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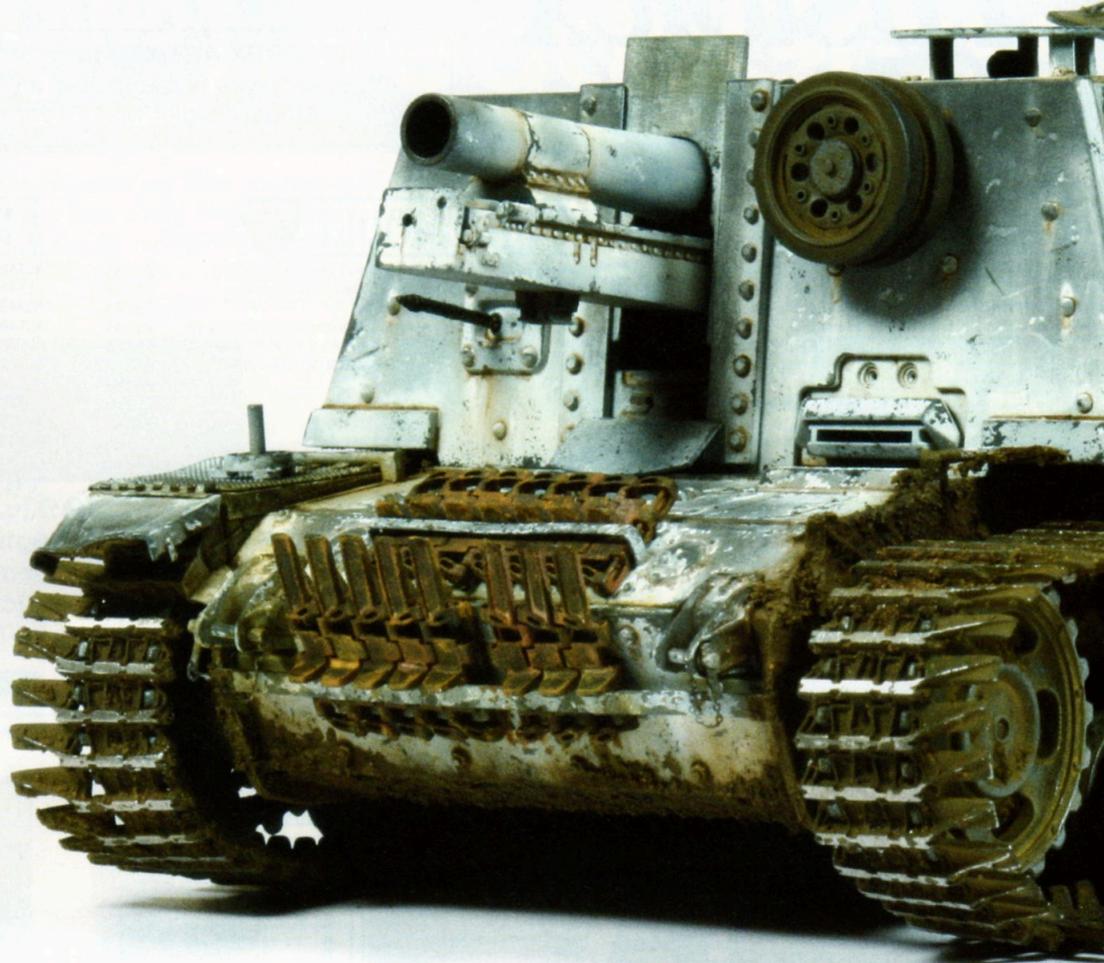
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IN THIS ISSUE

IT'S SHOWTIME!

The start of September marks what is always a personal period of intense modelling as I prepare for three model shows that draw together modellers from around Europe who in turn, get together to show off their latest work, compete against each other and shoot the breeze with friends that they only see a few times a year. The three shows in question are Scale World in Belgium, Euro Militaire in Folkestone and last but by no means least, Scale Modelworld in Telford.

The first of these shows in Scale World in Belgium. Hosted by the Kempense Modelbouw Klub (KMK), this one-day event is well worth a visit as it can often be the warm up for Euro Militaire, where modellers who will be competing in Folkestone, reveal their new work for the first time. Last year Mario Eens brought along his fantastic Panzer I that not only won 'Best In Show' in Belgium, but also went on to be a Gold Medal winner a week later in the UK.

Away from the models though (as great as they are!), what makes these events so wonderful is the chance to catch up with friends. In these days of the Interweb, mobile phone pods and twits, friends are never very far away, but nothing can replace seeing your mates in the same place once in a while! In years gone by this would often mean that you would see friends from only the UK, but the proliferation of international shows, ease of transport and the kudos of competing at these events has attracted modellers from far further afield – and that means that friends are made from well beyond our own national borders.

Anyhoo – it's not all about having a good time is it?! The chance to examine models at close quarters is also something to be enjoyed. Magazines and the Web have given many, the chance to see models from around the world, but they often look quite different in the flesh and so it's great to be able to check them out at length so that you can work out just how the modeller has finished their latest masterpiece. Often, this will be all the inspiration I need to go home and try and recreate those effects myself – often with rather questionable results!

This month you'll find some of the highlights from Scale World which we hope that you'll enjoy seeing. Better still though, why not visit one of these shows yourself – you certainly won't regret it!

See you next time.



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AND SAVE
MONEY
TODAY**

TURN TO PAGE 53

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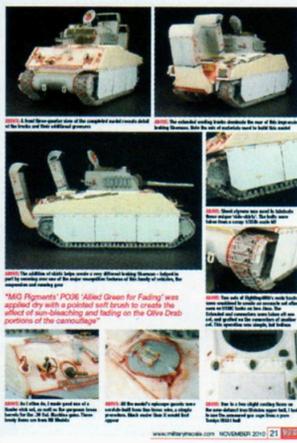
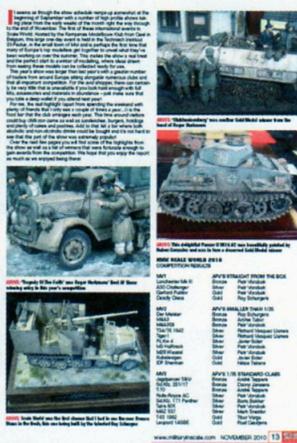
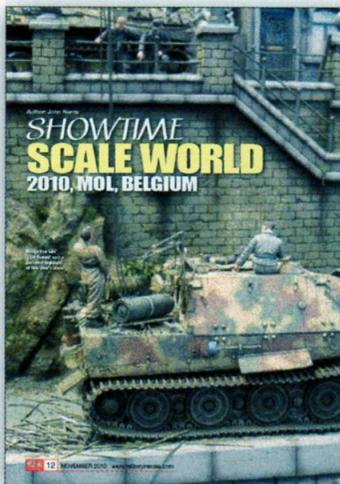
Kristof Pulincx builds a whitewashed sIG 33 in 1/35, a model he actually started almost ten years ago...

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Dai Williams tackles Dragon's Panzer III Ausf.N

48 SHOWTIME

John Norris visits this year's Tankfest from Bovington



ROUND UP

Modelling news and information



PROJECT AIRFIX! Schools and Youth Organisations on red alert as Airfix unleash schools project kit

Calling all schools and youth organisations! Airfix has launched a brand new kit aimed at encouraging children to try out the fantastic world of modelling. So brushes at the ready, fingers steady and get modelling!

The set is priced at £39.99 (including free P+P) and consists of 15 1:72 scale Spitfire kits (as seen on James May's Toy Stories), 18 pots of Humbrol Acrylic paint, 15 tubes of Polystyrene Cement, 6 x packs of assorted brushes, an Airfix Catalogue and leaflets to explain and join the brilliant Airfix Club.

All you need to do to take advantage of Project Airfix is print off the order form, available at www.airfix.com/project-airfix and send it to Airfix along with proof of your school or youth organisation, plus payment. Airfix will then send the complete pack back to you.

There's also the chance to have your finished Spitfire featured on the Airfix website.



Darrell Burge, Airfix Marketing Manager comments "Airfix are pleased to offer schools and youth organisations nationwide the chance to experience the exciting world of Airfix modelling with the introduction of Project Airfix. Not only is the set easily accessible and very cost effective but it also has the ability to really bring children together in a fun and enjoyable way."

For further information please visit www.airfix.com

TAMIYA TS Tamiya Spray is Coming Back Soon!

The World's most supreme quality spray paint for plastics is on its way back. Tamiya's TS has been completely reformulated to deliver an improved quality and finish that even surpasses the previous high standards that Tamiya was famous for.

The new paint has been extensively tested after long-term storage in extremes of hot and cold temperatures and Tamiya engineers report being delighted with the enhanced quality level that has been achieved.

The new formulation is also fully compliant with all current and forthcoming EEC regulations – a vital claim in this world of ever-strict regulation of chemical products.

85 colours have now been reformulated and of these 54 will be hitting the model shop shelves in mid October. The balance should be in place before the end of the year.



Look out for the new improved TS Sprays for Plastic from Tamiya – and experience for yourself the state-of-the-art paint finish!

Revamped Re-Releases Will Delight Armour Fans...

Tamiya will package a number of their older Russian armour kits together with crew and weathering powders to create one-stop kits for fans of these classic models. The first two will be the SU-85 and SU-122, both of which are easy to build and fun to paint – add those figures and you're good to go!

These 'new' kits should be in model shops by the time you read these words. Further details at www.tamiya.com



ACCURATE ARMOUR

Crews And Tools For Your Modern Vehicle Models

AA have released details of their latest goodies for the modern fans amongst us. Featuring figures, guns, helmets and fuel drums the full list is as follows:

Jackal-1 3-Man Crew Set #1

A set of three 1/35th scale resin figures by Rob Tearle, designed to fit into the British Army Jackal-1 SRV, but can be adapted for other vehicles. The figures shown are painted to depict the new MTP camouflage uniform also introduced in 2010. An MPT painting guide and transparent goggle lens material are also included.

The figures, commander, driver and gunner, are sculpted with the 2010 Osprey Mk.4 body armour and the Mk.7 pattern infantry helmet. An individual L85A2 weapon and transparent goggle lens (where goggles are fitted) are also included for each figure.

UK Mk-7 Helmets (Qty-15)

A 1/35th scale resin set depicting the new for 2010 issue UK Infantry Helmet Mk.7 in five different combinations of cover, sight

mount and goggles (quantity three for each combination). The internal liner is also depicted. Master models by Rob Tearle.

UK L85A2 & L22A2 Weapon Set (Qty-10)

A 1/35th scale resin set depicting the 2010 issue L85A2 weapons and new issue L22A2 Carbines (quantity five each). Master model by Rob Tearle.

Oil/Fuel Drums (Qty-12)

A 1/35th scale resin set of rather nice and useful oil/fuel or even chemical drums (quantity twelve). By the way most real drums have a single weld seam down one side, this is replicated on these barrels. Master model by Rob Tearle.

Damaged Oil Drums (Qty-6)

A 1/35th scale resin set of rather nice but a little bashed and dented oil drums and one converted to a brazier (quantity six, all individual styles). By the way, most real drums have a single weld seam down one side, this is replicated on these barrels. Master models by Rob Tearle. Further details at www.accurate-armor.com



ROUND UP

Modelling news and information



Orange: the colour of value **value**

1/350 U.S.S. Yorktown (CG-48) + Nuclear powered attack submarine Russian Alfa

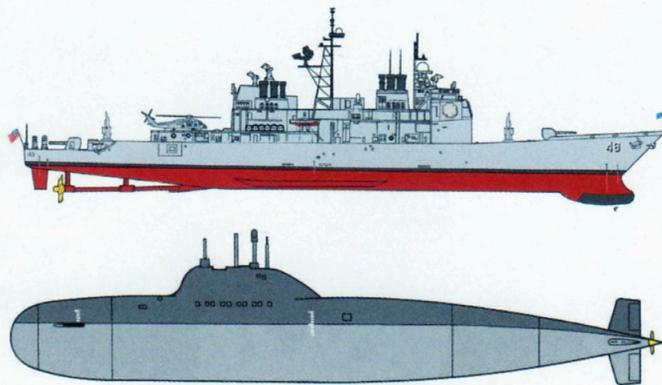
Just Look For The Orange Box!

CYBER HOBBY New 1/350 American And Russian Twin-Ship Kit Set

Cyber Hobby has created another fine pairing in its Orange Box line of price-beating kits. The second ever

1/350 scale ship set boasts USS Yorktown (CG 48) and a Soviet Alfa-class submarine. USS Yorktown was a Ticonderoga-class cruiser in the US Navy commissioned in July 1984 before being decommissioned in 2004. Perhaps its most famous incident occurred in the Black Sea in February 1988. While claiming the 'right of innocent passage' through Soviet territorial waters, USS Yorktown was rammed by the Soviet frigate Bezzavetny. Some labelled this 'the last incident of the Cold War.'

1/350 U.S.S. Yorktown (CG-48)



The other boat in this twin set is an Alfa-class nuclear-powered hunter/killer submarine. This Soviet Project 705 type was the fastest and deepest-diving military submarine ever built. This somewhat experimental 2,300-ton design was highly adapted as an interceptor, with the first of seven subs commissioned in 1974. All were decommissioned by 1990 after having served in the Northern Fleet. Alfa-class boats were 81.4 m long and required a crew of approximately 30 men. Further details at www.cyber-hobby.com

BRITISH MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Get Your Christmas Cards Here!

This year's BMSS very colourful Christmas card features a trio of British infantrymen marching past a sentry bearing the ingredients of a hearty festive meal. The illustration has been adapted and coloured by Paul Vickers from an original line drawing by Richard Simkin, which was published in *The Regiment*, Christmas 1901.

Packs of ten cards priced at £5.50 including postage are available from BMSS Support Services, 8 Grove Wood Hill, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2EL.





RAM 35003



Soviet BT-7M 1937 Model Conversion

1:35 Scale

Designed for the Tamiya kit

Masks included for 4 options and a 5th colour scheme is shown that requires no markings.

Contains small parts, not for children.

A2ZEE

Rhino Models Announce New BT-7 Conversion...

Rhino Models have released a Soviet BT-7M 1937 Model Conversion designed for use with the Tamiya plastic kit. The package includes a replacement cast turret that is hollow and all the required track and running gear for this version. As the images show there are masks for four options and shows a fifth option that requires no masks.



For more information on this exciting new kit please visit the A2Zee website at www.a2zeemodels.co.uk

CLUB ALERT! – NEW MODEL CLUB ON ANGLESEY...

Aircraft, bikes, AFV's, ships, cars, wargamers, figures, Sci Fi and fantasy: Whatever you like to build or paint, we would like to let you know of a new scale model club being set up in the Valley area on Anglesey. Hopefully the club go live within the next month and as such all ages and abilities are welcome.

For more details please contact Kath, Bob or Ian on 01407 762241 Ext 7349 or valleyscalemodelclub@hotmail.co.uk

THE AIRBRUSH COMPANY

Com-Art Colours 'Real Deal' Weathering and Scenery Sets

Com-Art Colours are manufactured by Iwata-Medea, who have now extended their range of artist acrylics to include sets for model painting. Com-Art water-based acrylics are pre-thinned ready to go through the finest airbrush nozzles. Both new sets include colour mixing instructions by Master Model Railroader and USA model judge, Leslie Eaton.

The Com-Art Real Deal Weathering Set contains ten 1 oz colours that can be used to provide weathering, streaks, rust, locomotive soot and many more effects. Colours included: Dark Rust, Light Rust, Opaque Raw Sienna, Oil, Blue Gray Smoke, Smoke, Light Dust, Soft Dirt, Fertile Soil and Opaque White.

The Com-Art Real Deal Scenery Set contains ten 1 oz colours that



can be used to provide shape, texture, subtle colour changes and many more effects in your model railroad scenery.

The cost of these sets will be £24.99 inc VAT each set of ten. 1 oz colours also available separately.

Karajen AIR-PORT Airbrush Hangers and Workstations

The Karajen Air-Port Hanger (IWA-KJ-100, £16.99 inc VAT) has an adjustable hanging position to accommodate most varying types of airbrush shapes and feed types. Constructed of solid 18 gauge steel for long lasting durability, it will attach securely to most metal surfaces by its powerful mounting magnet, or it can be bolted permanently to any work area.

Bolt-on/magnetic Karajen Air-Port Workstation (IWA-KJ-200) also available by special order. For more information visit The Airbrush Company website at www.airbrushes.com

Vignette by Jenny Croft

IP DESIG
Monroe Perdu Studios

www.monroeperdu.com
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A highly detailed miniature model of a military tank, possibly a Sherman, is the central focus. The tank is painted in a realistic camouflage pattern of green, brown, and tan, with visible rivets and mechanical details. It is positioned on a stone ledge or wall. Two miniature soldiers in military uniforms are visible: one stands on the left side of the tank, and another sits on the right side. In the background, a stone wall with a metal railing and a staircase is visible, suggesting a fortification or urban setting. The overall scene is a miniature diorama.

Author: John Norris

SHOWTIME

SCALE WORLD

2010, MOL, BELGIUM

Marijn Van Gils' 'Last Round' was a personal highlight of this year's show

It seems as though the show schedule ramps-up somewhat at the beginning of September with a number of high profile shows taking place from the early weeks of the month right the way through to the end of November. The first of these international events is Scale World. Hosted by the Kempense Modelbouw Klub from Geel in Belgium, this large one-day event is held in the Technisch Instituut St-Paulus, in the small town of Mol and is perhaps the first time that many of Europe's top modellers get together to unveil what they've been working on over the summer. This makes the show a real treat and the perfect start to a winter of modelling, where ideas drawn from seeing these models can be collected ready for use.

This year's show was larger than last year's with a greater number of traders from around Europe sitting alongside numerous clubs and that all-important competition. For the avid shopper, there can certainly be very little that is unavailable if you look hard enough with full kits, accessories and materials in abundance – just make sure that you take a deep wallet if you attend next year!

For me, the real highlight (apart from spending the weekend with plenty of friends that I only see a couple of times a year...!) is the food bar that the club arranges each year. This time around visitors could buy chilli con carne as well as sandwiches, burgers, hotdogs and plenty of cakes and pastries. Add to that list a bar where both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks could be bought and it's not hard to see that this part of the show was extremely popular!

Over the next few pages you will find some of the highlights from the show as well as a list of winners that were fortunate enough to gain awards from the competition. We hope that you enjoy the report as much as we enjoyed being there!



ABOVE: 'Stuhlweisenburg' was another Gold Medal winner from the hand of Roger Hurkmans



ABOVE: This delightful Panzer II VK16.02 was beautifully painted by Ruben Gonzalez and was in turn a deserved Gold Medal winner



ABOVE: 'Tragedy Of The Faith' was Roger Hurkmans' Best Of Show winning entry in this year's competition



ABOVE: Scale World was the first chance that I had to see the new Bronco Diana in the flesh, this one being built by the talented Roy Schurges

KMK SCALE WORLD 2010 COMPETITION RESULTS

MV1

Lanchester Mk III
A30 Challenger
Garford Putilov
Deadly Diana

AFV'S STRAIGHT FROM THE BOX

Bronze Petr Vorobok
Silver Petr Vorobok
Gold Petr Vorobok
Gold Roy Schurges

MV2

Der Meister
M4A3
M4A3E8
T34/76 1942
Tiger I
Pz.Kw 4
M3 Halftrack
M29 Weasel
Kubelwagen
IDF Sherman

AFV'S SMALLER THAN 1/35

Bronze Roy Schurges
Bronze Archie Tabor
Bronze Petr Vorobok
Silver Richard Vasquez Llamas
Silver Richard Vasquez Llamas
Silver Javier Soler
Silver Petr Vorobok
Silver Petr Vorobok
Gold Javier Soler
Gold Nikos Tsitsos

MV3

Jagdpanzer 38(t)
Sd.Kfz. 251/17
T-70
Rolls-Royce AC
Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther
Tatra 805
MAZ 537
T-62 1962
Leopard 1A5BE

AFV'S 1/35 STANDARD CLASS

Bronze André Teppers
Bronze Danny Jansens
Bronze André Teppers
Silver Petr Vorobok
Silver Boris Bakker
Silver Petr Vorobok
Silver Mark Sneider
Gold Tibor Varga
Gold Roel Geutjens

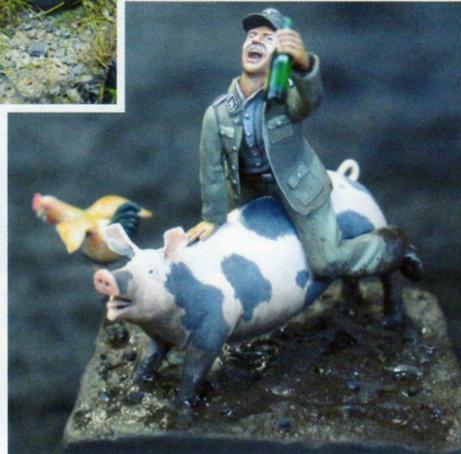


LEFT: The quality of the groundwork on this Firefly diorama was simply amazing...

BELOW: Staf Snyers proved he was as good with figures as he is with armour as he unveiled this humorous vignette entitled 'Das Schwein'



BELOW: Just imagine if the U.S Army had used bikes like this during WWII...?!



RIGHT: Another Snyers' masterpiece...

MV3

- Otter Mk I
- M20
- Sd.Kfz. 221
- Pz.Kw II Ausf E
- Pz.Kw IV Ausf C
- Pz.Kw IV
- Pz.Kw II VK16.02
- Churchill Mk III
- Ford WOT3

AFV'S 1/35 MASTER CLASS

- Bronze Javier Moreno
- Bronze Javier 'Diesel' De Luelmo
- Bronze Javier Soler
- Silver Joaquín Aguilar
- Silver Francisco José Arévalo
- Silver Javier Soler
- Gold Ruben Gonzalez
- Gold The Warrink Brothers
- Gold Javier 'Diesel' De Luelmo

MV5

- Vieille sur le pripet
- The Empire Strikes Back
- Life Goes On
- Call of the Wild

AFV'S IN LARGE DIORAMAS

- Bronze Alain Mire
- Silver Axel Repping
- Silver Heiner Sunder
- Gold Eric Vogel

SINGLE FIGURES STANDARD CLASS

- Bronze Robert Crombeecke
- Silver Gijs Hagelsteens
- Gold Gijs Hagelsteens

MV4

- Sd.Kfz. 11 nebel werfer
- Somewhere in Germany
- Glad I Didn't Spill My Tea
- A Small History
- Infidels
- The Bishop and his Flock
- Shot'em up Firefly
- Tragedy of the Faith
- Stuhlweisenburg

AFV'S IN SMALL DIORAMAS

- Bronze Attila Baranyai
- Bronze Ruben Gonzalez
- Bronze Gunnar Bäumer
- Bronze Richard Vasquez Llamas
- Silver Roy Schurgers
- Silver Roy Schurgers
- Gold Ruben Gonzalez
- Gold Roger Hurkmans
- Gold Roger Hurkmans

F1

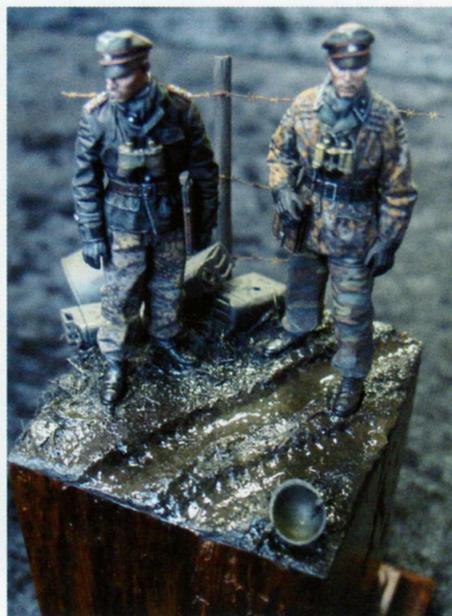
- Hussar de la muerte
- German Soldier
- American Soldier Iraq
- Discharge at Dawn
- Dinner at Night
- WWI Pilot
- Gallic Warrior
- Ironside

SINGLE FIGURES MASTER CLASS

- Silver Ruben Gonzalez
- Gold Calvin Tan
- Gold Calvin Tan
- Gold Allan Young
- Gold Allan Young
- Gold Oliver Kovacs
- Gold Oliver Kovacs
- Gold Oliver Kovacs



ABOVE: Winner of the Gold in the figure vignette class, Calvin Tan's 'British Tankers' was so perfectly painted it made me want to weep just a little...



ABOVE: Calvin Tan's 'German Tankers' - perfection in miniature...



LEFT: A very clever diorama, 'Infidels' featured an amazing hand-painted portrait of Saddam Hussein



ABOVE: Looking far larger than it was, Roy Schurgers' 'Bishop And His Flock' showed just what is possible in this smaller scale

F2
 Athenian Warlord
 Waffen SS
 Tracian Peltast
 German Paratrooper
 Modo Seen

BUSTS
 Bronze Gijs Hagelsteens
 Silver Oliver Kovacs
 Silver Eddy Vandersteen
 Gold Calvin Tan
 Gold Pere Pla

F3
 West Front 1917
 Traction Avant 11CV
 British Tankers
 German Tankers

FIGURES IN DIO OR VIGNETTE
 Bronze Olaf Schopke
 Silver Maréchal Fabrice
 Gold Calvin Tan
 Gold Calvin Tan

NK
 Sherman BARV
 PT-76B
 Konigstiger 222
 Sd.Kfz. 135 Marder I Lorraine

NAKED KIT
 Bronze Javier 'Diesel' De Luelmo
 Bronze André Teppers
 Silver Roel Geutjens
 Gold Javier 'Diesel' De Luelmo

JU
 Sherman
 Panther G
 German Para
 Merry X-Mass
 Sd.Kfz. 251/9
 Ferdinand
 Waffen SS
 Schwimmwagen
 Sd.Kfz. 251 D
 Roadster
 It's Snowing
 Humber Scout Car

JUNIORS
 Bronze Lars Wiltenburg
 Bronze Lars Wiltenburg
 Bronze Lars Wiltenburg
 Bronze Niels Huynen
 Bronze Niels Huynen
 Bronze Niels Huynen
 Silver Niels Huynen
 Silver Niels Huynen
 Silver Niels Huynen
 Silver Niels Huynen
 Gold Martijn Van De Put
 Gold Niels Huynen
 Gold Chris Van Riel



ABOVE: Rudi Meir's very impressive Flakpanzer was found on the KMK stand

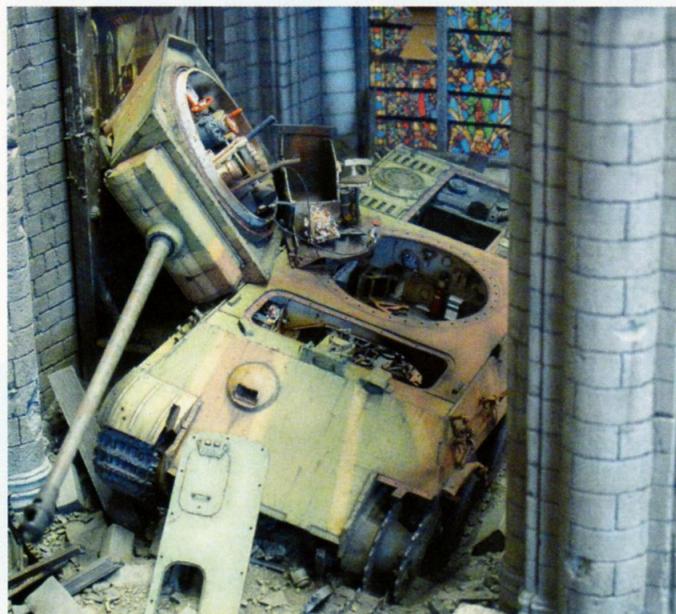
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 Kristof Nachtegaal
Gold Award
 Eddy Vandersteen
Silver Award
 Oliver Kovacs
Bronze Award
 Gijs Hagelsteens
Best Modern AFV
 Tibor Varga
White Wine Award
 Nikos Tsitsos
Red Wine Award
 Ron Soeren

BEST OF SHOW KMK SCALE WORLD 2010

Tragedy Of The Faith Roger Hurkmans



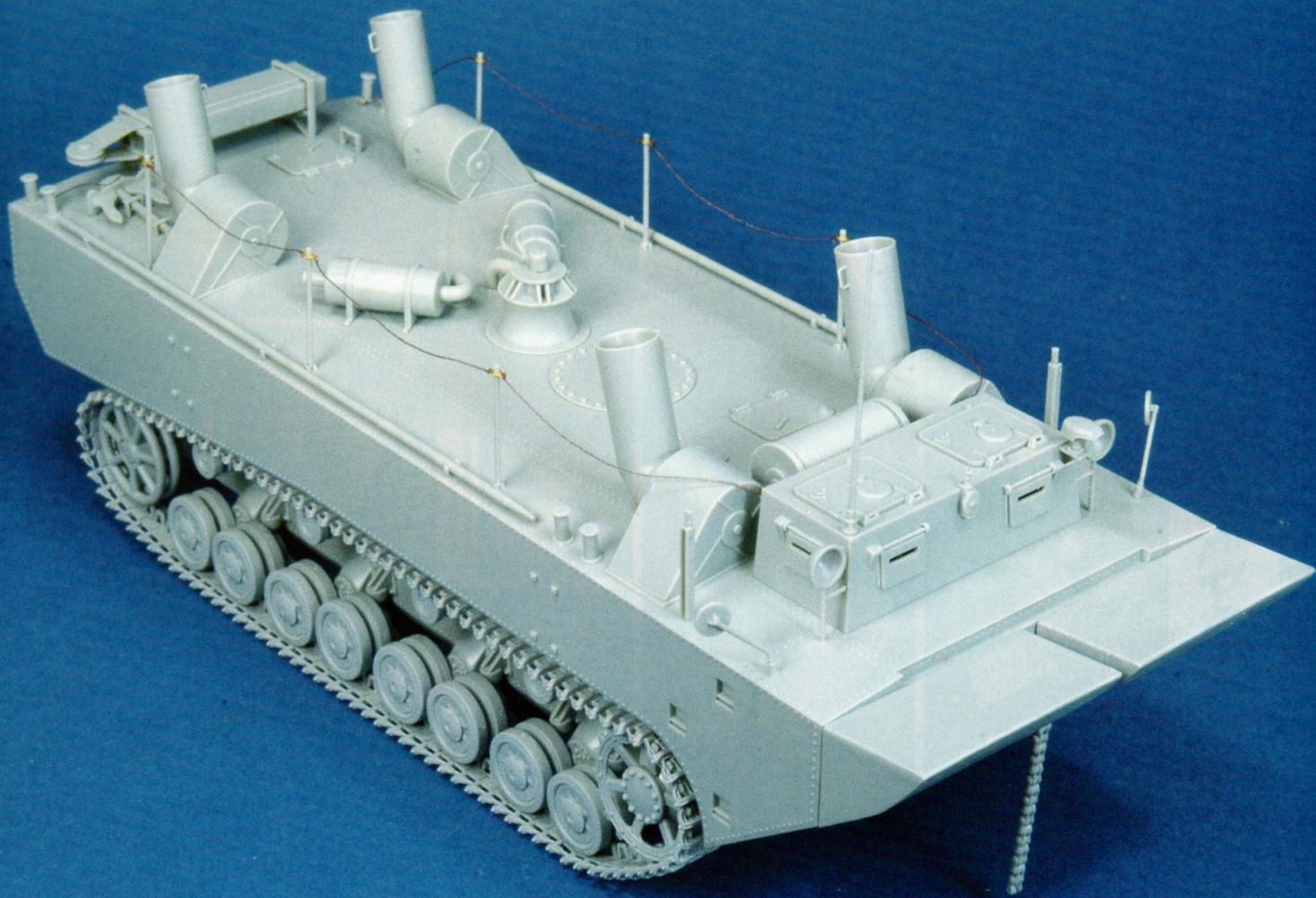
ABOVE: 'Godverdomme!' – another incredible diorama from the hands of Marijn Van Gils



ABOVE: Detailed views of Robert Doepppe's 1/16 Panther. Incredible...



ABOVE: Three views of Volker Bembenek's 'Out of Gas' was the Editor's favourite model at this year's show...



Author: *Model by Gary Edmundson. Words via The Hobby Company*

FIRST LOOK

We unveil Dragon's 1/35 Panzerfähre Gepanzerte Landwasserschlepper Prototype

Dragon's exciting new 1/35 kit depicts the very first prototype of the Panzerfähre. The kit makes full use of the excellent and established set of parts from Dragon's previous Panzer IV tank models – for example, the wheels, suspension and tracks. Meanwhile, all other parts are brand new in line with the unique nature of this vehicle. Detail such as rivets on the hull is beautifully and delicately rendered, while widespread use is made of slide moulds. Modellers will find this kit assembles easily, and that the fin-

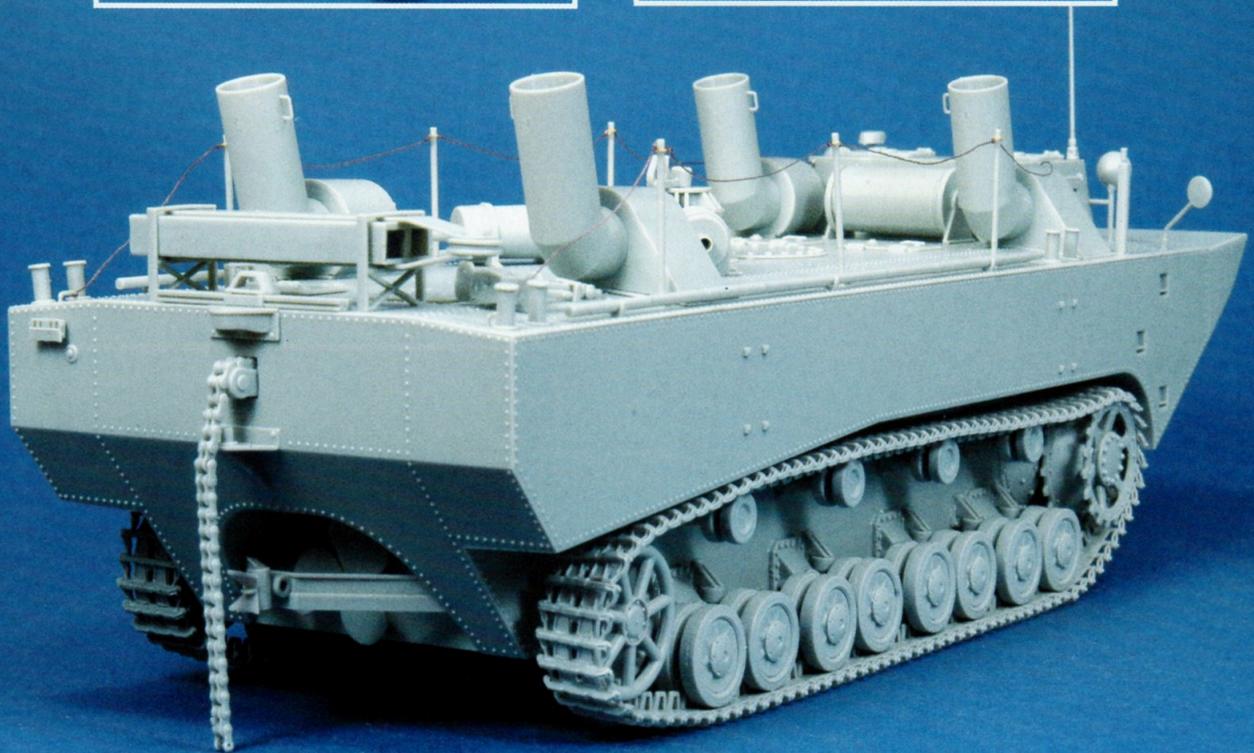
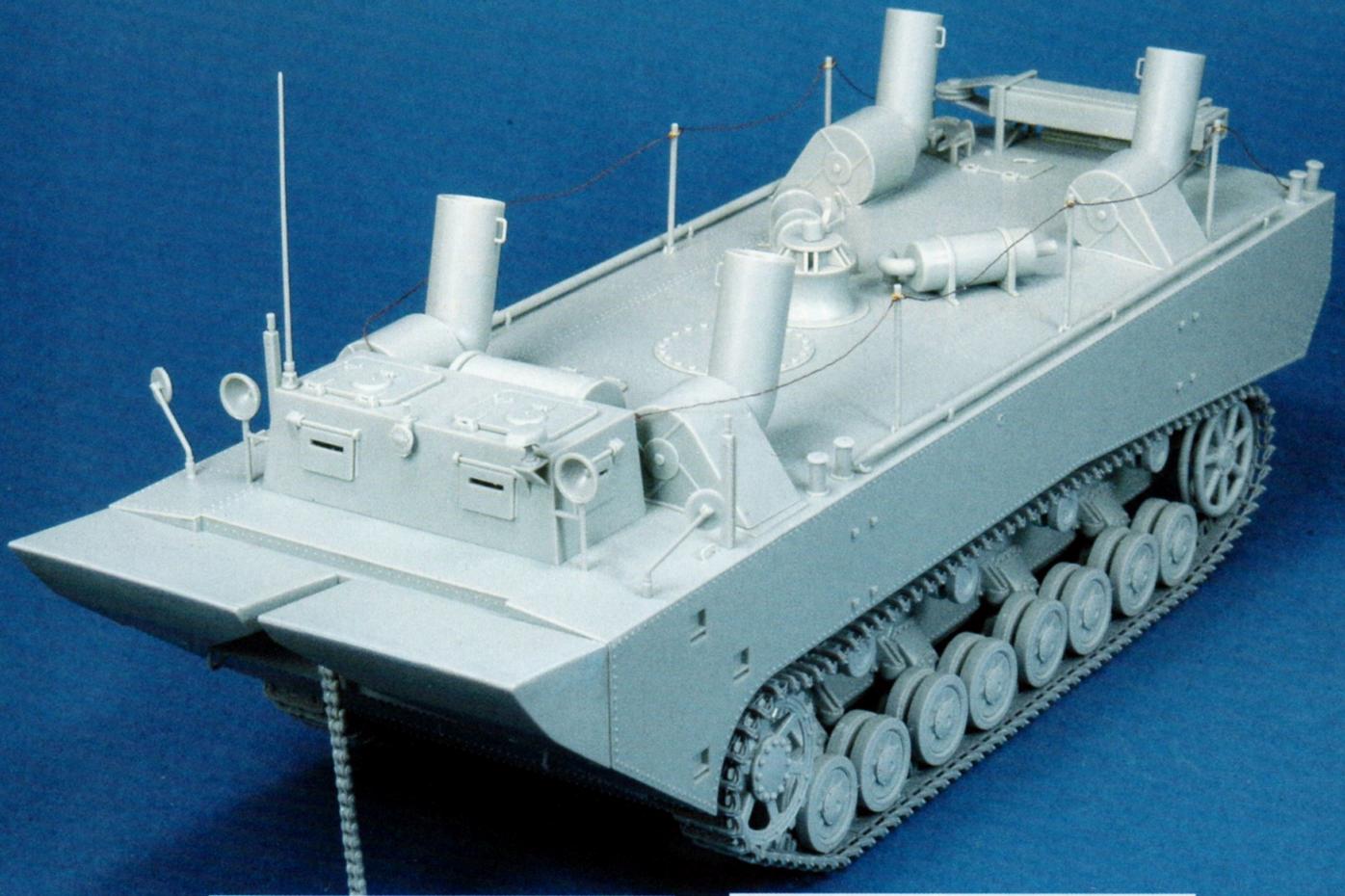
ished item is a stunning vehicle that stands out in any model collection. For something unique, for something equally at home on land or in the water, the all-new Panzerfähre from Dragon is an irresistible item!

Dragon has also created an impressive 1/35 scale plastic kit of the second prototype of the Panzerfähre. This means it's a perfect companion to the Prototype Nr.I. What makes this kit spectacular is the inclusion of the pontoon ferry as well as the LWS tractor. When Prototypes Nr.I and II are joined together,

they'll make a complete panzer ferry. This LWS has many different parts compared to the first kit – a couple of examples include the driver's compartment and the absence of the two air intakes. Clever use of slide moulds means this vehicle is easy to assemble. The Panzerfähre deck is accurately produced with fine details, as is the pontoon. Hatches in the deck can even be displayed open or closed.

Modellers can produce an amazing scene with the arrival of these new kits that are due early October.





Author: **Pat Johnston**

SEMPER FI

Building, Painting, and Finishing a USMC M4A3 Sherman in 1/48 scale

INTRODUCTION

As a model builder I, like most, have a particular affinity for a certain vehicle. My passion happens to be the Sherman and all of its many derivatives. The Sherman family of battle tanks has so many interesting variants, paint schemes and theatres of operations that I could happily build this tank for the rest of my life, and never build the same model twice.

For this project, I really wanted to model one of the unique tanks belonging to the Fifth Tank Battalion, of the United States Marine Corps, serving in the bloodiest battle in Marine history; the battle for the island of Iwo Jima.

I will not describe in detail all the many modifications I made to this model; rather I will let all the pictures tell the story, since a picture is worth a thousand

words. All painting and finishing details will also be covered by the accompanying photos. I feel the pictures will tell the story of this kit in a much more detailed manner than words could.

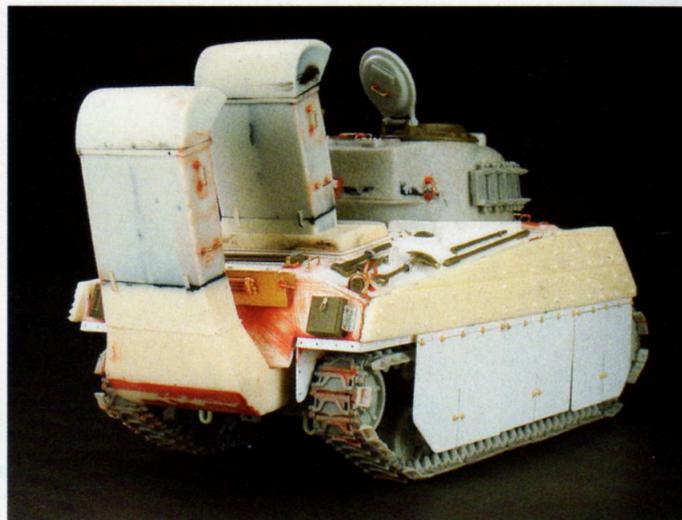
Hopefully, this photo essay will encourage another Sherman Lover to give this version of the Sherman a try. I know I had lots of fun doing it, and I will be modelling more USMC versions of this tank in the future.



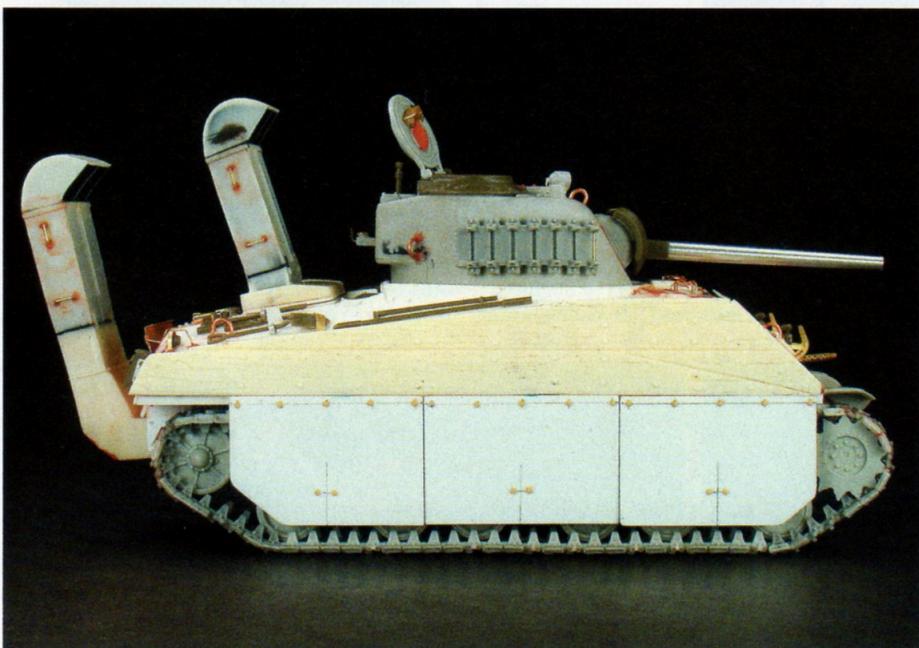
RIGHT/FAR RIGHT: Two views of the completed model. Parts from Tamiya, HobbyBoss, Fighting48th, Hauler, and many scratch-built details were used on this model



ABOVE: A front three-quarter view of the completed model reveals detail of the tracks and their additional growlers

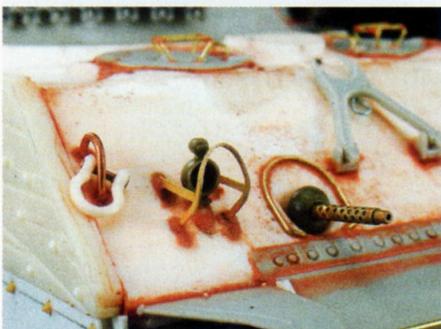


ABOVE: The extended wading trunks dominate the rear of this impressive looking Sherman. Note the mix of materials used to build this model

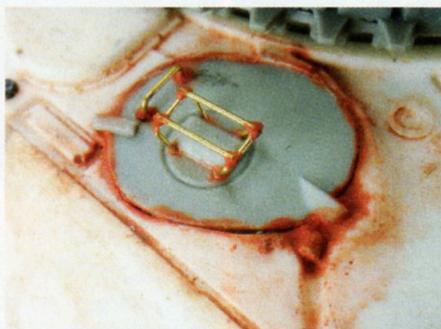


ABOVE: The addition of skirts helps create a very different looking Sherman – helped in part by covering over one of the major recognition features of this family of vehicles, the suspension and running gear

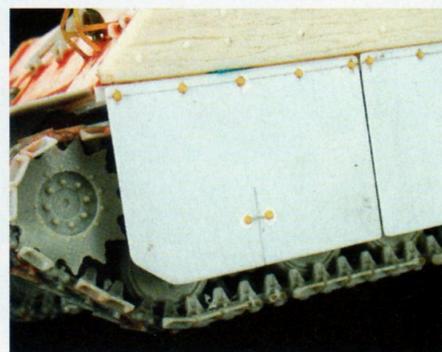
“Mig Pigments’ PO36 ‘Allied Green for Fading’ was applied dry with a pointed soft brush to create the effect of sun-bleaching and fading on the Olive Drab portions of the camouflage”



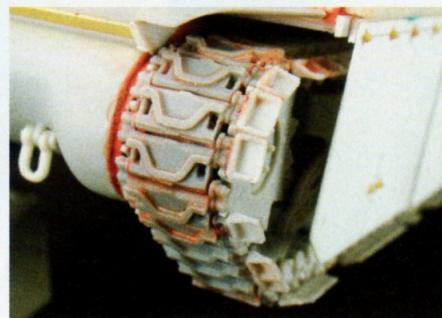
ABOVE: As I often do, I made good use of a Hauler etch set, as well as the gorgeous brass barrels for the .30 Cal machine guns. These lovely items are from RB Models



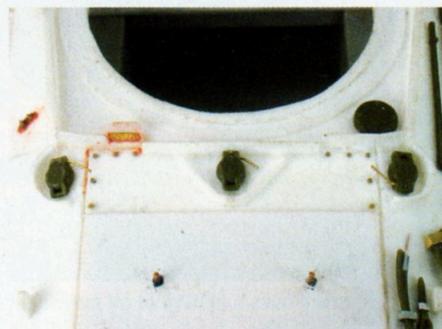
ABOVE: All the model's episcopes were scratch-built from fine brass wire, a simple procedure. Much easier than it would first appear



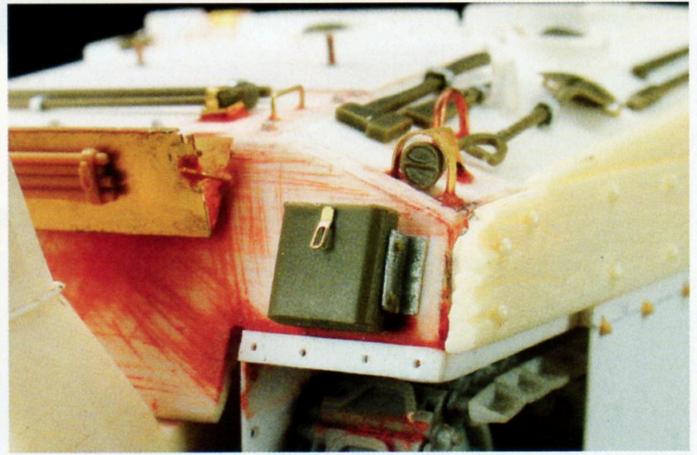
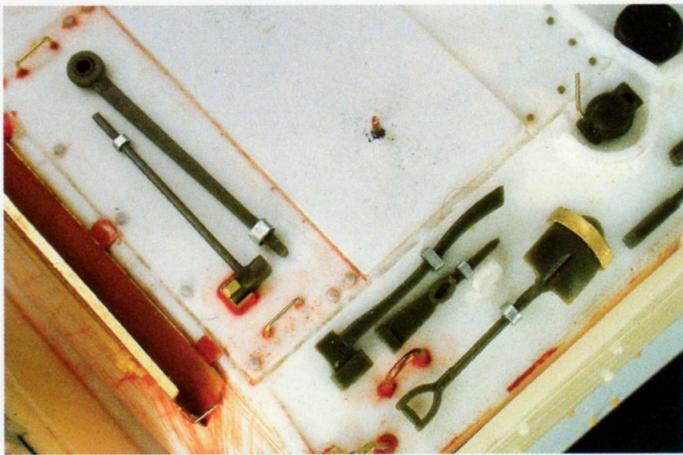
ABOVE: Sheet styrene was used to fabricate these unique 'side-skirts'. The bolts were taken from a scrap 1/35th scale kit



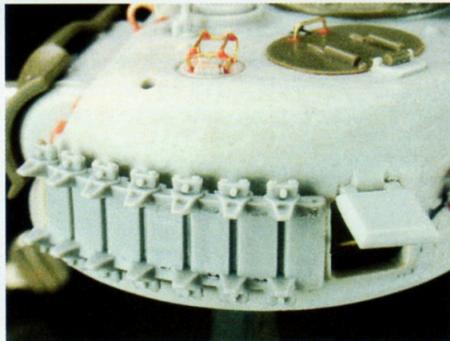
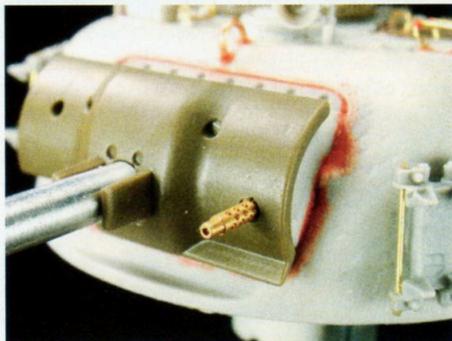
ABOVE: Two sets of Fighting48th's resin tracks were combined to create an accurate set often seen on USMC tanks on Iwo Jima. The extended end connectors were taken off one set, and grafted on the connectors of another set. This operation was simple, but tedious



ABOVE: Due to a few slight casting flaws on the now-defunct Iron Division upper hull, I had to use the armored gas caps from a pare Tamiya M4A1 hull



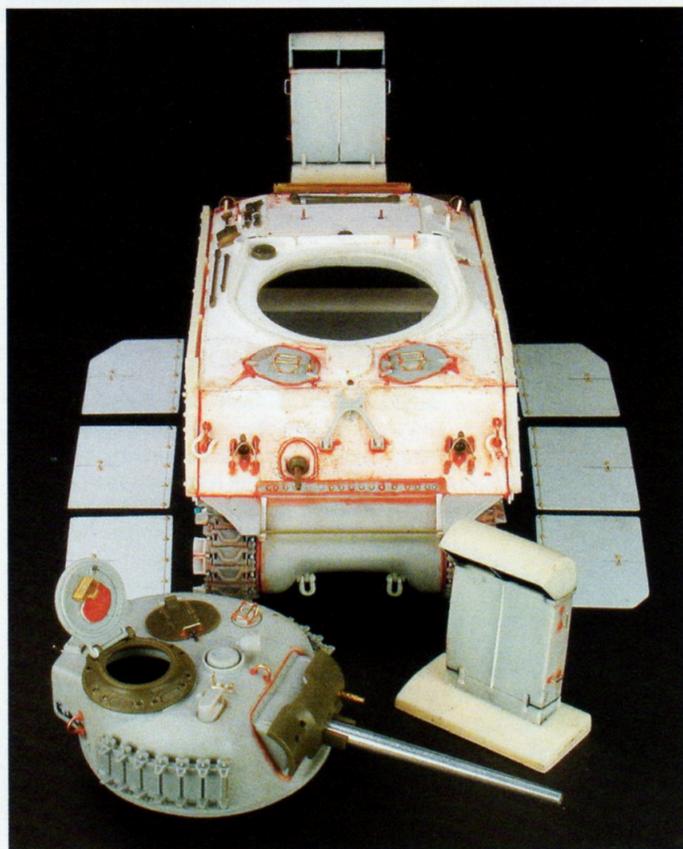
ABOVE: Several of the OVM tools and accessories were also taken from Tamiya kits



ABOVE: Again, as I used RB Models' barrels for the machine guns, I also used an RB item for the tank's 75 mm gun tube

ABOVE: To make this section of spare Fighting48th resin track conform to the turret's curve, it was immersed into boiling water for several minutes

ABOVE: Here we have more of the lovely Hauler etch details. Hauler's detailing sets are indispensable to any 1/48th scale modeller



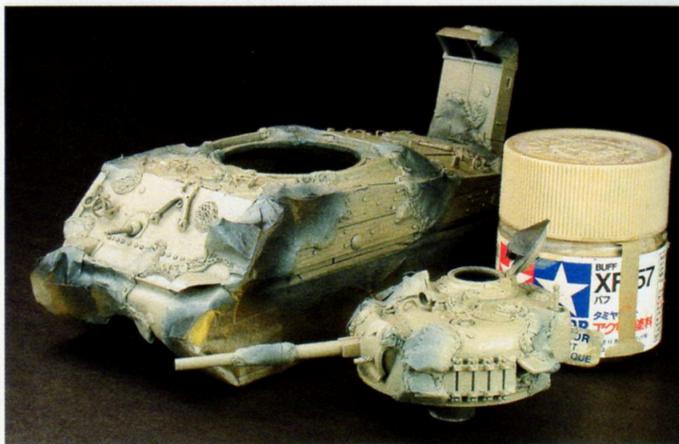
ABOVE: Several thorough coats of Tamiya XF-62 Olive Drab starts the painting process

ABOVE: Here we have a picture of all the model's sub-assemblies, prior to any painting



RIGHT: Blu-Tack, a simple form of putty-like adhesive, is here being used to mask all the areas of the model that are to remain in the base Olive Drab colour

RIGHT: After more of the putty masking, the third and final colour is sprayed. I chose Tamiya's XF-57 Buff

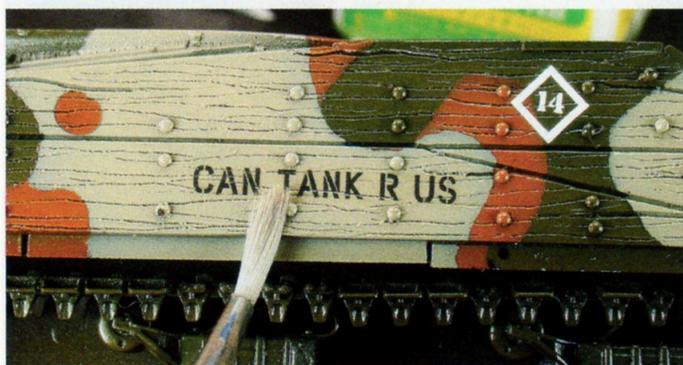


ABOVE: The second colour is now being added. In this case, Gunze Sangyo's 310 Brown

Here is the model, completely unmasked. A final topcoat of Future floor wax was sprayed to both seal and protect the finish against all the weathering steps to follow

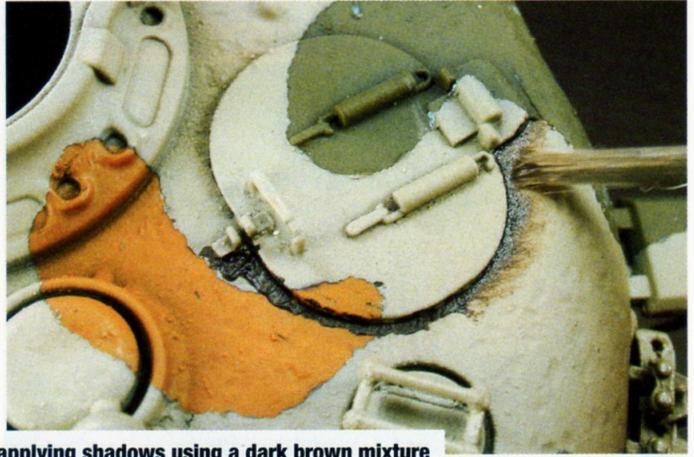
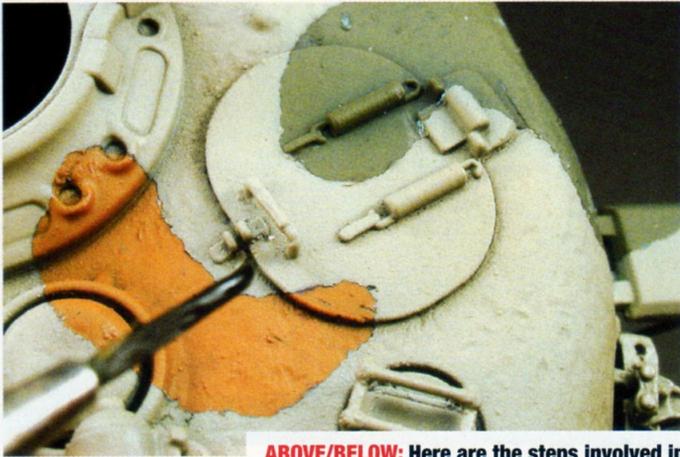


BELOW: Vallejo's excellent Model Air 059 Matt Clear restored the model to a suitable slightly satin finish

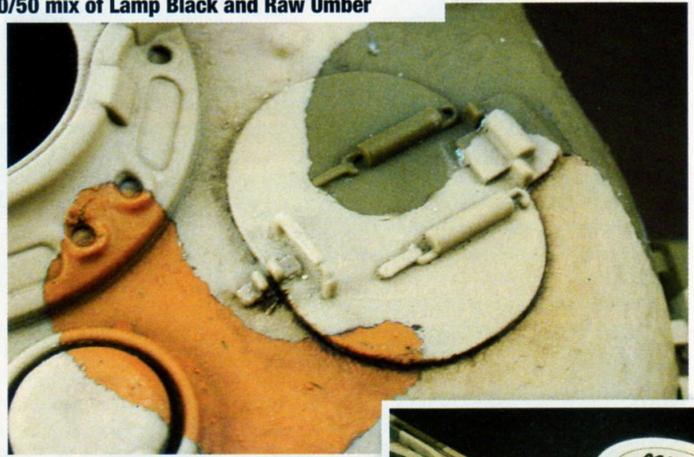
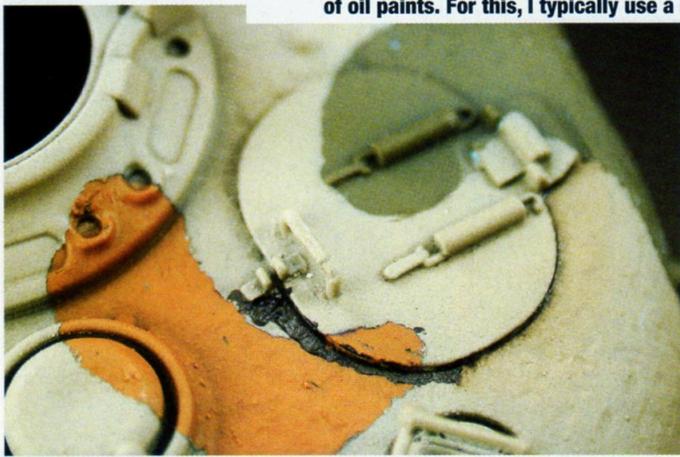


ABOVE: The decals for this model were cobbled from several Tamiya and Gaso.Line sheets

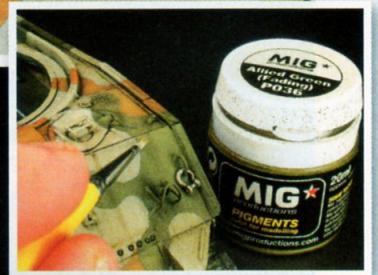




ABOVE/BELOW: Here are the steps involved in applying shadows using a dark brown mixture of oil paints. For this, I typically use a 50/50 mix of Lamp Black and Raw Umber



RIGHT: Mig Pigments' P036 'Allied Green for Fading' was applied dry with a pointed soft brush to create the effect of sun-bleaching and fading on the Olive Drab portions of the camouflage



The difference between the fully oil-shaded hull and the yet untreated turret is obvious in this view



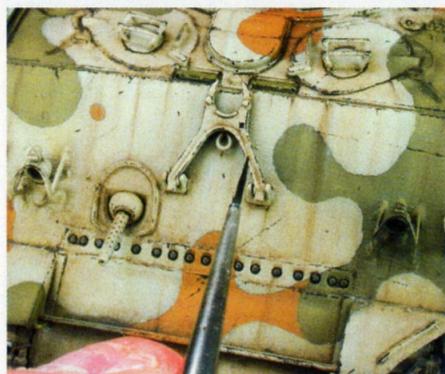
ABOVE: Mig Pigments' P031 'Vietnam Earth' is used in the same manner to fade out the brown areas



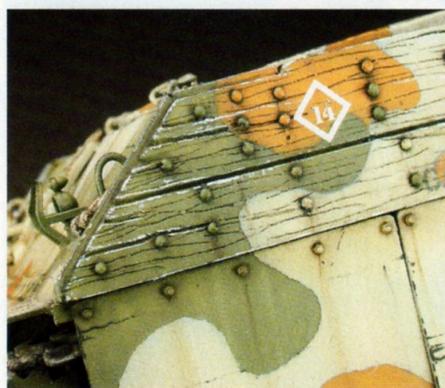
ABOVE: And finally, MiG's P027 'Light Dust' is applied to the sand-coloured areas



ABOVE/BELOW: Lamp Black oil paint, applied delicately with a size 18/0 brush, is here being used to apply some light scoring and chipping to the model's paint scheme



ABOVE: Vertical lines, and stains were added by dragging a small dot of oil paint in a downward motion, using a thinner-dampened brush. I typically use both dark and light colours to maximise this effect



ABOVE: I chose to use a light grey/sand coloured oil mixture to chip the wooden planking. This will, hopefully, suggest bare wood under the camouflage paint



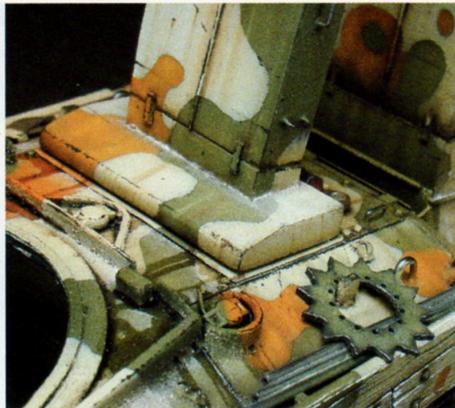
ABOVE: All the oil shading and staining is now complete



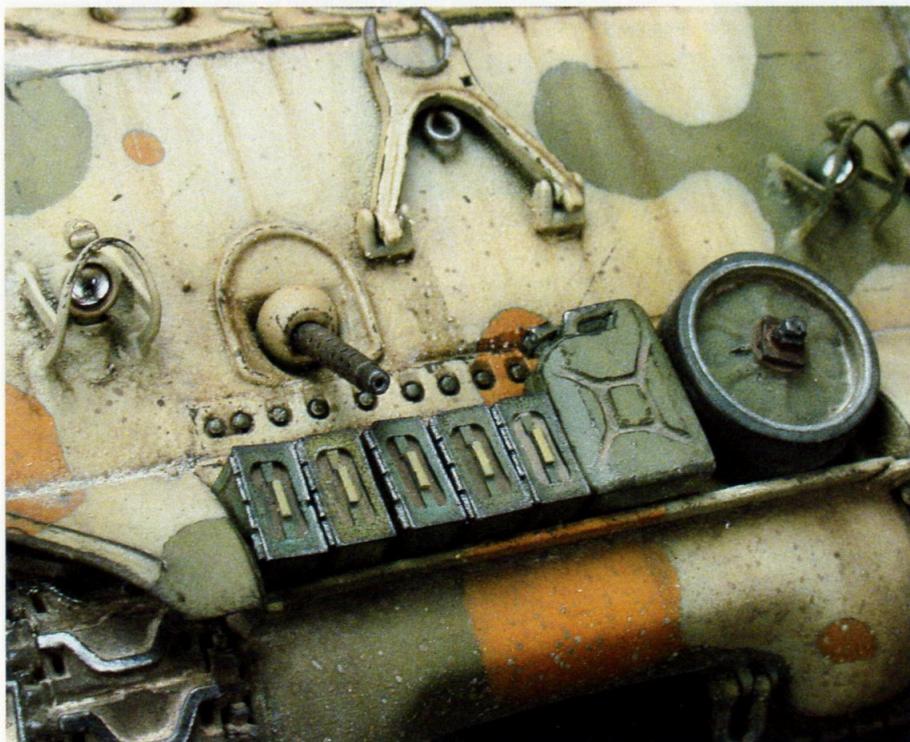
ABOVE: A very light dust-coloured pigment is here being deposited in certain areas to simulate built up accumulations of beach sand



ABOVE: Several colours of pigment powders were mixed into a slurry with clean thinner. This mix was then flicked in an upward motion to simulate dirt and sand thrown up by the tank's tracks



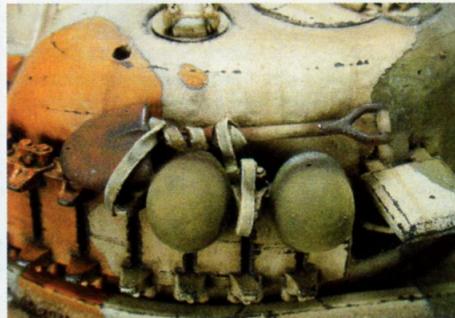
ABOVE: Thinned Humbrol Gloss Clear was applied to simulate fuel and oil/water spills



ABOVE: Some various bits of stowage were sourced from the spares box



ABOVE/BELOW: All the tools were picked out using the appropriate shades of Humbrol enamels. Dry pigments were used to blend the weathering to match the rest of the model



Views of the completed model, in its colours for the USMC 5th Tank Battalion on Iwo Jima, in February, 1945

Author: *Spencer Pollard*

LEFT TO ROT...

We give Tamiya's superb Austin Tilly a home...

INTRODUCTION

Over the next few pages I would like to show you how I went about creating a small vignette around my rusted-out Austin Tilly, a model that was seen for the first time in the September issue of MIS.

This vignette is the first part of a larger vignette in which it is seen alongside another that displays the model as it would be in a fully restored fashion – giving the whole vignette the title of "Then... And Now!"

Anyway, the second half is for another day. This month let's just deal with part one, Tamiya's Austin Tilly as it was "Then..."





ABOVE: The finished Tilly complete with rusty finish and a full load of rubbish and junk. The model was essentially built from the box with little extra detail being needed. The model was painted with Tamiya acrylics, weathered with Lifecolor and Vallejo acrylics and then detailed with enamels and Mig Productions oil paints



ABOVE: The broken window was made using PVA glue that was spread over of a piece of cling-film, the wet glue then being sprinkled with Delux Materials' 'Icy Sparkles'. Once dry, the thin sheet of 'broken glass' was cut to shape and then fixed in place using a little more PVA. Another detail visible in this shot is the crate holding up the bonnet; pulled from a Verlinden Productions' set this cool little item was painted with Tamiya Light Blue and then weathered with Winsor & Newton Raw Umber thinned with Mig Productions' Thinner For Washes



ABOVE: A view into the back of the Tilly shows some of the details that I used to fill the truckbed. In here, there is a Mig Productions' pallet, several Verlinden Productions' spare wheels, Accurate Armour cardboard boxes and rubbish sacks, photo-etched steel beams and details, scaffolding poles made from Evergreen tubing and a wonderful milk crate that I found in a 1/32 Canter truck produced by Fujimi – all of which were painted in Tamiya acrylics and then weathered with a mixture of oil paint washes and Mig Productions' pigments. Phew!



ABOVE: Layout begins. Using a piece of card I measured the size and shape of the base and then built up a plinth with black Plasticard stiffened-up with a core of artist's foam board. Though an odd shape, this was created to work alongside the other half of the vignette that we will see in detail next month...



ABOVE: The back of the wooden fence reveals its simple construction and weathering that was simply a matter of applying thinned Raw Umber and Matt Black washes – the latter flicked-on to the fence to create random patterns of staining and damp. The foliage that is fixed to the back of the fence is from the amazing Mininatur range of foliage (available from International Models, www.internationalmodels.net) this being their 'Summer Ivy', which is wonderfully realistic straight from the pack



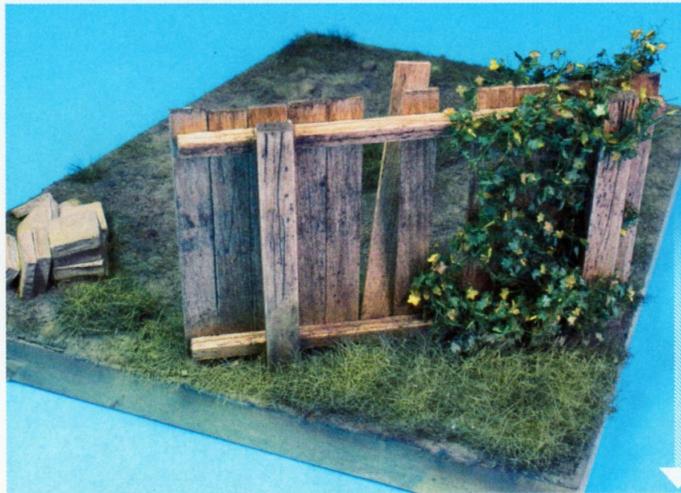
ABOVE: The backdrop for my vignette is this wooden fence. Made from strips of basswood, the fence was painted with oil paints that were overpainted with acrylics that were in turn stippled onto the oils whilst the oil paint and thinner mix was still wet. This pooled the acrylics creating a random pattern, which was then further accentuated by pulling some of the acrylic paint off using some Sellotape. Washes of oils and some detail painting with acrylics completed the picture



ABOVE: I masked-off the edges of the base with Tamiya tape and then built up the groundwork with Polycell 'Multi Purpose Polyfilla'. Texture was added whilst the filler was still wet using fine sand and soil, this being fixed in place with oversprays of thinned PVA before adding a little static grass as a first step in creating the natural foliage. The wooden fence was fixed in place using superglue before spraying the now set groundwork using various Tamiya shades, both green and brown



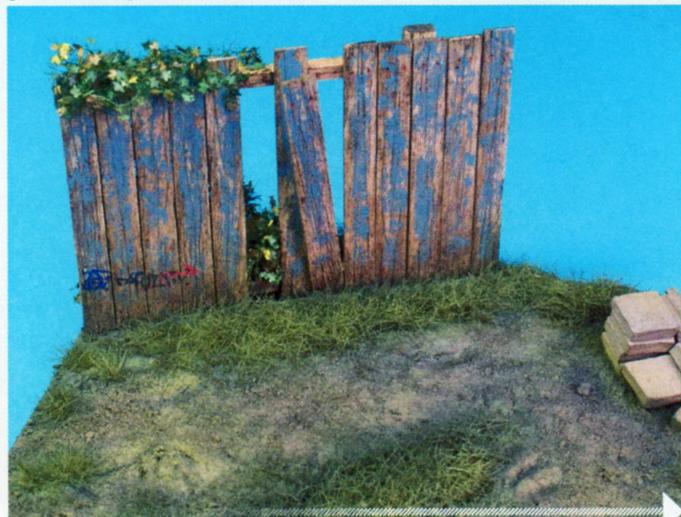
ABOVE: Early on in construction I had planned where I was going to use accessories and these VP wheels were the first items to be used. Once painted and fixed in place they were blended-in to the background using some more plants from Miniatuur along with several plants culled from some photo-etched frets that I had lying around from both the VP and Lion Roar ranges



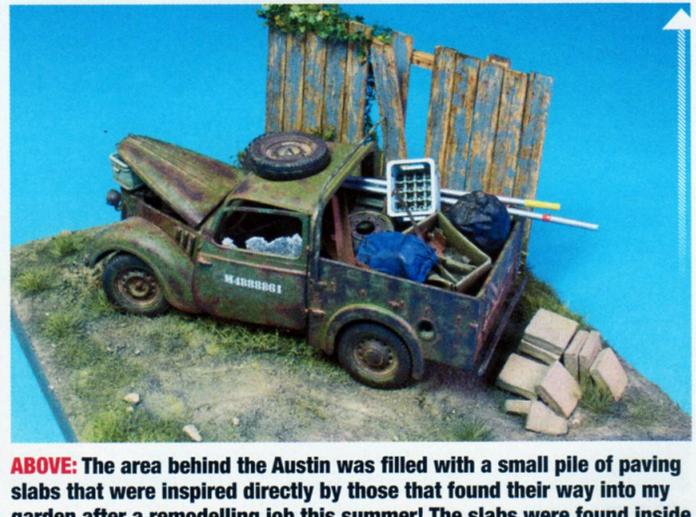
ABOVE: Behind the fence we find some taller grass, this being replicated using Heki 'Wild Grass' (available from Blackwells Of Hawkwell – www.blackwells-miniatures.com) fixed in place using PVA and then oversprayed carefully with a thin layer of Tamiya NATO Green to tone the grass matting down a little



ABOVE: Whilst the groundwork was still wet, I had placed the vehicle to create a natural sit, so it was a simple task to use a couple of drops of superglue to hold the model down once the groundwork had been painted. Note here how the tones remain consistent across both the Tilly and her base



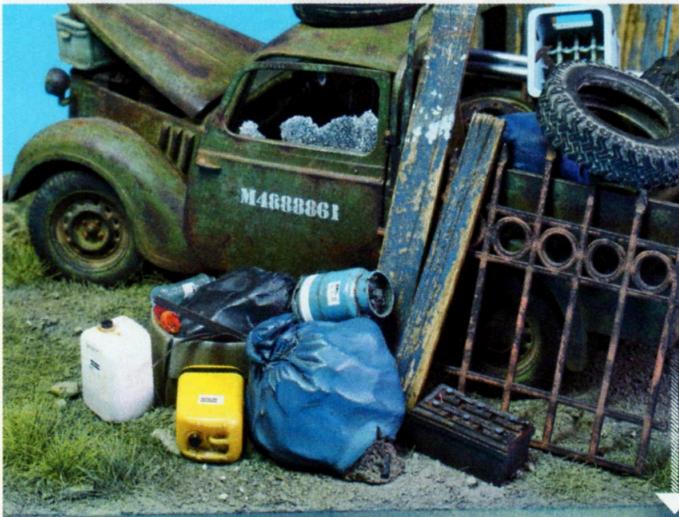
ABOVE: The addition of some Heki 'Wild Grass' around the base of the fence was the first stage in creating a natural looking scene and though many would perhaps leave it as it is here, it really is worth taking it a number of steps further...



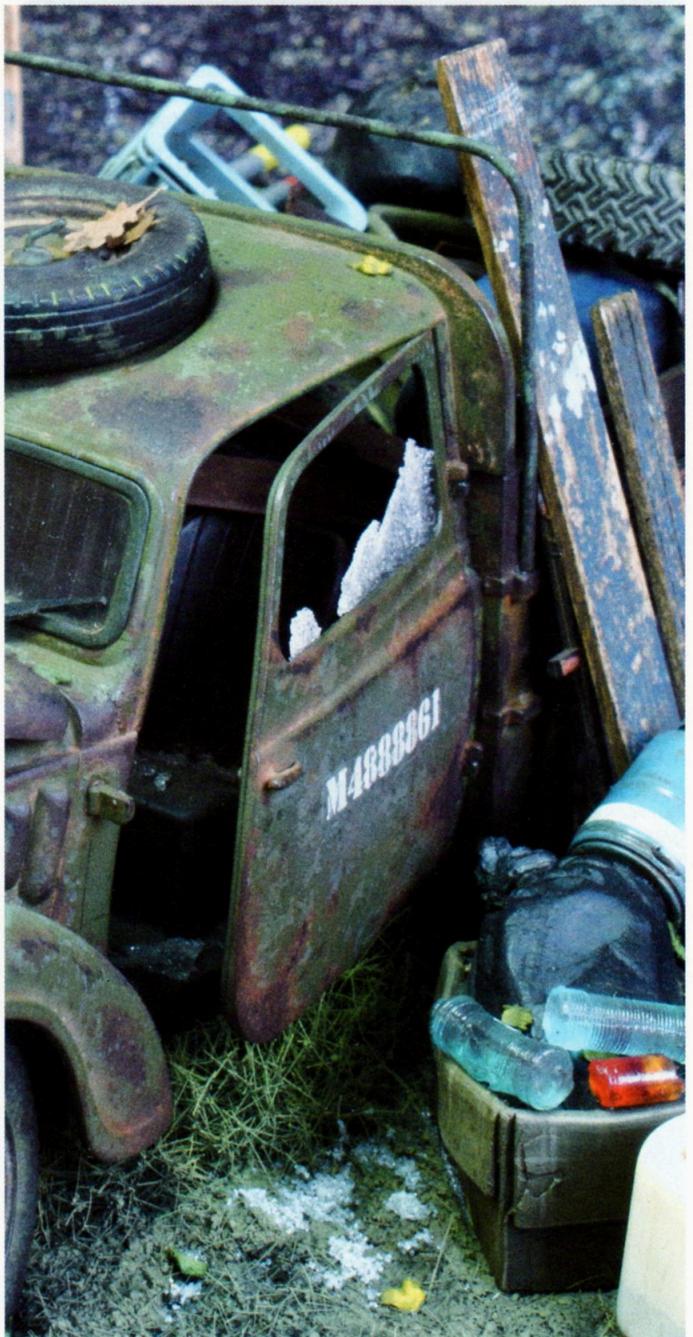
ABOVE: The area behind the Austin was filled with a small pile of paving slabs that were inspired directly by those that found their way into my garden after a remodelling job this summer! The slabs were found inside an old VP set. Cast in plaster, they were cleaned up, sealed with an overspray of Games Workshop Purity Seal and then weathered with an oil paint wash before being oversprayed with thinned Tamiya NATO Green to imitate mossy deposits



ABOVE: Set dressing – my favourite part of any project! Accessories were gathered from the spares box and painted using exactly the same techniques used in last year's 'Workshop' diorama. Bright colours were used to contrast with the rusty vehicle and dusty diorama base – as indeed were different surface finishes, matt, satin and gloss



ABOVE: Here's a close-up of the rubbish pile that is such a feature of the completed vignette. Here you can see plastic containers and a gas bottle from Pro-Art, sacks, cardboard box and glass bottles from Accurate Armour, fence from Miniart, battery from VP and wooden beams from basswood – the latter, leftovers from the fence



ABOVE: The plastic oil container is cast in a very pale resin and so I worked right off that to create the half-full appearance seen here (if not, I could have sprayed it with matt white primer). I then decided on where I wanted the fuel level to be and masked around the container, before spraying the fluid with a dark brown shade (I used Tamiya Dark Earth) and then removed the masking to reveal the brown. Over this I sprayed several very thin layers of Humbrol gloss paint, either white or yellow, letting the brown shine through. Making sure the gloss was left to dry thoroughly, I used thin washes of Raw Umber to define the detail, adding splashes and fuel runs. A decal from the spares box completed the job

HEAVY ARTILLERY

One plus one equals two as we build an impressive German SPG in 1/35

INTRODUCTION

Some time ago I was searching the Internet for pictures of a Pz.IV in grey with whitewash and accidentally came across a picture of a sIG 33, in grey with a very faded whitewash and equipped with winterketten tracks. The idea of building the Pz.IV was put aside and I decided to go for the sIG. In my stash I had Dragon's old sIG 33 but it had been started around ten years ago. Would it be possible to get it up to date and make something of it? I was not sure but I decided to go for it one hundred percent...

BUILT OR REBUILT?

When I opened the box of the sIG I was a bit shocked; my skill levels ten years ago weren't up to today's standards; even the details on the Dragon kit were not quite what I wanted them to be today. It lacked many small details and some parts were very simplified by today's standards. What now? I had a Tamiya StuG III Ausf. G, a shelf queen for many years and so maybe I could use parts of the Tamiya kit to upgrade the old Dragon model? After some inspection and comparisons I decided that with some surgery and re-cycling I would be able to make one decent model from these two kits.

CONSTRUCTION

Normally when one starts a kit, you put the parts together, but in my case it was to carefully disassemble the models – of course some parts were damaged, but not beyond repair. The whole running gear, swing arms etc., were removed from the Tamiya kit with a saw. After cleaning up, repairing the removed parts it was finally time to get building.

First the Tamiya running gear was mounted on the Dragon hull. When looking at pictures sometimes the vehicle looks very

nose heavy and so I wanted to include that on my model. The illusion of weight was created by gluing the rear-most swing arms in their normal position and after the glue had dried the front swing arms were glued about 2 mm higher than normal, so the vehicle sits on its haunches so to speak.

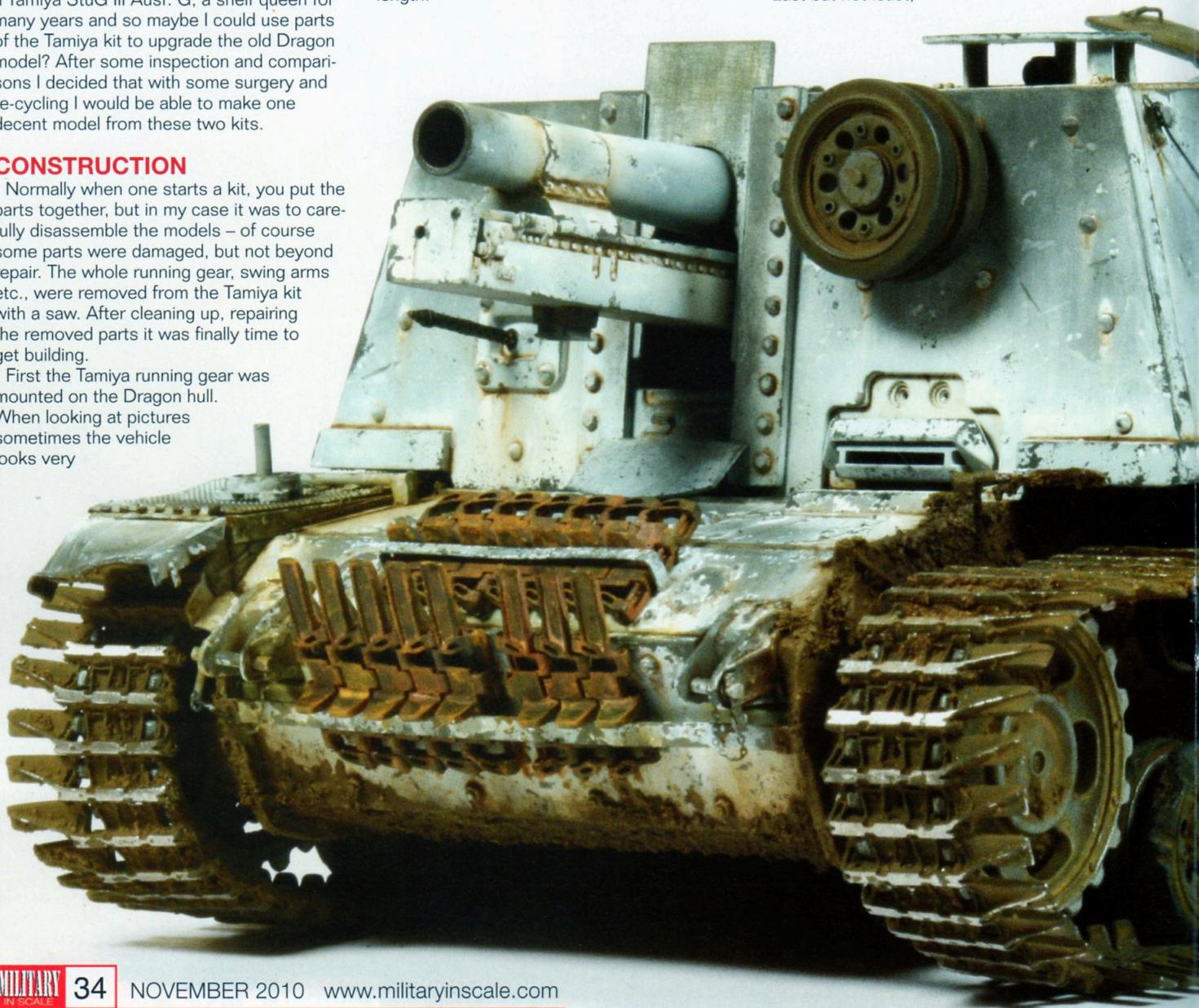
Right after that, the wheels were mounted on their suspension arms so I could check that every wheel touched the ground. Then the rest of the swing arms were installed with the wheels in place to again make sure every wheel touched the ground and was aligned front to back.

A sharp Swan & Morton knife was used to cut some chunks out of the rubber rims of the road wheels to simulate wear. To fit the Tamiya return rollers they needed to have thinner axles and so the originals were simply cut off, then a small diameter hole was drilled and some pieces of Evergreen rod glued into the holes. After drying, the axles were cut to length.

To align the drive sprockets, the transmission covers needed to be a little bit thicker. A 0.5 mm template was cut in the form of the covers and glued beneath them. The shock absorbers at the front needed to be shortened, which is logical as the front of the vehicle sits lower than normal. With a fine saw, a 2 mm piece was cut out from the absorbers to make them shorter. It's quite straightforward and doesn't need special skills, just some measurements and attention to detail helps a lot.

To complete the lower hull a bolted on armoured plate was needed; it's in the Dragon kit, but I decided to replace it with one from the Tamiya StuG because the bolts have much better detail. Just a small cut out was needed to make the Tamiya part fit. The exhaust was also from Tamiya, the reason for this is once again better detail. The opening of the exhaust is drilled out to make it thinner and have a better scale thickness.

Last but not least,



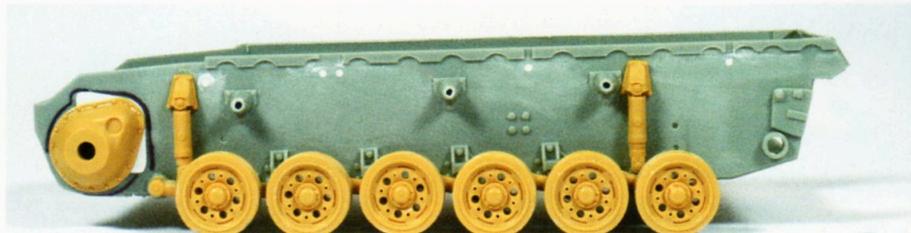


ABOVE: The model like it was years ago

the Fruilmodel winterketten are assembled and mounted on the model. It took some time to clean them up, sometimes drilling out the opening for the tracks pins again for better fit, but they are really worth it. Because of the weight of the white metal tracks they really have natural sag, and it must be said, those extra wide winterketten have a mean look. Just test fit them often to get the right length needed to create the natural sag.

On the upper hull the plate with the inspection hatches for the transmission and the brakes were replaced with a part from Tamiya.

In my previous attempt with this kit I wasn't that careful with glue and the cleaning up of the parts – well I learned a lot over the last ten years!



ABOVE: When lowering the suspension the rear most suspension arm was glued in the normal position. The front suspension arms are glued about 2 mm higher than normal, so they look like they are pressed up by the weight of the vehicle

To recover the part I needed to completely cut apart the upper hull of the Tamiya kit. And once again the Tamiya details are much better. Between the towing hooks on the front a bolted-on armoured plate was needed. I damaged the original part so I decided to make a new one from Plasticard. This time we have cut off the bolts of a similar part from the Tamiya donor kit and glued them on the scratchbuilt part.

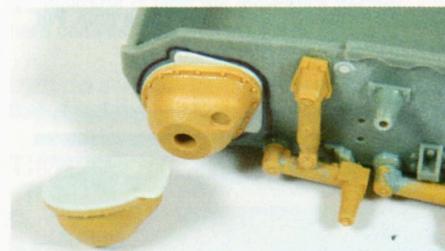
On the engine deck the air ducts used are from Tamiya, yes it's getting boring but the detail is so much crisper. The fenders were replaced with photo-etch items from Aber. Those were thin, better detailed and they give us modellers the opportunity to add battle damage because they need to be assembled like the real thing.

The big square block or casemate is the fighting compartment. The first thing I did was to add some texture; this will give it the look of rolled steel. A small round-headed burr is mounted in a power tool, set at a low speed and tapped against the surface.

Just use in an irregular pattern over the parts for variation. Up next the burr is changed for a round nylon brush to clean up the parts treated.



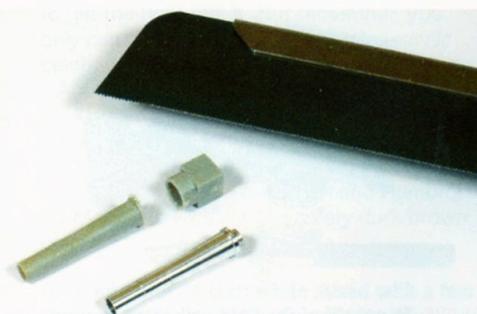
ABOVE: With a sharp knife chunks are cut out of the rubber parts of the wheels to simulate wear and tear

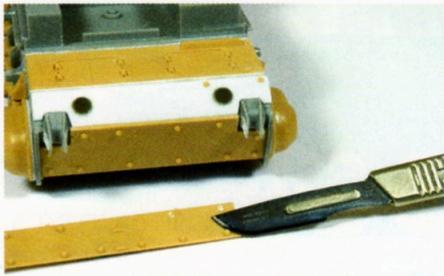


ABOVE: To outline the suspension a bit of Plasticard is needed

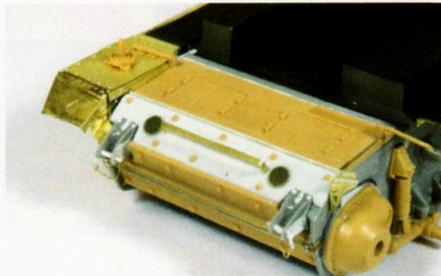


ABOVE/BELOW: The barrel from Aber is needed because the kit barrel is poorly detailed and the rifling inside is almost impossible to clean up because there's a seam running through them





ABOVE: The bolted-on armour on the Dragon kit is replaced with a similar part from Tamiya; with a little modification it fits perfectly and has much better bolt detail



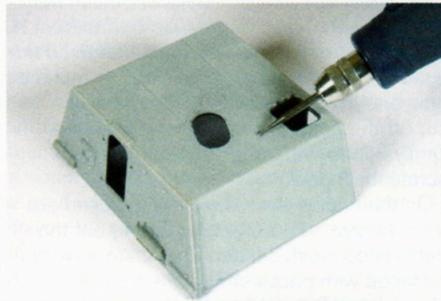
ABOVE: Close-up on detail of the front glacis plate. About 100 bolts made with the punch & die were glued on the fender with regular modelling glue, in my case Humbrol Liquid Poly



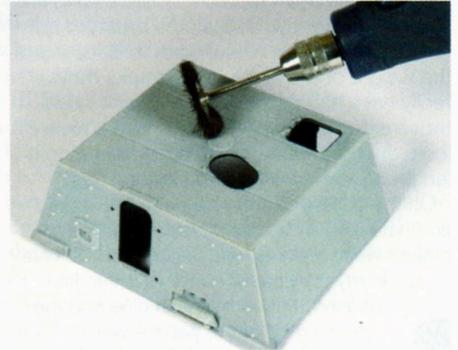
ABOVE: The MG 34 from Aber's range is a real gem!



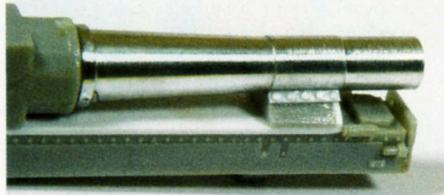
ABOVE: Assembling the Fruijmodel tracks is straightforward, it only takes some time. Put on a nice tune and relax...



ABOVE: A small burr placed in a motor tool was used at slow speed to create metal texture on the model. Gently tap the burr against the plastic for a good effect



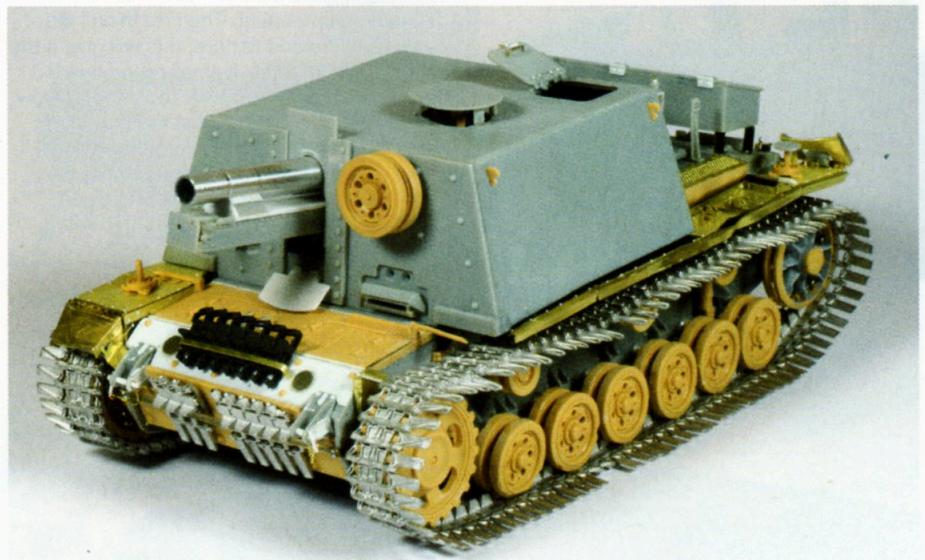
ABOVE: A nylon brush is placed next in the motor tool to get rid of excess plastic and dust



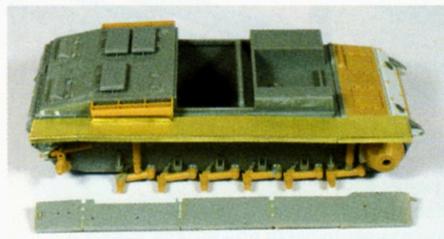
ABOVE: The Aber barrel fits like a glove...



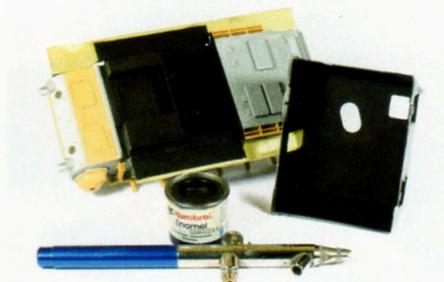
ABOVE: The tread plate of the fenders is glued with superglue. Work in stages - superglue dries fast!



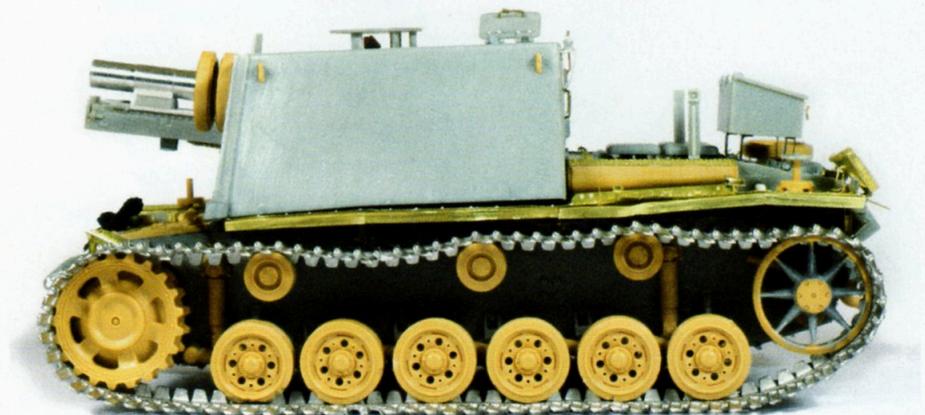
ABOVE/BELOW: Pictures of the model ready to be painted



ABOVE: Right hand fender installed



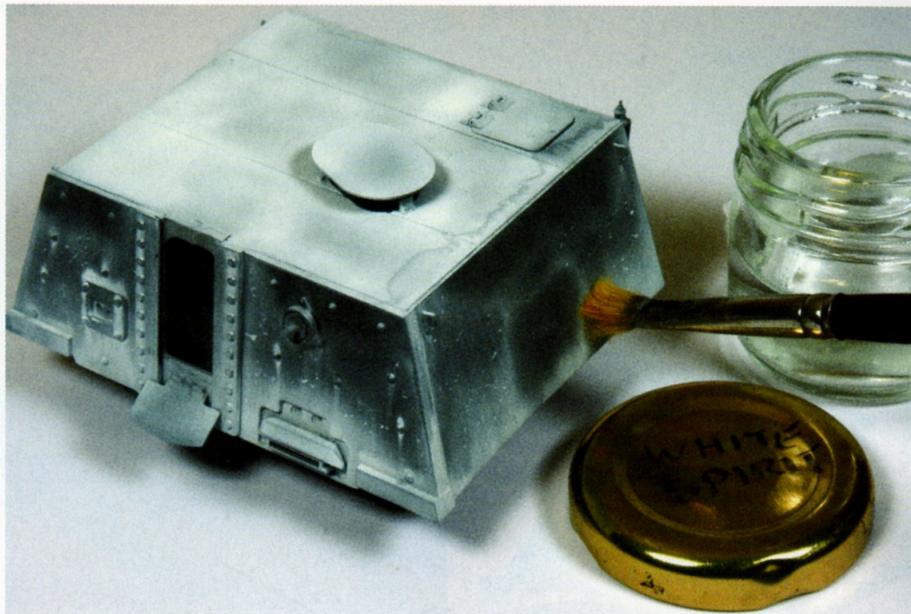
ABOVE: To get rid of the light reflection through open hatches etc., the interior is painted black



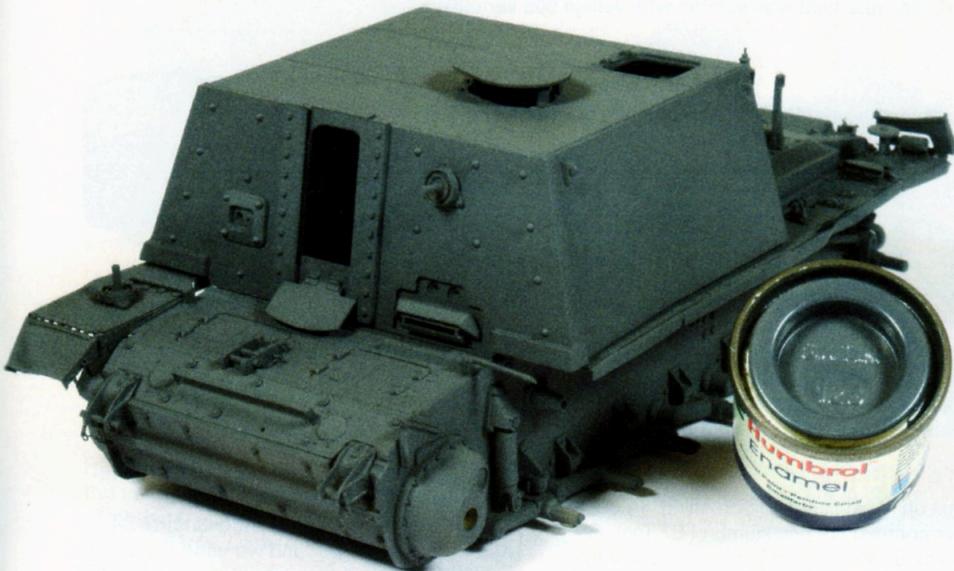
The barrel is a typical two-piece item, which in my case was best replaced by a turned aluminium barrel. Aber came to the rescue; they offer a splendid late turned barrel which needs no modification to fit in the breech-block. Just cut off the plastic barrel and pop in the metal one. The barrel is secured with a drop of superglue.

As I had no specific photo-etched set for this kit available I decided to use the Aber set for the Pz.III Ausf E. The sIG and the Pz.III had many similarities in the layout of the tools etc., so I used everything I could, including the tool clamps, grilles, hooks etc. Additionally, I added weld seams made from Magic Sculp, bolts and grab handles that were remade from 0.3 mm copper wire. The bow machine gun, the MG 34 came also from the Aber range and is a little gem.

With the model built, the spares box and some accessories sets were searched to find some useful stuff. Helmets, jerry cans, boots, a suitcase and small stove from Plus Model that would be something nice on a winter vehicle.



ABOVE: A flat wide brush is used to remove the white paint after spraying. Only remove the paint on logical places. This progress takes some time but the result is what counts! Make sure that you remove the white in such a way it's blending in with the grey, for a not too hard contrast between the white and grey



LEFT: The basecoat for the sIG is Humbrol 123 Dark Sea Grey

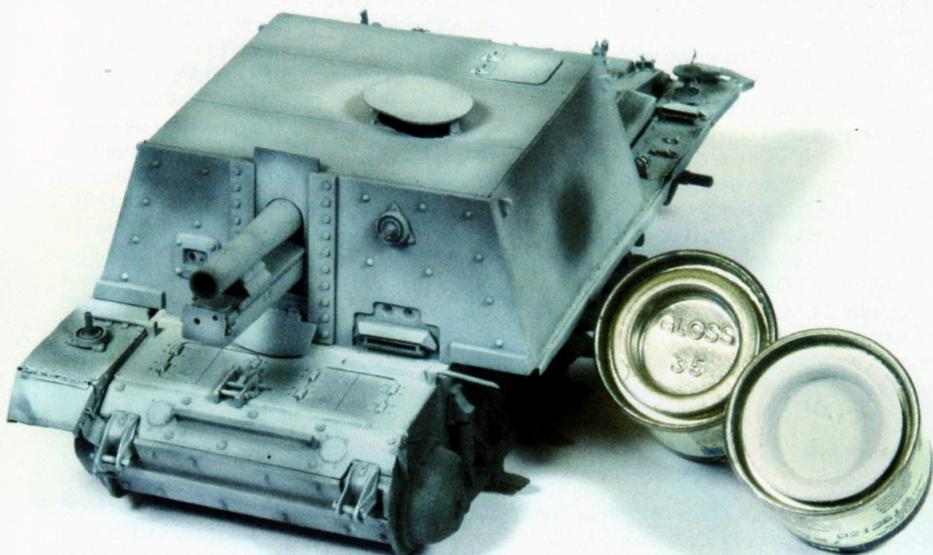
TIME TO PAINT...

The basecoat for this model is Humbrol 123 Dark Sea Grey. This colour has a satin finish but that's really no problem. When the paint has dried and hardened for a couple of days it's time for the whitewash. Humbrol 34 Matt White was mixed with a few drops of Humbrol 35 Clear Varnish and sprayed in several thin layers on to the model, gently building up the white, but on some areas letting the grey shine through.

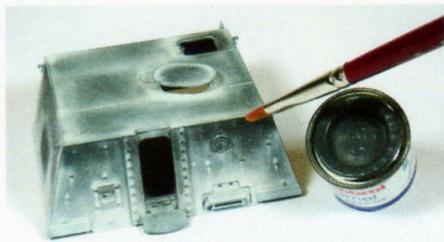
The reason behind this is a first step in the weathering process, to create a faded whitewash. After an hour a flat wide brush was taken and moistened with white spirit. Now I started to carefully remove some white paint the second step in the weathering process. The brush needed to be cleaned regularly to get rid of the white paint otherwise, after a few minutes I would start painting the white on instead of removing it.

Also very important is that you work in a logical direction. I mean if the vehicle were standing in the rain then the brush strokes should follow the same direction as the water that will run down the model. This step is very time-consuming and patience is needed to get the right result. But remember, you only can do this with enamel paints, acrylic paints dry too fast.

After this, the model could be set aside for at least ten days to let the paint thoroughly harden. In the meantime the tracks, including the spare tracks are spray painted with a mixture of Humbrol 29 Dark Earth and Humbrol 33 Matt Black resulting in a very dark brown colour.



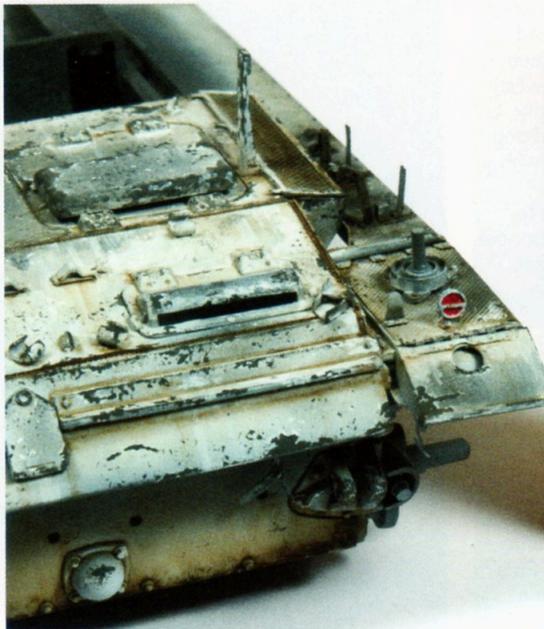
LEFT: Humbrol 34 Matt White mixed with a few drops of Humbrol 35 Clear Varnish is the colour of our whitewash



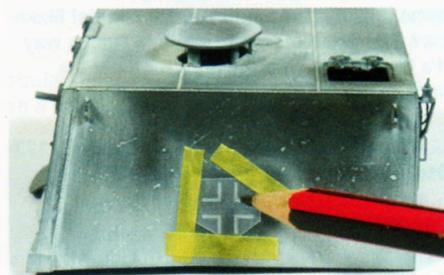
ABOVE: On the model all the corners and edges are drybrushed with Humbrol 67 Tank Grey



ABOVE: Dry-rub decals from Archer were used for the markings



ABOVE: The rear light was painted with Vallejo 909 Vermillion



ABOVE: With the help of some low tack tape the dry-rub decals were held in place



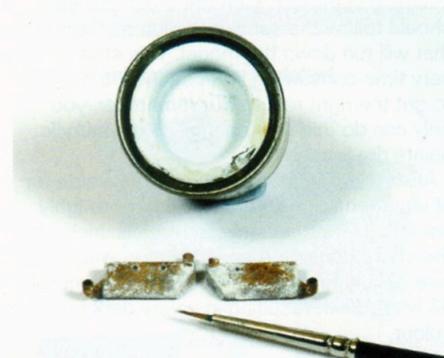
ABOVE: Raw Umber, and Naples Yellow Deep were mixed with some fine sand. This mixture is applied with an older brush in a stippling manner



ABOVE: The wheels received a wash from a mixture of Raw Umber and Naples Yellow Deep oil paint



ABOVE: The exhaust is repainted with Humbrol 113 Rust. With a sponge loaded with a bit of Humbrol 62 Matt Leather some rusty chips are made



ABOVE: With a fine brush some 'clogged' white paint was applied in corners and edges in the places where paint built up

WEATHERING

Next up is old school drybrushing. To get better contrast we use Humbrol 67 Tank Grey. Remember when you drybrush, only use the thick pigment at the bottom of the jar. The Tank Grey is slightly darker than our basecoat and gives us that extra contrast between our grey colours. We only drybrush the areas which are exposed to wear and tear, where the crew climbs onto the vehicle etc.

Dry-rub decals from Archer were used for the German crosses. They were cut out from the sheet and placed on the model with the help of some tape to keep them in place. A pencil was rubbed over the decals until they attached themselves to the model. The decals were now in place and ready to get the same weathering treatment as the rest of the model.

In their turn the wheels were drybrushed with Humbrol 123 Dark Sea Grey lighted up with Humbrol 34 Matt White. The rubber rims of the wheels were painted the next day with Humbrol 33 Matt Black and when dry, these were drybrushed with a grey mixture made from Humbrol 33 Matt Black and 34 Matt White. The inside of the barrel is also painted black, a small detail sometimes overlooked...

To create some more depth in the model all the details were outlined with Raw Umber oil paint thinned with white spirit. Some places got a few extra runs to create the dirt build up effect. It's also better to work in several thin layers than one heavy layer. The oil paint

was blended-in, in such a way that the different colours flowed into each other.

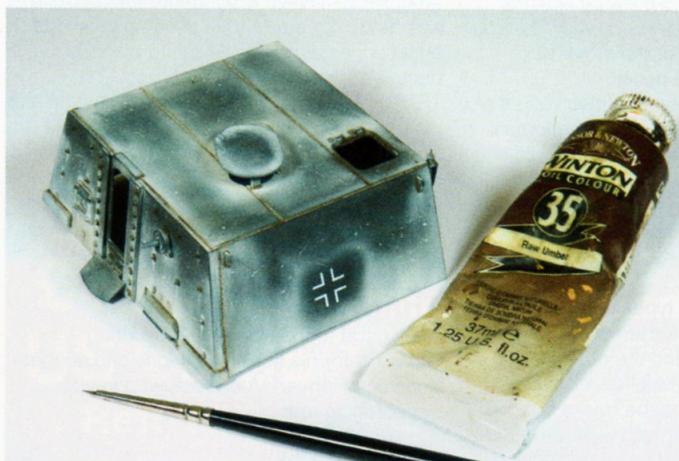
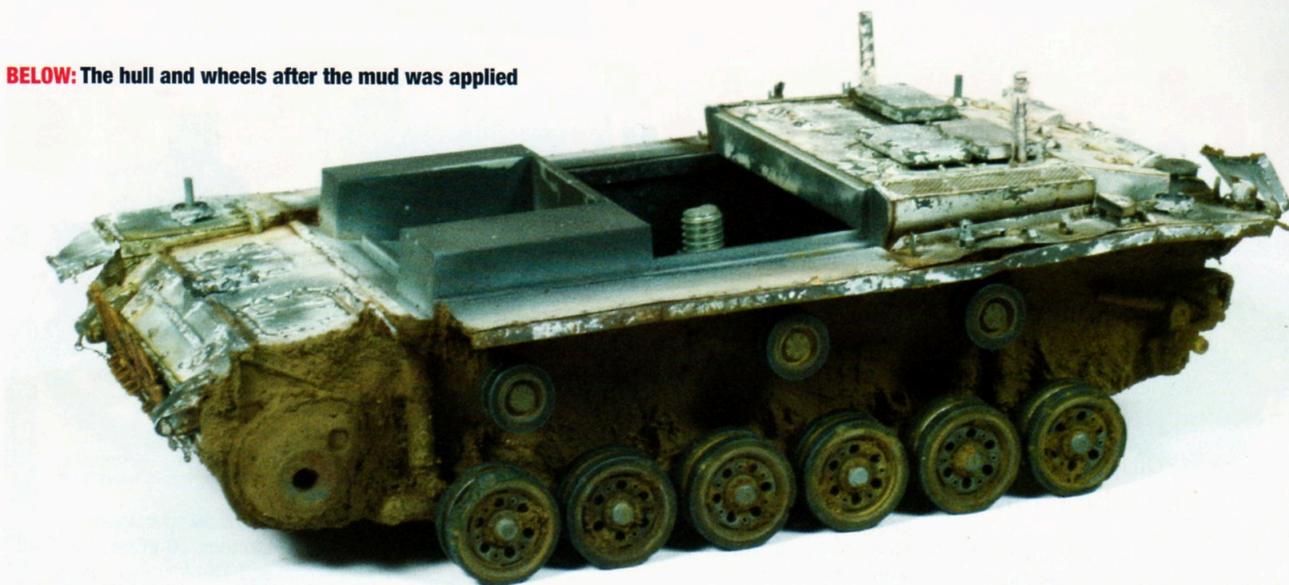
Now we had the white paint (Humbrol 34 Matt White) out again and we used the same techniques but only on selected areas like for example in and around hinges, panel lines, clamps etc. This was all to accentuate the remains of the white paint in areas where the whitewash was very faded. White paint chips are also added for the same effect.

It was time to switch back to the grey paint (Humbrol 67 Tank Grey) for adding grey paint chips; these were added to places where the whitewash is very much worn off by use and abuse. As you can read it's very important to think and study where to add those effects. After all it's a realistic look we want right? To give some of the grey paint chips an extra dimension, a highlight was added with white to create a three dimensional effect. This is a great effect, but like always, do not overdo this – less is definitely more!

Rain streaks and rain marks are up next. The colours used for this were Raw Umber oil paint and Humbrol 33 Matt Black mixed with Humbrol 100 Red Brown. A fine brush was used to literally paint them on, making sure to thin the paints heavily and repeat when necessary.

The exhaust painted in the grey was treated to a layer of Humbrol 113 Rust for a new basecoat. When dry, I took a small piece of a sponge and placed it between tweezers.

BELOW: The hull and wheels after the mud was applied



ABOVE: The model was outlined with Raw Umber oil paint diluted with white spirit



ABOVE: On selected places some white paint was reapplied to get the effect of clogged up paint

Humbrol 62 Matt Leather was applied using the sponge (after I removed most of the paint using a piece of tissue) and then I dabbed it irregularly onto the exhaust. Then I mixed some Humbrol 154 with the Humbrol 62 and repeated the process. When dry, I used a fine brush to paint some chips onto the exhaust with white followed by grey paint chips.

The finishing touch was some soot around the opening of the exhaust – Black Smoke pigments from Mig Productions being excellent for this. All the parts of the wheels,

including drive sprockets, idlers and return rollers whose metal parts are in contact with the tracks and will have a bare metal shine on them, were treated with a silver pencil.

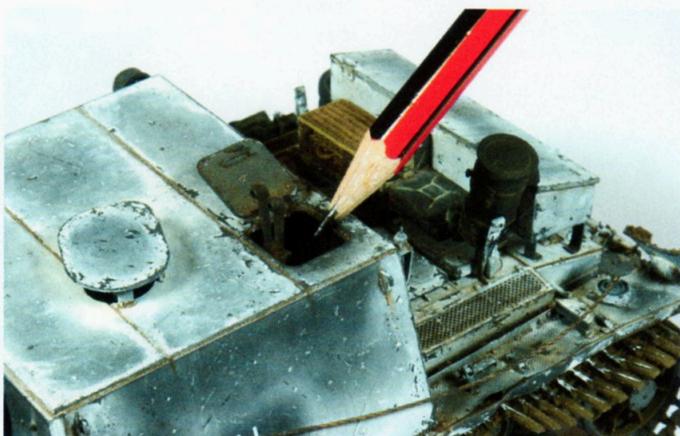
MUD

When we look at vehicles in a winter setting, one thing is a common feature – mud. There are different sorts of mud, wet, dry or something in between. There are several methods to apply mud and I use an oil paint technique. Oil paints are more controllable than for example pigments in my opinion. Oil paints don't

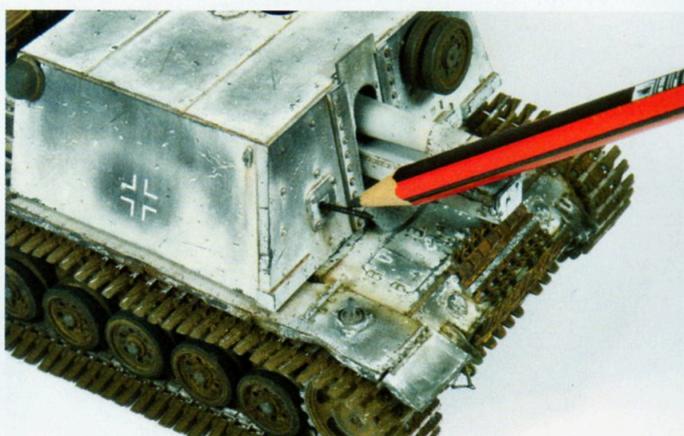
always dry out completely matt, in this case with mud that's not a real problem.

To get some more structure to the mud I add very fine sand. Thus Raw Umber and Naples Yellow Deep are mixed together with the fine sand into a sticky paste. This paste is then applied to the model using a stiff brush.

For hard to reach places a fine pointed brush is used. To get some variation in tone some more or less Naples Yellow is used. The wheels are also treated this way. For the tracks the mixture was thinned with white spirit and added like a wash.



ABOVE: Where there is constant use, like on hatches and grab handles some metal effect is created by rubbing an ordinary pencil on the edges



ABOVE: The MG 34 gets a metal look after the black paint has dried. Simply by colouring the MG with an ordinary pencil



FINISHING OFF...

Where the tracks are in direct contact with either the wheels or the ground they must have a bare metal finish. Here, the big advantage of the Fruil tracks comes in to play as they are made of white metal, so on the necessary places the paint is removed with careful sanding with some fine wet or dry paper. A realistic metal sheen appears – easy!

To get a metallic finish on the grab handles and the edges of the hatches etc., an ordinary lead pencil is used and by gently rubbing with the tip from a pencil a metal shine becomes visible. Do not overdo this – only apply this finish on logical places.

The glass of the periscopes is painted with a mixture of Humbrol 3 Brunswick Green and Humbrol 21 Gloss Black. The suitcase comes from Plus Model and is base-coated in Humbrol 29 Dark Earth. When dry a dark wash was applied with Raw Umber thinned with white spirit. With the wash dry the suit-

case was drybrushed with Naples Yellow Deep oil paint. The hinges were coloured in with our lead pencil.

The stove got a matt black basecoat (Humbrol 33) and received a subtle wash of Raw Umber oil paint lightened up with Naples Yellow Deep. The edges of the stove were also treated with the lead pencil.

The jerry cans were painted in their respective colours and weathered in the same manner as the rest of the vehicle. The tow cable was hand-painted with Dark Grey (Humbrol 67) and it received many light washes of Humbrol 62 thinned with white spirit. To get the metal finish on the tow cable – yet again with our famous pencil!

There are two different types of spare tracks on this model, the winterketten are leftovers from the Fruilmodel set and the ordinary tracks are spares from Modelkasten. They had the same basecoat as the tracks but got the weathering treatment, with washes and

paint chips from the following colours: Humbrol 62 Matt Leather, 70 Wine, 100 Red Brown, 113 Rust and 154 Insignia Yellow. These colours were randomly used without a strict pattern. With all the parts and accessories ready the model was assembled and the accessories glued in place with wood glue because spills are easily removed.

The model was now considered finished and placed on a base with a screw and a bolt.

So, two models that were condemned to be never finished were put together into a new one. So never throw away your shelf queens because maybe someday you just might need them...

THANKS

My good friend from Scotland Brian Murdoch for his honest opinions and suggestions and Herman Vuerstaek who keeps encouraging me!





Author: Dai Williams

IN REVIEW

Modelling The DML Pz.kpfw. III Ausf N

HISTORY

The design of the Pz.Kpfw. III began in the 1930s as part of the German rearmament programme. It was originally intended that the vehicle would be used to combat enemy tanks while the larger Pz.Kpfw. IV would be used as an infantry support weapon.

The vehicle was originally armed with a 37 mm anti tank gun, these small weapons being considered adequate to counter the opposition encountered in the early stages of the war. However, the turret ring was big enough to allow a 50 mm weapon to be fitted, and this appeared in the Ausf. G in 1940 when it became apparent that the 37 mm weapon was unable to deal with the vehicles encountered in the French campaign.

The 50 mm gun was in turn found to be inadequate during the early stages of the invasion of Russia when much heavier and more powerfully armoured tanks such as the

T-34 and KV were encountered.

It was therefore decided to fit the short-barrelled 75 mm KwK L/24 gun to the vehicle, resulting in the Ausf N. This fired a more effective high explosive round and could also fire a shaped charge round with better armour piercing capabilities.

The Ausf N was produced from June 1943 to August 1943, with around 700 vehicles being built, including those converted from the earlier 50 mm armed Ausf M.

THE KIT

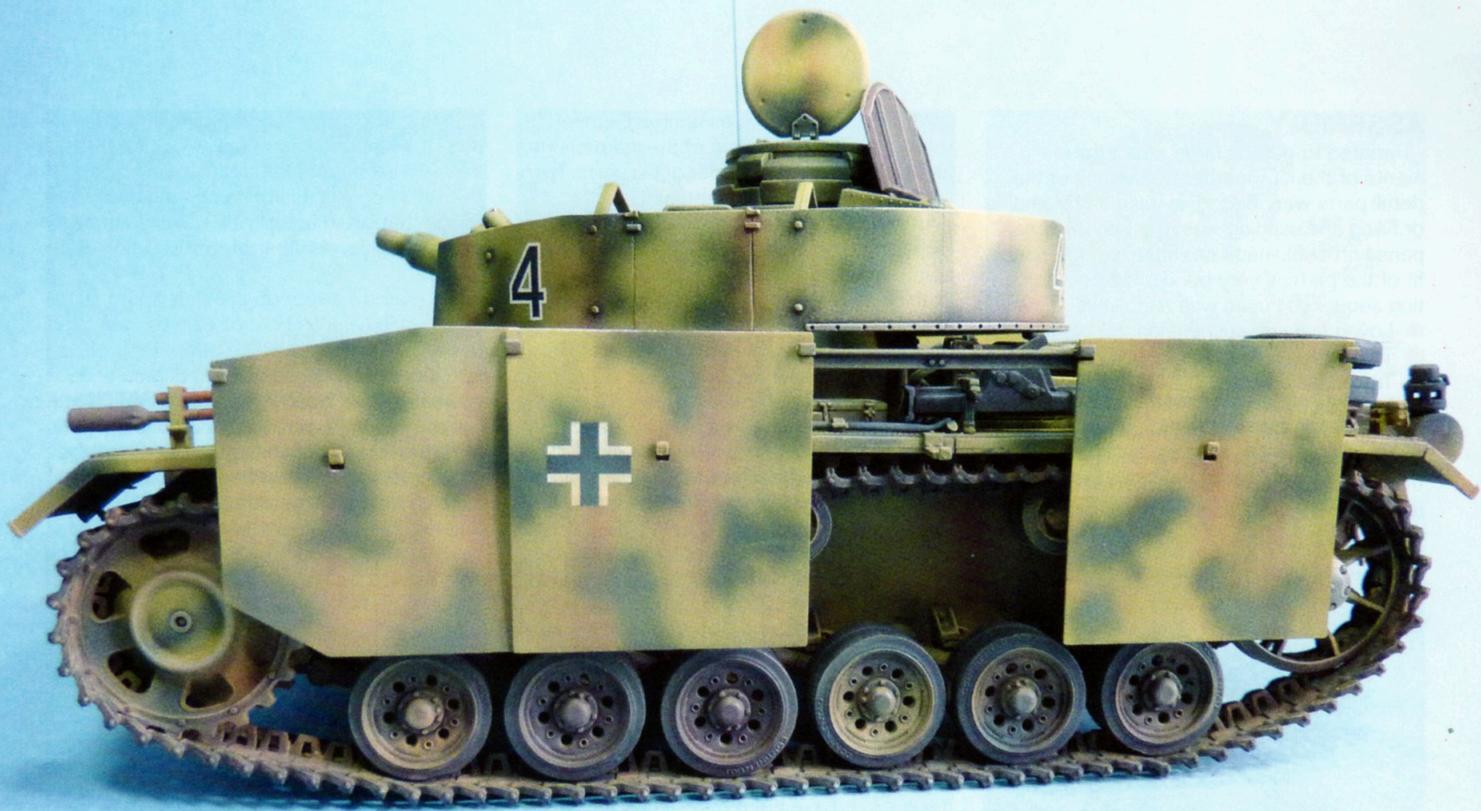
This kit is another complex Dragon Models Ltd. offering and is up to the usual high standards that we have come to expect from this company these days. The parts are extremely finely moulded, with some of the sharpest detail that I have yet to see on an armour kit. There is no flash on any of the parts and the sprue gates are very fine, ena-

bling even the smallest of parts to be easily removed from the sprues. This is just as well as some of the parts are tiny, with even wing nuts, bolts and rivets being present as injection moulded items. The attention to detail on this kit is excellent, for example, the finely moulded tread plate on top of the fenders is reflected on their undersides as well. Slide moulding technology has allowed parts like the turret and turret bin to be moulded in one piece making assembly very easy.

The tools come with their clamps already moulded on, and while these may not be to everyone's taste, they look more than acceptable to me. There is a small clear sprue for the headlight lenses and some of the vision blocks.

A Gen. 2 set is provided for the hull machine gun and its ammunition, but unfortunately, apart from the barrel, nothing of this can be seen inside the vehicle.

A very fine set of skirting armour is provided. The armour for the turret is in injection moulded plastic and is commendably thin, with the support brackets looking particularly good. Injection moulded brackets and rails are provided for the side armour. The side armour itself is in the form of thin metal sheets (aluminium I think) partially pre-cut into a backing sheet. This is presumably because large flat plates are difficult to mould in plastic.



There is little supplied in the way of an interior, though the separate engine access hatches have detail on the inner surfaces in case an aftermarket interior set is used, allowing them to be modelled in the open position. Curiously, there is a set of torsion bars provided for the suspension, though I am sure that this would be covered up by the floor of the vehicle. The turret hatches can be modelled in the open or closed positions. A breech is provided for the gun along with a basket for spent rounds and a seat for the commander. While little more than this can be seen if the cupola hatch is left open, modellers may wish to add some extra detail if the side hatches are left open.

There are two sets of 'Magic Tracks' sup-

plied, in two slightly different shades of grey, so that the left and right sets are not mixed up (the track pins have to be on the right side of the track links). There are 93 links per side and there are lots left over to fill the spare track brackets and to act as additional armour if that is appropriate to the vehicle being modelled. The track links are very good indeed, having hollow guide horns and fine tread detail.

In common with other DML kits, there are sprues from a number of kits in the box, often with only one or two parts being used. This leaves a lot of parts for the spares box, but it also means that care needs to be taken when studying the instructions. For example there

are three sprues marked 'A', two sets marked 'D', 'G', and 'M'. The instructions are presented in the usual DML fashion in a fold-out format with 25 steps. As usual the instructions are very crowded and unless care is taken, it is easy to miss things (as I did). I always feel that DML instructions should be used as a guide to part placement, rather than as a construction sequence, as they depict small delicate parts being fitted before large structural elements are brought together.

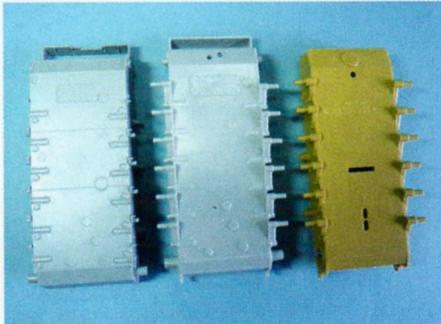
Markings are supplied as waterslide transfers for five vehicles. These were not used on my model, but look good being glossy with thin film. They are finely printed and are in perfect register.



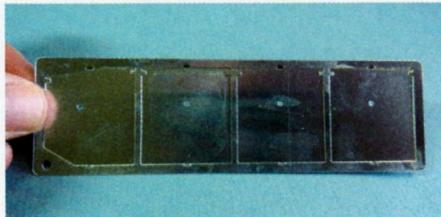
ASSEMBLY

I wanted to get the large structural elements of the kit together before any of the detail parts were added, in case any clamping or filling and sanding was required (as it happens I probably need not have worried as the fit of the parts is very good). The construction sequence I used was as follows:

- Lower hull and suspension
- Tracks
- Transmission cover
- Mudguards
- Upper hull (without the hatches)
- Main turret parts (leaving out the breech, the used round collector basket, and the turret cupola so that the interior can be painted separately)



ABOVE: How things have moved on... From left to right, the new DML Panzer III hull, DML's earlier kit from the 1990s, and the old Tamiya kit from the 1970s



ABOVE: The skirt armour plates on their backing sheet



ABOVE: The attention to detail on this kit is excellent, as shown here with the texture under the fenders



ABOVE: The ventilators on the rear of the vehicle can be modelled open or closed

With these elements assembled, I then returned to the beginning of the instructions and began to fit the smaller detail parts, leaving the skirt armour brackets until last.

Assembly was straightforward due to the high quality of the kit parts, though a few points need to be noted.

I think that due to the size of the track links, it should be possible to temporarily assemble the wheels and tracks and then remove them to be painted separately. However, in this case I decided to assemble them early on and fix the tracks to the wheels for a stronger assembly, even if this made painting a bit more difficult. Some of the track links have injector pin marks on the inner faces that need to be removed. Thankfully these are raised and so do not need filling. However, they will be very visible on the finished model, especially if the tracks are drybrushed or rubbed with graphite to highlight the polished areas on the track treads and guide horns.

The turret parts fit together well, though there were a few sink marks on the front plate in my kit, which were easily dealt with using Mr Surfacer, sanded smooth when set. In order to paint the gun breech and basket assembly I did not fit these as instructed as they can be fitted through the bottom of the turret later on. I felt that some of this kit was a little 'over engineered', an example being the recoil mechanism (parts L7 and L11) which is completely hidden inside the mant-

let. As there is such a lot of detail included in this kit I suppose I can't really fault DML for this approach, but I felt that maybe some of this effort could have been put into providing things that could actually be seen, such as some detail for the rear of the inside of the turret.

There are two sets of gun cleaning rods supplied (R13 and R14), one on each fender, but only one set should be fitted. In error I opened up both sets of holes, and so ended up having to fit both sets of rods. DML does not provide any painting instructions aside from the overall camouflage scheme, so the choice of colours used when painting items such as the cleaning rods, tools and turret interior is left up to the modeller. I depicted the gun cleaning rods as being made of wood with metal attachment points where they screw together. I'm not sure that this is correct, as they may just have been metal tubes.

The turret stowage bin was left open. The inside of the lid has some excellent rib detail moulded in. I added a piece of muslin soaked in diluted white glue to represent a camouflage net. I added a few bits and pieces from the spares box to fill up the rest of the basket, pressed into the muslin while it was wet and later removed to be painted separately.

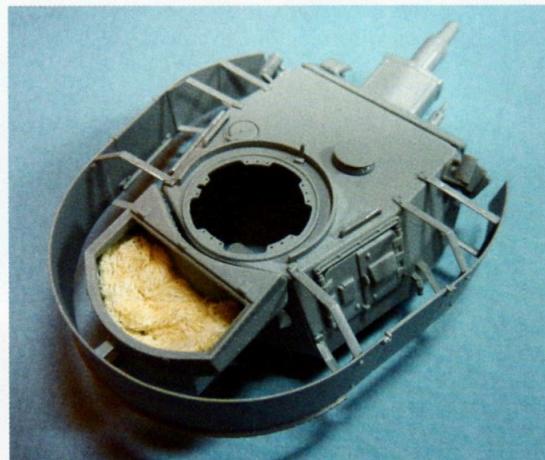
I was a bit wary of fitting the turret skirt armour, but need not have worried as the parts are so well engineered that they fit together perfectly. Note that unlike the Pz.

Kpfw. IV, the doors on the skirt armour cannot be depicted open unless the turret doors are open as well as they drop down into the openings in the turret sides, to form a sort of 'drawbridge' across which the crew had to crawl to get in and out of the vehicle. Two sets of doors are provided, allowing them to be modelled open or closed.

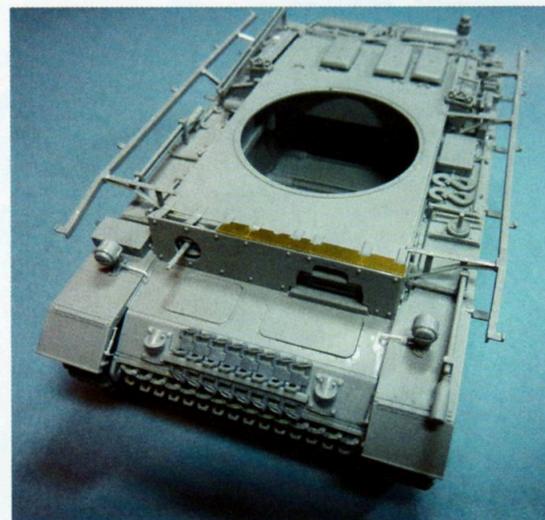
The radio aerial was removed and replaced with a piece of brass rod, placed into a hole drilled into the mounting. When not in use, the aerial folded down into a wooden trough mounted on the right-hand fender. The wood texture on this is very well done.

I had a problem with the skirt armour on the hull as I could not get the rear bracket on the right-hand side to fit under the aerial trough. I ended up making my own from a couple of strips of card the same width and thickness as the kit parts, suitably bent to fit under the trough. The side skirts themselves fit perfectly, though I found it hard to cut them away from the backing sheet, as the metal is quite tough. I ended up moving the backing sheet back and forth very gently, and eventually the joint snapped cleanly in line with the edge of the plate. A little light sanding then cleaned up the edges.

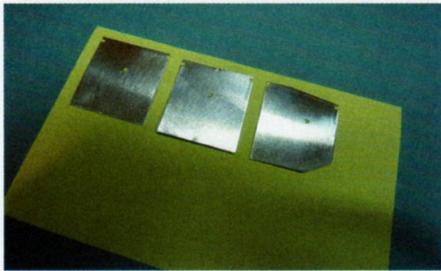
The only things that I could see missing from the kit were the cables for the headlights, which I made from thin plastic rod bent to shape, and then the vehicle was ready for painting.



ABOVE: Some muslin soaked in white glue serves as a camouflage net



ABOVE: Enough track links are supplied to fill the racks on the front of the vehicle with some left over



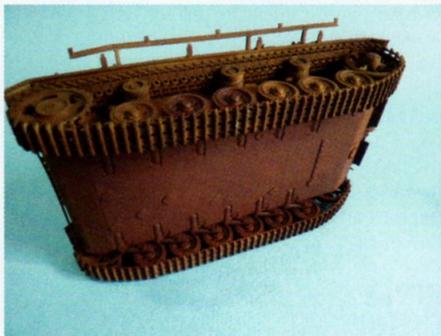
ABOVE: The skirt armour plates were mounted on a Post-it note for painting. They have been slightly roughened with fine wet and dry paper for better paint adhesion before priming



ABOVE: Sand yellow has been applied



ABOVE: Markings have been applied using Archer's dry rub transfers. I was not sure about the striped panel so had a backup replacement panel left in the base colour



ABOVE: Red primer has been applied to the bottom of the hull and to a couple of the wheels



ABOVE: One of the skirt armour panels painted to represent a replacement taken from another vehicle with a different camouflage scheme



ABOVE: The effect of the pastels looks a little harsh at this stage but it will be toned down



ABOVE: The interior of the turret has a patchy coat of white applied allowing the brown to show through



ABOVE: The green blotches applied using Tamiya Japanese Army Green. Note the wheels left in red primer for extra colour



ABOVE: Here I have started to apply the oil paint wash

PAINTING

I must admit that it takes me a long time to paint a vehicle. This is because I now always leave any coat of paint or varnish for at least 48 hours before applying another one on top. This means that every coat of paint has a chance to cure properly before I try and air-brush or brush paint on top. I think that this is important as some of the weathering techniques used are quite harsh, and can damage underlying paint or varnish leading to a mess, which can be hard to correct.

The first step in the painting process is to apply a couple of light coats of Halford's grey plastic primer to the model to highlight any dubious joints and to provide a good base for the following coats of paint. Halford's ordinary car body primer was applied to the metal skirt plates.

The base coat was Tamiya Flat Brown (XF-10). This was applied in several light coats ensuring that all recesses and undercuts were covered. This would act as a pre-shading coat for the lighter camouflage colours applied over the top. The underside of the vehicle and the backs of the roadwheels

were given a patchy coat of Tamiya Hull Red (XF-9), to represent the red primer that I think would have been left on the undersides of these vehicles. I cannot see why anyone would have wasted paint in order to camouflage the underside of a tank. One of these days I may be proved wrong, in which case I will claim that the red/brown colour is there to represent dirt!

The basic camouflage colour applied to the model was Tamiya Dark Yellow (XF-60). References indicate that these vehicles were produced from June 1942 to August 1943, which spans the period when the base colour applied to German vehicles changed from dark grey to dark yellow, so I suppose that a grey vehicle would be a possibility if the modeller is so inclined. However, it seems that the skirt armour was fitted after March 1943, so a dark yellow base coat would be more appropriate if you choose to fit this to your model.

The dark yellow was applied concentrating on the centres of the panels and then light streaks were directed front to back on horizontal surfaces, and up and down on vertical

surfaces, giving an irregular patchy finish. After curing this colour was mixed with 50% flat white and a much lighter application was done in the same way as before, but with smaller quantities of paint being used. The end result was a patchy faded base coat with shadows and highlights in the appropriate areas.

I wanted to depict a generic vehicle operating during the summer on the Russian front, where the base colour would have been broken up with green to blend in with the open steppes on which they operated. The camouflage was done with Tamiya Japanese Army Green (XF-13), which seems to me to be the best colour for this type of scheme. The paint was diluted with about 70% thinners, and the pressure turned down to just above the point where the paint spattered. This allows the airbrush to be held very close to the surface of the model giving soft edged, but well defined green blotches.

Throughout the painting of this model the Tamiya paint was diluted with cellulose thinners. This gives a fine spray and seems to alleviate the problem of these quick drying

paints clogging up the nozzle of the airbrush. Cellulose thinner is a rather unpleasant substance and I always wear a spray paint respirator when using it. I clean out the airbrush by spraying it out of the window. This may not be terribly convenient when it is wet and windy outside, but I really don't want this kind of vapour hanging around in my house. After every spraying session I now leave the windows open, and the room is abandoned for an hour or so with a fan running to clear the air.

When painting the model I left a few of the roadwheels in red primer in order to make them look like replacements, and to give a little extra colour to the vehicle. The inside of the turret bin and its lid were masked off and treated in the same way. One of the side plates was painted to look as if it was a replacement taken from another vehicle with a totally different camouflage scheme. Half of a cross in a different style from the rest of those on the model was applied to reinforce this effect.

The inside of the turret was given a light sprayed coat of white over its brown base coat. I painted the inside of the cupola and the hatch in the same way. In some of the photos where it is visible, the inside of the hatch seems darker than the surrounding exterior paint, so maybe leaving the inside of the hatch in red primer may be more appropriate.

During the painting process I tried to keep the paint away from the tracks leaving them as far as possible in the red brown base coat.

The markings on the model were applied using Archer's dry rub transfers. I have become a fan of these, as they do not require a gloss coat on the surface of the model in the way that water slide transfers do, and there is no backing film that could silver. Modelling both aircraft and armour, the silvering of transfer film is the bane of my modelling life, causing me much aggravation and disquiet, often leading to the use of intemperate profanity.

Weathering started with several different tones of ground up red/brown pastel chalks. These were applied in thin streaks, with an old brush. The excess powder was blown away, and the chalk was then blended into the paint with a clean, dry flat brush. This gives a rather garish, stark appearance at first, almost like a three colour camouflage scheme, but this will be toned down later on.

The next step is to apply some general grime to the lower half of the vehicle concentrating on the front and rear corners. This was applied with four or five shades of Tamiya acrylic, starting with dark brown mixed with black and working in increasingly lighter applications, through Dark Earth up to Buff.

I usually post-shade my models using very fine lines, applied with my airbrush, using very heavily diluted paint. I find that this gives a more predictable finish than I can achieve with washes, though it does take a long time to do. However, in this case, I felt that it would be hard to get the airbrush close enough to the surface due to the complex nature of the vehicle. An oil wash was therefore used, and before I applied this, a thin coat of Tamiya clear was applied to protect the underlying paint and seal the pastel

chalks. Thinning this varnish with cellulose thinners causes it to go cloudy, but it still acts as a good sealer.

The wash was applied using heavily thinned black and burnt umber oil paint. I used white spirit to thin this to about 90% thinner to paint. The wash was applied to small areas at a time, these having already been slightly dampened with thinner. Once the wash seemed dry, I used a clean brush, again slightly dampened with thinner to draw the paint from front to back on the horizontal surfaces and from top to bottom on the vertical surfaces.



Before using the oil paint, I placed it in a little blob onto some tissue paper for about an hour. This soaks up a lot of the oil, and I think this helps to avoid the sticky oily rings that I have experienced when using oil washes in the past.

The next stage was to drybrush the vehicle with a khaki/sand coloured enamel about the same colour as the dark yellow base coat. I know that drybrushing is frowned upon these days. However, if used sparingly I think it is a good way of tying together the different colours on a model.

The detail painting was done mainly with Lifecolor acrylics, which dry very quickly and give a good predictable matt finish. The wooden handles of the tools were painted in a number of different browns, and then rubbed with a very thin coat of oil paint, so that different tools had slightly different colours. The metallic parts of the tools were given a coat of dark grey. I then rubbed a pencil against some coarse wet and dry

paper, and then some of the resulting graphite powder was scrubbed into the paint, using an old paintbrush, to give a metallic sheen.

The tyres were painted in Lifecolor 'Panzer Uniform', a very dark grey, and khaki enamel was drybrushed on to accentuate the tyre edges and the wheel rims. Panzer Uniform was also used, much thinned with water to wash the tracks. This gave an overall patchy appearance, with the original red brown colour showing through. Brown and sand coloured pastel chalks, were then ground on wet and dry paper, and the resulting powders were mixed with white spirit to form a thin slurry that was applied in small overlapping patches over the tracks. This was dried with a hairdryer to cut down the time that the white spirit had to attack the underlying paint. The excess dust was removed with a stiff oil painting brush. Powdered graphite was then rubbed onto the surface of the tracks using my finger to polish the raised areas, giving a metallic sheen. An expendable brush was used to apply the powder to the less accessible areas.

FINAL ASSEMBLY AND DETAILING

The tools, helmets and boxes used to fill the stowage bin were replaced after painting the underlying netting a mid brown colour. The camouflage covers on the helmets were painted to conform to one of the patterns used on German camouflage cloth during the war. Things like this provide a lot of colour on a model.

Small sections of Post-it notes were slid under the cable on the rear of the hull (another excellent piece of moulding by DML) to protect the underlying paint. The cable was then painted with gunmetal enamel, and when dry, a slurry of rust coloured pastel chalk was applied and the excess was brushed off. This was followed by a black oil wash.

The side skirt armour just clips onto its frame with no glue being needed. Care needs to be taken when attaching these as I found it all too easy to scratch the paint off, possibly due to inadequate priming on my part. The plates overlap slightly and while most wartime photos suggest that these should overlap front to back like the scales of a fish, others suggest that this was not always the case.

The parts of the model that I thought would be best painted separately, or would be easily broken off during assembly, such as the commander's hatch and the aerial were then applied, and the model was complete.

MIS VERDICT

I enjoyed this project from start to finish. The quality of the parts is amazing and the level of detail provided is excellent (just look at the tiny screw heads on the turret roof). The model more or less falls together, and despite being a complex vehicle it was very easy to build. You have to pay careful attention to the rather busy set of instructions, but apart from that this kit can be recommended to all but the absolute novice.

My thanks to Dragon Models Ltd for the opportunity to build this kit, and to my wife Siân for proofreading the article.



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**A fantastically painted Chieftain
wows the crowds at Tankfest**



Author: John Norris

SHOWTIME

BOVINGTON TANKFEST VEHICLE SHOW 2010

The Tank Museum at Bovington in Dorset has a far-reaching reputation that when it comes to mounting a major mobility display of historical armoured vehicles everybody just knows that their visit will be well rewarded. The 2010 Tankfest held over the weekend of 27th and 28th June was just such an event and coinciding with Britain's Armed Forces Day there was more significance about the event than ever before.

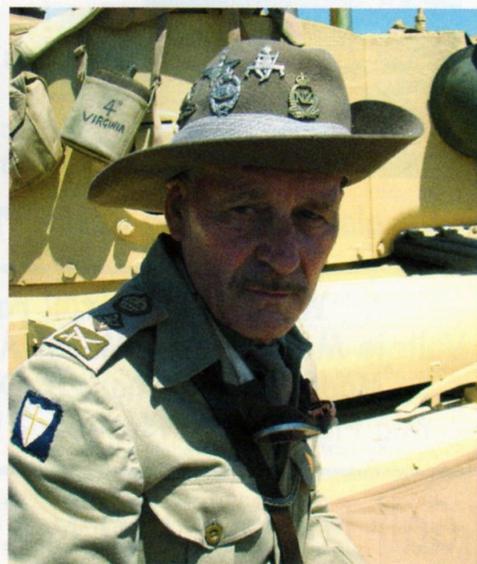
MIS had been given some details of what to expect prior to the event, but some last minute changes to the programme produced some interesting displays. In the past there have been some unexpected surprises and this year's show was not inclined to disappoint either. With veteran servicemen and present servicemen and women

on hand to answer questions of combat experience involving vehicles from all periods on display this was a show with everything.

Tankfest is all about mobility right from the word go when the gates open and the roar of petrol and diesel engines tear through the air. This was heavyweight stuff and anything else was trifling by comparison as tanks with such names as Chieftain, Centurion and Challenger II rumbled into position. The famous Tiger I German tank had been stood down, but in its place there was a Jagdpanther Sd. Kfz. 173 heavy tank destroyer, all 46 tons of it measuring 9.9 m in length and armed with a massive PaK43 8.8 cm calibre gun. The prospect of seeing this impressive machine in action in the arena caused an expectant thrill among the visiting crowds. At the other



ABOVE: The Ferret looked very smart in its all-white finish



ABOVE: Monty in slouch hat with badges of regiments under his command



ABOVE: German rifleman takes aim in a re-enactment setting



ABOVE: The Daimler Armoured Car with speeds up to 80 km/h was very fast

end of the scale was the tiny Sd.Kfz.2 Kettenrad, which by comparison measured only 3.45 m in length and weighed 1,560 kg. Around 8,345 Kettenkrads were built while only 392 Jagdpanthers were built from January 1944 to March 1945. Between them these two designs showed the diverse range of vehicles at the disposal of the German army during WWII.

Other vehicles being stood down this year included the Matilda Mk.II and the Sherman, but in their place came several other interesting vehicles such as the Russian-built M1974 (2) IV 15 Artillery Command and Reconnaissance Vehicle which had been captured in Iraq during the First Gulf War 1990-1991. Joining this was a Chinese-built YW 701 Armoured Command Vehicle, a variant of the YW 531, along with a Type 59 tank.

Tankfest is an absolute must for all serious modellers for many reasons, not the least of which is because it provides the opportunity to see so much armour on the move, thereby giving a sense of proportion to things. Where else can one see the very latest vehicles in service with the British army on display alongside famous historical vehicles? This is a unique event for modellers to take advantage of and if one has never visited the event it should be marked down for a future visit.

When the vehicles were not parading their mobility capabilities they were parked up for closer inspection and photographic opportunities. In addition there was a range of re-enactment groups portraying units from WWII including Russians, US Marines, German and of course British and US Army in the form of the 1st Infantry Division, the 'Big Red One', which landed on Omaha Beach during the Normandy Campaign. Each of these groups displayed equip-

ment, weapons and kit of the period and some put on special demonstrations to show weapons and tactics in use. A couple of groups even incorporated tanks from the Museum's collection in their displays to create living dioramas. For example, a Matilda Mk.I with crew became a focal point for re-enactors depicting British infantrymen of the BEF circa 1940. The image this created served as a reminder that this year is the 70th anniversary of the Dunkirk Evacuation.

A handful of traders such as the Birmingham-based Mainly Military Models were on site for modellers to purchase some very nice kits from vehicles to building sets for dioramas. The kits were in a range of scales including the popular 1/35 scale. The Devon-based company of Armortek had a large stand area displaying some of its range in radio-controlled 1/6 scale metal models with realistic noise and smoke. Several proud owners of these models were 'driving' their vehicles around the site giving a mini-mobility display. Other traders on site offered reference books and DVDs, so something for all budgets and skills and interests made this a show for everyone.

A handful of re-enactors were depicting wartime Generals and their attire was so accurate one did not have to ask who they were meant to be, it was that obvious. Patton with his pistols, 'Monty', with his slouch hat full of badges, and Douglas MacArthur complete with 'corn cob' pipe. However, it was Erwin Rommel who really stole the show when he wore his long leather coat and stood by the Museum's Panzer III in desert colours of the Afrika Korps. Of these figures MacArthur does not immediately stand out as being a tank man, but it should be remembered that during the First World War



ABOVE: The nifty and very 'nippy' little Dingo Scout Car used from North Africa deserts to Europe



ABOVE: The Stuart M5 Light Tank saw service in Europe and in the Pacific being configured for amphibious landings and even a flame-thrower version called the 'Satan'



ABOVE: The Russian-built SU-100 with its 100 mm calibre main gun

and throughout the 1920s he had been a keen advocate for armoured forces and wrote that: '...armoured cars and cross-country vehicles possessing a high degree of strategic mobility, with fighting and tactical mobility an important though secondary consideration...' He made other profound observations on armoured warfare but is still best known for his role in the war in the Pacific.



ABOVE: The massive Jagdpanther entering the arena stole the show

The arena displays of mobility by various armoured vehicles are as exciting as they are inspirational for modellers. The huge SU-100 self-propelled gun in Egyptian colours of the 1960s showed how its lineage came from the T-34/85 tank, which itself was an up-gunned version of the T-34 tank, which had turned the tide by halting the Germans outside the gates of Moscow, in late 1941. Both these vehicles were originally from the 1940s and the designs continued to be used well into the 1960s and beyond. Other armoured vehicles from the 'Cold War' period included the British-built Saladin armoured car, M60 US-built tank along with Chieftain and Centurion tanks which had at one time formed the backbone of the British army's armoured divisions deployed in West Germany. Wartime armoured vehicles are always popular and among those being put through their paces were the Valentine parading with the M5 Stuart Light Tank, Dingo Scout Car and Humber Armoured Car to show wheeled and tracked vehicles which had been used in all theatres of the war from North Africa to Europe.



ABOVE: The tiny Katternkrad is unusual but it does make up into a very nice model (this will be profiled in a future issue of MIS)

In previous years the show has ended each day with a grand finale battle scenario depicting tactics and weaponry of WWII. This year it was decided that something different was called for and elements of the modern British army took centre stage to demonstrate tactics and equipment being used by servicemen and women serving in Afghanistan. A section of infantry entered the arena with detecting equipment used to locate IEDs we hear about on the evening news bulletins. Using the same kind of careful tactics in Helmand Province, the soldiers moved slowly across the arena until an incident unfolded and they had to open fire in a tactical exercise. Following the same procedures as used in real incidents the unit called in support, which arrived in the form of a Viking tracked vehicle. It was a fitting end to the Armed Forces Day and the general public felt privileged to have seen something like this because they now understood more clearly the difficulties facing the troops and the almost impossible tasks which face them daily.



ABOVE: The Panzer III is popular with the crowds and modellers like it too



ABOVE: The M1974(2) IV 15 Artillery Command and Reconnaissance vehicle was another unusual vehicle and is shown here negotiating an obstacle of bank earth



ABOVE: The Centurion was Britain's first post-war tank and went on to be sold to many overseas armies



LEFT: The Chinese YW701 Armoured Command Vehicle made for an unusual display

BELOW: The Viking joins in the display of modern equipment used in Afghanistan





ABOVE: The M60 was developed into several variants and used in combat by the Americans in Vietnam and the Israelis against T-62 tanks in 1973



LEFT: Matilda Mk.I tank sets the scene for BEF and the Dunkirk Campaign of 1940



ABOVE: The 'Snatch' Land Rover also used in Afghanistan

This year's display at Tankfest had shown a timeline of armoured vehicle history spanning over 80 years and it was incredible to see how things have changed in that time. Armour protection has become more effective, guns more powerful and accurate due to the technology of computers. Yet, the function of these vehicles remains unchanged on the battlefield and the reconnaissance vehicles of today still only really do the same thing as their predecessors in 1940, except they do it faster and smarter. The same applies to tanks and although fewer in number today the modern designs mean they can perform to a capacity never before imagined. Bearing that in mind along with what future developments in armoured vehicles will bring, modellers will never be short of inspiration for kits to build.

As always, we here at MIS extend our thanks to all the staff at the Bovington Tank Museum for making our visit such a pleasant experience and we look forward to seeing them again next year at Tankfest 2011. Readers can keep up-to-date with developments by visiting the Website at: www.tankmuseum.org



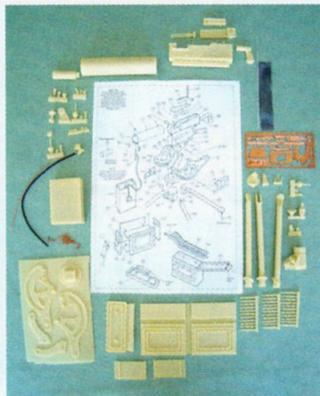
ABOVE: Rommel: There is no denying it, this presentation looks the real thing!

KIT BOX

Lifting the lid on the current model kit releases



WWW.VERLINDENONLINE.COM



VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS 1/4 .30 Cal. Machine Gun

We'll kick off this month's 'Kit Box' with a VP re-release – in fact, it must have been one of the very first multi-media kits on the market. It is a 1/4 scale .30 cal machine gun with tripod. For those of us that remember the 'Present Arms' series of superb miniature firearms, this kit can truly hold its own, as the assembled gun is very, very good and quite large. It comes in quite a big box that, when opened presents an array of different parts of dissimilar materials including resin, a sheet of lead foil, rubber tubing, a length of copper wire and a length of copper rod, a length of copper chain and, finally, a comprehensive copper photo-etched sheet. While obviously there are some large resin parts, there are also some small delicate ones that require care not to lose, or break. Included with the kit is a comprehensive instruction sheet and exploded view of the gun that, with close scrutiny, will allow you to build a very good, accurate replica of this famous Browning medium machine gun that has been in continuous use since 1919. Unfortunately, this version cannot be assembled without its water jacket, although it does come with a water container and rubber tube. It also has a 250-round ammunition box and a length of ammo belt.

Retailing at £32.70 plus p&p, this is a welcome re-release of an exceptionally fine kit.



1/35 Burnt Rubber Sherman M4 Roadwheels

There's not much one can say about this next kit: No. 2605 is a 1/35 scale set of M4 Sherman roadwheels with all the rubber burnt off. There are 12 wheels in total and all that is required is for the modeler to add their own 'damage' to set them off. Of course, the biggest job is to first complete your burnt-out Sherman...

Nicely cast in resin, they retail at a mere £10.60 plus p&p.



1/35 Bullet Holes for Glass

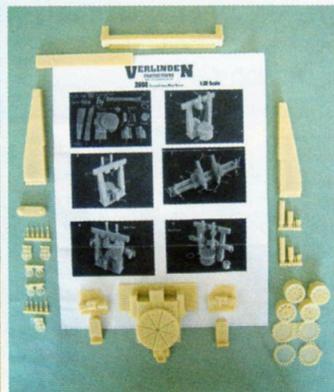
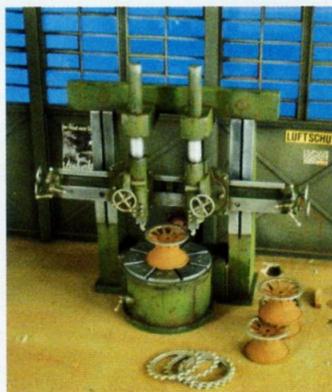
The one thing about any war scene is that bullets tend to fly around! Quite often they end up going through glass and such is their velocity, usually they make a hole without

shattering the whole pane of glass, especially if it is through the composite windscreen of a vehicle. This is where the next accessory

set comes into its own. Kit No. 2607 is a sheet of, you've guessed it, bullet holes for glass! This is quite a comprehensive sheet of bullet holes in all sizes and configurations and all you have to do is cut out the one you want, dip it in water and slide it into position, simple eh! Kit No. 2607 retails at £9.75 plus p&p.

1/35 Panzerwerk Heavy Milling Machine

I'm sure the exalted Editor will love this as he is into making fully equipped 1/35 scale workshops (oh my God yes! – Ed.). Kit No. 2608 is a 1/35 scale German Panzerwerk (tank factory to the likes of you and me!) Heavy Milling Machine. It's all in beautifully crisply cast resin and there's a 'million' parts, many of them small and delicate (strange as it represents such a heavy piece of machinery) so you have to be careful. There is, of course, an assembly instruction sheet and, even I as a trained engineer, need it as you can easily go wrong. Whoever designed the kit has made a pretty good job of it.



The parts went together with very little trouble, although removing the 'flash' and pouring stubs took some time. The completed model is very impressive, with most of the non-working parts painted in Panzer Green. I think I'll let Spencer try this one!

Kit No. 2608 retails at £28.60, which is cheap for such a lot of resin, and all Verlinden kits are available from Historex Agents, www.HistorexAgents.com Wellington House, 157 Snargate Street, Dover, Kent, CT17 9BZ, UK.



WWW.AIRFIX.COM

AIRFIX 1/350 Trafalgar Class Submarine

When I went to see the 'launch' of the new 1/350 Airfix Illustrious kit last December, this new kit was mentioned as a companion to the aircraft carrier kit. This new submarine appeared in the shops just in time to catch the traders during the airshow rush from the middle of June to the middle of July. You would not expect a 1/350 submarine kit to be a best seller at the airshows but that is what happened. Several traders that I talked to at the shows reported that the new Airfix submarine kit was flying off the shelf. Several traders sold out.

This is a great little kit, (the hull will be about 250 mm long) on just two light grey sprues. One carries the large hull parts and the other sprue carries the small detail parts and a stand for the finished model. The parts are nicely detailed with fine engraved lines on the top of the hull. You can build the following submarines: HMS Trafalgar, HMS Turbulent, HMS Tireless, HMS Torbay, HMS Trenchant, HMS Talent and HMS Triumph. HMS Trafalgar has a different propulsion arrangement otherwise all of the submarines are the same. Your model can be finished as it would be seen on the surface with all of the aerials, etc. extended – see the box art or as it would be submerged with them retracted into the conning tower.



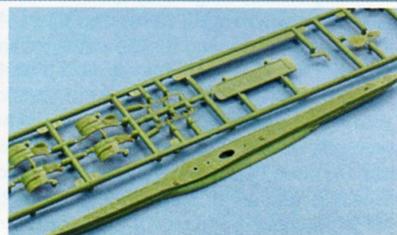
We start by building the stand and then the two lower hull parts are joined together. Holes towards the bows and stern are opened up to take the fore and aft hydroplanes. When the upper hull is glued to the lower, the planes will be free to move, if you wish. Next, fit the rear steering gear and the propulsion system. On HMS Trafalgar there is a standard-looking multi-bladed propeller that can be fitted so that it revolves. For any other of the submarines listed, the propulsion system looks like the intake to a jet engine attached to the stern of the boat. The conning tower comes in two halves with alternative tops according to whether your submarine is submerged or on the surface. For the surface configuration, there are eight 'aerials' to add to the top of the conning tower.

Decals are supplied for the very few markings on the outside of the submarine, applying to the overall matt black finish. About half of the decal sheet is occupied by the names of the submarines, one of which will apply to the stand.

What a super little kit, I am not surprised that it has been so popular. It will appeal to both the beginner and the enthusiastic ship modeller. *(Alan Firbank)*



WWW.HANNANTS.CO.UK



AFV CLUB 1/350 German U-Boat Type VII B

MIS readers will be familiar with the AFV Club name already but this is another departure from AFV Club's regular product. AFV Club has produced some aircraft kits and now we have 1/350 ships in the form of a U-Boat kit for review. It is interesting to compare this vessel with HMS Trafalgar. It is almost possible to fit the U-Boat inside HMS Trafalgar. The finished U-Boat model will be about 190 mm long.

The kit consists of three dark green sprues with both raised and engraved detail, a small sheet of etched brass and a small decal sheet. The etched parts do have plastic equivalents if you are unfamiliar with using metal parts and some of the plastic parts are

extremely fine. Moulded detail on the deck is superb.

When you start the build you have to choose to use either the full instructions or to consult the second instructions sheet for a slightly different style of conning tower. One belongs to U-47 and the other to U-48 but I can't tell which is which from the instructions.

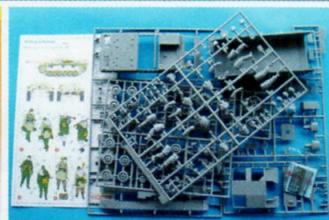
This kit includes the upper part of the pressure hull that consists of three parts but this will disappear when the outer hull is built and the upper deck is in place. The second stage is the building of your choice of conning tower and then the upper hull is glued to the lower hull assembly. Then there is the addition of the rear steering gear, propellers and small detail parts. Finally, there is a stand for your completed model and four tiny torpedoes.

The painting instructions are given on a table of colours that include Gunze Sangyo Hobby Color and Mr Color, Humbrol, Revell and LifeColor paints. As you will see from the excellent box illustration, the lower hull is red/brown and the upper hull is grey separated by a broad black line.

This is another excellent kit from AFV Club. *(Alan Firbank)*



WWW.DRAGON-MODELS.COM



DRAGON 1/35 StuG. III Ausf. C/D

Here we have another StuG from Dragon. This particular issue is in their Super Value Pack range, so that in addition to the vehicle you get the contents of one of Dragon's excellent figure packs. Inside the sturdy, if uninspiringly illustrated box there are some 206 parts, not including the tracks, for the vehicle and a further 106 parts for the figures and their equipment.

Detail overall is very good, as one would expect, although this is one of Dragon's simpler kits. For example, apart from the choice of two different periscopes which pop out from either the hull top or one of the hatches, there is no internal detail whatsoever. On the other hand, the underside of the hull and the suspension is quite extensively detailed. The only optional parts are for the front deck with its two hatches, parts C24 and C25; these vary only in a very minor way. No metal barrel is included but a trial fit of the two-part plastic one revealed no real problems.

A small photo-etched fret provides mesh debris guards for the side air intakes and the brackets to mount the channel which holds the aerial when it is folded down.

Only one colour option is given, that of an overall sand coloured vehicle from StuG. Brig. 232, Samland, East Prussia, 1945. This vehicle carries three crosses and the number 123 in black and white and has had a patchy white winter camouflage applied.

The four figures in the set are from the Wiking Division (Hungary 1945) and are very impressive indeed. All are wearing the long winter Parka type jackets with fur-lined hoods; the moulding of these is especially good. The figures are all in what I would call 'trudging' mode, two are clearly a machine gun team with one carrying an MG42 and ammo box and the other a pair of ammo boxes and a spare barrel container across his chest. The remaining two have standard weapons of the period, the MP43 and a Panzerfaust. Both these figures have stick grenades shoved into their belts and carry the small egg type grenades as well. Alternative weapons included are a pair of K98 rifles, a G43 semi-automatic rifle and a couple of MP40s, one with the stock folded and one with it extended.

All in all, this is a really great package; the figures in particular are superb and is one which can be recommended unreservedly. *(Michael J. Thompson)*

KIT BOX

Lifting the lid on the current model kit releases

1/35 Panzer 38t Ausf. E/F Smart Kit

If the last Dragon kit I reviewed disappointed with its lack of internal detail, then this all-new tool in their 'Smart Kit' series more than makes up for it.

The box top states that there are over 550 parts inside of which 192 are the individual track links, which come in their own little bag marked 'Magic Track' and that they certainly are. The box also states that it is a '2 in 1' kit, unfortunately this does not mean there are two kits but merely that there is a choice of two different models, the E or the F, that can be built from it.



The amount of interior detail is astonishing, starting from the front we have a complete transmission unit on to which is fitted the driver's clutch controls and the drive shaft from the engine. This shaft is covered by a perforated metal guard to protect the crew, in the kit this is moulded in solid but well detailed plastic. It would have been better perhaps to have made the guard out of photo-etched brass with a plastic shaft inside it but this is really only a minor carp to be honest.

Moving back we come to the fighting compartment. We have a pair of seats, a radio receiver/transmitter plus the accumulator for it, a beautifully detailed machine gun for the front hull which can have a belt of ammo attached if required and lastly a plethora of ammunition boxes for the main armament ammunition. Behind the fully detailed fire wall is a complete engine bay. Apart from the engine there is a radiator and fan, fuel tanks, batteries and even a set of tools comprising an oiler, grease gun and starting handle.



Moving up into the turret, there is an excellent replica of the cannon along with another machine gun, a pair of seats, loads more ammo boxes and the interiors of the vision slits.

A very comprehensive photo-etched set provides various engine grilles, tie-down straps for the jerry cans and pioneer tools and brackets to hold the tow cables in place. There are a few optional parts which identify the two marks depicted in this kit and a couple of toolboxes which can be used if required on the track guards.

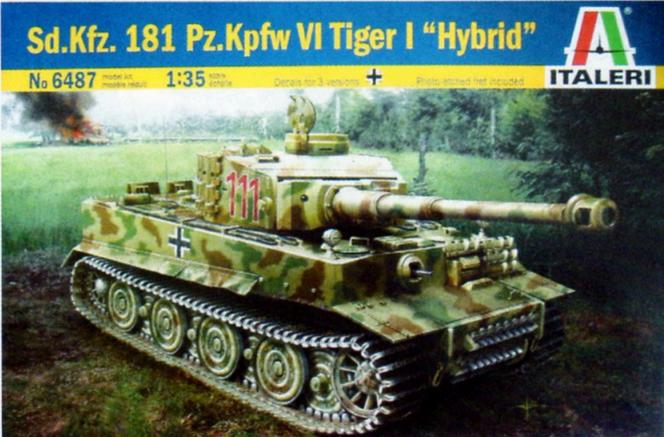
Most of the detail in this kit is on the inside but all of the hatches that should open can be fitted and the turret can be removed to reveal even more. It is rather disappointing, therefore, that there is virtually no painting information for this area, a regular omission in Dragon instructions unfortunately.

An excellent decal sheet, by Cartograph, has four options on it: three are from the 19th Pz.Div. in Russia 1941/42, two are overall dark grey and the third is grey with a white winter overcoat on. The last option is another grey one from the 7th Pz.Div. also in Russia 1942.

This is a superb kit overall and, just because of the sheer amount of parts; I would recommend it to modellers with a little experience of the genre. (Michael J. Thompson)



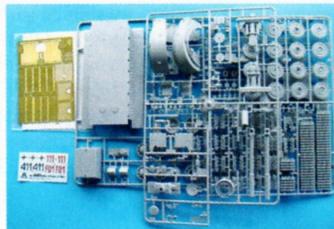
WWW.ITALERI.COM



ITALERI 1/35 Tiger I 'Hybrid'

This latest Tiger I from Italeri is a little unusual in that it purports to represent the small number of Tigers that were built from series one hulls and turrets mated with the later all steel wheels and in some cases, although not this one, with the zimmerit anti-magnetic mine paste.

The box holds a total of 352 injection moulded plastic parts of which 126 are for the link and length type tracks. There is a fairly sizeable photo-etched fret which holds alternative parts for the track guards, exhaust shields and brackets for the side mounted tow cable plus four mesh screens to fit over the engine covers.



The torsion bar suspension is quite simple but as it can hardly be seen once the wheels are in place, it's not that much of an issue. There are very good instructions as to how to fit the track together and from my limited experience of using this type of track I would suggest they are well worth following. A very basic

engine is included and it might be worth the effort to either replace or detail this as the engine bay cover can be modelled open if desired.

Three injection moulded pre-shaped lengths of tow cable are included and although they look OK for an out of the box build, purists will probably want to replace them. As mentioned earlier, PE brackets are supplied for the cable that is mounted along the hull side but not for those that sit on top of the hull and engine deck.

The turret has a small amount of additional detail inside it in the form of a basic gun breach, a pair of seats, some personal gear and a couple of electrical panels. The commander's and gunner's hatches can be posed open and have quite nice detail on the inside of them. This also applies to the two hatches on the front hull.

It would have been nice if a turned aluminium barrel had been provided but the three-part plastic one does seem to fit together pretty well and will no doubt look just as good.

The small decal sheet has three black and white crosses on it plus numbers for three different vehicles. All are in the overall sand with green/brown camouflage and come from the following units: 'Red III', from III Panzer-Kompanie, Hummel Panzer Brigade 106, Germany, April 1945; 'Black 411', from PzAbt.506, Ardennes Offensive, December 1944 and 'Red F01', Kompanie Fehrmann Kampfgruppe Schulze, Germany, April 1945.

Overall this is a nice simple kit to build, the detail is perhaps a little less crisp than some of Italeri's rivals, but is still not too bad and the finished model should look suitably impressive. Thoroughly recommended to modellers of all levels of ability. (Michael J. Thompson)

FACTS AND FIGURES

New releases for figures fans...

Author: Charles Davis

VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS

With the founder of Verlinden Productions, originally from Belgium now residing in the USA, Francois Verlinden having come out of retirement and taken up the reins of the company once again it has become revitalised. It is almost back to the days when there was a steady stream of new releases each month. Among the new releases for this month are some re-releases that, for those who missed them the first time around or weren't even into modelling, will come as a surprise when they see the level of sophistication.

1/35 British Tankers WWII

Lets kick-off with some 1/35 scale figure kits. Kit No. 2596 is, like all of them, a two-figure set representing British Tankers from WWII (in fact, all the figure kits are from WWII). There are 13 cream resin parts requiring careful removal from their respective pouring stubs. I quickly realised that the legs and torsos wearing the tanker overalls are identical, while the two heads are different, one wearing a 'tin' at and the other the RTC black beret, and the footwear, one wearing boots the other shoes, are also different. You have a choice of arm positioning with one holding binoculars and the other two boxes of 'stuff', probably ammo. Now, you might cry 'cheat' but once assembled, except for the fact that both figures are standing, it is hardly noticeable. Anyway, nothing says you have to place them both on the same diorama or vignette, and at a price of just £13.05 plus p&p these are quite 'easy on the pocket' in these austere times.



1/35 Recon Patrol

The next kit is from the opposing side. These two figures represent two Germans, officers I think, wearing winter clothing in the form of long, lambs wool-lined parkas. One is holding binoculars in his right hand and pointing with his left, while the other is holding a map in his left hand and his other mitten in his right. The two, interchangeable heads are represented wearing either a Russian-style lambs-wool lined cap with earflaps or a peaked cap. I must say I'm not too enthusiastic about the heads and, in all probability I will resort to the incomparable Mr Saunders' Hornet heads. However, if your pocket money doesn't stretch that far, with a good paint job, the kit-supplied heads



will suffice. The other 'niggle' is that I assume these figures represent the Wehrmacht on the Russian front and it is well-known that Germany was ill-prepared for a winter campaign and had to turn to the populace to supply winter clothing to the troops.

These two figures must have been incredibly lucky for them both to be supplied with scarce Wehrmacht-issue winter clothing. This two-figure kit also retails at £13.05 plus p&p.

1/35 Death Run

Soviet Infantry 'Death Run' represents two Russian infantrymen charging forward with total disregard for the, usually, inevitable death or wounds. How any survived is beyond my comprehension. This must also be a winter scenario as both are dressed in heavy great-coats, mittens, and lambs-wool lined headgear.



There's quite a lot of resin parts to this set with many of them doubled up, i.e. upper body, hands holding rifles, and accoutrements. However, there are enough different parts to assemble two quite different figures, albeit both running forward. It goes without saying that these two figures need to be together to get the effect of a bloodlust charge.

This set really is worth its price of £13.05 plus p&p.

1/35 British Infantry WWII Bren Team

The final figure kit from Verlinden for this month is another British set. No. 2603 represents a British two-man Bren Gun Team. Once again, Verlinden has managed to keep the price down by using identical parts where possible without affecting the overall impression when assembled, in this case upper body, boots and accoutrements. Unlike most other sets representing Bren gun teams, these two are shown standing up, with the MG supported by a tank, although it could quite easily be a wall or any type of cover. I like this set as it has a 'realistic' feel about it.



As with all the other figure kits, I do feel that they would be improved with Hornet heads, but only if one's financial resources will stretch.

This new kit retails, yes you've guessed it, for £13.05 plus p&p. All these kits are incredible value for money and Verlinden is to be admired for allowing us 'not so flush' to continue with our hobby during these austere times.

YOUNG MINIATURES

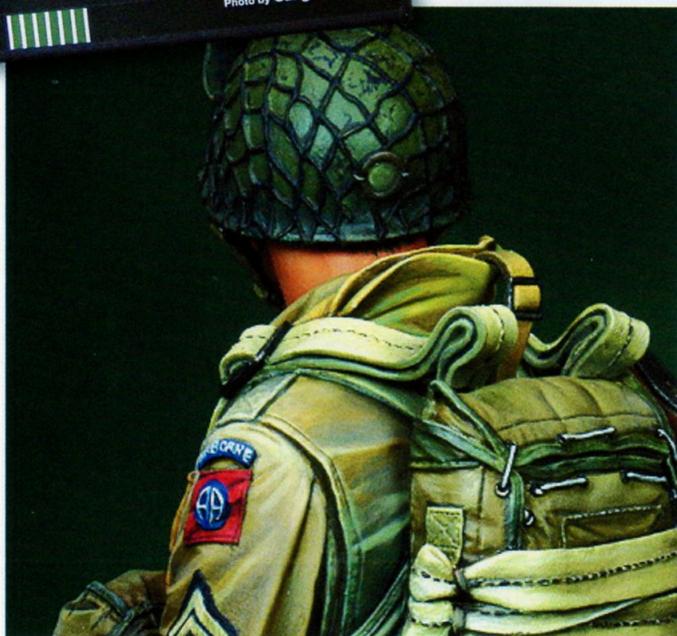
1/10 US Paratrooper, 82nd Airborne, Normandy, 1944

It goes without saying that a month without a new Young Miniatures bust is an incomplete one. Well, the new one is, as usual, a superbly crafted bust from the talented hands of Young B Song. Kit reference YM1824, is a companion piece to the earlier 101st Airborne (YM1807) bust and together they make a wonderful tribute to those brave men who leapt into the night on 6th June 1944 to begin the liberation of Europe from the yoke of the Nazis.

Crisply cast in Young's usual ochre resin, the kit comes in 15 parts that fit together like the proverbial glove. In fact, such was the tightness of the fit I required no filler at all, which is really unusual even for the very best kits. In a way, I was disappointed because it left me just having to undercoat and start painting. I do like to feel as though I have done some modelling! Still, if the fit was not 'spot on' I would complain, so it would seem you just can't win, sorry Song.



Joking aside, this is a great kit and I thoroughly recommend it. YM1824 retails at £38.00 plus £3.95 p&p and is available from Historex Agents or Young Miniatures, www.young-miniatures.com 693, Un-Dae 1ri, Seo-Myeon, Gyeong-Ju, Gyeong-Buk, Korea.



FACTS AND FIGURES

New releases for figures fans...

Author: Charles Davis



ANDREA MINIATURES

54 mm Trooper, 7th Cavalry, 1876

Andrea Miniatures' offerings for this month include two, 54 mm 19th Century cavalry figures, albeit from both sides of the Atlantic.

The first one is from that iconic, almost mythical US cavalry unit, the 7th. It is of a cavalryman carrying his saddle in one hand and a Springfield carbine in the other. Is he about to saddle his mount or has he been unhorsed during a skirmish with hostiles? For those of you in the know, 1876 was a seminal year for this famous regiment because during that year it was first commanded by the flamboyant but headstrong Lieutenant-Colonel, breveted Major General for the duration of the campaign, George A Custer. He was, second, to lead



his regiment into disaster by underestimating his enemy and splitting his forces. Yes, it was the year of the Battle of the Little Bighorn when Custer, along with over 200 of his men were wiped out by a combined force of Lakota Sioux, Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho under Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse and Chief Gall.

The figure wears a grey shirt over red long-johns, cavalry trousers, calf-length boots and a slouch hat. Around his waist is a cartridge belt carrying a closed holster with an army Colt. Over his shoulder is a wide belt holding the carbine swivel. This is a well-done kit, cast in white metal. The only item I would change would be the slouch hat because, in a very short time, they became shapeless due to immersion in water (they were great for scooping water from rivers). Bending the brim will do! A little filler was required here and there to make nice, tight joins. Otherwise, this was quite a simple assembly job and a dynamic-looking figure when painted.

S14F1 retails at £25.85 plus £2.95 p&p.

54 mm Spanish Cavalry Officer

The other figure, also in 54 mm, is from the Spanish-American War of 1898. This short-lived war was all over in ten weeks and will be remembered for 'Teddy' Roosevelt's Rough Riders and the cry of 'Remember the Maine' about the American battleship that mysteriously sank in Havana harbour. Even though the war was short and an overwhelming victory for the burgeoning might of the United States, the Spanish were not completely overwhelmed and indeed gave a good account of themselves during a number of engagements. Their main problem being their inability to reinforce their dwindling forces whereas the Americans were fighting on their own doorstep.

One thing that gave the Americans a fright was that it was the first time that the Spanish, indeed any army, used smokeless powder that enabled them to fire at the enemy without giving away their position.



TOYZERIA

Toys, License and Games Exhibition
Oyuncak, Lisans, Oyun ve Oyun Ekipmanları Fuarı

To return to the kit, it is also cast in white metal with the parts assembling with little problem and requiring, like the 7th Cavalryman just a little filler here and there. With the officer's colourful uniform this makes into an unusual, yet attractive figure.

SGF151 also retails at £25.85 plus £2.95 p&p.

Draramis, Healing Light

The final Andrea kit for the month is for the fantasy fans among you and I assure you, you will not be disappointed. This is, to my mind, one of the best-designed figures I've seen for some time because the sculptor has given the impression of a figure hanging in the air. WS28 is from Andrea's continuing Warlord Saga series of fantasy figures. It is a female figure floating in the air and holding aloft the healing light of the title. Around the figure's waist a long swirling train and it is this that supports her. In her right hand she holds some sort of weapon.

Assembly was no problem but make sure the right leg fit is snug, I used some gap filling superglue to ensure a good join. Otherwise, it is up to the painter to bring this figure alive. If successful in painting the large expanses of flesh then it will result in a superb figure that will be a welcome addition to any cabinet, if not competition table.

WS28 retails at £30.90 plus £3.95 p&p. All Andrea figures are available from Historex Agents, www.HistorexAgents.com Wellington House, 157 Snargate Street, Dover, Kent, CT17 9BZ, UK or Andrea Miniatures, www.andrea-miniatures.com C/ Los Talleres, 21, Pol. Ind. de Alpedrete, 28430Alpedrete Madrid, Spain.



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THE BRIEFING ROOM

When, where and what's happening

Author: John Norris

This Month's News...

As we are all aware modelling is a truly international hobby enjoyed by countless thousands and the supporting magazines are widely read by these modellers. One of our readers from Oxford, Nick Oliver Kalimeris, has contacted us to pass on details of a major show in Greece. This might be one for readers who may be on holiday there at the same time, the Helmo Model Show will be held in Aigio in Greece between the 4th and 7th November inclusive. It promises to be '...one of the biggest plastic modelling events...' with displays and exhibitions. Further details can be found on the Website at: www.helmo.gr

[helmo.gr](http://www.helmo.gr)

Regular readers will know that earlier this year we started to compile a list of top ten war films which would be of interest to modellers. Things happened which caused a change in this idea and we now invite readers to send in their suggestions for films rather than creating another list of films. Some of the suggestions we have received so far have been very good including some titles not readily familiar in the main stream. Regular reader Ian Josland has contacted us with his list of films he suggests might be interesting to modellers. He lists Stalingrad (German language), Cross of Iron, The Pianist, Paths of Glory and Breaker Morant. From the list it is interesting to note that Paths of Glory, starring Kirk Douglas, was a very controversial film. Released in 1958 and filmed very starkly in black and white it sets the tone of the First World War. The story of French soldiers facing a firing squad led to it being banned in France until 1975. Several other countries also stopped it from being screened, but today it is regarded as telling film. Well chosen, Ian we are sure readers will appreciate your suggestions. Remember to keep sending in your films.

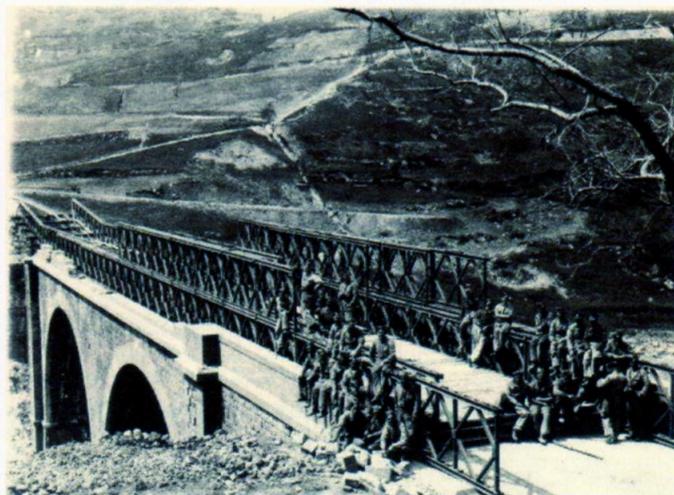
From time to time we pass on details of incidents involving wartime ammunition, which does have an appeal to collectors. Sometimes these incidents have tragic consequences and each serves as a warning to all that we should not take such things for granted even if purchased at a collectors' fair, such as happened recently in France. A couple visiting a bric-a-brac market in Paris purchased an artillery shell dating from around 1885 thinking it would make an unusual and interesting item to display. As they tried to board the Eurostar train to return to Britain they were stopped by a security official at the Gare du Nord Station who recognised the item in question. On closer inspection it was discovered that the artillery shell was still live and could potentially explode at any time. The special bomb disposal team arrived and took the device away for destruction. Another disaster was narrowly averted and another lesson to us to be careful when collecting such items.

At re-enactment events and military vehicle gatherings one often sees field kitchens being used to prepare food for members of a group in realistic style; check out the attached photograph. Feeding troops is as essential today as it always has been. For example, in the 18th century it was calculated that an army of 60,000 men consumed 45 tons of bread daily. This had to be baked each day and that food was without taking into account meat. There are some great kits available of WWII German army field kitchens, referred to as 'Goulashkannones' by the troops. They make for an interesting feature in diorama from the 1939 Polish Campaign to the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. Kits of field kitchens are being produced by MiniArt, including Russian cooking facilities complete with cooks, so check out the Website.

Although it is November it is not too early to start looking for those Christmas presents that will be ideal for the modeller. At the recent War & Peace Show a stallholder trading as The Wooden Model was offering items, which might just fit the bill. He produces hand-carved replica model of tanks, aircraft and other items which would sit nicely in a hobby room or book shelves of any modeller. The Tiger tank, for example, is well made and other vehicles look very attractive. The Website to check out items is at: www.thewoodenmodelcompany.co.uk

Regular readers of MIS will know that we like to encourage event organisers to send in details of their event as far ahead as possible in order that we may include them in the date list and avoid disappointment. We have just had notice from Ken Almen, the secretary of the Greater Peterborough Modelling Club, to inform us of the annual model show which is going to be held on 5th March 2011. Now that

is called being organised. We will be announcing further details of the event closer to the time. So do not think it is too soon to let us know about events in 2011. Follow Ken's lead and send in those details.



From The Archives...

This month's photo from the files is a WWII image showing a Bailey bridge being built over a ravine near the town of Randazzo (also to be found written as Randazzo), which lies on the slopes of Mount Etna in Sicily. The invasion of Sicily, codenamed Operation Husky, was put into action on 10th July 1943 and took the Germans and Italians almost by total surprise following a brilliant deception plan called Operation Mincemeat. The deception, told in the book *The Man Who Never Was* and the film of the same title, fooled the Germans into believing the Allies were going to invade Greece and Sardinia. This left the defences in Sicily unprepared, but even so the campaign lasted over five weeks and cost the Americans 7,319 casualties and the British 9,353 casualties. The Italians and Germans lost more than 160,000 killed and captured.

This picture is dated 1943 and shows what appears to be a group of Royal Engineers and sappers having completed the building of a Bailey Bridge to span the destroyed bridge. From the relaxed atmosphere and lack of any apparent weapons it would be safe to assume the area was clear of any enemy. If any reader has further information to add to what we know of the picture we would like to hear from them by Email to: john.norris3@btinternet.com

And Finally...

For this month just a reminder of our readers' list of favourite war films. We asked you to send in your votes to compile a list of your all-time favourite war films from a modelling point of view. It could be any subject and either a classic or a more recent film. We have already received a number of votes and they make for interesting study. At MAW a similar list of aviation films is being compiled, so if you would like to submit your suggestions please do so by Emailing your votes to: john.norris3@btinternet.com

This Month's Dates...

16th October 2010

The Northern Branch of the BMSS is holding its annual competition at Sale Moor Methodist Church. All are welcome. Further details telephone 0161 499 2803

17th October 2010

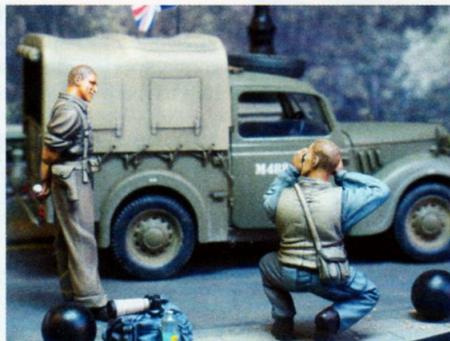
The Lincoln and Newark Model Clubs, regional branches of the IPMS, have once again joined together to present their annual Model Expo Show which will be held at the Grandstand, Southwell Racecourse, Nottingham. Entrance to Expo 2010 is free. Traders' stalls, competitions and club displays. Further details telephone 01522 804661

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FROM THE ASHES...

The Editor completes his 'Then... And Now!' diorama by building and painting a fully restored Austin Tilly and its modern-day home...



EURO MILITAIRE 2010

We bring you all of the highlights seen at this year's showcase event in Folkestone



FROM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN...

A perennial favourite, the glorious Mitsubishi Zero looks superb in miniature – as proved by Fausto Muto next month as he builds the Hasegawa kit

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WHAT A PUP!

Haris Ali builds the incredible Wingnut Wings Sopwith Pup, tackling a multitude of different finishes and weathering effects along the way

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BEDFORD QL

TWO NEW SUBJECTS FOR 2010

A03306 1:76 BEDFORD QL TRUCKS

The Bedford QL was in production from 1941 to 1945. Approximately 52,250 were produced in total. The troop carrier (QLT) and the general purpose cargo truck (QLD), the most numerous version in the series are both included in this set. (Figures not included)

A50060 1:76 THE WESTERN FRONT

The diorama base is a model replica of a typical trench layout found on the Western Front. The stalemate was eventually broken by not only the courage of these soldiers, but also by the use of the new mechanised weapon - the tank.



A50060 WW1 The Western Front



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