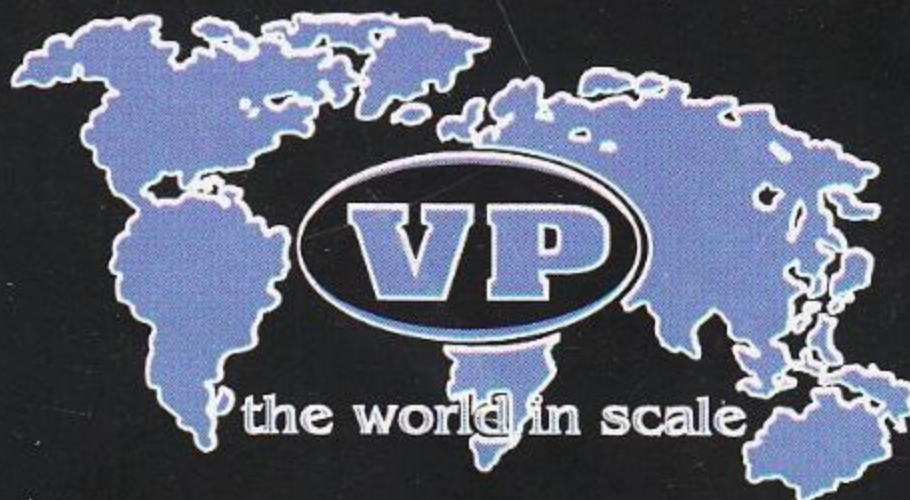


VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS

Modeling

In this issue

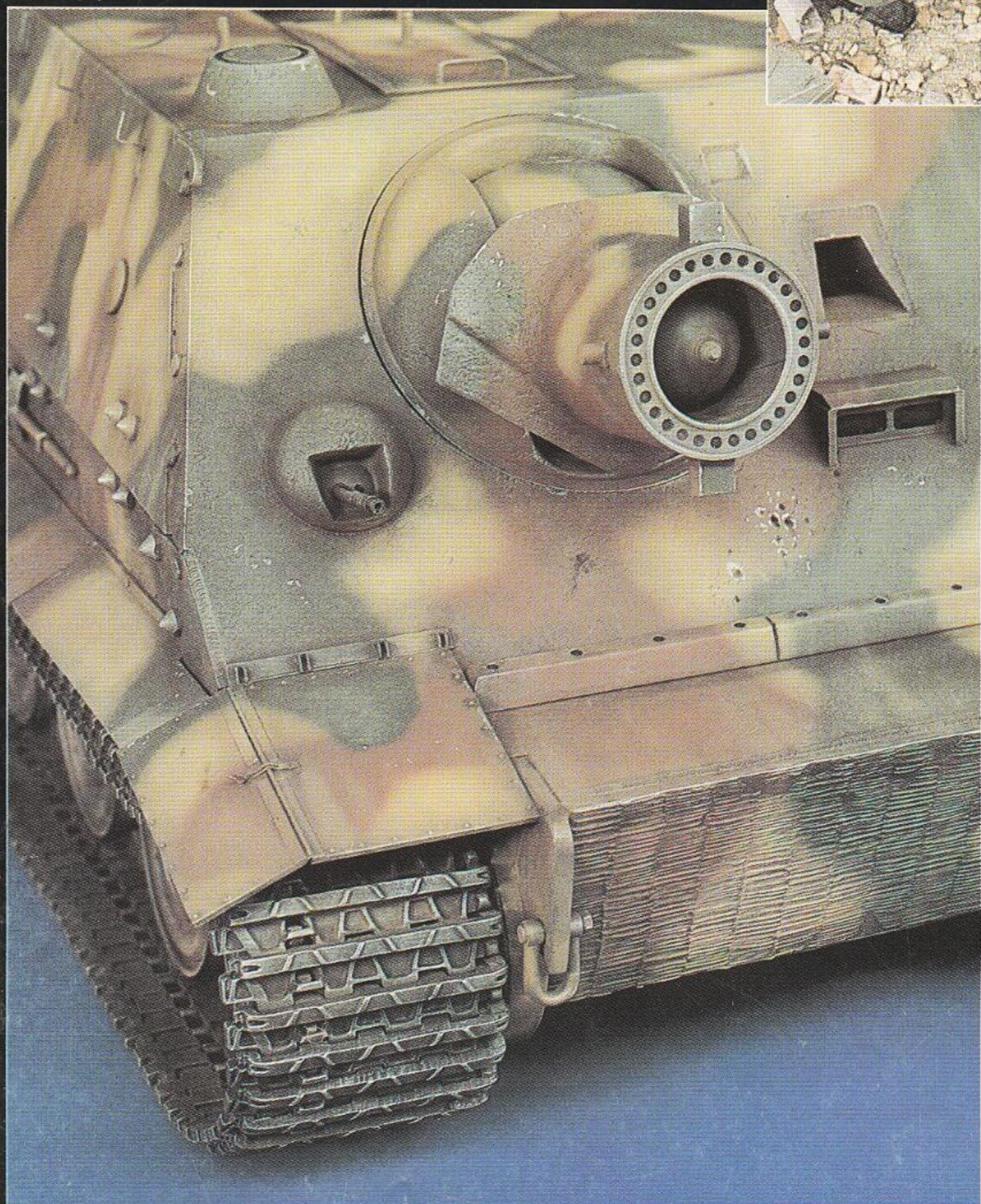
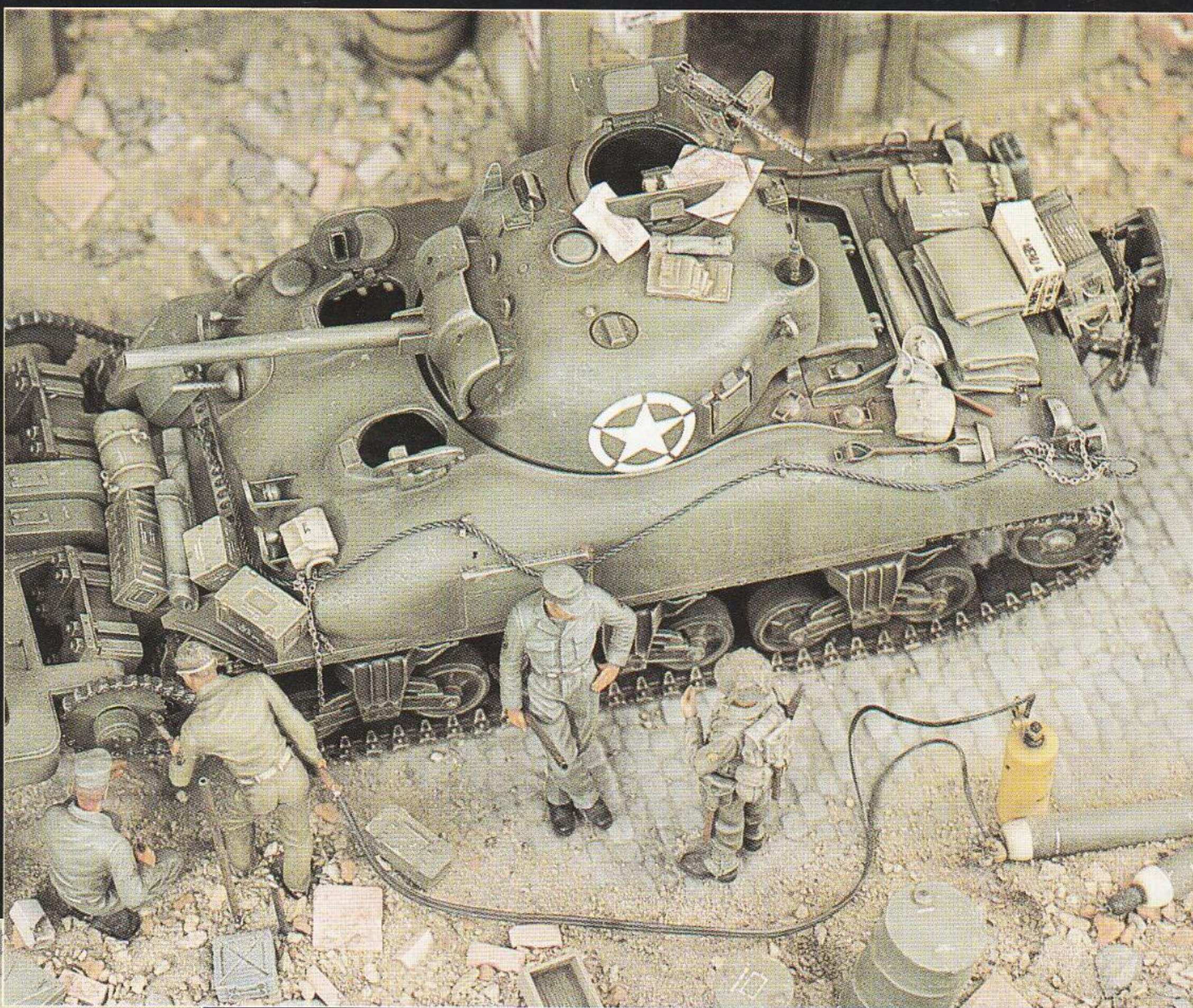


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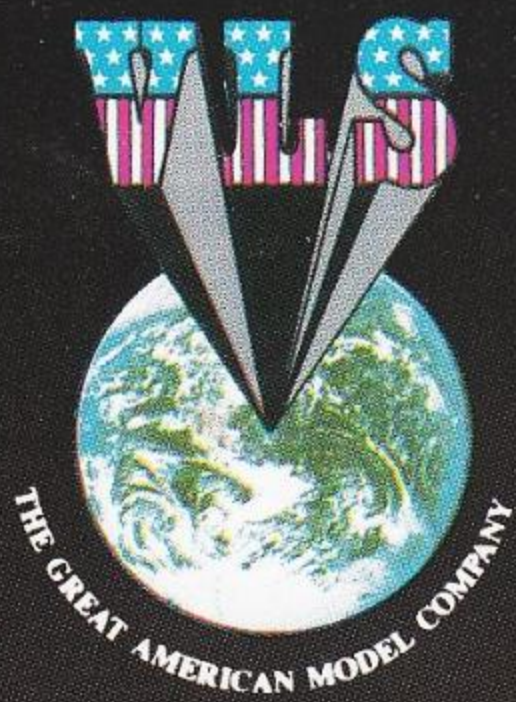
Three dioramas
in 1:35th scale

DINNER FOR ONE
END OF THE ROAD
BORDER CROSSING

READERS CORNER
VP GAZETTE



UNIFORM PAINTING GUIDE : WAFEN SS
M113 IN THE FIELD

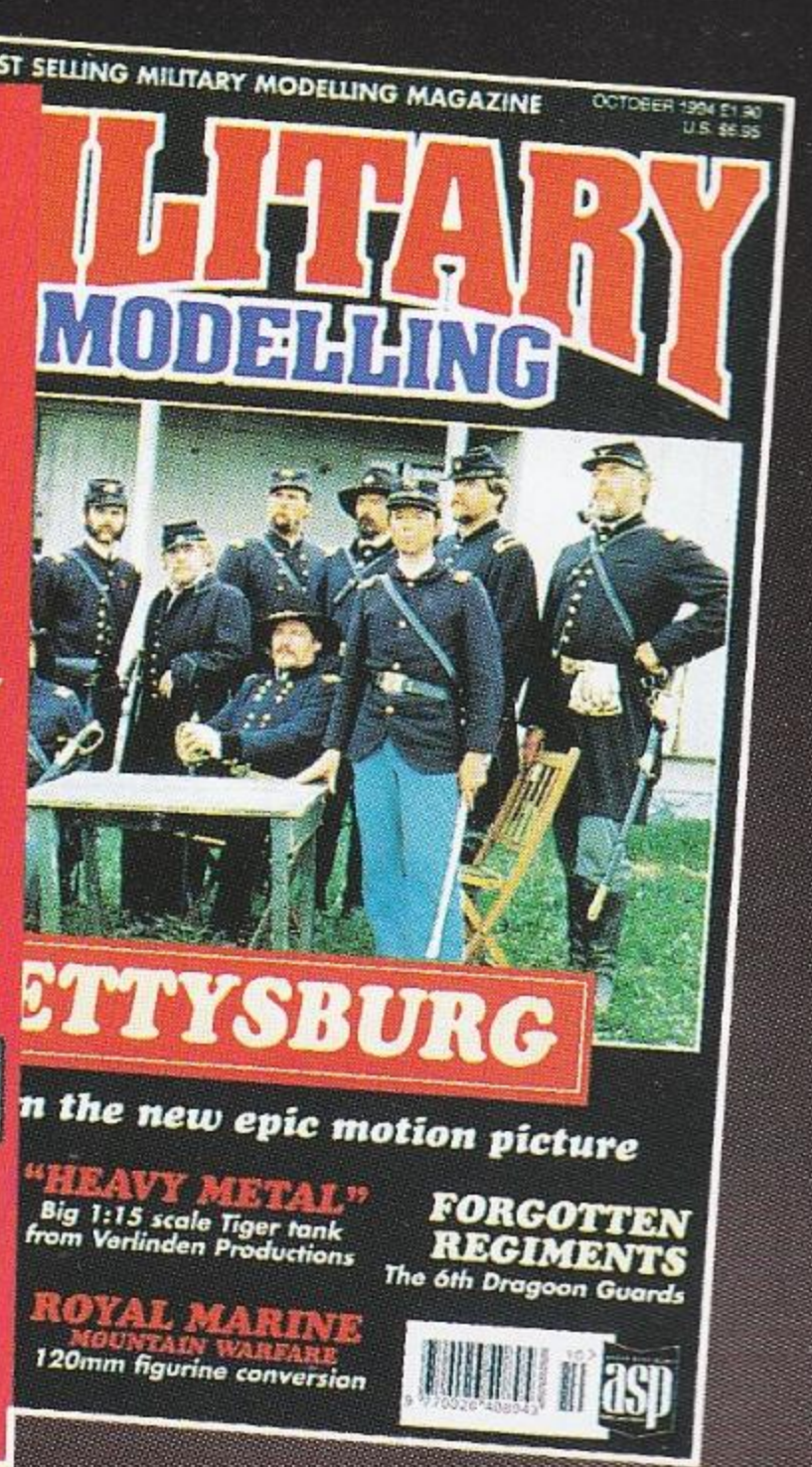
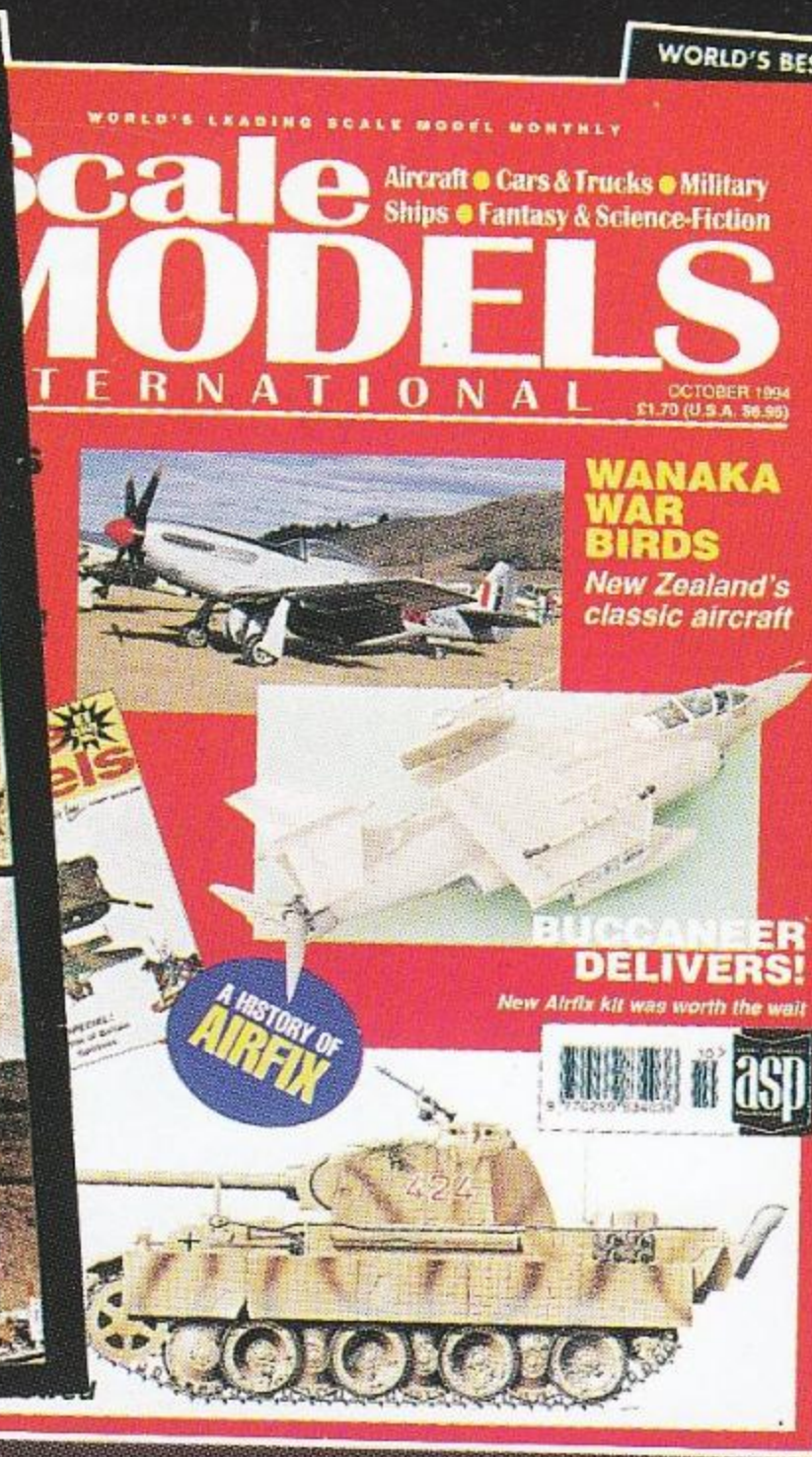
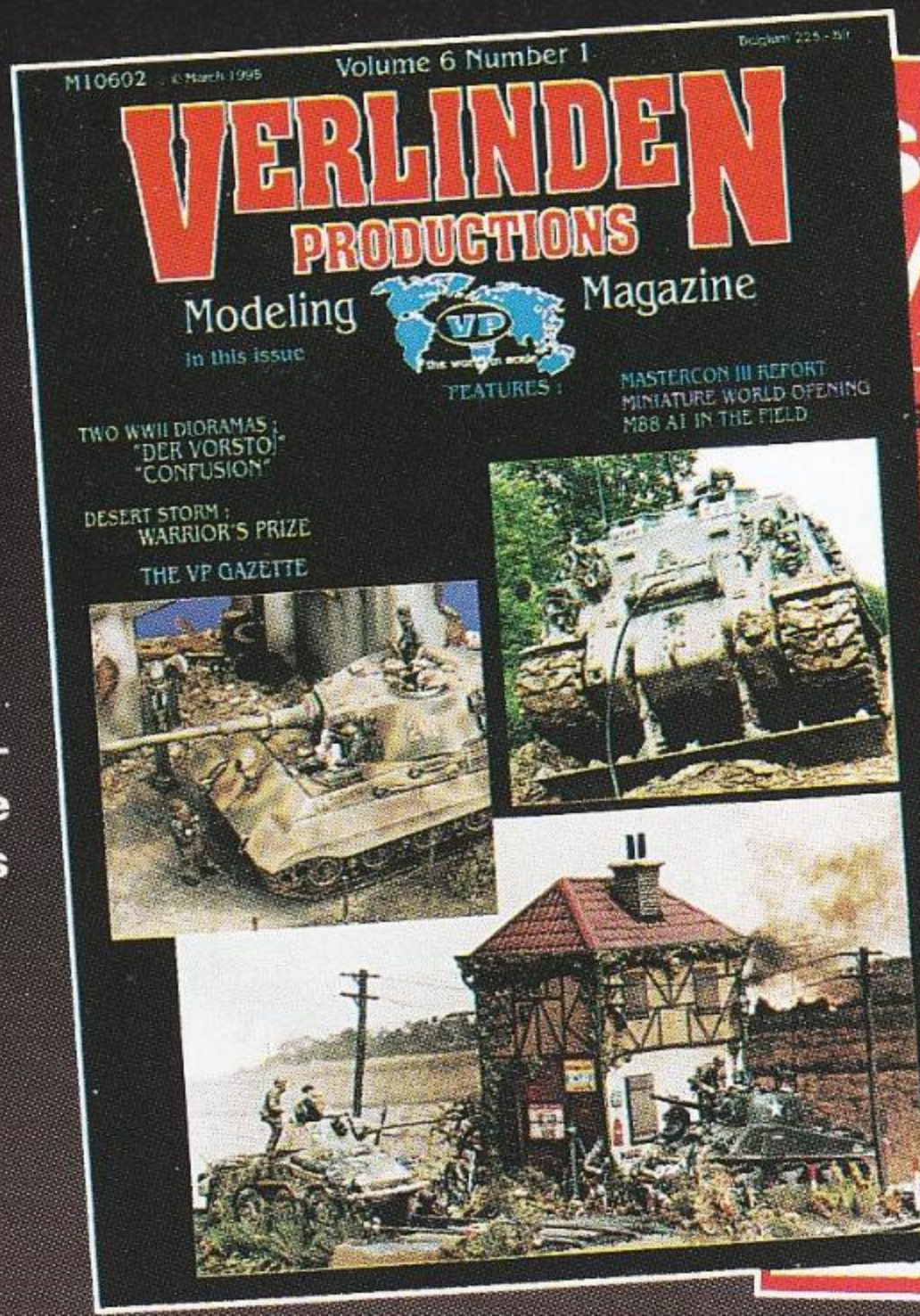


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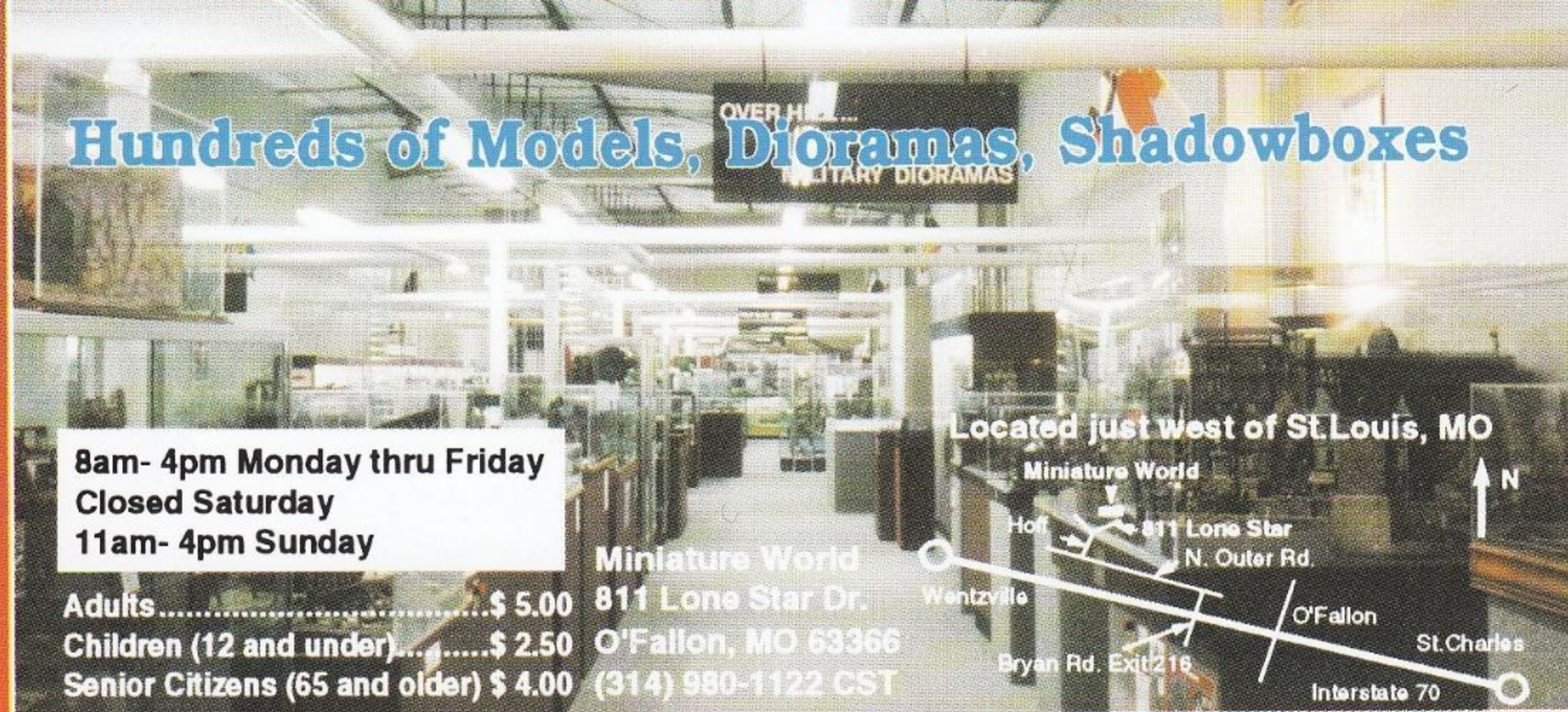
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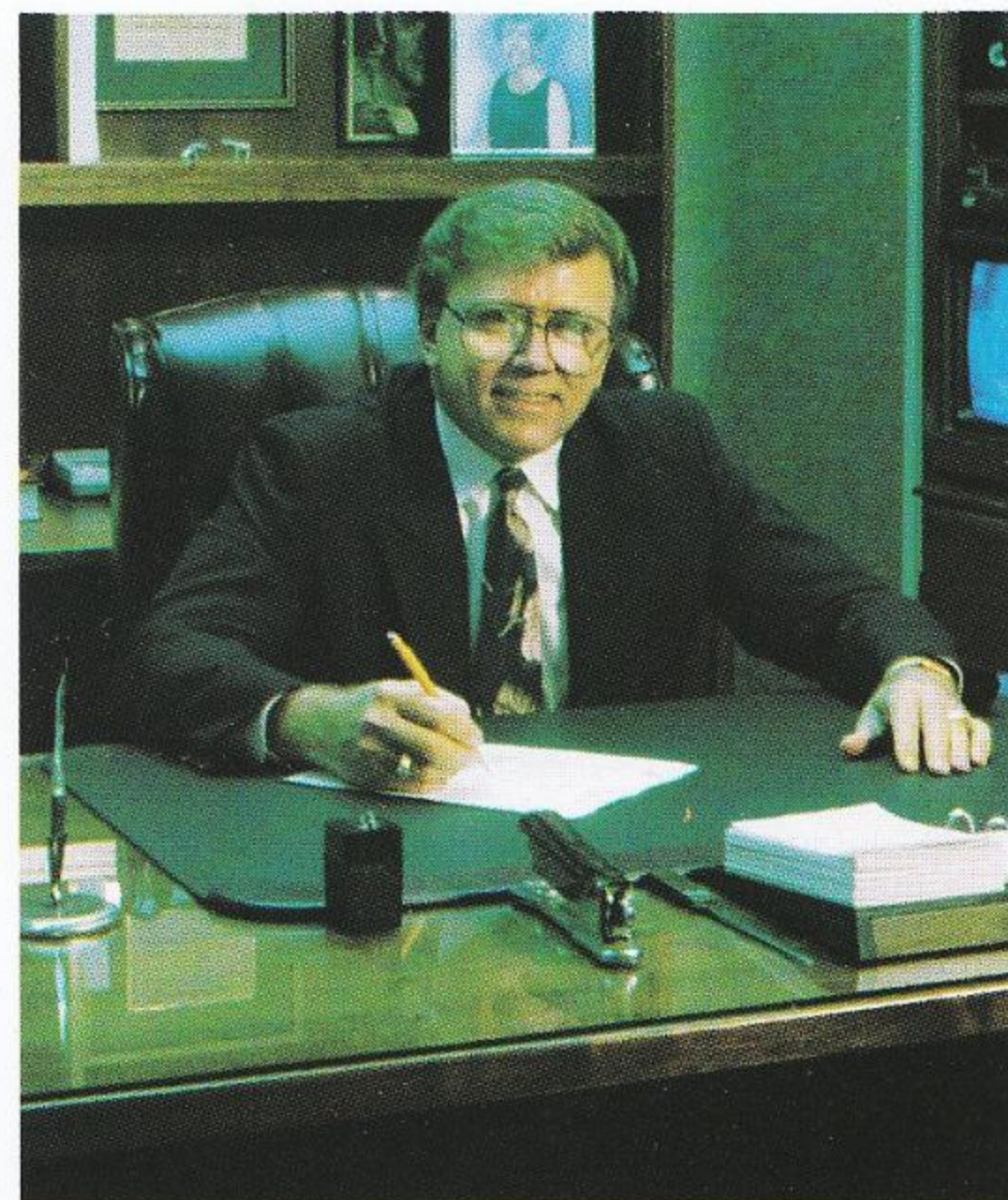
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Editorial

By US Editor Bob Letterman
Craft, Art, or Collecting?

I spent my first 35 years modeling alone. I never knew or learned from another modeler. When I joined a club 15 years ago, My skills and knowledge of techniques grew rapidly. I had found some people with whom I could share those ideas and techniques. Until then, my only concern was whether or not it looked real. I quickly discovered there were modelers who are more concerned with the "correctness" than the "look", **(And there is a difference)**. I then embarked on my "correctness" period, (about three years). I found that from my personal viewpoint, there is no end to being accurate, and found myself headed directly into "Advanced modelers syndrome". My enjoyment of building was fading rapidly. It was about this time that I realized Scale modeling is not a single hobby, but three distinct hobbies; technical modeling, model kit collecting and artistic modeling. Most everyone involved will fit one of these categories.



You would think that having model kits as a common interest, the different types would enjoy the others perspectives. The problem is their priorities. The collector is interested in his collection. The technical modeler is determined to build an exact duplicate of the real thing, bolt for bolt, in miniature. He usually builds single models. The artistic modeler mostly builds dioramas and uses an opposite approach, creating illusions to accomplish realism. Sheperd Paine is one of the best known modelers in the world. His books and magazine articles offer no apologies for using artistic license and "Gizmology". Technical modelers grimace at those words. I've always admired his work and his creativity, as do most modelers. After all, he practically "invented" advanced scale modeling all by himself. The artistic modeler does research, kit corrections and detailing as well as his technical counterpart. It's just that his focus is the "look" rather than exact millimeters and centimeters. The artistic modeler has difficulty understanding how someone would want to take a year to build a model that, although accurate and the exact FS color, mostly ignores scale effect. The technical modeler measures the artists tank barrel and finds it 1 mm too short. The Collector looks at both and wonders how they could be so insane as to destroy a rare kit by building it.

I appreciate both types of modeling, but I would prefer to have a tooth drilled than go back to my correctness period. I'm sure the technical modelers would share the same sentiments for what I do! Different strokes! Perhaps these differences are the reason for the politics that grid lock some model clubs. It is like having a "Political club", consisting of 33% members from the left, 33% Right, and the rest from the Center. You know, just like the government! Lighten up! We have a lot more in common than not.

Bob Letterman

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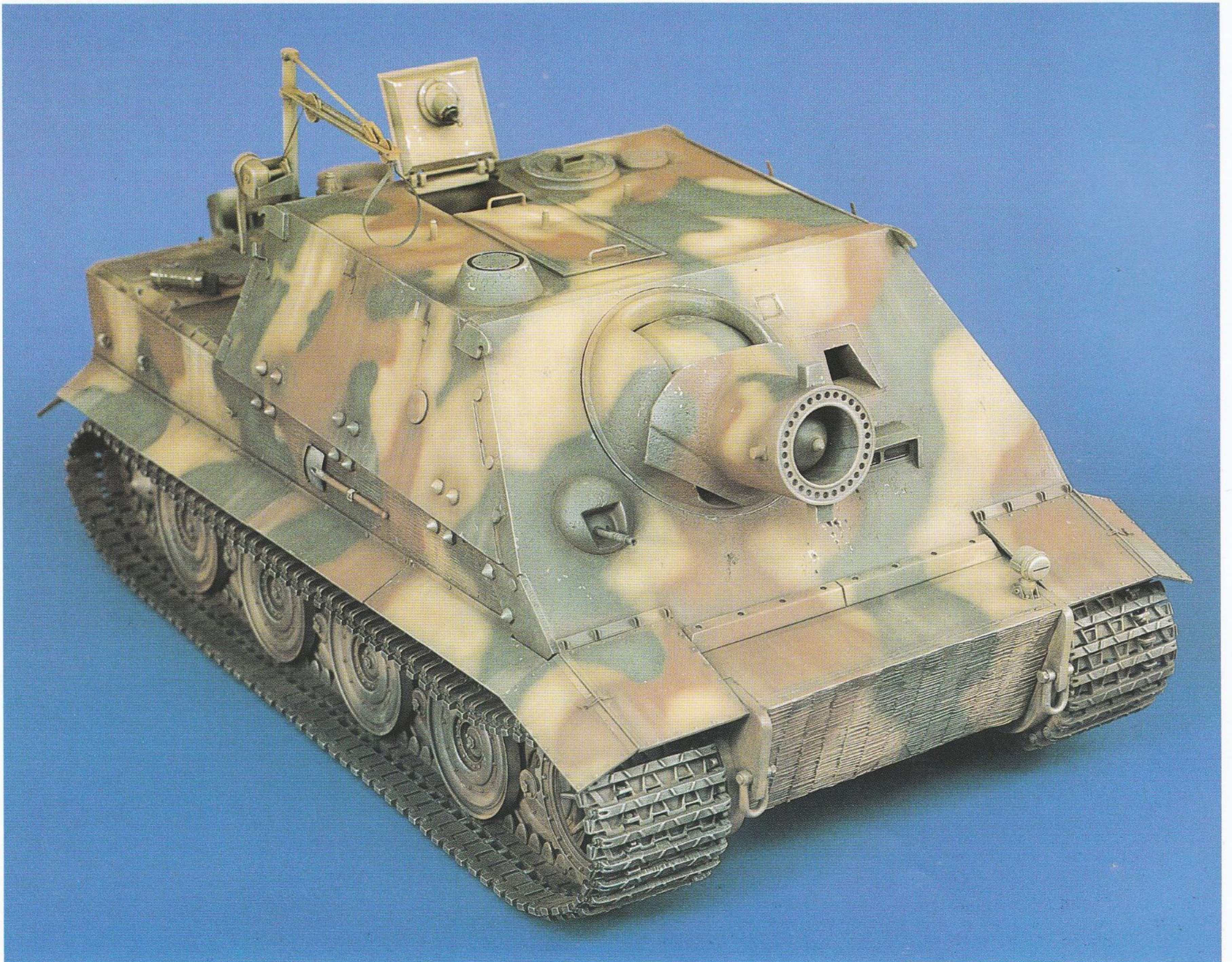
STURMTIGER

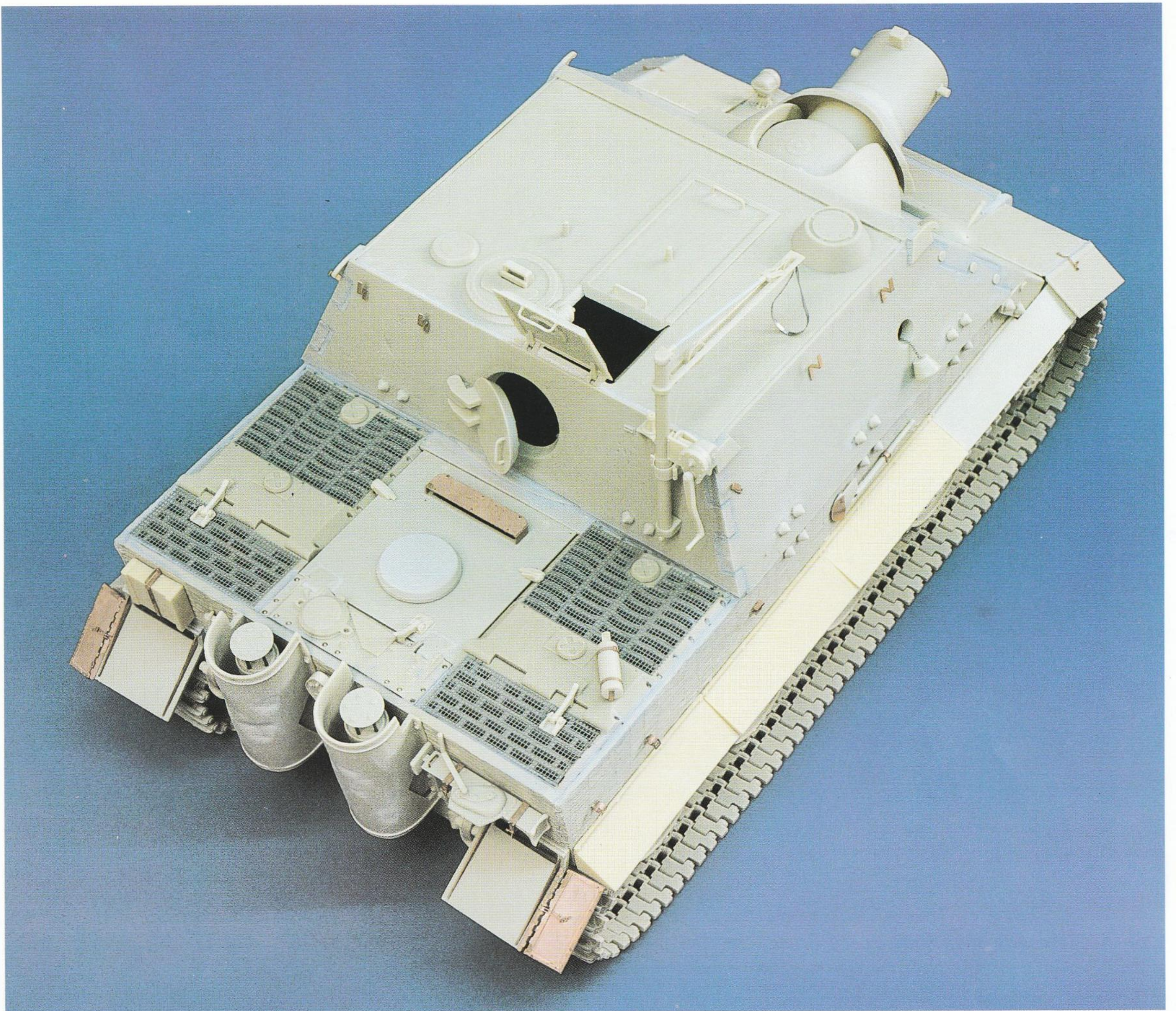
in 1:15th Scale

German 38cm Heavy Assault Mortar

The request by the German army for a heavy mortar to be used as infantry support was placed in 1941. The reply to that request finally came during 1944 in the form of the Sturmtiger.

Battle damaged Tiger IE's which were being returned from the front for overhaul were converted to Sturmtigers. Turrets were stripped from the tanks and hulls adapted to receive a new superstructure mounting the RW 61 rocket launcher. Only some 18 vehicles were actually completed and sent to the front where they saw action during the battle of the bulge and later in defense of the Reich.



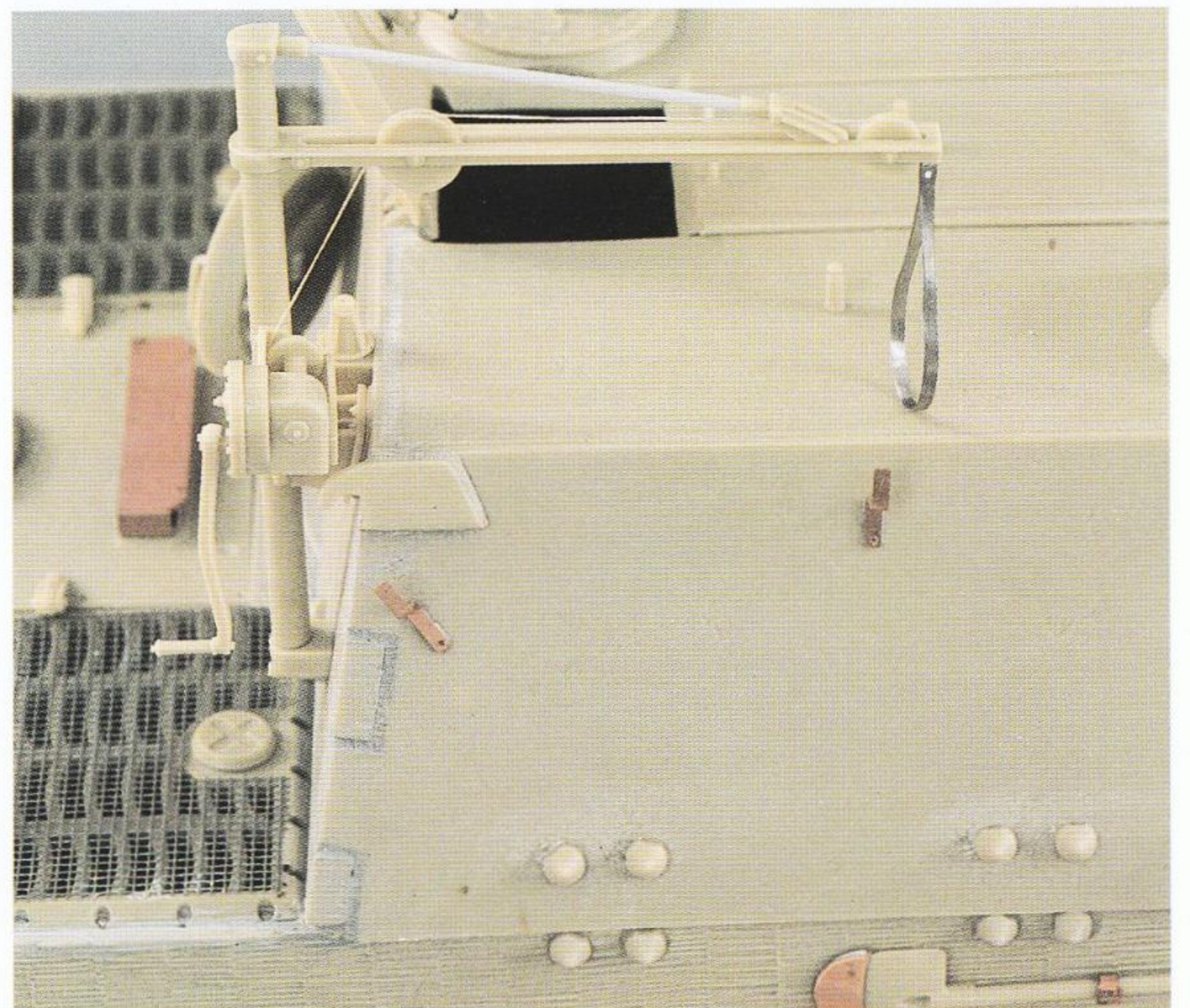


The completed model prior to airbrushing. Note where the armor plates meet. (next to the welding beads) If any seams are visible, use thinned modeling putty to close any tiny gaps.

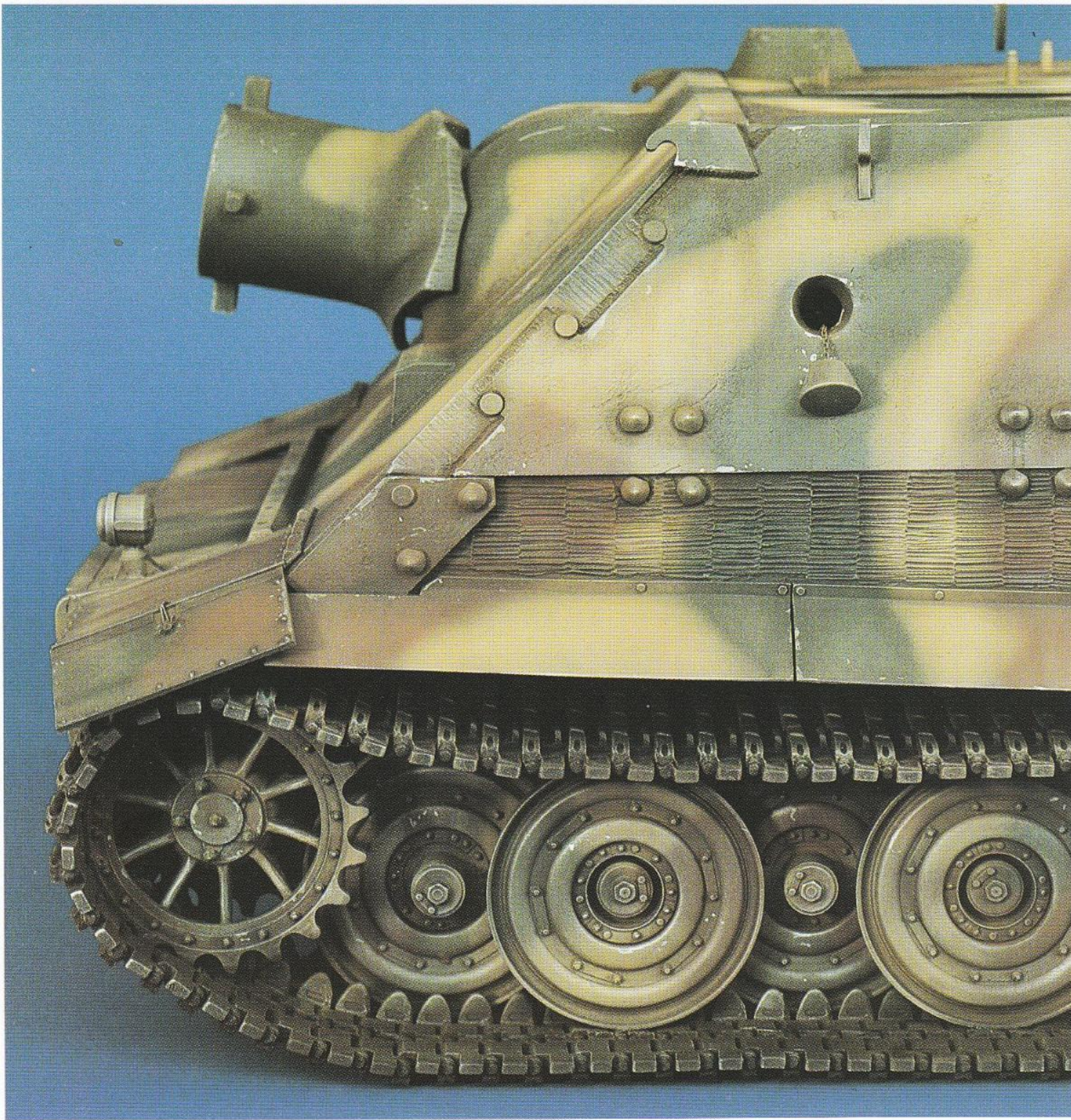
After the release of VP's Tiger IE, the logical choice for a follow up was obviously a kit of the Sturmtyger. By the time this magazine goes to press the kit should be in modelshops everywhere.

As with with the real thing, the basic hull components are adapted to receive the box like fighting compartment with the rocket launcher. This compartment consists of five, flat casted parts, separated at the welding seams, the same as with the real Sturmtyger.

Care has to be taken when fitting the compartment to the Tiger hull. Test fitting is a must to ensure a perfect fit. If you choose to fit the new VP Tiger I Engine Compartment designed for the Tiger I, you must do so before gluing the superstructure permanently to the hull. Exceptional care was taken on detail while engineering this kit. It is all there: welding seems, textured armor plating, even complete to the zimmerit. All hatches (even the pistol ports) can be in open or closed position allowing the modeler who wants to take the effort, to scratch build the interior. Also enclosed with the kit is a sheet of mesh wire for the engine vents and one 38cm shell.

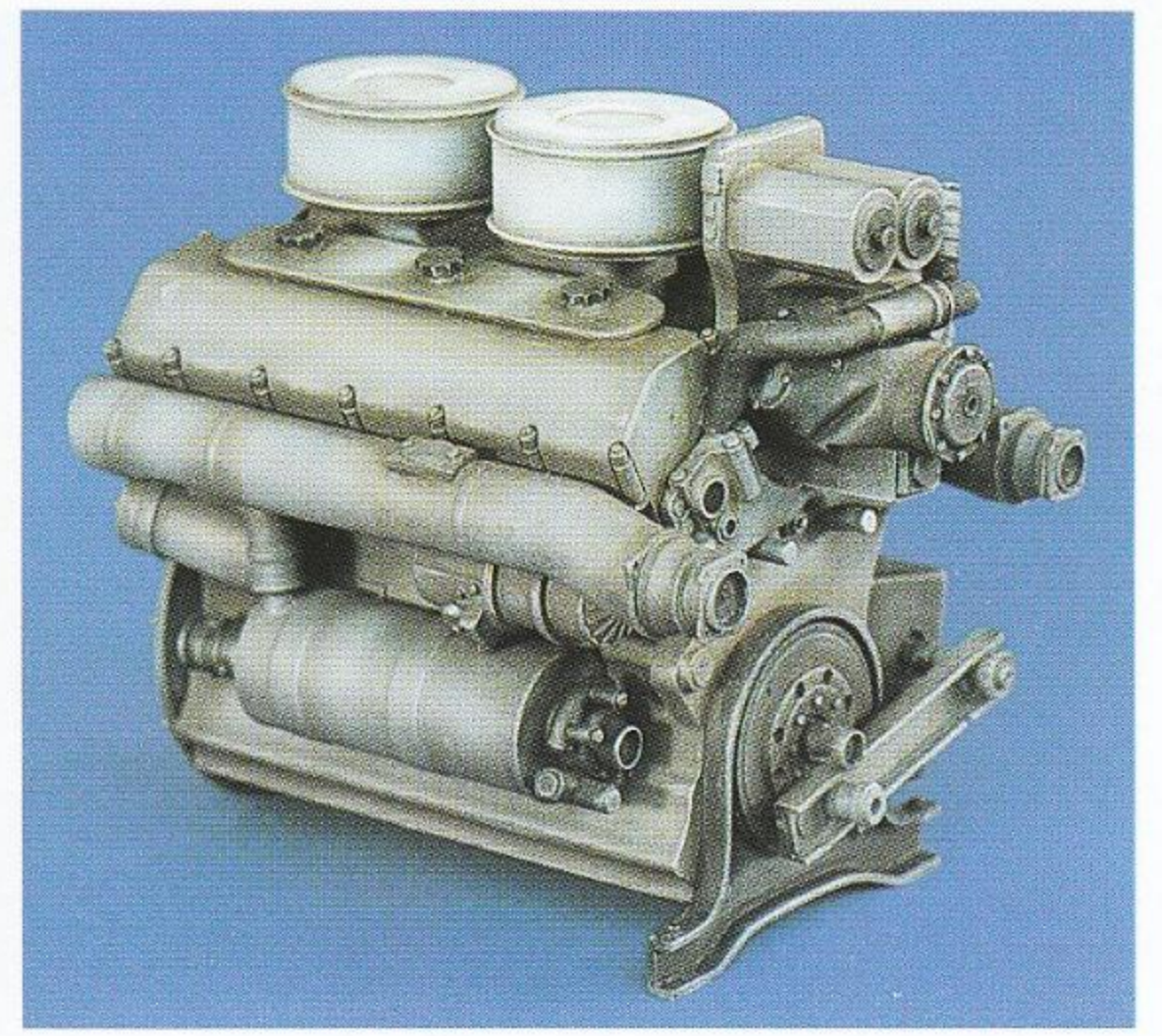


The small crane for hoisting the massive 38cm shell. a strip of lead sheet is used to make the strap holding the shell. Also note the realistic armor plate texturing.

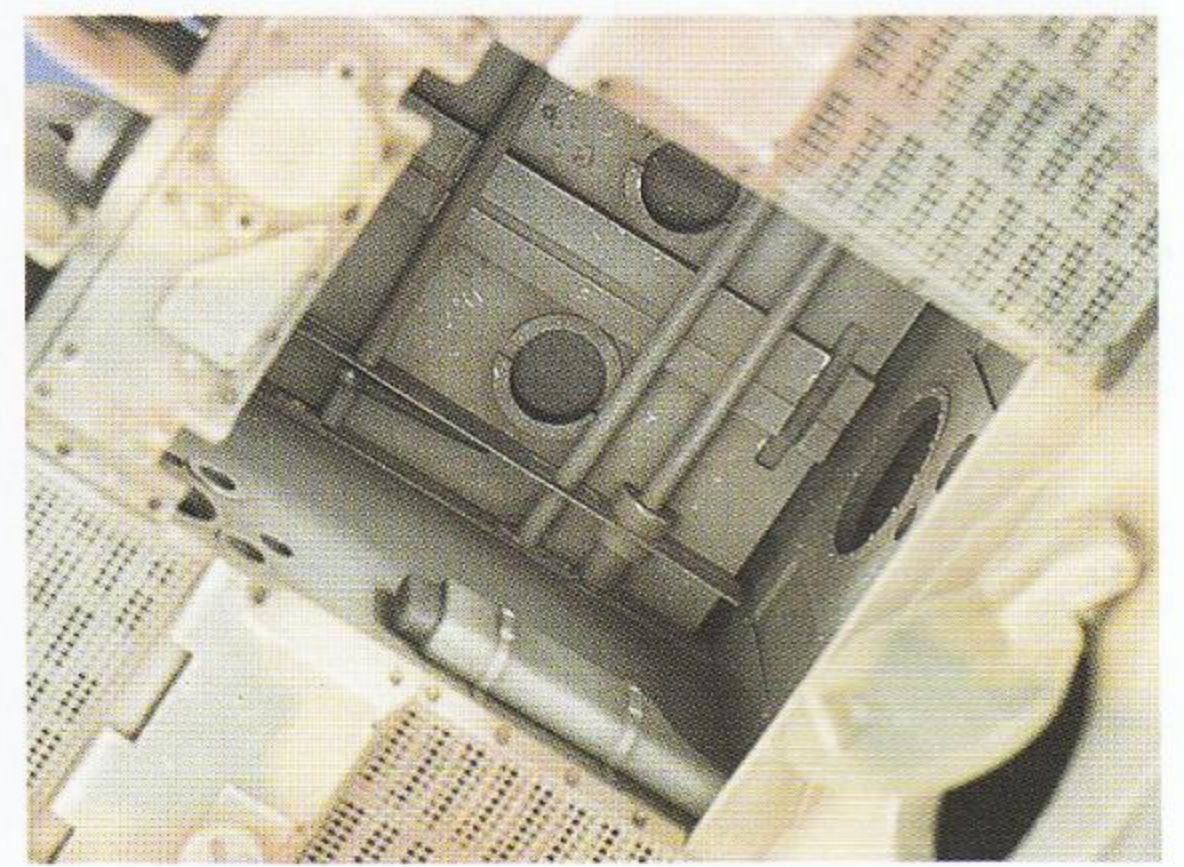


This view clearly illustrates the realistic "torch cut" armor plates and gun shield and is also a good reference for painting and weathering.

Our example was airbrushed in the three tone dark yellow-red brown and green camouflage scheme and received a "wash" of different shades of dirty browns. Drybrushing was done with one slightly lighter shade of the three basic colors and finally with a metalizing run. The finish was completed with pastels.

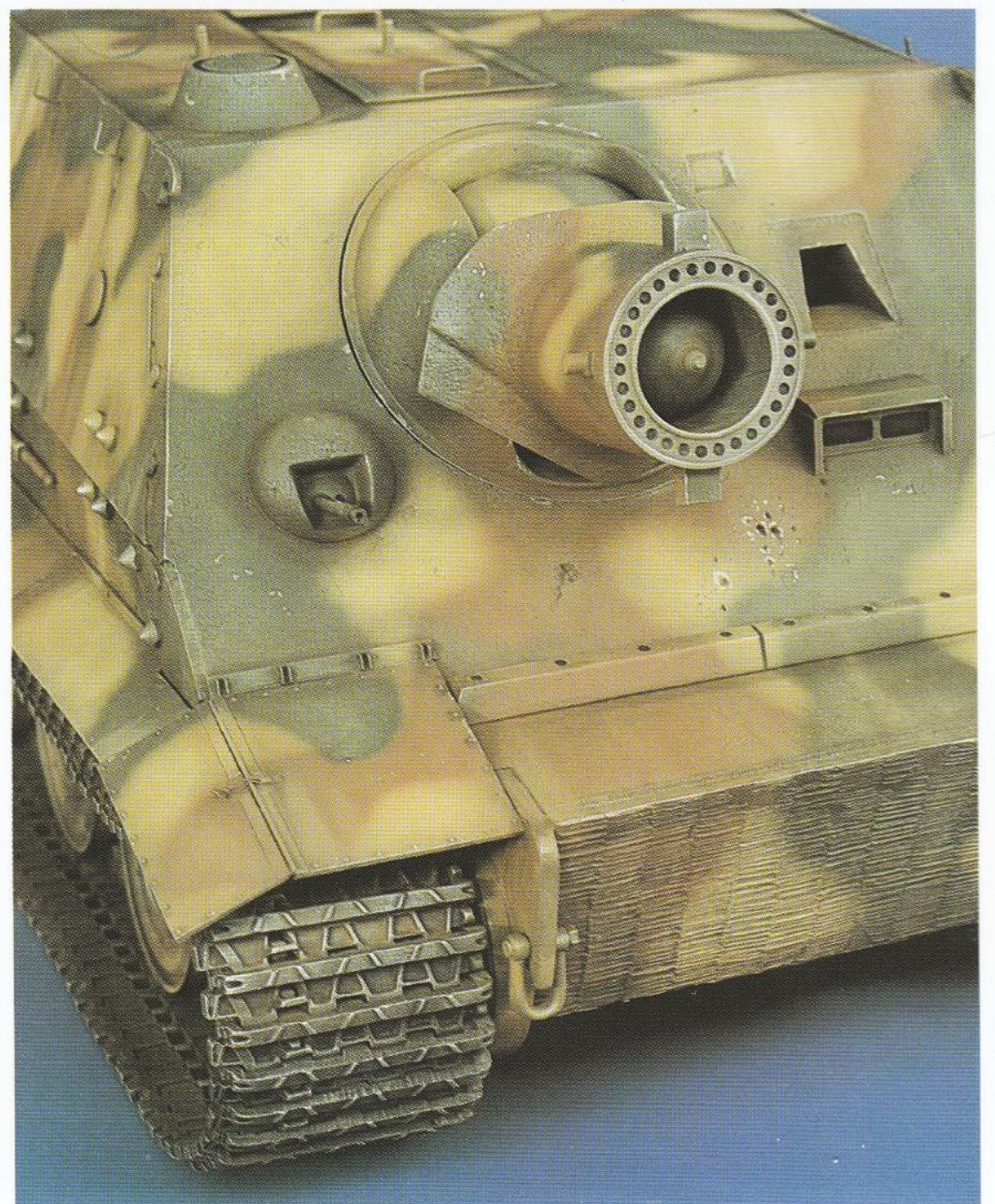


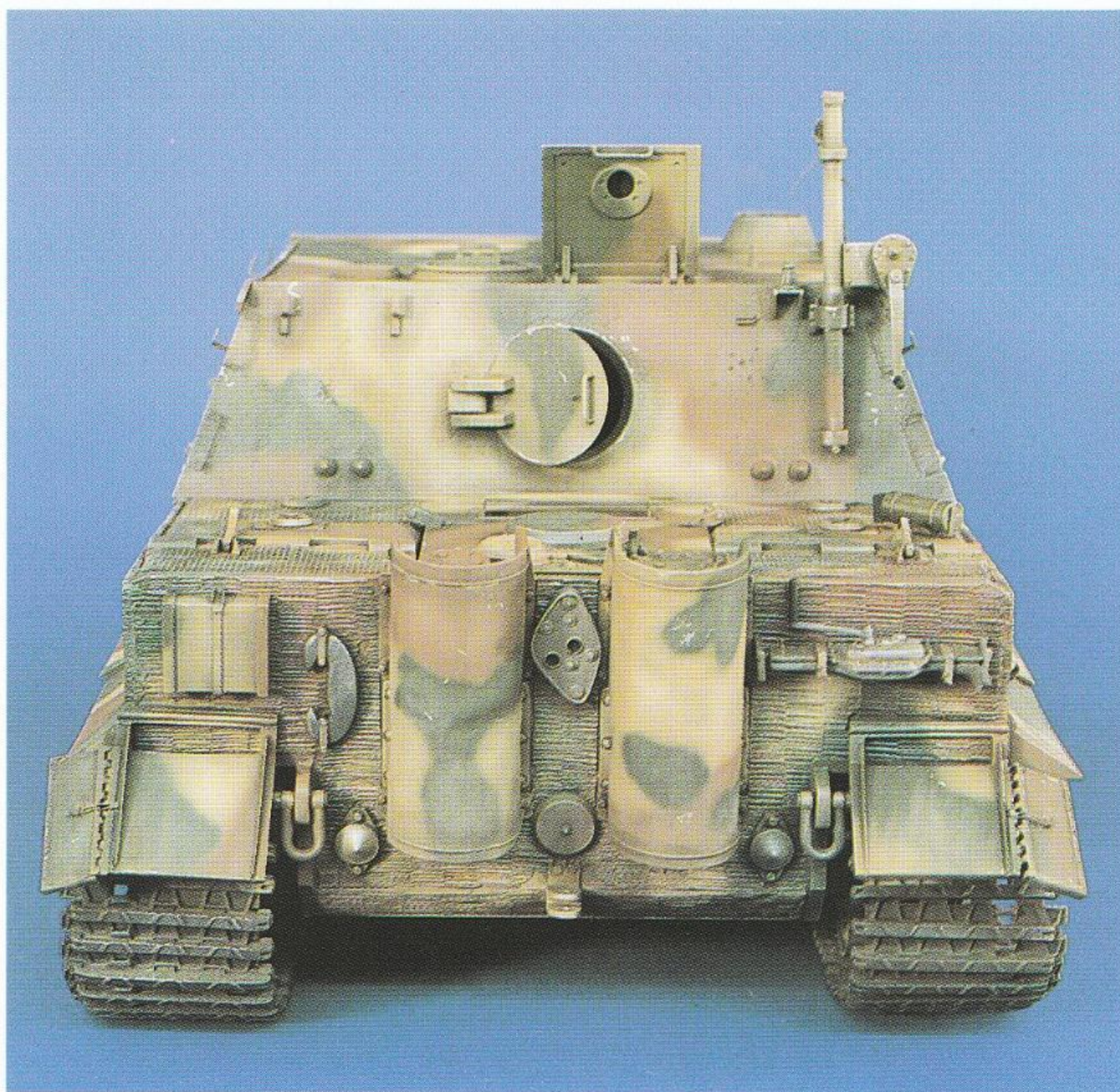
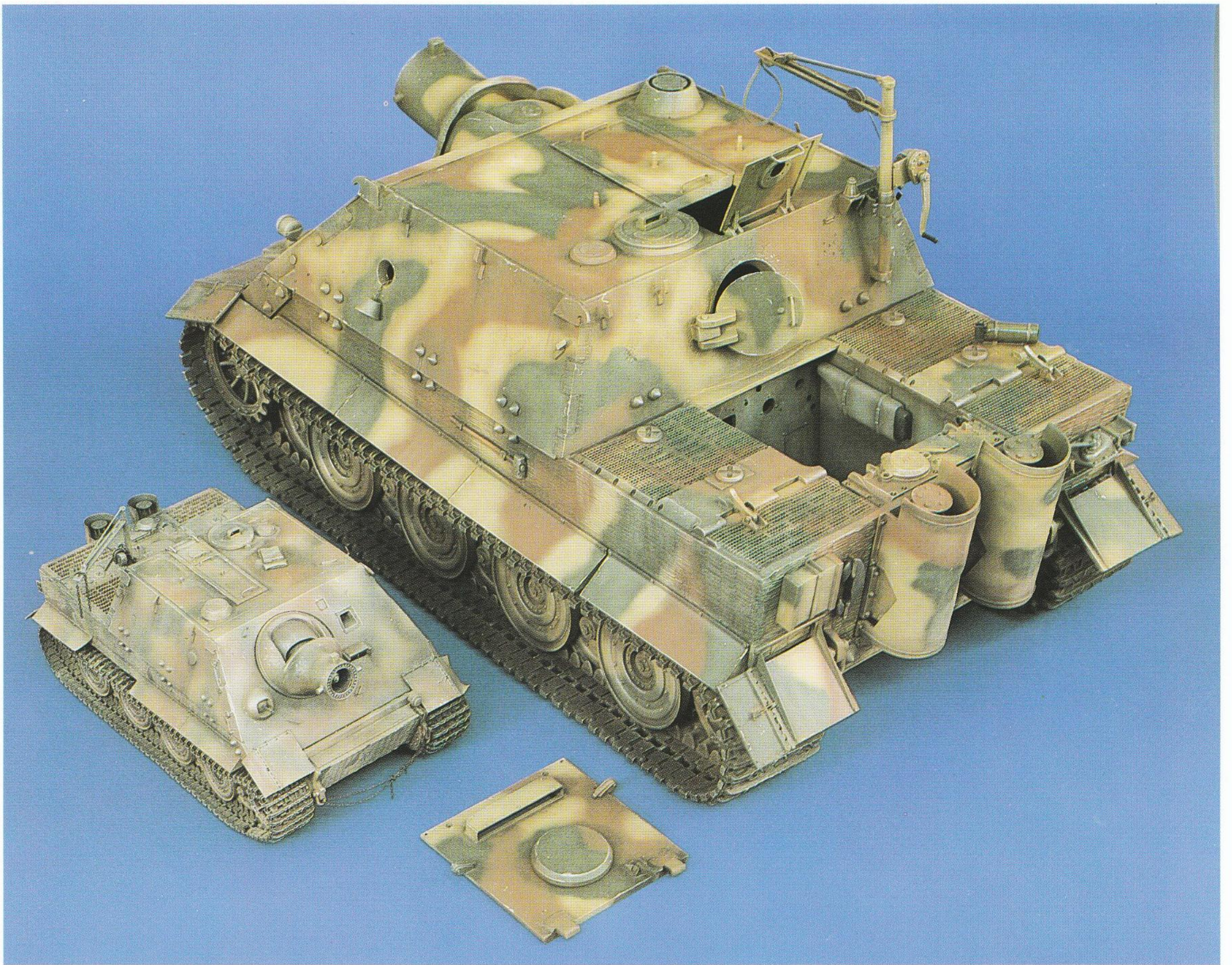
The Tiger I and Sturmtiger Maybach HL230 engine, together with the engine compartment. These are marketed as a separate product by VP.



The engine compartment visible through the open hatch with engine removed. Note torsion bar suspension near the bottom.

A closer view of the right side front shows the MG 34 hull machine gun, the mortar mount holding a shell and the rifling inside the barrel, all features which are included with the kit.

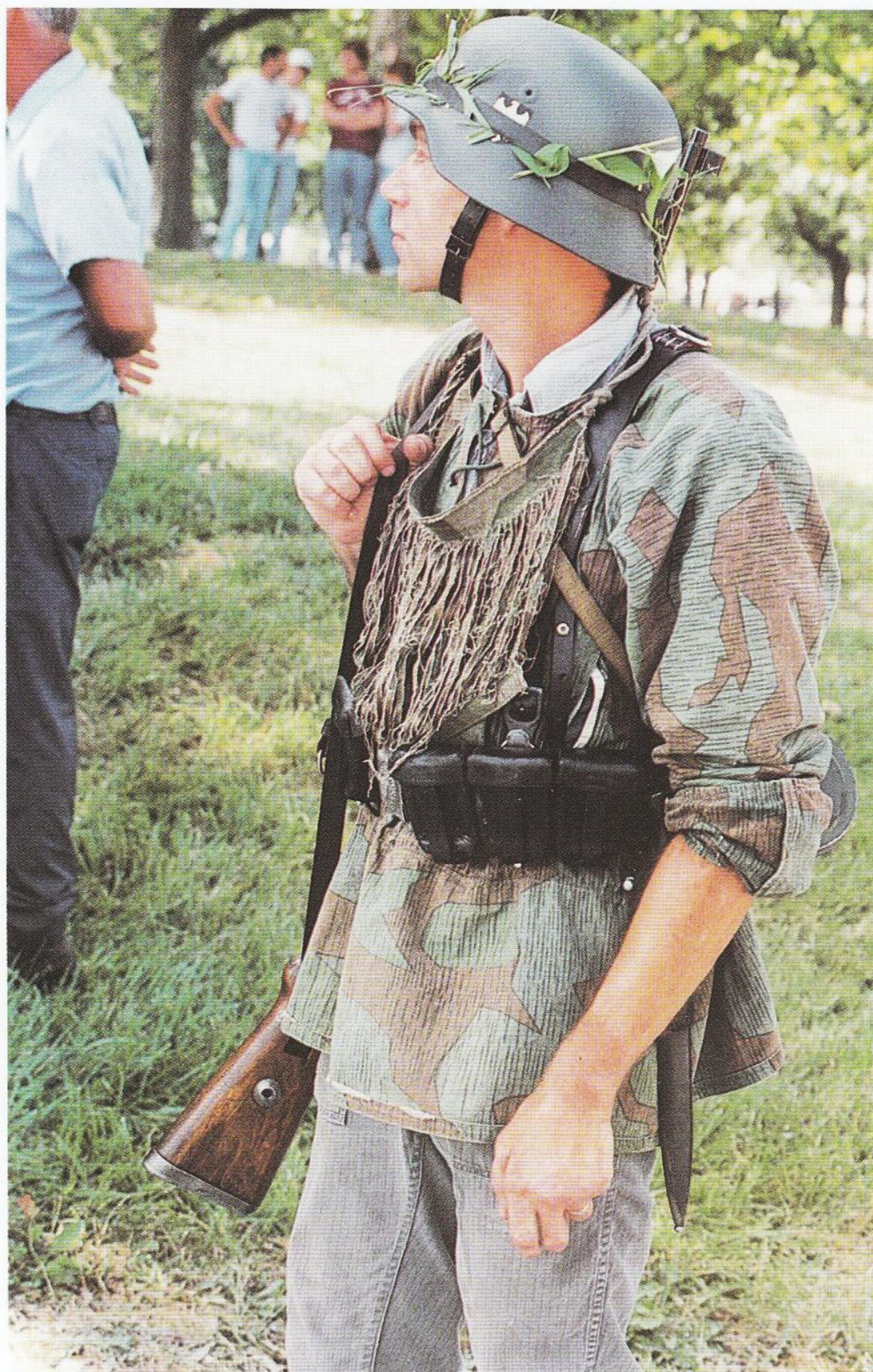




The Sturmtiger's massive rear. Note the damage on the exhaust cover made by first warming the resin and then pushing the end of a pencil into the surface.



Frontal view looking straight into the business end of the Sturmtiger. Note the variety of textures on the rolled steel glacis plate, the zimmerit and the massive metalized tracks.



Top left : Good color reference for breadbag, gas mask container, M 1931 Field flask and folding spade.

Top Right : Splinter camouflage pattern. Of special interest is the facial camouflage unit worn around the neck.

Left : Infantryman's combat pack. Note camouflaged helmet cover.



A perfect reference for painting camouflage pattern. Note the leather belt and harness with auxiliary straps.



SS Rifleman in full camouflage outfit. Note chicken wire on the helmet for attaching twigs and leaves for camouflage.

MG 42 Machinegun team preparing for action.



MG 42 Machinegun team. Note the difference in color of the two identical camouflage patterns with only a slight difference in the way the light is striking them..

DINNER FOR ONE

Edited by

A diorama by
Andreas Noßmann,
Germany



Upon the annexation of Czechoslovakia by the Germans in 1939, the complete Czech arms industry fell into German hands, completely intact. Very quickly, most Czech armor units were integrated into the German army and the industry was reorganized to meet German needs. Especially the LTL-H or Lt. 38 tank was used in large numbers by the German army during the invasion of Russia. When the newer Russian tanks, (T34 series), appeared on the battlefield, the 38T became obsolete and the 3.7 cm gun was no match for the new Russian armor. Since the chassis had proved to be very reliable, most 38T's were remanufactured and rebuilt into self propelled artillery and tank hunters.

When the 7.5cm Pak 40 anti tank gun became available during 1942 it was adapted to fit a 38T chassis and became the SDKFZ 138 "Marder III." The basic model used for this diorama is an old kit from Italeri, the Marder III AUSF.H. Certainly an old kit, but definitely not obsolete. Only the fighting compartment needed some extra detailing using plastic rod and strip and some photoetch leftovers to bring this kit up to today's standards.

Painting and weathering followed by using wash and drybrush techniques finishing off with pastels and street dust.



Above : This picture shows the effectiveness of the camouflage. Note the fence made from balsa wood and partially over grown with weeds and shrubs.

Next came the traditional "Dress Up" with bags, packs, weapons and ammunition, mostly from the VP range.

The diorama itself shows the Marder in an ambush position, situated in a Russian country side. The crew has parked their vehicle under cover of an old shed and keeping busy, (Some of them!), camouflaging and rearming for their next engagement. A Kubelwagen with crew is taking a short break at the roadside performing some cleaning and maintenance tasks while a few lonely foot soldiers pass by on their way to the front.

The base was built up with pieces of styrofoam covered and shaped with modeling paste. For vegetation, a combination of VP static grass, trees, hedgerows and natural plant and tree roots were used. the wooden shed was made from wood strips available from the hobby shop. Figures came from different manufacturers and some are converted to suit required poses.

Left : This picture shows the well balanced layout. The realistic groundwork and colors by using pastels and street dust and dirt. Open gaps are filled with some old fuel drums. Note the logs cut from real branches.





Above : The right corner of the scene shows the soldiers performing maintenance on their vehicle. Again, it's all there: personal gear , weapons, food container, maps, etc. The little things that bring a diorama to life. The figures are stock. Cleaning soldiers from VP as are most of the accessories.



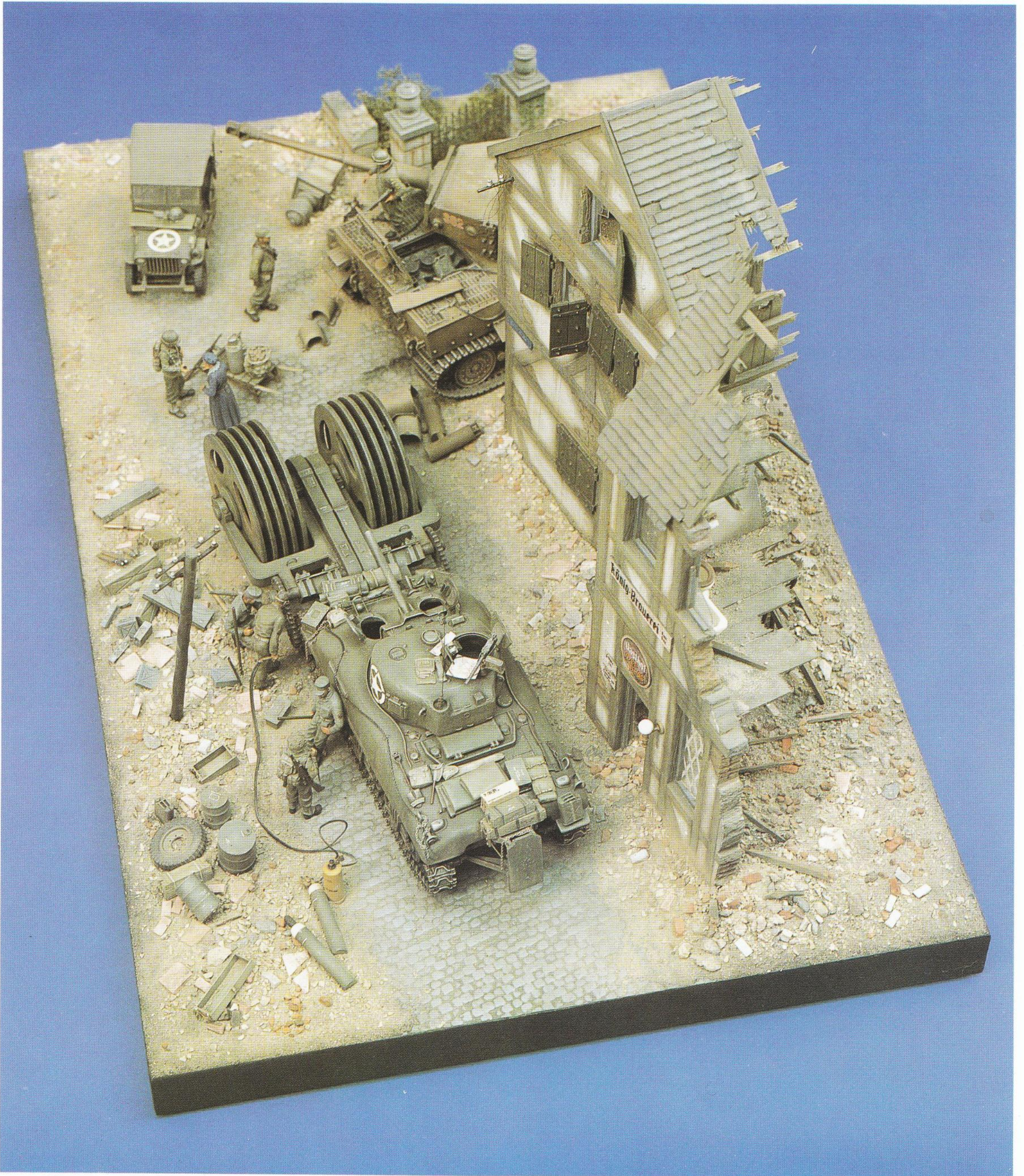
The completed Marder ready for the diorama. It carries the classic load of jerrycans, tentpacks, weaponry, personal equipment and a lot of ammunition for the gun.

End of the Road Germany 1945

Edited by



a diorama in 1:35th Scale



The release of the new VP No.1016, German old city building, was the inspiration for this diorama. Buildings of this style (fachwerkhaus) can be seen throughout Germany. Wooden beam framework filled with bricks or natural stonework and then plastered both inside and out. The kit contains five ceramic plaster sections and resin window shutters.

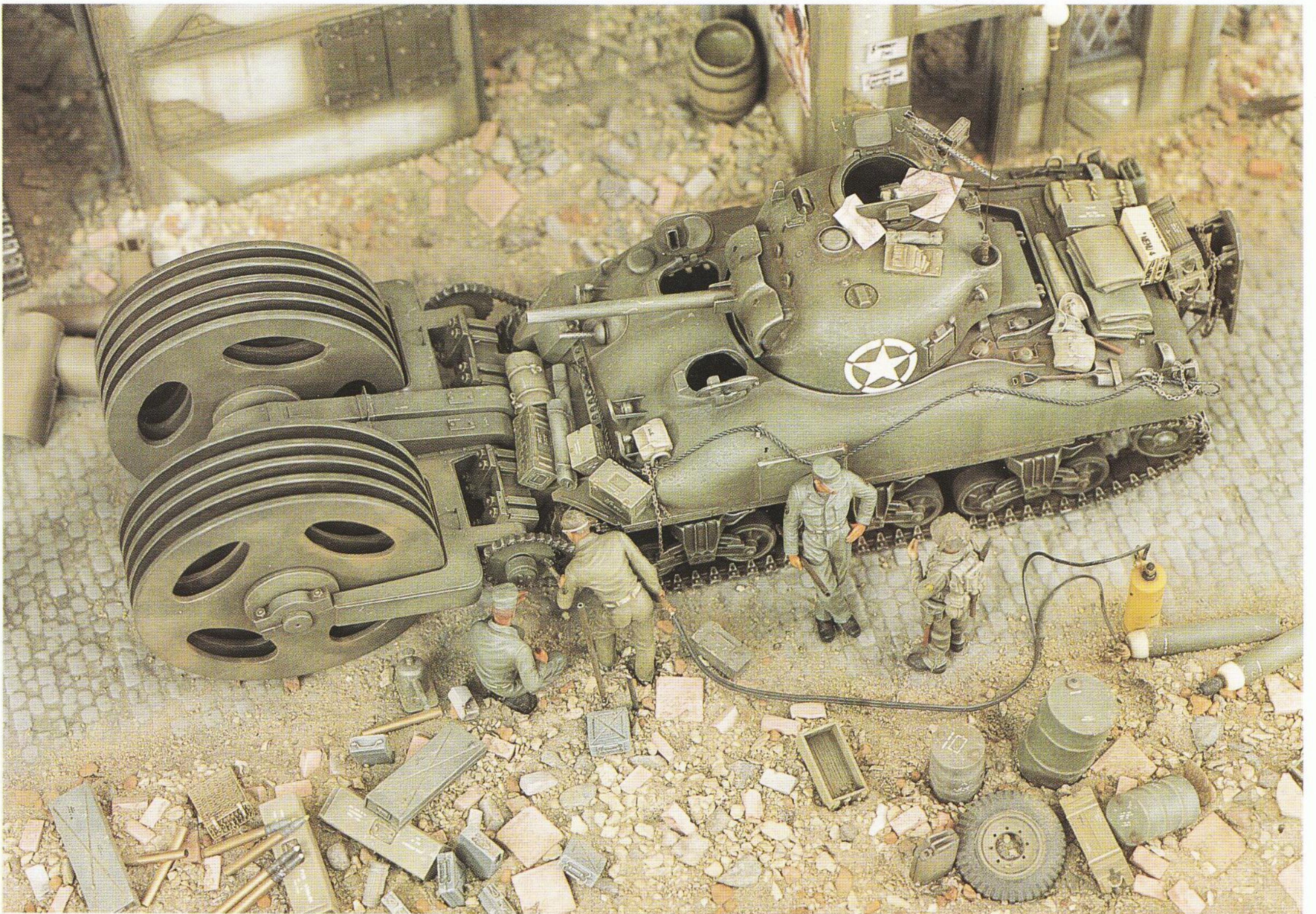
After assembling and painting the kit, the flooring and roof construction was made from wooden beams and planking from ship building accessories. Shop window frames were made with wood strips and clear plastic sheet to depict broken glass panes. Trophy Roof tiles were cut to size and installed. Vehicles were the Italeri US jeep, an old Tamiya Tiger I recycled from an old diorama that had served its purpose, and a Sherman with T1E3 mine clearing assembly. The Sherman was constructed using the Tamiya M4A3 chassis, the VP M4A1 (late) hull, VP M34A1 turret and the VP mineroller kit.

After painting and weathering, the typical "accessorizing" began with all kinds of accessories such as bags, packs, ammo boxes, etc. These were painted and stowed on the Sherman and jeep. There is definitely no shortage of accessories such as these. A look through the VP catalog can help in making your choice.



The ruined building showing the remains of the different levels and the roof structure.





A closer look at the mine clearing tank under repair by a maintenance team (VP mechanics) and the German equipment on the foreground.



The interior of the building. The remains of the bathroom (VP) and some furniture (Trophy).

The size of the base was then determined and cut from marine styrofoam. Edges sanded with fine grade sand paper and painted flat black (waterbased paint!).

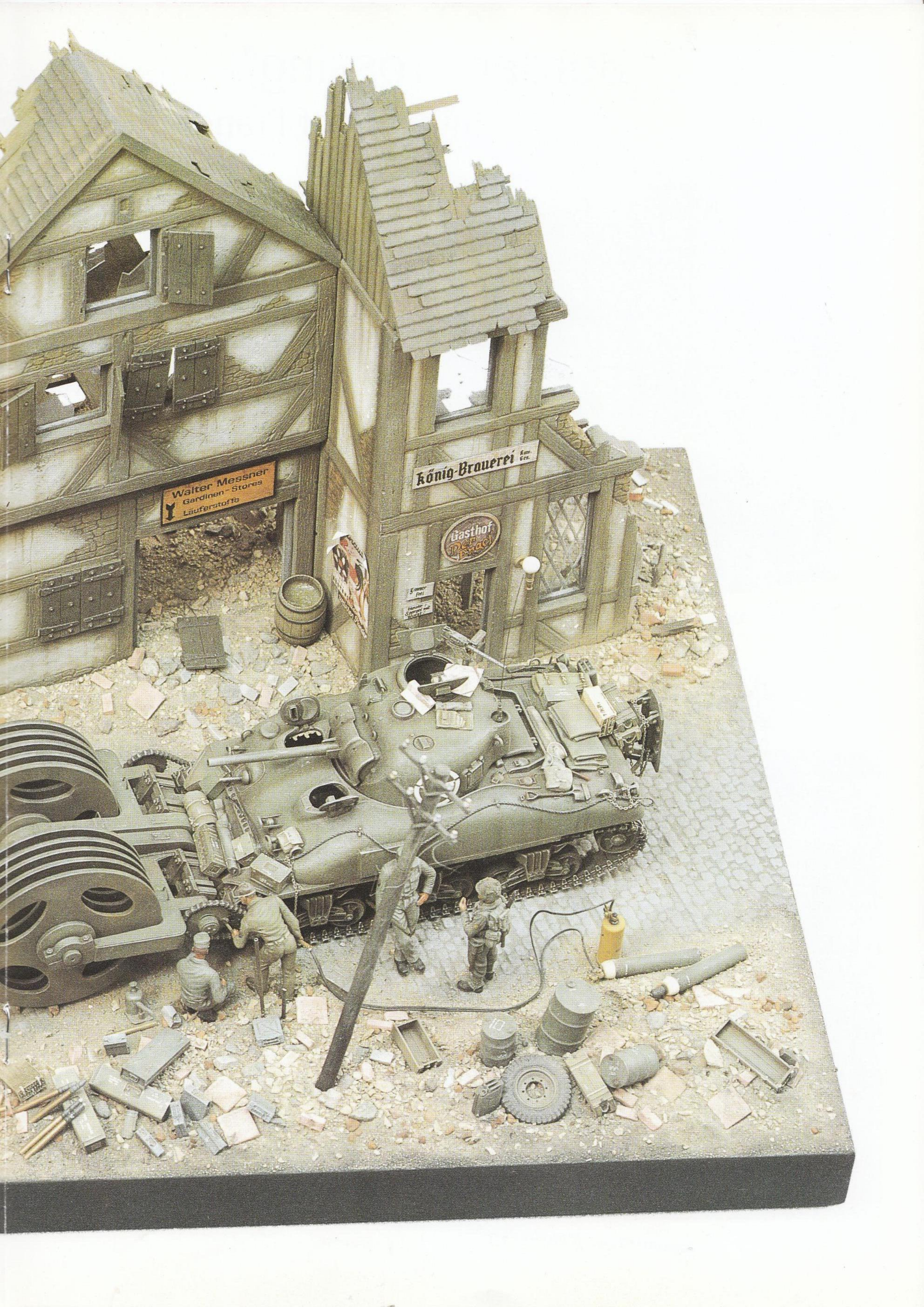
Trophy cobblestone sheets were then cut the proper sizes, glued to the base with contact cement and washed with dirty brown and gray.

The finished building and a selection of VP park fence elements were glued firmly in place again using the same adhesive. The next step was the groundwork, shaped with porion plaster, covered with fine sand, trophy red and gray bricks and floor tiles, cat litter and brick rubble. A selection of abandoned German equipment (ammo and cases, oil and fuel drums) were pressed in the still wet groundwork to ensure the correct "look."

After drying, the groundwork was "dusted" with pastel chalks and street dust using a large paintbrush.

All figures are stock or lightly converted from the VP collection and glued in place, together with the vehicles, using a little white glue. Some final touches included a telegraph pole, some vegetation next to the park fence, and some German commercial signs from a VP sheet. This scene perfectly illustrates what can be achieved by thoughtful selection, a little imagination and using only commercially available models and accessories.





"Border Crossing"

Invasion of France

a diorama by
Martin SCHUH, Germany



Edited by



My affection for the early days of the war has been reflected in a number of dioramas, and most of them are situated in and around France.

It's hard to explain why, perhaps the landscape which is so versatile it allows an array of scenic materials to be used in combination with buildings which are most rewarding to detail.

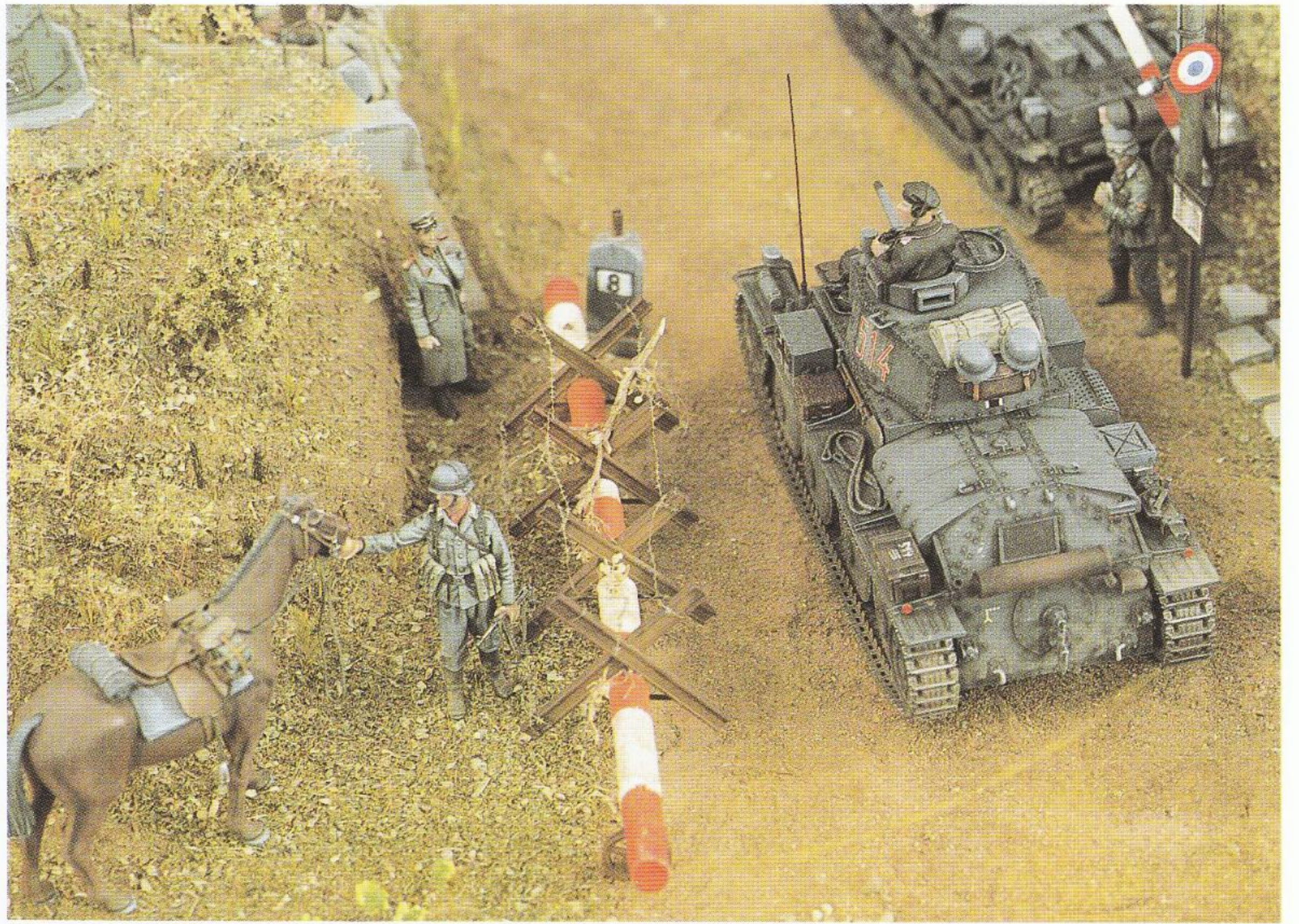
Again, I portrayed the invasion of France by German troops, this time somewhere along a small border post where a lonely borderguard is completely taken by surprise. The heavy barrier did not help much to stop the invaders, a cavalry unit assisted by tanks of the 7th Panzer Division.

One can tell a lot of effort went into creating the foliage for which VP's Trees and Hedgerows came in handy. Unlike what some may believe, these areas have been carefully laid out and I frequently checked the real thing for reference. Although the material in the VP set is all the same, one can diversify by painting the barks in different colors, like the birch near the toll house. Equal attention was given to the road running through it with pebbles and pieces of bark scattered and leaves, typical for a wooded area.

The bunker is an ancient MDA kit, long out of production but I had this Westwall Casemate stored somewhere on my shelves. It seemed the perfect size for this diorama. It was painted in a very unusual scheme which I encountered in one of my books on the subject. It sure added some color.

A lot has been scratchbuilt to construct the rest of the scene, with bits and pieces from VP, Trophy and various other brands of diorama accessories. The heavy beam was completely scratchbuilt with a piece of wood, some plastruct and VP barbed wire.

Both light tanks are from Italeri, the one crossing the borderline is a PzKfw. 38T and the one pulled over is a PzKfw. I Ausf. B, built straight from the box as they were good and accurate kits.



The figures and horses are a mixture of VP, Tamiya and a few unknown parts from the spare box which I purchased some time ago.



M113 IN THE FIELD

Photo by
Walter BÖHM,
Germany

Edited by



A close up of an M 113 A3 of
the 4th Battalion, 67th Armor.



The old M 113 workhorse continues to serve the various support units such as the 16th Engineer Battalion.



An M 113 ACAV maintaining a low profile.



A Combat engineer M 113 moving at full speed.



Above and Below :
An M 106 A2 of the 4th Battalion, 67th Armor equipped with the 4.2 inch (107mm) M30 Mortar.



READERS CORNER

Edited by



Mr. Theodoros Kalamatas from Greece sent us photographs of his diorama using the VP 1:15 Kubelwagen and figures.



Klaus Pgotz from Germany started modeling only three years ago and has already built and painted a large collection of figures and vehicles, mainly in 120mm scale. His work shows originality in both painting and presentation.

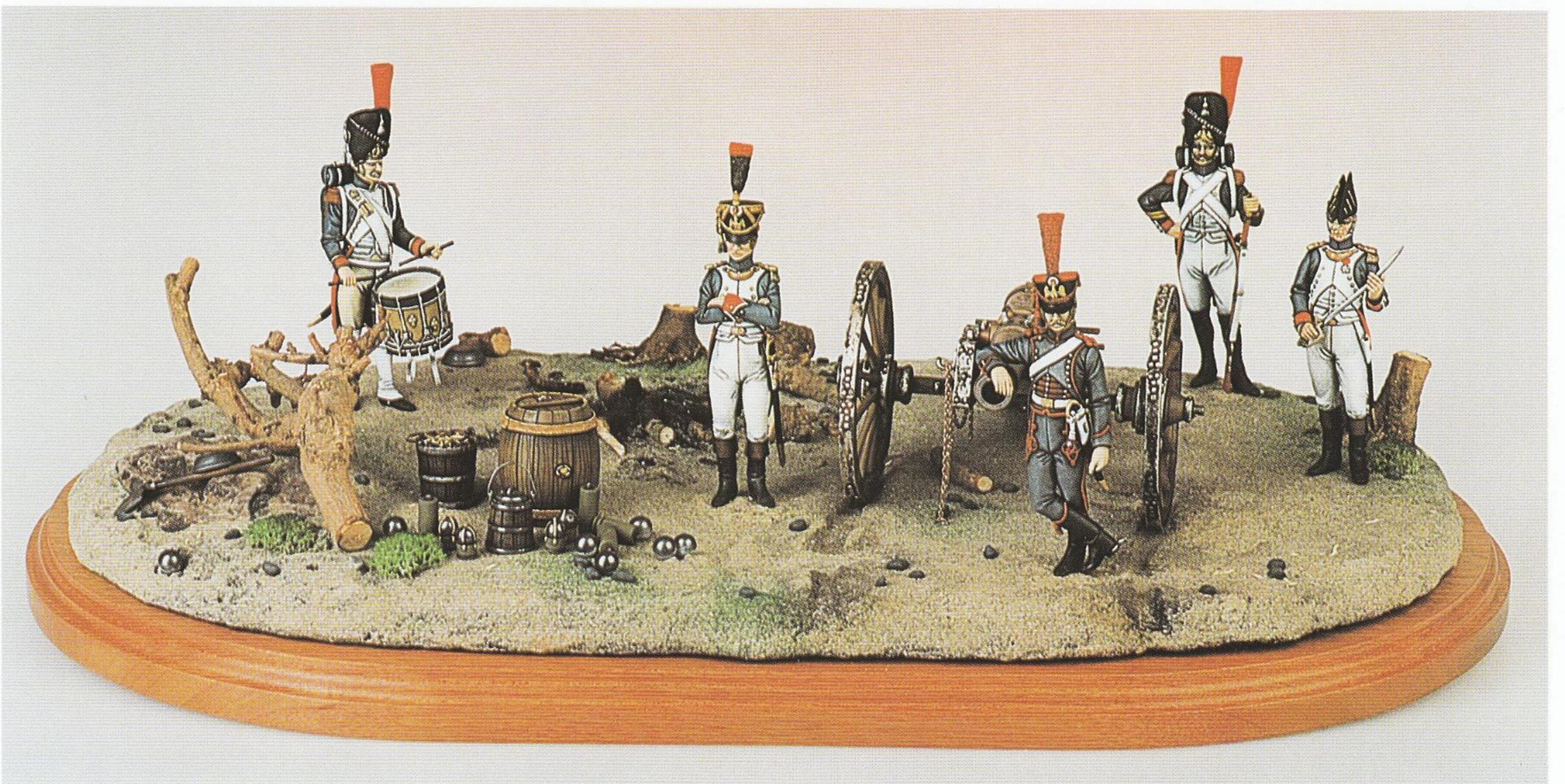


VP German mounted officer 120mm.

VP 120mm Japanese Warrior



An attractive way to display:
VP 120mm Napoleonic figures and 9 pounder cannon.



Roger Hurkmans from Holland, a regular contributor to this magazine, did a superb painting job on these two VP 1/4 scale busts. The German WWII U Boat Commander and the US Navy Fighter Pilot Pacific WWII.



VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS

GAZETTE

Vol. 6, No. 3

SPECIAL UPDATE EDITION

June, 1995



Red Devil Bren Gunner, Arnhem 1944 120mm

This kit portrays a British para Bren gunner with all gear and equipment as he saw action during the heroic battles for the Arnhem Bridge in September, 1944. A must for your 120mm WWII collection. Resin, plaster base
(item No.1004) March '95 release



Stalingrad Last Stand 120mm

Dressed to withstand the extreme cold of the Russian winter, this German soldier stands guard during the final days at Stalingrad. Comes complete with vignette base, weapon and brazier. Resin, plaster. **(item No.997) March '95 release**

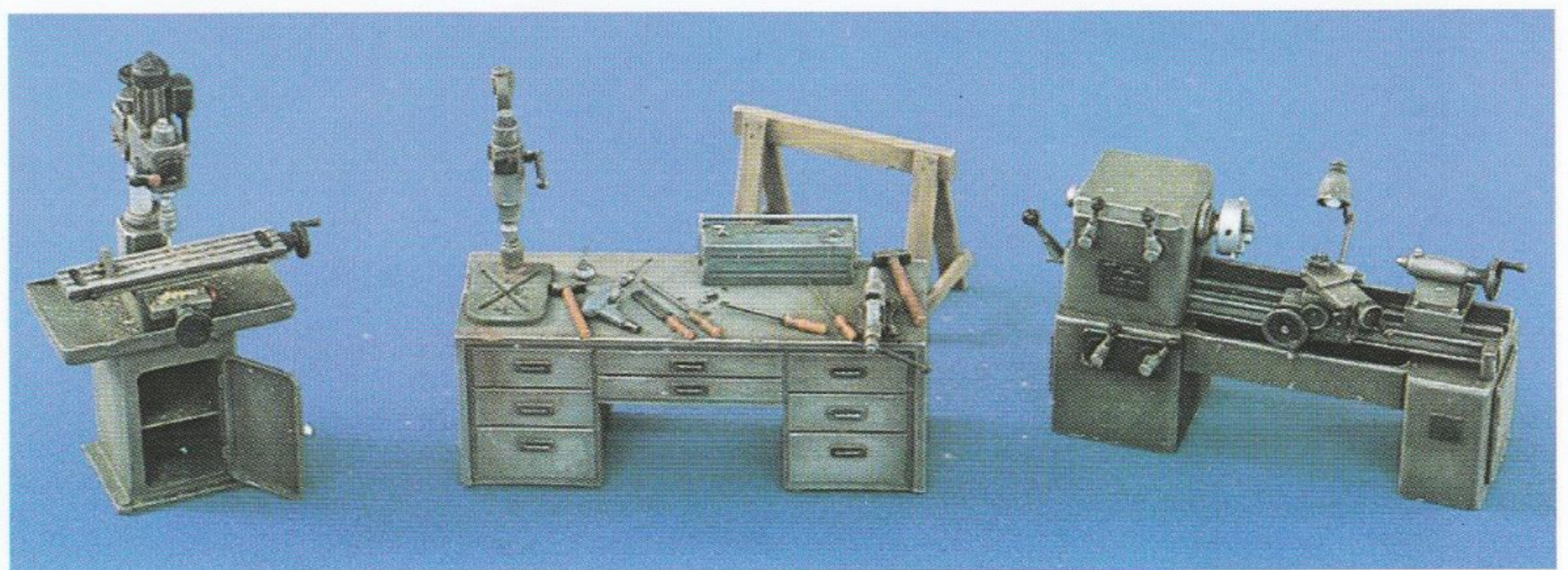


Napoleonic Marshal of the Empire: Soult 120mm

The first VP figure of a French Marshal. One of Napoleon's most trusted army commanders. Recreated in colorful uniform of a Major General, richly embroidered with gold oak and laurel leaves. An outstanding figure in the VP Napoleonic collection. Resin. **(item No.998) March '95 release.**

Workshop Machines and Tools 1/35

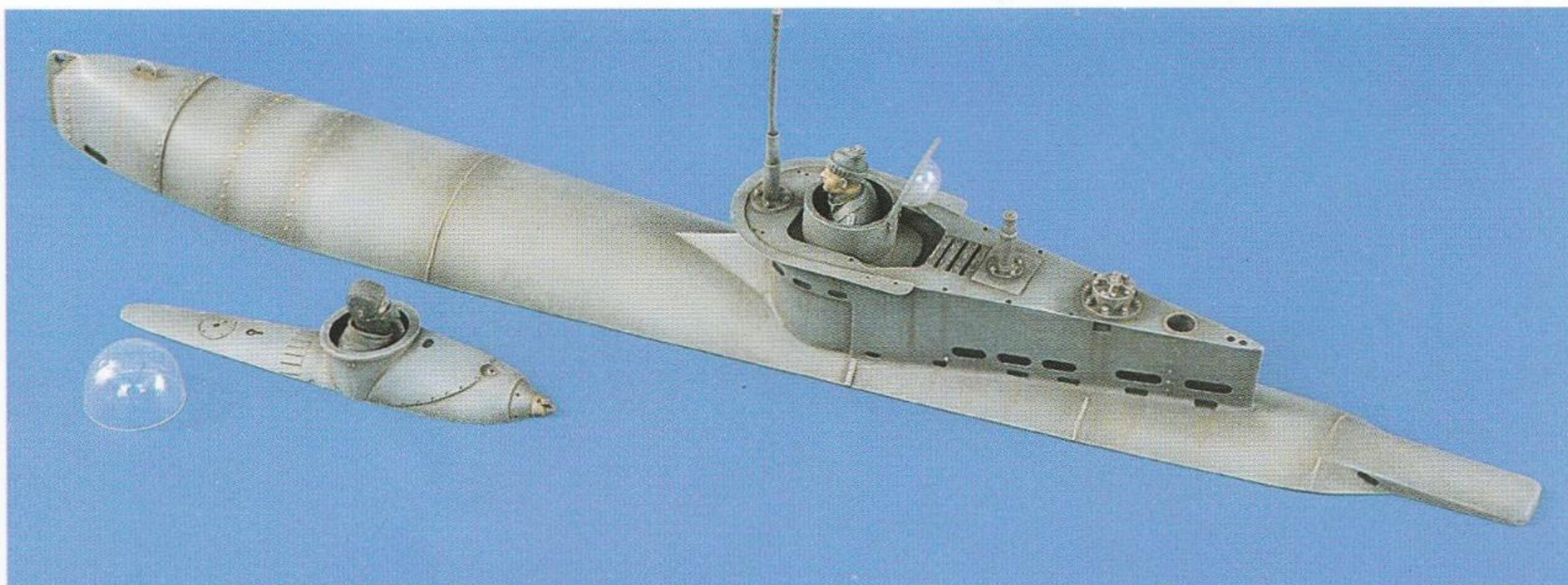
This kit opens many possibilities for dioramas. A lathe, milling machine and a workbench with various tools can be used when building a military or civilian vehicle workshop. Other uses for this versatile kit would be to furnish a mobile workshop or among the rubble in a factory ruin. Resin. **(item No.1013) April '95 release.**





Grenadier Guard General (Napoleonic) 120mm

Adding to the collection of VP's Napoleonic Guard, this release depicts the Guard's highest ranking Officer, a Lieutenant General dressed in the uniform of Colonel of Grenadiers. Resin. **(item No.1011) April '95** release.



German Mini Subs, Neger and Seehund 1:35

Due to the success of VP's German mini submarines series, this kit brings waterline versions of the Neger Human Torpedo and Seehund Minisub. Fast and easy to build for a dock diorama or on a section of ocean. Complete with crew. Resin, etched copper. **(item No.996) March '95** release.

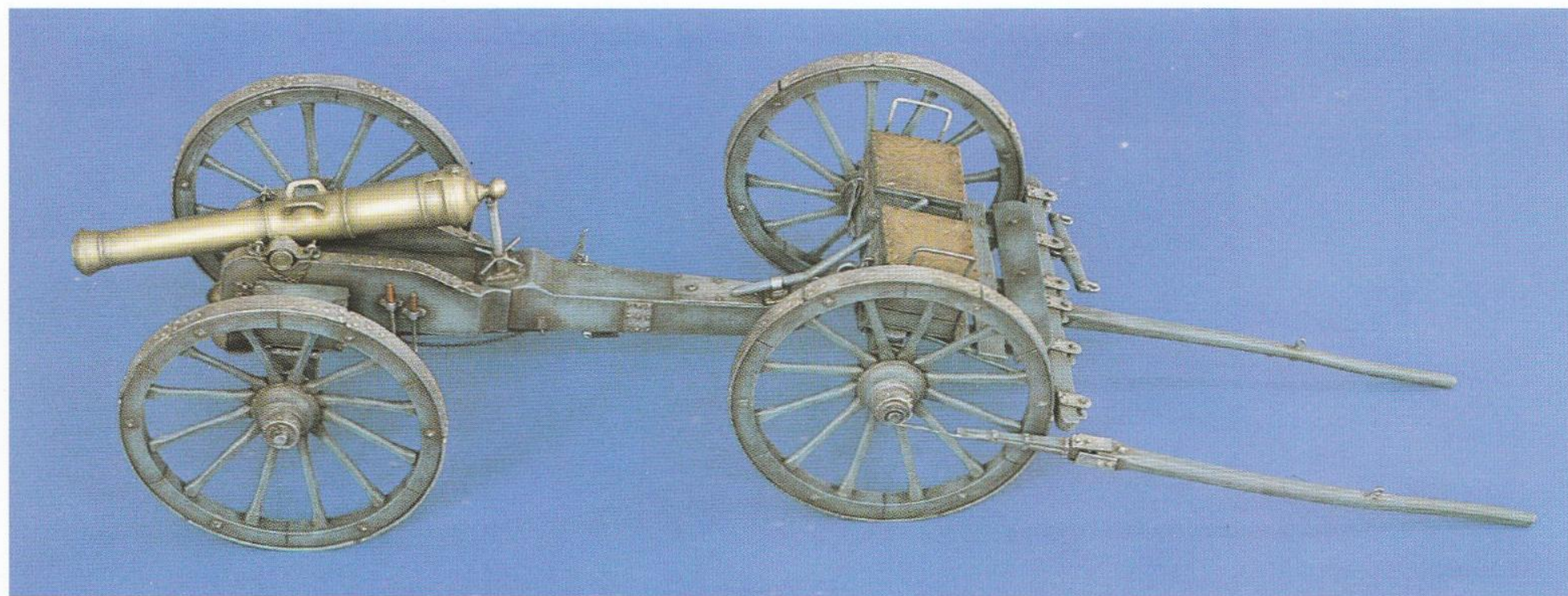
Tiger Crew 1:35

Two German tank officer figures for use in and on dioramas with German tanks or vehicles. Multiple uses as well as additional conversion potential. Resin. **(item No.1007) April '95** release.



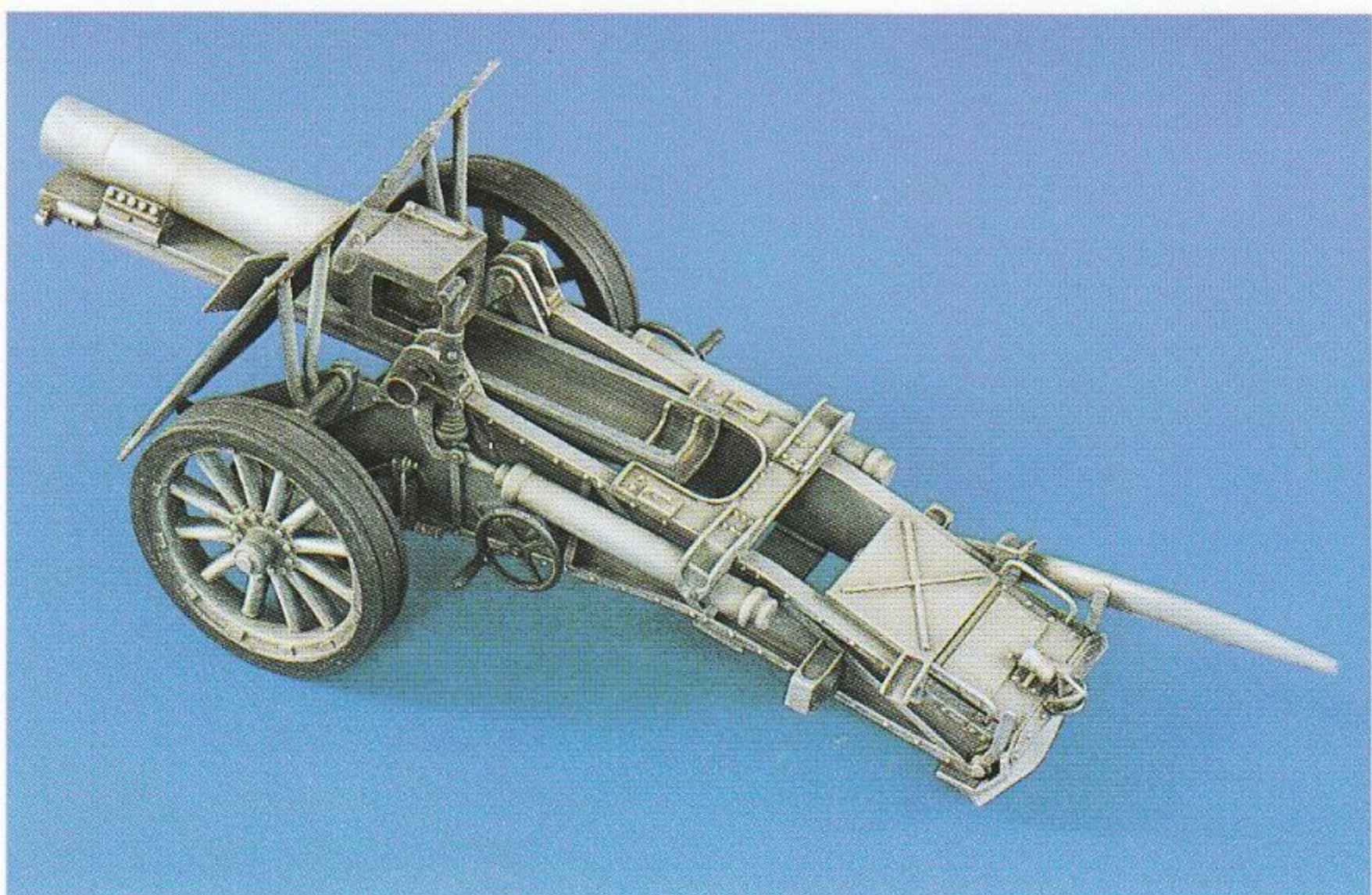
Cigarette Break 1:35

Frequent diorama builders can, have a difficult time finding the right figures in the right poses. These two could help you out in many of those instances. Two german tankers taking a cigarette break beside their vehicle can be just what the scene needs ; The final touch. Resin. **(item No.1014) April '95** release.



British 9 pounder Cannon and Limber 1:15 (120mm) (Napoleonic period).

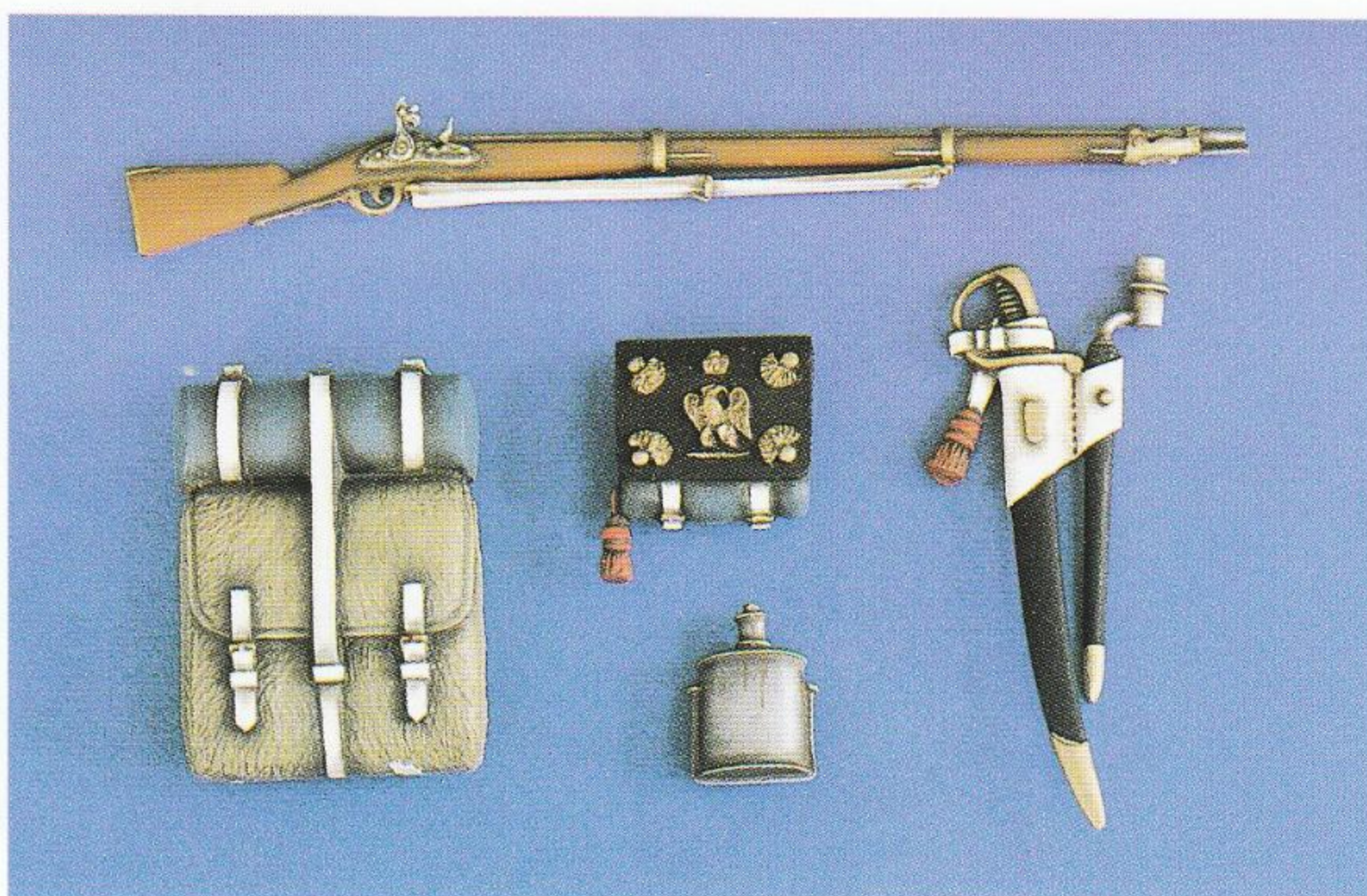
Verlinden Production's 1000th product is this large impressive model of the British 9 pounder cannon, complete with lumber. A companion piece to VP's French 8 pounder cannon of the same period. An exquisite depiction of an important weapon in history. Contains resin parts, rods, copper wire, metal chains and several rounds of ammunition. **(item No.1000) March '95** release.



German WWII Sig 33 Infantry gun. 1:35

This complete resin kit builds into a highly detailed replica of the Sig 33 Schwere infanterie Geschütze support gun widely used by the German army on all fronts during WWII. With the release of this WW II artillery piece an important gap is filled. This gun in kit form was formerly only available at double or triple the price. Resin.

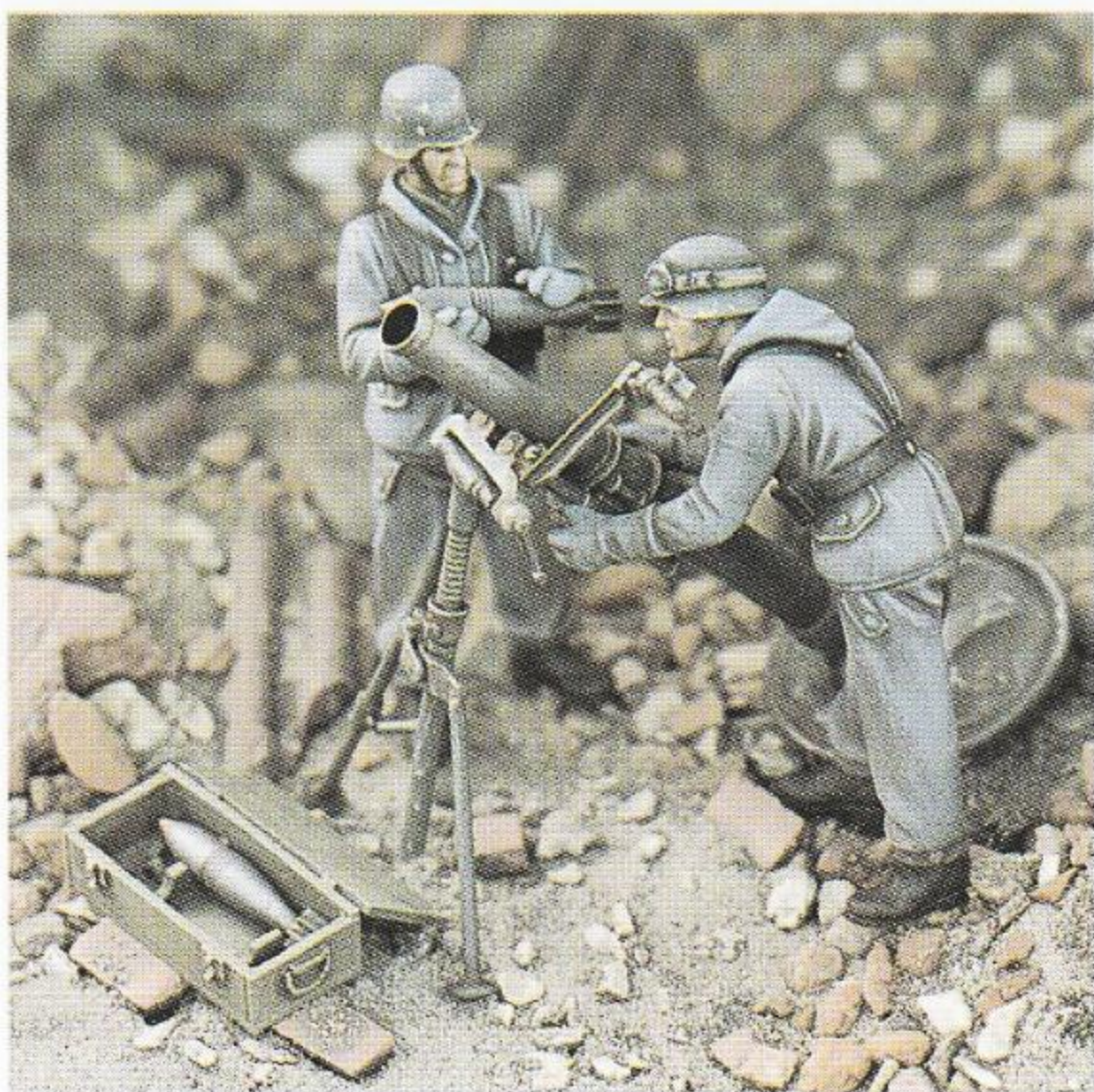
(item No.1001) March '95 release



Napoleonic Grenadier Guard Equipment 120mm

A release by popular demand. The standard weapons and equipment of the Napoleonic guard soldier. For Napoleonic figure conversion or to enrich figure and vignette bases.

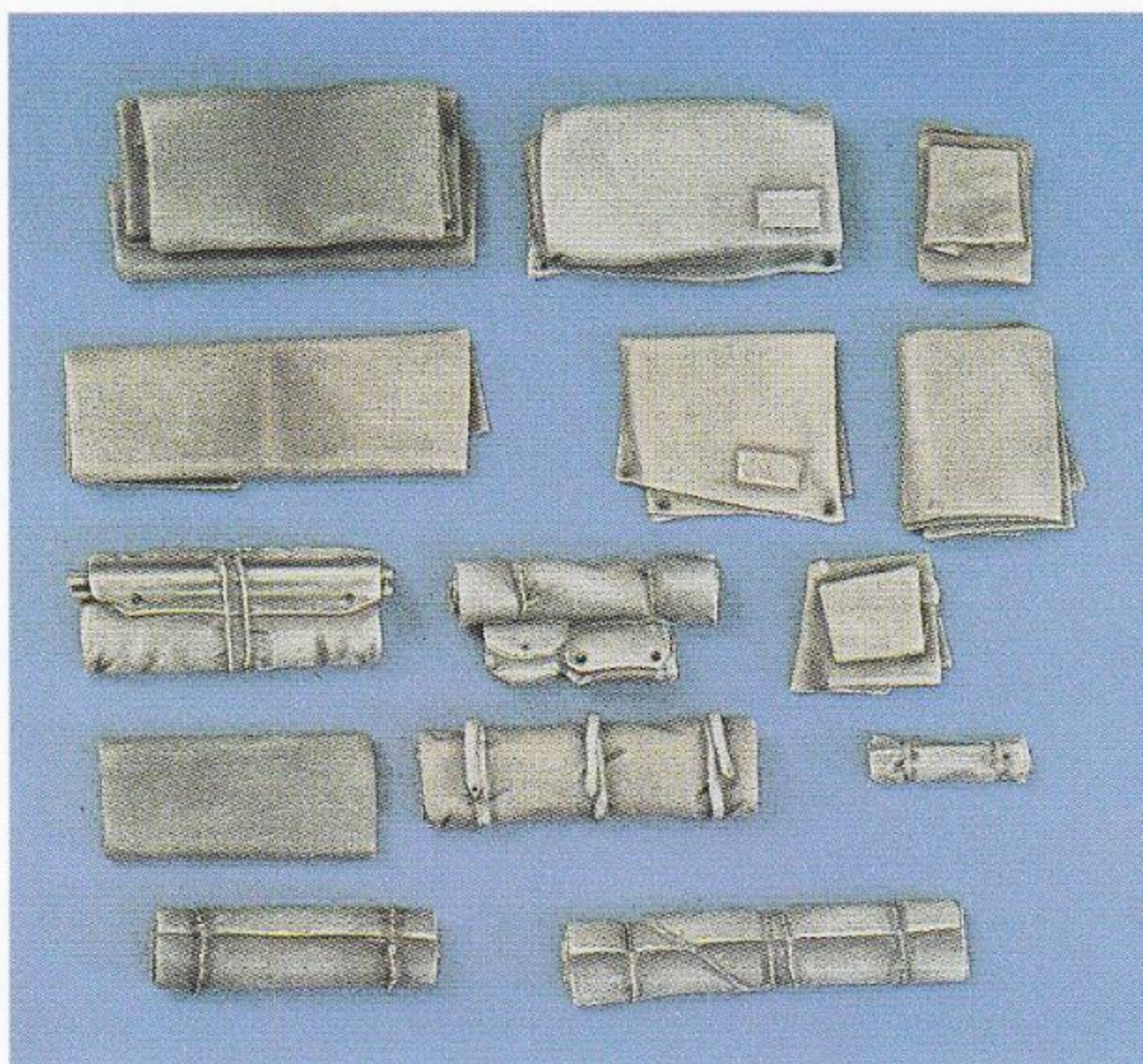
(item No.1008). April'95 release.



German Heavy Mortar Team WWII 1:35

Dressed for Winter these German soldiers are preparing to fire a 120mm heavy mortar. This set contains two figures, heavy mortar and ammunition. Perfect for building a small vignette or as part of a larger diorama. Resin kit.

(item No.1003) March '95 release



Military Packs & Tarpaulins 1/35th

Military model and diorama builders continuously need items like this set of packs, bags & tarpaulins. Every military vehicle carries some of these. An accessory to be used again and again. The kit contains two of each item shown in the photo. Resin. **(item No.1002) March '95 release.**

Napoleonic Carabinier General Bust 200mm

The 200mm bust collection expands with this extremely colorful rendering of a Napoleonic Carabinier General. The combination of red, silver, brass and gold, stands out brightly among the other busts in the collection. Resin.

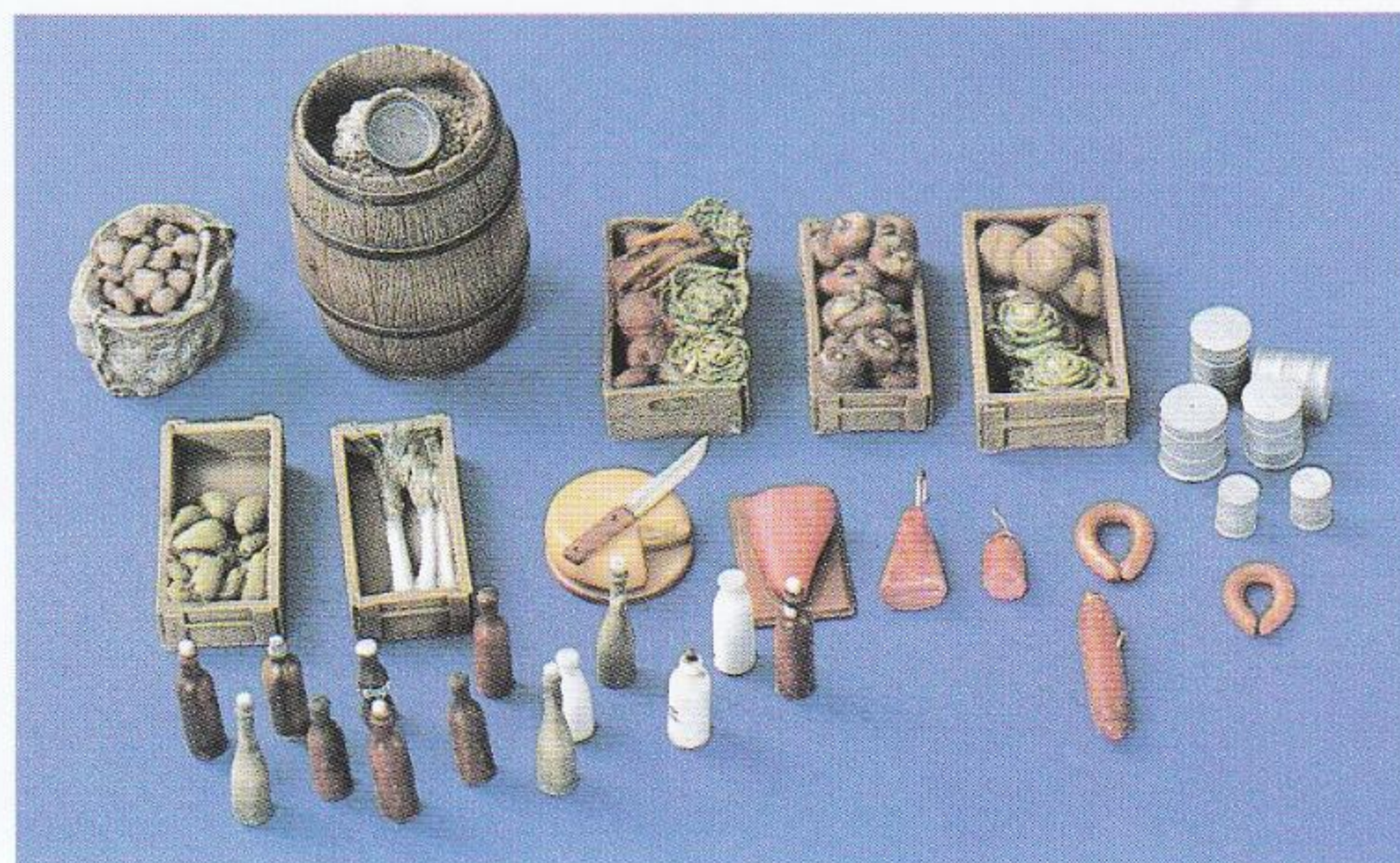
(item No.999) March'95 release



Food Supplies 1/35th

A very useful accessory set which contains a variety of foods such as cases with fruit and vegetables, wine, beer and milk bottles, potatoes, cheese different kinds of meats and some canned food. For use in and on vehicles, figures, as well as diorama and vignette applications. Resin.

(item No.1005) March '95 release



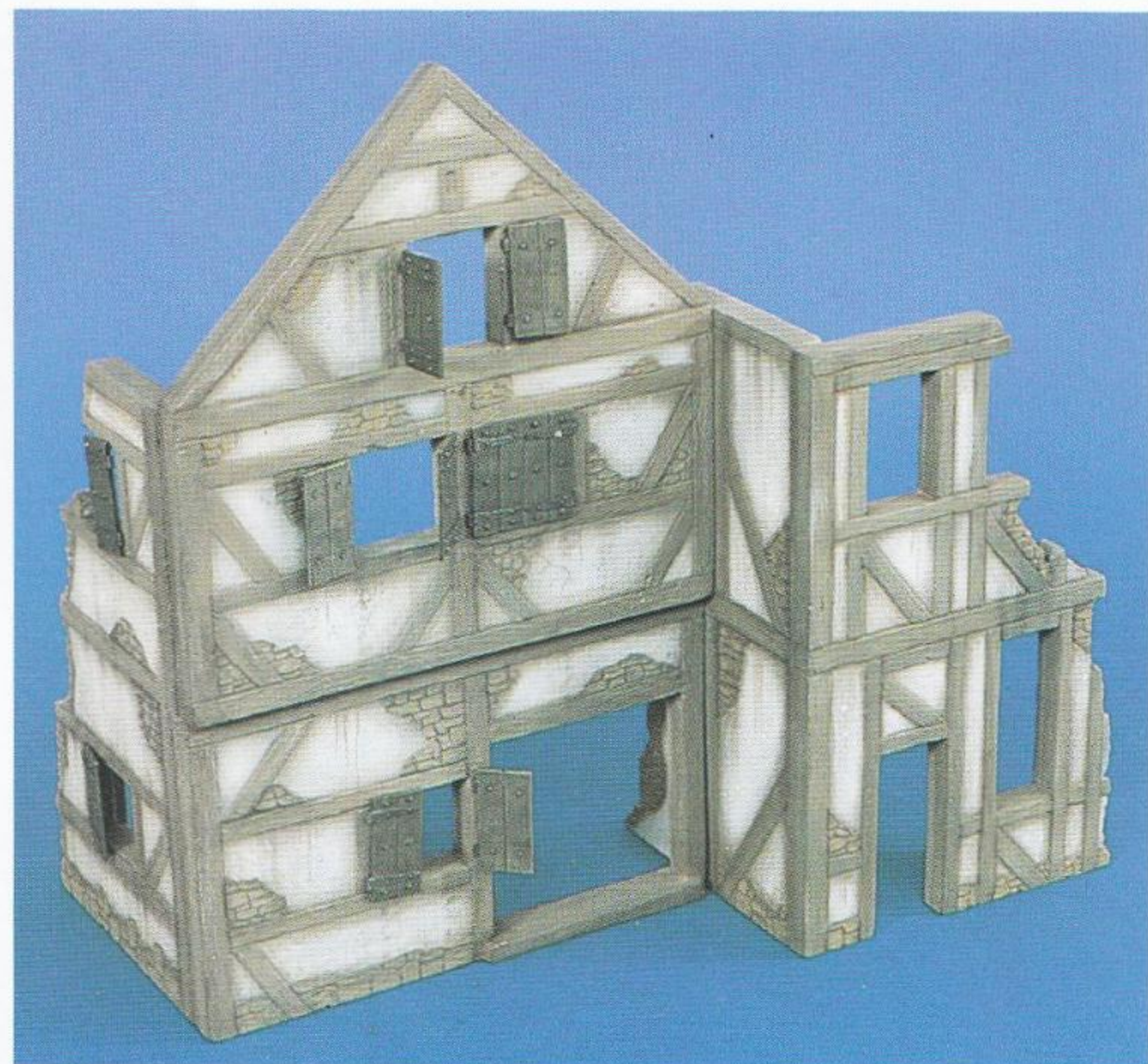


German WWII Panzer Officer WWII 120mm

This German tank commander appears to be confident in final victory. He is wearing the late war, one piece camouflage suit and carrying a Walther pistol, binoculars and map case. The kit also contains a ceramic base, resin jerrycan and two 75mm round of tank ammo. **(item No.1017) April '95 release.**

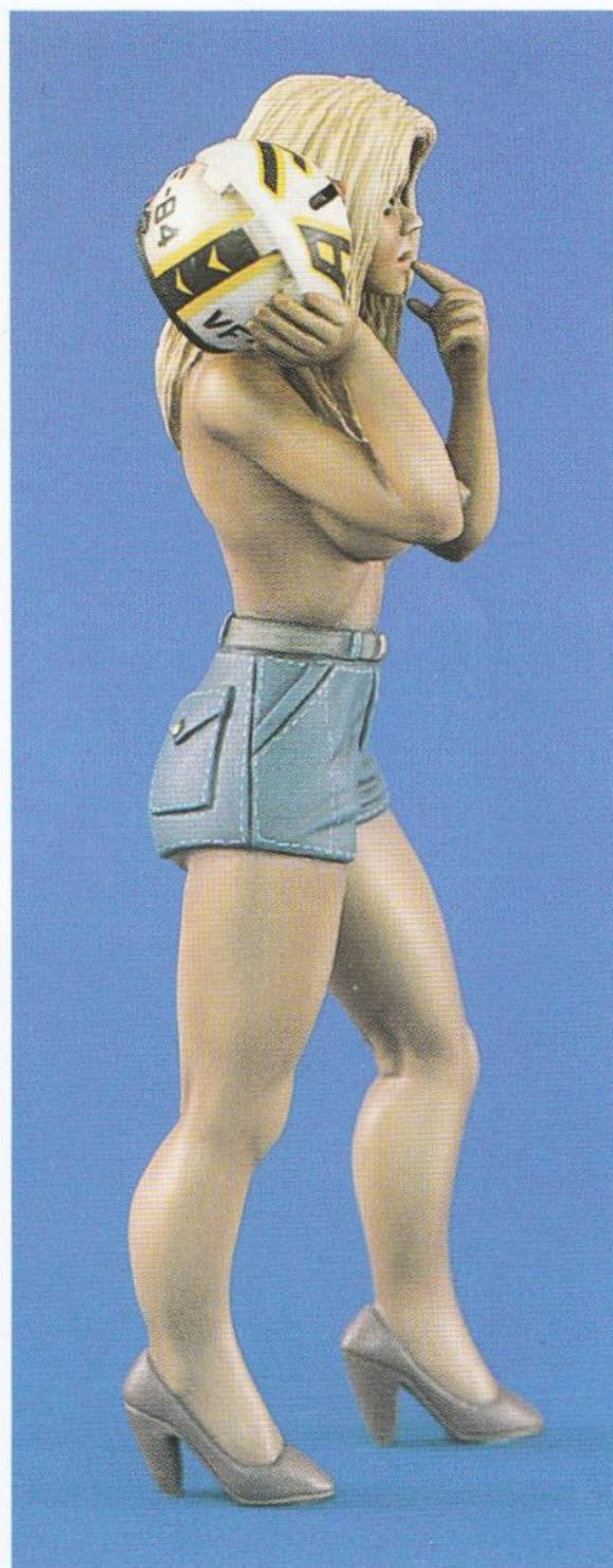
German Old City Building 1:35

A new addition to VP's ceramic building series is this old German style city or village house/store. Mostly seen in central and southern Germany it can be used for dioramas during the final battle for the Reich 1944-45. See elsewhere in this issue an example of how to use this item to the fullest extent. **Ceramic plaster - Resin. (item No.1016) April '95 release.**



Tow Missile Launcher 120mm

The Tow launcher was probably the best known anti tank launcher of the US. Army since WWII. It was introduced during the later stages of the Vietnam war and is still in use with the American as well as many other nations in various configurations and versions. For an interesting and large scale model, or vignettes and dioramas with 120mm figures. Resin, Plastic rod, Flex tubing. **(item No.1010) April '95 release.**



Top Gun Girl 120mm

Take a break from intense military modeling agenda and have a little fun, building and painting "Miss Top Gun". The figure speaks for itself! Resin. **(item No.1009) April '95 release.**



German WWII Recon. Group 1/35th

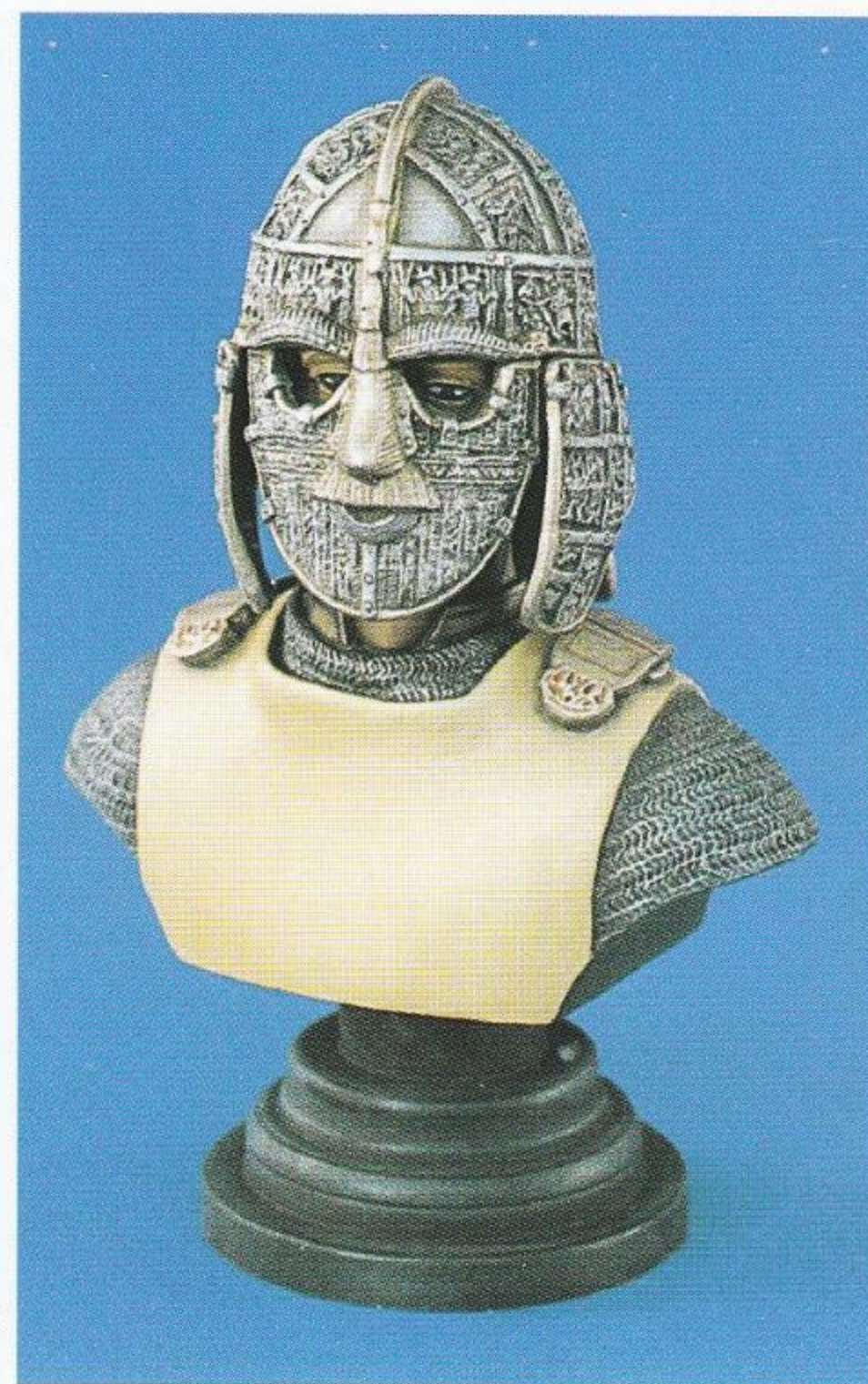
A new set of figures in the traditional double pack. Useful in so many WWII vignettes & dioramas. Unlimited conversion possibilities by changing heads and arms from the many other VP figure sets. Resin. **(item No.995) March '95 release;**



**German Knight, Circa 1350
120mm**

Figure fans of medieval subjects will welcome this German knight around 1350. He wears a chain mail robe under his tunic. Additional protection includes a chestplate, helmet and shin guards. **Ceramic plaster base, resin figure and metal chain.** (item No.1012) April '95 release.

Anglian King, 7th Cent.200mm
An unusual subject for a 200mm bust. This Anglian King, early 7th century is wearing a highly decorative helmet based on the famous Sutton Ho excavation. Resin (item No.1018) April '95 release.

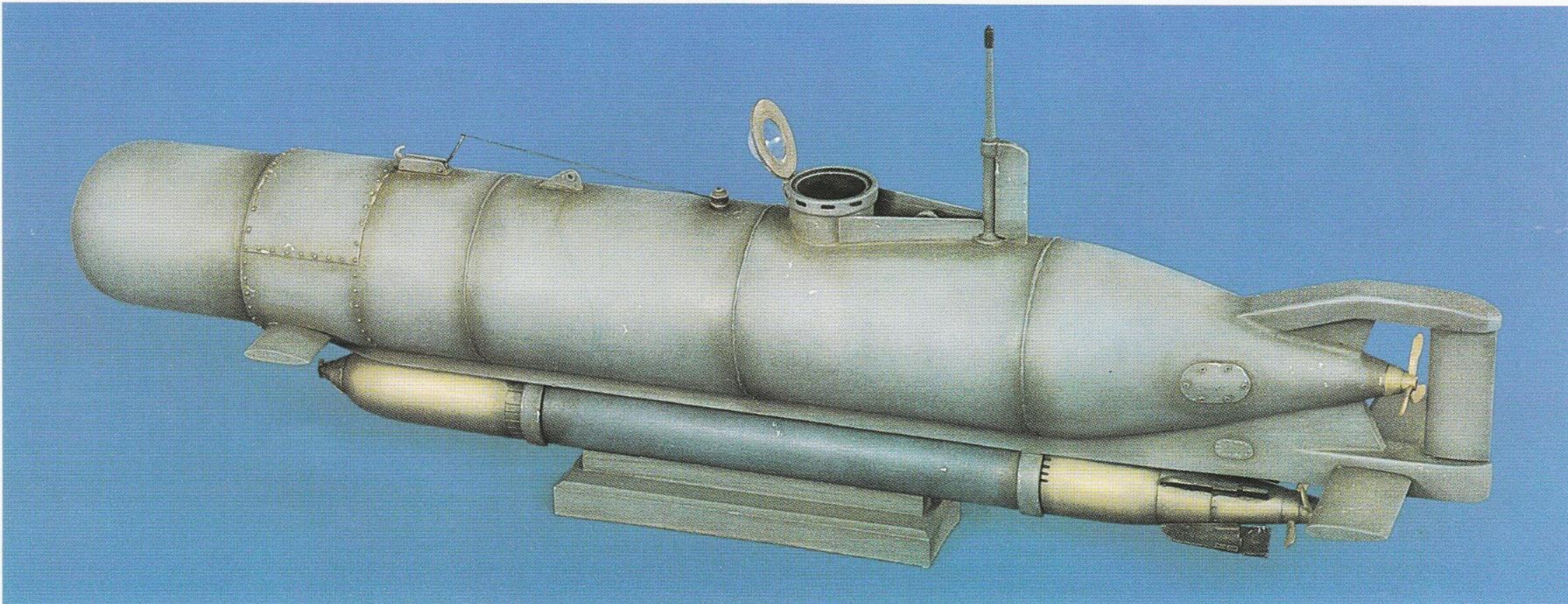


**North African Crossbowman
16th Century 120mm**

A meticulous figure, out of the ordinary, representing a North African Naval Crossbowman, circa 16th Century. Complete with base, shield, sword, arrow case and crossbow. Resin with plaster vignette base. (item No.1006) March '95 release.

German Mini Sub Type Hecht, 1/35

VP's offering on WWII pocket submarines, continues with the "Hecht". Fifty U-boats of this model were built at the Krupp Germania Docks at Kiel. Most were used for training purposes.. The Hecht had a length of over 10 meters, a speed of 6 knots under water and could dive 50 meters deep with a crew of two. It could carry one torpedo as armament. Resin. (item No.1015) April '95 release.

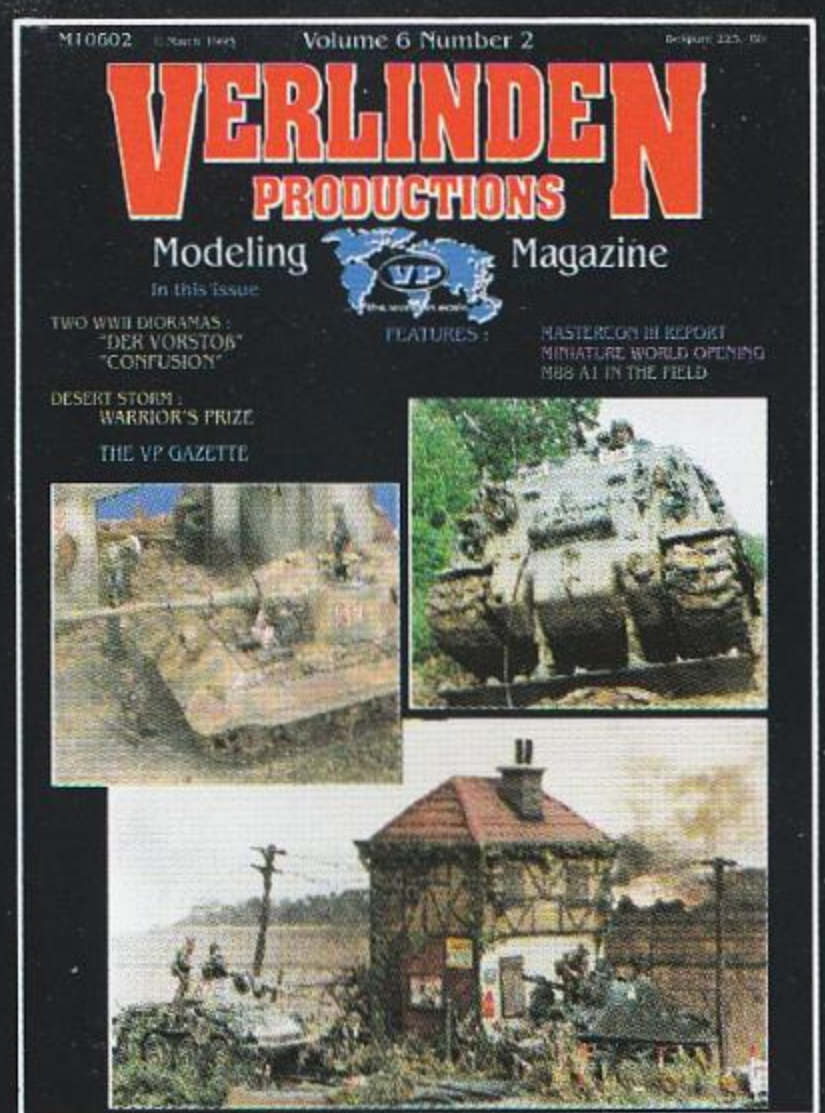




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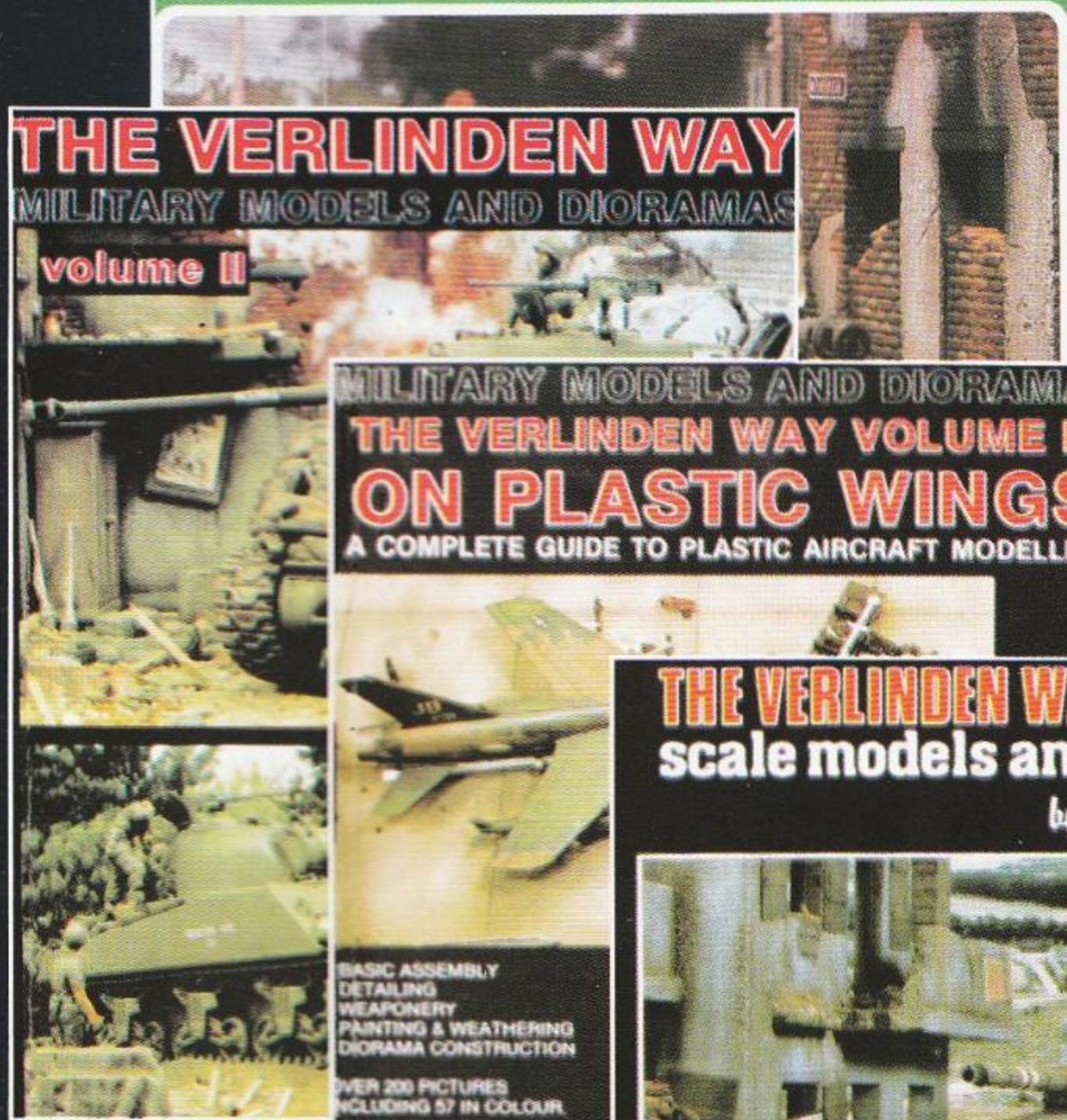
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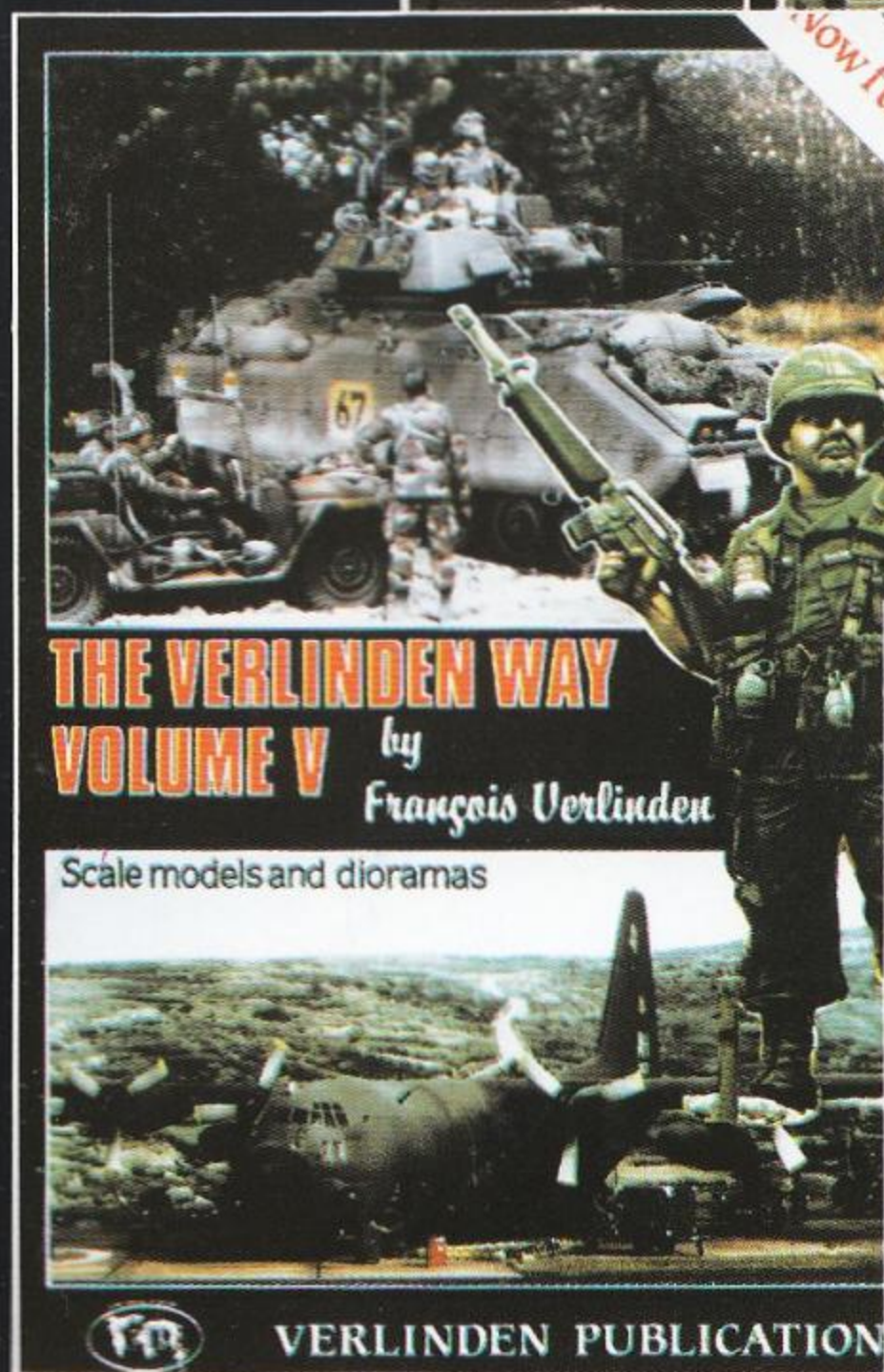
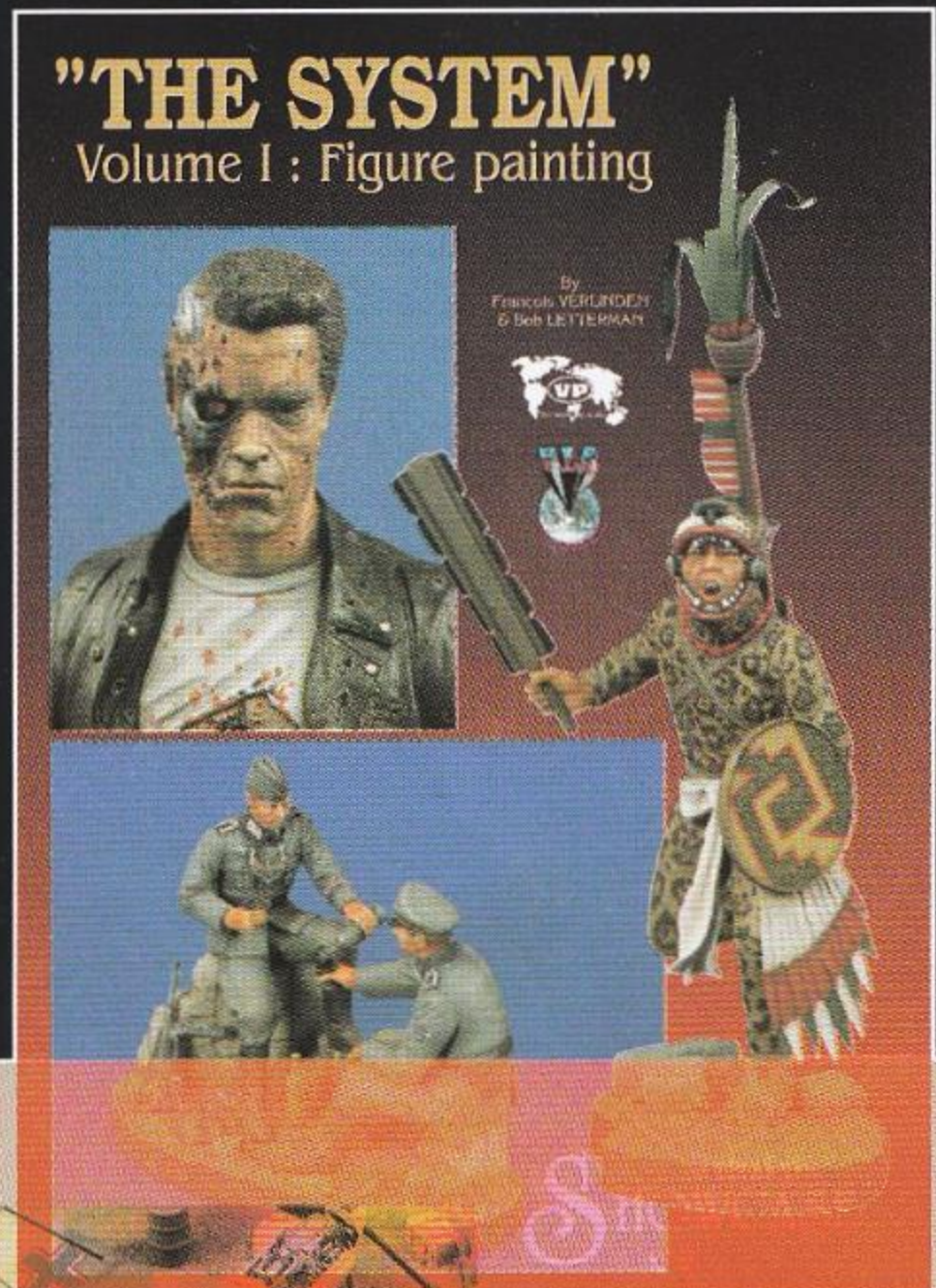
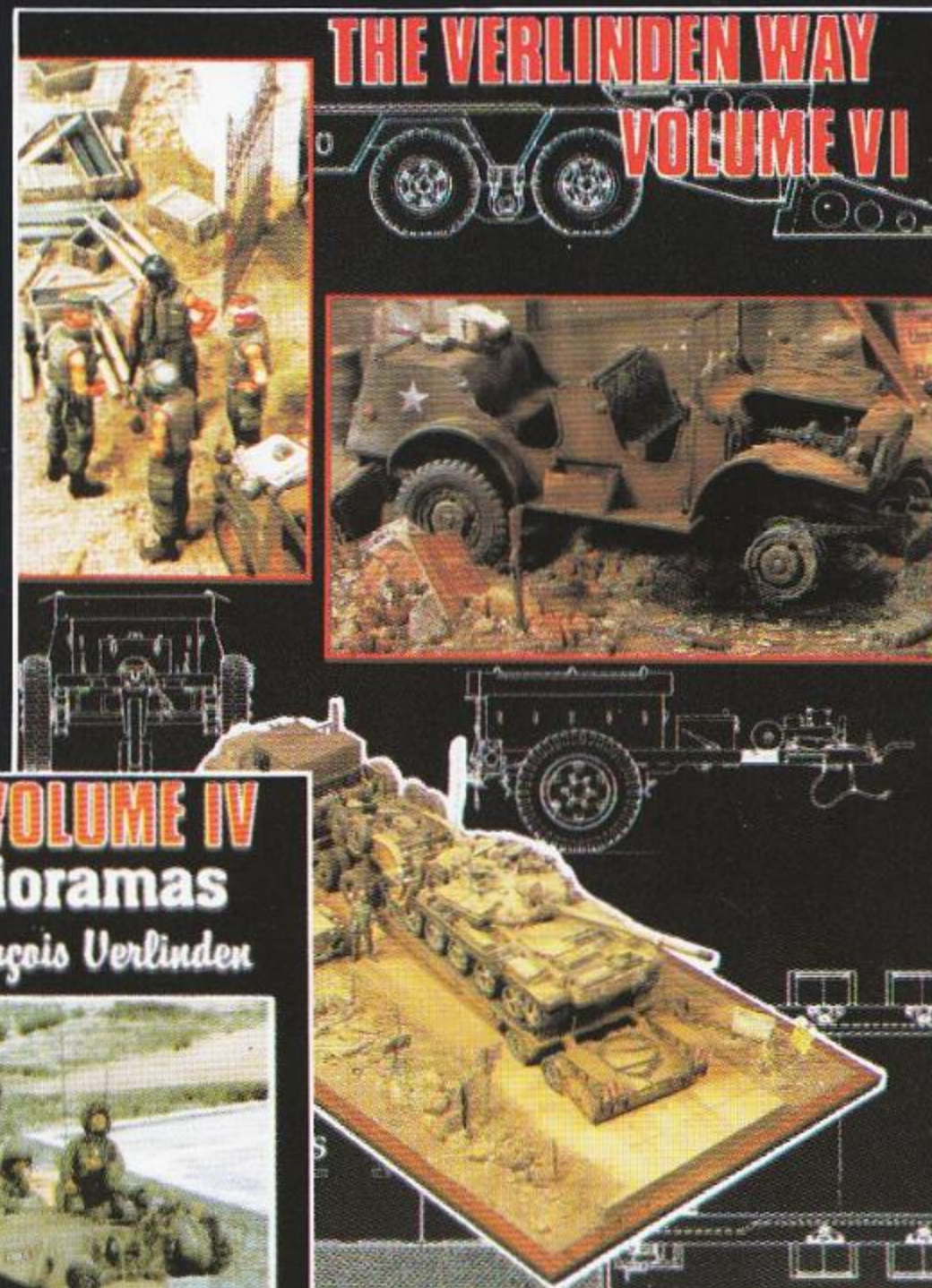
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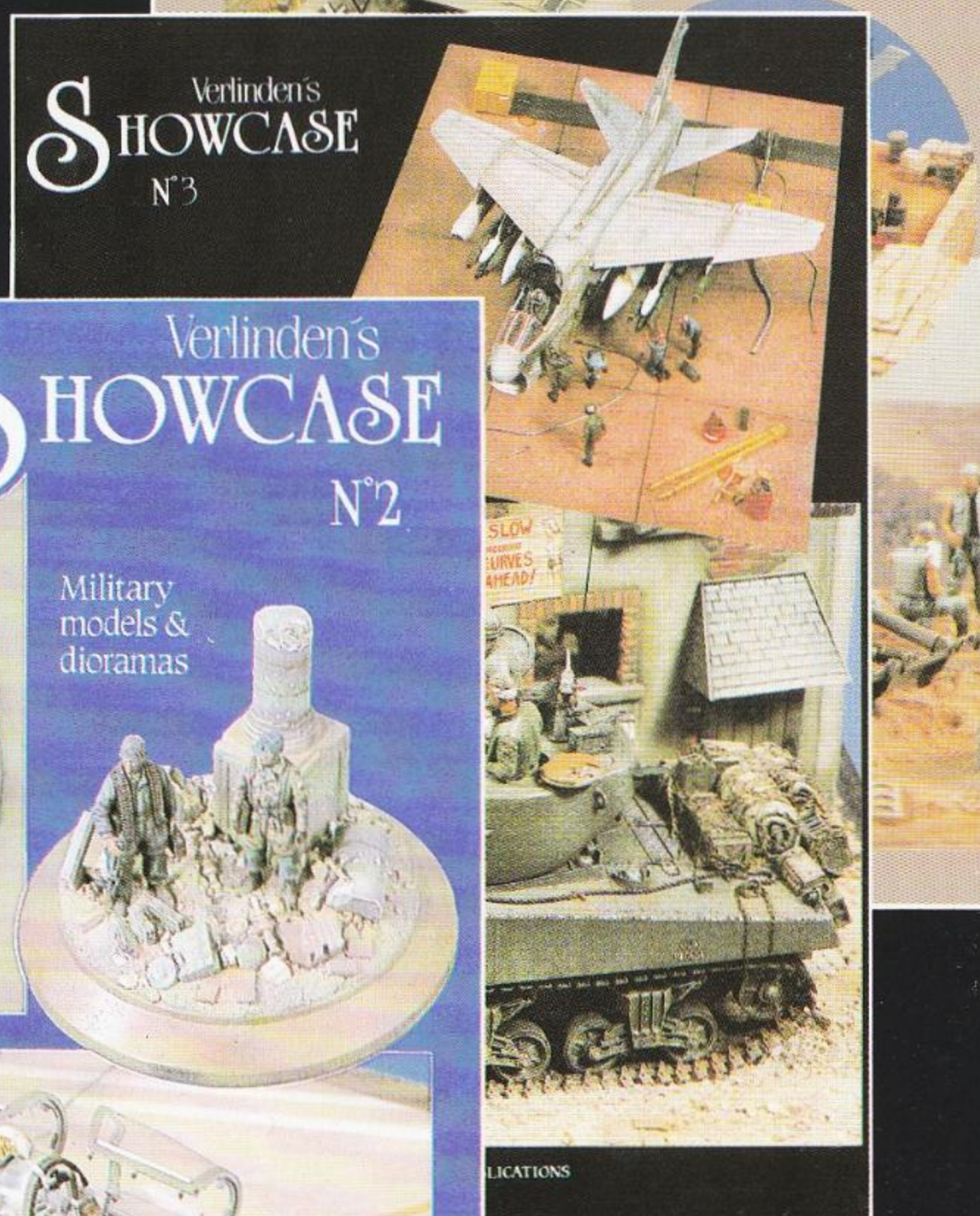
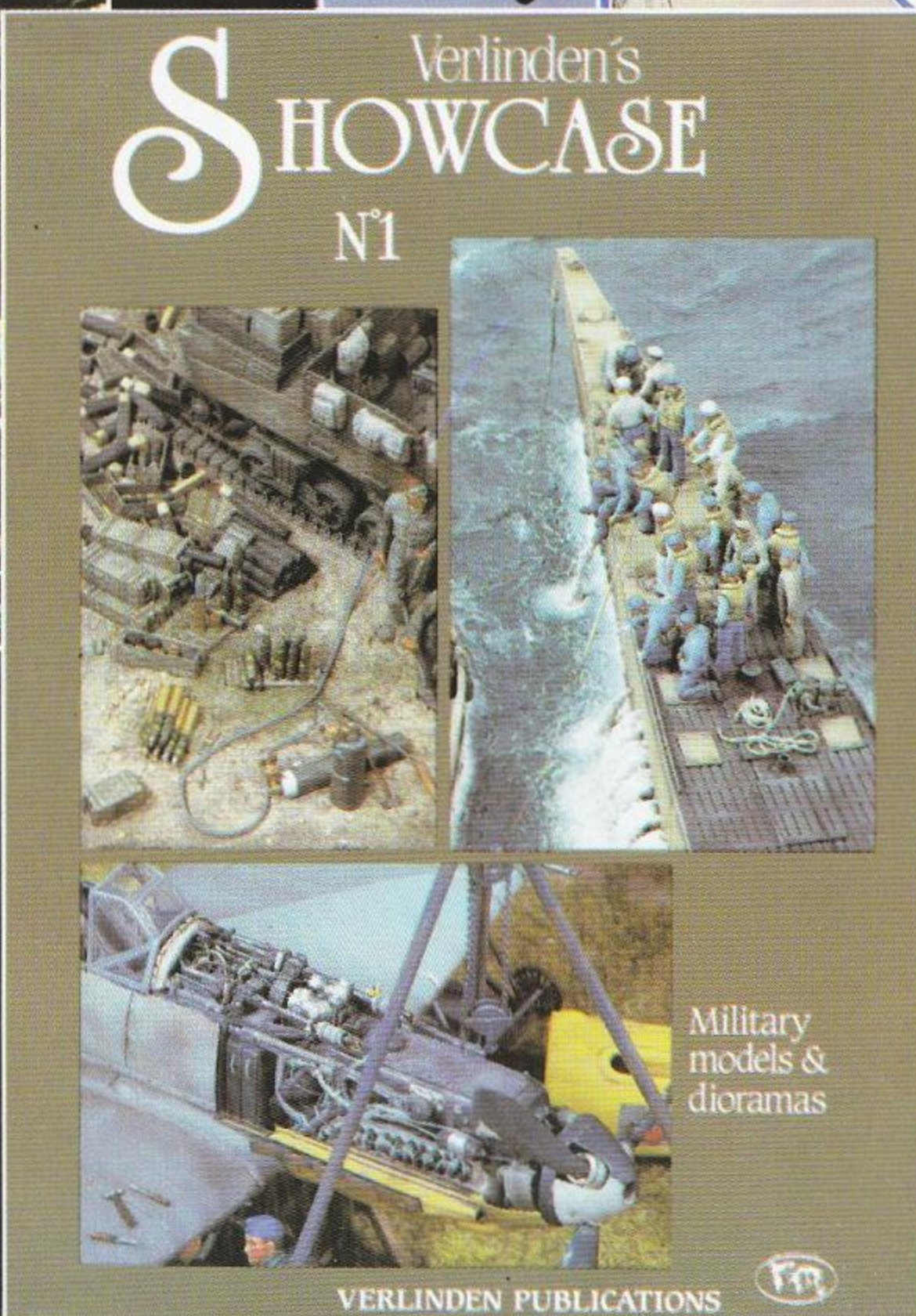


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