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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| APR 28 | Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: Desert Groundwork by Frank Blanton |
| MAY 4-6 | Thu/Fri/Sat AMPS Int'l Convention Camp Hill, PA |
| MAY 26 | Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: Making welds with Slater's rod by Scott Bregi |
| JUN 17 | Saturday am/pm Building Maintenance AND/OR Model Building Day - details TBD VFW Post 10657 |
| JUN 23 | Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: TBD by Tabb Tharrington |

MEETING AGENDA

(segments can vary in length)

- 6:30 BUSINESS
- 7:00 DEMONSTRATION
- 8:00 PASS IN REVIEW
- 9:00 ADJOURNMENT

LOCATION

VFW Post 10657
11568 Cedar Lane
Ashland, VA 23005

PRE-MEETING DINNER



Casa Grande at 5:15 p.m.
10120 Brook Rd
Glen Allen, VA 23059

Demonstration from the March meeting

The demo at the March meeting was a slide show on US Marine Corps Armor Camouflage in WW2 by Mickey Bates. You can [download the presentation here](#).

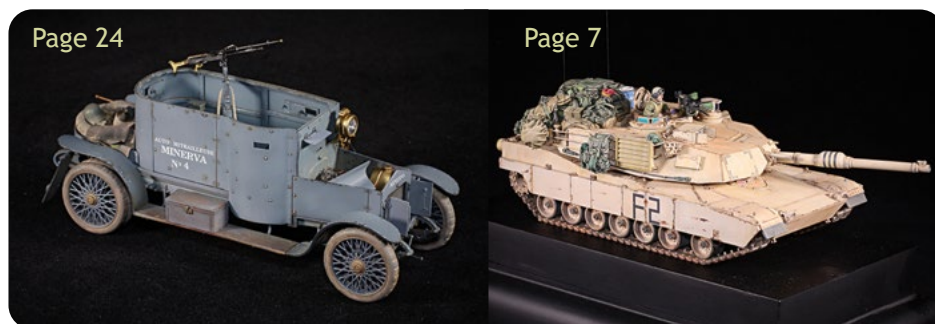


2023 AMPS International Convention

This event opens on Thursday, May 5 and runs through Saturday, May 6. This year the venue is the Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill, PA. If you plan to take a model and enter the display/contest, you can [register now online at the AMPS website](#). You'll be able to enter the venue much faster because you'll have all your forms completed. This early registration ends on May 2, so act fast.

Americans in Wartime Experience

The 2023 Open House is August 26 & 27. [Find out more here](#).





The American M-24 Chaffee Light Tank of WWII

Reprinted from the [*Americans in Wartime Experience*](#).
Ways you can contribute are [at this link](#).

As World War II continued on, the popgun 37mm cannon on the M3 and M5-series of Stuart light tanks was unable to deal with the thickly-armored German panzers. In addition, the 37mm high explosive round was very anemic. So the Ordnance Department in late summer of 1942 began initial design studies trying to incorporate the specifications of the US Army's Armored Force officers for a new light tank.

After a series of fits and starts, the Ordnance Department settled on the 75mm gun T13E1, originally developed as a lightweight nose gun for the Army Air Corps' B-25H medium bomber, as the main armament. Once the gun and recoil system had been decided on, a new turret was built around it.

The new cannon/turret combination obviously required a new chassis. So the Ordnance Department designed a welded armor chassis and incorporated a torsion bar suspension system. Powering it all were two gasoline engines taken from Cadillac. The M-24 had a five-man crew. The turret crew consisted of the Vehicle Commander, Gunner, and Loader. The Driver sat in the

left front of the hull. Unique among American tanks of WWII, the fifth crewman also had a set of driver controls, sitting in the right front of the hull manning a bow machine gun.

Based on the placement of the vehicle's serial number (SN), we believe the Tank Farm's Chaffee was built by Cadillac. The only other builder was Massey-Harris. The SN is only three digits, and by examining the monthly production totals of Cadillac, we believe our M-24 was probably built in the first week of November 1944. Overall, 4,731 Chaffee's were built in 1944 and 1945.

It is possible that our tank was rushed overseas. The M-24 Chaffee saw its combat debut in December 1944 during the Battle of the Bulge. So our M-24 may have seen service in that epic battle. Contrary to popular perception, it was not named Chaffee by the US, but by the British in honor of MG Adna Chaffee, the first commander of the US Armored Force.

Post-war, many M-24 Chaffee's were sent to US Allies under the Mutual Assistance Act to stave off Soviet aggression. Our vehicle found its way into French Army service. Sometime during this period, several modifications were made to the vehicle. Modifications for the most part were done by the US.

Continued, next page...



AMERICANS *in* WARTIME EXPERIENCE

These modifications include removing the 2 inch smoke mortar in the right front of the turret and replacing it with a radio antenna. Inside the turret, a new radio rack under the antenna was mounted. A pintle mount for a .50 BMG machine gun was placed on center top of the turret; and a phone box at the rear of the hull for the following infantry to communicate with the crew along with lots of miscellaneous brackets scattered over the hull.

We acquired our M-24 from the French via an intermediary over 2 decades ago. We did a minor restoration and found much history under its nine layers of paint.

In this case, we hit the jackpot on the M-24's turret. Slowly, painstakingly by hand, our crew uncovered an old French insignia and markings that leads us to believe our M-24 served at one point in time as part of a French parachute unit. In order to document such a historical find, we took numerous photos throughout the restoration process. In addition, we found the French registration number and flag on the front glacis.

The tank's number plate indicates a year of 1961 and the French turret insignia traces the tank back to the 1st Hussars Regiment Parachute. The name painted on the turret is BERCHENY.



Continued, next page...



AMERICANS *in* WARTIME EXPERIENCE

With these data points, our research staff went to work. Because French tanks were typically names after historical figures, or places, we believe that the name Bercheny is actually a reference to Ladislav Ignace de Bercheny, a Hungarian-born (1689) soldier who later became Marshal of France. In 1720, Count Bercheny raised a regiment of Hussard cavalry for then-King Louis XIV. In 1756 after firmly establishing the legacy of Hussars in French cavalry lore, he was made a Marshal, dying in 1778.

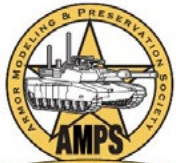
The 1st Hussars has a long and storied unit history serving in the French military. From what our research indicates, they were equipped with M-24's during the Algerian War and fought there

as part of the 25th Parachute Division, operating as part of the general reserve. The unit arrived in 1956 and three armored squadrons at that time were equipped with M-24's.

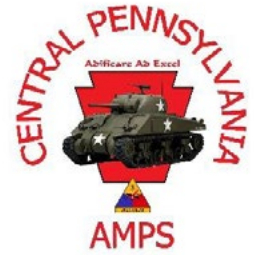
The engines in our M-24 are in very good condition, and because of this restoration she should soldier on for many years to come.

As you can see our restorations and maintenance of our vehicles are quite expensive. Your donations are paramount to helping us preserve the history that these vehicles can share with our future generations. [Click here if you'd like to donate toward the Maintenance & Tank Restoration Fund.](#)





30th Anniversary 1993-2023



AMPS 2023 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



The Pacific

Armor From 1940 – 2023

May 4th – 6th Penn Harris Hotel

1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA

Join Us To Celebrate Our 30th Anniversary!



2023

AMPS-CV monthly meetings occur on the 4th Friday

| | S | M | T | W | Th | F | S | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| JANUARY | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | |
| | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | AMPS-CV Build Day, VFW Post |
| FEBRUARY | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | |
| | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | Old Dominion Open, Richmond, VA |
| MARCH | 26 | 27 | 28 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | |
| | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | AMPS-CV Modeler's Retreat, Fort A.P. Hill, VA |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | |
| APRIL | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | |
| | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | |
| | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |
| MAY | 30 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | AMPS International Convention, Camp Hill, PA |
| | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| JUNE | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | |
| | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | |
| | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | VFW Post Maintenance Day |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | |
| JULY | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 01 | |
| | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | |
| | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | AMPS-CV Build Day, VFW Post |
| AUGUST | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | |
| | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | |
| SEPTEMBER | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | |
| | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | AMPS-CV Build Day, VFW Post |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| OCTOBER | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | |
| | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |
| NOVEMBER | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | |
| | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | AMPS-CV Build Day/Meeting (FRI), Build Day (SAT), VFW Post |
| DECEMBER | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 01 | 02 | |
| | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| AMPS-CV Meeting | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| JANUARY | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | |



Pass and Review from March



Tamiya US M1A2 Abrams
in 1:48 scale
by Ashley Abernathy

The kit was straightforward, but the major upgrade was a Black Dog resin stowage set that required the replacement of the turret bustle. It also required lots of cleanup due to mold seam lines and bubble holes present in some areas. A+B putty was needed in some areas to allow the resin to sit level on the model. Igloo brand logos were printed onto clear decal film, over

painted in white, and then affixed to the cooler. The glass vision block coatings were cut from an AFV Club set designed for 1:35 scale. Unused areas on the sheet were cut to fit the 1:48 model. The figure is from the kit and has a mic boom and cable added from stretched sprue. The base is poplar wood and Masonite, all painted flat black.



Pass and Review from March



**Model Collect Soviet TOS-2
Prospective Thermobaric MLRS**
in 1:72 scale
by Chip Huesinger

There is a lot of photo-etched brass included in this kit and so far it has been frustrating due to the vague instructions. Chip was not happy with the tracks and

plans to take them off for a redo at some point. The hull is cast metal.



Pass and Review from March



Academy German Jagdpanzer 38
in 1:35 scale
by Clint Mills

This was once built and painted but Clint wasn't happy with the wheels and paintwork, so he took a step back and fixed the wheels and repainted the camouflage. Archer Fine Transfers were used for the

markings. The tracks are from Master Club. The tow cable is made from picture hanging wire and the antenna is an Accurate Armor carbon fiber accessory.



Pass and Review from March



Hobby Boss Soviet T-20
in 1:35 scale
by Clint Mills

Clint was just glad to have finished this tedious kit without it beating him. The tracks were the worst thing about it, but they were still used. The kit provides decals

with only German markings. It was painted Model Master Russian Green.



Pass and Review from March



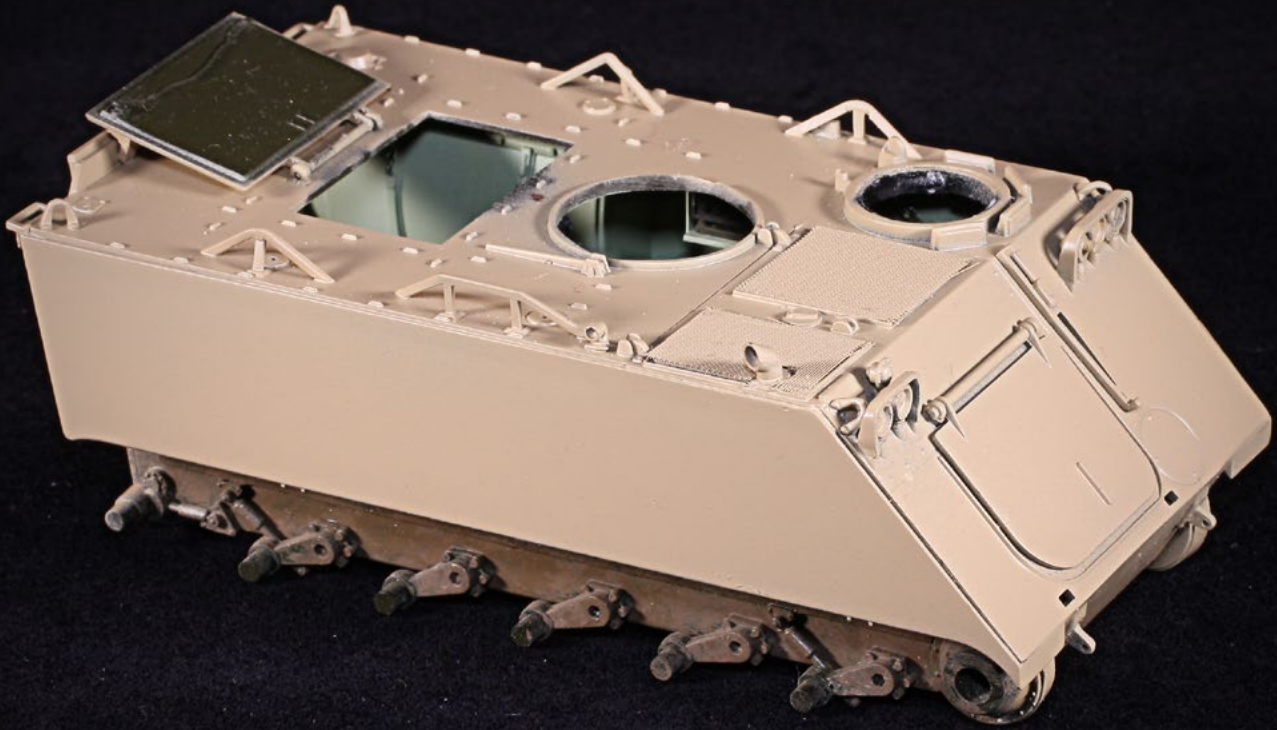
Revell German M48A2C Patton
in 1:35 scale
by Dennis Leonituk

This is one of the nicer kits from Revell and much better than their other M48 kits. However, the lower hull is multiple pieces, is difficult to align properly and requires a lot of putty. The turret's cast armor texture is overdone so Dennis sanded it down some, applied Mr. Surfacer 500 and sanded it some

more to get a better representation of the real thing. The tracks are single-piece soft rubber but with good detail. It was painted Tamiya Olive Drab and the kit's decals used despite some of them being not quite accurate.



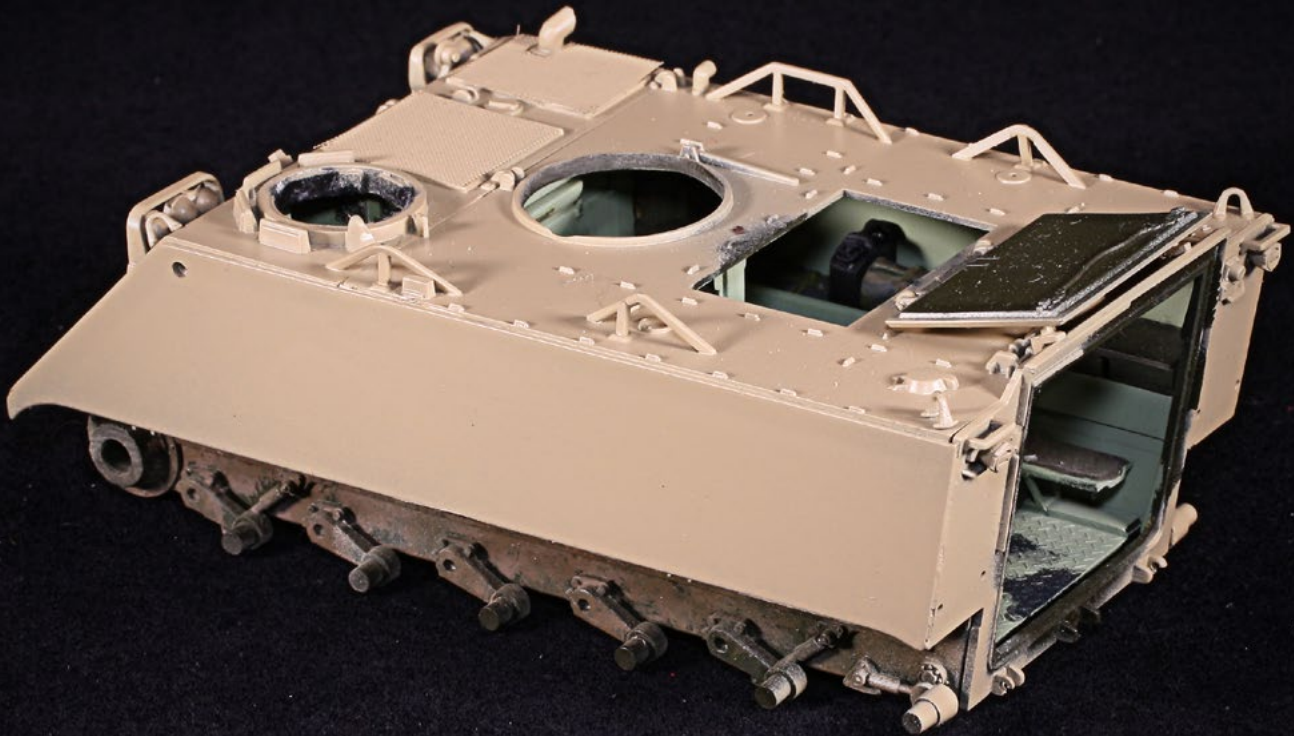
Pass and Review from March



Italeri US M113
in 1:35 scale
by Dennis Leonituk

This M113 is better in some ways than Tamiya's offering but still not as good as the Academy kits. The kit includes a basic interior but incorrectly includes the

gasoline fuel tank when it should be a diesel fuel tank. Otherwise, Dennis is building this mostly OOB.



Pass and Review from March



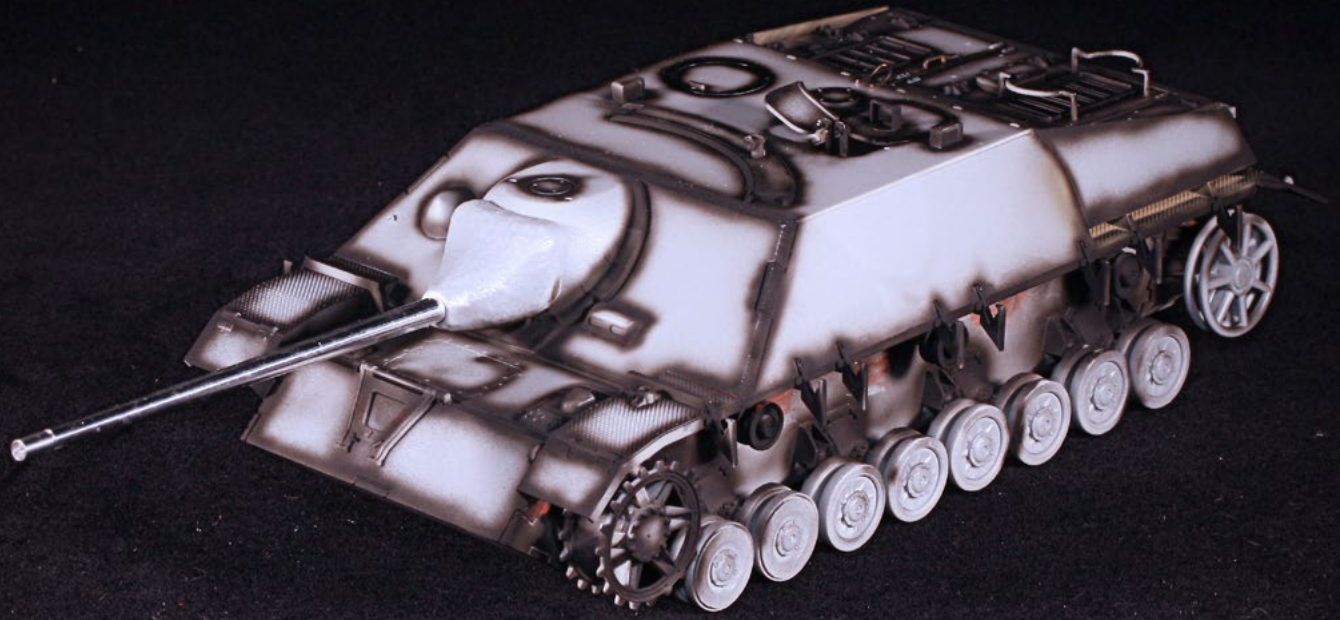
**Bronco German Beute-Panzer
A13 744(e)**
in 1:35 scale
by Frank Blanton

The kit includes photo-etched brass but very few pieces were utilized. The Dunkelgrau finish was distressed by applying mottling with airbrush pattern stencils. Two applications were applied. In the first one, the base color was tinted with brown

and the second one was tinted with green. The groundwork is a XPS foam base coated with Aves ClayShay for groundwork. It was textured with a toothbrush while still soft. The roadbed was created with Pumice Gel Medium. The statue is by Tiger Werke.

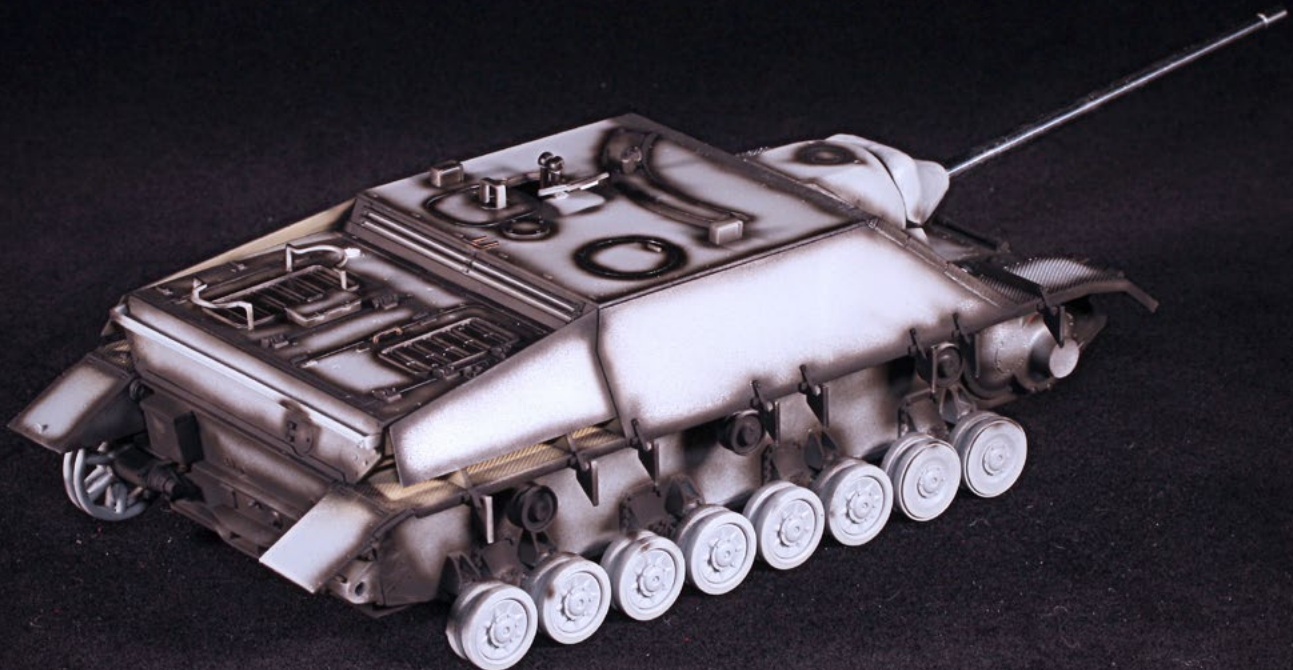


Pass and Review from March



Dragon German Jagdpanzer IV L/70
in 1:35 scale
by Glen Martin

The kit is pretty good despite its age. Glen noted a fit problem with the engine deck. It is ready for camouflaging and already has flat black pre-shading.



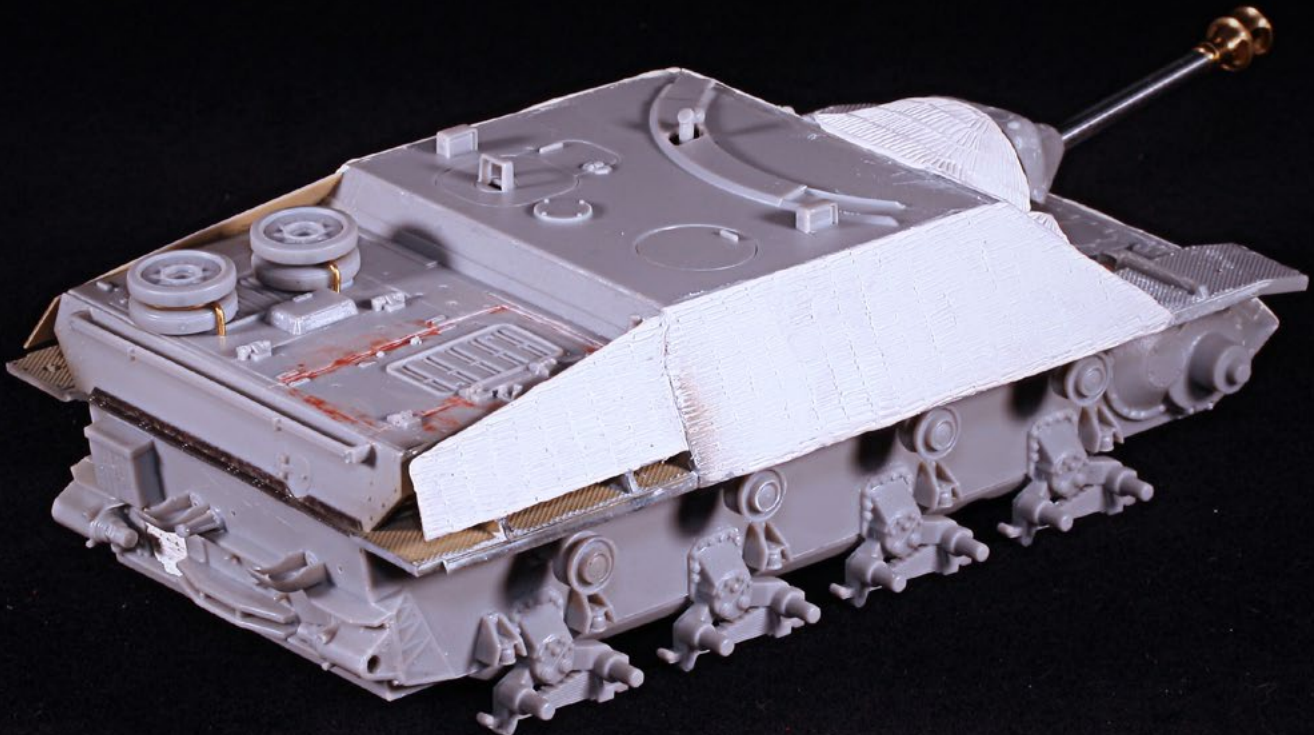
Pass and Review from March



Dragon German Jagdpanzer IV L/48
in 1:35 scale
by Glen Martin

Glen added a metal gun barrel and wire spare wheel racks. The Zimmerit is Aves Apoxie Sculpt. The kit's surfaces were roughed up, the putty was pressed out into a sheet and then applied where needed.

The pattern was impressed with a tiny screwdriver. The metal gun barrel was primed with Mr. Surfacer 1200 to provide a better surface for the acrylic paint.



Pass and Review from March



Academy US M1A2 Abrams SEP TUSK II
in 1:35 scale
by Glen Martin

The turret armor was difficult to install
because there were no alignment keys on
the parts.

Glen's review of this kit is on the [AMPS Website](#).



Pass and Review from March



Academy German JagdPanther
in 1:35 scale
by Glen Martin

The kit is OOB for an AMPS review. More touch ups, detail painting and weathering remain. Alliance Model stencils were used to apply the markings using an airbrush.

Glen's review of this kit is on the [AMPS Website](#).





Pass and Review from March



Bronco Canadian Staghound Mk. 1
in 1:35 scale
by Joe Koenig

Joe improved on the basic details, such as adding a stowage bin, camouflage net, weld lines and wire footman loops. Cast armor texture was improved by stippling liquid styrene cement.



Pass and Review from March



Flyhawk French FT-17 (Germany)
in 1:72 scale
by Steve Bruce

Steve made a base from a Christmas picture frame in the discount bin at Michael's. XPS foam was cut to fit, and it was coated in Hydrocal that was colored with Vallejo paint. Further painting was done with

thin color washes and various grasses and vegetation added from the Scenic Express product line. The figures are from Italeri and had a "Little Green Army Men" vibe, but the details are good.



Pass and Review from March



Takom US M247 Sgt. York
in 1:35 scale
by Scott Bregi

The kit is nice, but the flat panels need careful sanding to fix the mold seams and imperfections. Scott has improved all the weld lines using Slater's red rod textured

with liquid cement. The rear louvers have an empty void behind them and was blanked off with black styrene.



Pass and Review from March



Trumpeter Soviet KET-T
in 1:35 scale
by Scott Bregi

Trumpeter did not include any steering mechanisms in this kit! The wheels are just okay, but Scott hopes an aftermarket manufacturer will issue a resin replacement set.



Pass and Review from March



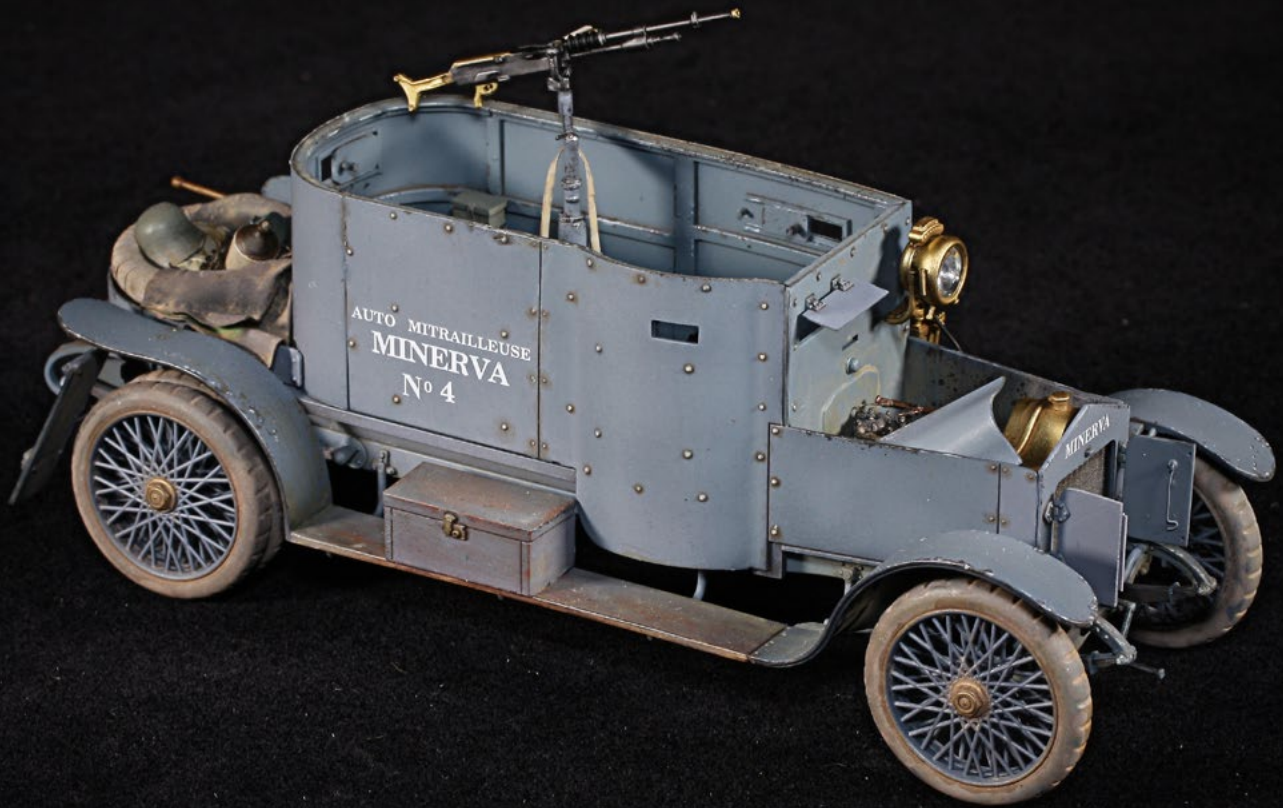
Tamiya Soviet BT-7
in 1:35 scale
by Scott Bregi

Scott opted to depict the tank in travel mode with the tracks removed and stowed on the fenders. The front wheels were turned to illustrate the unique feature of

the real vehicle. The markings are from an Echelon decal set. So far it has some dark washes, light Drybrushing and some pastels for dust.



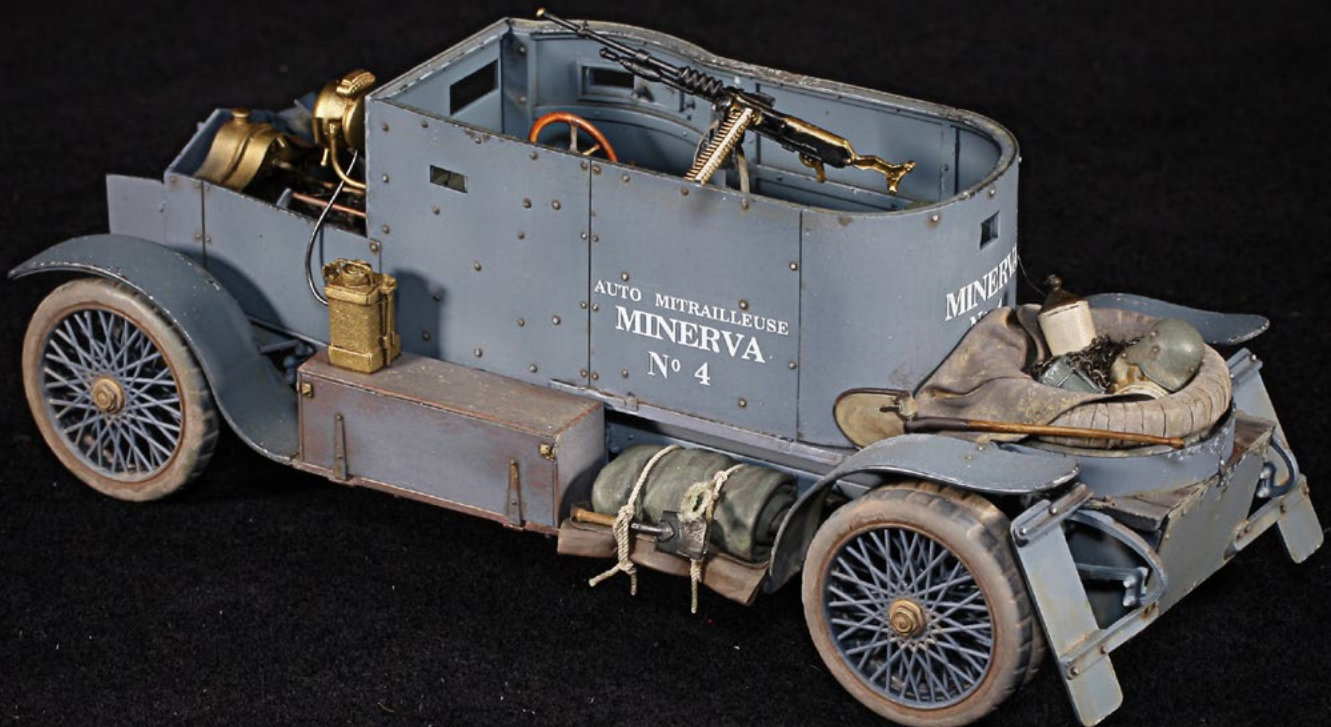
Pass and Review from March



Copper State Models Belgian Minerva 30HP
in 1:35 scale
by Tom Jett

The kit is great, with the instructions that are both thorough and informative. A full engine is provided. It's good enough to build OOB but Tom added a brass acetylene lamp. It was painted with Tamiya acrylics

and weathered with artist oil paints. The hairspray technique was used to distress the wood surfaces.



Pass and Review from March

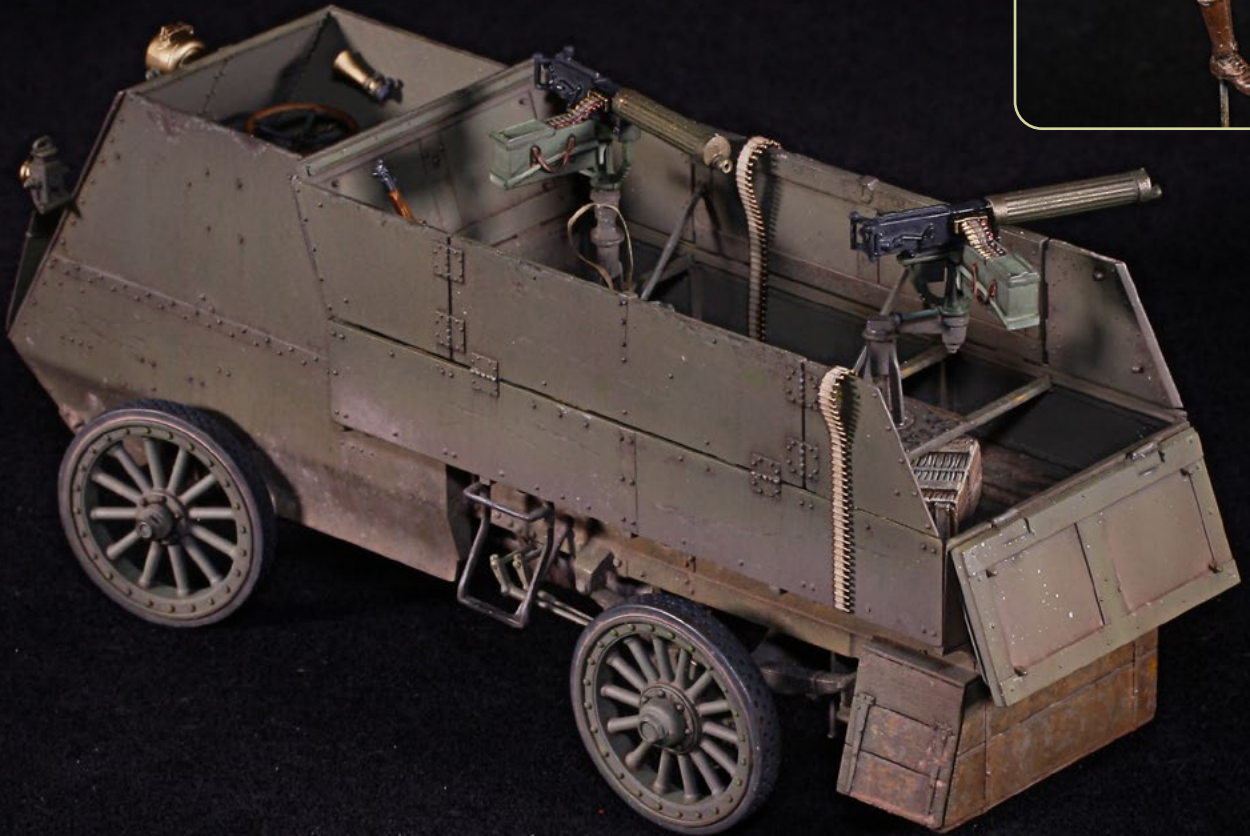


Copper State Models Canadian Armored MG Carrier

in 1:35 scale

by Tom Jett

Another superb kit from CSM, however this one does not include an engine. Replacement 3D wheels from CSM were used which have better detail on the tread. The ammo belts are from GasPatch Models.



Pass and Review from March



Miniart Austin Armored Car
in 1:35 scale
by Tom Jett

It's a very nice kit but takes a little patience to build with all the tiny parts. A full interior and engine are included. Tom created a distressed patina on the gun pedestal by first base coating with Alclad

Dark Aluminum and then airbrushing Mission Models paint (without additives). The MM paint can then be worn off using just plain water and a paintbrush.





AMPS-CV Quartermaster

This page is dedicated to member-recommended products and places to purchase hobby products.

If you have a company you want to add to this list, contact your editor [via the chapter website](#).

Product Manufacturers

[Abteilung 502](#)
[AK-Interactive](#)
[Alliance ModelWorks](#)
[AMMO of Mig Jimenez](#)
[Archer Fine Transfers](#)
[Armand Bayardi](#)
[Badger Airbrush](#)
[Bolddivision](#)
[Copper State Models](#)
[D-Day Miniature Studio](#)
[DN Models](#)
[Echalon Fine Details](#)
[Elefant Corporation](#)
[Eureka XXL](#)
[GasPatch Models](#)
[Hauler](#)
[Heavy Hobby](#)
[Live Resin](#)
[Maus Werx](#)
[Mission Models Paints](#)
[MJ Miniatures](#)
[Modern Masters Metal Effects](#)
[Monroe Perdu Studios](#)
[Panzer Art](#)
[Paracel Miniatures](#)
[Precision Ice and Snow](#)
[RB Model](#)
[ResinScales](#)
[Roch Model](#)
[Scenic Express](#)
[Squadron Hobbies](#)
[Star Decals](#)
[Syren Ship Model](#)
[Track48](#)
[Valkyrie Miniature](#)
[Woodland Scenics](#)

Miscellaneous

[paintRack](#) (mobile app for Android)
[Scale Mates](#)

Hobby Vendors

[Barrel Store](#)
[BNA Model World](#)
[Central Tools](#)
[Dick Blick Art Materials](#)
[Frontline Model Kits & Hobbies](#)
[Gundam Planet](#)
[Hobby Easy](#)
[Hobby Search](#)
[HobbyLink Japan](#)
[HobbyWorld-USA](#)
[Last Cavalry](#)
[Lots of Models](#)
[Lucky Model](#)
[MicroWorld Games, LLC](#)
[MMC Design-Shapeways](#)
[Shapeways 3D Parts](#)
[Sprue Brothers Models](#)



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|---------------|--------|---------|---------|
| USA | \$30 | \$55 | \$80 |
| Canada/Mexico | \$35 | \$65 | \$95 |
| All Other | \$40 | \$75 | \$110 |

Membership includes the society's Boresight magazine that is published six times per year. In it are exclusive articles about armor research and modeling.



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