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INTERNATIONAL

ISSUE
345

July 2024

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1:72 Bf109G-5



TAMIYA

Model MAGAZINE

INTERNATIONAL



HELPING THE HEROES

Tamiya's 1:48 British Ambulance
in the Battle of Normandy

INSIDE

Das Werk 1:16 Sd.Kfz.251 Ausf.D, Alpha Model 1:24 McLaren
P1, plus new kits, books and modelling accessories...

DOOLITTLE
MEDIA



Mercedes-Benz 300 SL

FULL-VIEW

**1/24
SCALE**



1/24 Sports Car Series
“Full-View”
Mercedes-Benz 300 SL
 (Item 24366)

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See What Lies Beneath

Released in 1954, the Mercedes-Benz 300 SL was the first serial production car with gull wing doors, and its elegant form and superior performance allured the glitterati around the world. A multi-tubular space frame – cutting-edge racing technology at that time – was employed, and its 3-liter inline-6 engine with direct fuel injection system was capable of 215hp. Boasting a top speed of 260km/h, the 300 SL is known as one of the very best 1950s sports cars. Now, our 1/24 scale 300 SL kit welcomes the “full-view” version. Drink in the mechanical structure of the masterpiece through its transparent body!

★Iconic gull wing doors are movable and can be secured in open position. ★Authentic rendering of interior features such as sporty bucket seats, gearshift and steering wheel. ★Suspension and drivetrain are faithfully depicted. ★Features nylon mesh in the front grille. ★Solid synthetic rubber tires.



Authentic depiction of the inline-6 engine, which was set at a 45-degree angle for the sake of the low-profile hood.



Features a breathtaking recreation of the complex multi-tubular space frame.

Length: 188mm
Width: 75mm



Luxurious yet functional interior is realistically recreated. Metal transfers depict emblems and mirror surfaces.

Mercedes-Benz sports car legends in the 1/24 Sports Car Series

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



Mercedes-Benz 300 SL (24338)



Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren (24290)



Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren 722 Edition (24317)

Follow the evolution of Mercedes sports cars with our 1/24 scale kits!

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



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Building, painting and weathering the Das Werk 1:16 Sd.Kfz.251/D



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IN BRIEF...



TAMIYA

- 1:10 RC Porsche 911 Carrera RSR 2.8 BT-01 chassis
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Mach Frame Black Metallic Body (FM-A)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Cyclone Magnum Polycarbonate Body Special (AR) Fully Cowled Mini 4WD 30th Anniversary
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Cross Spear 02 (VZ)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Stier (MA)
- 1:32 Mini 4WD Small Dia. Low Friction Low-Profile Tires (26mm) & Carbon Wheels (Fin)
- Mini 4WD Hex Wrench Screwdriver Bit
- Tamiya Official Mini 4WD Guide 2024-2025
- Tamiya Inden Business Card Case (Navy Blue/White Urushi Lacquer)
- Tamiya Logo Oval Lapel Pin (Black/Gold)
- Fully Cowled Mini 4WD Compact Bag (Black)

hobbyco.net tamiya.com

GECKO MODELS

- 1:16 Universal Carrier Mk.I and II Ford V8 Engine

tankmuseumshop.org



HOBBYBOSS

- 1:35 LAV300 90mm Cockerill Gun
- 1:35 PLA Medium Tank

creativemodels.co.uk



ICM

- 1:48 B-26B Marauder with USAAF Pilots and Ground Personnel D-Day 80th
- 1:48 Bristol Beaufort Mk.I Bombing Raid
- 1:72 ZIL-131 with trailer Armed Forces of Ukraine
- Acrylic paint set for animals X5 colours

icm.com.ua



INSIDE THE ARMOUR

- 1:35 Ferret Armoured Car Exterior Basic Set (for Airfix kit)

insidethearmour.com



MAGIC FACTORY

- 1:72 Sd.Kfz.234/2 Puma

www.magicfactory.ltd



REVELL

- Gift Set Darth Maul's Sith Infiltrator
- Gift Set Anakin's Podracer
- Gift Set 1:24 VW T1 Bus '150 Years of Vaillant'
- 1:24 Schlingmann TLF 16-25 01
- 1:24 VW T1 Panel Van (Gulf Decoration)
- Model Colour Set German Aircraft WWII X8 colours
- Model Colour Set RAF WWII X8 colours
- Model Colour Set Sportscars X8 colours

revell.de



RYE FIELD MODEL

- 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234 road wheels 3D
- 1:35 FG1250 IR scope kit for Panther Ausf. G

tankmuseumshop.org



TAKOM

- 1:35 Pz.Kpfw.I Ausf.A
- 1:35 Pz.Kpfw.I Ausf.B
- 1:35 Vk.100.01 (P) K3382

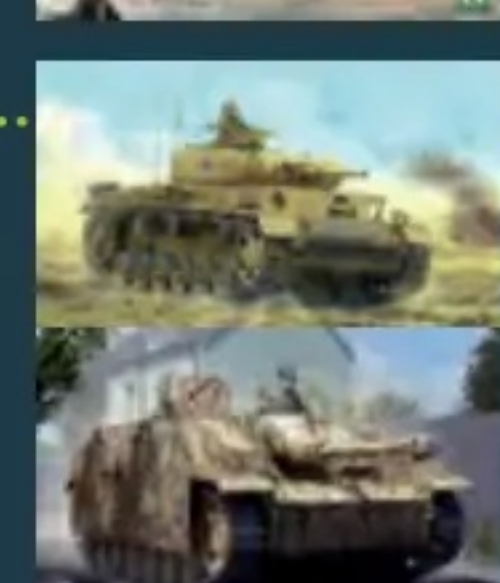
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TRUMPETER

- 1:72 M706 Commando Armoured Car
- 1:16 Pz.Kpfw.III Ausf.J
- 1:16 StuG.III Ausf.G 1943 Production
- 1:35 US Army M1131 Stryker FSV

bachmann.co.uk



VESPID

- 1:72 Panther KF51 German MBT

tankmuseumshop.org



NEW FROM TAMIYA

1:72 F-35B LIGHTNING II

An all-new kit of the 'B' version of this amazing aircraft is coming in the hugely popular scale of 1:72! www.hobbyco.net



NEW FROM TAMIYA - 1:10 RC BRONCO

A rugged, American off-roading classic in 1:10 radio control form by Tamiya. What's not to love? www.hobbyco.net

COMING SOON FROM ANDY'S HOBBY HEADQUARTERS 1:16 SD.KFZ.10

The next 1:16 vehicle from AHQ is the Wehrmacht's WW2 workhorse, the Sd.Kfz.10 halftrack. www.andyshhq.com



NEW FROM ARMA HOBBY

1:48 BELL P-39Q AIRACOBRA

Very exiting news from Poland in the form of an all-new Airacobra in 1:48 - expect extremely fine detail. www.armahobby.com



NEW FROM REVELL - 1:24 Corvette C8

The mid-engined Corvette C8 Ferrari-wannabe has a cool charm of its own. www.revell.de



NEW FROM HOBBYBOSS 1:48 PZ.SFL.IVA DICKER MAX

'Fat Max' has been seen in 1:35 in the past, but now Hobbyboss have this 10.5cm-equipped SPG on the way in 1:48. www.creativemodels.co.uk





NEW FROM EDUARD FIGHTER AIRCRAFT KITS

1:48 F4F-4 Wildcat Late, 1:48 MiG-21PFM,
F6F-5 Hellcat
www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



NEW FROM MINIART 1:35 HOLIDAYMAKERS

A very original figure set, ideal for civilian
dioramas - hopefully coming in 1:24 too.

www.miniart-models.com
www.creativemodels.co.uk



NEW FROM RYE FIELD MODEL 1:35 T-55AMD DROZD ACTIVE PROTECTION SYSTEM

An interesting version of the ubiquitous T-55 with lots
of add-on exterior systems: ideal for weathering!
www.tankmuseumshop.org



NEW FROM ICM - 1:35 HUMVEE M1097A2

An all-new 1:35 kit of the iconic HUMVEE is much needed, and ICM have obliged!
www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



NEW FROM MINIART 1:35 SD.KFZ.234/4 SCHWERER PANZERSPÄHWAGEN 7.5CM INTERIOR KIT

The big, eight-wheeled hard-hitter is an all-new kit with full interior.
www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



NEW FROM TRUMPETER 1:35 VBM FRECCIA

This is an eight-wheel-drive AFV used by the Italian military that
replaced the US-made M113. A highly detailed kit from Trumpeter.
www.bachmann.co.uk



NEW FROM VESPID 1:35 CRUISER TANK MK.VIII CHALLENGER (A30) LATE PRODUCTION

This WWII British designed
used a Cromwell tank-based
hull and running gear with
a large turret housing the
powerful QF17-pounder anti
tank gun.

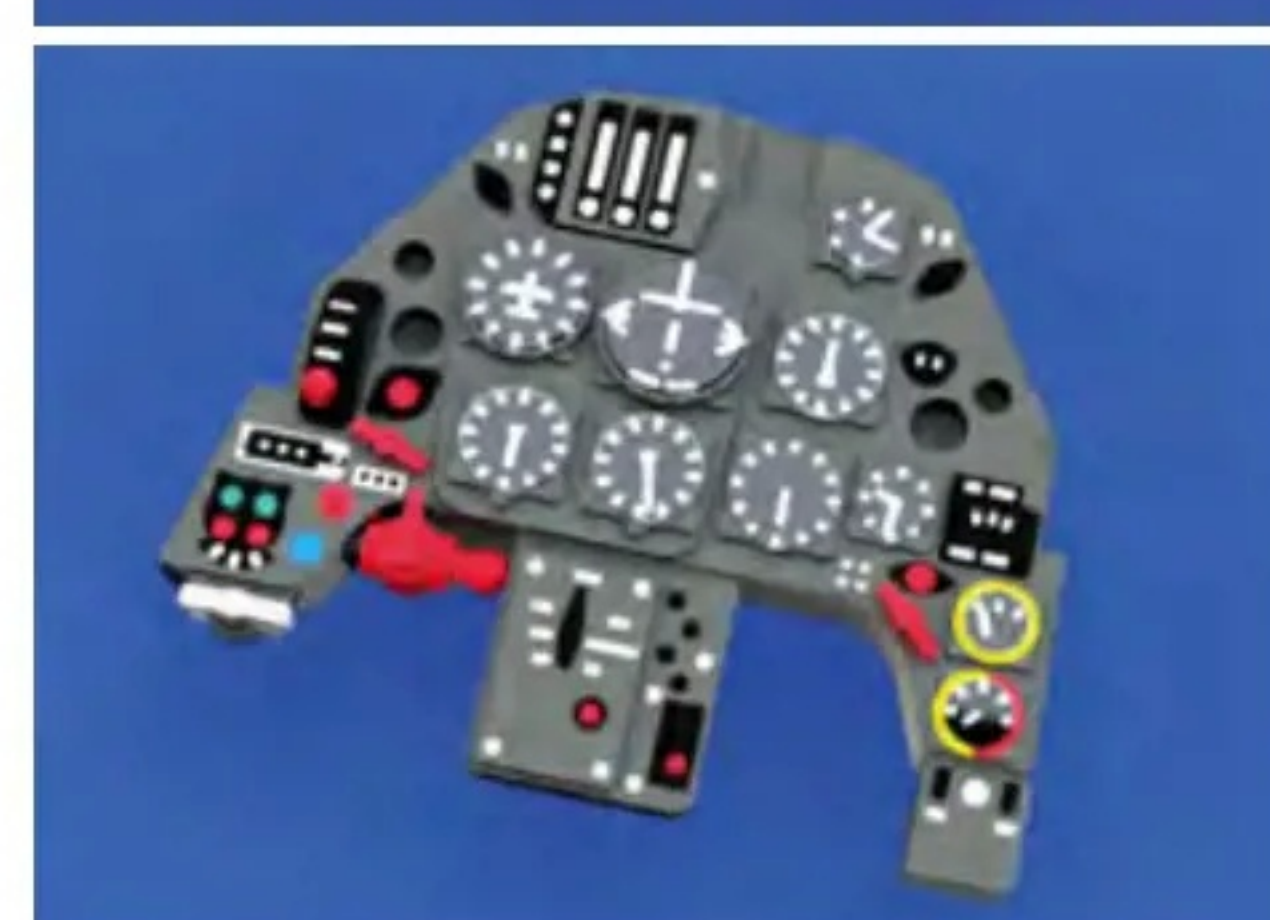
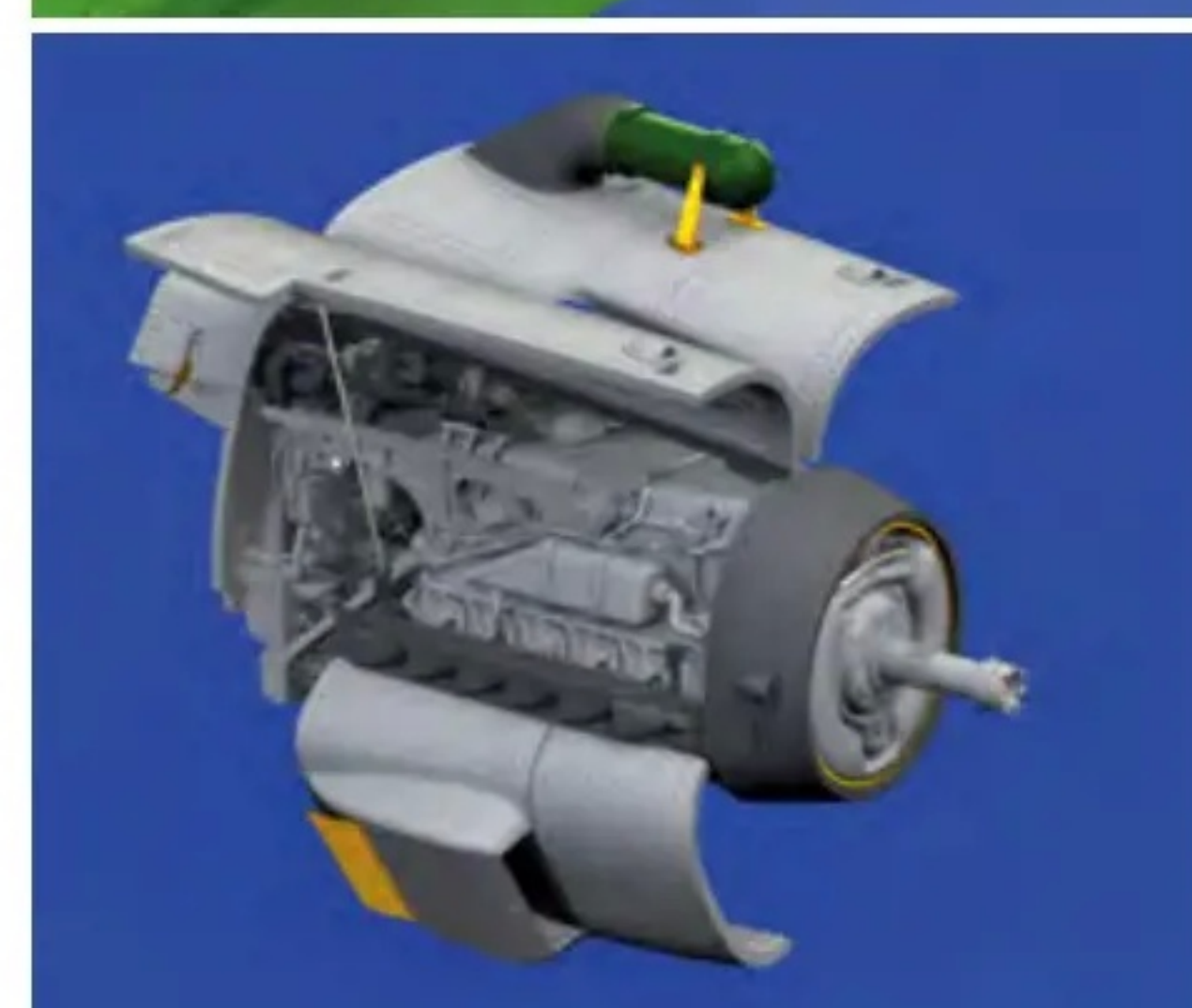
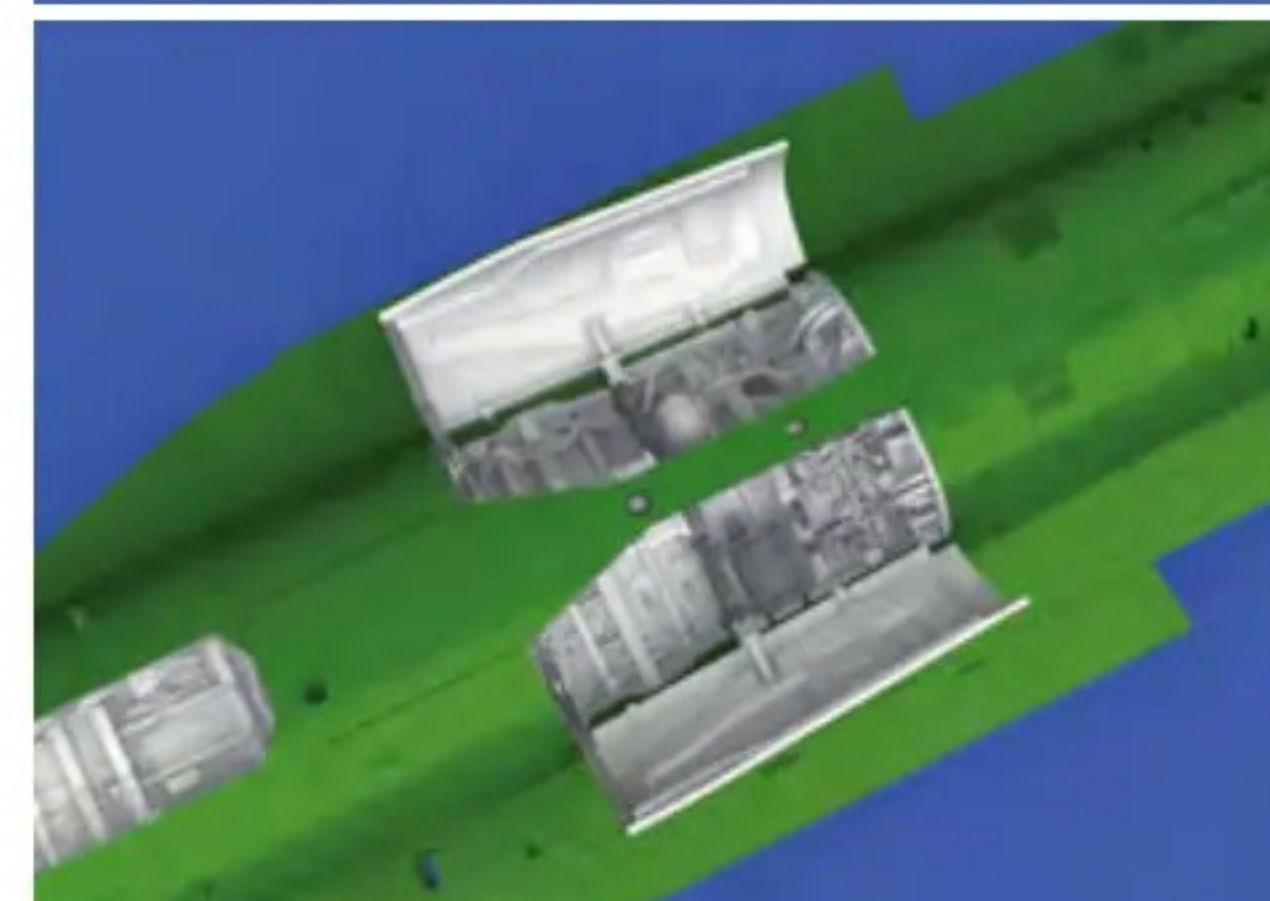
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COMING SOON FROM EDUARD

- 1:48 Northrop F-5E LööK for Eduard
- 1:48 F-35B LööK F-35B for Tamiya
- 1:48 F-16C Block 42-2005 Cockpit PRINT for Kinetic
- 1:48 F-16C Wheel Bays Early PRINT for Kinetic
- 1:72 Bf109G-2/G-4 Engine PRINT for Eduard
- 1:72 Bf109G-2 LööK dashboard and STEEL seatbelts for Eduard
- 1:72 Bf109G-4 LööK plus for Eduard

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



NEW ARRIVALS

A quick round-up of new and recent arrivals at Tamiya Model Magazine. Thank you to the manufacturers and suppliers for the review samples!



EDUARD

1:72 Gustav Pt.3 Limited Dual Combo Bf109G-6 late - Bf109G-14 (2145) new version
Eduard's exquisite new Bf109s in 1:72 are superb productions, packed with detail. Here, we get two whole models in one box, with numerous decal options, canopy masks and photo-etched details. www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



MINIART

1:35 Iraqi T-55 Faw/Enigma (37095) new version
This is MiniArt's kit of the extraordinary-looking Enigma up-armoured T-55 tank and it's a hefty, boxful of parts. Working torsion-bar suspension will allow the model to be placed on uneven terrain in a diorama. www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



NUNU

1:24 BMW 320i Macau Guia Race 2001 Winner (PN24041) new version
This kit depicts the 2001 race-winning BMW 320i and the kit comes with lots of decals to recreate the green/blue over silver livery of this good-looking car. Crucially, a sheet of pre-cut window masks is also included, which makes life easier. www.hobbyco.net



REVELL

1:144 Airbus A330-300 Lufthansa New Livery (03816) new version
Revell's Airbus A-330-300 isn't brand new, but it is rendered with superb detail across the entire airframe and looks superb. The engines are highly detailed and the undercarriage is very refined, all topped off with Lufthansa's slick new colour scheme. www.revell.de



TAKOM

1:350 Don-2N Pillbox ballistic Missile Defence Radar (6010) new tool
The Don-2N radar is a large missile defence and early-warning radar located outside Moscow and Takom's new kit of it is highly original, absolutely fascinating and quite large! A very bold subject to choose with masses of weathering potential. www.bachmann.co.uk



TAKOM

StuH42 & StuG.III Ausf.G Mid-Production 2 in 1 (8017) new version
Takom's Sturmgeschütz III kits are stunning productions with masses of detail. This release allows the modeller to build either the StuH42 (howitzer) or StuG.III (assault gun) and comes with metal barrel, PE side-skirts, grilles and copper towing cable. www.bachmann.co.uk

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KIT PREVIEW

TAMIYA 1:24 NISSAN FAIRLADY 240Z STREET-CUSTOM • KIT NO.24367

Tamiya's Nissan Fairlady 240ZG's 'Street-Custom' version is here!

Tamiya released the 'standard' 1:24 Nissan Fairlady 240ZG (24360) in 2021 and it was a perfect replica of this Japanese cult-classic sports car. Now, three years later, we have the funkier-looking Nissan Fairlady 240Z Street-Custom with cropped nose and front spoiler, sports RS wheels and a host of other enhancements that give the car a cooler appearance. The original car's 2.393cc inline-six SOHC engine and triple carburettors is replicated to perfection and it can be observed once the model is complete thanks to an opening bonnet. The later car's lowered suspension is depicted and new decals and metal transfers are included in the box. Let's take a look at the changes between the two kits, there's quite a few! (Listed below).

Nose

Kit No.24360: Long nose

Kit No. 24367: Standard nose plus chin spoiler

Bumper

Kit No. 24360: Integrated with nose

Kit No. 24367: Separated from nose (metal-plated part)

Dashboard

Kit No. 24360: Only for right-hand drive

Kit No. 24367: For both right and lefthand drive

Wipers

Kit No. 24360: Only for right-hand drive

Kit No. 24367: For both right and lefthand drive

Side mirrors

Kit No. 24360: Only for righthand drive (fender mirrors)

Kit No. 24367: For both right/lefthand drive (door mirrors)

Auxiliary machinery in engine bay

Kit No. 24360: Only for righthand drive

Kit No. 24367: For both right and lefthand drive

Exhaust

Kit No. 24360: Single exhaust

Kit No. 24367: Two exhausts (stacked vertically)

Steering

Kit No. 24360: Standard

Kit No. 24367: Small-diameter sports type (three-spoke type)

Carburettor

Kit No. 24360: Standard two-cylinders

Kit No. 24367: Sports type three-cylinders

Suspension struts:

Kit No. 24360: Standard

Kit No. 24367: Lowered suspension

Wheels

Kit No. 24360: Standard

Kit No. 24367: RS Watanabe eight-spoke wheels

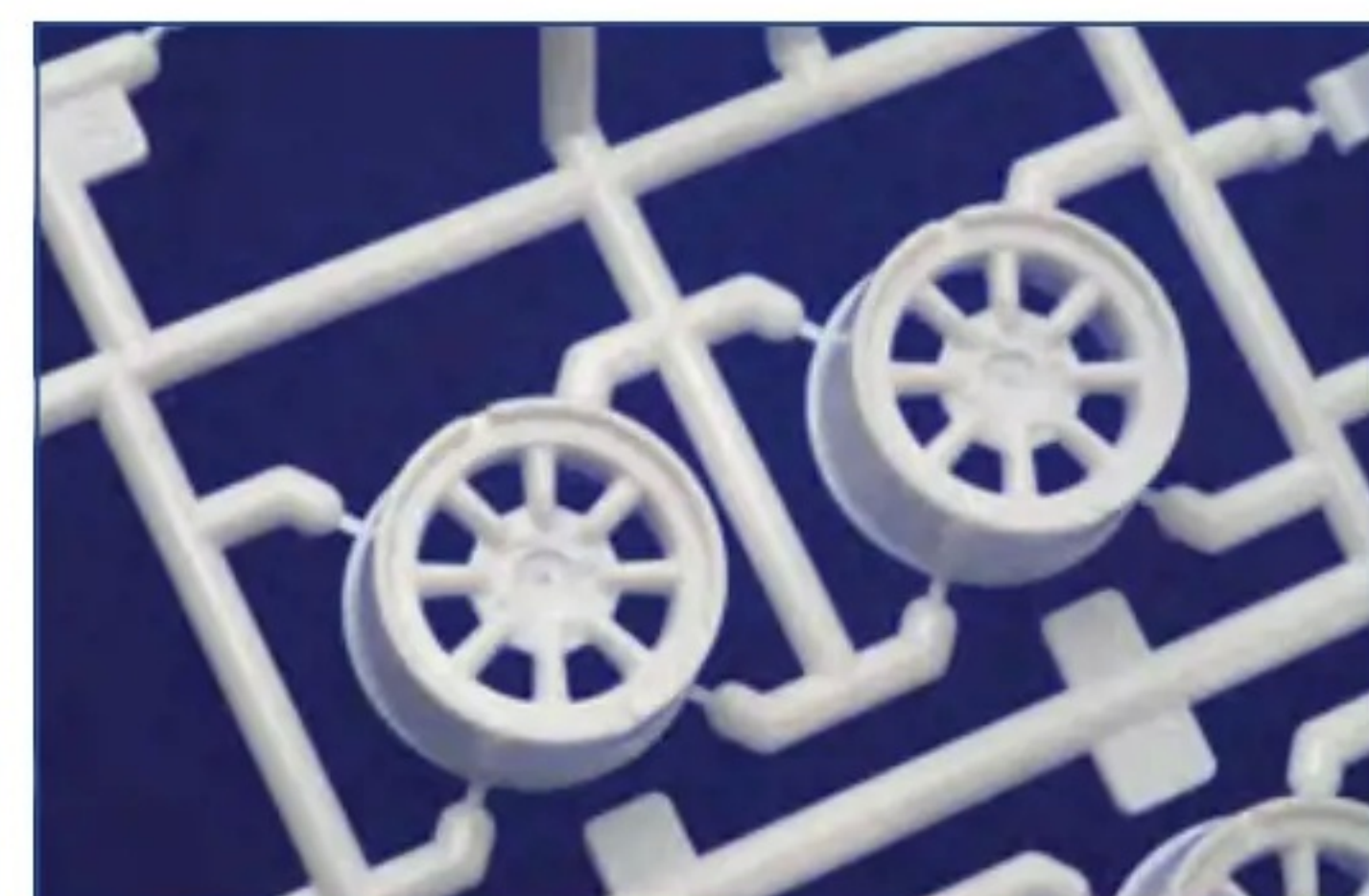
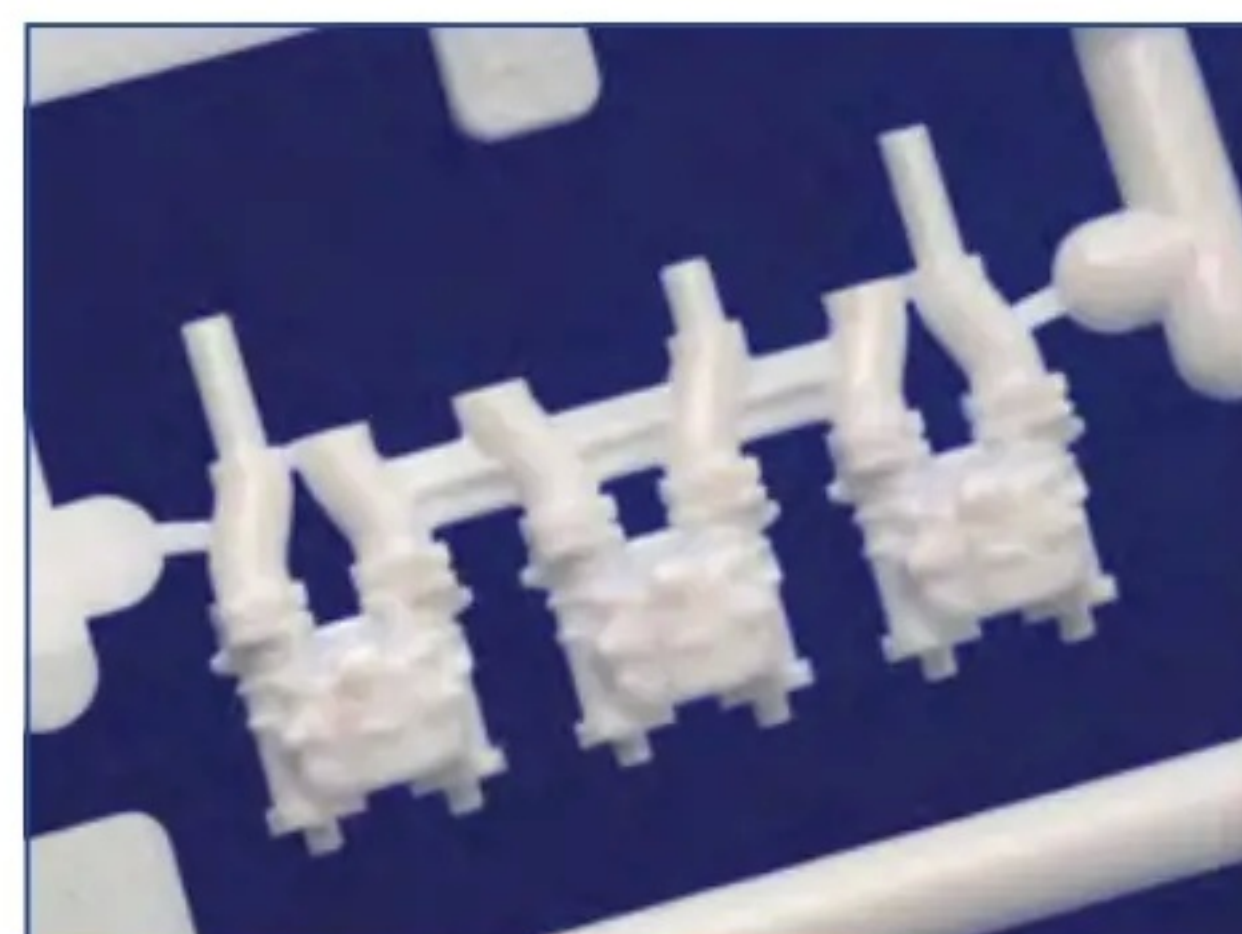
Availability:

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

www.hobbyco.net



TAMIYA 1:24 NISSAN FAIRLADY 240Z STREET-CUSTOM





NISSAN STREET-CUSTOM



BLUE, BLUE ELECTRIC

Lesley Eyckerman builds the all-resin 1:24 McLaren P1 hypercar from Alpha Model and gives it the carbon-fibre look with decals by Scale Motorsport



Hi guys, I'm back with another article for this great magazine - this time it's the McLaren P1 from Alpha Model. I'm a big fan of McLaren, mostly their F1 cars, because am a huge Formula 1 fan and the McLaren P1 represents all of this. It's a McLaren with F1 technology all together in a hypercar! Of the 400 examples of this car and its different variants, only twenty-five are road legal. That's what I like most about this car, a true track machine with the

looks of a street car. This car is a beast and looks amazing to me, that's why I had to build it, when Alpha Model released it and the manufacturer was kind enough to sponsor the model for me to build for TMMI **(PIC 1)**. The body colour is McLaren Genesis Blue from Number5 **(PIC 2)**. The carbon-fibre for the exterior is SK Decals and Scale Motorsport for the interior. All these wonderful products were kindly provided for me, for this article.

When I took a look at this model I

noticed how crisp and clean all the resin parts looked. There aren't a lot of castings, but it does come with five photo-etched frets. The decals are high quality and you can even make a Senna tribute care of it. Flash or pinholes are non-existent on these models. So let's get started!

Because this is a resin model it needs a lot of clean-up. It's not like a plastic kit that is just cleaned with soapy water and a good rinse. No, this is different. I started with sanding all the

JE, BLUE



parts with 600-grit sanding sponges and test fitted the parts along the way. Then I gave it a good clean with an automotive degreaser called M600 from Motip which is similar to panel-wipe. Then I put the resin parts in an ultrasonic cleaner with an all-purpose cleaner called Dasty and set the parts to clean for twenty minutes at a temperature of forty degrees Celsius, then gave it a good wash with soapy water and a very thorough rinse and leave the parts to air dry.

When all the parts were dry, I mounted them on sticks, clamps and whatever I can use to stick a part on with double sided foam tape. I primed the parts with Tamiya grey primer from the 40ml bottle, that I diluted 50/50 with Mr Color Levelling Thinner and gave all the resin parts a few coats of primer and leave them to dry. All parts besides the body parts where painted with Zero Paints Gloss and Gloss black to receive their metal and interior colours or carbon decals later on. ▶





❶ BODYSHELL

The body was also primed with Tamiya grey primer and sanded it to a smooth finish (PIC 3). Before I applied the colour I sprayed all parts with Mr Surfacer 1500 Black and left it to dry (PIC 4). I then gave it a few light coats of McLaren Genesis Blue from Number5 (PIC 5) and gave it a thin clear coat (PIC 6) before applying SK Decals mirror carbon decals.

Because the real car has a lot of carbon-fibre on it, I wanted to do the same thing with the model. The car has a lot of configurations and I went for the most common. You can pick for a fully painted one, which seemed boring to me, so I went with a full carbon detailed version to make it more visually interesting. Not that I

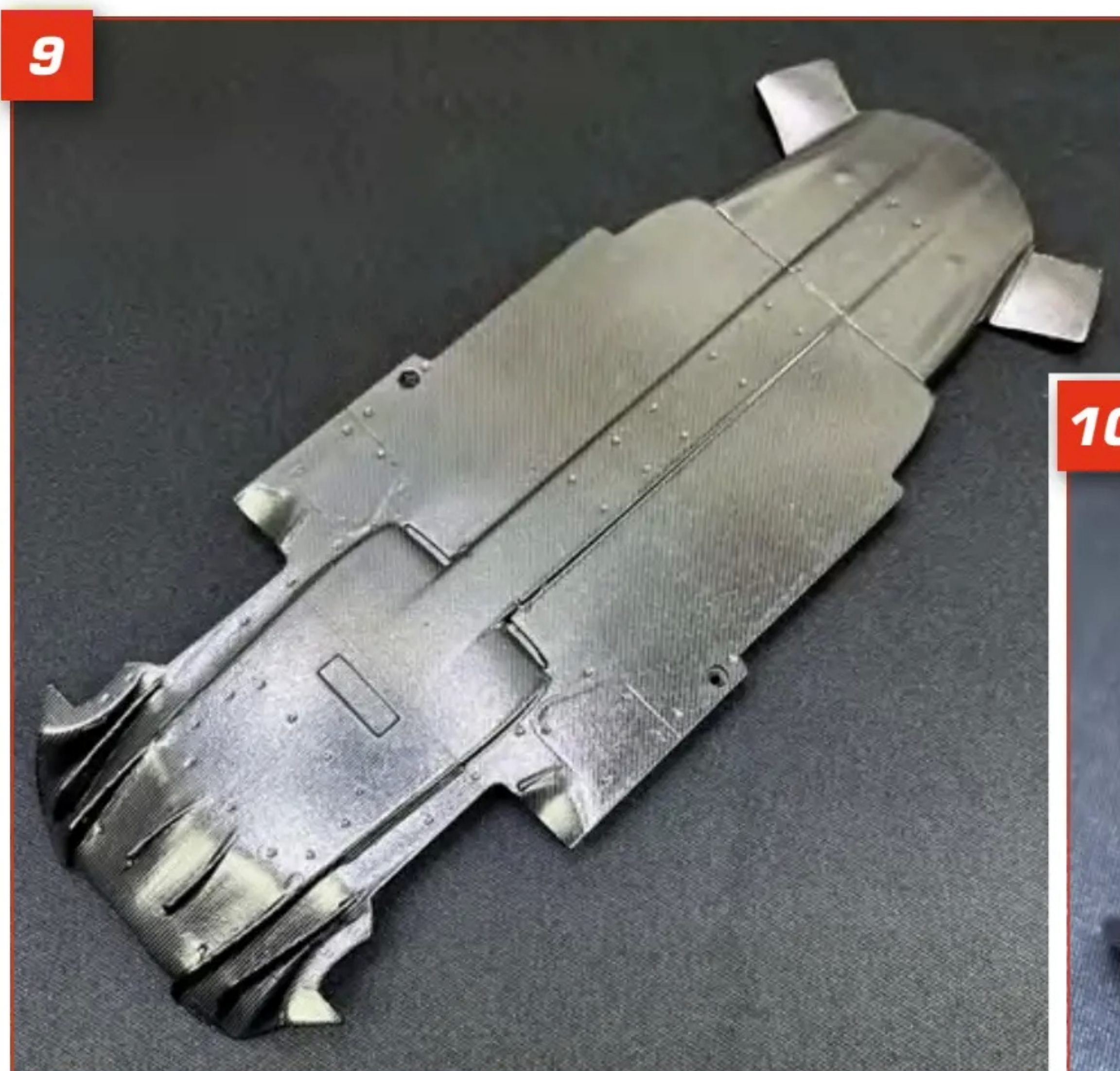
don't like the fully painted one, but it would have been a short article and liked the carbon version more! I started with making templates with masking tape for the interior and floor (PICS 7, 8, 9). After that the interior was painted with Carbon Ceramic Grey and Charcoal Textured paint by Zero Paints for the cabin.

Then I applied the carbon-fibre decals from Scale Motorsport and worked my way up to the door-panels, dash, seats and steering wheel. I used the same for the chassis and gave it a few coats of Zero Paints 1K matt clear to seal them in which worked great. Then I started with the front splitter and worked my way up to the body with SK Decals Mirror carbon. I used a different brand for this, because

they already make the mirror decals with the V in the middle, which makes things a lot easier for me (PIC 10). I used some UMP Extra Strong setting solution to laid down the decals with some heat from my heat gun. Then it was time for a big clean up and applied two thick coats of 2K clear from Number5 and left it to dry for a few days (PIC 11).

POLISHING AND PAINT REPAIR

After applying the 2K clear I noticed that there was some dust in the finish. So started wet sanding with 3,000 and 6,000-grit 3M Trizact and started polishing using Number5 medium polishing compound (PIC 12). The result was pretty amazing, but I saw to my surprise I sanded through the clear and paint on the door from the passenger side. So masked off the piece in a way that nobody could see it had been repainted. I gave it a few light coats of McLaren Genesis Blue and finished it with two coats of 2k clear from Number5 and was amazed by the finish. I didn't need to polish anymore. ▶



11



12



13



14



With the blue portions of the body masked off, the carbon-fibre decal areas could receive their satin finish

With the tape removed, the contrast between the gloss blue and satin composite areas is very effective

I went with a full carbon detailed version to make it more visually interesting...



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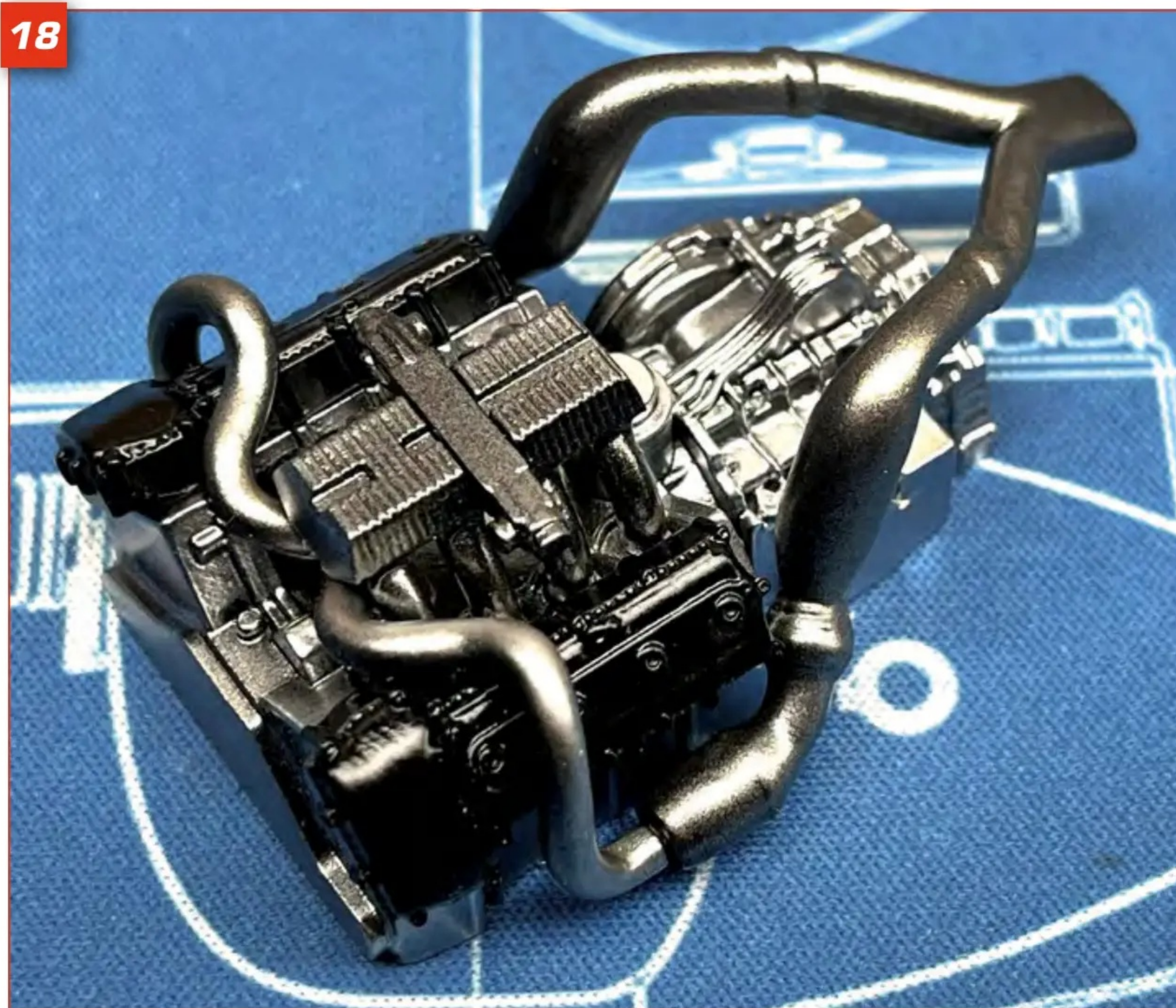


❶ INTERIOR ASSEMBLY

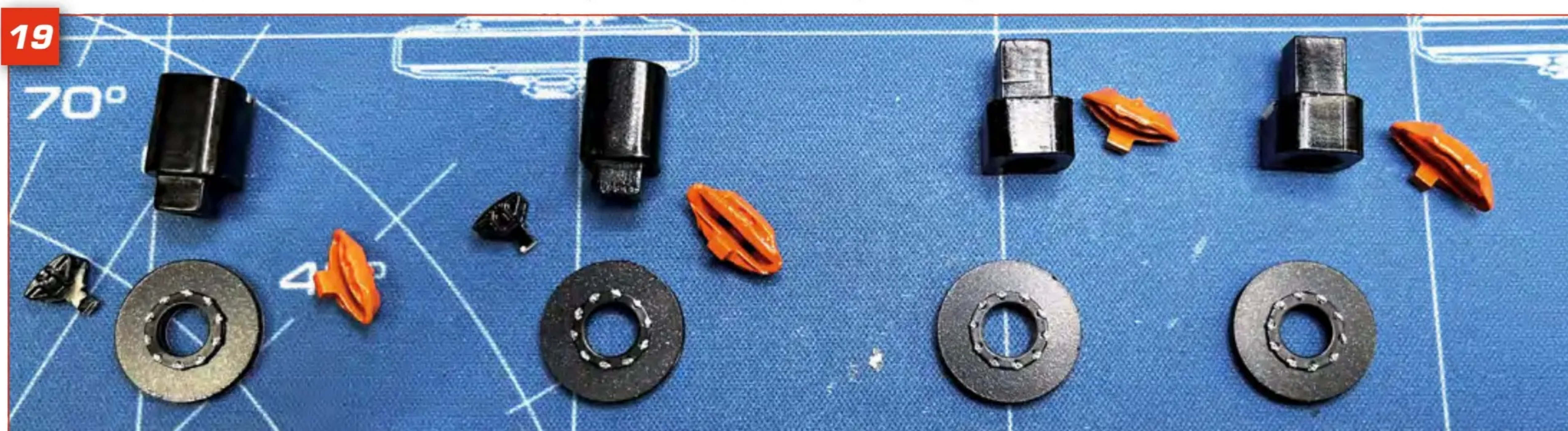
The assembly of the interior was fairly easy. I glued in the partition that separates the engine from the interior and glued in the mid console between the seats. The seats were glued in place and added the supplied seatbelts and painted PE parts for the seats (PIC 15). Then I started on the dash, which was pretty straightforward (PIGS 16, 17). I glued in the radiator fans and steering console, applied the decals for the knobs and gauges and glued the shifter and steering wheel into place.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

With the interior finished I started to work on the body again. I painted the headliner in the body with a mixture of Vallejo Black and German Grey, to replicate the charcoal effect like the seats. Glued the rear view mirror into place together with the engine cover. Then I glued the dash into the body and fitted in the door-panels and interior tub together with the centre console. This fitted perfectly so removed it all and glued everything into place without any issues. Then I started on the brake assembly. Nothing major, but still worth to dry fit first. I made them into sub-assemblies and



The painted and assembled engine is ready for installation





glued them into the body (PIC 19). Then it was time for the fun part of the build, gluing in the clear parts.

As you may know, these are made out of pre-cut clear plastic sheet and are covered with a clear film on both sides. When you take them out of the sheet you automatically remove the first backing sheet. As a reminder I stuck a piece of masking tape on the outside, so I wouldn't accidentally glue in the wrong side. I glued them all in place using Bob Smith Industries Super Gold+ and some of their kicker to speed up the process. Once these were all into place I started installing the front and rear grills before I could glue in the front and rear lights.

The front lights fitted well, but the rear lights were out of shape, so I corrected them using some heat from my heat gun then fitted them to the body. Luckily it was just a few bends. I glued them into place with Tamiya Craft Bond and left them to dry. This gave me time to fit the wheel and tyres with UHU 2k glue and aligned them so

they were all lined up correctly. After this was done, I gave the body a good clean with Tamiya Modeling Wax and installed the dry-fitted rear wing (PICS 20, 21, 22) and side mirrors (PIC 23). I added some mesh parts from the PE fret and finished the build with fitting the PE windshield wiper.

FINAL THOUGHTS

I really enjoyed this build, but was for me the most difficult Alpha Model kit so far. I like the fact that it's pretty straightforward with no fitting issues. Everything is well designed and they always manage to produce a great model, where a modeller can go nuts on. The products that I used for this build were excellent - the coverage of Number5 paints was amazing. The Scale Motorsport CF decals were great to work with, as were the ones from SK decals. It's great to know these days that these products are available to us and can be used to build a nice model. See you next time! ●





TECHSPEC...

ALPHA MODEL 1:24 MCLAREN P1 KIT NO.AM02-0028

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya: Grey Primer, X-27 Clear Red, X-18 Semi-Gloss Black
- Mr. Surfacer: Black Primer
- Zero Paints: Gloss, Semigloss black, Carbon Ceramic Grey, Charcoal Textured Paint, Metal Chrome, Aluminium, Pale Burnt Metal
- Number5: McLaren Genesis Blue, 2K Clear
- Vallejo: Black, German Grey

Availability:

www.alphamodelkit.com www.hiroboy.com





**NEW
MOULD**

1:72

Consolidated B-24[®]H Liberator[®] A09010



CONSOLIDATED B-24H-10-FO LIBERATOR
42-52234 'Corky Burgundy Bombers', 733rd Bomb Squadron, 453rd Bomb Group, Eighth Air Force, United States Army Air Force, RAF Old Buckenham Airfield, Norfolk, England, 1944.



CONSOLIDATED B-24H-15-FO LIBERATOR
42-52699 'Valiant Lady', 831st Bomb Squadron, 485th Bomb Group, Fifteenth Air Force, United States Army Air Force, Venosa, Italy, 1944.

Length 298mm Width 465mm Pieces 278

The second of America's great four engined heavy bombers of the Second World War, the Consolidated B-24 Liberator actually began its development following an Army Air Corps approach for the company to build B-17 Flying Fortresses. Unimpressed at the prospect, Consolidated proposed that they could design and produce their own bomber in the same time it would take them to establish production lines, one which would be better than a Flying Fortress.

- First time the B-24H has had a dedicated new tool made at 1:72 scale.
- Two versions of both the tail and mid upper turret.
- Wheels up and down build options.
- Detailed interior.
- Bomb load included.



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KIT PREVIEW

TAMIYA 1:35 GERMAN MACHINE GUN TEAM SET MID-WWII - KIT NO.35386



MACHINE GUNS AT THE READY!

An all-new, five-man team of gunners is on release from Tamiya



Over the last few years, Tamiya's figure sets have undergone a massive improvement in quality, from their poses to the fine details and in some cases they rival resin figures, and they are also extremely good value for money. Tamiya's latest two sets both depict World War Two German army figures from the mid-war period, which means they will be suitable to go with the widest range of tanks and soft-skinned in a diorama setting.

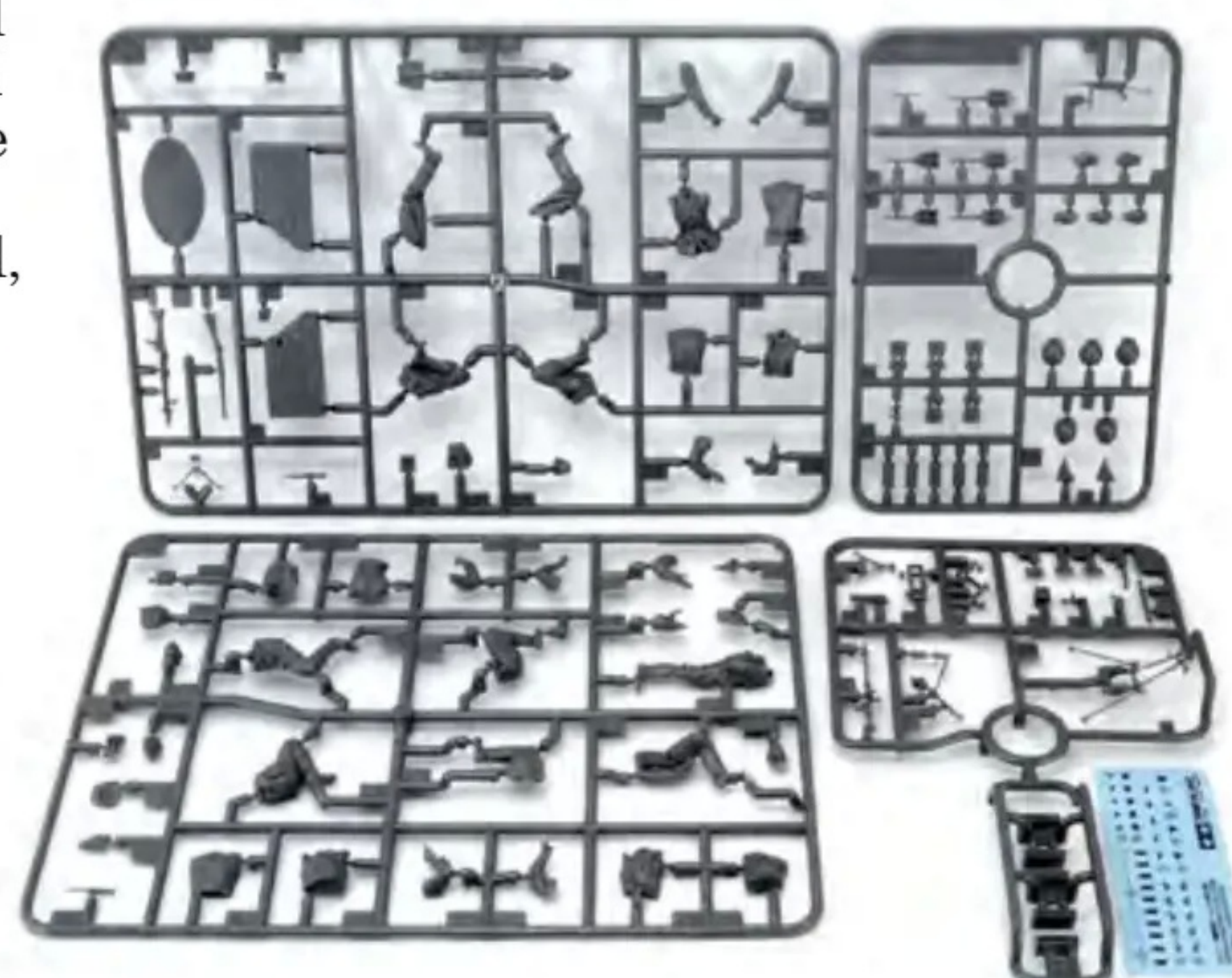
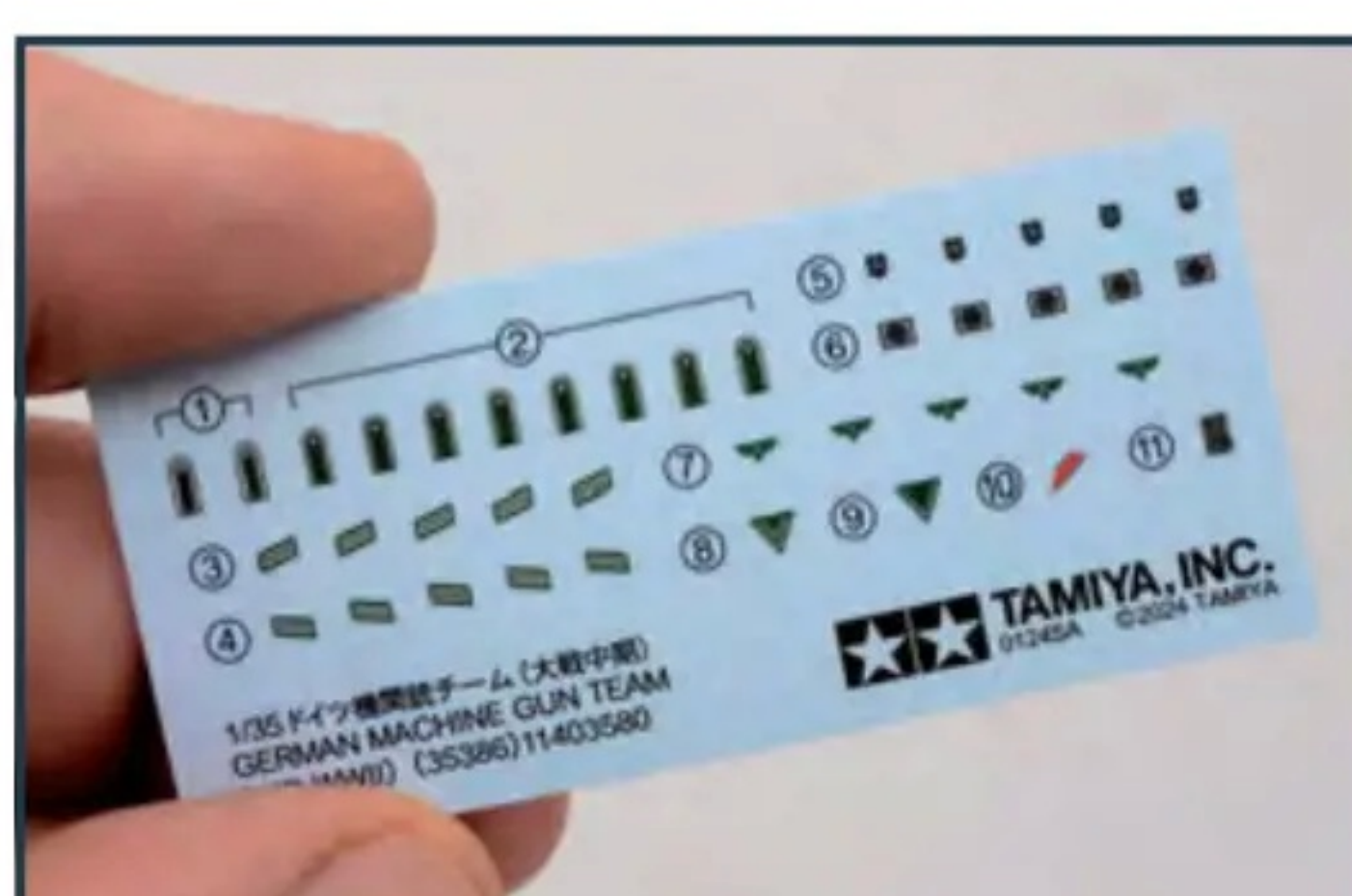
Tamiya's original 1:35 'German Machine Gun Troops' Military Miniatures Series figure set (35038) was released in 1974 and has been a popular item for fifty years, so the new, similarly-entitled set 'German Machine Gun Team' (35386) is very a welcome indeed. It's a five-man set this time, with a pair of reclined MG34 gunners, kneeling MG42 and MP40 gunners and a walking figure carrying ammunition cans. A small section of brick wall is also supplied,

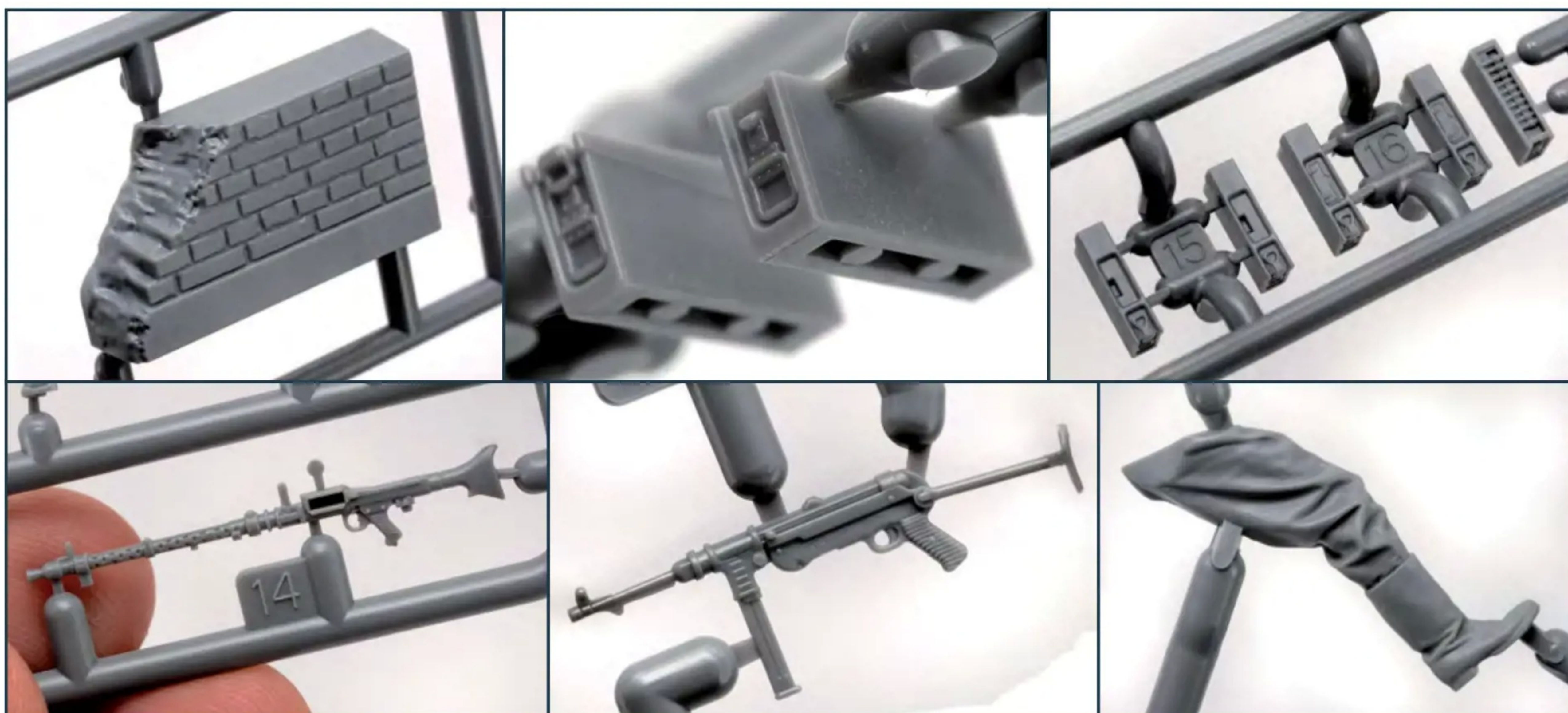
on which the MG42 gunner rests his gun. The set comes on four sprues of grey, injection-moulded polystyrene, with small sheet of waterslide decals for uniform insignia.

The detail is fantastic and the highlight is the belt of ammunition being fed into the MG34. It's difficult to mould something this thin in traditional plastic, and Tamiya's designers have done a marvellous job of it. Full-build feature coming soon to TMMI. ●

Availability;

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





KIT PREVIEW

TAMIYA 1:35 GERMAN KS600 MOTORCYCLE & SIDECAR • KIT NO.35384

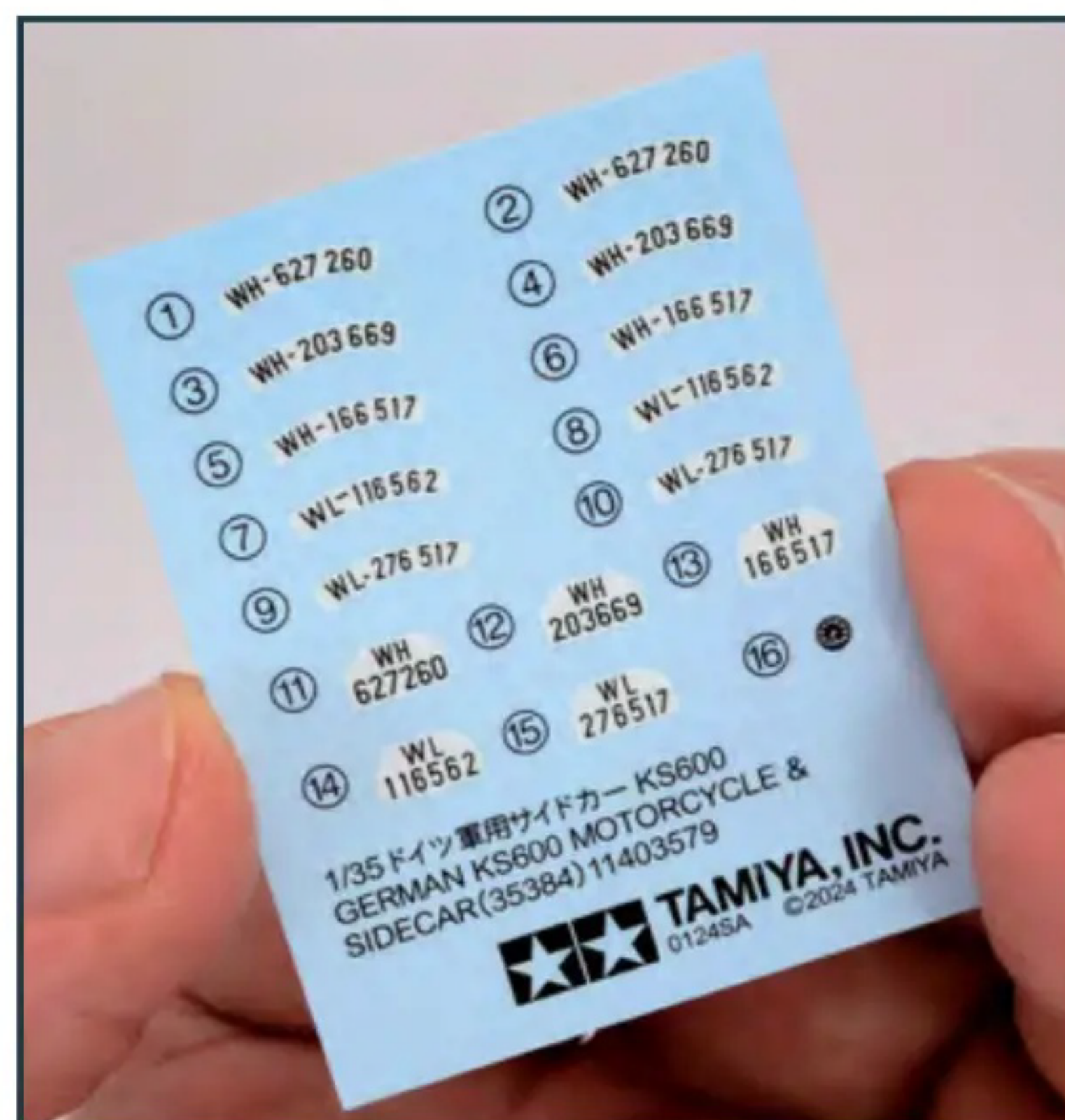


ZÜNDAPP ZURPRISE!

An all new KS600 motorcycle
and sidecar ride again

The (Zündapp) KS600 is a classic World War Two German motorcycle design that has become enduringly popular as a scale-modelling subject and Tamiya have created an all-new 1:35 miniature replica of this machine, plus sidecar, crew and foot-soldier in this set for 2024. The kit box contains two sprues of dark grey, injection-moulded polystyrene for the bike and sidecar, plus another in lighter grey for the figures, along with a decal sheet of German Army and Air Force markings, plus instrument panel for the KS600. Sadly, there are no extra decals for uniform insignia as supplied with the Machine Gun Team reviewed here, but to make up for that, Tamiya have provided a signpost and base, with the signs themselves printed in colour on the side of the box lid. Trim them out,

glue in place, give them a coat of matt varnish and they'll look pretty good. The limiting factor with injection-



moulded motorcycle kits (in smaller scales) will always be the wheel spokes, and Tamiya has done a decent job of replicating them as finely as possible, without making them too delicate to work with. They are, however, a bit on the thick side and would look a lot better if replaced with 3D-printed parts, or perhaps photo-etched brass. Other than that, this is a superb new kit with top quality figures and superb detail on the motorcycle and sidecar.

Full-build article coming soon to TMMI. ●

Availability;

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



I COULD DO WITH A



ROAD!

Kev Smith builds, paints and weathers the Das Werk 1:16 Sd.Kfz.251/D in his own, inimitable way



In late 1943, the design of the Sd.Kfz. 251 was improved again as the Ausf D was introduced. The body was welded and simplified to speed up production. The two large air intakes were removed and the rear of the hull was completely reshaped. The over-complex clamshell doors were swapped in favour of flat rear armour plate, set at an angle, in which two simple flat hinged doors were mounted. Integral stowage bins replaced the bolt on original boxes that sat on top of the track guards.

The armament of the Sd.Kfz.251 also changed, to a pair of 7.92mm MG42s that replaced the previously used MG34s. Inside the compartment, layout was much the same as it had been in the Ausf.C, however wood replaced the leather bench seats. The Sd.Kfz.251 continued to be produced throughout the war, modifications and conversions were pressed into service to meet the requirement for anti-tank and fire support platforms. After WW2 the vehicle lived on in Czechoslovakian service (OT-810) with a fully enclosed body and powered by a diesel power-pack.

The ever-increasing range of 1:16 models has taken in the Sd.Kfz.251 Ausf.D and the kit reviewed here is the offering released by Das Werk: this workhorse of the German army definitely got my modelling juices flowing. I knew the box would be big, but I wasn't expecting it to be that big! After browsing through the contents with a cup of tea, the excitement began to grow, as did the

apprehension of building such a big kit. I thought the best way of tackling the project was to treat each component or sub-assembly as a model in its own right, which included the pioneer tools and even the crew seats. It would slow down the build considerably, but, you get out of modelling what you put in.

The model-build started with the chassis tub, which includes the vehicle's battery, air and fuel tanks that are assembled over a number of stages. The suspension is designed to be workable, the torsion bars fitting through the elliptical tubes that strengthen the tub and attached to the frame with a dab of glue. Once I started, it became apparent that to speed up the construction, I could jump forward a couple of steps and put together the fuel and air tanks at the same time.

I was looking forward to painting and weathering the red primer as I don't use this finish as much as I would like. To start, the entire tub and sub-assemblies were undercoated with Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black, over which Mission Models Red Oxide was laid down and I have to say this does achieve a striking effect (**pic 1**). The floor of the tub was weathered with a dusting of pigments, with spilt oil effects applied after using Abteilung 502 Engine Grease (160). When it came to painting the final drive, I first airbrushed the assembly with Tamiya Black, then drybrushed with Mr Color Metal 212 Iron. This is a simple but effective way of achieving an authentic-looking finish (**pic 2**). ▶



❶ It was around about now that information came to light that the bump-stops for the swing arms on the D variant are wrong and the kit features the earlier configuration for '251s. This was easily corrected by the third, fourth, and fifth bump-stops omitted and the location areas filled. Not sure if this will be visible on the finished model, but it needs to be done if an accurate model is to be built (**pic 3**).

HIDDEN AREAS

The reason I weathered the tub floor before cementing the sub-assemblies in positions because is no easy access to the floor once these are in place. Once the final drive, fuel tank, and air cylinders were in position the missing air, fuel line and battery wires were fitted. It was just a case then of weathering these with pigments and spilt oil in the same way as the chassis floor. The majority of the '251's build-time is dedicated to the lower hull and it's a real shame that much of what you see on these pages won't be seen again. Das Werk has given the modeller the choice of a number of panels that can be removed, but in reality, this isn't practical as the panels are tucked away under the armoured roof and would definitely invite damage if they were to be removed repeatedly. I did however leave the gearbox cover unglued and I did cut out the fuel tank cover. Alternatively, most of internal steps can be bypassed and be built from the floor up. This would definitely save a lot of time, but where is the fun in that? (**pic 4**).

Keeping with the theme of treating each sub-assembly as a stand-alone, the front axle was built up as per the instructions. After an undercoat of Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black with a little X-9 Brown mixed in, Tamiya XF-88 Dark Yellow 2 was misted over the top to bring out the detail in the spring. Weathering consisted of light chipping with a sponge plus fine scratches, using a sharp blade to carefully reveal the black/brown undercoat (**pic 5**).

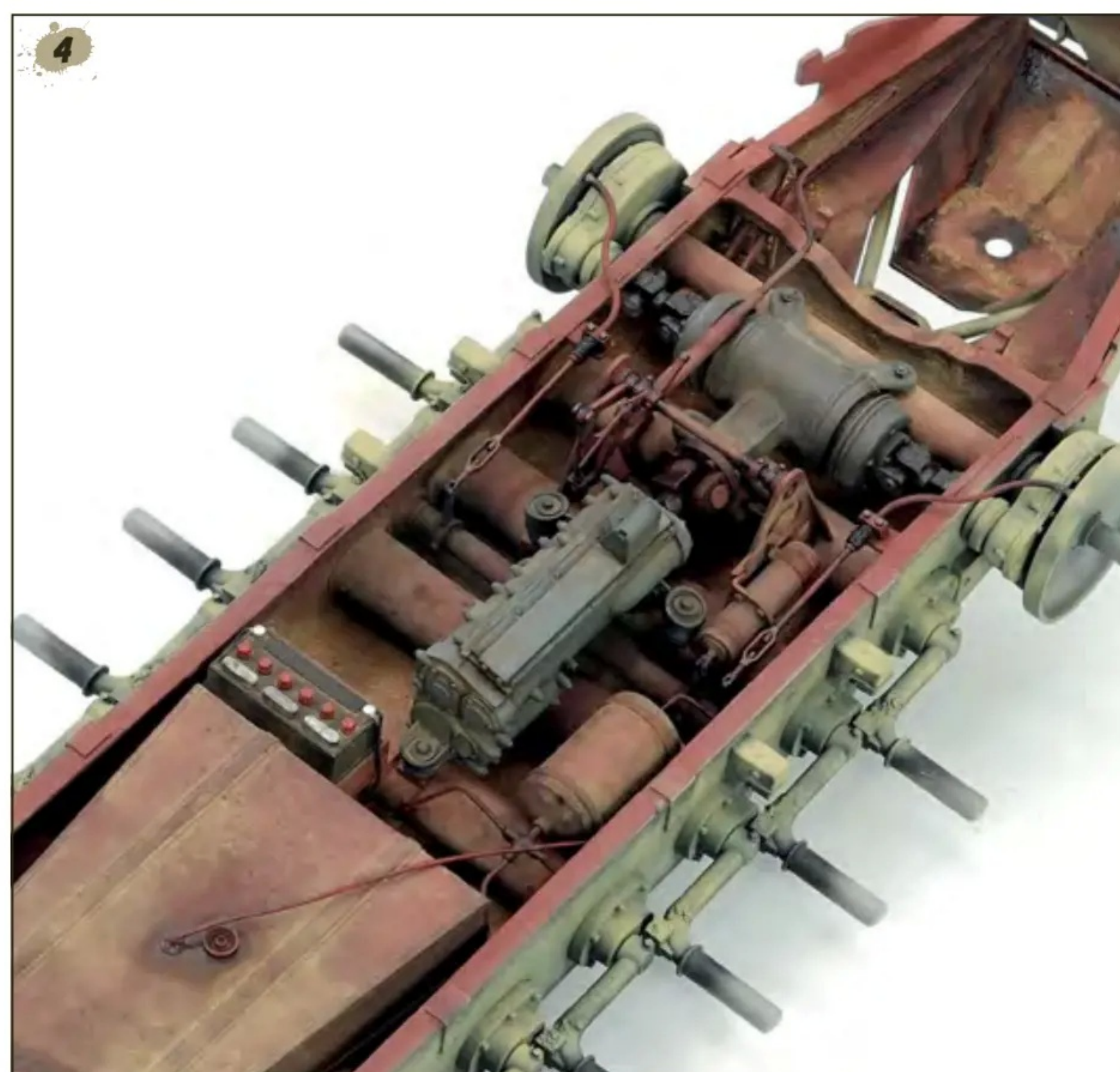
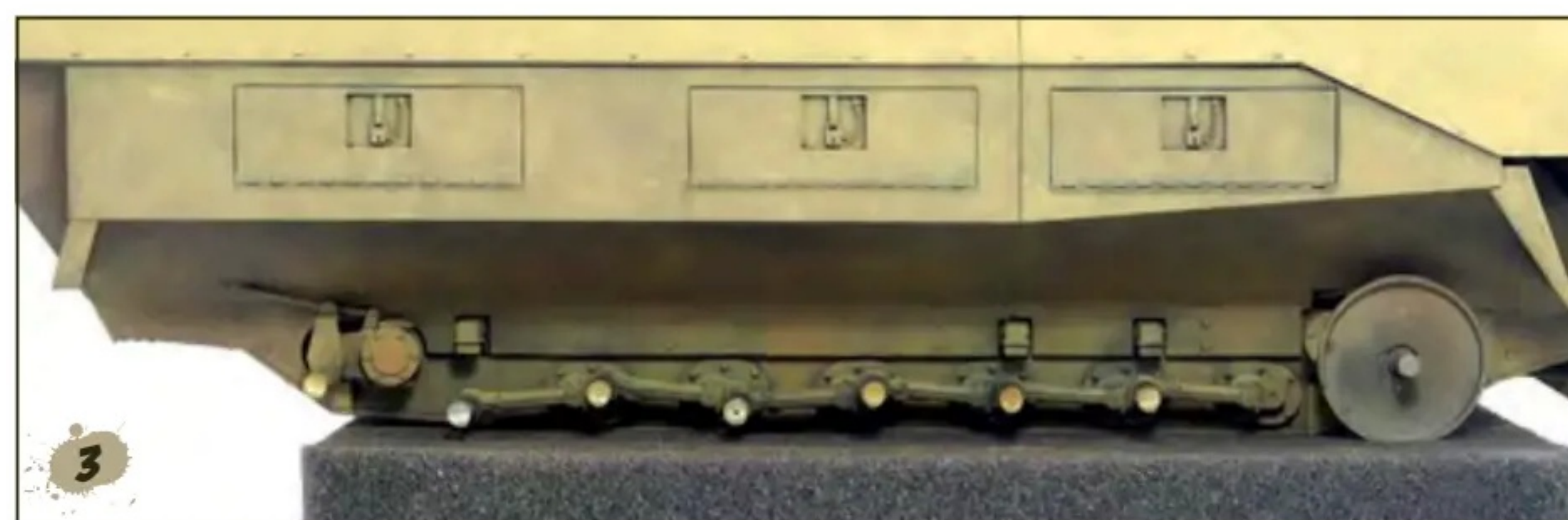
With the tub interior painted and weathered

and the axle waiting to be attached, it was time to turn my attention to the underside of the hull. The same undercoat mix of brown and black was applied first, then followed with a coat of hairspray (**pic 6**). I tend to decant the hairspray into an airbrush so I can control the application of this medium, as I find spraying straight from the can will result in the hairspray being applied too thick, which can lead to too much top coat being removed, leaving large unrealistic patches. This was then followed by a coat of Tamiya XF-88. After being left for around twenty minutes I removed patches of the XF-88 using warm water and with a combination of an old brush and cocktail stick to inflict scratches. A coat of matt varnish followed to protect the weathering up to this point. When fully cured, another lighter coat of hairspray was again airbrushed onto the model, this time Tamiya XF-57. Finally, oil spills and stains followed using a mixture of Abteilung 502 Engine Grease oil paint and black pigment and applied to logical areas (**pic 7**).

POWERPLANT

The engine is a model in its own right and the first parts to be tackled were the fans and radiator, both painted and weathered accordingly. The basic engine block was assembled to the point that the plumbing needed to be fitted (**pic 8**). The engine was painted in the same base colour of black and brown mix that I had been using up to this point. Over this, a mix of Mig Productions Brick Dust and Gulf War Sand pigments with Abteilung 502 Industrial Earth oil paint (090). The addition of the 090 thickens up the pigments so I was able to stipple the mix onto the lower areas of the engine block to replicate the build-up of dried oil and dust as I did in earlier stages. The same technique was employed on other areas of the engine such as the exhaust (**pic 9**). Attention now turned to the leather cushions on the stowage bins (**pic 10**).

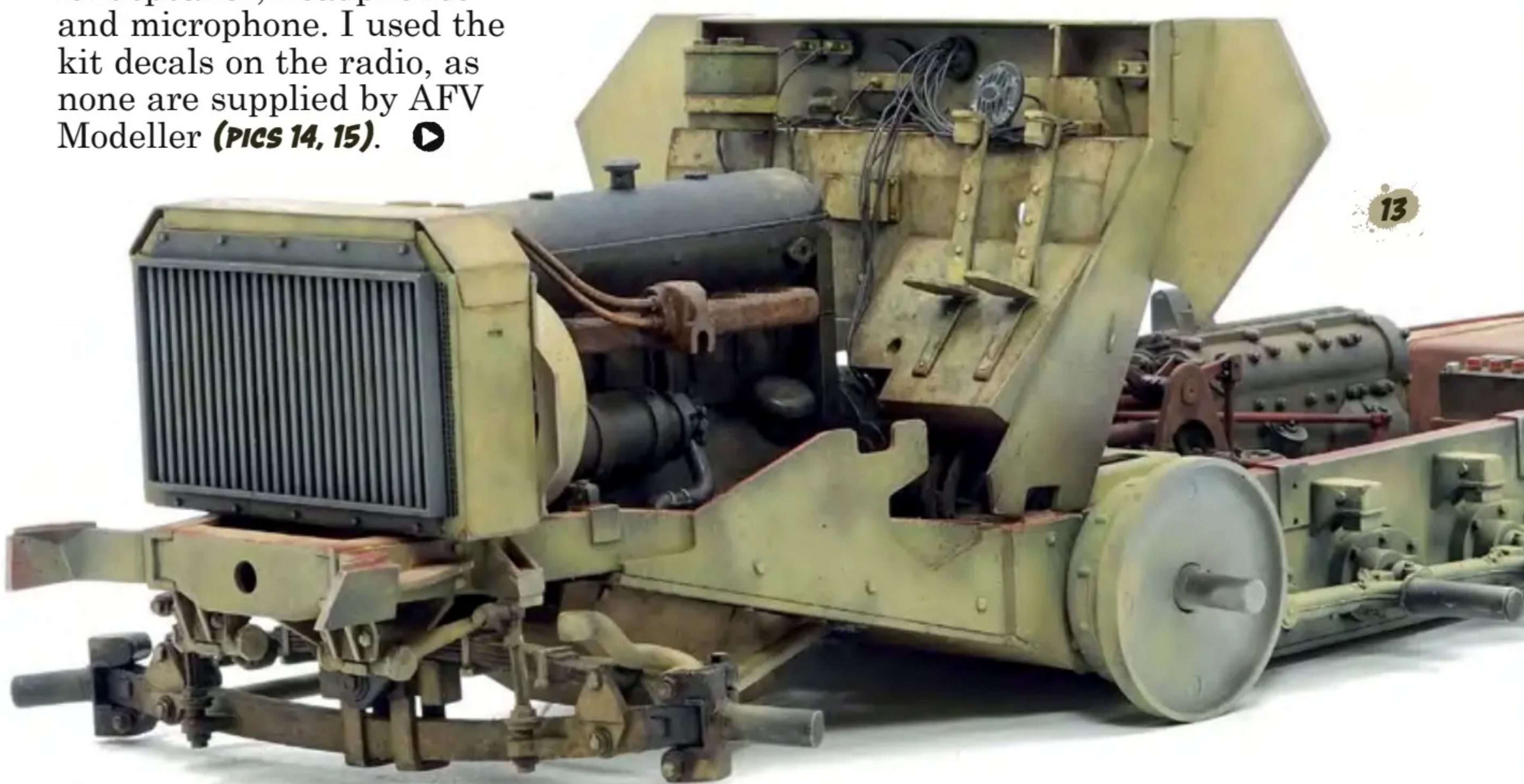
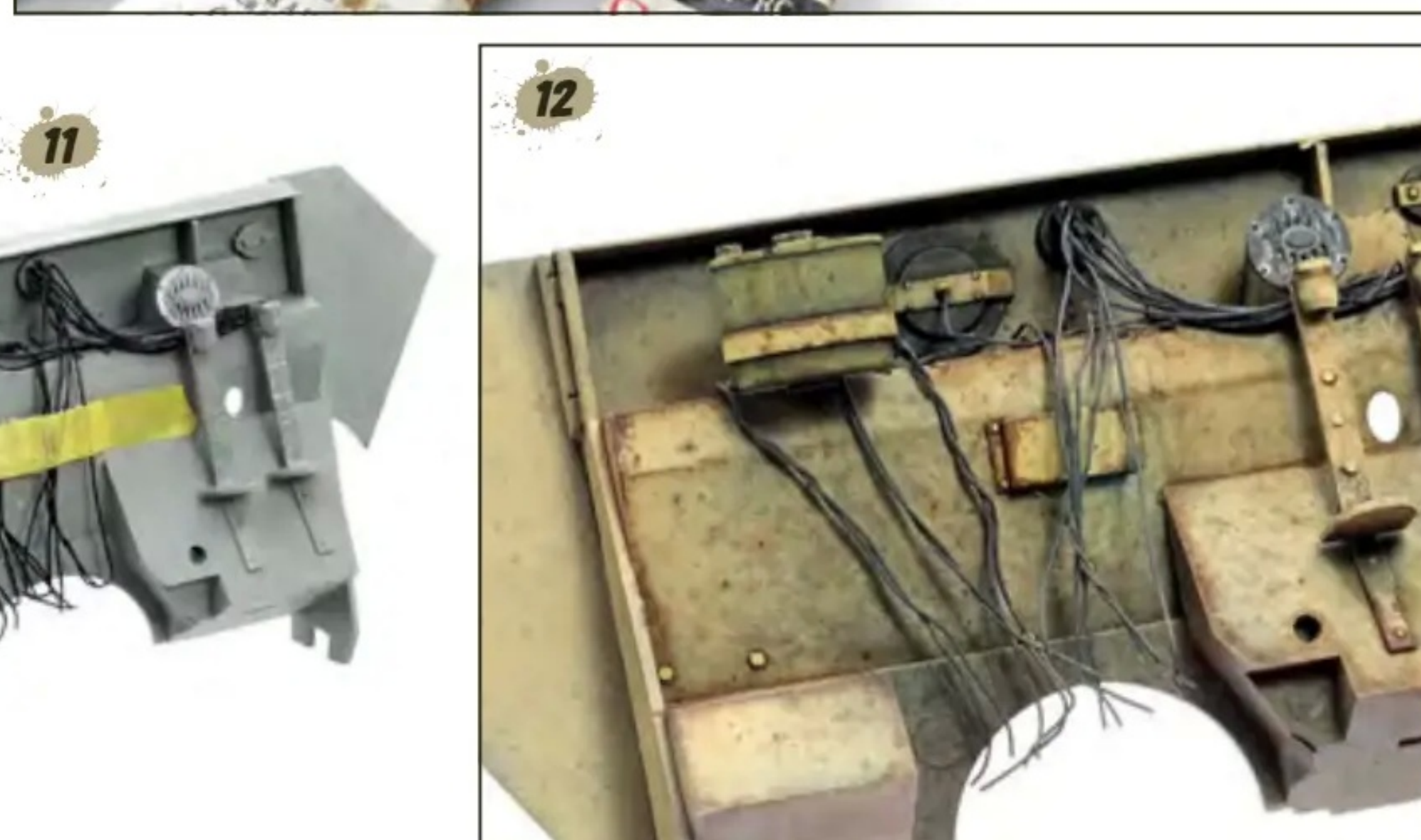
The firewall was next on the list. From the reference





photos I had, I could observe wiring coming from the rear of the driver's instruments and various boxes, but what I couldn't see was where they went. As a compromise, I cut the wires long enough so they could be tucked away from sight. I moved away from the elastic, in favour of black plastic-coated wire for this task (**PICS 11, 12, 13**).

Another area that I decided to address was the radio equipment. AFV Modeller's 3D-printed set provides the complete FuspRech F radio installation for the '251 and includes the correct connectors and plugs. A neat, colour-coded guide is provided for the correct cable layout which was followed with thin elastic to replicate the wiring. The set also includes two antenna connection boxes, the SEUa power transformer, loudspeaker, headphones and microphone. I used the kit decals on the radio, as none are supplied by AFV Modeller (**PICS 14, 15**). ▶





LEVEL 4



Can be finished as either an Ar 240 A-01 or A-02
03798 Arado Ar 240, 1:72

LEVEL 4



Can be finished as either Do335A-1 or Do335A-12
03795 Dornier Do 335 Pfeil, 1:48

LEVEL 4



03803 Airbus A340-300 "Lufthansa" New Livery, 1:144

LEVEL 5



05458 Darwin's Discovery Barque H.M.S. Beagle, 1:96

LEVEL 2 **STAR WARS**



1/72 scale
TIE ADVANCED x1
SINAR FLEET SYSTEMS TIE ADVANCED x1 PROTOTYPE
01214 TIE Advanced x1 (Bandai), 1:72

Available from all good model stockists and online from

hobbycraft

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell

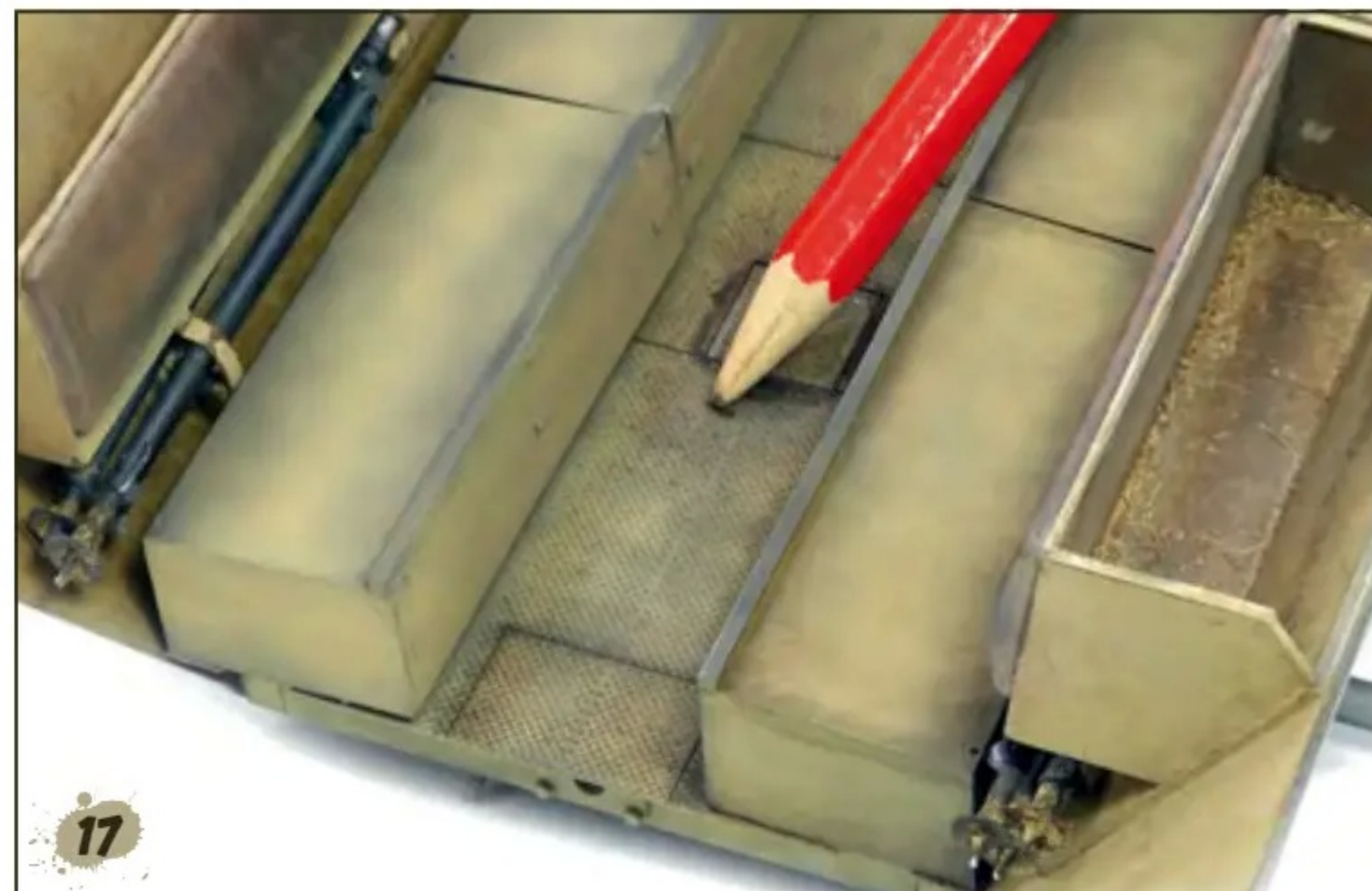
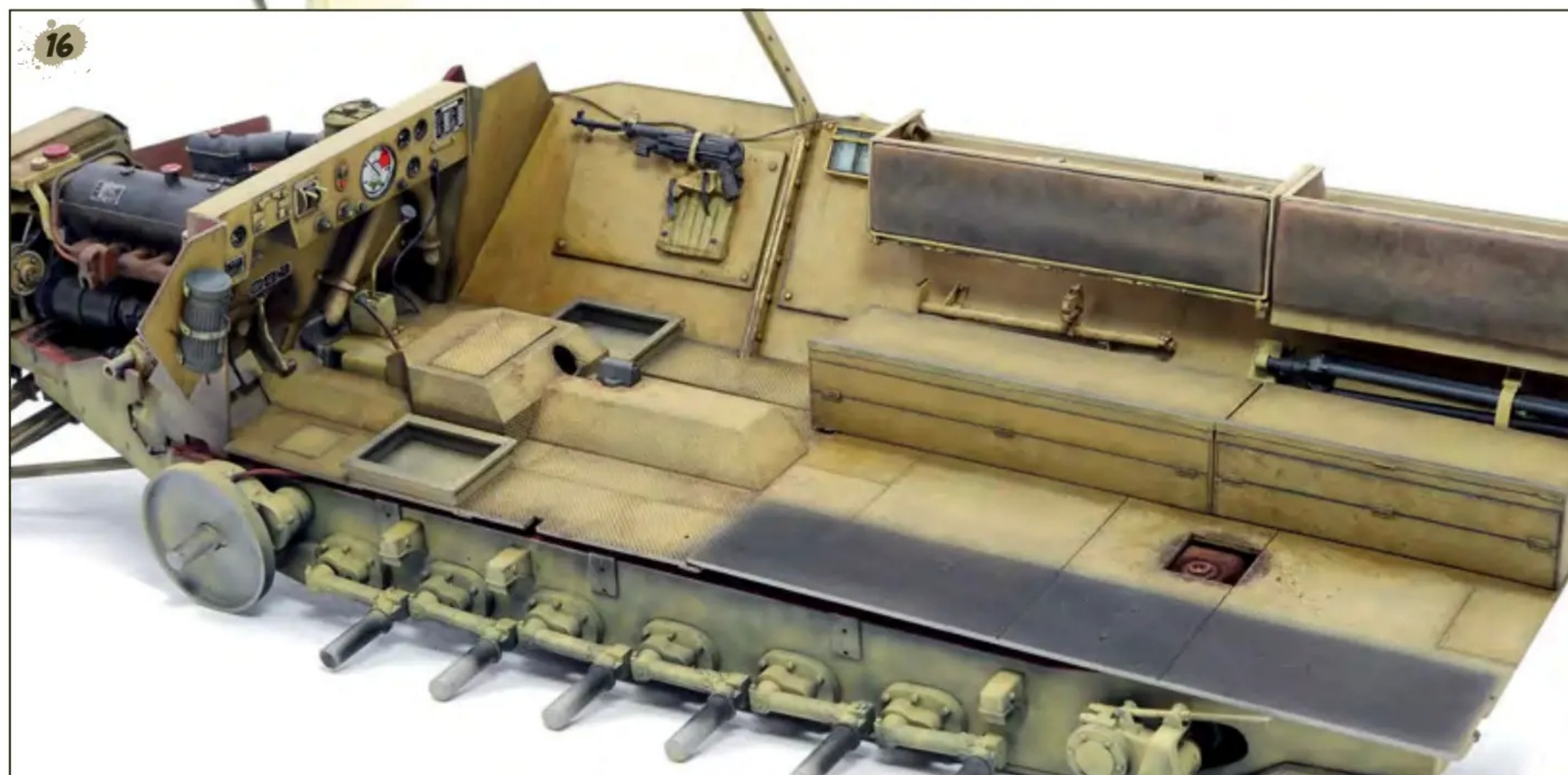
WE'RE GETTING THERE!

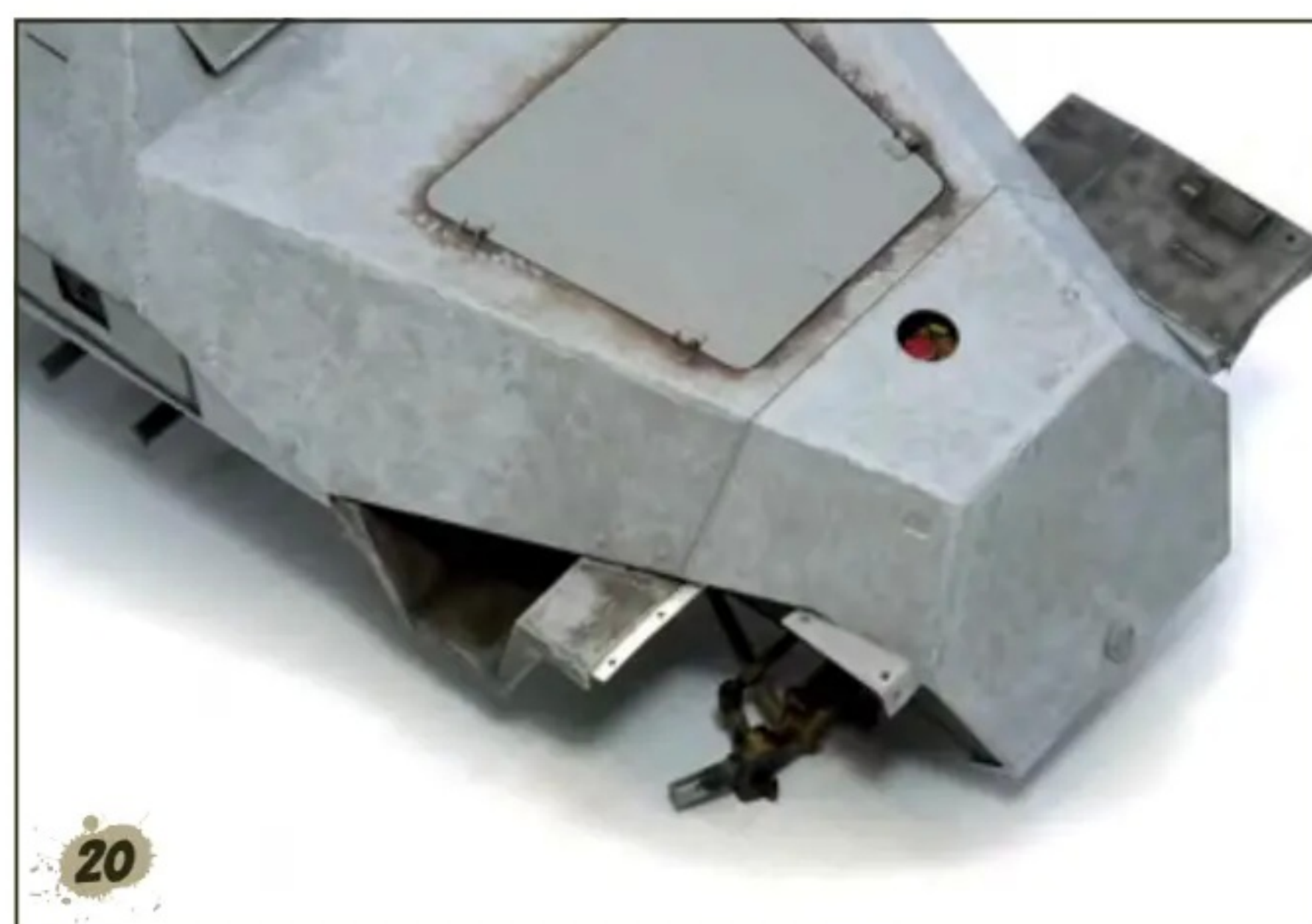
The build was gathering pace now. With the internal walls and firewall now painted and weathered, it was time to turn my attention to the fighting compartment floor. This area is one of the most visible of the entire model, so I felt the space should be as interesting as possible. I began with a shadow coat of XF-1 Flat Black, with a mottled over-spray of XF-92 Yellow Brown DAK 1941. The nicely-rendered floor tread plate was picked out with a soft leaded pencil to suggest the wear and tear of the crew movements and later, fine dirt would be employed to add further interest. I've been using real dirt on my models/dioramas for some time now and is a great way to weather AFV models (**PICS 16, 17**).

The seating arrangements were the final steps to be taken care of before I could close the model up. AFV Modeller's corrected seats replaced the kit parts, which are basic in detail. When it came to painting the padding, I used a wet mix of AK 11318 Dunkelgelb and 11436 Canvas Tone, the two colours applied by brush. Finally, stains were applied to the material using thinned Abt 090 Industrial Earth oils (**PICS 18, 19**).

ONTO THE OUTSIDE

With the internal area of the fighting compartment completed, it was time to make a start on the exterior of the '251. This is the stage that held the most trepidation for me: I knew the finish I was looking for, but could I translate that convincingly to the large surface of a 1:16 model? Before I could lay any paint down there were a couple of areas that I felt needed to be addressed. I wanted to inflict a little 'battle damage' to the vehicle and I toyed with the idea of 'damaging' some of the stowage bins that run down the side of the hull, but in the end settled with removing part of the front right mudguard. To finish this area the missing support bracket on the remaining section of mudguard was cut from plastic card and it was then a case of drilling out the holes for the missing bolts (**PICT 20**).





The choice of undercoat has a huge effect on the top coat, especially when using lighter paints for the finishing layers. I normally tend to go for earthy undercoats for Dunkelgelb finishes, so for this model I decided to go with a red primer undercoat, my thinking being that a model of this scale could take the dark primer coat without effecting the Dunkelgelb layers that can happen in 1:35. To start, I laid down a coat of Tamiya X-9 Brown (**PIC 21**). Keeping to the same system as the interior, I used an AK Interactive stencil to airbrush on a mottled coat of XF-60, then over the top another a mottled coat of XF-88 (**PIC 22**). The Olivgrun and Rotbraun colours both came from the AK Interactive 3rd Generation range. Heavily thinned with 3Gen thinner, the disruptive pattern was sprayed in light coats, building them up slowly with a couple of passes with the airbrush, keeping the pattern as subtle as possible (**PIC 23**).

The aftermarket hasn't caught up (yet) with the popularity of 1:16 releases and this is especially true when it comes to decals. I wanted to build a '251/1 Ausf.D of the Panzergrenadier-Lehr-Regiment 901. Panzer-Lehr-Division and I had



no alternative but to hand-paint the unit and tactical symbols, referring to a set of Star Decals intended for 1:35 models for Panzer Lehr '251s (**PIC 24**).

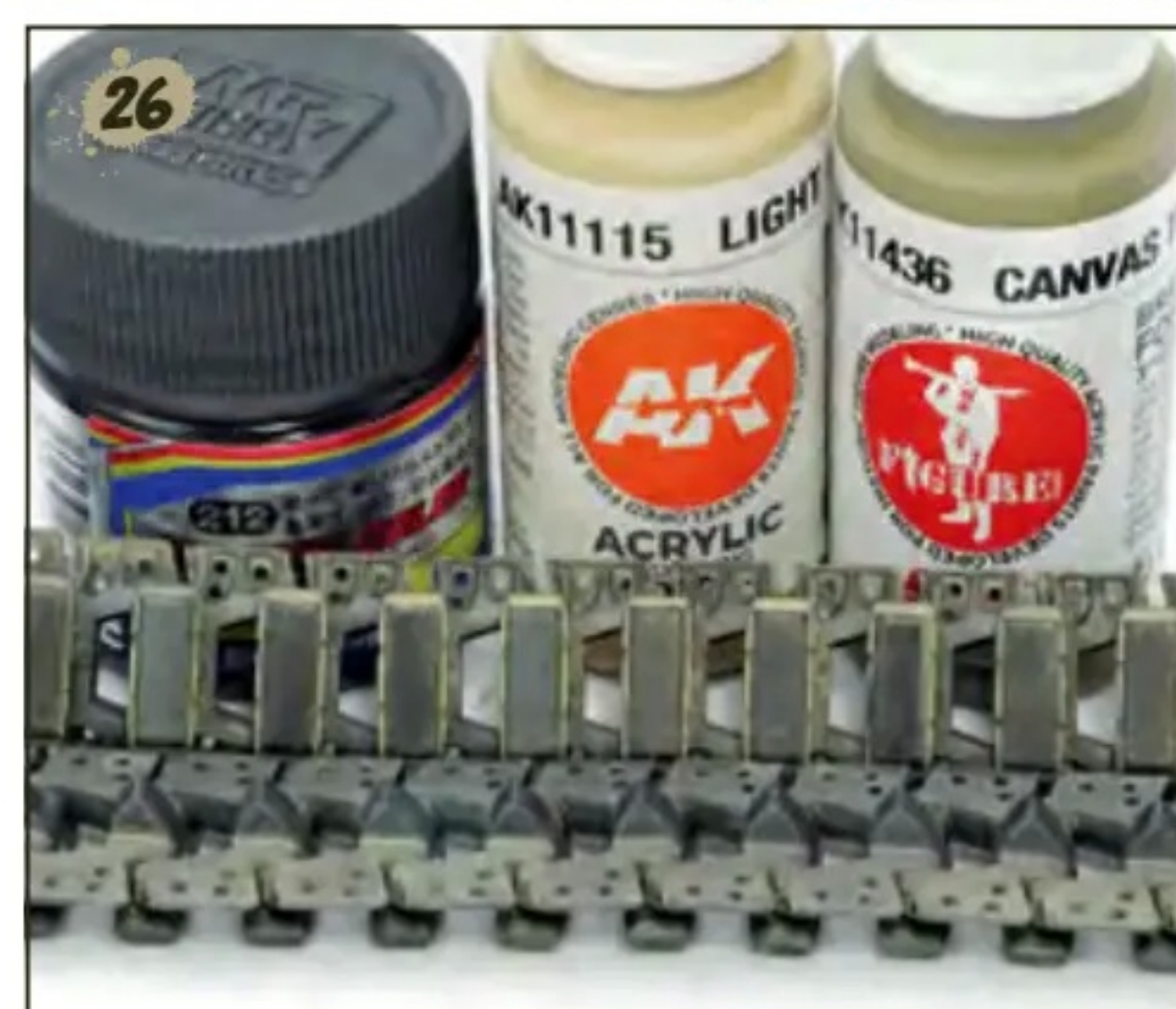
TIMING THE TRACKS

I was preparing to start on the tracks when a package arrived in the post. The guys at AFV Modeller had kindly sent me their new 3D printed tracks and road wheels this also included the drive sprockets to compliment the tracks. I have to say that the Das Werk tracks are more than adequate to use from the box, but the injection moulding process has its limitations and it is impossible to recreate all the hollow sections on the tack links in plastic where the 3D process can achieve



this detail easily. The resin tracks fitted together easily and quickly and all that's required was a little dab of superglue on the end of the track pins (**PIC 25**).

The tracks were initially airbrushed with XF-1 Black over which XF-84 Dark Iron was airbrushed. After being left to dry overnight I then set about weathering them. Keeping with the



dusty finish I didn't want to clog up the links with packed mud and grass, so I opted instead for gentle colour-washes of AK11115 Light Earth and AK11436 Canvas Tone. To break up the overall look of the black track pads I picked out individual pads in different tones of grey using both the AK paints mixed with AK 11027 Rubber Black (**PIC 26**). ▶





❶ A LITTLE MUSIC?

I always try to give my models a lived-in feel to them, and of course the best way to do this is to add stowage. Amongst the usual jerrycans and ammo boxes I wanted to add some personal possessions to the '251. Whilst researching the build I came across a photo of troops sitting around a gramophone. Ideal, I thought! But finding one proved hard in 1:16... My friend Mike Norris came to the rescue when he volunteered his 3D printing skills. Not only did he send the gramophone, a Panzerschreck was included too (pics 27, 28).

All I needed to do was find a home for the records. I found images of some era-appropriate albums online, reduced them to scale, then printed them. I also added an internal folder in the gramophone's lid to keep the records in. A pin-up poster was stuck to the inside of the gun-shield, cut from a set intended for HO-OO train layouts.

It was a case then of taking care of the accessories to populate the crew area. I decided to paint some of the ammo boxes in the tri-colour scheme to add a visual interest after finding examples online (pic 29). The

kit's weapons are a weak area and as I felt that these are a focal point, I opted to upgrade mine with sets from the AFV Modeller range, made even more impressive with the flexible ammo belt to compliment the weapons (pic 30).

I did have to rethink my approach to the build, down to the pure size of the model, compared to my usual 1:35 subjects and it was a challenge to accommodate and man-handle the model around my workbench, not to mention the photography. Having said that, this was a project I thoroughly enjoyed and would gladly tackle another. ●

TECHSPEC...

DAS WERK 1:16
SONDERKRAFTFAHRZEUG SD.KFZ.251/D
KIT NO.DW16005

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

Highlighted within the text

Accessories used:

AFV Modeller: Sd.Kfz. 251 Corrected Tracks For Das Werk Kit (16148), Sd.Kfz.251 Stowed MG42 (16139), MP40 Set (16141), MG34/42 Flexible Ammunition Belt (16137), Sd.Kfz. 251 Radio Detail Set Detail Set For Both Das Werk And Trumpeter Kits (16133)

Availability:

Das Werk: www.albionhobbies.com
AFV Modeller: www.afvmodeller.com



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6. 6. 1944 WE REMEMBER



#11181

#7473



#84200



#84199



#84172



#84195



#82122



#8281



#7466



#84183



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KIT PREVIEW

TAMIYA 1:72 LOCKHEED MARTIN F-35B LIGHTNING II • KIT NO. 60793

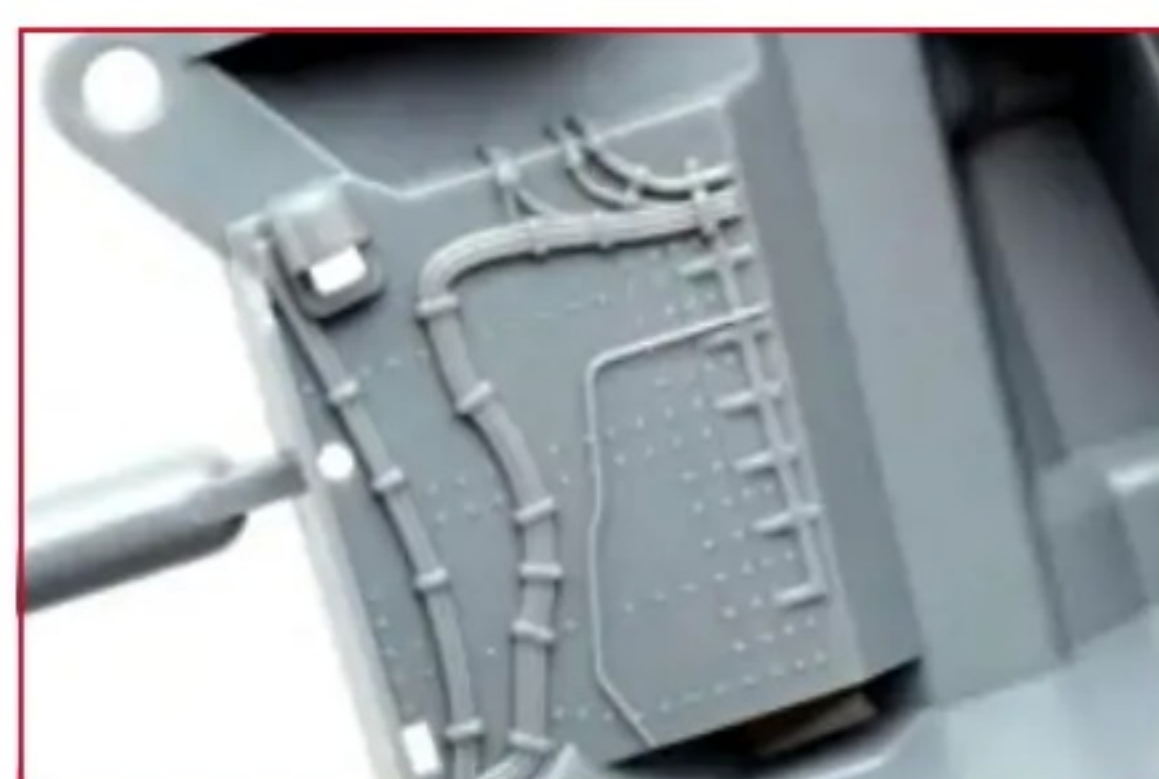
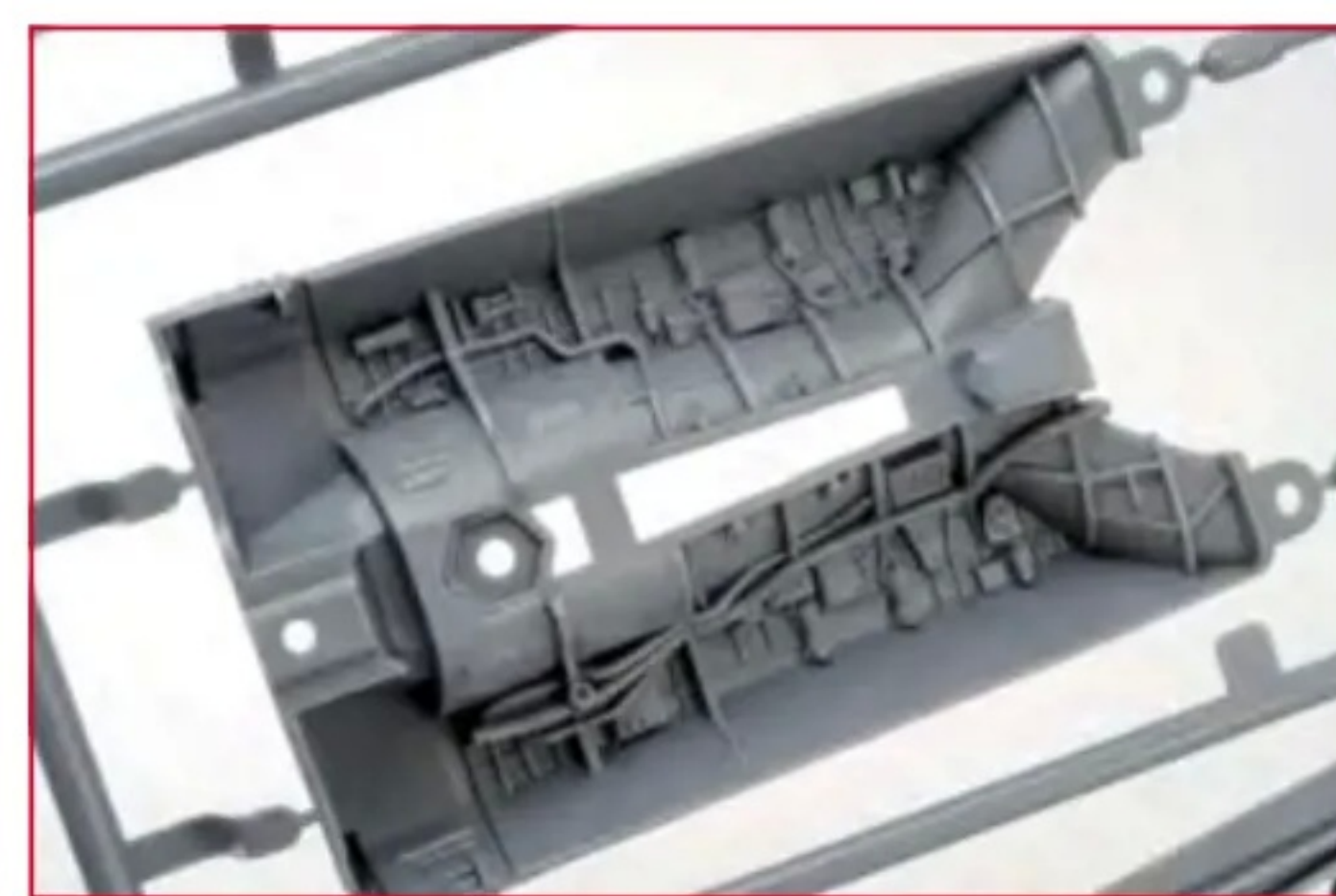
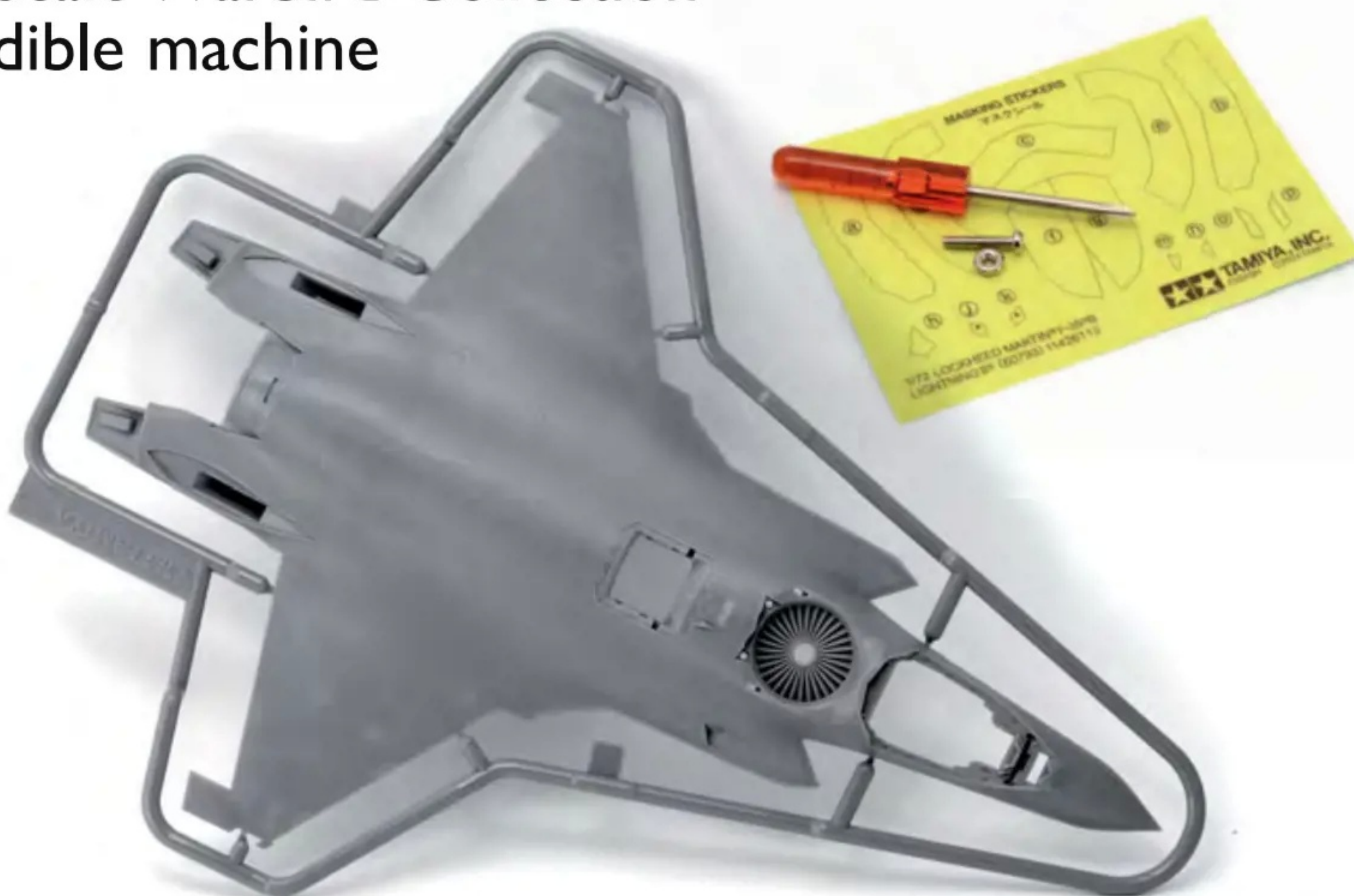


TAMIYA 1:72 LOCKHEED MARTIN F-35B LIGHTNING II

Joining the 1:72 F-35A in Tamiya's Scale Warbird Collection comes the 'B' version of this incredible machine

The F-35B is operated by the Royal Air Force's 617 Squadron 'Dambusters', United States Marine Corps, Italian Navy, Italian Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force, Belgian Air Force, Japan Air Self-Defence Force, and the Republic of Singapore Air Force. Tamiya's new kit encompasses all the astonishing detail and accuracy of its bigger 1:48 cousin, a model we featured back in TMMI Issue 339, January 2024. Here are a few highlights of this new 1:72 kit. ●

- Wingspan: 148mm
- Fuselage length: 215mm
- Distinctive F-35B design featuring both highly advanced stealth characteristics and STOVL is authentically captured in style, with ergonomic parts breakdown
- The modellers can choose one of two assembly modes: landed or hovering
- Realistic renderings of half-open inner weapon bay doors and interior details such as ribs and pipes
- Lift fan is integrated with nose landing gear bay and the variable vane underneath is recreated in detail
- Shorter than on the F-35A, the engine nozzle is recreated by a single part
- The 3BSM (3-Bearing Swivel Module) is faithfully recreated with a specially designed parts breakdown for this kit
- Y-shaped air intake duct for highly advanced stealth characteristics
- Martin-Baker US16E ejection seat
- RCS (Radar Cross Section) enhancers affixed to top and bottom sections during basic training exercises
- Five marking options from a total of three countries: United States Marine Corps, Royal Air Force, Italian Navy
- Includes painting masks and colour painting guide
- Refined recreation of RAM (Radar Absorbent Material)
- Includes AIM-9X Sidewinder x2, AIM-120C AMRAAM x2



Availability:

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

LOCKHEED MARTIN

F-35C Lightning II

1:72 scale
échelle

No 1469 model kit
modèle réduit



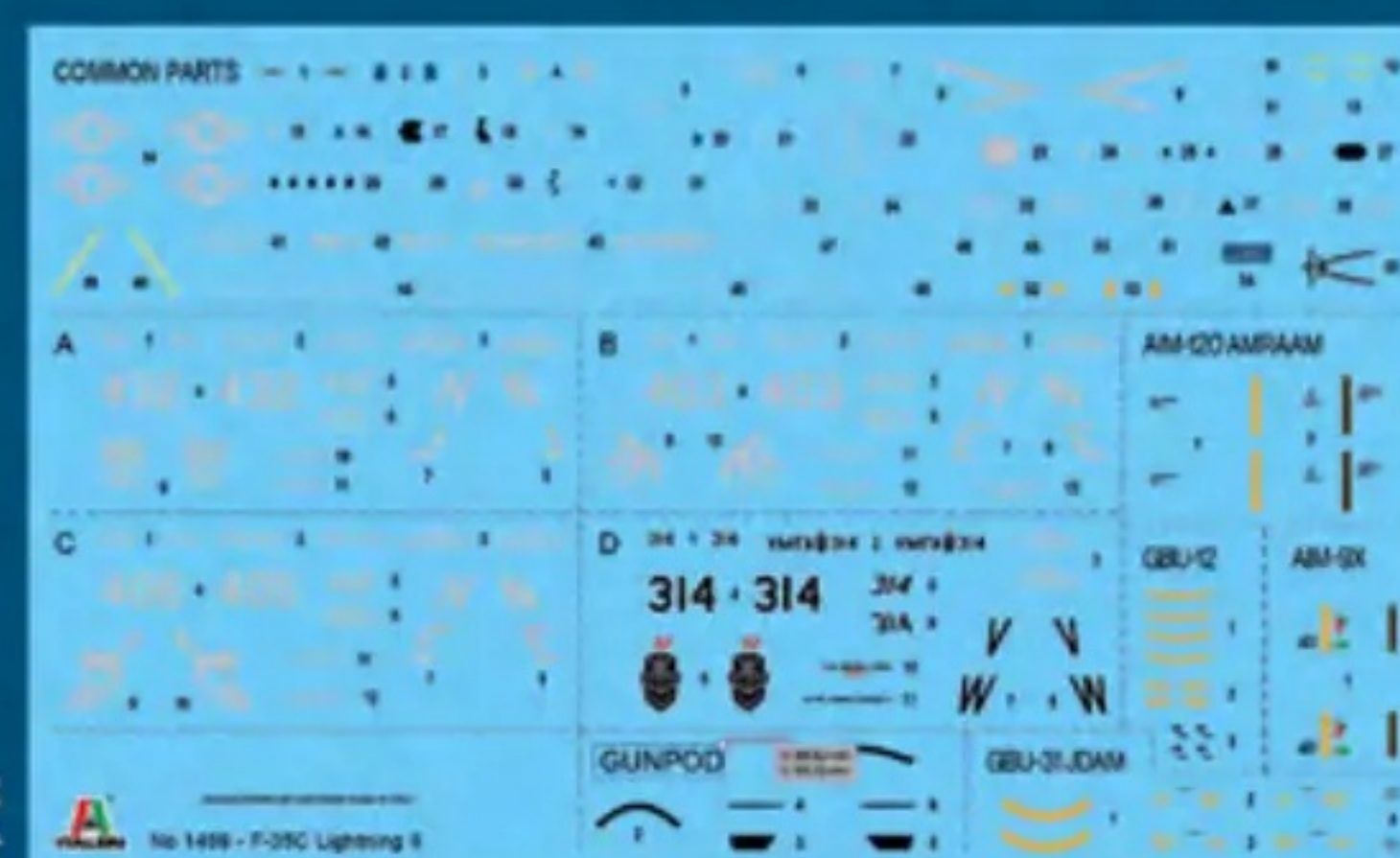
**100%
NEW
MOULDS**

Model Kit features

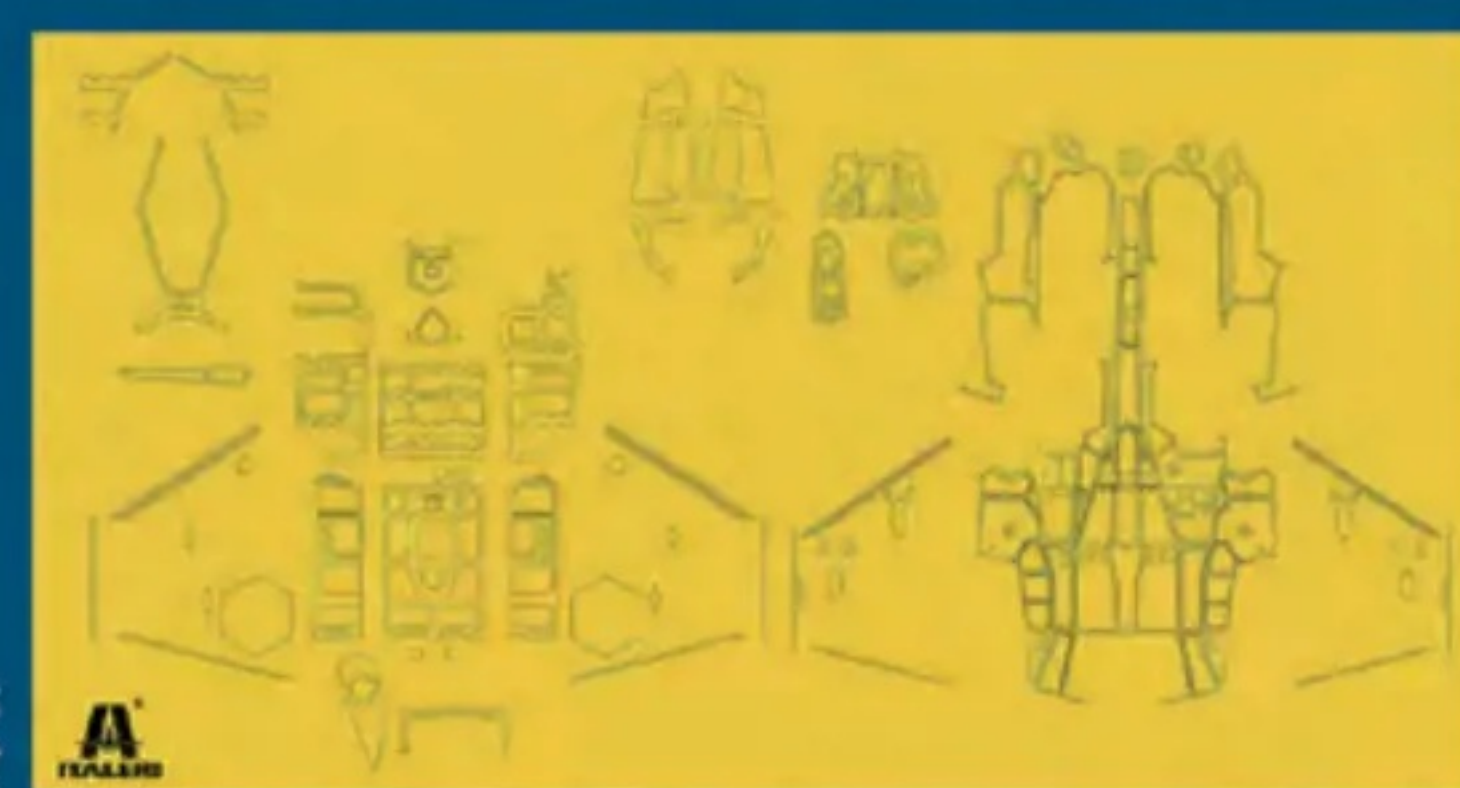
- Parts for "beast mode" configuration
- New masks stickers sheet
- Detailed external pylons and weapons
- Detailed cockpit and ejection seat
- Complete and detailed engine
- Fine engraved panels lines
- Landing gears, weapons bay and realistic foldable wings accurately reproduced with open or closed assembly option
- Super decals sheet for 4 versions



Decals
sheet



New masks
stickers sheet



100% New
moulds

0049

Bf 110 C Zerstörer

1:72



**NEW DECALS
EDITION**

Super decals sheet for 5 versions



0102

Junkers Ju 52/3m

1:72



**NEW DECALS
EDITION**

New Decals sheet for 3 versions



HELPING THE HEROES

Marcus Nicholls builds Tamiya's 1:48 British Ambulance and places it in a small 'Battle of Normandy' scene

Tamiya launched the 1:48 British Ambulance back in 2023 and to my shame, it has taken me until now to actually get it finished. It's a gorgeous little model that is very quick to build and could easily be completed in a weekend of enthusiastic workbench activity. I had some reasonable reference pictures of a real Austin K2/Y ambulance to hand, so I decided to add a few minor details using basic materials from my 'box of bits'. The most notable additions were:

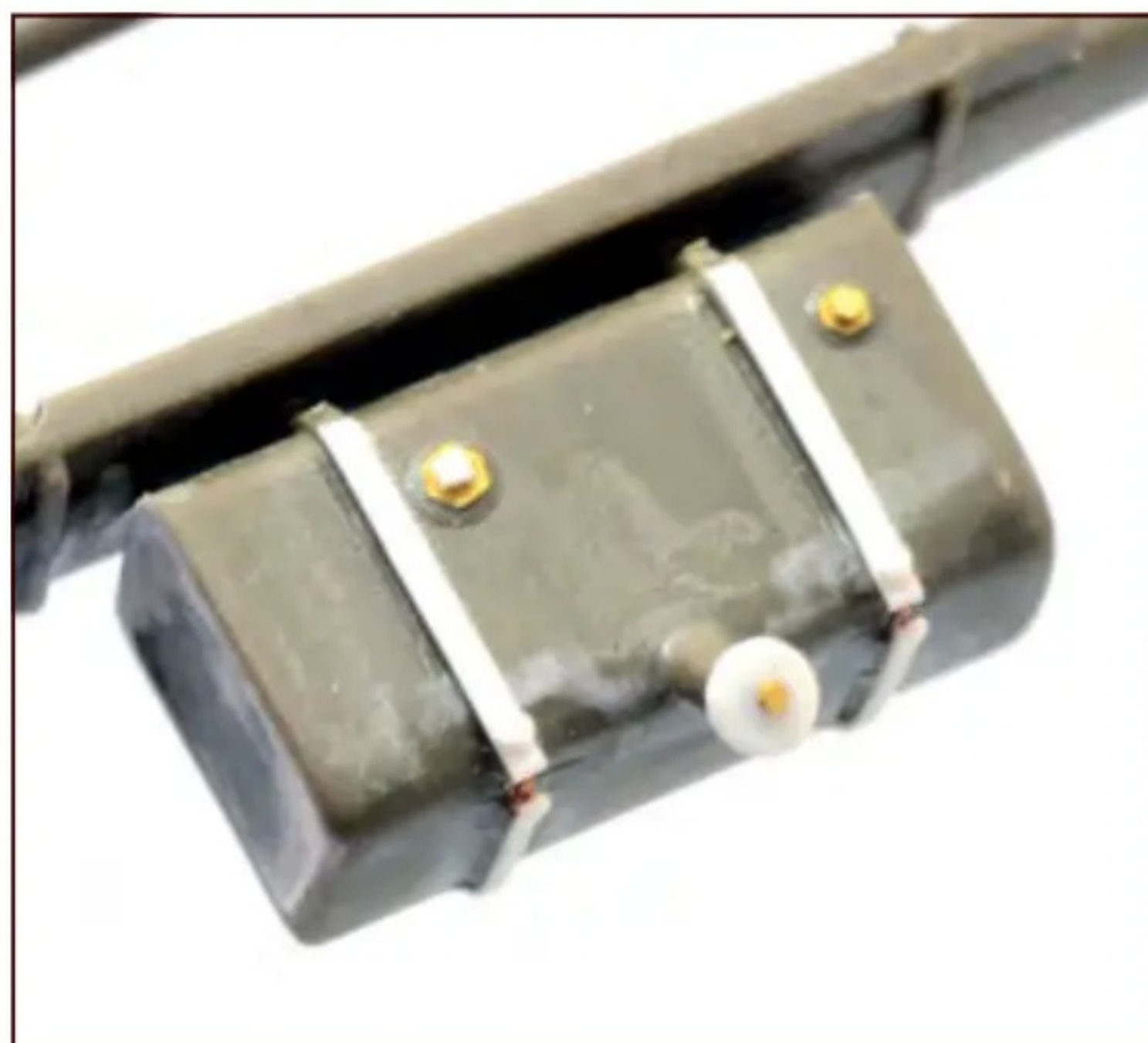
- Straps and details on the fuel tanks
- Towing hoops on the rear chassis rails
- Additional braces on rear wheel mud guards
- Punch-and-die bolts on the rear door hinges
- Bolt details on front bumper and wings
- Headlight cables
- Enhanced foot pedals
- Dashboard dial bezels and control switches
- Photo-etched windscreen wiper
- Rope coil added to front bumper-bar ▶



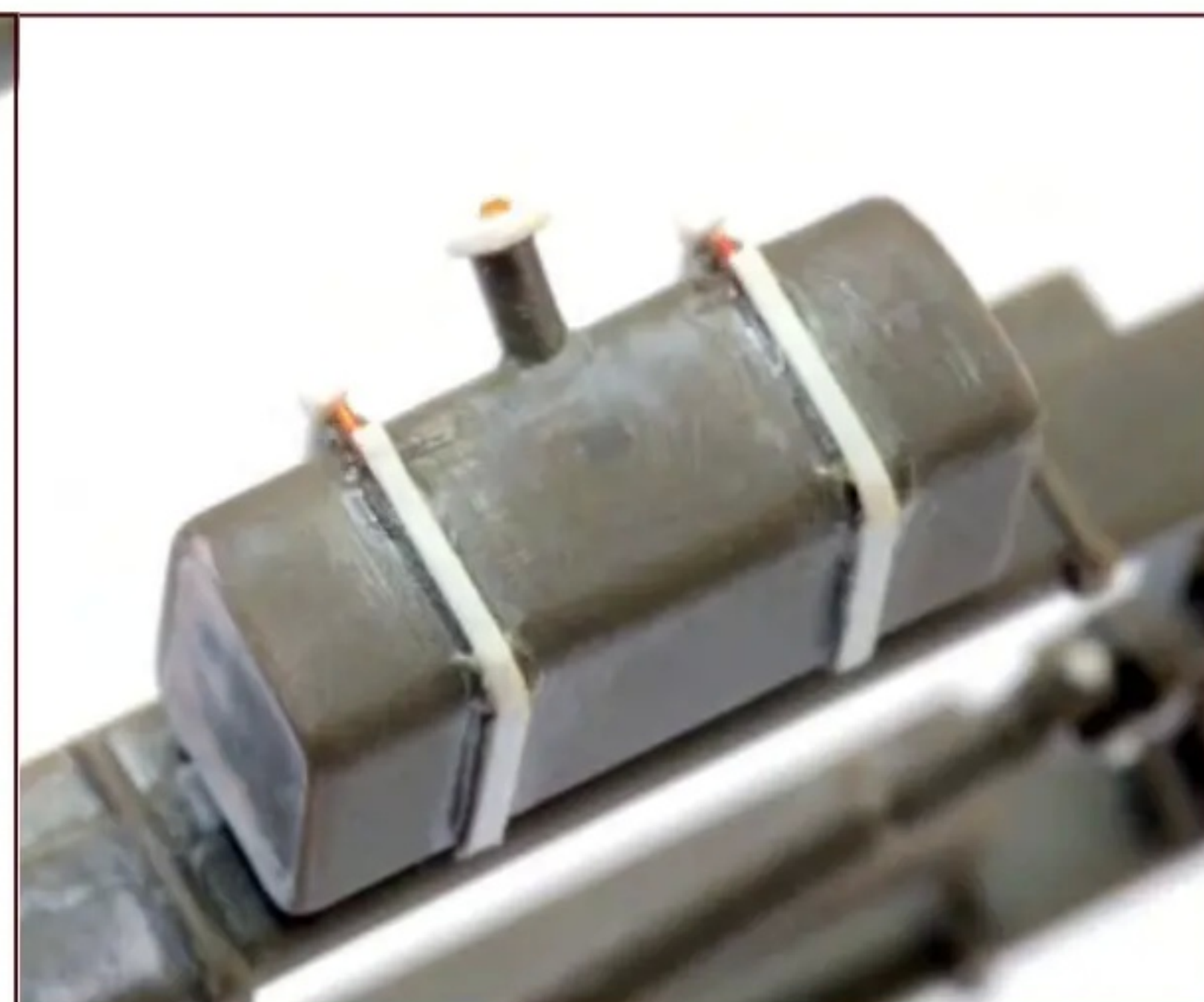




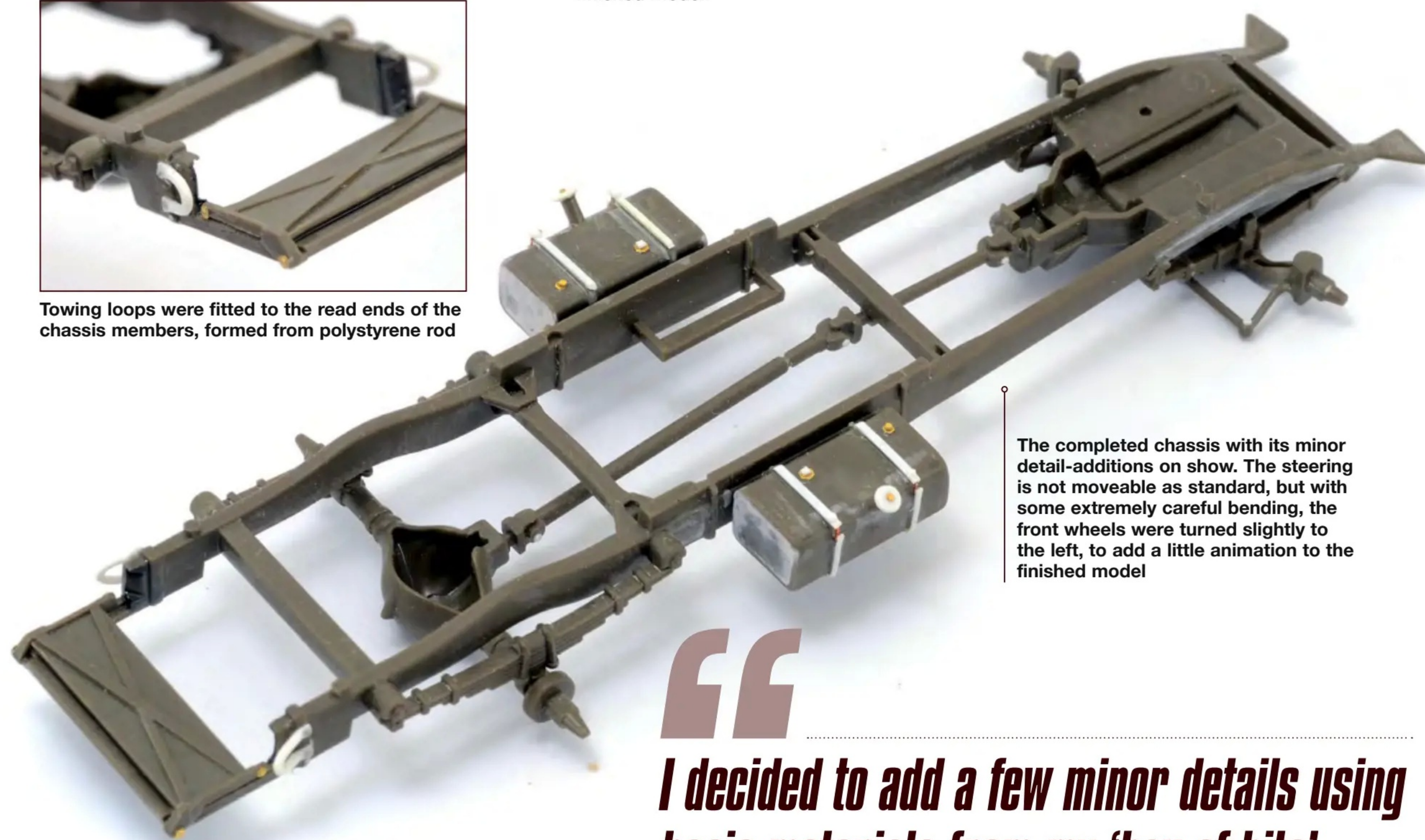
The main, lower parts of the fuel tanks are moulded in with the chassis, to which upper 'lids' are added. A little filler was needed around the joint



Some styrene strip and short pieces of copper wire were used to beef-up the fuel tanks' straps. Discs were added to enhance the filler caps and various PE brass bolts were placed on the upper surfaces, following references, although much of this can't be seen on the finished model!



Towing loops were fitted to the read ends of the chassis members, formed from polystyrene rod

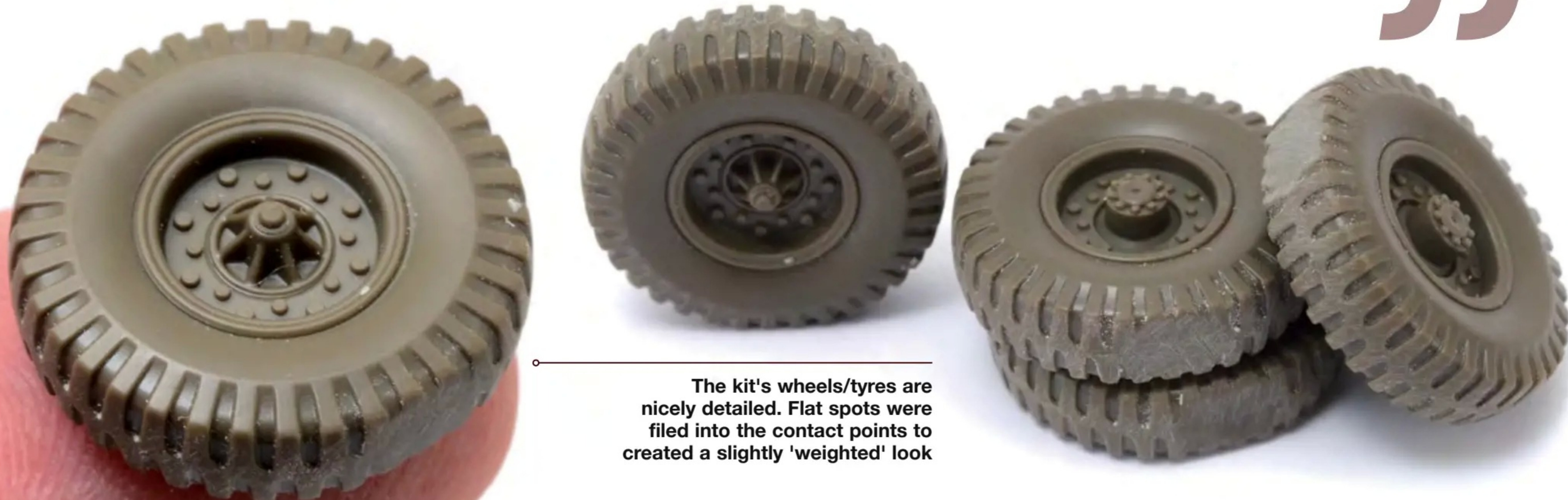


The completed chassis with its minor detail-additions on show. The steering is not moveable as standard, but with some extremely careful bending, the front wheels were turned slightly to the left, to add a little animation to the finished model

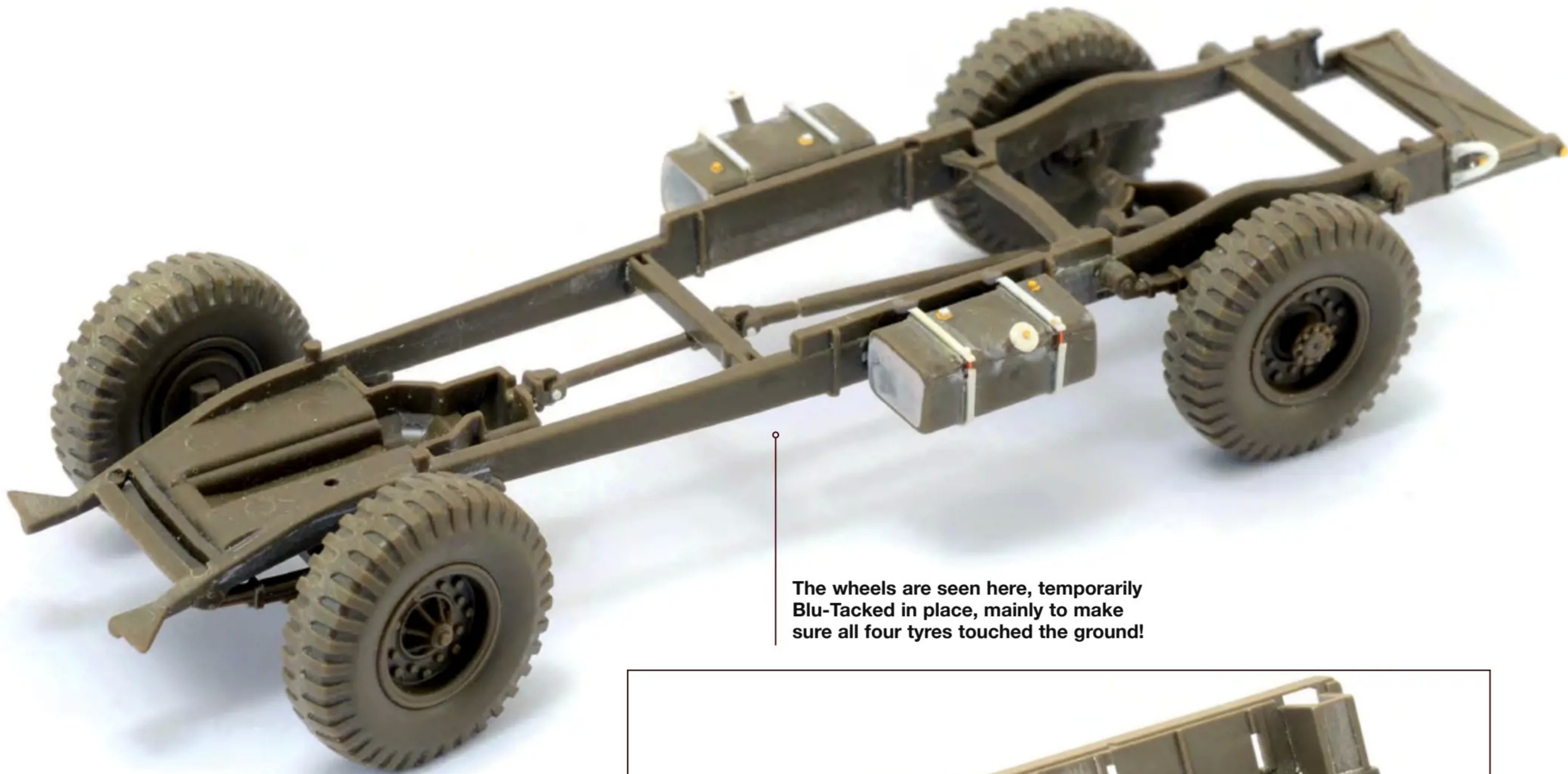
“

I decided to add a few minor details using basic materials from my 'box of bits'...

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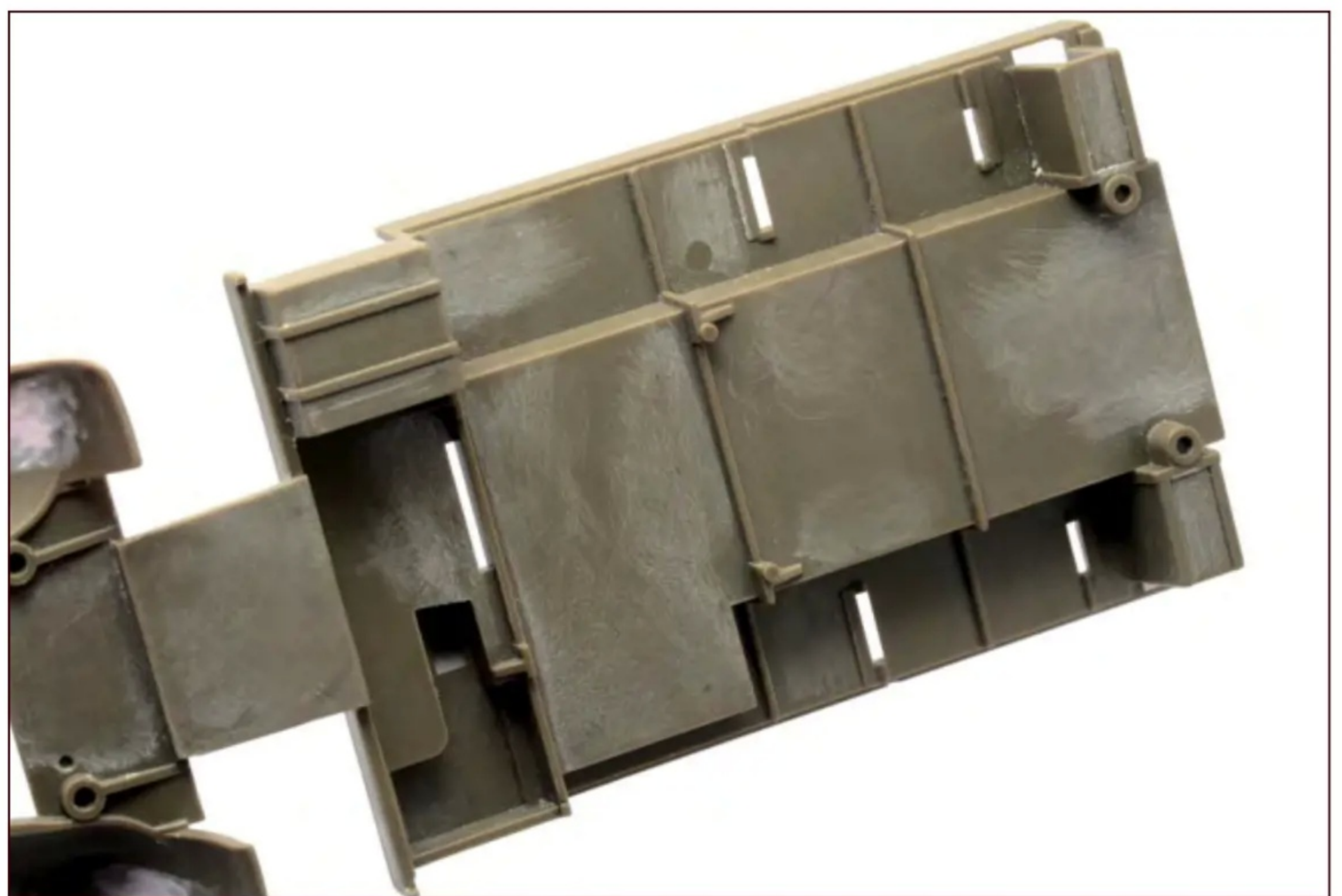
The kit's wheels/tyres are nicely detailed. Flat spots were filed into the contact points to created a slightly 'weighted' look



The wheels are seen here, temporarily Blu-Tacked in place, mainly to make sure all four tyres touched the ground!

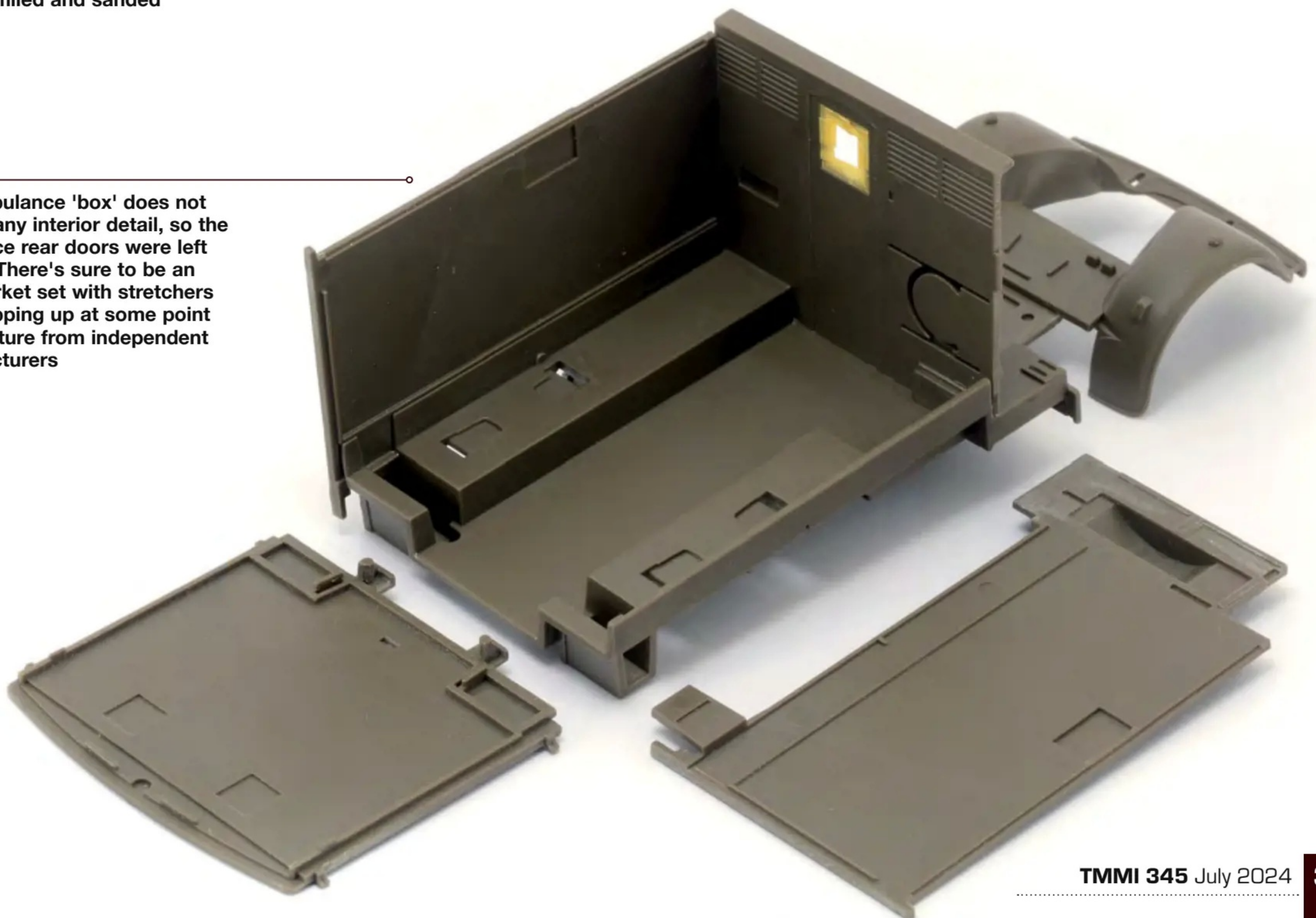


Although largely hidden when the body is mated to the chassis, the four big ejector-pin marks under the wings just had to be filled and sanded



More noticeable, if one inverts the model, are the series of ejector-pin marks that cover the body's undersurface. They are shallow thankfully, and can be sanded off. Just one left to go here!

The ambulance 'box' does not feature any interior detail, so the one-piece rear doors were left closed. There's sure to be an aftermarket set with stretchers etc., popping up at some point in the future from independent manufacturers



❶ The model was airbrushed in sub-assemblies, using my own mixture of olive drab made from Tamiya Lacquer Paint colours. The red cross decals went on perfectly but don't forget to paint the two ventilators on the roof (I forgot) or you'll be in for some next to impossible masking with the decal in position... Colour-washes were applied using Tamiya's superb Panel Line Accent Colors (not easily available everywhere) and the dust on the lower surfaces was airbrushed using mixes of Humbrol Enamels which can be adjusted after application with a white-spirit-dampened paint brush.

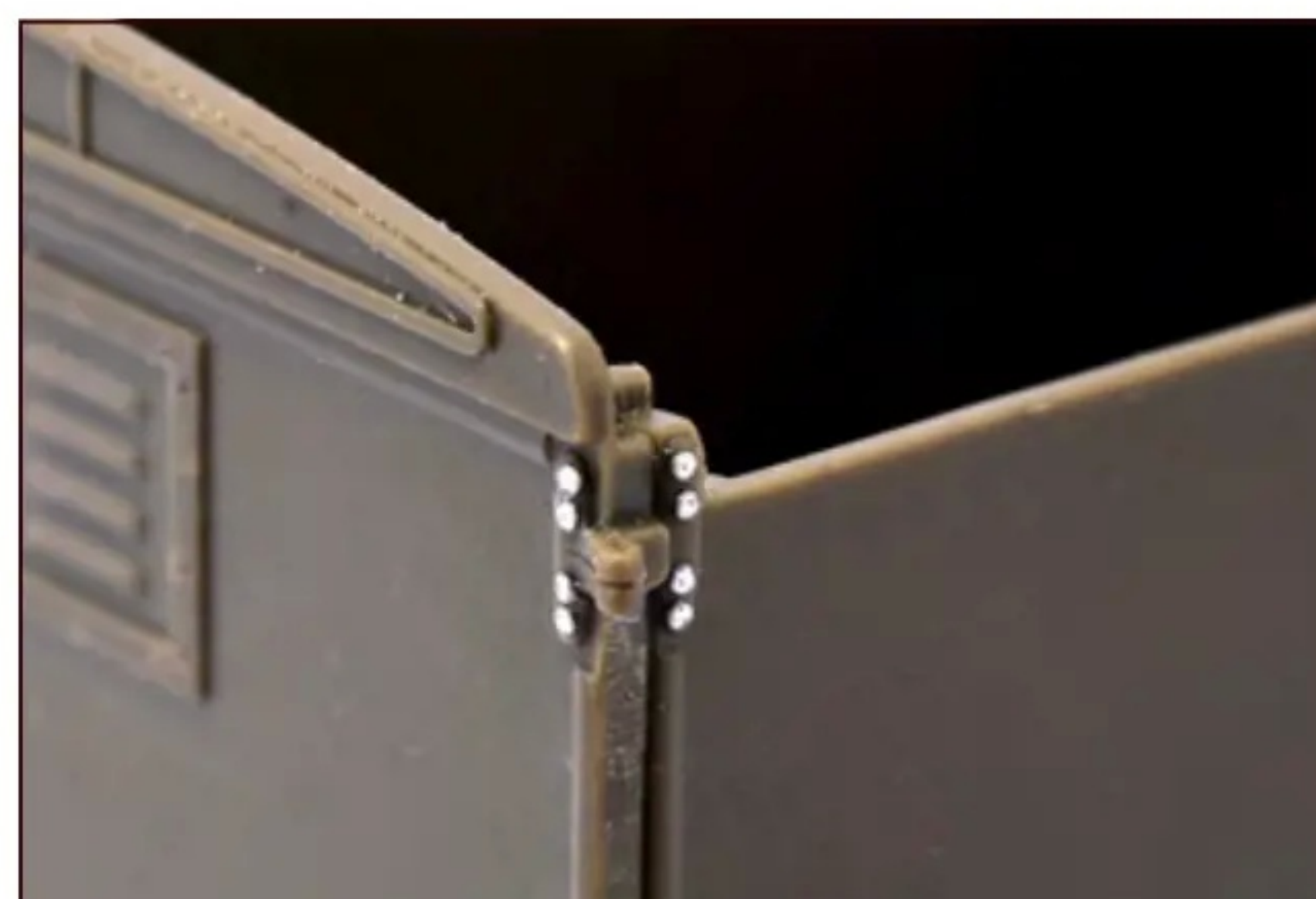
A SUITABLE DISPLAY BASE?

Because of the model's small size, I chose to construct a simple vignette to display it on and to put it into context. It was also done to emphasise that the K2/Y ambulances weren't just used on British air bases, but on the combat front line too, which is why I used German fuel drums and jerrycans to suggest a setting of Normandy, following the June 6th 1944 D-Day Landings.

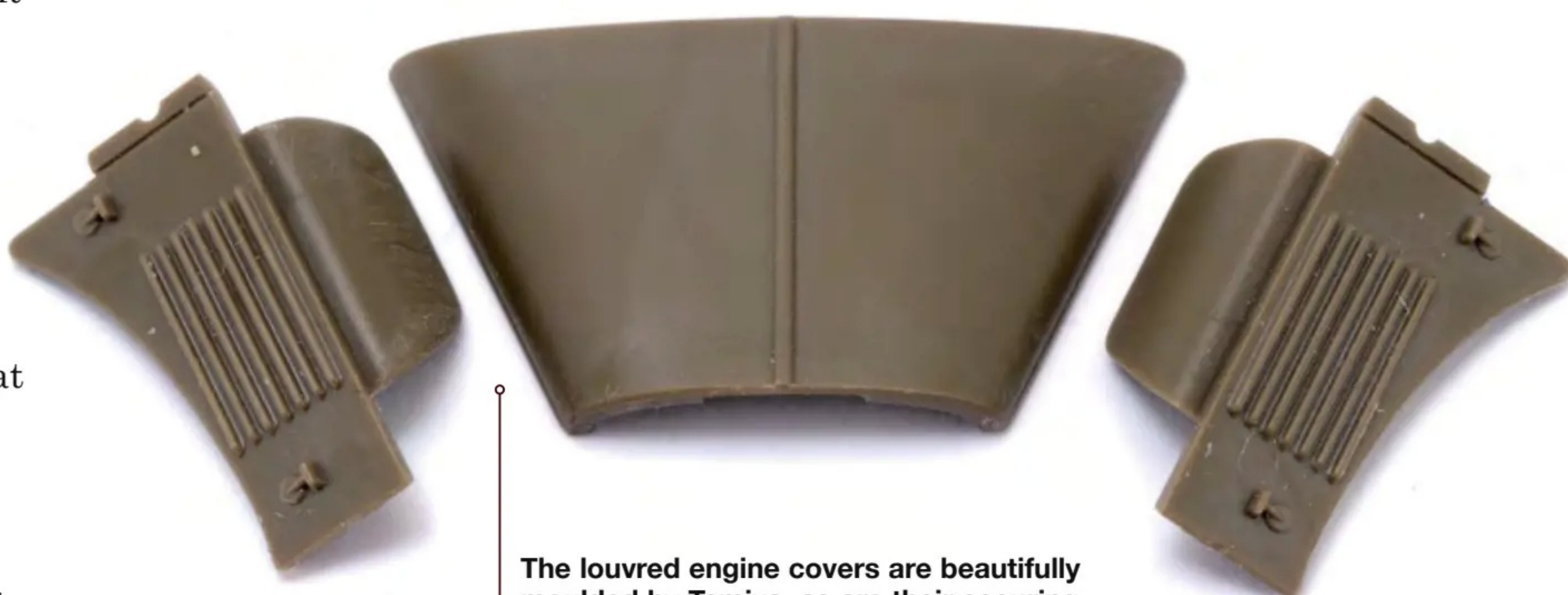
The base was made from a small (and cheap) photo-frame, to which I added a raised centre section from wood strip. The groundwork was shaped from Tamiya's recently released 'Diorama Texture Clay' which is almost rubbery in consistency and quite odd to handle, but it worked perfectly for this context. I sprayed the frame dark green from a Halfords aerosol (Camouflage Spray Green - Ultra Matt) to make a change from the



To allow the cabin's internal window to be easily cemented later on, the frame was masked off with tape to keep it clear of paint

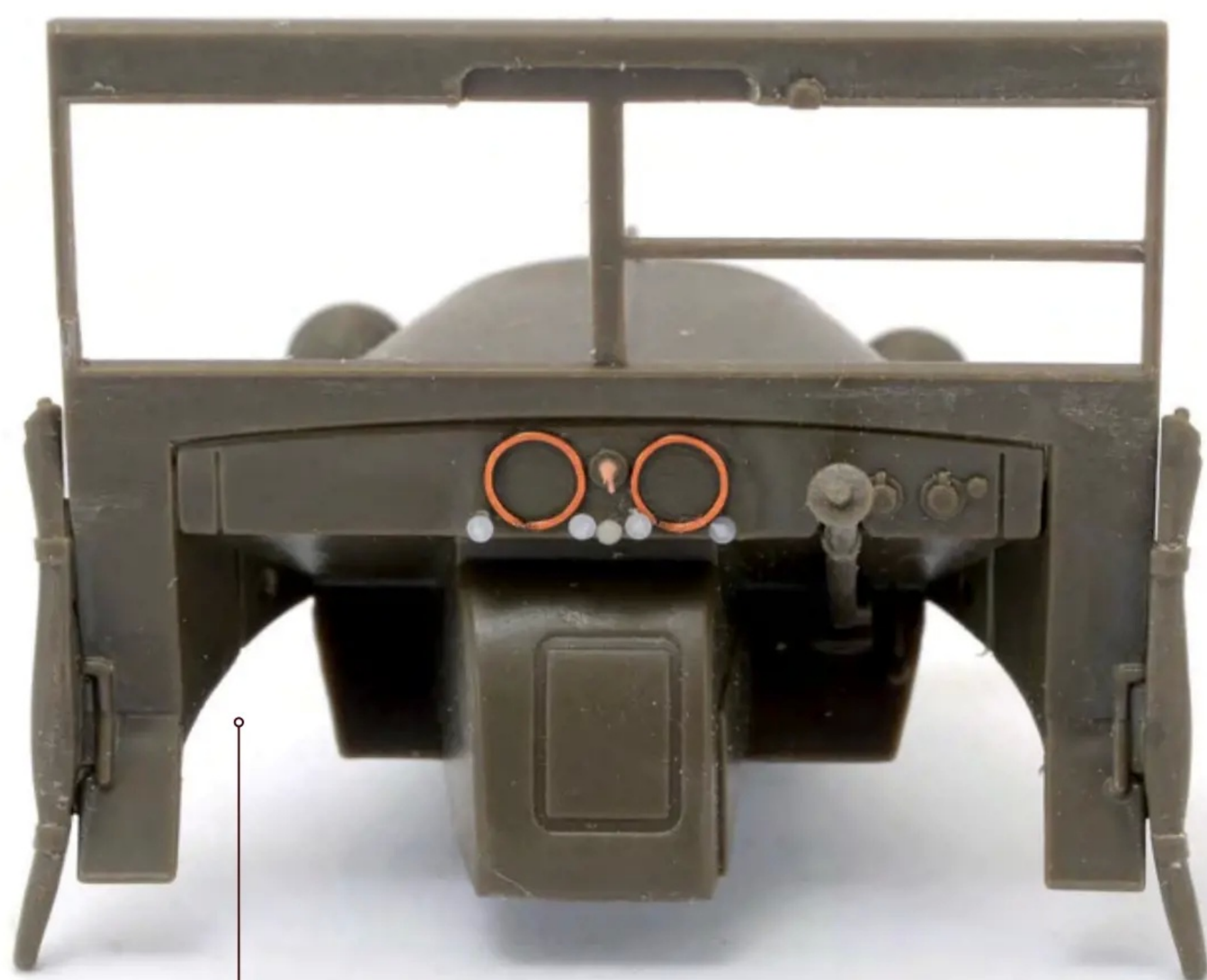


The rear door hinges are quite prominent and on the real vehicle, their fixing bolts are very noticeable, so tiny discs of pewter foil were made with a punch-and-die set and affixed with CA glue



The louvred engine covers are beautifully moulded by Tamiya, as are their securing latches. The two side-panels fit to the upper bonnet very positively with two large lugs

The driver's foot pedals are a little simplistic as standard, so larger ones were made from plastic card. If you do this, make sure to reduce the height of the moulded-in pedals by the thickness of the new parts, or the driver won't sit in his seat properly



The dashboard is rather plain as supplied and the dials are represented by flat decals only. To add a little extra three-dimensionality, bezels were made from rings of copper wire that were flattened in pliers. The dial-decals were later trimmed of their carrier film and dropped into the bezels. Note also the beefed-up switches and knobs (www.anyz.io)



The headlights were given power cables and later, the lenses were replaced with foil-backed, clear resin items

usual black finish. I scanned the kit's decal sheet and printed it out onto masking film, from which I cut stencils to form the red/white cross and serial number. I wanted a bold, graphic image for the base but I think I was only semi-successful in its execution. What do you think? Overall, a magical little kit from Tamiya and it would be fantastic if it were later accompanied in 1:48 by its American cousin, the Dodge WC54 ambulance. We can but hope! ●



The body, chassis and cabin upper parts have been dry-fitted here, but were disassembled for painting



Tamiya provide an excellent driver figure for the vehicle and his installation is recommended as he brings a sense of scale to this diminutive but delightful ambulance kit



When held in the hand, we can see how small this lovely little model from Tamiya really is!



A small display base was made for the model, using a cheap picture frame, with the extended inner section made from wooden strip from a hardware shop



Some 200-litre fuel drums and jerrycans from Tamiya's 'Jerrycan Set' (32510) were added to one corner of the scene, along with a telegraph pole made from a bamboo skewer and copper wire



TAMIYA 1:48 BRITISH 2-TON 4X2 AMBULANCE KIT NO.32605

Materials:

Injection moulded polystyrene (dark green and clear), waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Lacquer Paints: various to create olive drab tones
- VMS: Varnish HD Top Coats XXL Satin, XXL Matt
- Halfords: Camouflage Spray Green - Ultra Matt

Extra materials used:

- Tamiya: Diorama Texture Clay
- Plastic card, copper wire, nickel-steel tube, lead strip, lead wire, static grass,

Accessories used:

- Tamiya Military Miniatures Series: 'Jerry Can Set' (32510)

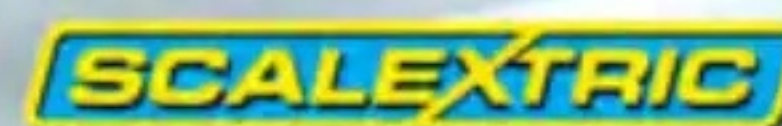
Availabilities:

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



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GREAT THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES





Spencer Pollard works wonders with Eduard's jewel-like Bf109G-5 in 1:72

If you were to spend any time with me, it would not be long before conversation turned to my favourite kits and my favourite scale to model in. Though I often build kits in larger scales, mostly notably 1:48, if pushed (albeit not very far!) my preference is always 1:72. I genuinely love modelling in that scale and whenever I attend a model show, the 1:72 builds are the ones that capture my imagination. It's just the way it is. When Marcus contacted me to suggest I downsize for while in order to build Eduard's latest Bf109G, I leapt at the chance. Having built several 1:48 Gustavs from Eduard, I knew that

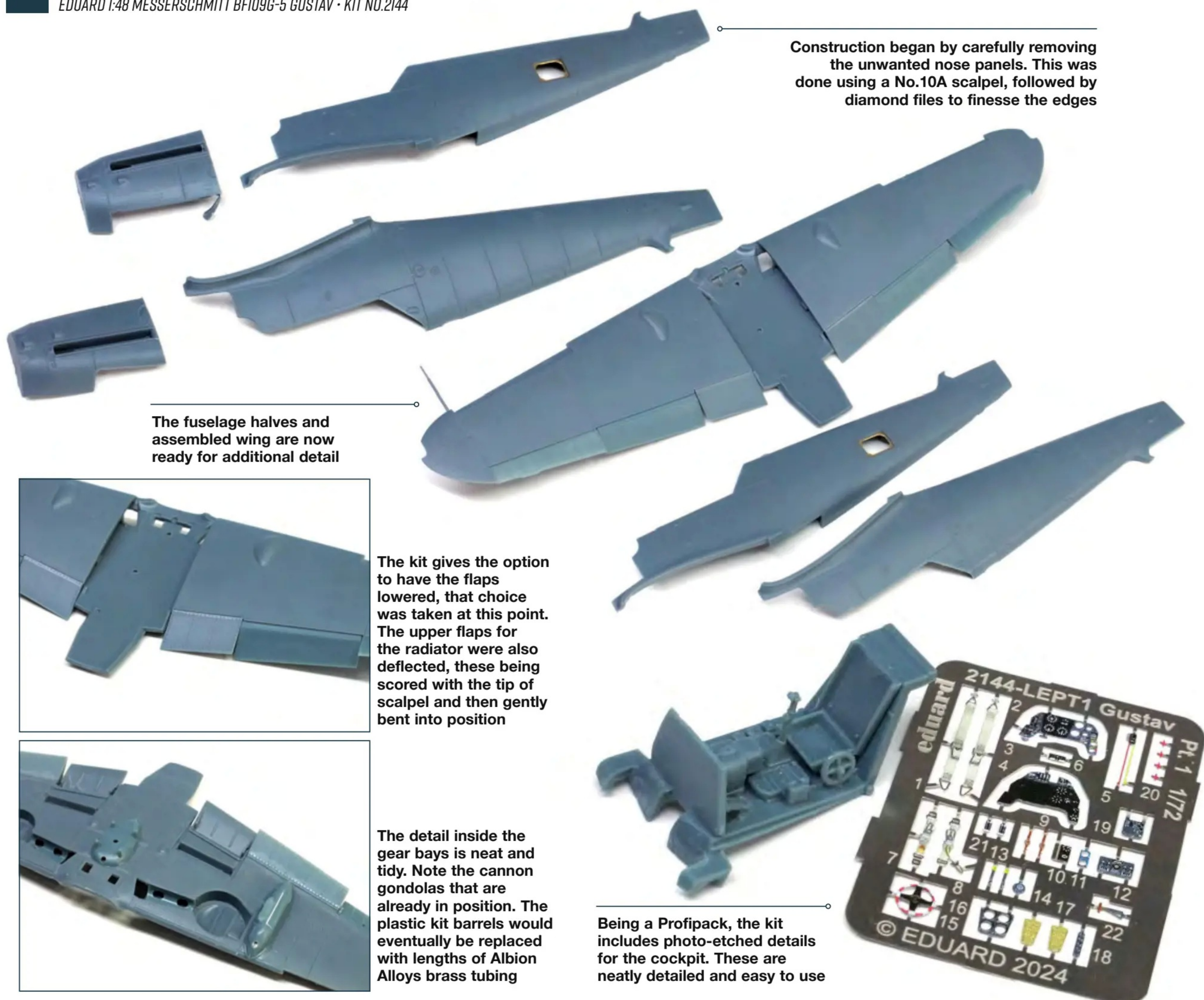
I was in for a treat and so that proved to be. Their small-scale offerings are just as impressive as their larger brethren and that laid the foundation for an engaging build. And then I decided to push things just a little further...

From the box, the Eduard Bf109G is a superb kit that offers plenty of fine detail. As a Profipack (and in this case a dual boxing...) the kit includes plastic parts, finely etched details and a set of canopy masks, the latter dealing with the protection of those delicate glazed panels that we all love, so much! Across the board, detail is exquisite. The most striking aspect of Eduard's recent kits is their

surface detail, all engraved panel lines, with rows of delicately incised rivets. You would be forgiven for thinking that that is only apparent in their larger kits: not so. The 1:72 releases are every bit as detailed, as could be seen within this new '109 and their earlier family of Spitfires. Smaller features fare just as well, the cockpit interior being reassuringly complete - especially once decorated with those delicate brass parts - despite its diminutive size. Similar points can be made regarding the undercarriage, the separate control surfaces and the frankly astonishing number of variant specific details that pepper the sprues,

ready to fill your spares box once construction of your G-5 or -6, is complete.

All things considered, I could have built the kit from the box and created a very neat little model, but decided very early on that I would create something a little more detailed. Marcus had already sent over a collection of additional parts created for this kit by Eduard, so those could be used. I then discovered that a bespoke PRINT engine was also available, so ordered that as well. I now had a complete collection of parts that I could use to build the model that you see here and will read about, over the next few pages or so. 🎯



Construction began by carefully removing the unwanted nose panels. This was done using a No.10A scalpel, followed by diamond files to finesse the edges

The fuselage halves and assembled wing are now ready for additional detail

The kit gives the option to have the flaps lowered, that choice was taken at this point. The upper flaps for the radiator were also deflected, these being scored with the tip of scalpel and then gently bent into position

The detail inside the gear bays is neat and tidy. Note the cannon gondolas that are already in position. The plastic kit barrels would eventually be replaced with lengths of Albion Alloys brass tubing

Being a Profipack, the kit includes photo-etched details for the cockpit. These are neatly detailed and easy to use

FORWARD PLANNING

Though I will take you through the construction and painting of this model using captioned images, I thought it would be useful before we begin, to discuss the planning that needs to go into a project such as this. Even when building a kit from the box I like to carry out some initial planning, but as I was adding a lot of detail to this one, that seemed to be almost mandatory!

First things, first: read the instructions for the basic kit and then take a look at the add-ons to see what would be needed in terms of corrective surgery. By far, the most work was around the nose. Not only would I have to construct and paint the complex engine, I would have to remove the closed cowling

panels from the fuselage halves and then modify the inner wing, gear bays and undercarriage legs. All of this is explicitly laid out in the PRINT engine set, but it does need some care and attention. Removing the unwanted material is straightforward. All of the cuts are along

natural panel lines, so you need to do no more than cut close to them and then trim and file away material until the new parts fit. This will need to be done before you do anything else, the chopped-up fuselage and wings being set aside ready for construction to begin in earnest.

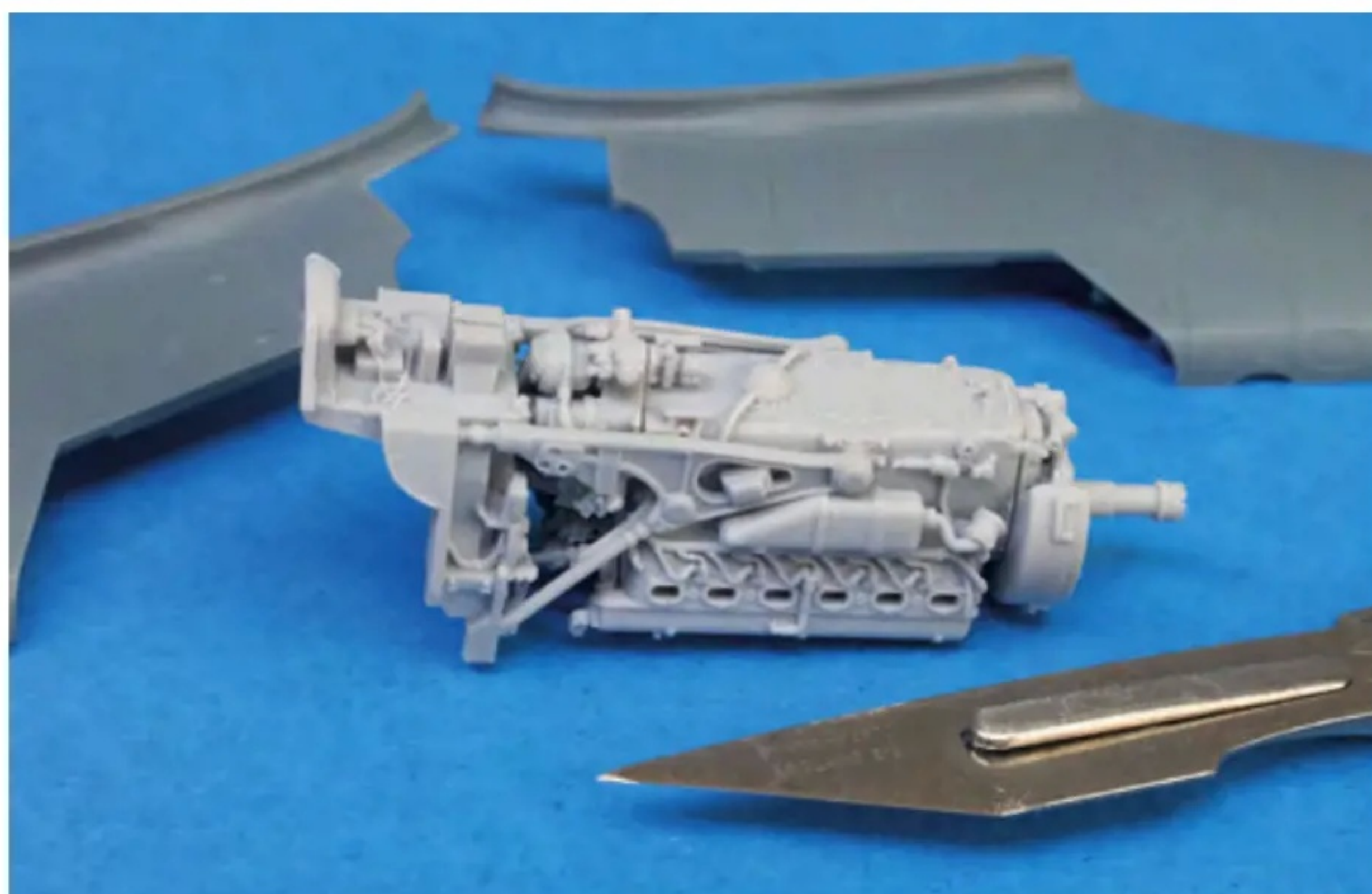
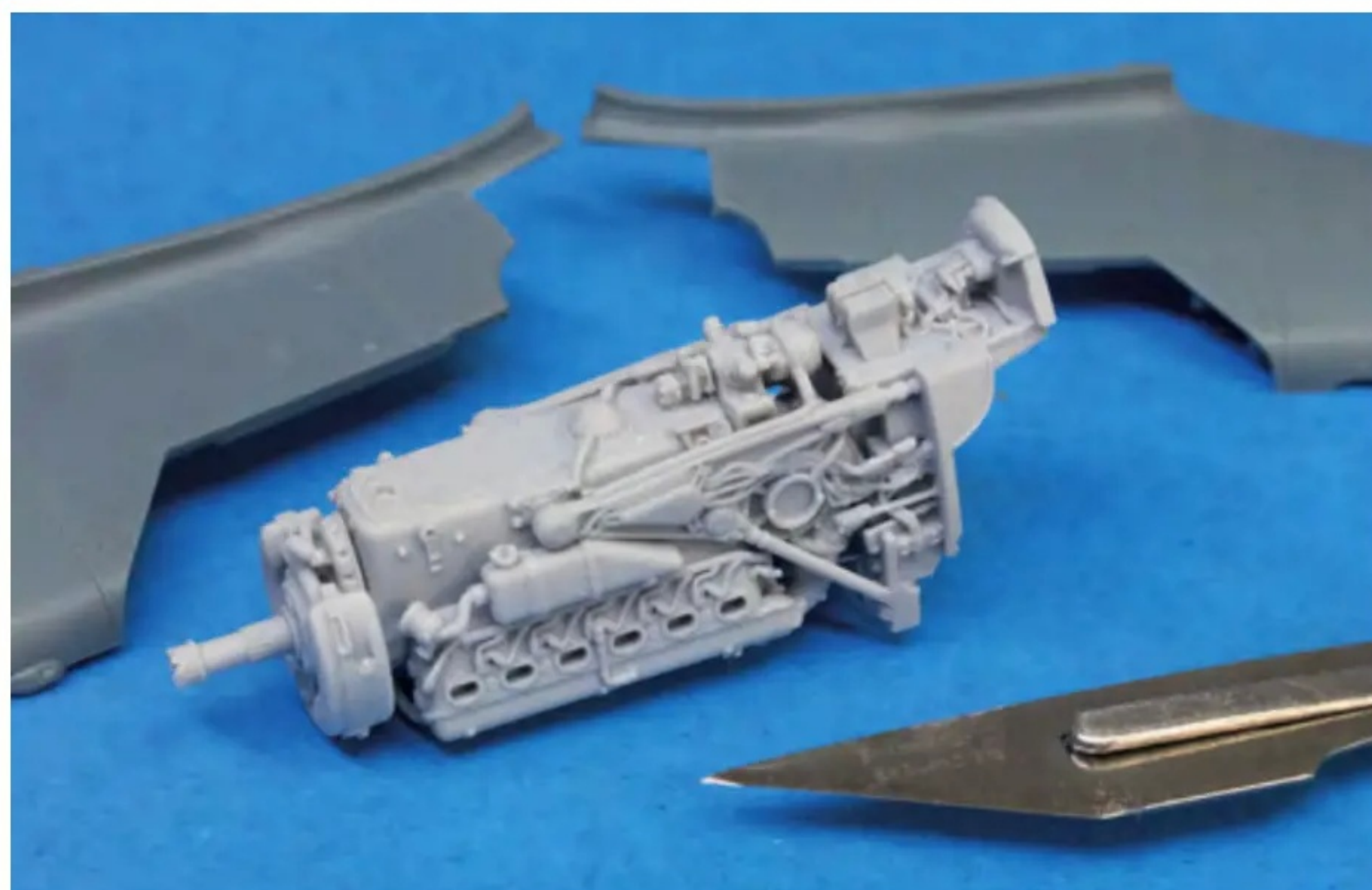
The next stop on your planning journey, is painting, not the exterior panels (though that is important as well..) but those additional parts - and this is where planning really comes to the fore. Spending time with the instructions suggested



One of the additional sets I used was this radio compartment for the rear fuselage. These are 3D printed parts that fit perfectly in place



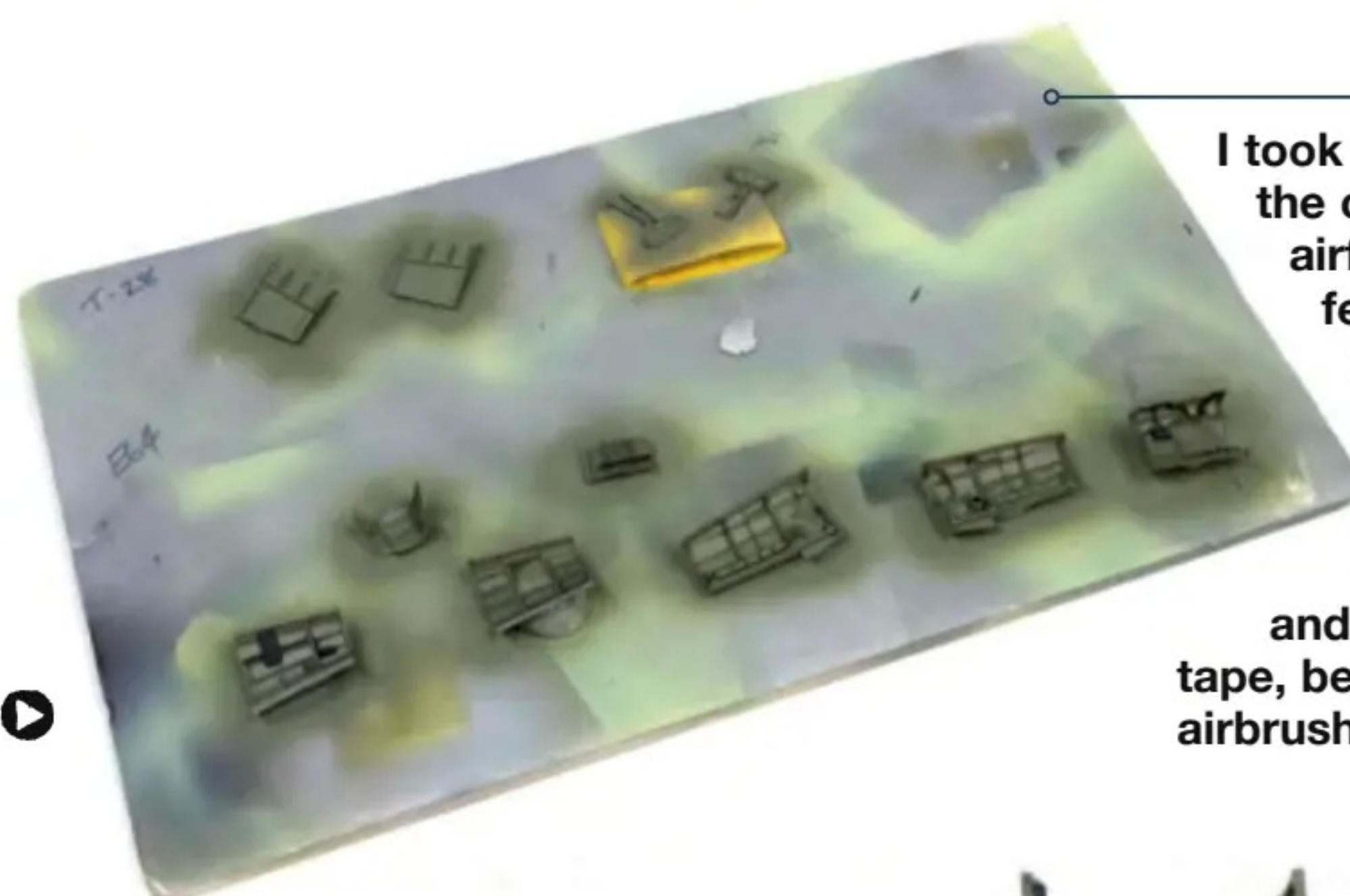
Here's a close-up of the radio compartment. Further details would be added later on in the form of electrical cabling



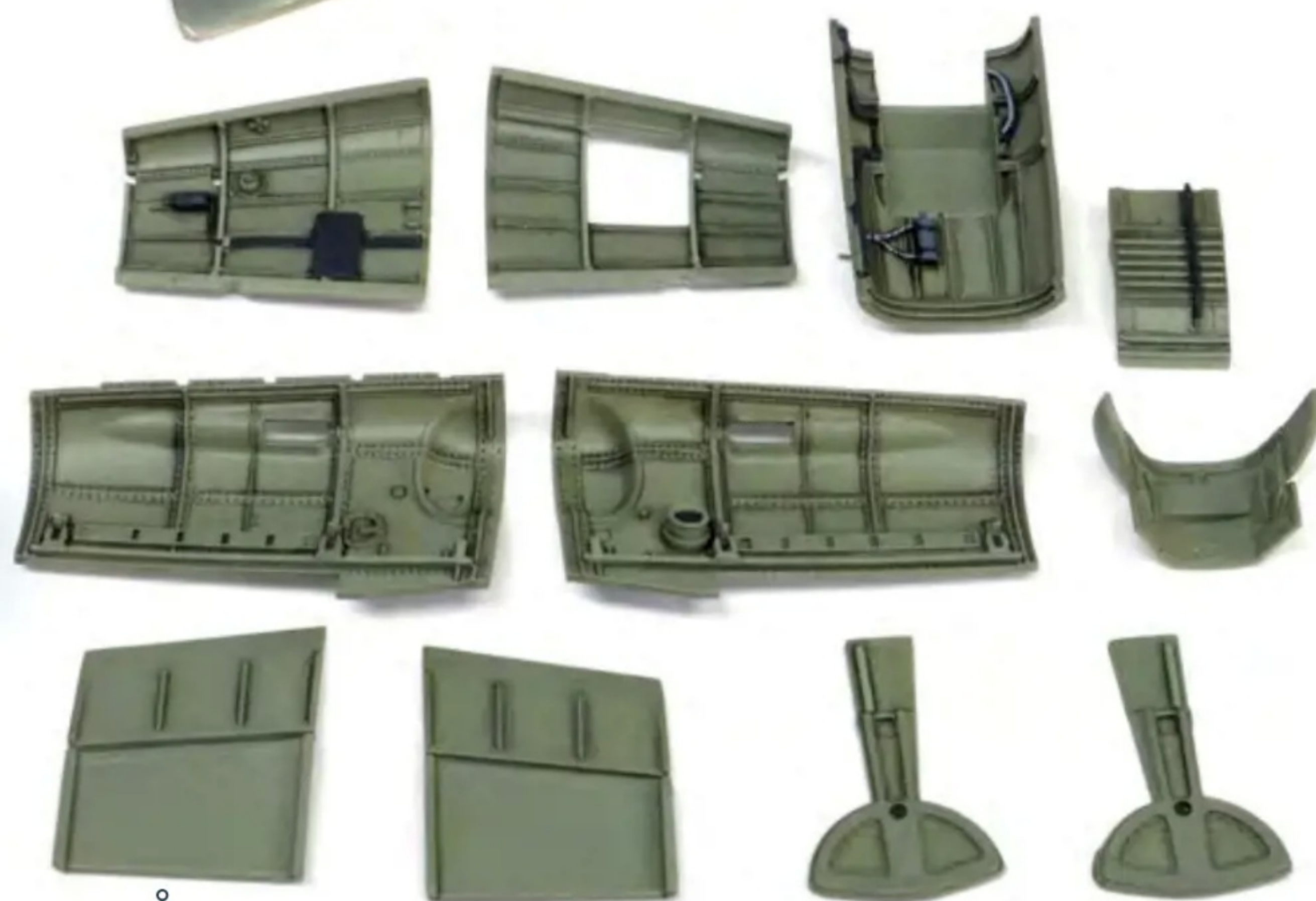
Initial assembly of the stunning PRINT engine. Modern printing technology has allowed incredibly fine detail to be incorporated into a relatively small number of parts. Assembly might be relatively easy, additional piping and then painting, not so much! Absolute care needs to be taken when removing waste material, the individual parts being tiny and incredibly delicate

that I would be able to assemble the airframe in sections (wings, fuselage, tailplanes) and then paint them as individual parts, thus cutting down on some fiddly masking. The new engine, complete with all of its cowling panels could also be assembled as a complete 'pod' that could be fixed in place during final assembly.

Again, that would mean painting could be carried out away from the rest of the model, which is something I am more than happy to do when I can! All of this once combined created a list of sub-assemblies that I could build, paint and decal and then bring together during final assembly. I love it when a plan comes together! ▶



I took a break from the changes to the airframe to paint a few of the smaller parts. These were attached to a small piece of foam-board with Blue-Tack and double-sided tape, before being airbrushed in acrylics



Painting began with the internal faces of all of the separate panels. These were base-coated with Gunze RLM 02 Grau, washed with Raw Umber oil paint and then highlighted with Vallejo Green Grey, lightened with Panzer Aces Russian Highlight

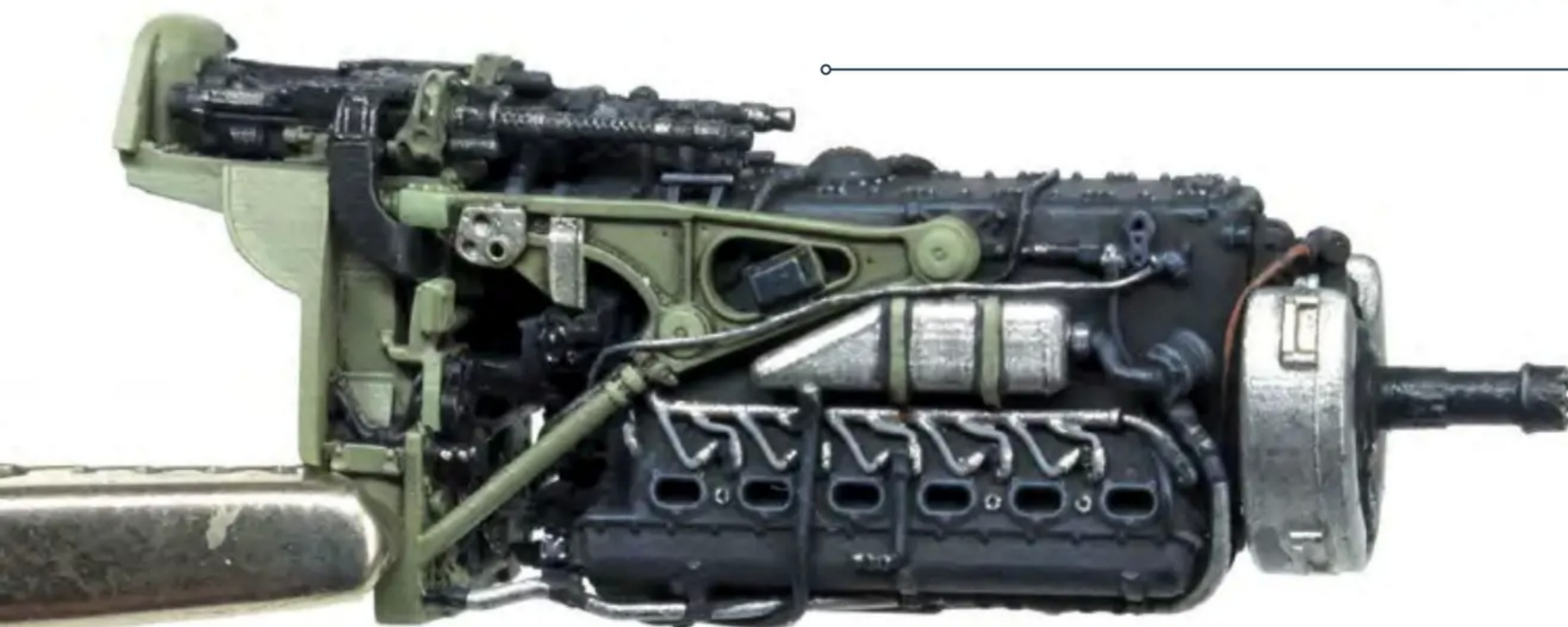


The interior of the cockpit was base-coated with Tamiya German Grey and then highlighted with a cloudy overspray of Medium Sea Grey. Details were picked out with Vallejo acrylics

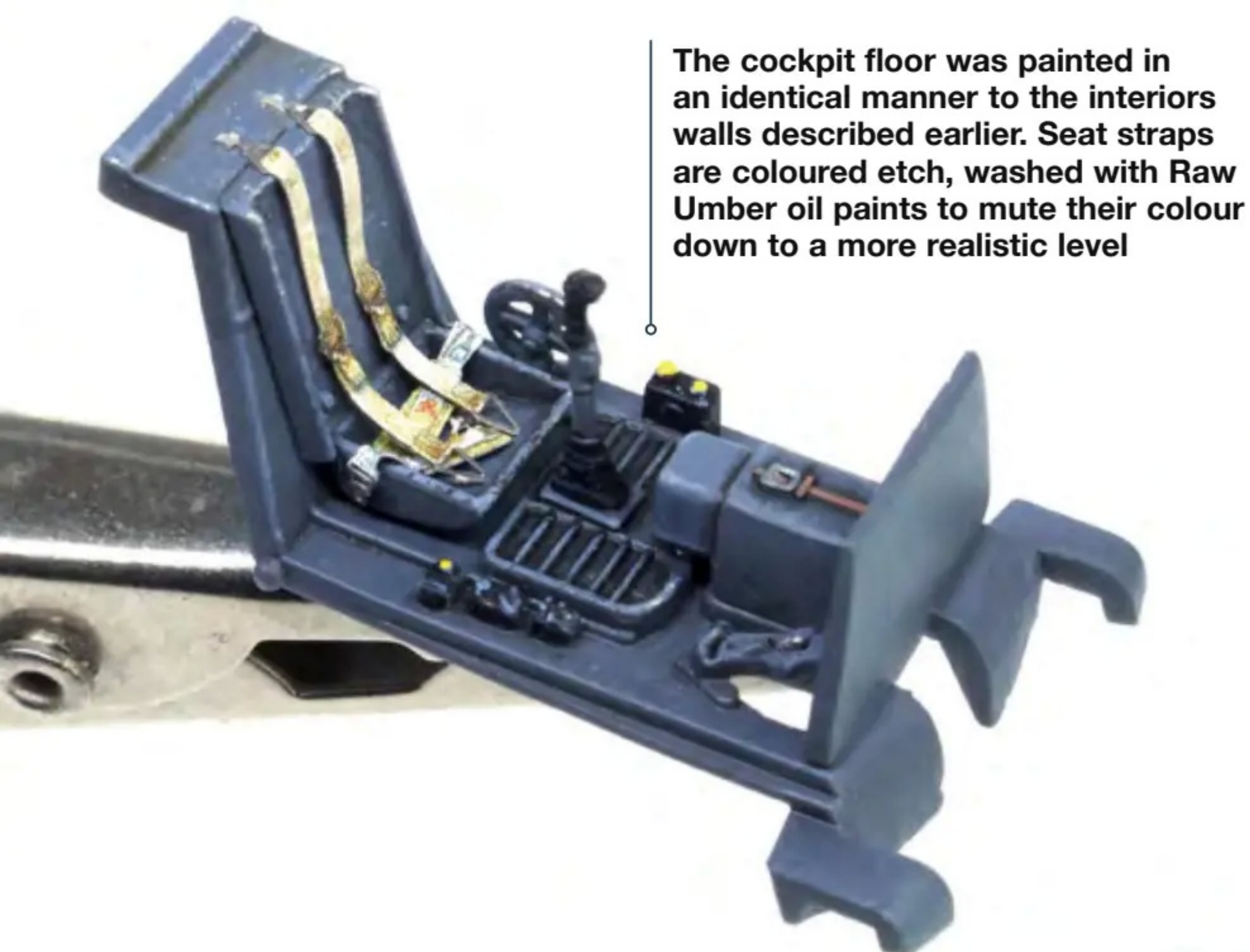


The yellow fuel pipe is a finely-moulded, clear part, that breaks with almost zero provocation! Once eventually in place, it was base-coated with flat white and then flat yellow. Detail was brought out with a thin layer of Raw Umber oil paint, thinned with Distilled Turpentine

Given the levels of detail that Eduard have incorporated into their little engine, you will spend a long time bringing it all out with paint. Life is made slightly easier thanks to the way it is broken down, the engine and those complex bearers being separate parts that can - very carefully - be brought together once painting is complete



In terms of colouring, you only need a handful of paints to base-coat this sub-assembly: flat black, RLM 02 Grau and shades of aluminium (a mixture of Tamiya, Mr. Hobby and Vallejo/AK 3G). I began with an overall layer of black, highlighted with cloudy oversprays of German Grey. Details could then be accented with Vallejo German and London Grey. The bearers were painted in an identical manner to the internal surfaces seen earlier, small fixtures and fittings being picked out with acrylics. Finally, all metallics were finished with Games Workshop acrylics, laid on dark to light, to create the appearance of highlights and shading across their surface. Here, I found it particularly useful to use AMMO Silver to create small points of light, which helped to further accent the metalwork over the surface of the engine



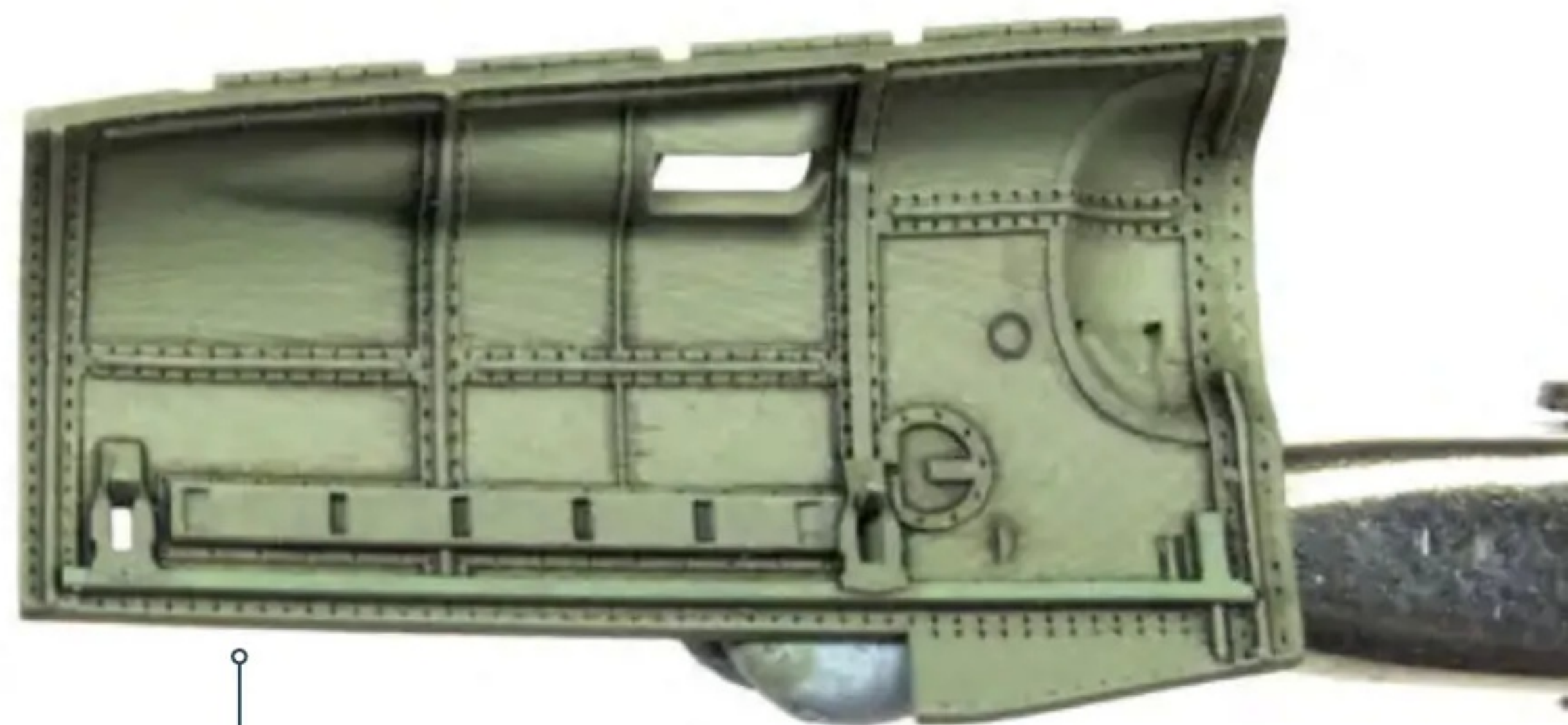
The cockpit floor was painted in an identical manner to the interiors walls described earlier. Seat straps are coloured etch, washed with Raw Umber oil paints to mute their colour down to a more realistic level



The completed cockpit. This was made entirely from the box, seat straps and all



The completed cockpit and engine, ready for installation



A close-up of the inner face of one of the cowl panels. Detail is superb, everything benefitting from careful painting. Though print lines can be seen in this shot, they are invisible when the part is viewed, actual size



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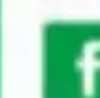
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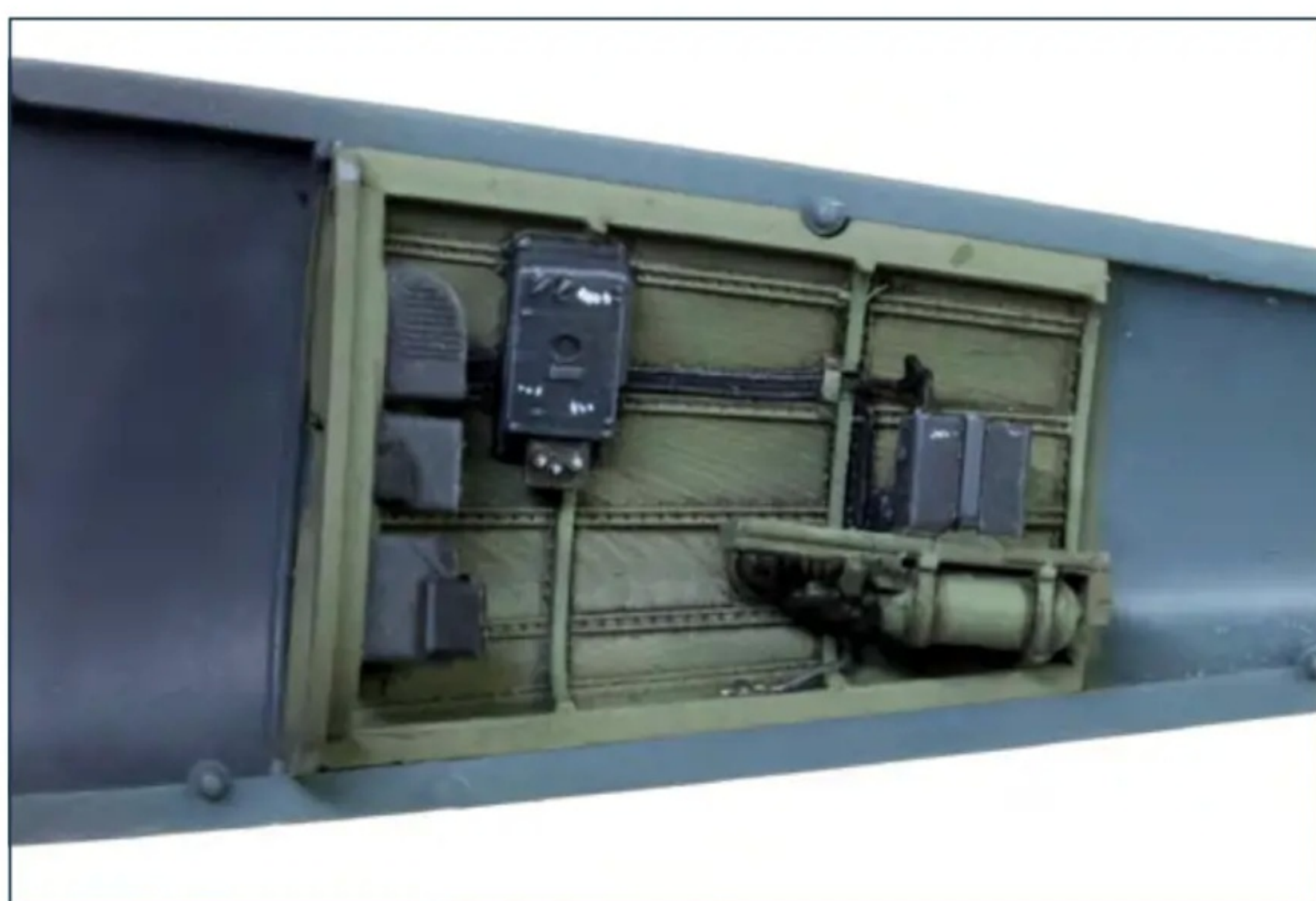
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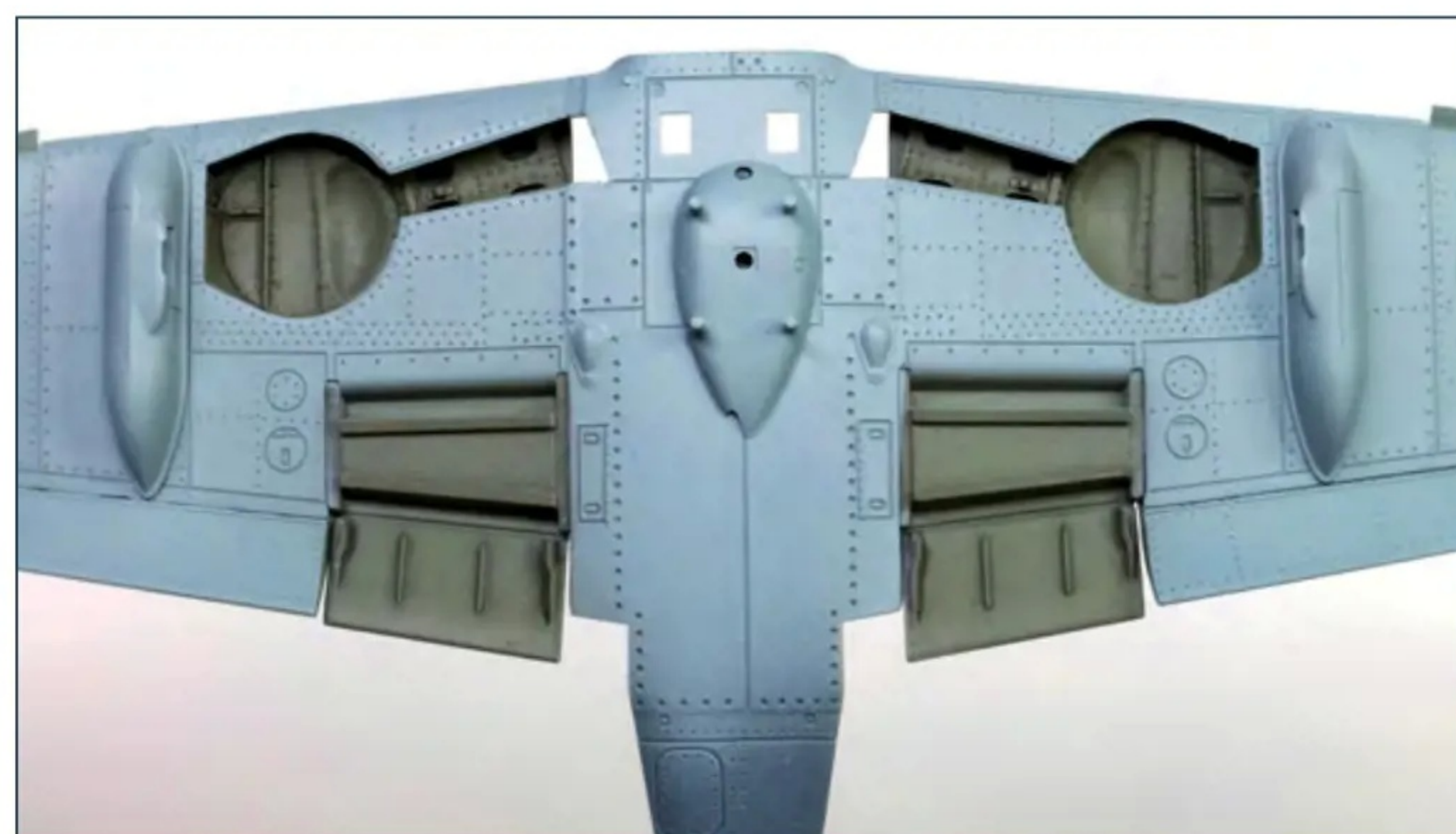
Before airbrushing the wings in their overall RLM 76 Lichtblau finish, the undercarriage and radiator bays were airbrushed with Mr. Hobby RLM 02 Grau. These would be subsequently masked using Silly Putty, ready for the external finish to be sprayed in place



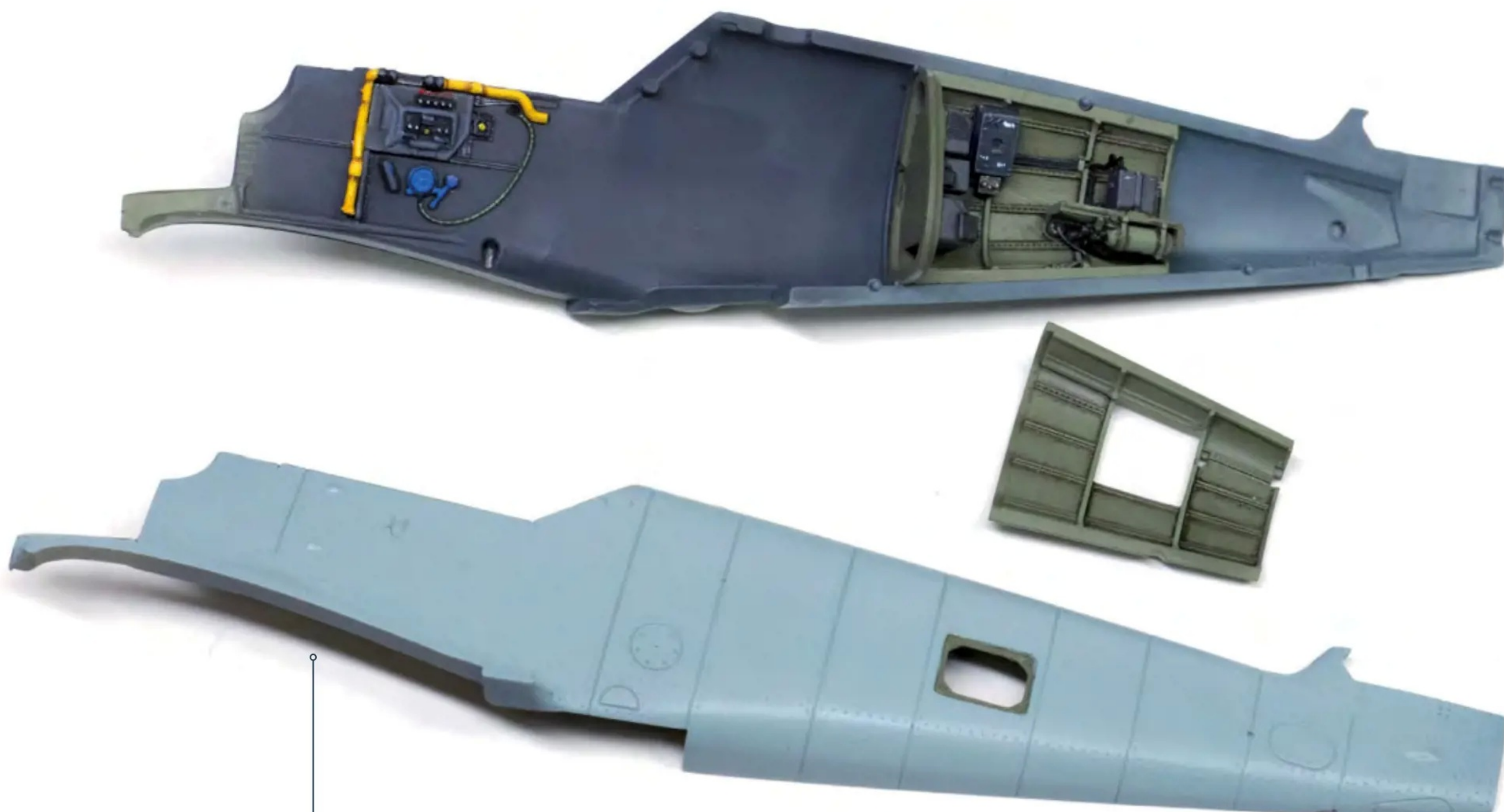
All surfaces around the model's various open bays, cockpit, wheel, radiator and radio, were sprayed with RLM 76. No more masking of these areas would be needed leading up to the completion of the model



As mentioned earlier, the radio bay features plenty of delicate detail that you assemble and paint. It's just a shame that almost none of this is visible inside the completed model!

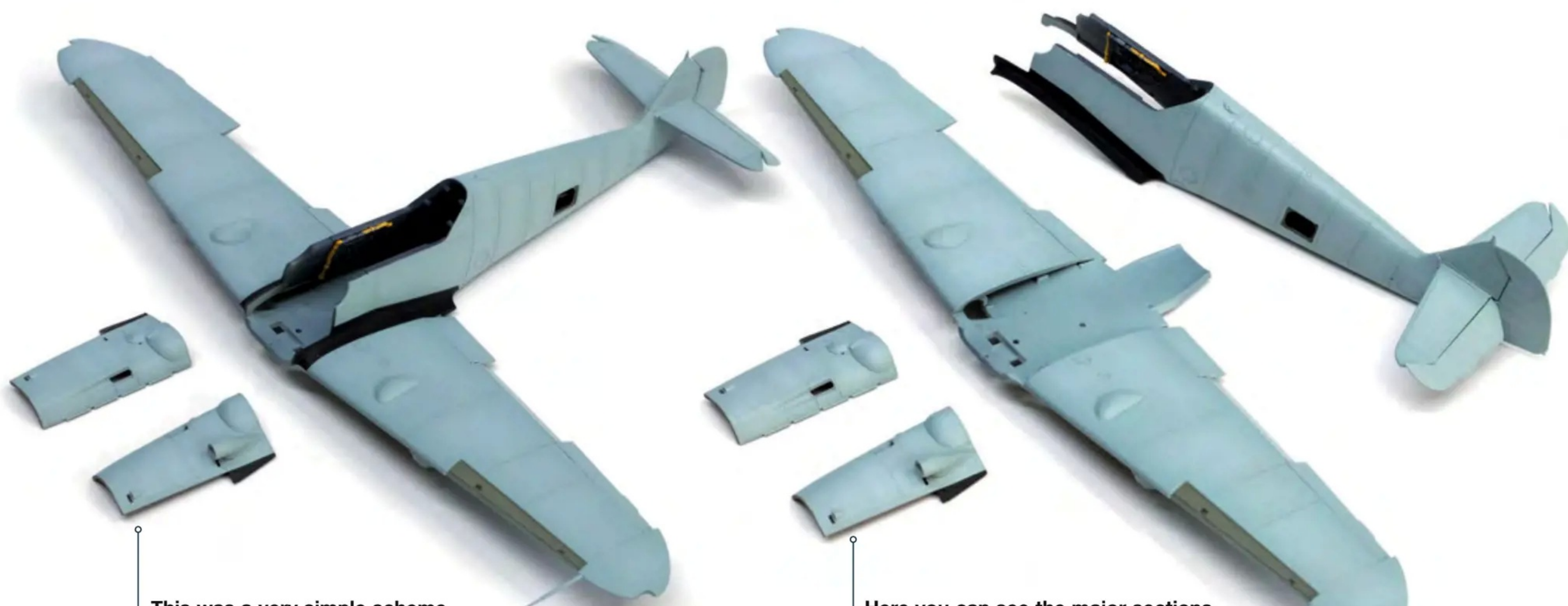
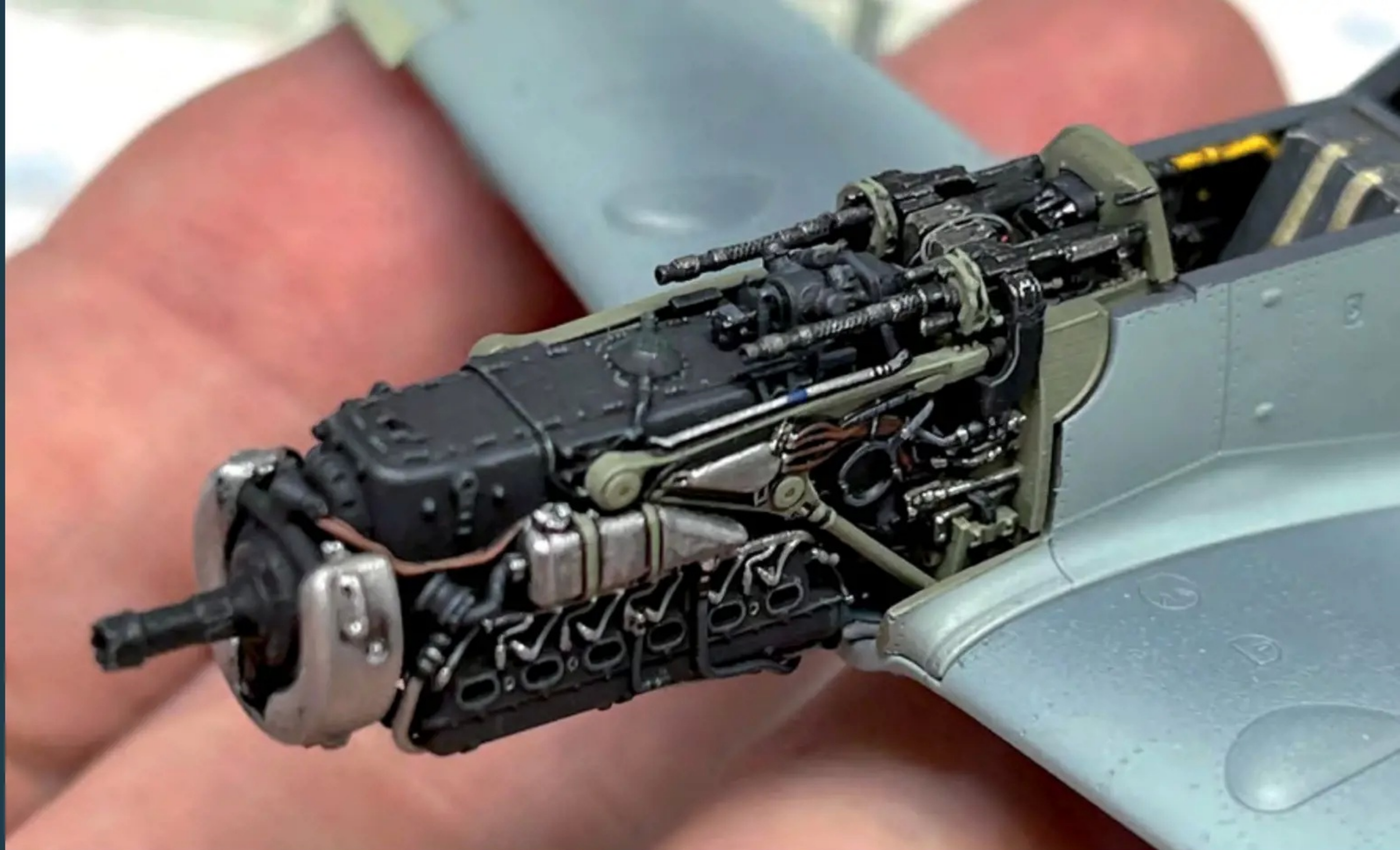


The RLM 02 bays contrast nicely with the surrounding RLM 76 panels. Here you can see how much of the wing was painted before fixing it under the fuselage. Fit is so good that you can happily keep all of these large components separate during painting and decalling



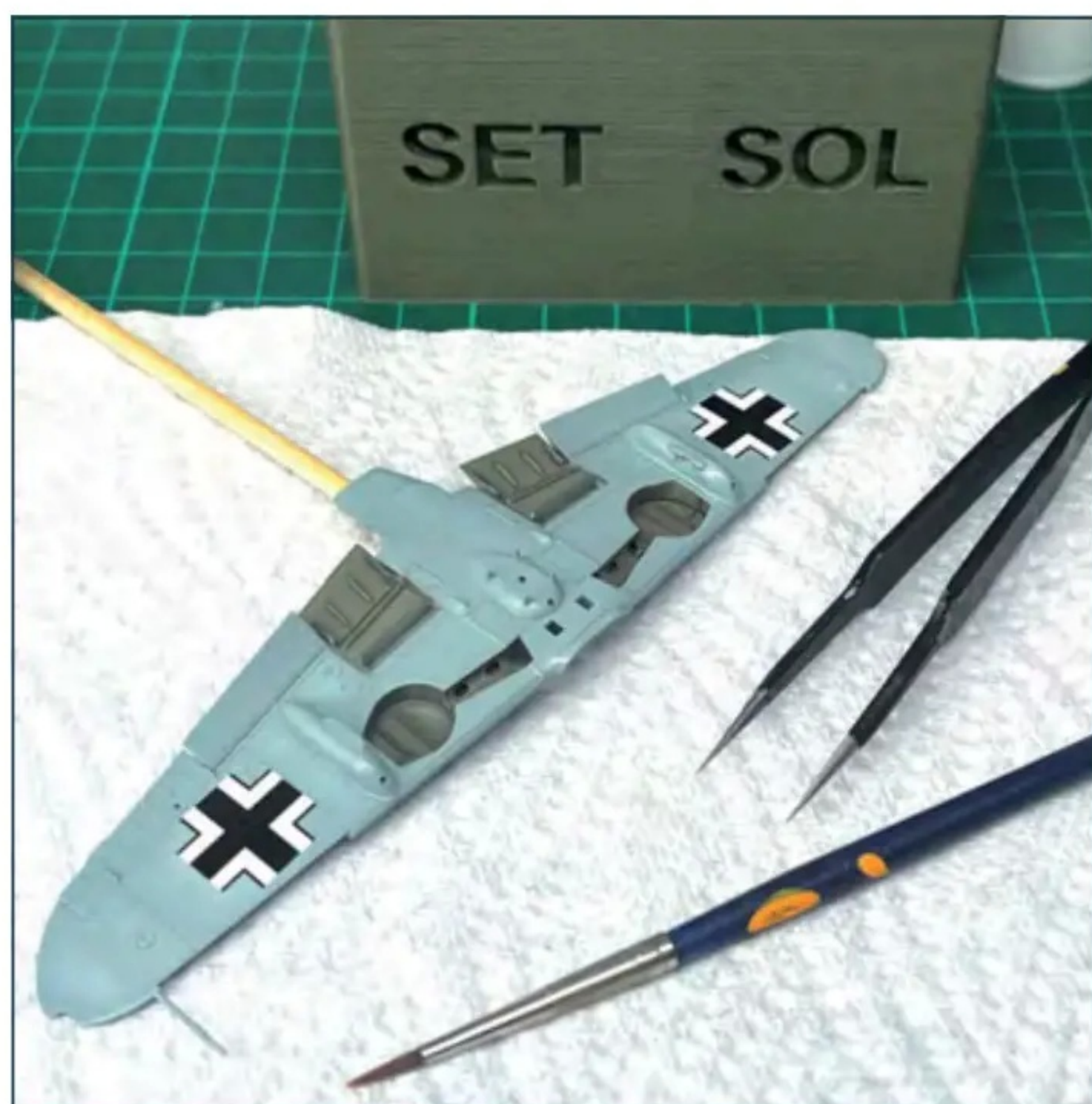
The fuselage is now ready to be completed. In order to tighten the fit between the two fuselage halves (remembering all the while not to smooth out the longitudinal seams, upper and lower, as they were present on the real aircraft) I left out the small panel that you seen in this shot. The cockpit, incidentally, can be fixed in place after the fuselage has been assembled and painted

A quick test-fit of the fuselage, wings and that wonderful engine. A little adjustment would be needed before the fit between the engine bulkhead and the forward edge of the fuselage was as tight as possible



This was a very simple scheme to complete: overall RLM 76, a cloudy overspray with a lightened shade and then black trim around the wing roots

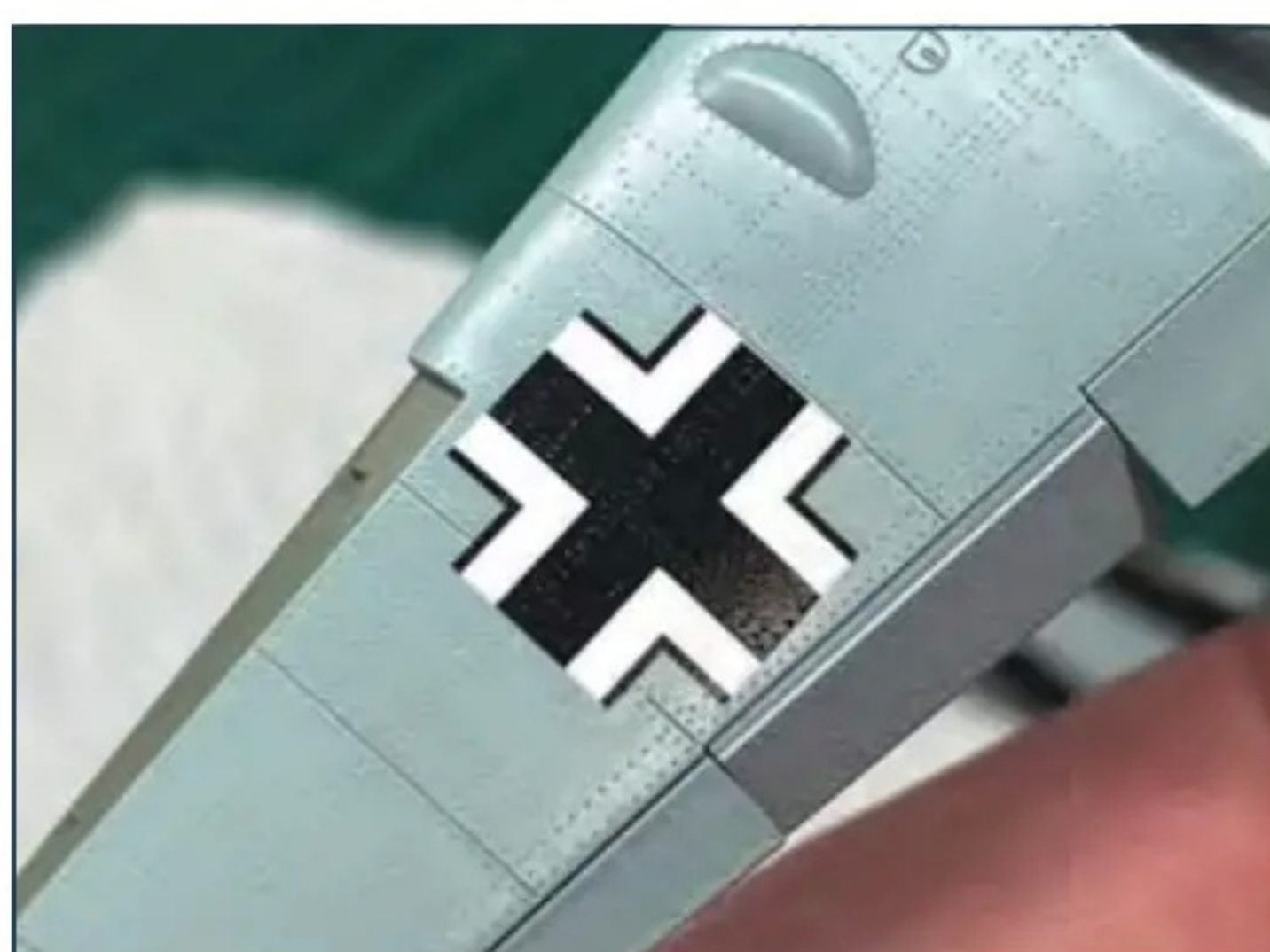
Here you can see the major sections that I kept apart as I painted the model. Once painted, the model was sprayed with several coats of Tamiya LP clear, in readiness for the decals



The application of the decals was approached with some trepidation, having had issues with Eduard's recent decal releases. In this case I applied them all using Micro Sol and Set and then sat back and waited for them to dry. My chosen scheme was a Bf109G-5/U2, WNr. 27112, flown by Major Walther Dahl, CO of III./JG 3, Bad Wörishofen, Germany, during December of 1943. This was an attractive choice thanks to that overall RLM 76 finish which was very unusual amongst the mottled and camouflaged aircraft, from that period in the war



Here is one of the underwing crosses, the first that I applied. It appears to have settled down nicely without additional help...

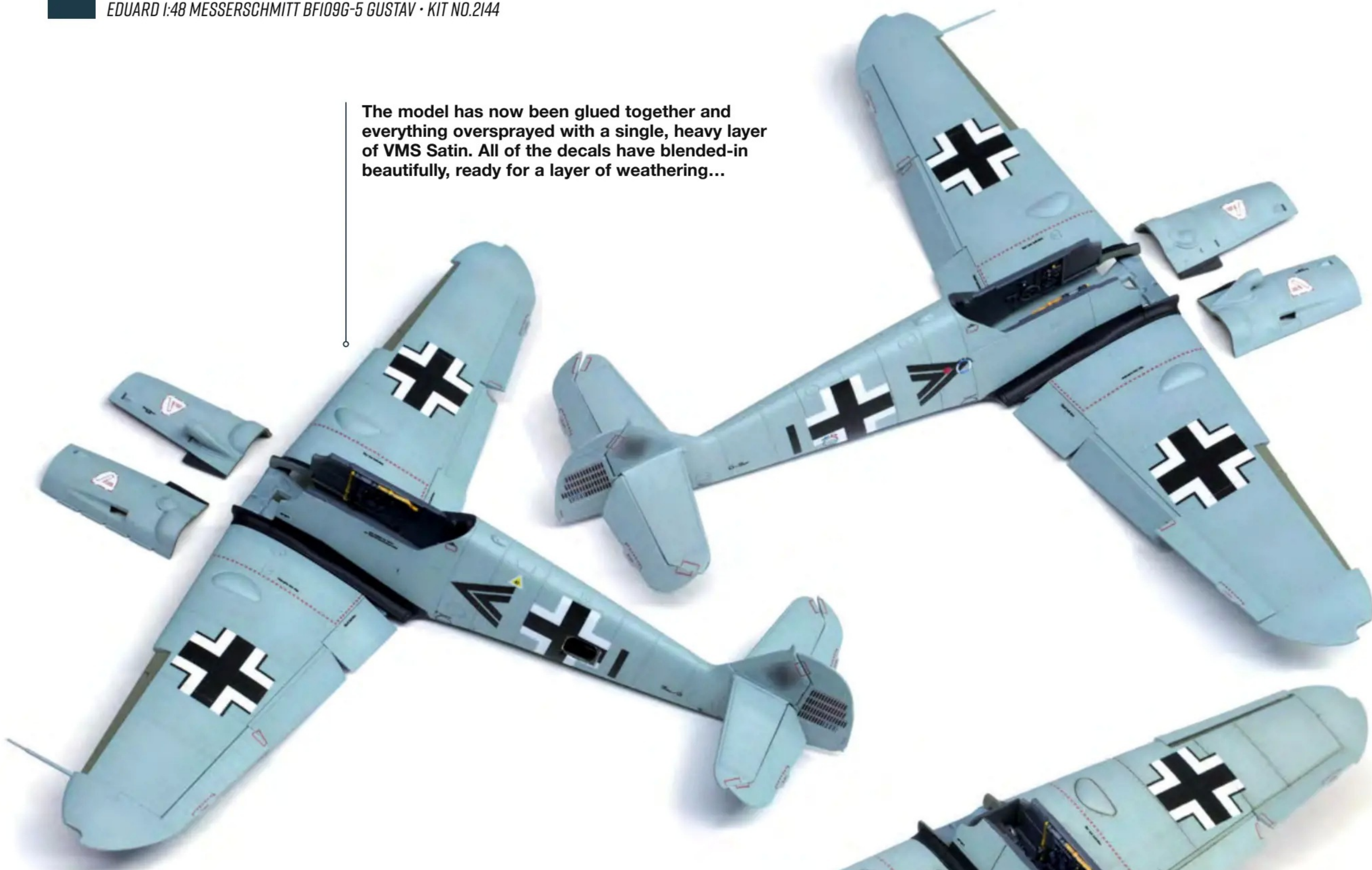


...and here is an upper-wing cross after a layer of Microset. Note how well the decal has laid down over the surface detail



Though there has been talk concerning Eduard's upper layer of film and how it can be peeled away, I left it alone. Here, you can see the how the decals look once applied in a traditional way and then oversprayed with a layer of VMS Satin. I'd call that a success!

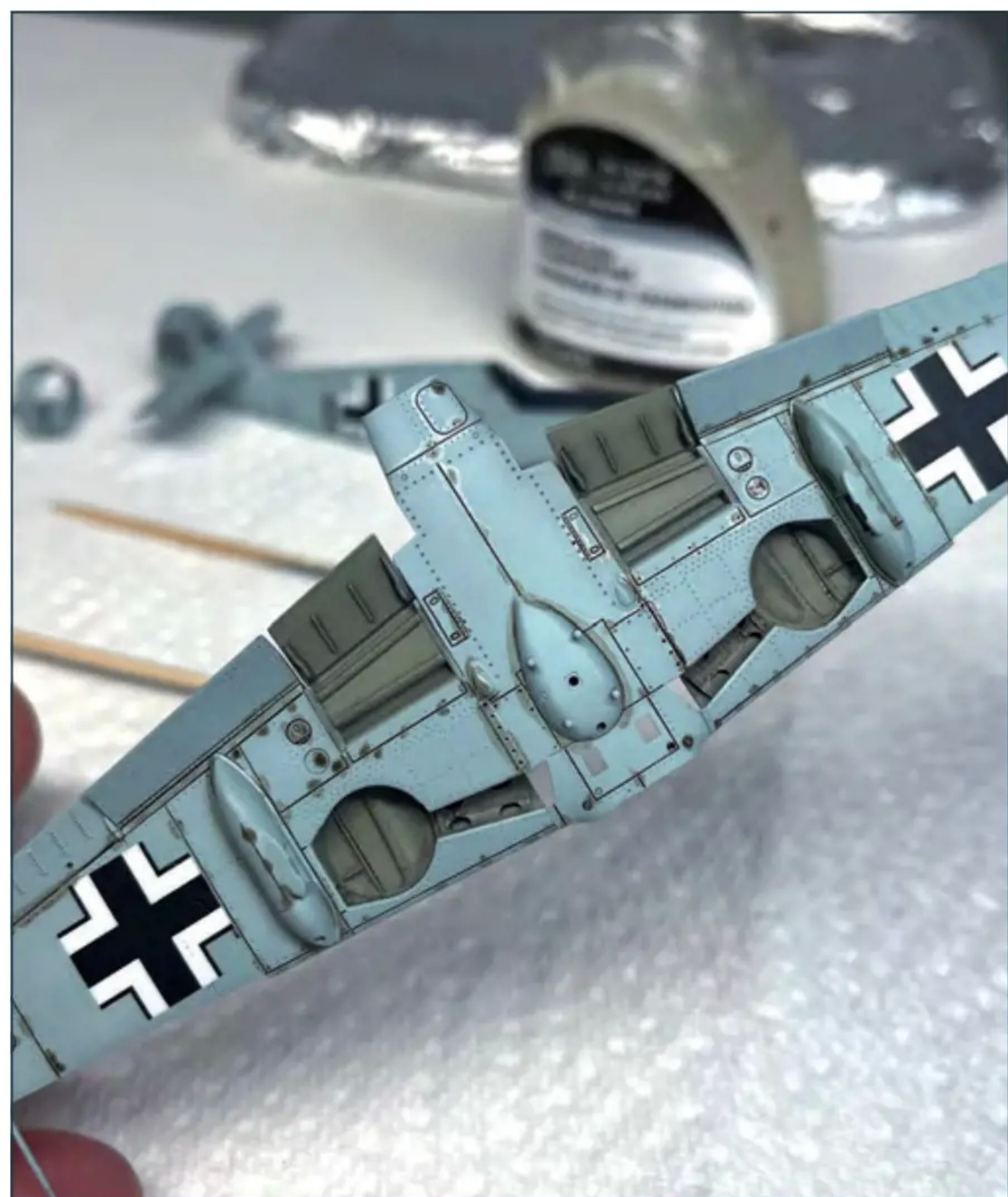
The model has now been glued together and everything oversprayed with a single, heavy layer of VMS Satin. All of the decals have blended-in beautifully, ready for a layer of weathering...



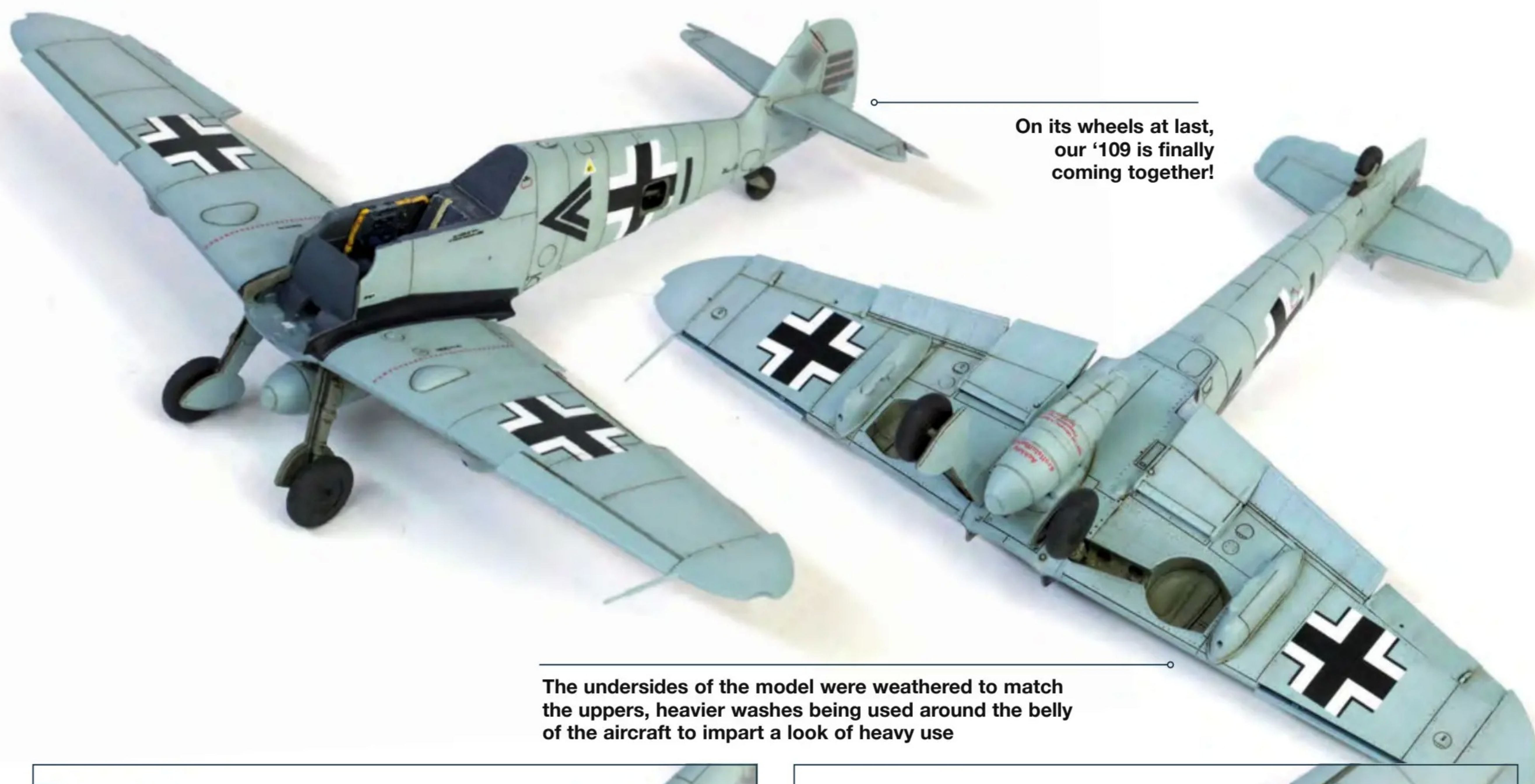
Care needed to be taken with the wash to ensure it was not too dark, a thin mix of Raw Umber and Payne's Grey (thinned with around 90% distilled Turpentine) being used to delineate the panel lines. Where the wash looked to be too dark, it was blended in with a cotton bud, moistened with a little odourless thinner



Though the weathering looked to be pleasingly restrained, I decided to bring out some of the rivet lines with neat oil paint. Starship Filth was drybrushed over the lines around the inner wings and then blended in with a cotton bud. It's not particularly visible from distance, but looks neat and tidy up close!



Given the diminutive size of this model and the delicate surface detail, I decided that I would keep the weathering restrained, opting only to add a wash to the panel lines and then some staining and exhaust smoke around the nose and fuselage sides



On its wheels at last, our '109 is finally coming together!

The undersides of the model were weathered to match the uppers, heavier washes being used around the belly of the aircraft to impart a look of heavy use



The undercarriage and drop-tank are simple details that look great once in place. Wheels were replaced with a set of Eduard's superb resin parts, their heightened detail being seen as a worthwhile investment. Note the stencilling on the drop tank and the gondolas that will be finished off with metal gun barrels



Having completed the cockpit, I decided to add a little more interest by having one of the seat straps hang over the cockpit sill, hence it not being seen in this shot!

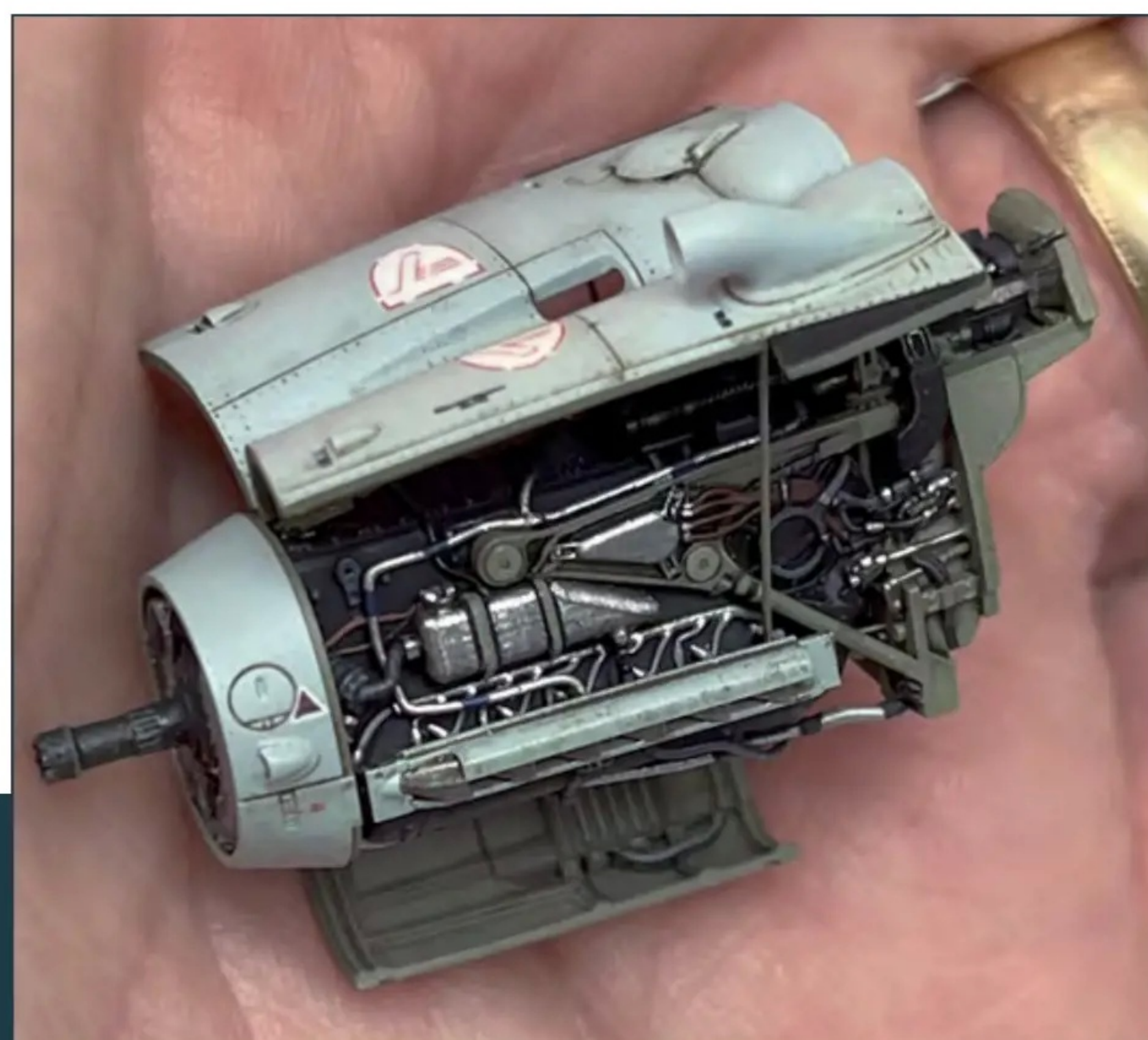
FINAL THOUGHTS

Having seen a number of these kits built up, I was intrigued to see what they looked like close up and how they would go together for my own collection. When they arrived, it soon became apparent that I was in for a treat, because even from the box I would be rewarded with a lovely little model for my efforts. Adding the extra detail though, was the icing on the cake. When you combine the basic kit with the upgrades seen in this feature, you end up with an incredibly-detailed model that perfectly captures the look and feel of this magnificent aircraft to a tee.

Eduard's range of '109s have always been impressive, their 1:48 kits being an absolute joy. Seeing them repeat that trick in 1:72 not only proved that they are as comfortable in smaller scales as they are larger, it built excitement for future releases such as the P-51 that we will see, shortly.

A fabulous project all told and one that I hope you enjoy reading about, as much as I enjoyed putting it together! ●

The completed engine pod. There is more work in this little sub-assembly than there is in the rest of the model put together, but boy, is it worth it!



Please note, the swastika emblems on the tail have been removed from these photographs to comply with laws in countries where Tamiya Model Magazine is sold

TECHSPEC...

EDUARD 1:48 MESSERSCHMITT
BF109G-5 GUSTAV • KIT NO.2144

Materials:

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

Paints used:

- Vallejo Acrylics: German Grey, London Grey, White, Black.
- Games Workshop: Yriel Yellow, Ironbreaker, Stormhost Silver.
- Tamiya Lacquer: Clear, Silver, Flat Aluminium.
- Tamiya Acrylic: Flat Black, Flat White, RAF Dark Green, Neutral Grey, Red Brown
- Mr Color: RLM74 Grau, RLM75 Grau, RLM 02 Grau, RLM 66 Schwartzgrau, RLM 76 Hellblau.
- AK Interactive 3G: Rubber Black, Black.
- VMS: XXL Satin Clear

Accessories used:

Eduard: Bf109G-6 engine PRINT (672352), Bf109G-5/ G-6 wheels PRINT (672348), Bf109G propeller PRINT (672346), Bf109G radio compartment PRINT (672344)

Availability:

Eduard models and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online.
www.eduard.com

When you combine the basic kit with the upgrades seen in this feature, you end up with an incredibly-detailed model...



www.creativemodels.co.uk

Model by Wayne Hui

Model by Jeremy Moore

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This month, Eduard has focused on Tamiya's sublime 1:48 kit of the F-35B Lightning II as the 'target' of their superdetailing expertise, offering a new ejector seat, wheels, lift-fan, photo-etched details, RAM stencils, data stencil decals, 3D instrument panel and other enhancements. It's wonderful stuff if you're about to embark on this kit! Top quality 3D-prints and photo-etched components, as always.

1:48 Brassin sets

- F-35B lift fan (648995)
- F-35B ejection seat (648979)
- F-35B wheels (648978)

1:48 Löök set

- F-35B Löök (644259)

1:48 photo-etched set

- F-35B (491420)

1:48 SPACE set

- F-35B SPACE (3DL48160)

1:48 decals

- F-35B stencils (D48116)

1:48 die-cut painting mask

- F-35B RAM coating (EX1013)

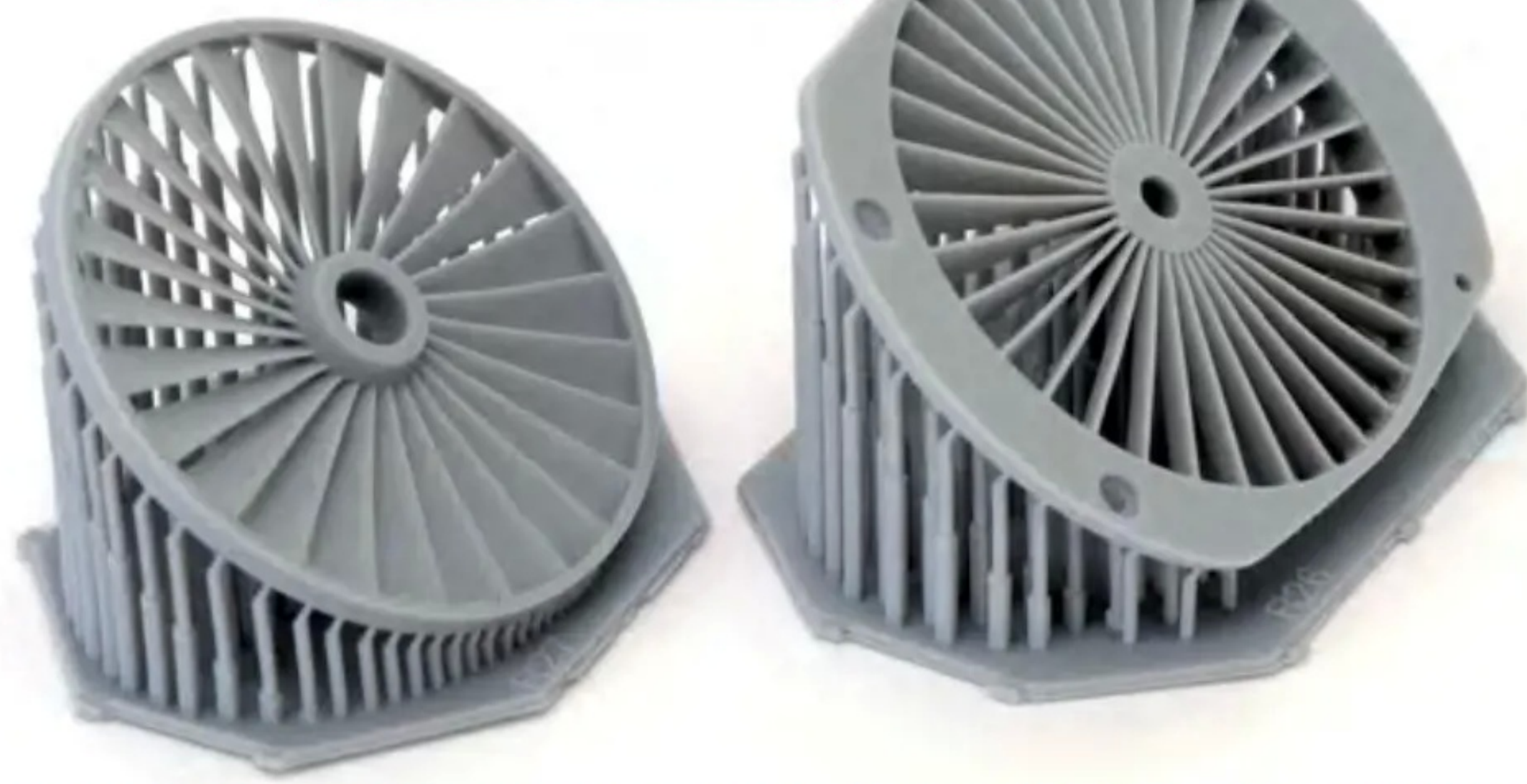


Tamiya's 1:48 F-35B Lightning II built by Carl Robertshaw for TMMI Issue 339 January 2024



ACCESSORIES

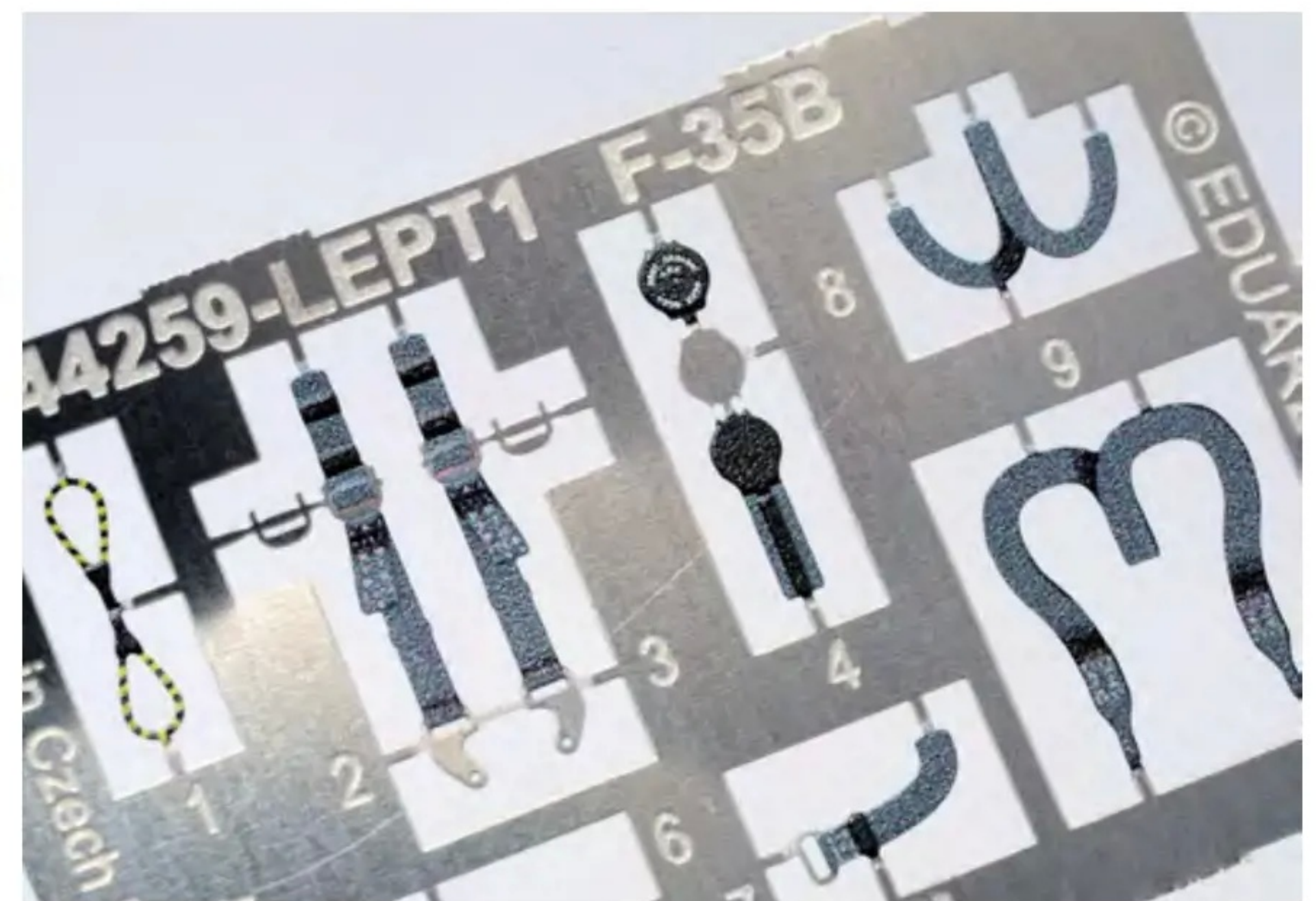
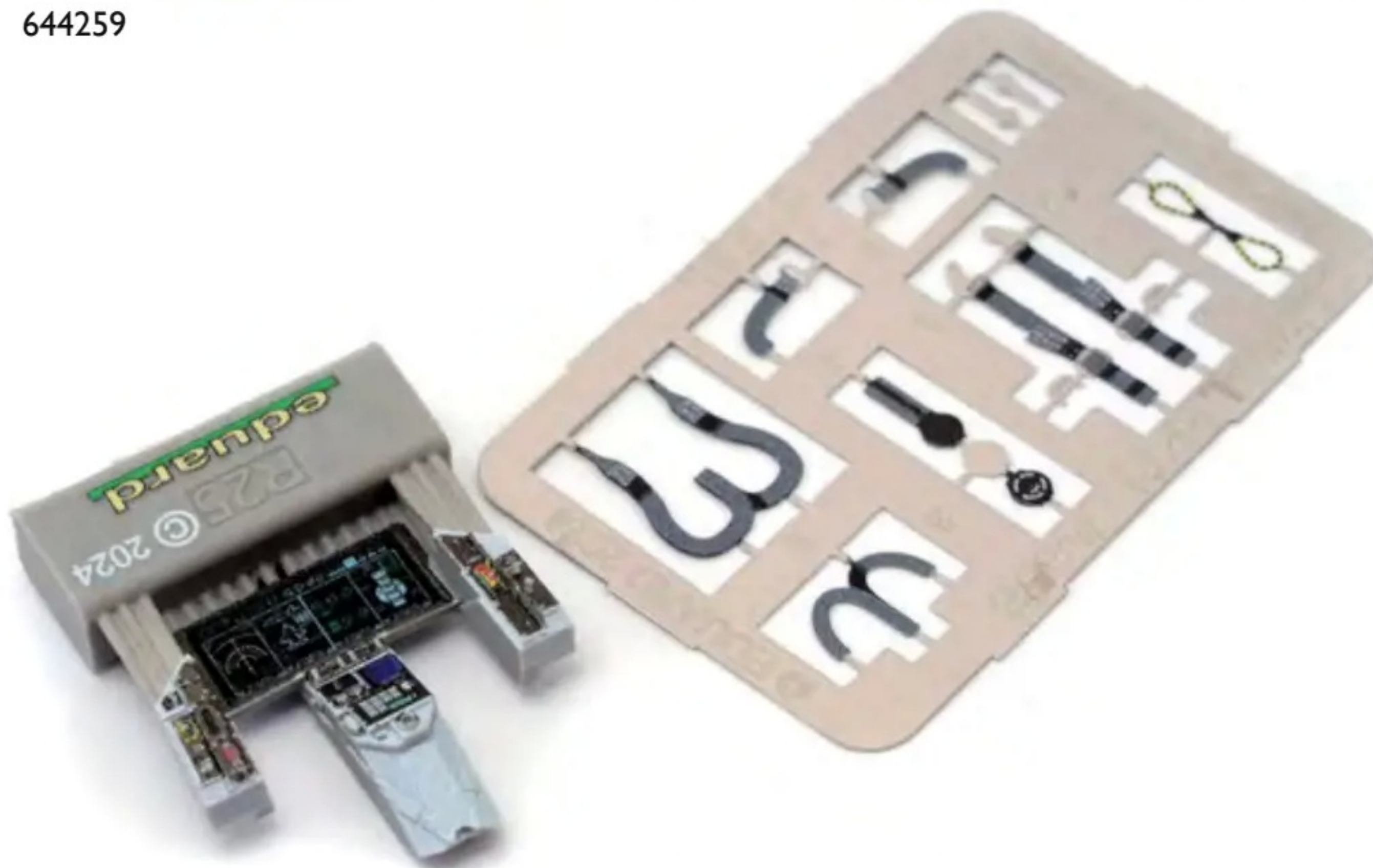
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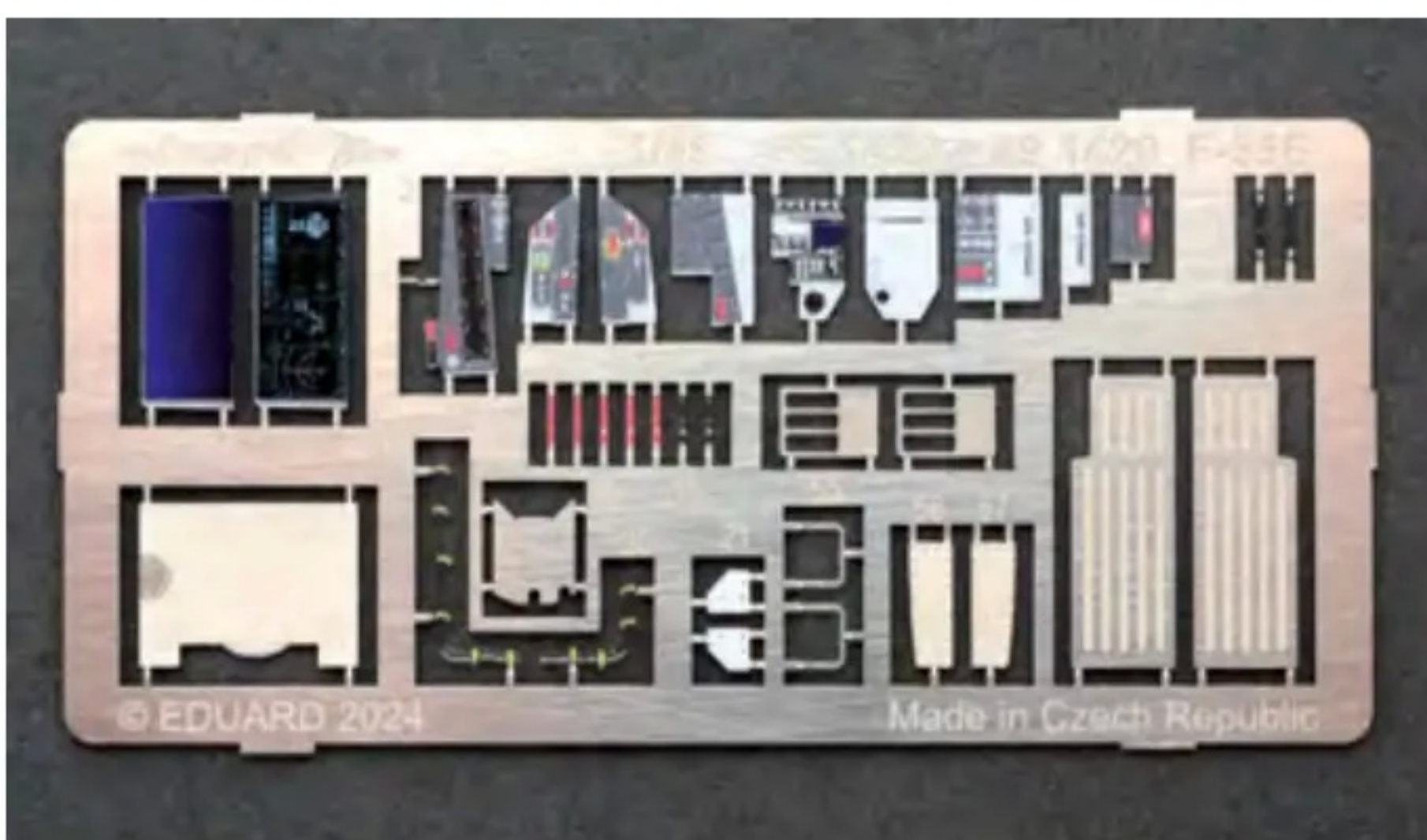
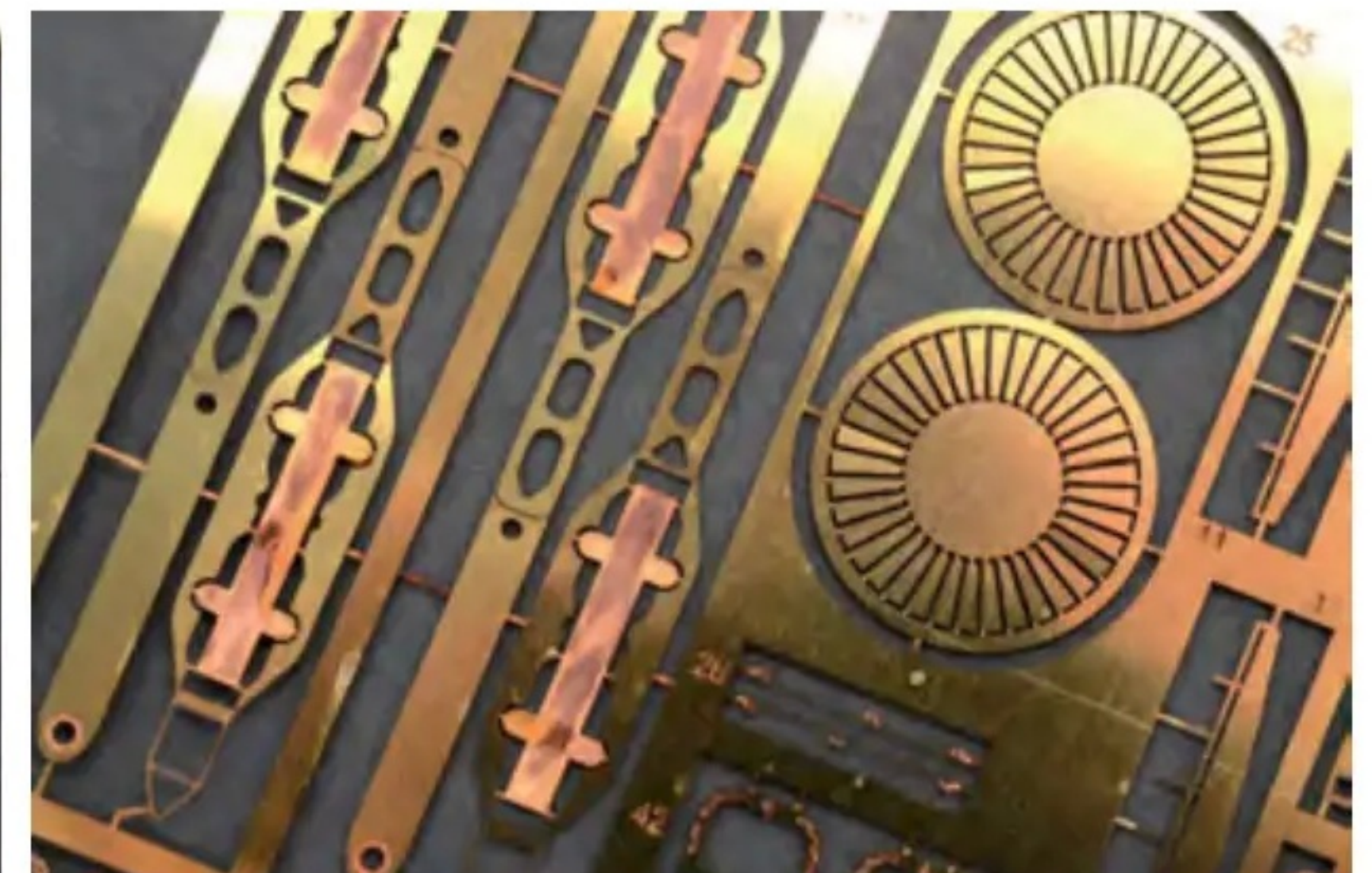
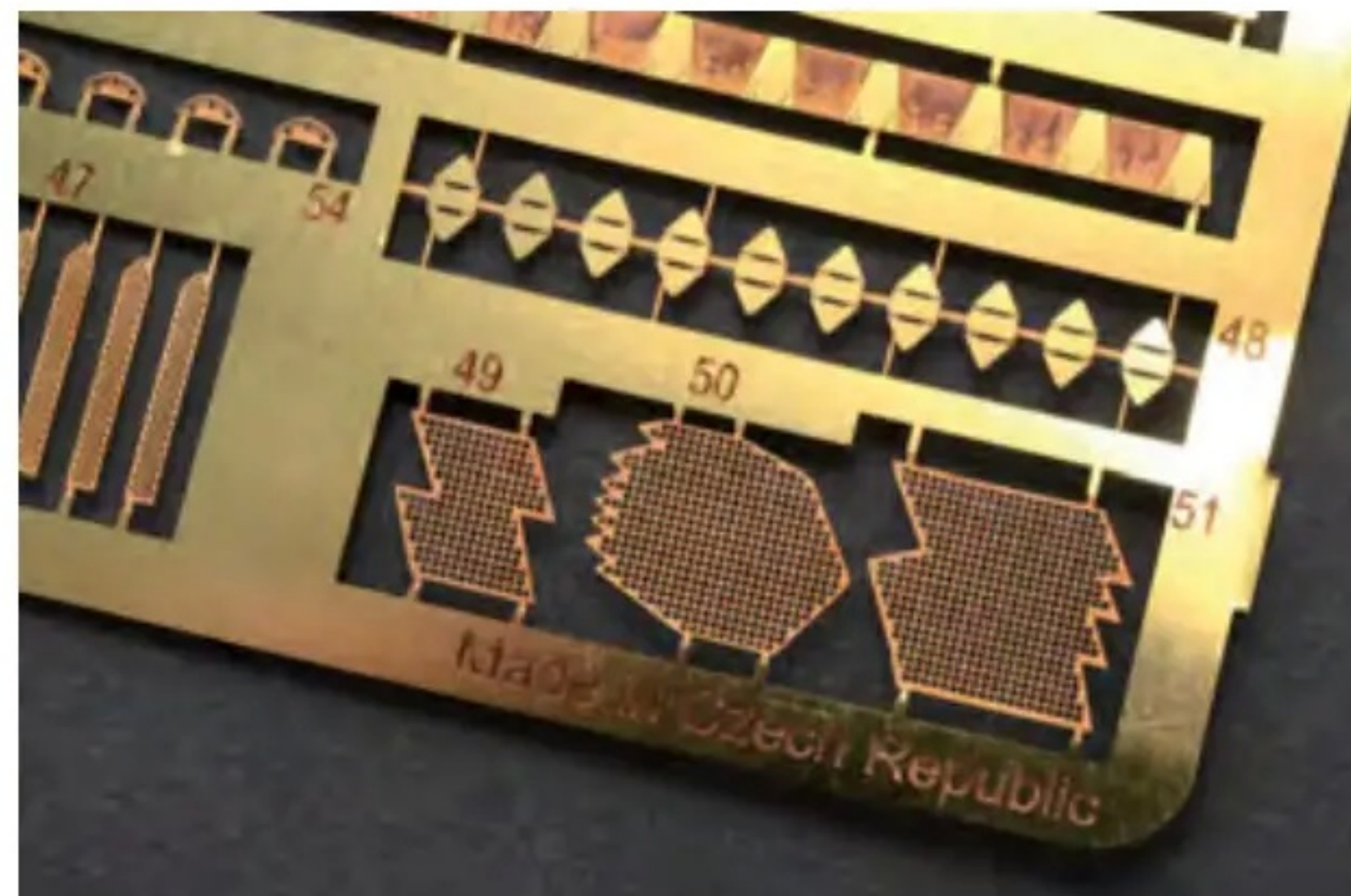
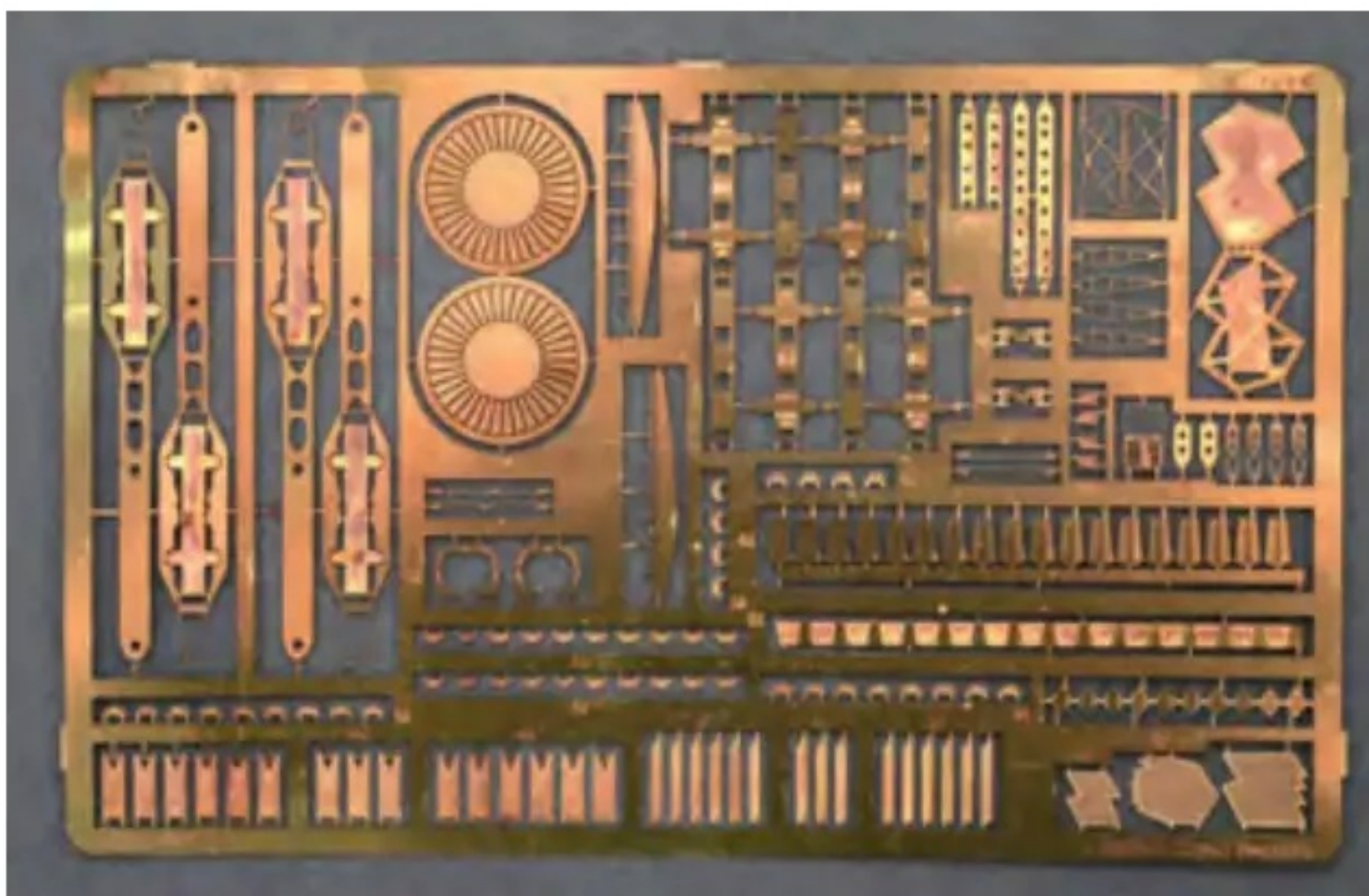
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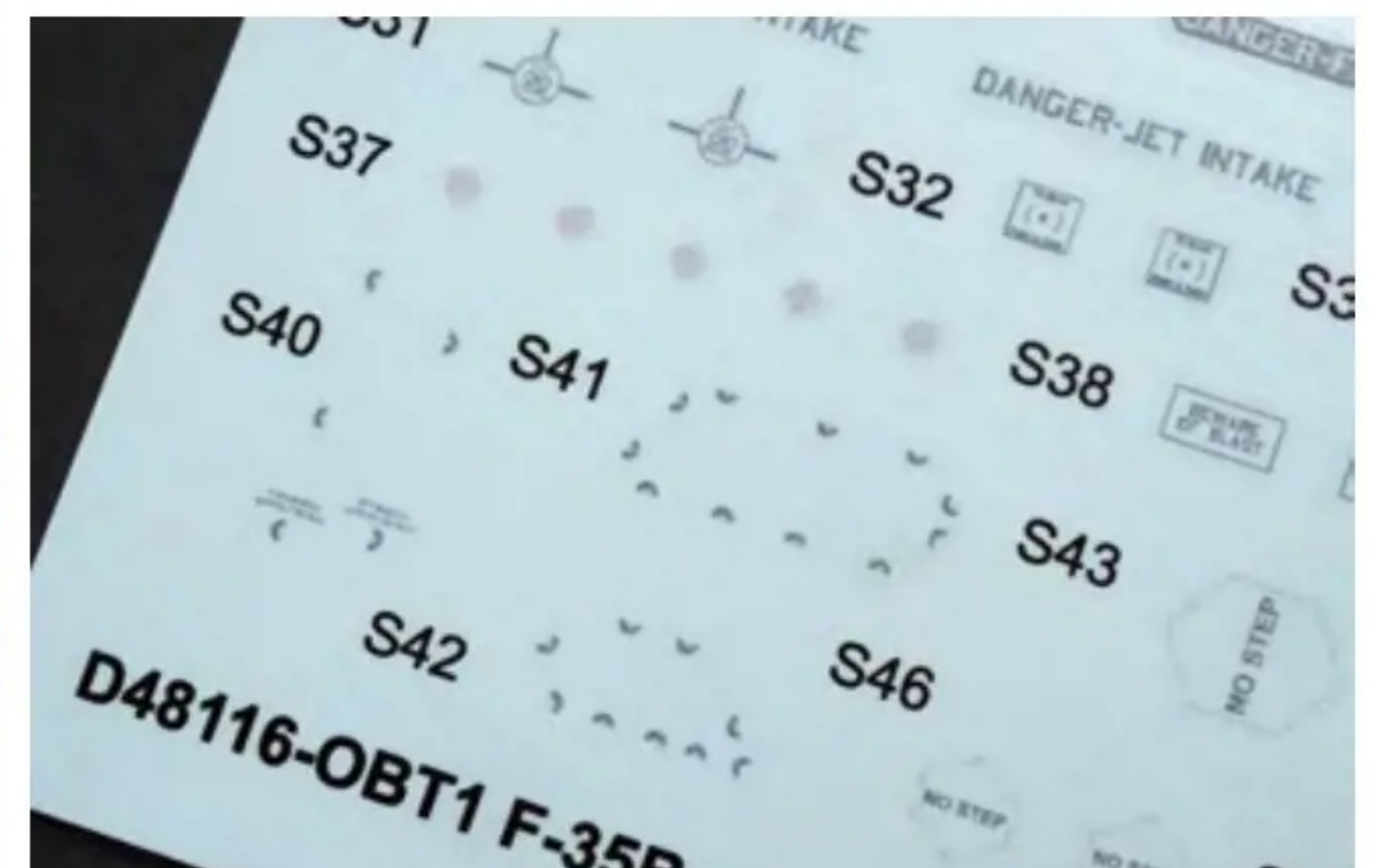
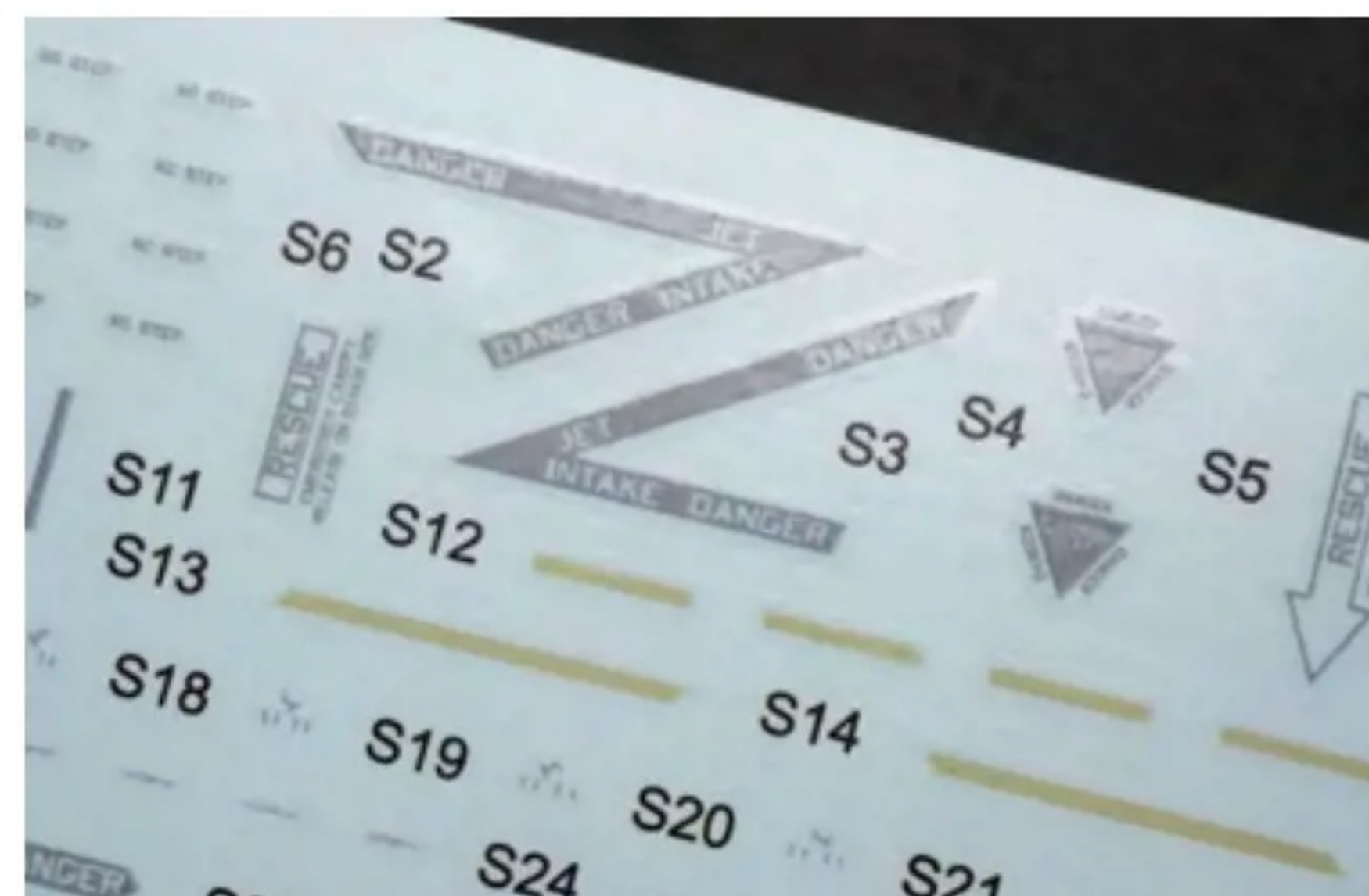
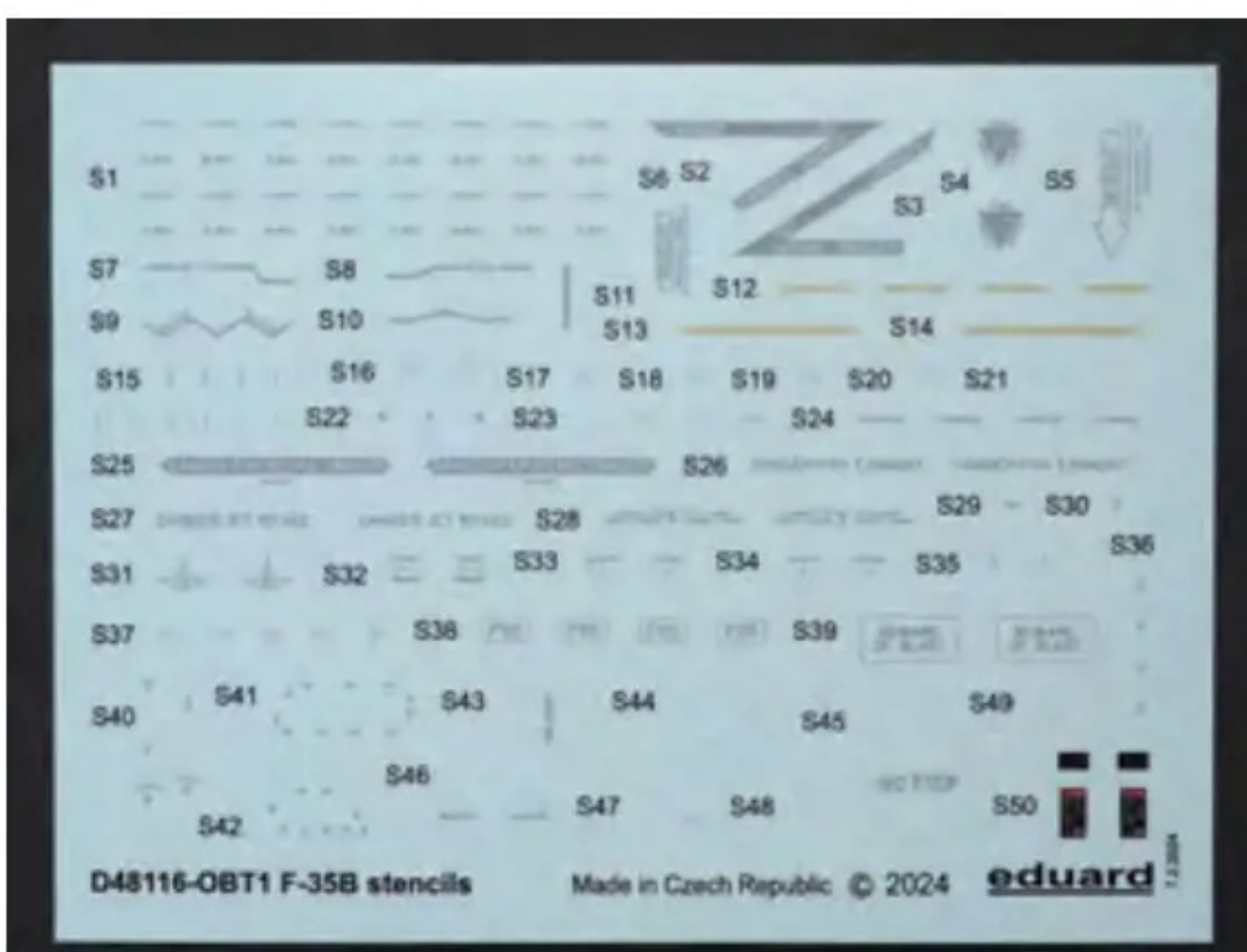
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LIFECOLOR, ITALY

www.airbrushes.com

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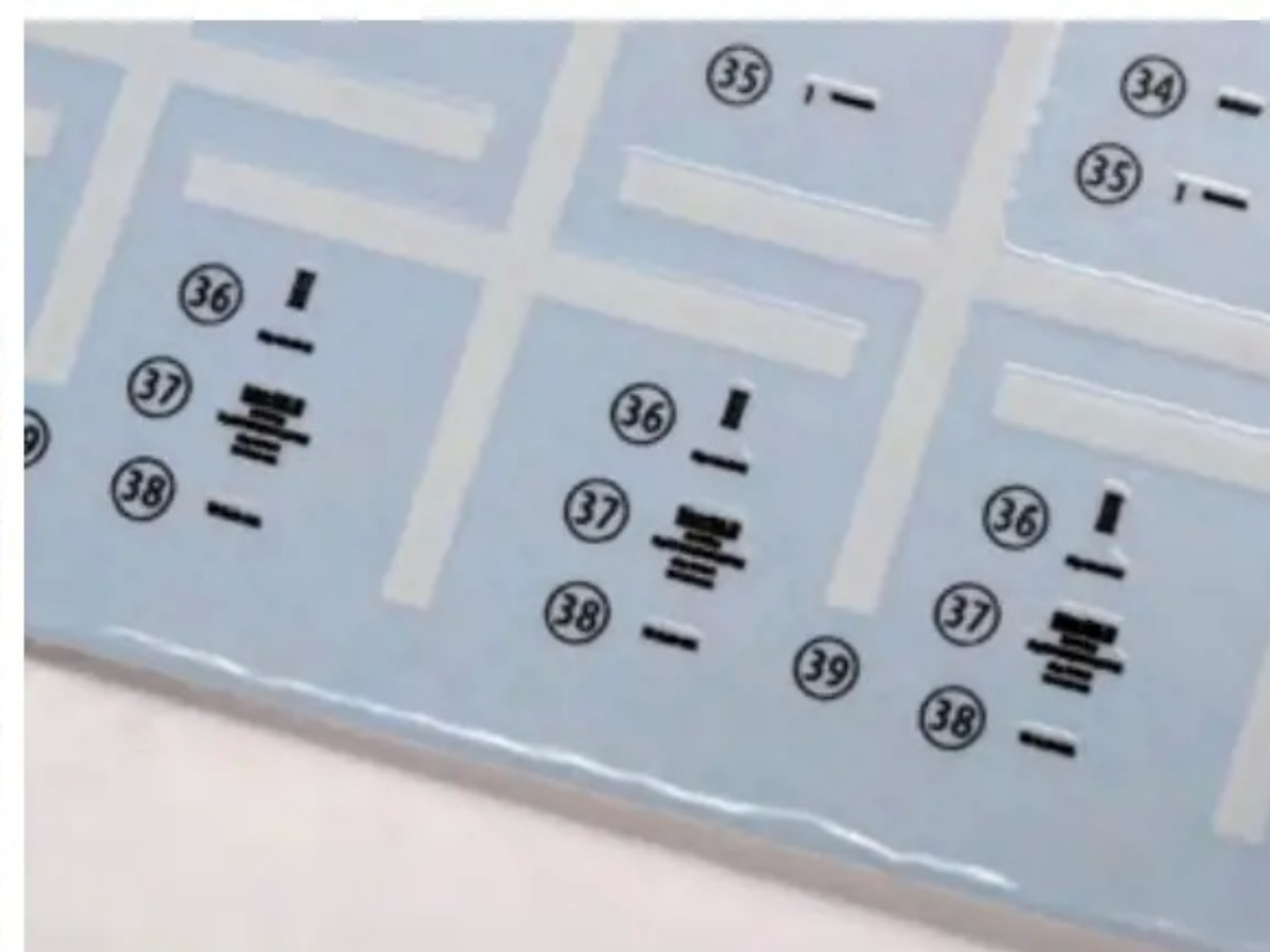
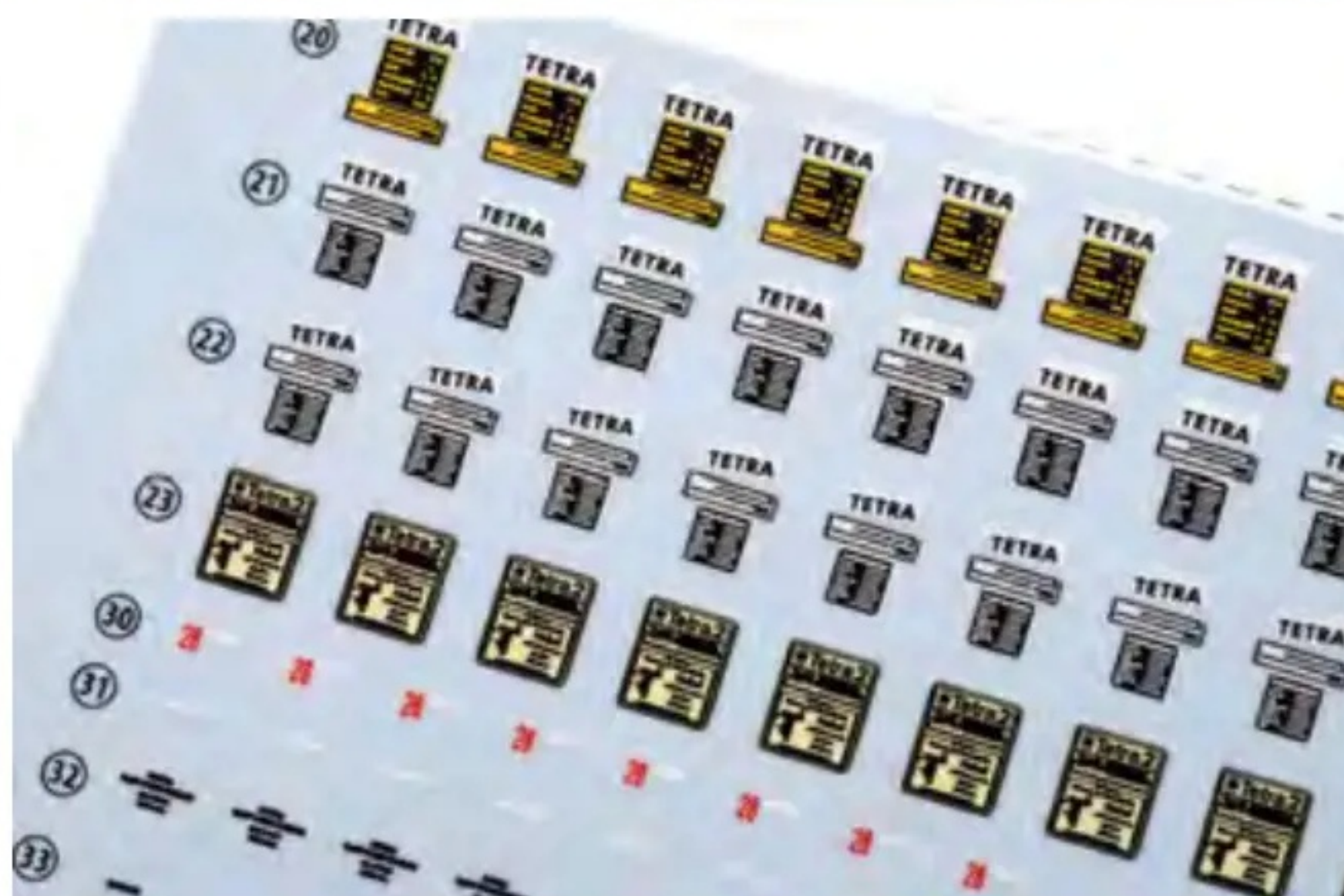
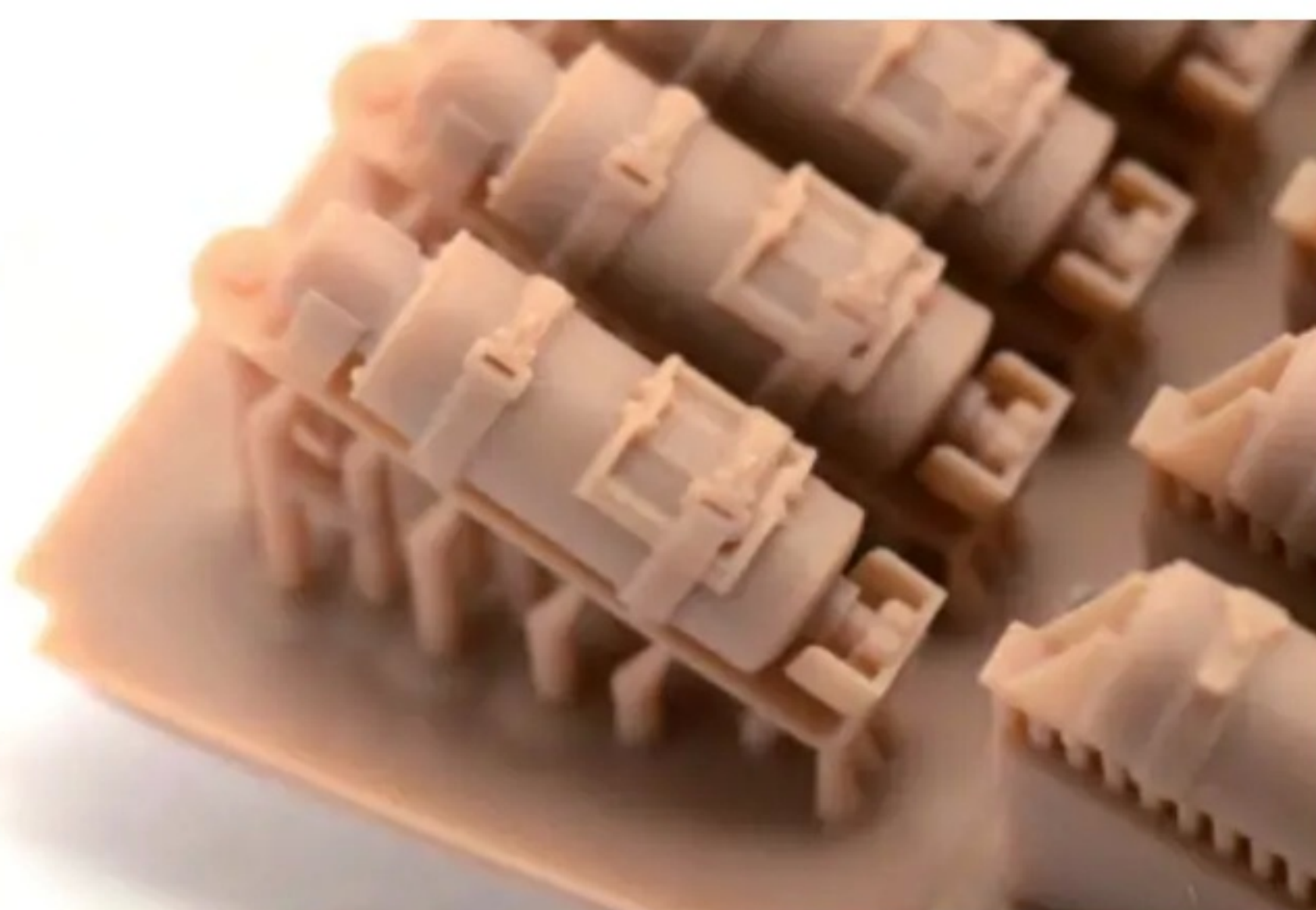
PASSION MODELS, JAPAN

www.passionmodels.jp

The latest 3D-printed set to arrive from Passion Models in Japan is a modestly-sized but very highly detailed rectangle of German WW2 AFV fire extinguishers in three discernible types, three of each. The printed detail on each 'can' is extraordinary and sharper than the injection-moulding process could handle. The pack also provides a sheet of decals to replicate the data panel for each extinguisher, the perfect finishing touch. A brilliant product that should have a place in any self-respecting modeller's inventory of Wehrmacht military vehicle subjects.

1:35 3D-printed detail parts

- German Army Fire Extinguisher Set with decals (MJEZ35029)



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PMP; PRE-ASSEMBLED METAL PARTS), **PS**; PAPER STRIP, **R**; RESIN, **SVT**; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), **VF**; VINYL FIGURES, **VFP**; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), **WC**; WOVEN CORD, **WS**; WATERSLIDE (DECALS)



TAMIYA, JAPAN

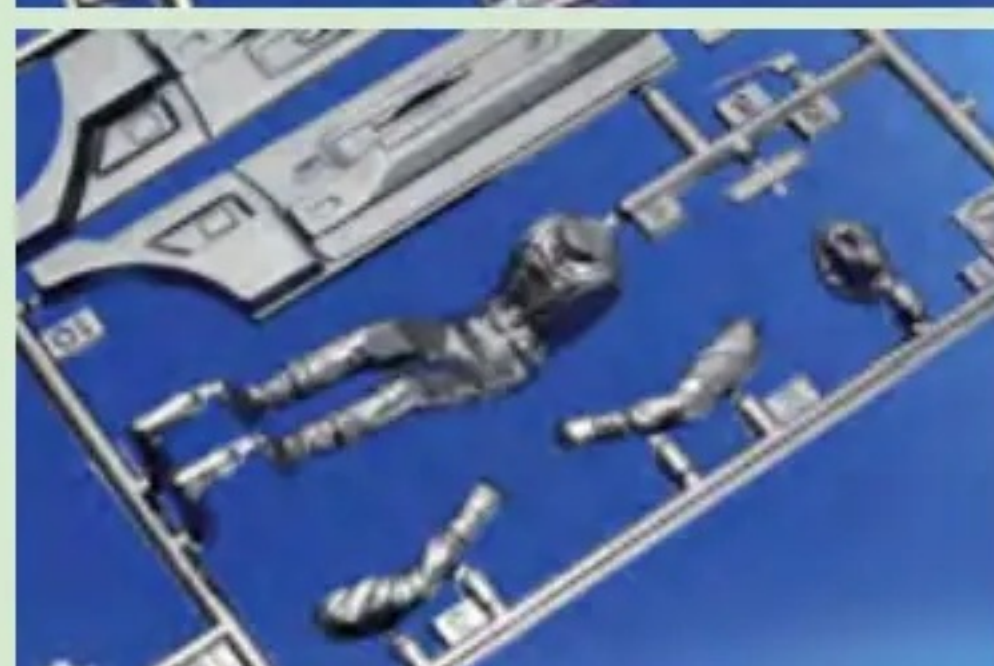
TOYOTA SOARER 2000VR-TURBO

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:24 • MATERIALS: IM, SVT, WS • ITEM NO.24365

Tamiya's Toyota Soarer 2000VR-Turbo – originally released as kit No.24019 into the 1:24 Sports Car Series in 1981 – has found its way back into the re-release schedule, albeit in non-motorised form this time. The real Soarer made its debut in February 1981 too, as Toyota's first 'personal luxury car'. This two-door, hardtop coupé featured a long nose with short rear deck and sported a high-performance 145hp, inline-six engine, plus a suite of the latest automobile technology for the interior. It's not a bad-looking car in a retro way and as Tamiya's car kits have always been slickly designed, it's a welcome return. The finished model measures 192mm length, 75mm in width and 56mm in height. It's a 'curbside' or engineless kit, and the sliding sun roof – you can choose between the steel type or glass type – can be opened and closed on the model, a neat feature. Another appealing touch is the inclusion of a driver figure, although he is wearing fireproof racing overalls and a five-point harness, which seems a little odd for a luxury car, even if it is a performance version. Keeping things firmly in the early 1980s are the decals for the seats' central panels, which are printed in horizontal stripes of brown and beige, to be applied to the seats after they have been sprayed with Tamiya Lacquer Paint LP-75 Buff (more beige). You can feel that velour from here! Despite the lack of an engine, the underside of the model is nicely detailed with suspension parts and exhaust. This kit is a cool re-release for those modellers who might have missed it in the past. It's modestly priced and will make a pleasing, quick-build project for the display cabinet. **TMMI**

-  A retro classic from Tamiya with some nice 1980s features
-  A somewhat oddly-dressed driver!



ARMA HOBBY, POLAND HURRICANE MK.IIC JUBILEE

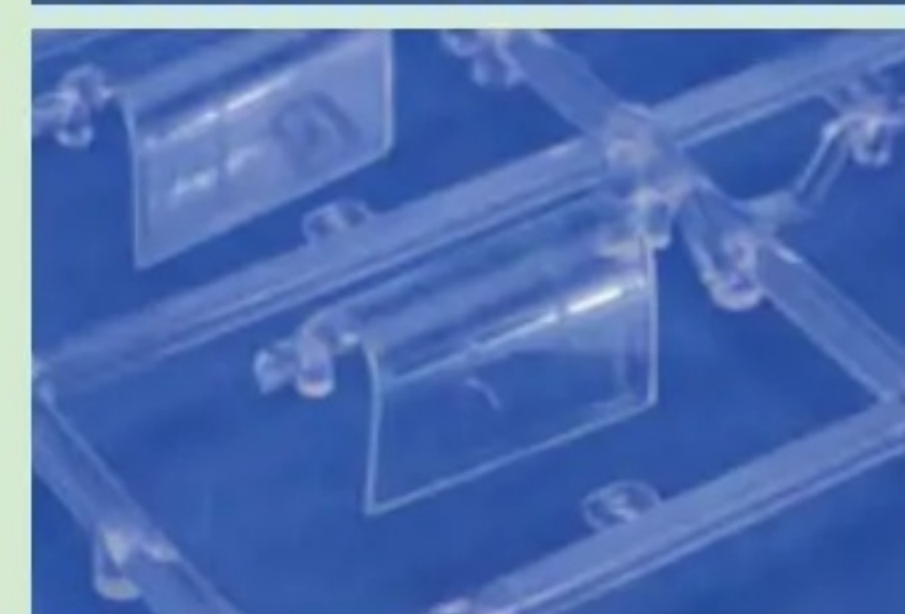
www.armahobby.com

SCALE: 1:48 • MATERIALS: IM, 3D, WS • ITEM NO.40006

We have raved about Arma Hobby's 1:48 Hawker Hurricane kits here before in TMMI but it's worth talking about them again because they are just so superb: a full-build feature on at least one of them will be appearing as soon as we can get one built. This time, we have received the Mk.IIc 'Jubilee' edition, so named to celebrate Arma Hobby's tenth anniversary as a model kit manufacturer. And what a way to celebrate! The three stunning sprues of grey injection-moulded polystyrene (and one in clear, naturally) are joined in the box by a 3D-printed pilot's seat X2 (one seat plus a spare?), exhaust outlets in two styles plus eight Hispano Mk.I 20mm cannon barrels, two each of two different designs. The 3D parts bring an even more impressive touch of sharpness to the party – as if the kit wasn't crisply detailed enough already – and will really contribute to the refinement of the finished model, the prominent cannon barrels in particular. Arma Hobby also provide the modeller with a sheet of pre-cut wheel and canopy masks, the latter a very welcome inclusion thanks to the multi-panelled design of Sir Sydney Camm's most famous aeronautical achievement. Three decal options are offered, all for UK-based Hurricanes, two of which are camouflaged in green/grey and one in overall black distemper:
A: Hurricane Mk.IIc BE500/LK-A, 87 Squadron RAF, Tangmere airfield. Pilots 5/Ldr D.G.. Smallwood i F/L AH Thom
B: Hurricane Mk.IIc Z3081/FT-V 'Baron Dhanis', 43 Squadron RAF, Tangmere airfield. Pilot 5/Ldr D ARG Le Roy du Viver (Belgium)
C: Hurricane Mk.IIc BD867/QO-Y, 3 Squadron RAF, Hunsdon airfield, Autumn 1941

The levels of detail on the plastic parts is absolutely astonishing, ranking this kit-series as one of the most sophisticated and refined models of a fighter aircraft we have ever seen. **TMMI**

-  An absolutely stunning kit with incredible detail
-  The proof will be in the building, but it looks close to perfect from an in-box inspection





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BRACH MODEL, ITALY

LEICHTER REIHEWERFER (16 ROHRE) AUF SOMUA MCG S307(f) PROTOTYPE & FIRST VERSION

www.brachmodel.it

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: R • ITEM NO.BM139

You may be familiar with Brach Model, as we have reviewed this Italian company's products before in Tamiya Model Magazine and years back we published a full-build article of the original release of the kit reviewed here, the snappily-titled 'Leichter Reihewerfer (16 Rohre) Auf Somua MCG S307(f)', or roughly translated to English, 'Light, in-line launcher, sixteen tubes', on the French Somua chassis. Either the prototype and initial-production vehicle can be made from the kit, although the differences are subtle, seemingly limited to the design of the sighting frame and control wheel (?) on the rear deck.

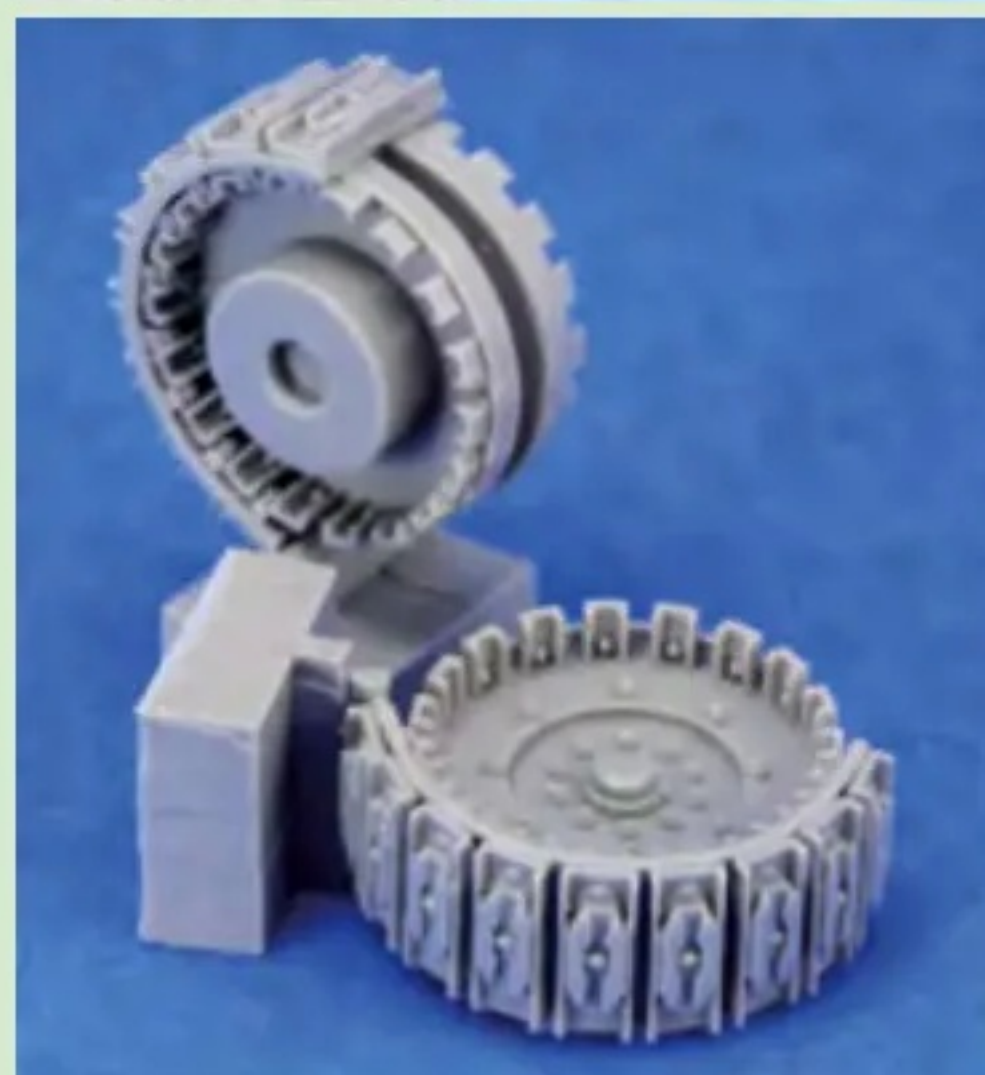
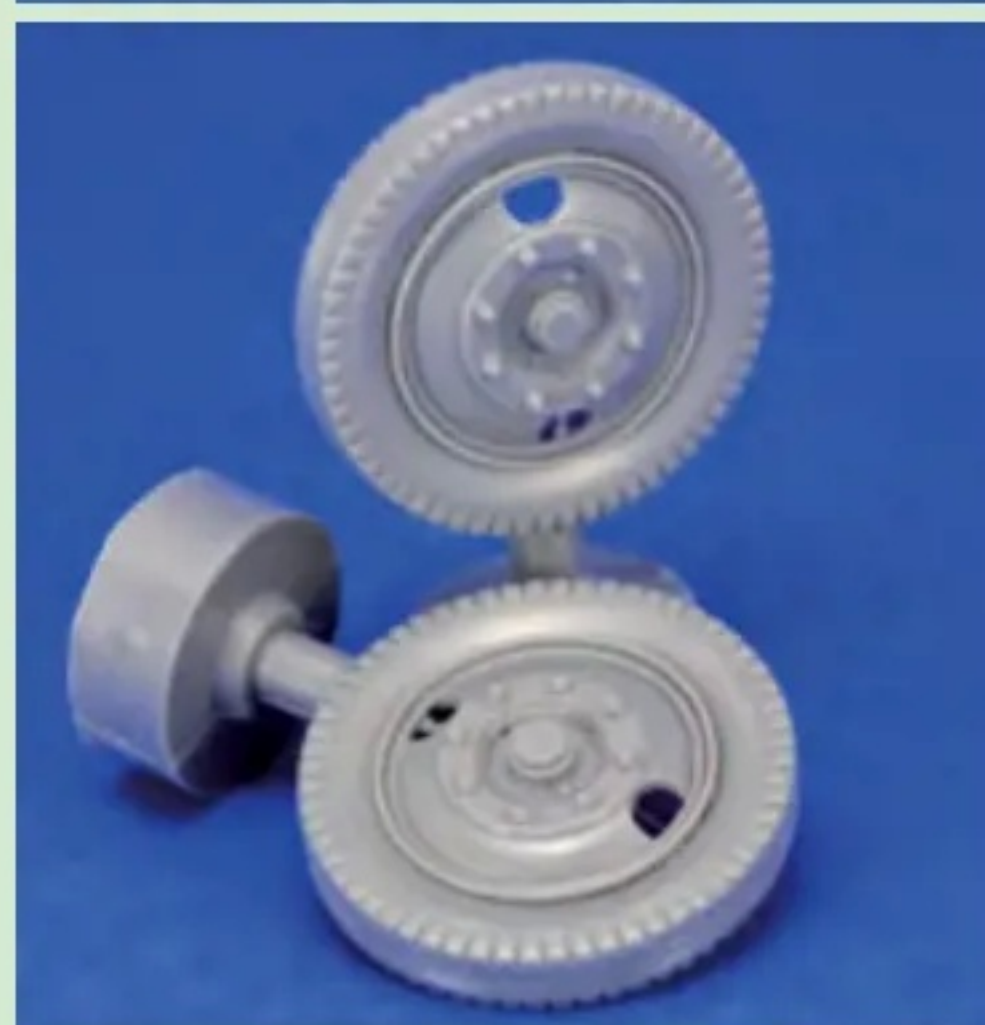
This release has been revised from the first batch, now coming with resin launch-tubes, where they were metal originally, cast in with their support frames. The steel rods that link the tubes were also cast integrally but are now separate, which must help with the manufacturing process. Proprietor Luciano Brach is one of the most accomplished creators of resin model kits and he uses the traditional method of master-model and mould, into which polyurethane resin is poured. The components are immaculate and from our aforementioned experience building this model (Military Illustrated Modeller Issue 10, February 2012) the parts fitted together perfectly. Being formed this way also means there is no evidence of the dreaded 'build lines' often seen on 3D-printed parts, a manufacturing phenomenon that is still 3D's Achilles heel, in some cases at least. This kit is stunningly well detailed from top to bottom, a particular highlight being the Somua's distinctive 'rubber' (on the real thing) tracks that are reproduced here to perfection. **TMMI**



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EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC

FW 190A-7 PROFIPACK EDITION

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

SCALE: 1:48 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.82138

Eduard's newer 1:48 Focke-Wulf Fw 190 kits are superb little works of art that are covered with fine surface detail over the airframe exterior and come with an impressive cockpit. Naturally, the modeller can choose to replace the whole thing with one of Eduard's amazing resin replacement cockpits, but in reality, the standard parts are excellent and more than adequate to achieve a good-looking result. The latest Fw 190 version to arrive at TMMI for review is the 'A-7, the up-gunned variant with many improvements, too numerous to list here. The kit comes moulded across five sprues of Eduard's familiar blue-grey polystyrene, plus clear canopy parts. In this 'ProfiPACK' edition, we also get a sheet of pre-coloured photo-etched parts that includes cockpit side-consoles, instrument panel, seat harnesses, rudder pedals, exterior appliqué armour (for specific machines) and other delicate detail components. The all-essential, pre-cut canopy masks are also provided to make the painting of the canopy frame significantly easier. Six markings-options are provided as follows:

A: WNr.431007, Major Heinz Bär, CO II./JG I Störmede, Germany, April, 1944
B: Hptm. Rolf Hermichen, CO I./JG I I, Rotenburg, Germany, March 1944
C: Oblt. Otto Kittel, CO 3./JG 54, Riga-Skulte, Latvia, August, 1944
D: 6./JG 300, Holzkirchen, Germany, July, 1944

E: Fw. Klaus Dietrich, Führerjägerstaffel, Rastenburg, Germany, August, 1944
F: WNr. 642962, Major Hans-Gunther von Kornatzki, CO Sturmstaffel I, Dortmund/Salzwedel, Germany, early 1944

There's a host of superdetail items that are suitable for this model, all made by Eduard themselves for the best possible compatibility:

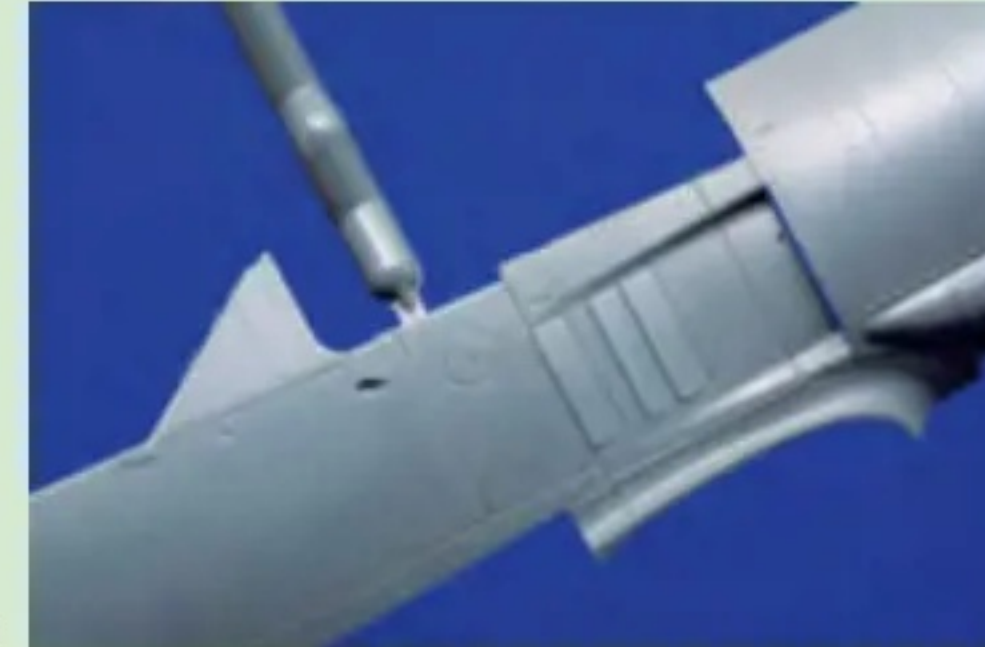
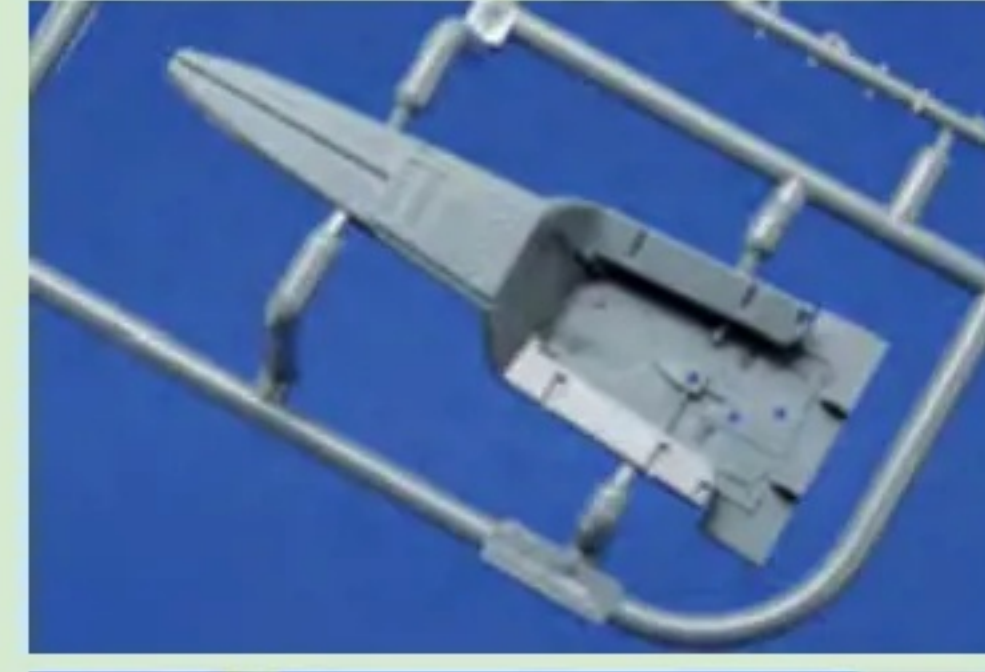
644015: Fw 190A-8 LööK (Brassin),
648150: Fw 190 wheels late (Brassin),
648356: Fw 190A wingroot gun bays (Brassin), 648366: Fw 190A propeller (Brassin), 648381: Fw 190A exhaust stacks (Brassin), 648476: Fw 190A-8 undercarriage legs BRONZE (Brassin), 648736: Fw 190A landing flaps PRINT (Brassin), 3DL48079: Fw 190A-8 SPACE (3D Decal Set). **TMMI**



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IMAGES OF WAR: ARMoured WARFARE AND HITLER'S ALLIES 1941-1945

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

While it is true that many of Hitler's allies in WW2 proved to be less effective on the battlefield than the German forces, nevertheless these allies made a great contribution and sacrificed much blood to further the aims of the German leader. There were volunteers from many nations who sympathised with the Nazi aspirations, but specific national contributions came from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine.

Each of these contributions is examined in this 112-page book, with brief text and a collection of photographs to illustrate the armoured vehicles and the appearance of the troops. The bravery and effort of soldiers from each nation are recognised, but so is the lack of modern weapons and the difficulties experienced in opposing Soviet forces without adequate means. This book does much to raise awareness of the different nations, their equipment and their actions on the Eastern Front. Many of the photos have been seen before in print, but often without recognition of which nationality of troops is shown. The lack of industry – and in particular armaments industry – in many of these nations would prove to be a huge factor in the limited effectiveness of nations that lacked the equipment to fight on equal terms. A much needed book on a neglected subject, which may encourage modellers to consider Hungarian or Romanian subjects, for example. The book gives due recognition to the nine nations that supported Hitler militarily, but understandably, many of the photos have been seen before in print. **CLS**

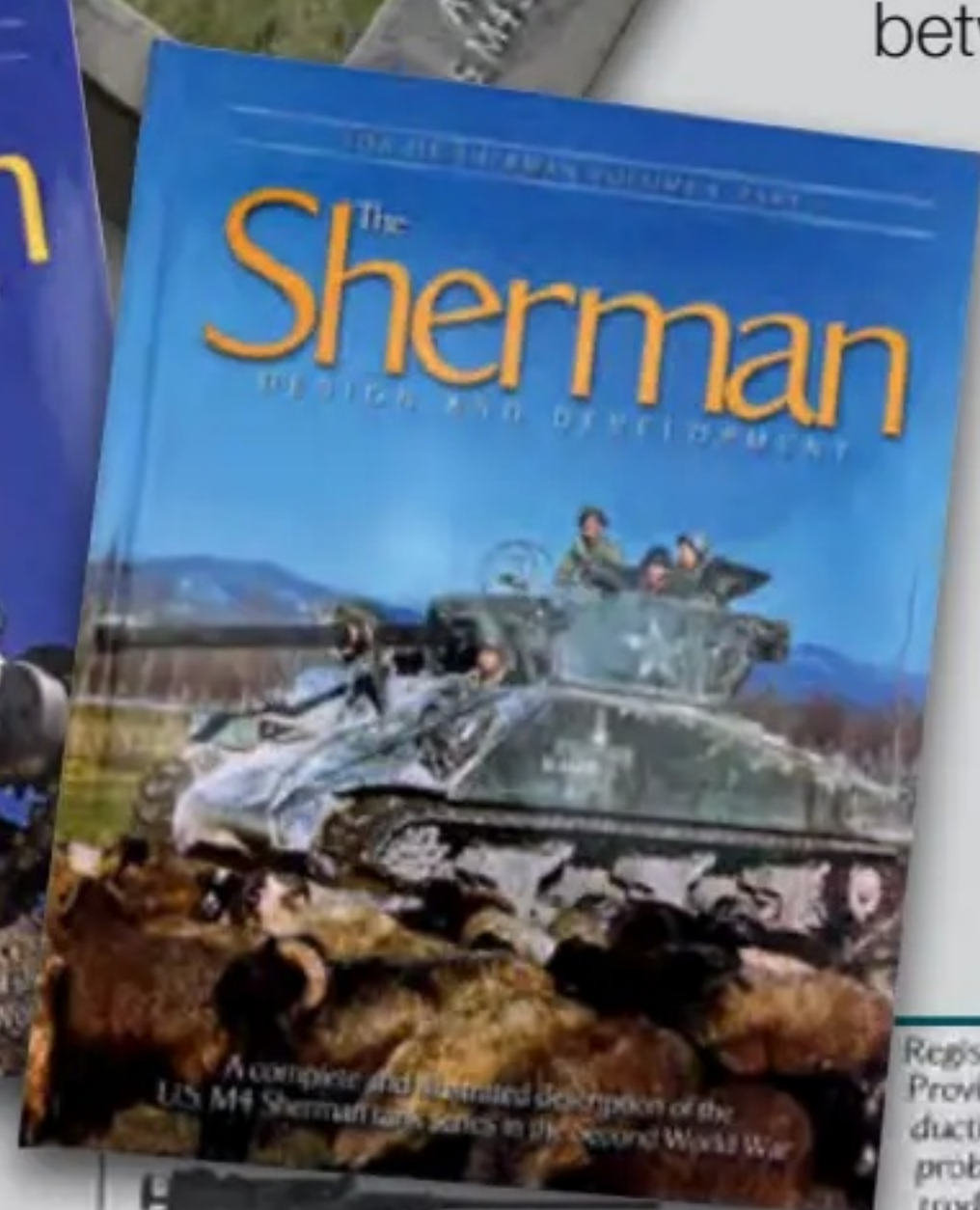
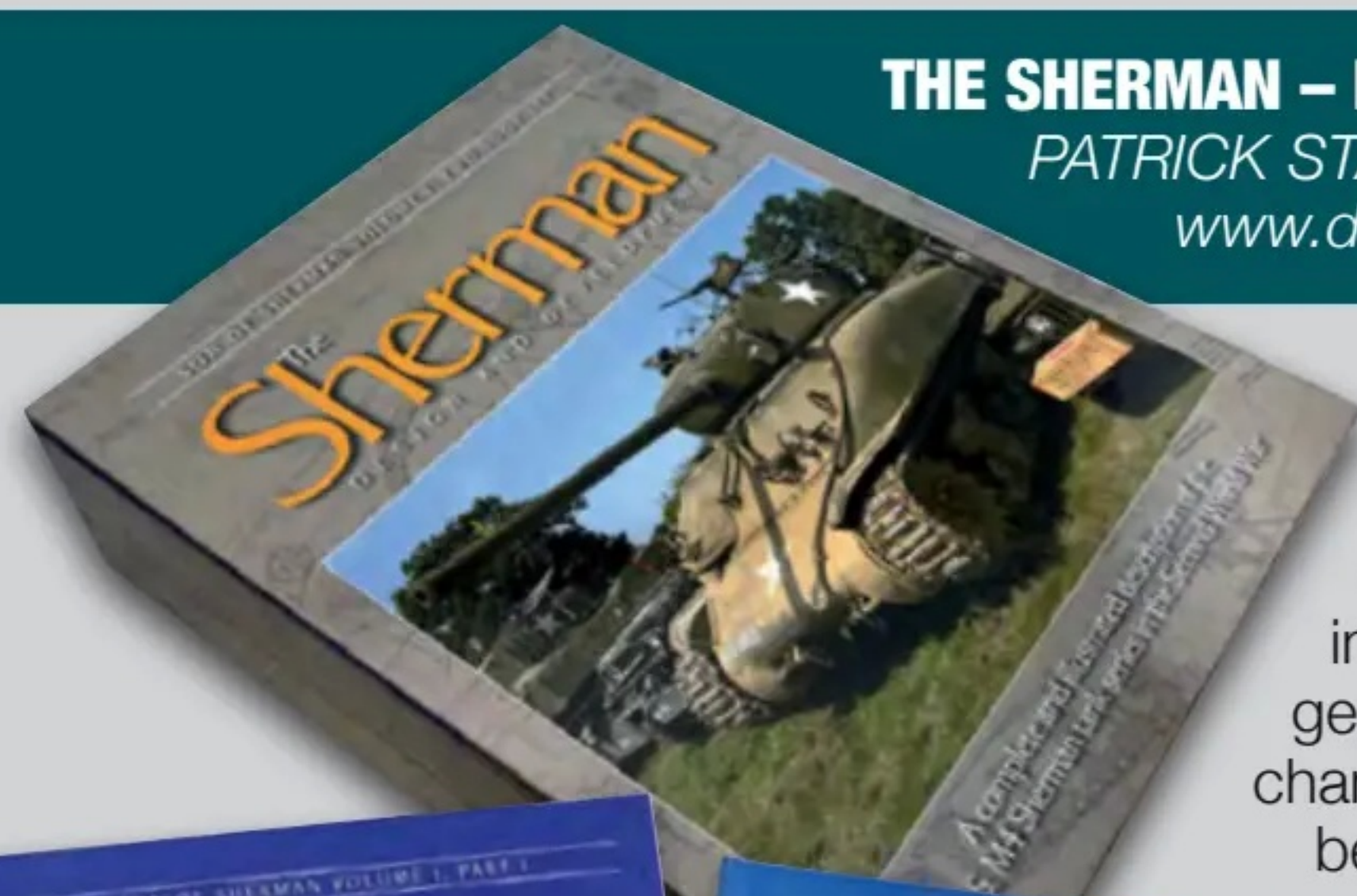


THE SHERMAN – DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT – SON OF SHERMAN VOLUME 1, TWO BOOK SET

PATRICK STANSELL, DAVID DOYLE BOOKS

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Certain books may claim to be the 'ultimate' resource for information about particular military vehicles, such as the Firefly book by Hayward, or the KV book by Stokes. The Son of Sherman book has evolved over time from a guide to building models of the tank, through ever larger editions, until finally arriving at this massive 2-volume boxed set covering the Sherman in exquisite detail. This iteration includes side-view drawings, which had been previously missing, and the organisation of the book is geared around the production of each factory rather than turret and hull type. This makes it easier to track changes that were specific to particular production runs, but the casual reader will perhaps need to flick between sections in order to understand the progression of changes. The first book covers the 75mm gun vehicles from 1942 to 1943, while the second volume looks at vehicles from 1944-1945, and then covers the component parts that were standard, plus post-war use. The books contain a multitude of large and clear photos, with excellent captions, leaving the reader clear about the important features shown. The highlight is the multi-view scale drawings, carefully annotated to show the significant features of each vehicle. Overall, this final(?) version of Son of Sherman is an incredible resource for anyone wanting to delve into the details of the tank. The title of the boxed set says Volume 1, and it is tempting to imagine further books covering the special versions and derivatives of the Sherman chassis. What is already a classic will become the iconic go-to resource. **CLS**



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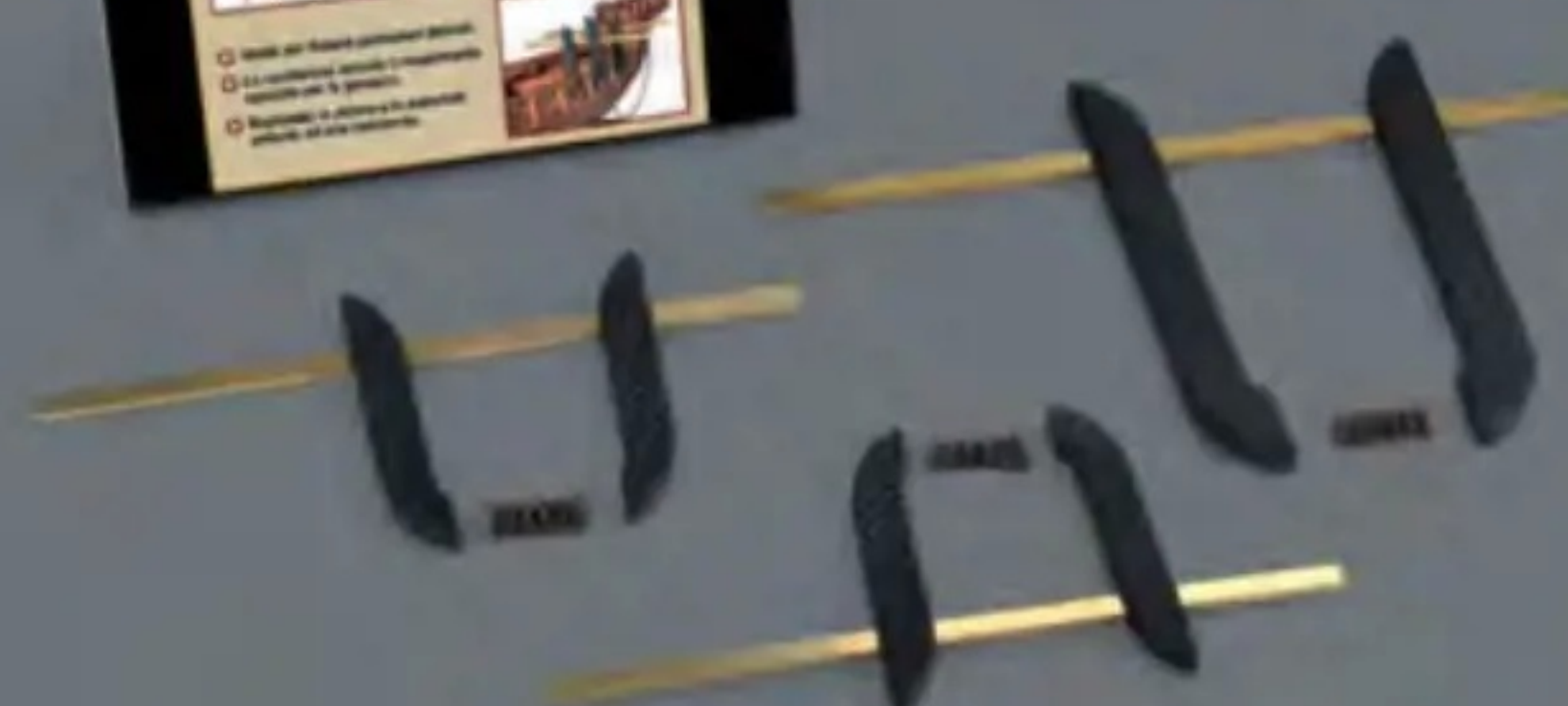
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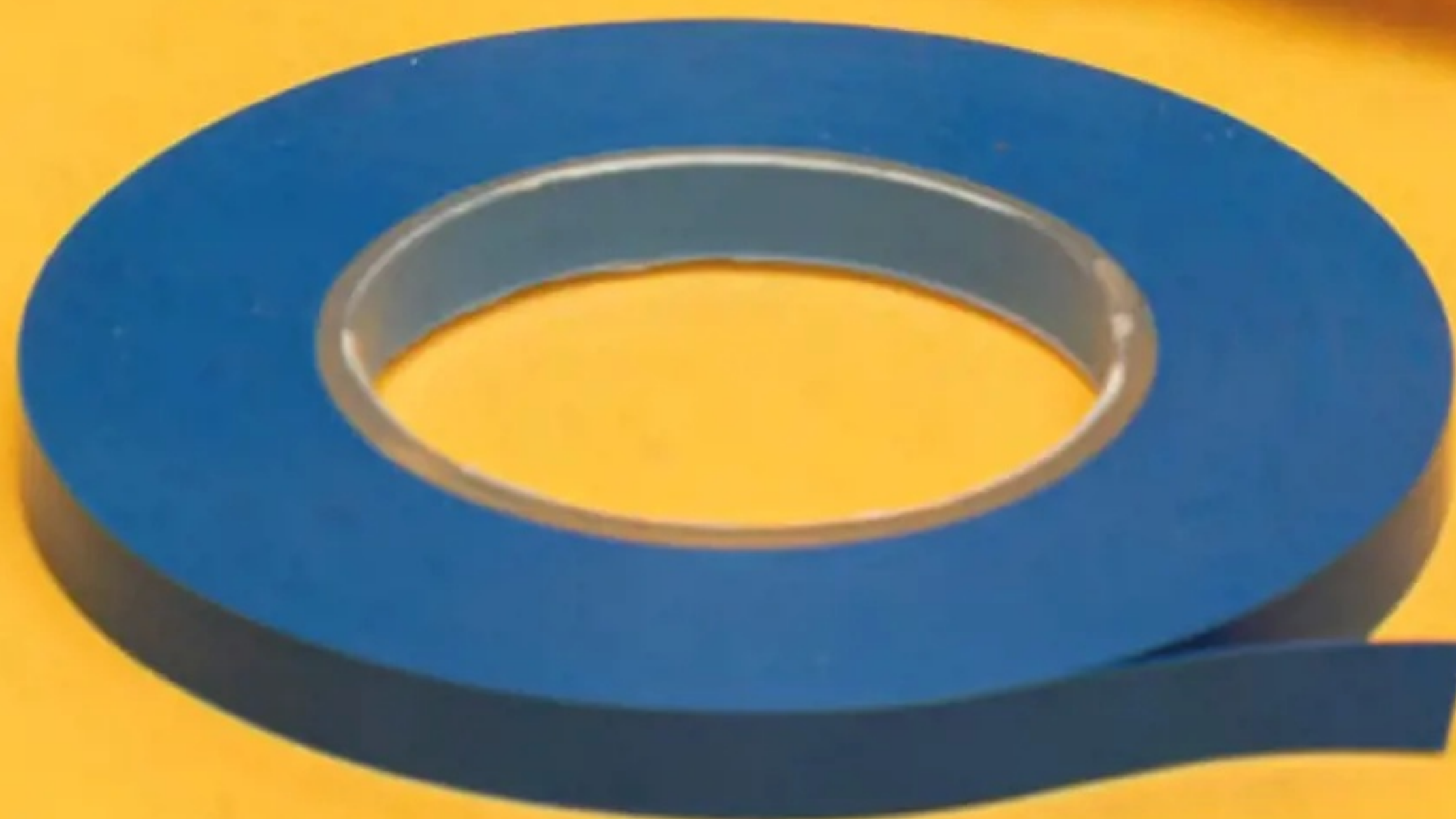
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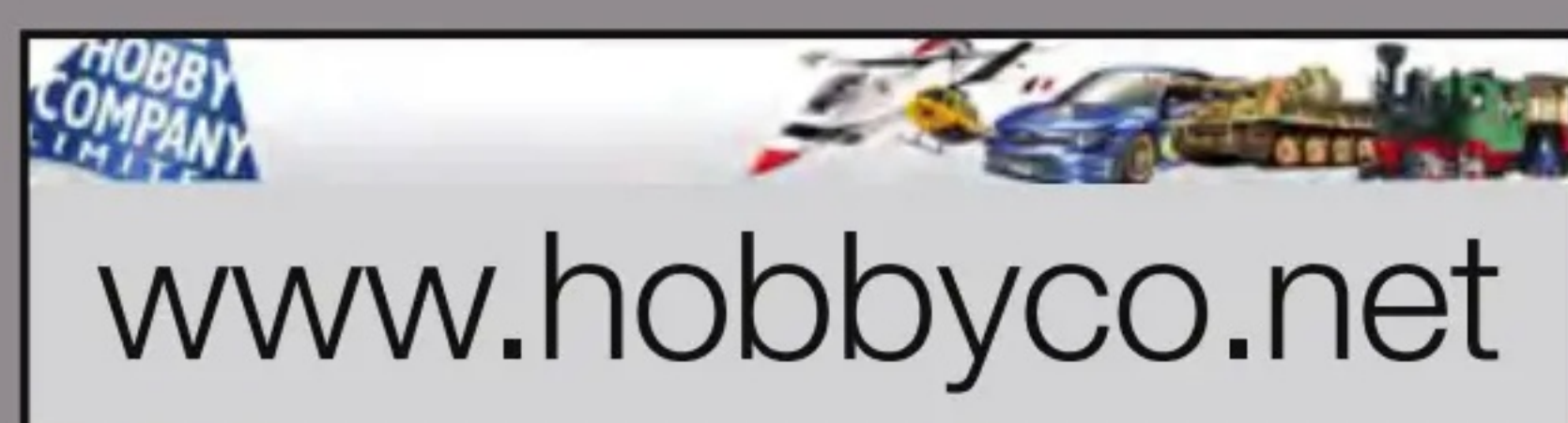


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THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

Continuing the theme of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy from the last issue, here is an amazingly high quality, original colour photograph (most likely to be Kodachrome) of the Canadian Sherman V tank 'Clanky' taken

on July 28th, 1944. The location is May-sur-Orne, Verrières, Normandy and we can observe some very interesting details, from the crew's uniforms, the bright steel of the tracks and the moulding seams that run around the tyres of the spare wheels on the front plate. ●



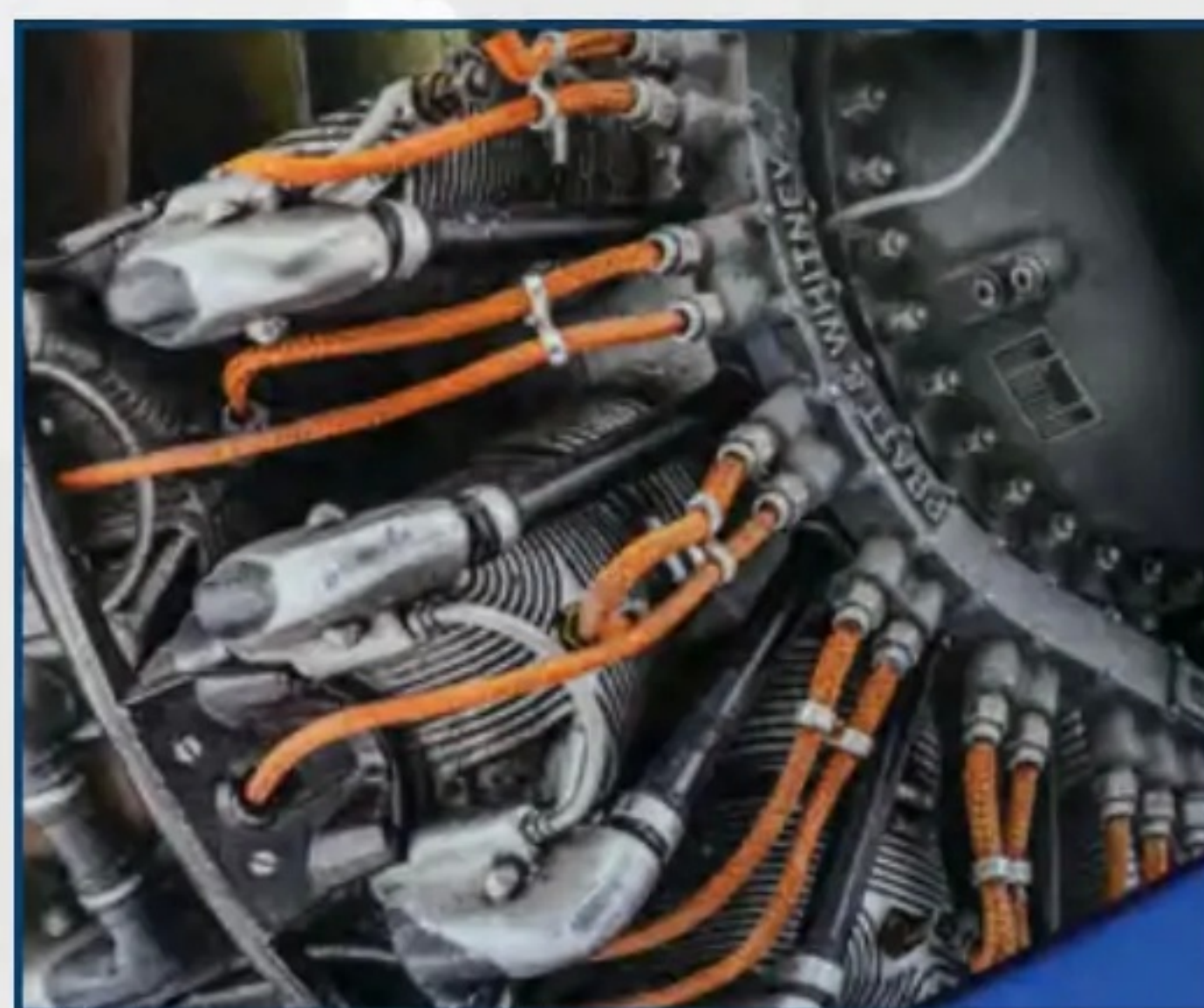
EDITOR'S CHOICE



Just an Engine Upgrade (book)

www.anyz.io

The German manufacturer Anyz has published this compact-format book that describes the super (or rather, hyper) detailing of the radial engine from Airfix's 1:24 F6F-5 Hellcat. It may only be a small book but it is packed with colour images that show the jaw-dropping detail-work undertaken by the author and it is inspirational stuff. Very highly recommended.





TAMIYA'S LEOPARD 2A7V: A MAIN BATTLE TANK IN MINIATURE

Marcus Nicholls has built Tamiya's all-new 1:35 kit of the Leopard 2A7V main battle tank

The big news from Tamiya at this year's Nuremberg Toy Fair was the announcement of an all-new 1:35 kit of the Leopard 2A7V main battle tank in the Military Miniatures Series. It's important to note that this is a 100% new tooling which uses no parts at all from the 2003-issued Leopard 2A6 (35242). All the changes one would expect to see on a 2A7V are depicted in sharp detail and the new kit comes with photo-etched parts for the turret stowage bins and other items.

The tracks are new too, taking the form of upper and lower runs moulded in two halves, with articulated individual links for the drive sprockets and idlers. A pair of crew figures are provided and they can be

fitted with helmets or berets according to the modeller's preference. An aluminium main gun barrel is available for this kit (for separate purchase) and as nice as it is, the kit-supplied item is superbly detailed, one-piece moulding that is more than adequate for the job. In the new model's box, Tamiya provides a sheet of photo-etched steel parts, the perfect material to replicate the real stowage bins. The model includes a pair of two-part formers or 'presses', to squeeze the metal parts into the correct shape, a really good idea.

The Leopard was painted in the standard NATO three-colour camouflage scheme using Tamiya's LP-60 NATO Black, XF-67 NATO Green and XF-68 NATO Brown colours.

To bring life and scale to the huge, slab-sided Leopard, the installation of the turret crewmen provided with the kit is crucial to the Leopard's final appearance. They are very nicely sculpted with excellent detail.

Tamiya has done a wonderful job with this kit, which I'll say yet again, is 100% new for 2024. It goes together like a dream, is detailed to perfection, but still leaves a few nice things to do for the super-detailers out there. It's an impressive model and it will build into a stunning replica of this beast, arguably the best main battle tank currently in service. ●

Kit features:

- 100% new kit for 2024
- Photo-etched parts for the turret stowage bins
- New track design with articulated individual links
- Two crew figures included with helmets or berets
- Main gun barrel is a one-piece moulding
- All surface detail is new and improved
- Main gun barrel in aluminium (for separate purchase)

Availability:

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



LEOPARD 2 A7V

1/35 Military Miniature Series
German Main Battle Tank
Leopard 2 A7V
(Item 35387)

1/35
SCALE

Evolution at your Fingertips

Newly developed based on extensive research of the actual tank!

Our 1/35 Leopard 2 A6 kit has enjoyed a great reputation since its release in 2004. The Leopard 2 A7V is an improved version of A7 (which itself is an improved version of A6) and units began receiving it in 2021. The A7V features additional hull front armor to increase its survivability, and improved suspension with new torsion bars and tracks, plus turret-side baskets. Based upon intensive research of the actual tank in Germany, Tamiya is proud to welcome this tank as a 1/35 scale kit with totally new parts. The A7V features such as turret rear and hull side shape are realistically recreated. Also, snap-together assembly tracks and photo-etched parts further enhance the finished kit. Compare our two kits to get a feel for the evolution of tank technology over the last twenty years!

Length: 320mm, width: 110mm

Choose between head sections with helmet and beret.

Decals recreate German flags and 6 different sleeve rank insignia.

Comes with three marking options.

Features snap-together assembly type tracks.

Detail-Up Parts

1/35 Scale German Leopard 2 A7V Metal Gun Barrel (Item 12694)

The A7V gun barrel is recreated with a precise aluminum part for a fantastic finish.



Mud flaps are depicted hung on the turret rear sides.

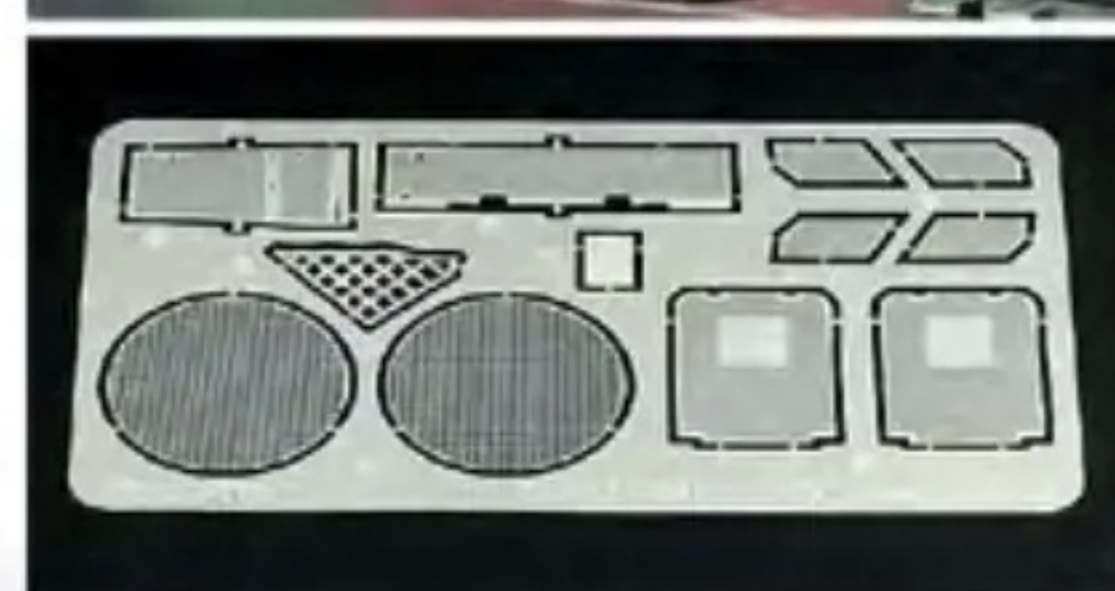


Photo-etched parts for engine grille mesh and turret-side basket sections.

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

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