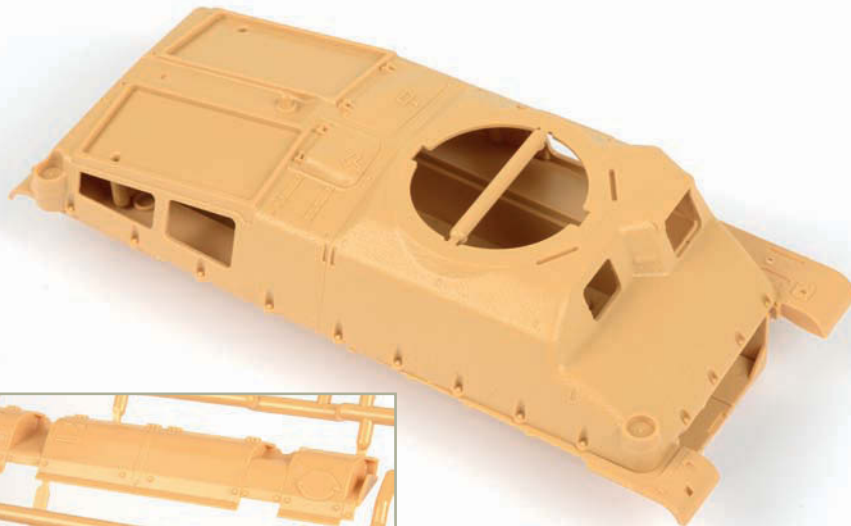
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MENG 1:35 Leopard 2A4

This is one that I have been really looking forward to! There has been a requirement for a good kit of the 2A4 as the existing offerings all have various flaws so let's see what we have. First impressions are great with the usual crisp mouldings in a dark green plastic and there is a stunning hull tub moulding with all the weld bead detail around the suspension mounts replicated and the bolt holes for the drive sprocket mounts all moulded. A complete top hull is designed to drop onto this and with the side walls moulded in place all the weld detail is replicated along the edge of the hull. Small grab handles have been moulded solid in the same manner as the Tamiya 2A5/6 kits. The engine decks are separate parts and closer examination of the parts shows the inside of the rear plate is detailed along with other hints in the engine bay that there may be an engine power pack in the pipeline? The suspension like on the other Leopard kits is workable and the new roadwheels and idlers come with bolt detail on their inside faces too, although the polycap fitting on the roadwheel has compromised the shape its a price I am happy to pay for the flexibility the polycaps give in building and painting. Optional rear hull floor stiffeners are provided with a clever jig to align them. Tracks are a new three piece design which have been designed to be assembled in groups of six and then trimmed off the runners

and will push together. All the periscopes are clear moulded and another great feature is the gun sight window which has the lenses for the EMES moulded on the inside face. A photoetched fret provides mesh grilles for the engine air intake covers and the fans as well as the two vent boxes on the back of the hull. Chains and rubber mantlet plugs are provided but sadly no chains for the smoke grenade covers. The skirt armour comes with a choice of two designs depending on your 2A4 production batch. Moving to the turret and there is some clever interleaved panelling used to assemble the boxy turret. The two part gun barrel I found assembled well with minimal clean up required for a good finish. Turret hatches have the option to model them open or closed and the ring mount MG3 is familiar from the earlier Meng Leopards. The kit also includes the option of a combat simulation system to mount above the mantlet and comes with a wiring cable for the system. The kit has a choice of Bundeswehr markings for four different vehicles but the kit can easily be adapted to model a long list of other countries who operate the 2A4. Rather than give you my overall opinion of the kit I thought we should quote Leopard expert and author of the Leopard Trilogy, Michael Shackleton: "Overall, this 2A4 is a quantum leap over any other Leopard 2 kit from any other manufacturer."



Tamiya 1:35 Somua S35

It's hard to think of a more anticipated WWII plastic armour kit than the French Somua. At last here's a modern tooling of one of the prettiest French tanks. Tamiya's trademark packaging houses their familiar sand-coloured sprues perfectly moulded. Two identical sprues of running gear parts, one sprue of turret parts and a very nice figure, a sprue of the big chunks (hull tub, upper hull etc) and one of the suspension and covers. We also have a clear sprue, poly caps and a length of black chain. A surprise from Tamiya are ready de-sprued and bagged track links with a click together construction. A welcome colour booklet offers the three colour profiles included on the decal sheet, some reference shots and historic information. Our initial enthusiasm for kit was quashed

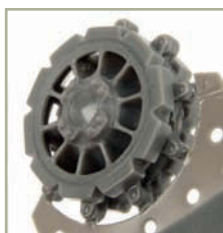
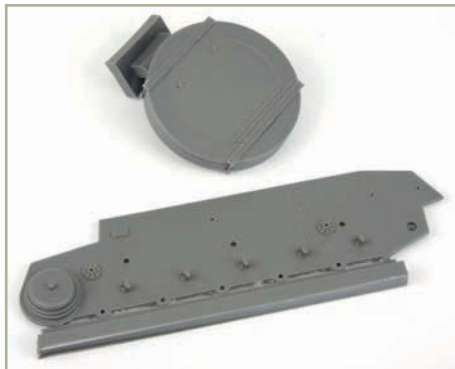
a little when the prominent area around the driver's side vision hatch has some soft and missing detail. The cast texture, although superbly moulded, looks a touch exaggerated, when compared to the smooth finish of the real vehicle and the small lifting hooks around the turret cupola are absent. All are correctable and indeed Blast models has already released a set to upgrade the kit. Tamiya are to be commended on releasing the S35 and it's reported to build with ease to Tamiya's highest of standards with the overall character and curves captured, the stylish Somua is sure to be very popular. Thanks Tamiya, a great choice.



AMMO of Mig Jimenez

Keeping bang up to date with their acrylic colour sets there's two bundles of six colours covering vehicles involved in the present Ukraine conflict. All of the colours are ready to airbrush or brush in 17ml squeezable pipette type bottles with agitator ball to aid with mixing. A.MIG 7125 Ukraine ATO Colours contains the distinctive yellow and blue used by the Ukrainian army to give instant recognition, three green tones and a red-brown overspray camo are

also included. A.MIG 7126 is six colours as seen on Novorossiya force's vehicles. These packs come with colour profiles and suggested vehicles. Another new set added to the catalogue is A.MIG 7141, German Standard Colours 1944-45. A 'Smart Set' of three favourites: RAL 7028 Dunkelgelb, RAL 6011 Resedagrun and RAL 8017 Schokobraun. Keep up to date with AMMO's fast pace of new releases at www.migjimenez.com.



Brach Models 1:35 Pz.Kpfw DW1, DW2 & Emplaced Turret

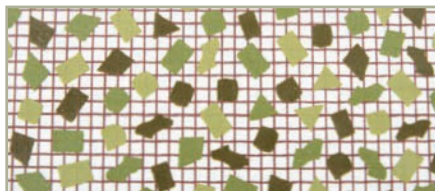
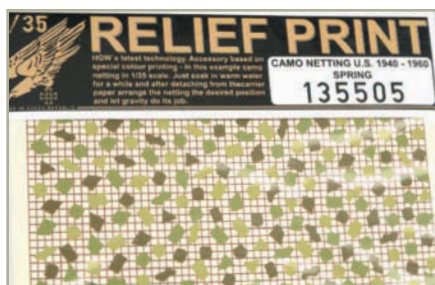
The 'Durchbruchswagen', (breakthrough vehicle) to my knowledge was the precursor to the Tiger, built and tested in the late 1930s, these two vehicles from Italy's Brach Model appear to be the initial vehicles judging by the arrangement of the wheels with later prototypes having the more Tiger-like interleaved road wheels. The DW1 kit represents the basic test vehicle with weights instead of an operational turret, DW2 has the Panzer IV style turret and is a very good looking tank indeed.

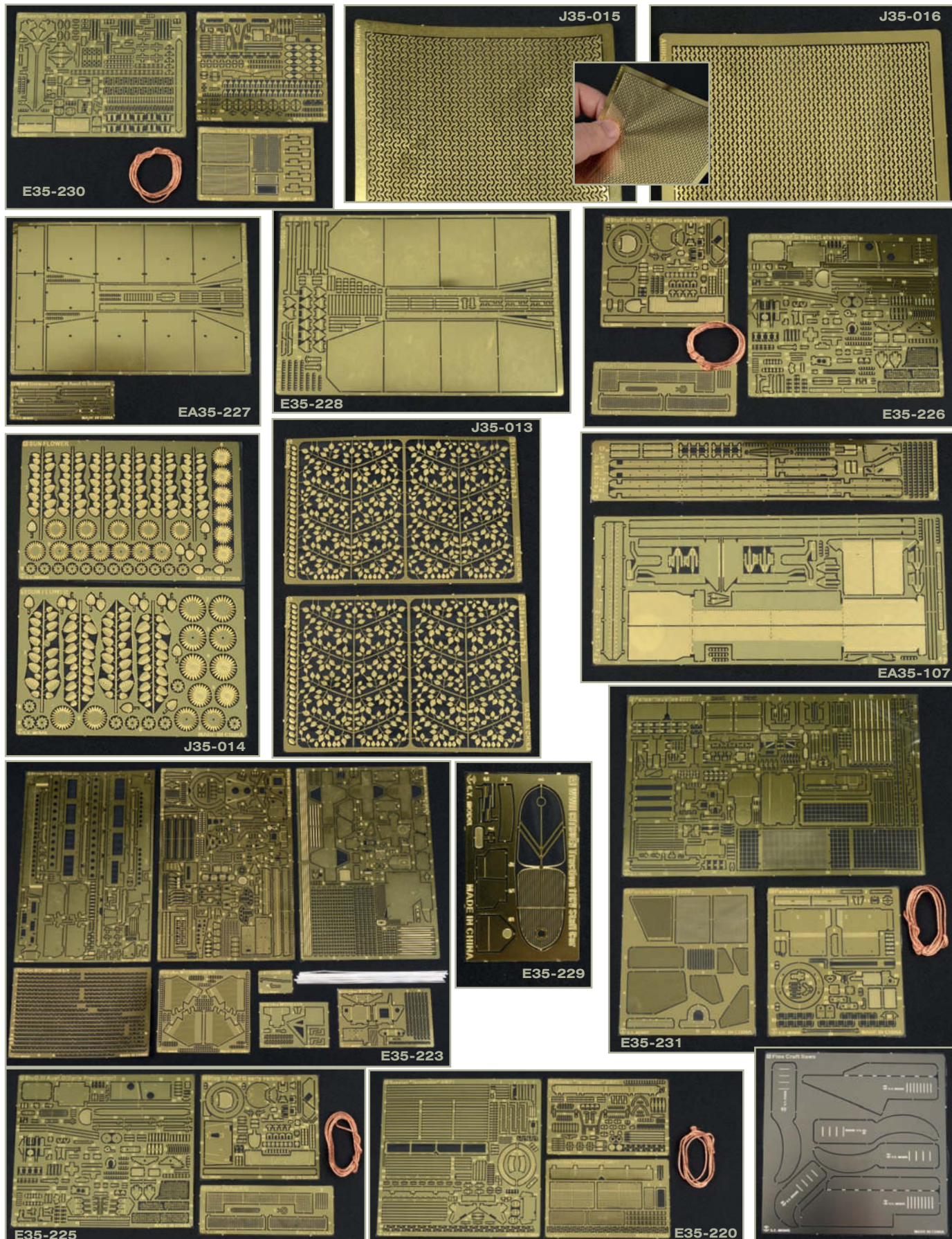
We've often admired Brach kits and their diverse subject choice but they seem somehow to just keep getting better. This latest batch of releases really have us stunned with the quality, without doubt some of the best resin moulding you will ever see, some of which (take the drive sprocket for example) still has us wondering how it is physically possible. With the prototype nature of the vehicles there's little in the way of external fittings and the design

of the kit parts promise a simple assembly, as with all resin kits the cleaning-up of the casting blocks will be the most time consuming process. A large bottom plate accepts the lower hull sides with our samples showing no distortion and superb fine detail, the rest of the build is as you'd expect a simple injection moulded kit to assemble. The turret is also offered as a fixed defence position kit with a section of groundwork, the Editor unearthed some shots of this set-up in Normandy and would make a really nice little vignette, perhaps with an inquisitive G.I.? We really can't praise the quality of these kits enough, although we've already got too many projects in progress it will be hard to resist starting one of these beauties! Our thanks to the very talented Luciano Brach, www.brachmodel.it has details of their range and you can like their Facebook page to keep up to date.

HGW Models

Highly regarded by serious aircraft modellers for their innovative and high quality upgrades, it's good news that HGW are looking at armour subjects. 135505 is a relief printed camo netting (quoted as being 1940- 1960 period) at around 230 x 130mm it's large enough to cover a gun emplacement for example. The real beauty of the printing process is that only the netting and camo remain once the backing sheet (or parts of) are soaked in warm water allowing a realistic drape or fold on a vehicle. For more details and secure shopping visit www.hgwmodels.cz

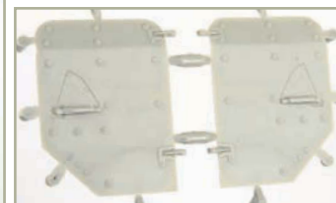
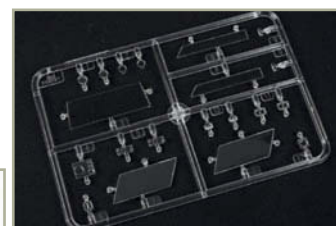
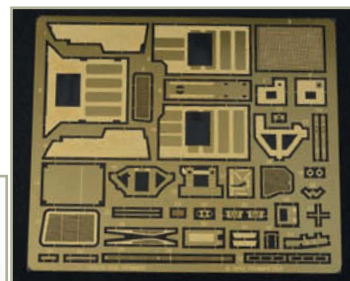




E.T. Model

Once again we have a lot to fit in from ET and we begin with E35-230 which is designed for the Trumpeter TOS-1A Rocket Launcher with numerous fittings to detail the tank chassis, mesh grilles and small fittings for the missile 'box'. Two great additions now with J35-015&016 which are NATO pattern camo nets, etched from thin sheet to allow them to be easily bent and folded they should look excellent. Stug Ills next with five sets for the Stug fan. There are two sets of Schurzen, early and late style E35-227 & E35-228. E35-107 is a set of fenders for the Ausf G and then there are 2 basic detail sets for early and late E35-225 & E35-226. These have cupola details, tool clasps and fittings, grilles, stowage frames, copper tow rope and a photoetched tool to assist in making waffle pattern zimmerit. E35-231 is designed to upgrade Meng's Panzerhaubitze 2000 with

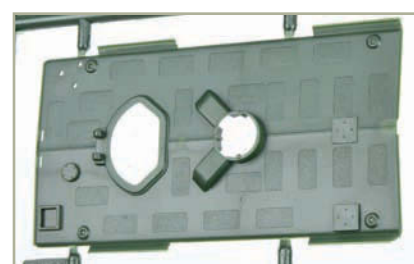
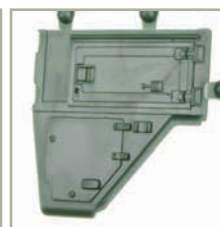
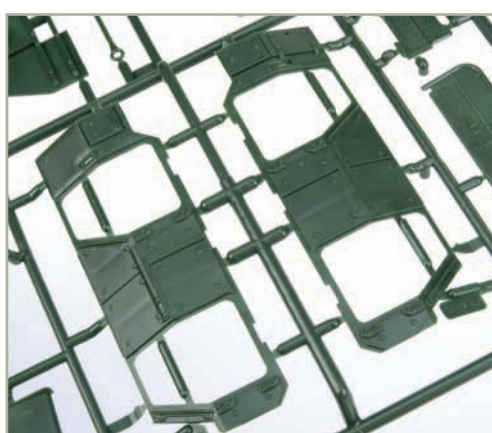
tool clasps, track grouser rack, grilles, some impressive interlocking steps for the rear hatches, ISAF turret bin baskets, cupola gun rings and ring mount ammo boxes. Set E35-223 is a big 7 fret set to upgrade the AFV Club M1132 Stryker ESV. With new tool stowage racks, door latches, light fittings, mirrors, gun mount enhancements and complete replacement stowage racks its not a set for the faint-hearted but does promise spectacular results! E35-220 is designed to the Meng BMPT 'Terminator' and this includes new slatted side skirts, engine deck grilles, including the fearsomely complex raised grille arrangement as well as small grab handle/tool clasp details. E35-229 is a small set for the Tamiya Citroen 11CV and finally there are two sets of vegetation, sunflowers J35 -014 and leaves J35-013 and a useful set of saw blades with integral handles.



Trumpeter 1:35 Fennek LGS, German version

After their release of the Dutch version of the Fennek (a joint design project between Dutch and German companies) Trumpeter grace us with the German version, LGS (Leichter Gepanzerter Spähwagen). Popping the lid off the box I was immediately surprised what a large vehicle this is and what a lot of parts, all of which are very crisply moulded in pale grey. The amount of parts is going to produce one very detailed model, full interior is offered (no engine though) and detailed multi-part suspension, separate wishbones look like you could articulate the suspension in a fixed position should you wish. The lower body shell is a superb piece of moulding and should provide an excellent platform to add the upper section, the lower body is completed with all of the interior as is the roof, both coming

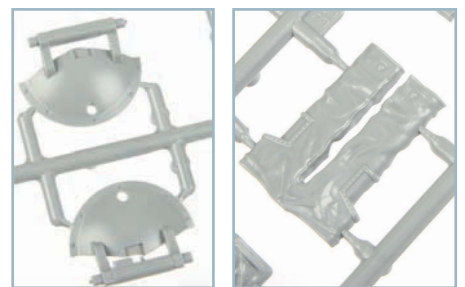
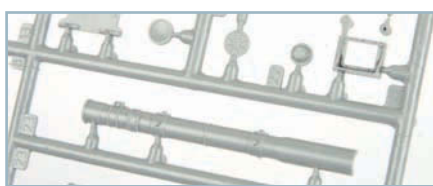
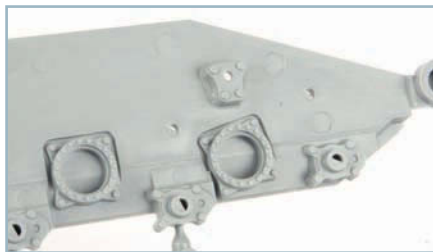
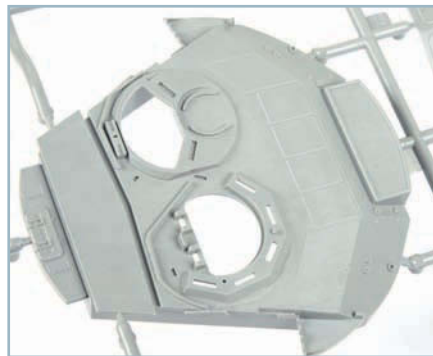
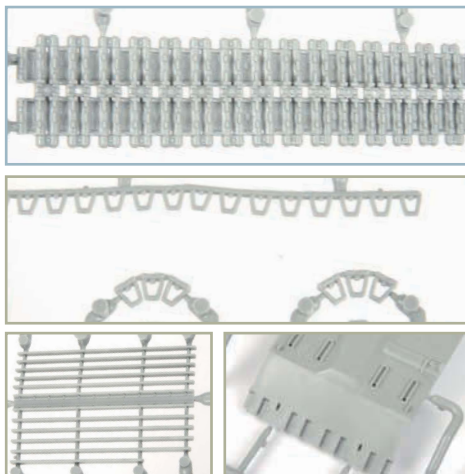
together near the end of assembly which should make painting a pleasure. Main doors and hatches can all be opened to show off your work, you may want to add seat belts as at first glance they seem to be omitted? A choice of MG or grenade launcher mounts are offered and the extending observation 'eye' can be shown operating in an extended position. Trumpeter include a pretty large (by kit standards) photoetched fret to enhance the finesse even further and the tyres, always a major feature on a vehicle like this, are highly detailed in vinyl. Colour paint guides are another quality touch to a great looking kit we'd love to get started...so many kits...so little time...



Revell 1:35 Dingo 2 GE A3.3 PatSi

As if Trumpeter's Fennek wasn't enough to excite fans of modern German vehicles, how about a new version of the Dingo too? This is a great looking mine-protected, multi task vehicle and a welcome addition to Revell's range of modern German vehicles, this A3.3 version appears very similar to Revell's release of a few years back, perhaps the hard cargo cover the main difference. This is a packed box of sprues, I'm not a big fan of the dark green styrene Revell use but that said, it's immediately noticeable that the moulding is well produced with some very impressive detail in places. The body and chassis are multi-plate, multi-part designs and are sure to need some careful alignment, all of these parts though add up to a very comprehensively detailed kit complete with engine and posable

doors. Vinyl tyres are usable but there's some lovely resin aftermarket wheels to tempt us (DEF Model spring to mind) and Revell kits are so well priced a few aftermarket upgrades never break the bank (Eduard do an interior and exterior photoetch set for the previous version), many will be looking to replace the weapon (.50 cal or 40mm grenade launcher) as both suffer soft detail. With this being quite an involved build with close to 250 parts it's good to see a more user-friendly approach to the instruction plans than sometimes appear in Revell's kits with good clear drawings and sensible steps in construction. Certainly one of Revell's better vehicle kits. Revell model kits are available from all good toy and model retailers. For details visit www.revell.de/en



Zvezda 1:35 'Terminator' BMPT

Having built Meng's Terminator a few issues back I was interested to see how Zvezda would tackle this complex vehicle. As expected Zvezda have taken their usual 'no nonsense' approach with basic corrugated inner box housing a rack of grey sprues and basic black and white instruction sheet. There's no photoetch included, but there is a small clear sprue of vision blocks and optics with some thread provided for the tow cable. The most obvious differences from Meng's release are the tracks which are supplied in a link-and-length style with separate guide horns, all very nicely detailed, as is the lower hull with excellent weld detail to the side plates, the down-side to this being the lower hull is designed in

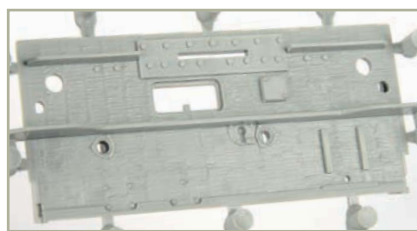
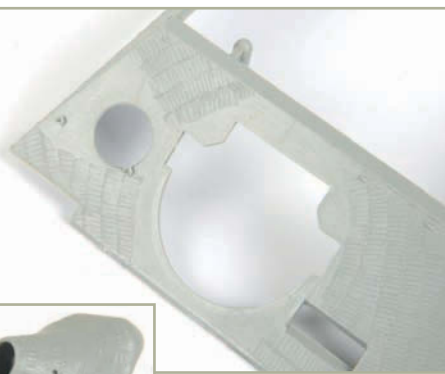
separate plates but not a big issue if the fit is good. Separate trailing arms provide a good basis for a well detailed suspension, most of which gets covered by the side armour, again, detail is sharp there too. Terminator turrets are a kit in themselves but time and patience will pay off with lots of intricate detail on show. Some careful drilling will be required of the gun barrel's muzzles as they're disappointingly moulded solid There's some very nice finesse throughout this complex kit, typical of the Zvezda of new with some of this kit sharing parts of course with their recently new-tooled T-90. Nothing fancy from Zvezda but a sound looking kit and good value.



Master Box

Ukraine's Master Box produce some of the nicest and most imaginative sets of figures on the market providing instant vignettes and dioramas covering some unique subjects. The box-art is amongst the best in the business and provides excellent paint reference. MB35182 'Volkssturm, ammunition to the Frontline' is a pair of youthful figures depicting a defence of Berlin scenario at the war's end. The superbly sculpted figures are complete with bike-wheeled cart and a selection of weapons, fine photoetched parts of the wheel spokes and details make the cart a really delicate little subject with great vignette potential. MB35170 'Man Down' depicts a tense scene of modern U.S. troops, one wounded on the ground being helped by a comrade,

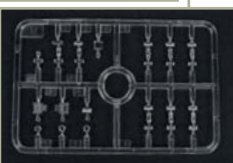
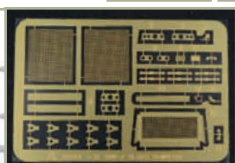
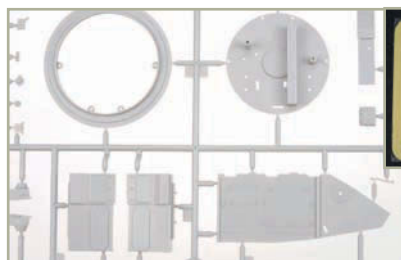
one manning the .50 cal (will suit Humvee or any wheeled vehicle with a turret) and one calling assistance on the vehicle's telephone. More fine sculpting and moulding with brilliant facial expressions and delicately rendered body armour and weapons. MB35180 is sure to please anyone with a modern British project planned, figures are pretty thin on the ground but here's another cracking set of five figures designed to work with a Land Rover but would easily adapt to other vehicles. Two standing infantry are loaded with full packs and GPMG whilst three carry just side arms, two being seated. MB's figures are as good as any in plastic and highly recommended. www.mbltd.info



Dragon 1:35 Jagdpanzer IV L/48 July 1944 Production with Zimmerit

Dragon's Jagdpanzer rides again with another of their very specific boxings with Zimmerit coating. With the ready moulded Zimmerit and single piece DS tracks, some of the more fussy panzer-purists may shun this kit in favour of adding their own Zimmerit paste and individual link track (yes I do mean our esteemed Editor) but for me, this turns what could be a very lengthy project into something do-able in a reasonable length of time. Assured, this is a more involved build than Tamiya's recent L/70 version of the low-slung hunter, but unless you're fresh back to the hobby you'll no doubt know the high regard that the Dragon new generation Panzer IVs are held in. Pulling the familiar grey sprues from the box we're reminded that the reputation is for good reason, the detail and moulding is just superb and a quick look at

the sprue diagram shows the good news that only around half the parts are used for this particular version. Personally I'm always impressed at Dragon's handling of Zimmerit, agreed, nothing better a well applied putty application for the ultimate in finesse but under the paint and weathering their moulded-on paste will satisfy the majority of modellers. More mouthwatering moulding is on show with the usual top and bottom of the mudguards and the most exquisite single piece barrel with fully detailed thread shown by the removal of the muzzle brake (done by the crews to limit the dust kicked-up when firing if I'm not mistaken). So Dragon continue to exploit their existing tooling to the full but we should still be grateful for such superb out-of-the-box builds.



Trumpeter 1:35 BMP-2 IFV

We are pleased to offer an insight to what Trumpeter have been releasing lately with some samples direct from China. One vehicle that immediately caught my attention was the Boyevaya Mashina Pekhoty, (infantry combat vehicle). These robust Russian vehicles seem to have been in every TV news bulletin for the last thirty years showing the effective use of its 30mm auto-cannon against ground and air targets along with an ATGM missile launcher and its role as a troop carrier it's not hard to see why it's so popular with so many nations Worldwide. The kit is well packaged, a nest of mid-grey sprues sit neatly alongside the lower and upper hull with photoetched parts, rubber-band tracks and a nice fold-out sheet of colour profiles (in collaboration with AMMO) with around a dozen options offered on the decal sheet from 1980s conflicts right up to date with Syrian and Ukrainian schemes. Moulding and detail is first rate which we have come to expect from new toolings, and as I have pretty much finished assembling the kit I can vouch for the excellent fit and ease of construction. I haven't used the interior parts but the detail offered is excellent (only missing the engine)

should you be looking to leave all of the hatches open or model a KO'd vehicle. Turret interior is also complete and much larger than the BMP-1. A couple of steps to take your time with are aligning the road wheels and the idler sprockets which have fiddley photoetched inserts. Sadly the tracks are poor and the individual links of the BMP1 kit are replaced by rubber bands. I'm not a 'track snob' and will happily use these if they're good enough, but I found these just too short. I tried stretching them overnight and with hot water but the material seems to have too much memory and springs back to where it was, look at our pictures of the distortion between the width of the drive sprocket. Aftermarket sets are available, resin versions from Masterclub and metal links from Spade Ace which we've ordered for our builds, both look very nice indeed. Trumpeter include excellent individual link tracks with their BMP-1, maybe they'll produce a separate set for this kit? Look out for a full feature in a future issue, beautiful kit but look to budget for some tracks.



AK4020



AK4110



AK4060



AK3050



AK4080



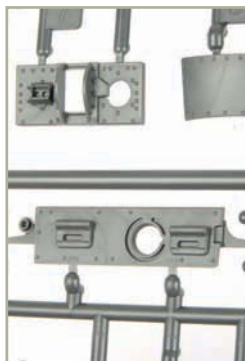
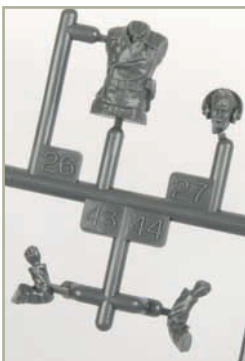
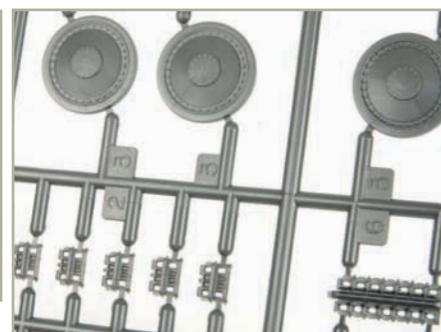
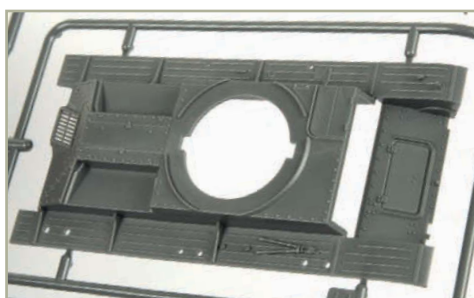
AK4120

AK Interactive

We have new additions to the AK Interactive acrylic (and enamel) paint range and we start with AK4020 which is a three colour set of Australian disruptive pattern camouflage colours, Olive drab, tan and black. Australian colours are not normally catered for so this is good to see. Next is another triple colour set of enamel based washes of rusty colours AK4110. Similarly set AK4060 provides a choice of three dust and dirt deposit enamel washes. These are pre-thinned washes ready to apply (after some vigorous shaking to mix them) and have the advantage of colour consistency across a project.

Moving to a six colour set now and AK3050 is from the AK Figure range and designed to make life easy when painting SS winter pattern camouflage with base shade and colours for the camouflage spots provided so that you just have to focus on painting all those tiny coloured dots! AK4080 is a welcome set to tie in with some of the recent kit releases and provides colours for modern French armour. This again is another neglected area for modellers so a dedicated set is very welcome.

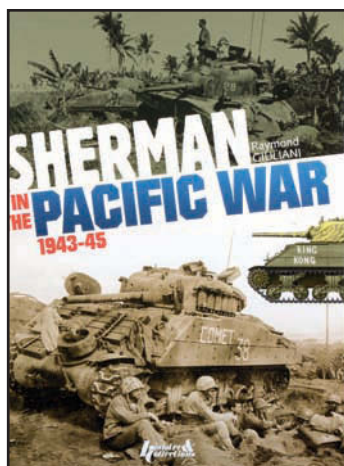
The final release is a set of burnt vehicle pigments, four pigments and a bottle of fixer. The set has avoided the bright orange rust shades and focuses instead on dark brown and red shades along with an off white for replicating ash. It makes a great starting point for anyone embarking on a knocked out vehicle project. Full details of these and the rest of the range at www.ak-interactive.com



Tamiya 1:48 Pz.Kpfw. 38(t) Ausf.

Tamiya reverse the process of Germany's adaptation of the solid little Czech tank, we've already had the Marders and Hetzer in 1:48 and now we can go back to where they started with the 38(t). Sharing some parts with these earlier releases there's a whole new sprue of upper hull and turret parts delightfully moulded in true Tamiya fashion. The characteristic cooling fins on the MGs and prominent rivets are superbly done, the figure is a nice inclusion and unlike the Somua the hatch has internal detail. The link and length tracks work well in this scale, suspension is simplified but

the large road wheels hide most of this anyway. As most of this surprisingly large range from Tamiya, we're offered a nice simple 'weekend' type build or if you want to go mad with the inevitable photoetch from the aftermarket guys it's a great base kit to work on. Tamiya still insist on including metal weights in some of these quarter scale kits (and must have good reason although it escapes us) I'm sure most of us would rather see a few photoetched parts instead. Our thanks as always to The Hobby Company, Tamiya's UK distributor.



Sherman in the Pacific War 1943-45

Raymond Giuliani

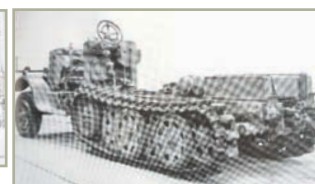
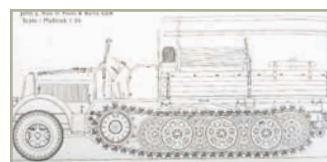
Published by Histoire and Collections

Hardback format, 144 pages

ISBN 9782 352502838

www.histoireetcollections.com

I'm always surprised at how few Pacific Shermans seem to get built, they make fantastic projects with their abundance of field modifications, wading snorkels and the like. Maybe that will change when you thumb through this new release from H&C! This is a fantastic modelling reference packed full of large format period images, colour plates and basic maps outlining the use of the Sherman on every island in chronological order through the campaign. The bias is certainly towards the images with some nicely detailed captions and a brief overview of the fighting on each island. A lot of the photos are of the more well known Shermans, 'King Kong', 'COED' and 'Tokyo Express' to name a few, many pictures I've seen before but not as large as this. The grouping of the various views alongside colour profiles makes for great reference. Throughout there's focus on the field mods with close-up shots and explanations of the lengths the crews went to protecting against infantry attack. An excellent book with high quality presentation.



Sd.Kfz. 7 - 8 ton Zugkraftwagen Krauss-Maffei and variants.

Dr. Nicolaus Hettler

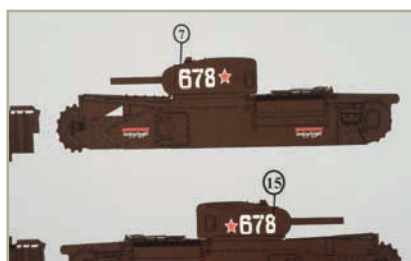
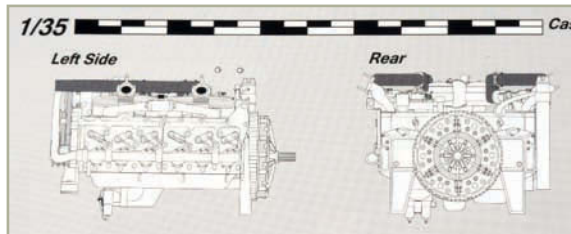
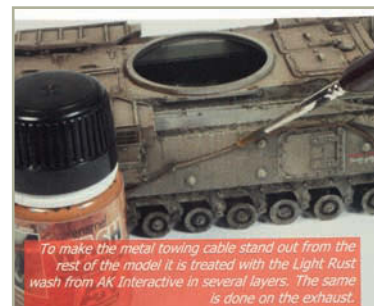
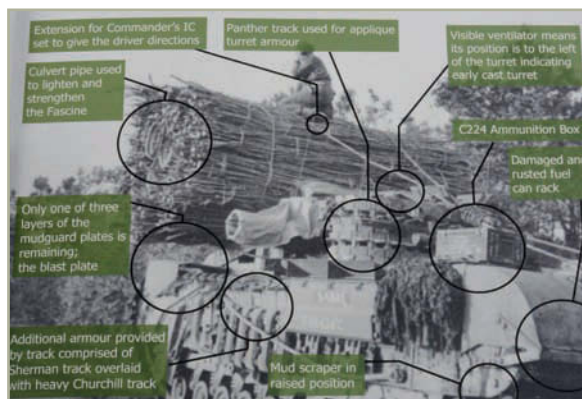
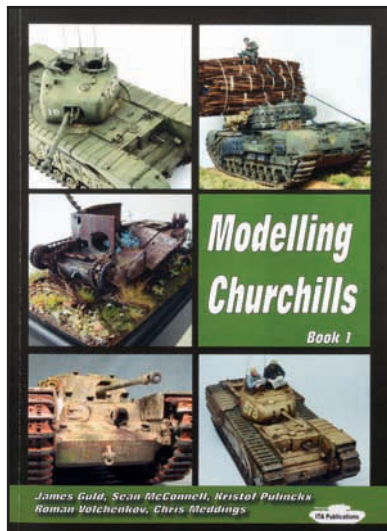
Published by Nuts & Bolts

Softback format, 185 pages,

English / German text

www.nuts-bolts

Serious modellers of German subjects will need no introduction to the Nuts & Bolts series, this is number 34 and a very welcome subject choice with some new kits of the vehicles offered recently. The familiar content is followed with prototypes and development, technical details, variants and active service, technical drawings and colour profiles, walk around images of museum and privately restored and preserved vehicles and a final chapter on modelling (including a stunning scratchbuild of the early Km m8). There is, as always, a fantastic collection of archive images including factory photos and many shots from private collections covering the array of gun mountings and tractor versions of this workhorse of the Wehrmacht. Some excellent close-up reference images (both period and preserved vehicles) along with N&B's highly regarded plans, these books really are hard to beat as a thoroughly researched one-stop reference for those wanting to build the most accurately detailed replicas. Always highly recommended, available in the UK from Historex Agents.



Modelling Churchills- Book 1

Published by Inside The Armour Publications
Softback A4 format, 107 pages
ISBN 9780993 258800
www.insidethearmour.com

Churchill aficionado and all-round modelling good guy, Chris Meddings, was collated a wealth of 'Churchill-ness' together and released ITA's first book on the subject. The photography throughout varies in quality somewhat being from different sources over a period of time, by the nature of a publication like this. The authors are well respected modellers from around the globe, James Guld, Sean McConnell, Kristof Pulincx, Roman Volchenkov and Chris himself with the main focus being on five project features working with currently available kits and aftermarket parts with a

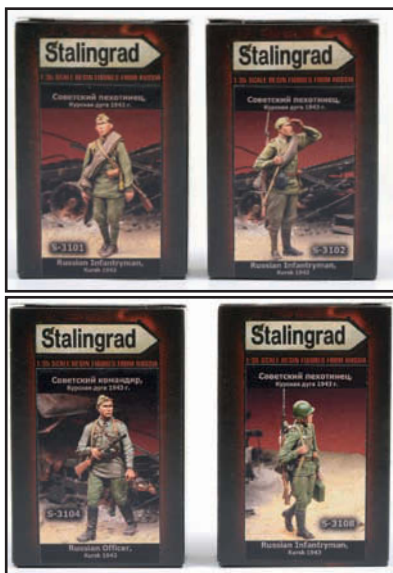
good dose of scratchbuilding providing lots of tips on both building and finishing throughout. The more complex builds begin with analysing the photographs and choosing the correct kit and upgrades which is a nice format. Along with the feature projects some sound walkaround reference photographs cover MkI to MkVI details, MkI and MkII specific details, MkVII, MkVIII and Crocodile. Colour profiles and an excellent section on the engine including scale plans and complimentary decals finish a very welcome and recommended reference for any Churchill modeller.



Sturmgeschütz III on the Battlefield 3

Published by PeKo publishing Kft.
Mátyas Pánczél
Hardback landscape format, 128 pages, English and Hungarian text
ISBN 978963 8962393
www.panzerwrecks.com

The eighth release in this 'WWII Photobook' series and the third focusing on the StuG, there's over one hundred large format photos to whet your modelling appetite with the majority new images to us. The full family is featured from the short gunned Bs through to the last of the StuH.42s. Personally, the collection of earlier vehicles is most impressive with a superb maintenance sequence and an Ausf D with zimmerit and dunkelgelb finish? Try explaining that on the competition table! There's some excellent inspiration and reference throughout with highly detailed captions explaining factory features and production changes. An excellent collection of images and a must for any StuG modeller. Our thanks to Lee Archer of Panzerwrecks where this series is available in their web store.



Stalingrad 1:35 Russian Infantry



Stalingrad continue to impress us with their characterful and precision sculpted resin figures and the newest editions to the range are these Russian Infantrymen. The four figures here are a part of a larger 10 figure Kursk set depicting an advancing group with a mix of walking and standing poses. On the Stalingrad website there are copies of the images which inspired the figures and show just how well they have captured the look and feel. The quality as you can see is just superb and they will be a real treat to paint, with plenty of possibilities as single figures or with larger groups. Full details can be found here: www.stalingrad.diorama.ru

Inside the Armour 1:35 Leopard 1 barrel

With all the new leopard kits on the market here is a quick update for your Leopard 1 gun barrel saving you all the clean up required with two piece plastic barrels. It is designed to work with the Meng, Takom and Italeri kits and it comes with a choice of three different muzzle tips. These provide a choice of counterweights / muzzle referencing systems to suit your chosen subject vehicle. These simply slide over the tip of the barrel as a collar - it couldn't be any easier!

www.insidethearmour.com



Der Tiger, Volume 1 Schwere Panzerabteilung 501

By Volker Ruff

Published by Volker Ruff Strabokran
(distributed in the UK by Panzerwrecks)
Hardback format, 128 pages English /
German text

ISBN 9783 981690804
www.strabokran.de

The Tiger still remains high on the list of popular modelling subjects after all these years and this is the first in a new series documenting the heavy tank battalions of Germany 1942-45. The famous 501 seems a good place to start and the book takes a pictorial journey through their history with period black and white shots covering formation and training, North Africa, reestablishment in Europe and finally their equipping with the Tiger II. The photos are nicely presented in large format, some are familiar and some not so but an overall excellent compilation arranged chronologically with very well researched detailed captions. A welcome inclusion as an accompaniment to some great shots of an engine removal are some 1:35 plans of the frame and hoist used and how they were attached to the Tiger, what a diorama it would make! A great photo album for any German armour fan and very reasonably priced. Our thanks to Lee Archer of Panzerwrecks for our review copy.

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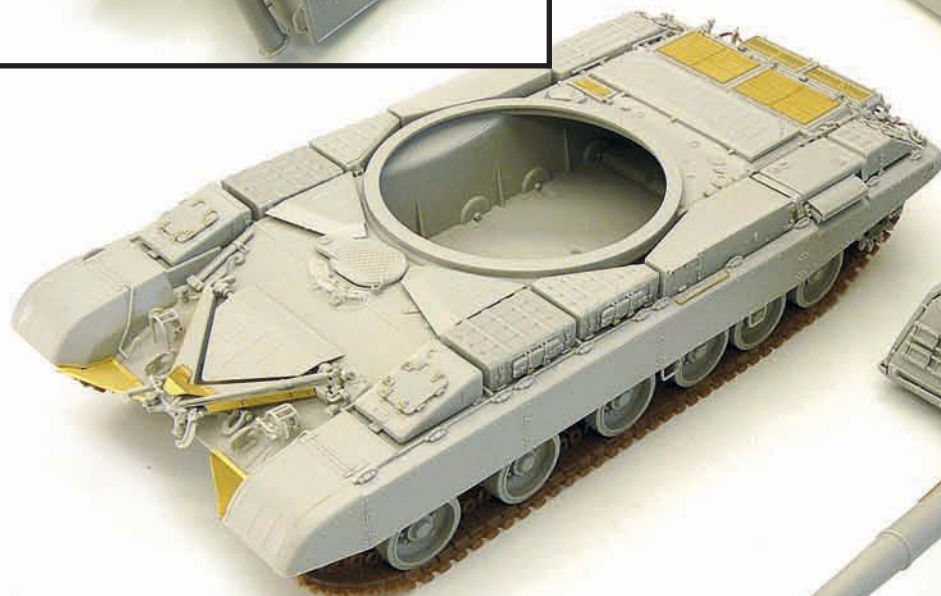
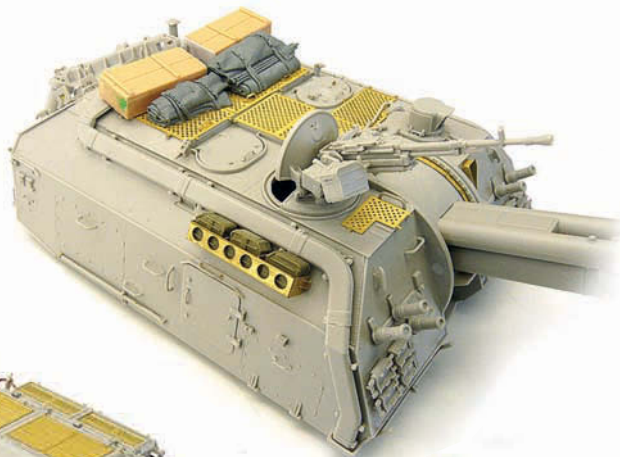
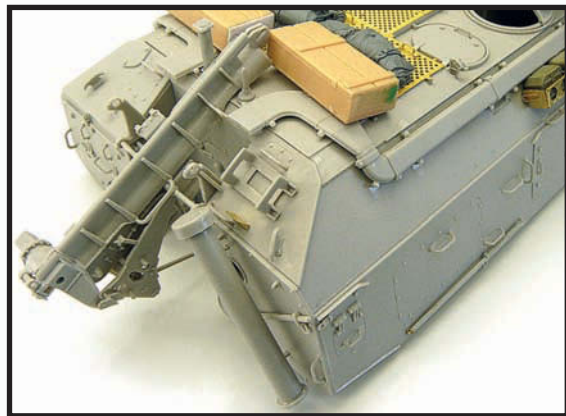


2S19 "Msta-S"

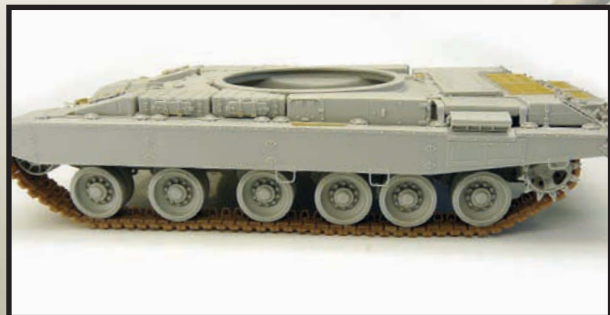
Zack Sex models Trumpeter's 1:35 2S19 "Msta-S" bringing it right up to date with the conflict in Ukraine

Named after the powerful Russian river Msta, the 2S19 began development back in 1985 in the heyday of the Soviet Union as project Ferma or Object 317 which involved the mating of 2A65 towed artillery piece to a self propelled carriage in the form of a elongated T72 chassis with T80 running gear and tracks. The Soviets had always been firm believers in the overwhelming use of artillery force to decimate their opponents on the battlefield. In the post war years the Soviets designed and developed, numerous highly successful artillery pieces from the D30 122mm to the M46 152mm gun. These weapons were exported throughout the third world. In the area of the self-propelled gun they lagged behind the west till the late Seventies when SPG's the 2S1 and 2S3 began to be seen in Red Square parades and started popping up in the arsenals of Warsaw Pact members and in countries through out the middle east such as Libya, Iraq, Syria and Algeria.

By the 1980's some of the Soviet's long range artillery and SPGs were beginning to look as if they could lag behind those planned and /or in service in the West such as the American M107, M109 and M110 series, the French 155mm GCT, the AS90 under development in Britain and the impressive G6 of South Africa. While the Soviets had large calibre SPG's such as the Pion reserved for themselves it was in the 152mm or western 155mm calibre that they needed to compete with not just militarily but for sales through out the third world, the 2S19 Msta was hailed as the answer to this problem. In terms of mobility, its main battle tank components allowed it greater power and pace not to mention armour strength. The old soviet concept of cross commonality of parts was also served by using the T72 & T80 lower hull parts to form the chassis as both of these tanks were in service in large numbers through out the Russian army.



"This is a kit of many hundreds of parts and has to be worked through slowly but surely, with many evenings work..."



TRUMPETER'S KIT

Trumpeter have producing a wide range of modern Soviet bloc vehicles seemingly with the intention of working their way slowly but surely through the whole series of Russian prototype and production vehicles including trucks, the BTR series, various MBTs and of course self-propelled guns including the 2S1, 2S3 and now the 2S19.

Trumpeter's 2S19 is a kit of many hundreds of parts that has to be worked through slowly but surely with many evenings work. My abiding memory of its construction was the sense of each evening peering into the large box and

seeing numerous sprues with many legions of parts still awaiting chopping, sanding and final assembly to the point of feeling would I ever get to the end of this. Added to this, the highly detailed etched sets included in the kit with numerous small latches which need to be added to the many stowage boxes mounted on the running boards of this impressive self-propelled gun.

Thankfully, Trumpeter include many more of these than are required, allowing the modeller to lose numerous examples of these tiny clips which have a tendency to ping off across the room and disappear

everywhere. As far as construction is concerned, I followed the general guidelines of the kit instructions, constructing the lower hull with its T80 running gear and individual track links with separate hollow guide horns. Next, I constructed as much of the upper hull as possible, topping it all off with its 152mm gun turret. Having completed the complex construct of this model, I now began to give thought to the camouflage and colour scheme that would best complement this powerful-looking SPG.

UNFOLDING EVENTS

While, I was tempted by the exotic locales that the 2S19 has been exported to including Belarus, Ethiopia (who's 2s19s have seen action during strikes against Al Shabab forces in Somalia but who's SPG'S are painted in a rather lack lustre matt green finish) and Armenia, I was determined to avoid a standard modern Russian Army finish, none of the schemes

were particularly tempting. As I was pondering this particular quandary, the situation in the Ukraine began to unravel; the appearance of small Russian-made BMD1 and BMD2 airborne tanks in the hands of both Ukrainian and rebel army forces seemed at first to be military posturing.

Very quickly, the Ukrainian Army not only began to lose large numbers of their T64 tanks, but also complex and expensive vehicles like the SS21, RM27, 2S5 and aforementioned 2S19. These started to appear as burnt-out hulks or trophies in the hands of rebel forces. The more colourful schemes seen here provided the chosen scheme for my model.



PAINTING

Having completed the construction and detailing phase of the Trumpeter's 2S19, I now set about painting the model. I primed the entire vehicle and stowage in Humbrol Acrylic Desert Yellow straight from the can. I find this provides a fine surface for over-spraying by Tamiya colours.

To this end, I mixed a lighter than usual Ukrainian Army green by combining Tamiya XF43 and a little XF59, over lapped with a red/brown produced by mixing X9 with XF7, followed by black/grey stripes of XF18 lightened with a little brown between these colours. I now set about making Ukrainian army flags from an old Revell Mig 29 decals, a Ukrainian army shield in white outline from a Skif MTLB kit and white invasion decals from an Eastern Express T64, over this I applied a series of light misting over sprays, made up of a dark muddy mix of Tamiya acrylics.

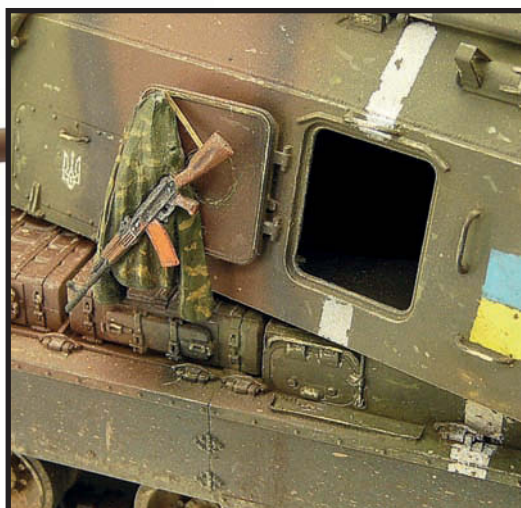
"I primed the entire vehicle and stowage in Humbrol Acrylic Desert Yellow straight from the can..."

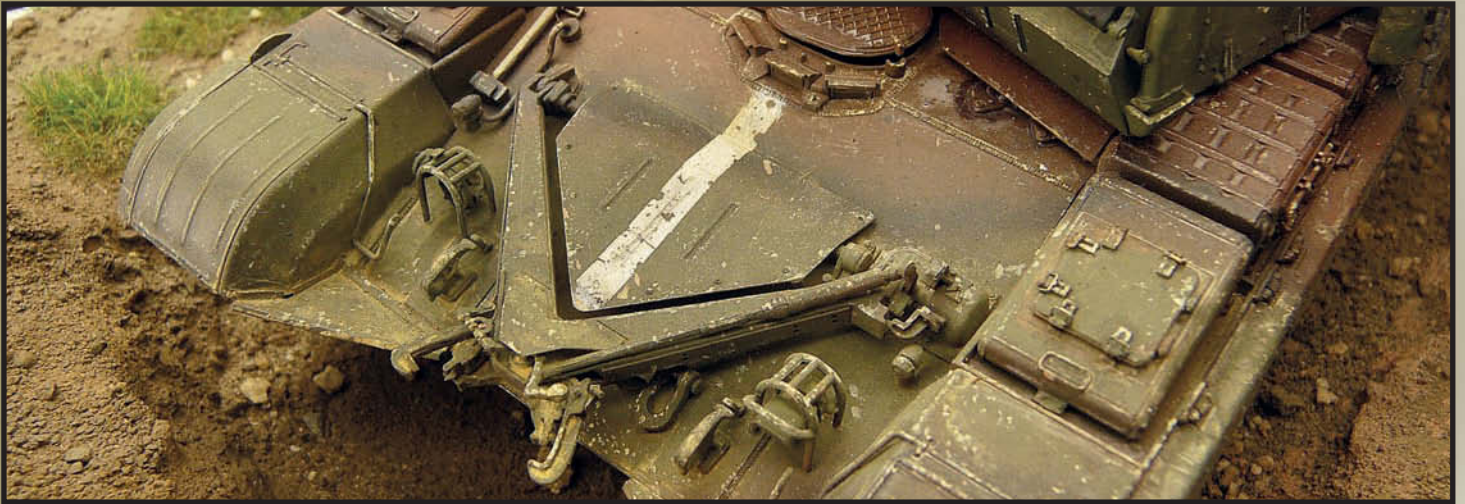


I now set about weathering the lower hull with the Wilder series of pigments while the upper hull received some pigment work, oil paint washes,

fine detail painting in the form of scratches and scrapes finished off with graphite rubbing.

Having completed my washes and weathering, I proceeded to add a crew figure to the commanders turret to give the vehicle a sense of scale, a human touch a small sense of the dramatic. On the square crew hatch, which opens to the left of the artillery turret, I placed a camouflage jacket, which was a reworking of an old Verlinden Waffen SS offering, over which I hung an AK74 with paper strap.





Happy that the 2S19 was achieving the look a well-used Ukrainian army self-propelled gun I gave David Coyne, my old comrade in arms a shout. Davy I said, "A chunk of Ukrainian territory, what do you reckon, how about a dug-in trench diorama?". "No problem", said Davy. After some rough sketches, David returned with a Styrofoam



landscape sculpted into a chunk of Eastern Ukraine. To this I added some appropriate weathering and colouration to blend with that of the 2S19. I intend to further experiment with these airbrushing effects while exploring other interesting and obscure vehicles used in the Ukrainian conflict and available from such resin companies as SP Designs as well as converting plastic kits to various recovery and engineering vehicles found in this theatre. It only remains for me to thank Davy Coyne, Allan Callan and Mick Jordan for their help with this particular project.

2S19

"Msta-S"





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In 2014 the eastern regions of Ukraine, Donetsk and Lugansk (Donbas), part of the New Russia territories, rebelled against the central government and began a protracted war mainly supported by the Russians, providing armored vehicles to separatists. Although initially the "rebels" used vehicles captured from the Ukrainian army, with time new vehicles of Russian origin begin to appear. As the Ukrainian army used many colors in common with the Russian army and everything was mixed in the battlefield, the rebels decided to use a highly visible and common green, the color A.MIG 054, to identify and distinguish their vehicles from Ukrainians.

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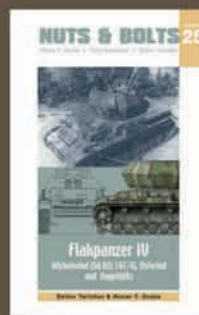
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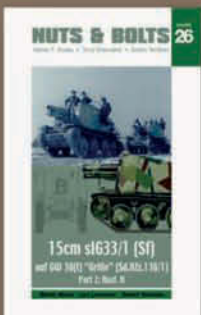
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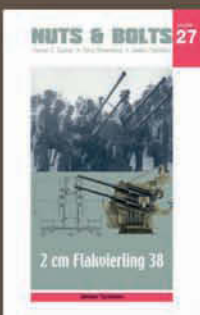
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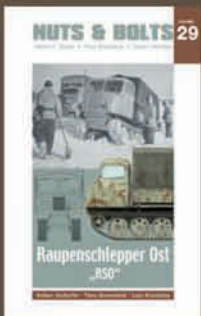
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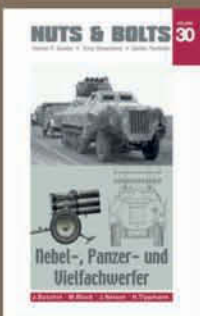
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