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Modeling

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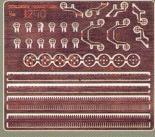
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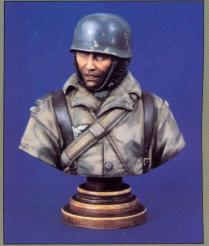


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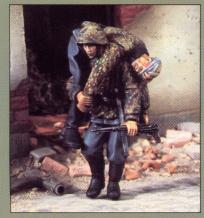
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VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS VERLINDEN PUBLICATIONS

Modeling books & accessories

Volume 8 Number 3

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ART DEPARTMENT Art Director: Judith DE BIE Staff Artist: Joe PORTER Staff Photographers: François VERLINDEN **Bob LETTERMAN**

SALES Sales Manager: Tom GERRINGER Assistant: Julie NOAH

EDITORIAL OFFICE 811 Lone Star Drive Lone Star Industrial Park O'Fallon, MO 63366 USA

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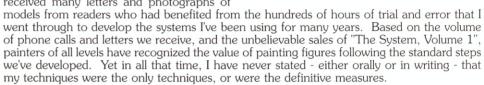
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From the editor

spent the first ten years of my hobby career experimenting with many techniques for figure painting. When Shep Paine's book on dioramas came out, I began trying washes and drybrushing, and eventually developed my own style. Some time later, over 20 years ago, I opened my hobby shop in Belgium, and many customers began to ask me how I painted the models I had on display. I eventually began to teach groups of men from Belgium, Holland, and Germany. I was always amazed at the "before and after" of their work, comparing their previous efforts to what they could accomplish with some simple washing and drybrushing techniques.

Later, when I began publishing books, I received many letters and photographs of



I've witnessed some articles recently saying that drybrushing is out. I don't believe that for a minute. There are a tiny group of select modelers in the world who possess great artistic talent, and whose output is relatively very small. You can try to emulate their efforts and copy their style, but the techniques you employ to paint a figure should be based on your own good judgement and your personal capabilities. If you get excellent results using household latex and a paint roller, then more power to you! But don't be swayed because a person or persons dictates that theirs is the only way to approach a project. My personal method relies to some extent on drybrushing, but only in the manner I've written about so many times.

Washing and drybrushing have made this hobby the art form it is today. If you are Michelangelo and have unlimited talent, you could probably employ any technique and get excellent results. But most of us aren't Rembrandts, and you cannot transfer artistic talent. You either have it or you don't.

How you paint a figure is up to you. If you enjoy our box art and our many modeling guides, and are willing to dedicate vourself to continual practice and improvement, then you're on the right track. Use your head and add or subtract your own touches to get the best results. Because the only thing that matters when you've finished painting a figure is this: Does it

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Back issues available direct by mail order (not by subscription), or through your local hobbyshop or local dealers. As of Vol.7 No.2 there is no longer a French version; some countries will supply a translation. The Italian and German versions stopped with Vol. 7 No.3.. The Verlinden Catalogue No.14 gives an indication to the availability of all the issues and languages, although some, issues may have sold out since the printing of the catalogue, Check with your supplier for availability on back issues.

FIRST CORSAIR ACE KENNETH WALSH

A 1/48 Scale Diorama by Gordon STRONACH



THE MODEL

Tamiya's new 1/48 scale F4U Corsair (#61046) is a marvel of injection molded technology. From its crisp engravings and details to its engineering of the parts, everything is a drop fit in place, truly a "put the glue in the box and shake" kit. VP's new update kit N°1220 - F4U-1/2 Superdetail Set helps

 $\dot{\text{VP}}$'s new update kit $\dot{\text{N}}$ °1220 - F4U-1/2 Superdetail Set helps spruce up the cockpit, a false front engine and positionable tail surfaces. The seat has a molded on harness which saves time and hassle from having to "lace up" photo-etch buckles.

ASSEMBLY

Assembly of the Corsair is simple without any problems. The completed cockpit assembly was attached to one side of the fuse-lage and then closed up with the other side. The engine was painted, weathered, and inserted through the back of the nacelle. The seam between the windscreen and fuselage, and the area left open by cutting the rudder off are the only spots that need filling.

PAINTING - THE COCKPIT

In most of my cockpits (sometimes excluding bombers), I choose to brush paint and save the hassle of airbrush setup. I started with a base coat of Interior Green, followed by a Raw Umber/Burnt

Sienna wash, and on to dry brushing with a lighter shade of green.

PAINTING - THE INSTRUMENT PANEL

Black boxes, circuit panels and other controls were painted Flat Black. Seat belts were painted first with light tan and then highlighted with white. Dials on the instrument panel were painted with white oil paint. I like painting these and other small fine areas with oil paint because it doesn't dry on the brush before reaching the surface! Small amounts of silver were dry brushed in obvious areas to simulate wear and tear. Details were added with dots of red and yellow. Placards were simulated by painting a black square and dotting the middle of it with white.

Engine

After wiring up the photoetch on the resin engine facade, the complete engine and governor were basecoated with Matte Black. The large, bulbous center piece was painted grey.

A wash of Raw Umber and Burnt Sienna deepens and "greases" the shadows. A dry brush of silver printer's ink mixed with Raw Umber accentuates the highlights and produces a good feel of dimension.

THE AIRFRAME

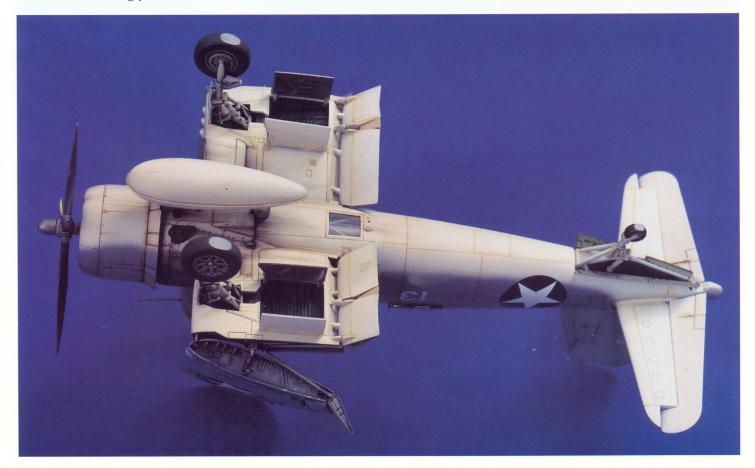
In preparation for airbrushing - the folded wings, landing gear and props were separated. The cockpit was masked over and a circular cardboard disc with a slit in it was inserted in the nacelle. A light scrubbing with a worn out Scotch Brite pad (the grey kind) roughens up and evens out any blemishes. This might sound daunting or intimidating, but don't be alarmed, the subtle detail won't disappear! This scrubbing gives the surface a good tooth for better paint adhesion and an even consistency. Base coat paint needs to be durable.

Canopies were masked with BMF as was the ventral window. After surface preparation it's time to paint! A coat of light grey was the first to go on the undersides and for the uppers intermediate blue covers the rest. A light grey shade of intermediate blue mixed with white (70/30) was misted on in a "cloud pattern" to the uppermost broad surfaces to help fade the paint. After the paint had set up (48 hours), once again the airframe was scrubbed with worn out Scotch-Brite to smooth the surface for decals. Decals were applied using the Aeromaster system and went on seamlessly, another marvel to modern modeling technology. Follow the system and the results are unequaled. A heavy coat of matte varnish acts as a "force field" to protect the basecoat from the brutal weathering process.



Above: The use of metalizing in high traffic areas.

Below: Oil streaks, fuel drips and light color wash (note wing joint).



WEATHERING

Raw Umber thinned with turpentine and layed in the engravings and raised detail started the weathering on the uppers. After the wash has been laid down, the majority of the excess is wiped away (in the direction of airflow) with a cloth dampened with turpentine leaving just a hint of color. This process was done in 2" square segments.

Repeat the same procedure for the lowers with substituting Yellow Ochre for the Raw Umber. The Yellow Ochre is better suited for the lighter grey undersides.

Local washes were applied in certain areas such as hinges and well-used sections. Darker Raw Umber & Black were applied locally around movable surfaces: cowl flaps, ailerons, trim tabs, hatches, etc.

Next comes metalizing. This process gives the illusion that the plane is made of aluminum (metal) instead of plastic. The process is easy but too much can be overdone, negating the effect, finding the balance is tricky. Starting sparingly with a very light dry brushing with silver printer's ink mixed with Raw Umber (to tone the brightness down) around high traffic and maintenance areas. Following this, a wet mix of the same is applied in small dots and slashes to simulate chipped paint in handled areas. Another wet mixture of straight Raw Umber and Burnt Sienna is





Exhaust stains using pastels - Black and Dark Brown.

applied in a drip style around leaky areas: fuel fillers, brake lines, panel joints and around the nacelle and landing gear.
Pastels, mixes of black, dark brown, and light grey, are streaked and feathered back from archant parts gur murales and size.

from exhaust ports, gun muzzles and ejection parts using a stiff old brush to scrub the first application and then a dusting with a soft brush.

COMPLETING THE MODEL

The remaining parts (prop, landing gear, tailgate, doors, and landing lights) were brush painted and attached to the airframe. Navigation lights were detailed by slicing off the plastic "bulb" and replacing with 5-minute epoxy delicately "blobbed" on using a toothpick, a very effective touch. Last, but not least, the antenna was attached by using stretched clear sprue anchored at both ends with superglue and pulled taut by waving a lit cigarette under the line. Insulators and pulleys were painted on using white and black.

Fabric surfaces are distinguished by highlighting them a degree more.





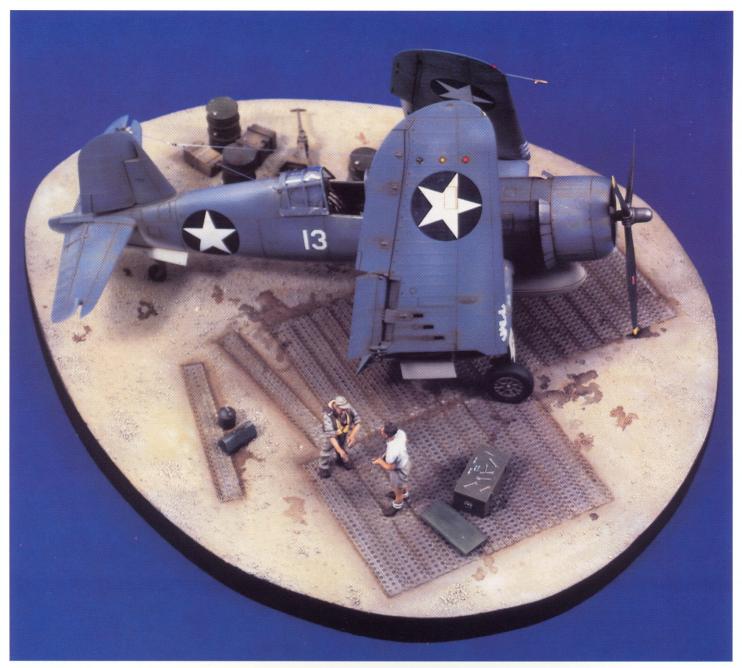
White tape keeps dust out of the gun muzzles (note worn paint on props).

THE DIORAMA: A TEMPORARY AIRBASE
The setting is middle 1943 in the South
Pacific near the Solomon Islands during
the "Island Hopping" offensive. An irregular shape of marine foam was cut and
sanded smooth. A coat of light tan acrylic
craft paint with fine sand sprinkled in it
acts as hard packed island sand. VP 0884
- PSP Plating was glued on and weathered
like metal. A light colored wash was
applied and a drybrush of almost white.

THE FIGURES

The figures were kit based using various VP figure parts in 1/48 scale. The figure with the shorts was made by nipping off the lower end of the trousers and making legs and socks with Milliput. Figures were painted according to VP 0855 "The System-Figure Painting" and adapted to the smaller scale.

"Cloud patterns" on the uppers give the illusion of the sun bleached harsh climate.



Pilot discussing a dogfight with his Crewchief (Note balance of accessories).

Accessories were taken from various VP 1/48 scale accessories.

Kits : Tamiya 1/48 F4-U Corsair VP 1220 Corsair Update

Figures Various 1/48 figures

VP 0483 USAAF Fighter Pilots WWII

VP 0424 US Army / USAF Ground Crew / Vietnam Paint : Interior : Humbrol 86 Green and Flat Black VP 0467 Luftwaffe WWII Pilot & Crew Humbrol 72, 33 & 34

Decals : Aeromaster "Birdcage Corsair" Part 1 48-255

Aeromaster Aero-Set & Aero-Sol

Accessories : Various VP 0322 Airfield Accessories

VP 1132 Luftwaffe Maintenance Corner

VP 0884 PSP Plating

Bomb Trolley: Revell Monogram Airfield Accessories # RM5930

Exterior: AD Inter.Blue FS35164

AD Light Grey FS36440 Groundwork : Ceramcoat Lichen Grey 02118

References:

Osprey Aircraft of the Aces #8: Corsair Aces of WWII

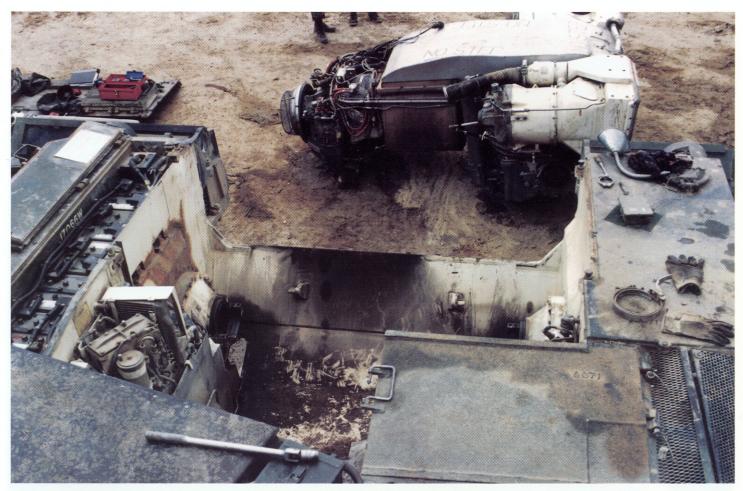




The engine deck, connected to a T-frame, is lifted by the crane of an M88 recovery vehicle.

IN THE FIELD: M1A1 Abrams Engine Change

The complete power plant hoisted out of the compartment. The auxiliary transmission oil cooler is to the right, engine exhaust duct in the center, and primary transmission and engine cooler to the left.



The engine compartment seen from the top of the turret. Note the battery compartment open to the left. To its right is the fuel pump and filter.



The powerpack is lifted by the M88, allowing maintenance to the underside.



The M1 AGT 1500 Powerpack consists of turbine-engine transmission, final drive and cooling systems.



The empty engine bay seen from the rear. Note the heavy weathering from fuel, oil, and water. Of particular interest is the paint at the bottom, burnt away from the exhaust heat.



MODELERS IN FOCUS:

Tom Gerringer





Idon't really consider myself to be an avid model builder; yet after working around Bob and Francois for over a decade, I finally felt sufficiently inspired to give modeling a shot. This is not so much a hobby for me as it is something I have watched in amazement for so long, and I could hardly ask for better instructors!

With less than a handful of figures and a few built kits under my belt, I wasn't really sure how to get a larger project started. The idea was that I would incorporate some damaged buildings, figures, and vehicles in a bridge scene, but I have to admit that this diorama "happened" as I went along.

I combined VP's Ruined Street with the Ruined German Trade House. The Trophy bridge is the major portion of the diorama. Tamiya's Sherman M4A3 with a VP 76mm turret fit in nicely, along with a jeep from Italeri. All figures and accessories are from the Verlinden range.

I scratchbuilt the sidewalks using cardboard with mattboard glued to the surface, and plaster of Paris spread over the top. The stones were scribed with a hobby knife and a ruler, then chipped and worn. The doors were fashioned from sheet styrene. All wood surfaces were painted with Testors acrylic yellow, then weathered with Raw Umber oil paints. This project took quite a bit longer than I anticipated, and gave me a lot of appreciation for what goes into a diorama.



CONVERSION CORNER

by Joe Porter

Create Your Own 120mm Figures Using Basic Kits & Parts

nyone who takes on a German figure will soon discover that there are literally thousands of possible uniforms and combinations. I believe that the endless variety of camouflage and colors leads to our fascination with the German Army of WWII. Over the past seven years, Verlinden Productions has released dozens of 120mm German figures, from the general to the specific. If you're looking for something a little different than an out-of-the-box figure but don't possess the skills of a master sculptor, this new series of articles will help get you started in figure conversions.

I've taken six VP Germans, old and new, plus some of the favorite accessory packs, mixed them all up in a big bucket, and pulled out five all-new figures. We'll go through them one by one over the next several issues. The figures listed below are the ones we will be using, followed by the parts to create this first figure.

0400 - German Officer, Russia - Torso, binoculars

0443 - Panzerjaeger Ostfront - Left arm 0497 - SS Officer - Legs, boots, holster 0861 - SS Grenadier Ardennes - Left hand

1078 - Volkssturm Tankhunter - Head 1107 - Oberst Panzerabteilung - Torso, right arm & hand

0448 - German Infantry Equipment - Map case, MP40, ammo pouch

0484 - Uniform Insignia (etched)

0606 - German Uniform Badges (decals)

Milliput, plus all your regular modeling tools

FIGURE 1 -German Infantry Hauptmann (Captain), Winter 1944

Our first figure depicts a German Infantry Captain in winter clothing. I wanted to create a German officer in the reversible winter jacket with his tunic collar and Knight's Cross visible. Using the torso from 0400 and a motor tool with a slen-

der grinding bit, I removed the scarf and hollowed out the neck area. Next, I removed the collar and Knight's Cross from 1107 using a razor saw, and attached it to my modified torso, filling the small gaps with Milliput and sculpting a new scarf. I decided on the left hand with the woolen glove from 0861 and the left arm from 0443. This arm has the large trigger finger mitten molded on, which was sawn off at the wrist (and saved for another figure). The remainder of the large mitten on the forearm was sanded off, and 0861's left hand attached. I used 1107's right arm and hand, and they can be modified as shown with Milliput and a bit of patience.

Legs, boots, head, and equipment are as indicated. The torso requires a small bit of carving and sanding to allow the ammo pouch and map case to fit snugly. Lead foil was used to create the weapon sling, map case loops, and D-ring harness strap for the ammo pouch. I also drilled out the front ring sight on the MP40 and gave it a larger cocking handle from a piece of stretched sprue. The right hand mitten was created from Milliput and stuffed behind the ammo pouch.

PAINTING

While researching this figure, I came across an interesting pattern in Windrow & Greene's 'Wehrmacht Camouflage Uniforms'. As opposed to the SS, the Wehrmacht had one broadly used splinter pattern, a derivative of which was used to create the Luftwaffe fallschirmjager pattern.

However, a second pattern called the 'Sumpfmuster', or marsh pattern, appeared in 1943, using a much softer, blurred pattern. Pages 35 and 36 of the reference show this pattern to good effect.

To create the Sumpfmuster, the base color was airbrushed using Humbrol 23 Duck Egg Blue Matte, followed by a pattern of Humbrol 102 Army Green Matte and Humbrol 70 Brick Red Matte. The latter two colors were thinned more than usual and sprayed at 5 p.s.i. The jacket was sealed by spraying Testors Dullcote, and after drying a thinned wash of 50/50 Mars Brown/Raw Umber was applied. This wash is critical to achieve the soft rustic color of the pattern. Shadows and recesses were then shaded with straight Mars Brown/Raw Umber. A small brush was used to dab the mixture into the deeper areas, and a larger brush was then used to feather the shading color the length of each crease. Finally, the splinter pattern was applied using a 10/0 liner brush and Aeromaster 9023 Schwarzgrun.

The remainder of the figure was painted using artist oils and Humbrol and Aeromaster enamels. The boots were basecoated with flat black enamel, then accented with Ivory Black and Mars Brown oils using a large, soft brush.

Officer's trousers were painted with Aeromaster 9022 Schwarzgrau and the Bergmutze cap with Humbrol 31 Slate Grey Matte, then both were shaded with Raw Umber. Flesh and all leather items were painted with straight oils. The holster was done in Mars Brown and the map case in Burnt Sienna, then shaded with Raw Umber. All metal parts were painted with silver printer's ink, varying the tone with Raw Umber.

Wehrmacht officer's collar insignia and the Alpenkorps Edelweiss badge on the cap were taken from the 0606 sheet. The captain's bars and oakleaves sleeve insignia was handpainted. The Knight's Cross was dressed up with the Oak Leaves, Swords, and Diamonds from the 0484 set, and finally a large map from Last Cavalry was added.

Basic techniques, and a very pleasing result. In the next issue, we'll move on to figure #2.



References: Wehrmacht Camouflage Uniforms - Windrow & Greene German Soldiers of World War II - Histoire & Collections German Combat Equiments 1939-45 - Osprey #234 Badges & Insignia of the Third Reich - Brian Davis

THE FÜHRER'S LAST GAMBLE

Ardennes, December 1944

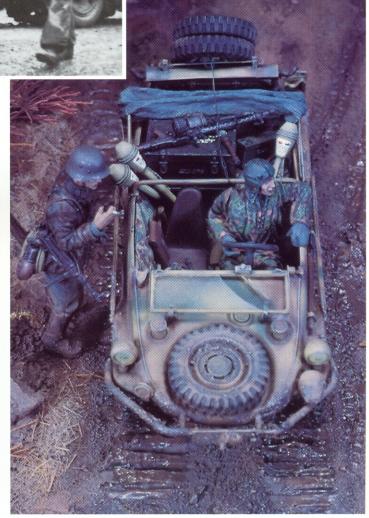
1/35 Diorama by Young Jin Won



The Battle of the Bulge commenced at 0530 hours on December 4, 1944. Germany deployed a total of 25 divisions with 1,900 guns and 1,000 tanks and self-propelled guns. This was to be Hitler's last gamble in the West, and many Allied and German soldiers paid with their lives for his folly.

A popular photo from that battle shows a pair of SS soldiers approaching a roadsign, with a SdKfz.250 on the road behind them. This is a closed-in photo, so I expanded the scene to include a Schwimmwagen and the farmer's carts.







I used the ADV conversion set to change Tamiya's 250/3 GREIF to a 250/1. The Schwimmwagen is the reliable standard from Italeri, and both carts are old offerings from Historex. The VP cart, #1082, had not been released when this diorama was constructed. The two walking figures are stock Warriors, and all others are conversions using Verlinden and Warriors figures. VP 0028, Roadsigns - Battle of the Bulge, offered the exact signage seen in the photograph.

The groundwork was formed using plaster, sand, small stones, and static grass. Before the plaster hardened, various wheel and trck marks were pressed into the groundwork. All 22 trees were scratchmade using dried flowers and small twigs. Hudson & Allen Hay was spread on the abandoned cart.

It's a real challenge to duplicate an entire photo into a diorama, but careful study will make the effort worthwhile. This is a relatively simple scene, but one with great historical accuracy.

Left: The VP roadsigns (0028) were actually taken from the same photograph.

Bottom: The overall diorama has a fine impact. The angle of the figures, roadsign, and half-track perfectly represents the actual photograph.

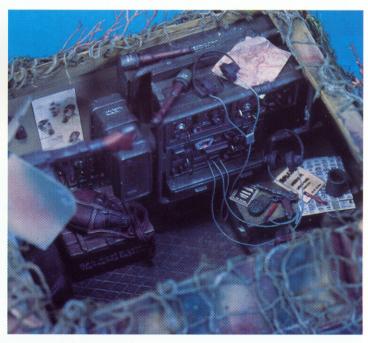




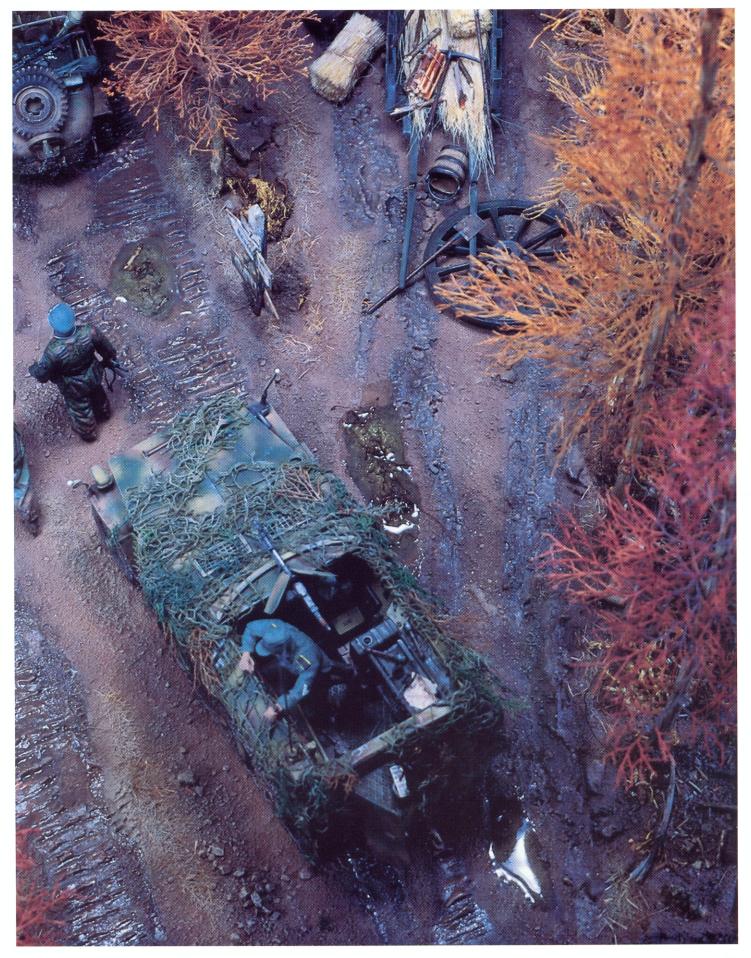


The abandoned Historex carts. Note the effective weathering, and the realistic touch which the hay brings to the scene.

Italeri's Schwimmwagen, fully loaded. VP 0569 (German Tool & Ammo Boxes), 0637 (German Infantry Equipment), and 0916 (Communications & Medical Equipment) were used throughout both vehicles.



VP, Tamiya, and DML accessories filled up the 250/3.



US MARINE CORPS LAVS - PART V MORTAR CARRIER

Part Five of Six in our ongoing look at the workhorse of the USMC

The mortar LAV carries an M252 81mm mortar to provide indirect fire support to light infantry and reconnaissance forces. It carries a crew of five: driver, vehicle commander, and three-man mortar team.

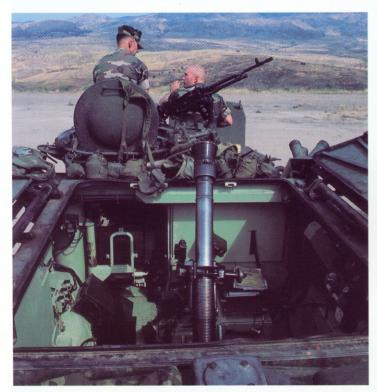
The mortar crew hanging an 81mm high explosive round. The high angle of a mortar round allows it to be used behind hills, safe from counterfire.







The mortar LAV with the rear doors open. On the inside of the left door is a baseplate and on the right is a bipod so the mortar can be removed from the vehicle and set up.



The top of the mortar LAV opens via three hatches to allow the barrel to elevate. It can also be rotated 360° . Five rounds of ready ammo is carried, along with 94 rounds in stowage.



Crewman about to drop a mortar round. Just in front of the crewman on the left is the sight for the mortar.





Top: In addition to its 81 mm mortar, this variant has a 7.62 mm machine gun with 1,000 rounds of ammo for self-protection.

Left: One of the mortar crew prepares a round for firing. Each LAV battalion is normally assigned eight mortar LAVs.

Bottom : The rounds just fired by the mortar can be seen striking the target area, just to the left of the sitting observer.



HETZER HIDEOUT

Belgium - 1944

A 1/35th Scale Vignette By F. VERLINDEN



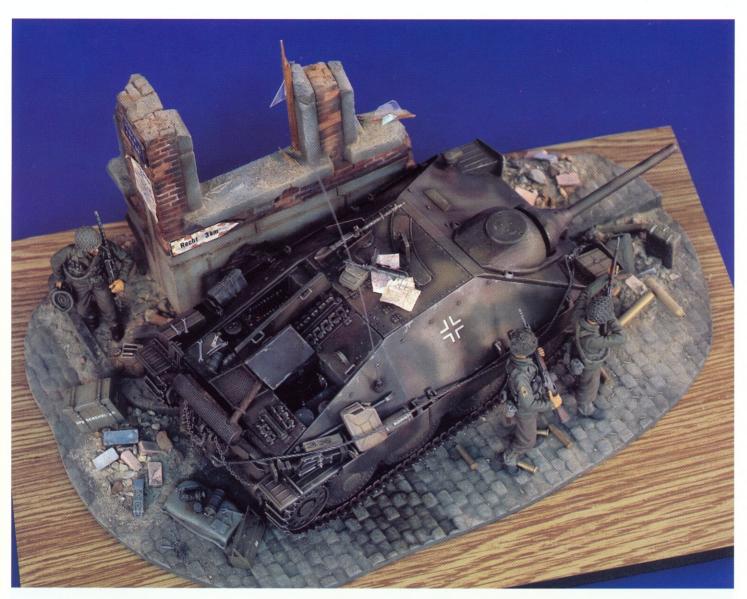
In any war of any era, abandoned vehicles are a constant. Engine breakdowns, lack of parts, lack of fuel, capture, surrender - all of these contribute to the sight of military transports littering the battle area.

Such is the scene depicted here. American GIs are using an abandoned Hetzer for cover as they fire upon retreating German troops. Small vignettes such as these can speak a powerful message by combining artistry, thought, and the right materials.



The centerpiece for the diorama is DML's Hetzer, greatly enhanced by the addition of the VP engine compartment.





The finished scene. Note the effective use of rubble and a wide assortment of gear from the VP range. Keeping even a small variety of accessory kits on your workbench will give you an endless source of supplies and weapons for your dioramas.

The largest elements of the diorama are laid out on the new VP cobblestone sheet. Various components of the VP Sidewalk/Walkway set were used to construct the curb, and the building was taken from the Diorama Base/Street Corner (now discontinued).

Corner (now discontinued). However, any VP building, or part of it, can be used to add depth and character to such scenes. To avoid a perfectly rectangular base, all elements are laid out and marked with a pencil, then the sheet is cut out in an oval pattern.





ITEMS USED:

DML/DRAGON:

Early Hetzer

VERLINDEN:

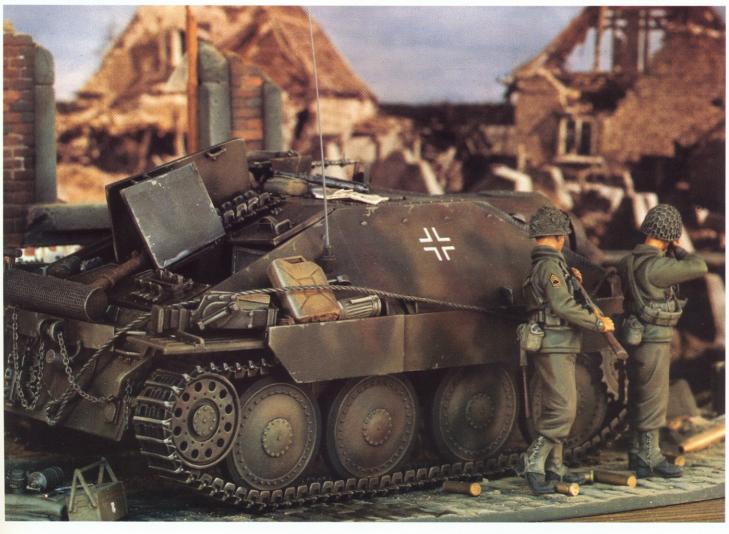
0747 - US Riflemen WWII 0754 - US Cal. .30 Machine Gun Team 0569 - German Tool & Ammo Boxes

0637 - German Infantry Equipment WWII 0790 - Toolset (Photo-etched) 0028 - Roadsigns/Battle of the Bulge

1097 - Hetzer Engine & Compartment 1145 - Cobblestone Sheet, Resin 1150 - 75mm Ammo Super Value 1155 - Sidewalk/Walkway

Plus additional accessories from 0231, 0916, and 1002





your imagination with new kits from Italeri!



#0298 · M-978 Oshkosh Fuel Truck · Scale 1:35



#0233 · Chevrolet 15CWT Truck #0078 · Jaguar "A" French A.F. #0295 · T 34/85 Soviet Tank (Limited Edition) • Scale 1:35



Scale 1:72





#0303 · Italian Paratroops WWII #0305 · Italian Attack Troops Scale 1:35



WWII · Scale 1:35



#0601 · BO-105/PAH 1 Helicopter • Scale 1:72



#0848 · F-16B/D Viper Scale 1:48



#0107 · F84F Thunderstreak (Limited Edition) · Scale 1:72



#0115 · ME-321 B-1 Gigant Glider (Limited Edition) Scale 1:72



#0119 · Heinkel HE-111 Zwilling #0132 · DC-3 Dakota (Limited Edition) - Scale 1:72



Scale 1:72



#0244 · M-24 Chafffee Tank (Limited Edition) · Scale 1:35



#0317 · Zündapp with Sidecar (Limited Edition) · Scale 1:35



#06011 · Confederate Calvary #06012 · Union Infantry



Scale 1:72



#0087 · A-10 Thunderbolt II



#0413 · House Corner Scale 1:35



#0418 - Observation Post Scale 1:35



#0527 · USS George Washington · Scale 1:720



#0746 - Peterbilt 378 Scale 1:24





ARRIORS SCA Recreating History



35138



35144



9026



- JUST A FEW OF OUR NEW RELEASES -

35138 German Medic Helping Comrade

35139 Hunting Party

35144 Waffen SS Kubelwagen Crew

35146 Luftwaffe Field Division Troops

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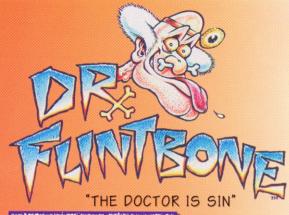


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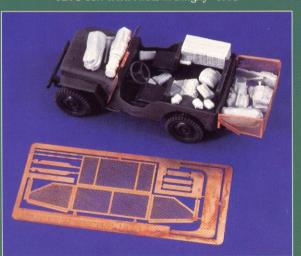
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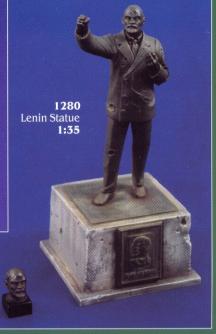




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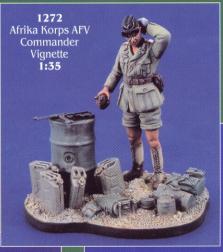


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