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RED, WHITE & SPRUE

Volume 27 Number 2

★ LISMS Newsletter ★ February 2020





Next meeting date:

Monday, February 24, 2020

7:30 pm to 10 pm

Levittown Public Library

1 Bluegrass Lane, Levittown, NY

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In The Pilot Seat



Our next meeting will be Monday, February 24th. Owen will do a clinic on Flory Washes and Pigments purchased from England. Owen gave me a demo in December and I immediately liked what I saw. I sent an order to Flory. It took a few weeks to get and I will be using it on my next built kit.

As we saw entering the Library last month, they are really altering the video room. I'm going to inquire about the renovation to see if we can utilize that room if advantageous to our growing club. We could use more space.

I thanked Ricky for his clinic on figure face painting. I have had some compliments from members who watched and were impressed with his ability. Unfortunately I missed the whole thing. I was getting a few suggestions on making my hedgerow base from a few members on how to enhance it. We have to ask Ricky back soon to pursue more clinics on figures since all members do not attend all meetings. Ricky also suggested we make general club ID cards for members to hand out when you meet potential hobby members. The officers will put this on our discussion list.

Hey guys! All of you know that I am a user of Testors Model Master enamel paints. I am looking for Panzer Dunkelgelb # 2095. I will pay you for any jars you will not need or want. I checked out Men-at-Arms, Bay Shore Hobbies, and Ebay. If you find any I give you permission to buy as many as you find for me. Please keep your eyes open for me. Thanks.

Well, I made reservations to attend Noreastcon 49 in Batavia, NY, and the AMPS National in Harrisburg, Pa. Two Spring shows a week apart from each other. I'll be on the road quite a bit this Spring and Summer.

I cannot emphasize enough for you members to spread word about RepLIcon. I will have the remaining flyers at the meeting. If we do not see an increase in attendees, we could be in jeopardy of hosting further shows.

I sent all members a list from Nick's collection that he will not be building. The money will go to Nick's daughter for his care. If you have any interest, contact Joe Haberkorn.

That's it for now everyone. See you Monday night!

Keep our hobby alive and well,

Bob



1/35 Takom's German 35.5cm Howitzer



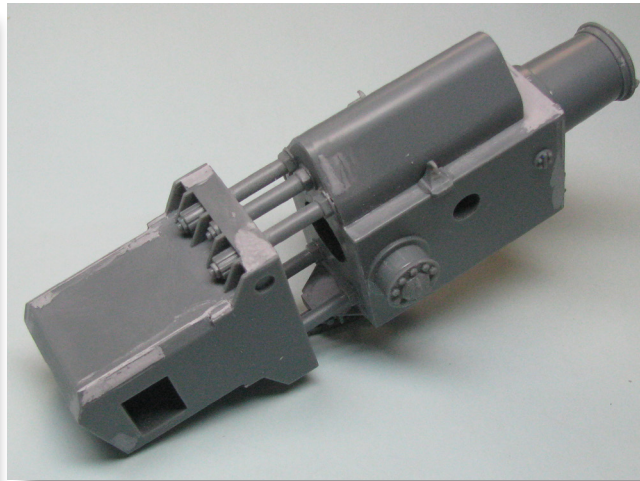
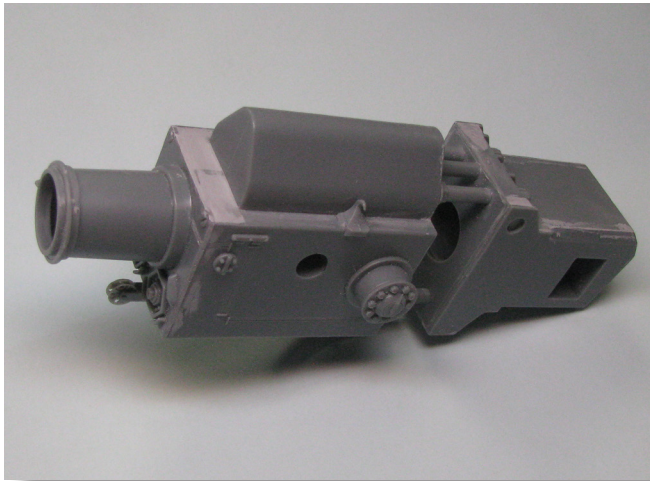
Before I build a kit, I search online for reviews just to find out what other modelers thought of it. Not “In the Box” kit reviews which all rave about the wonderful the detail is, but true ‘build’ reviews that tell you how the parts go together. I didn’t find any build reviews of this one since this kit was relatively new when I decided to tackle it over a year ago. I never built a Takom kit. Prior to this release, Takom had manufactured the German Twin 128cm Twin Flak kit and I bought it because there wasn’t anything like it. I was hasty in buying it, then read a build review of it that warned to prepare for a fair amount of puttying. I held off assembling it for a while. A fellow hobby club member introduced me to this 35.5 cm Howitzer and I was impressed. I shelved the 128cm Twin Flak to build this beast and hoped this kit would be different with a better engineered fit. At the time I did this, I decided to take some pictures as I went along. Not usual for me to do it but some voice in my ear suggested it.

Cont. on p 4

Cont. from p 3



The Instruction book was clear but I tend to take liberties and bounce around the subassemblies. I glued the barrel halves first. It definitely needed putty as you can see in the picture. The inside diameter of the barrel is quite large clearly able to see down the barrel. I added putty to the seam inside as well. There will be filing and sanding ahead. The barrel is so long I had to dig into my manly man toolbox for the long round file able to reach the center from both sides. Then I taped a piece of sandpaper to the file to get a finer smoothness.

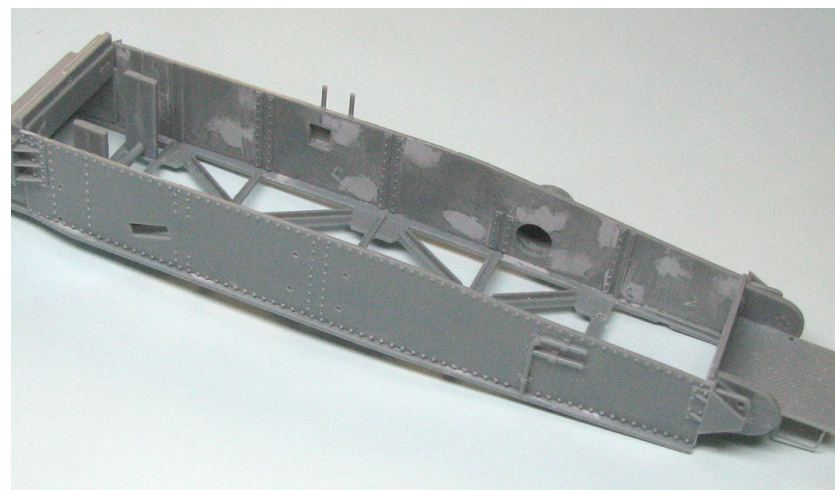
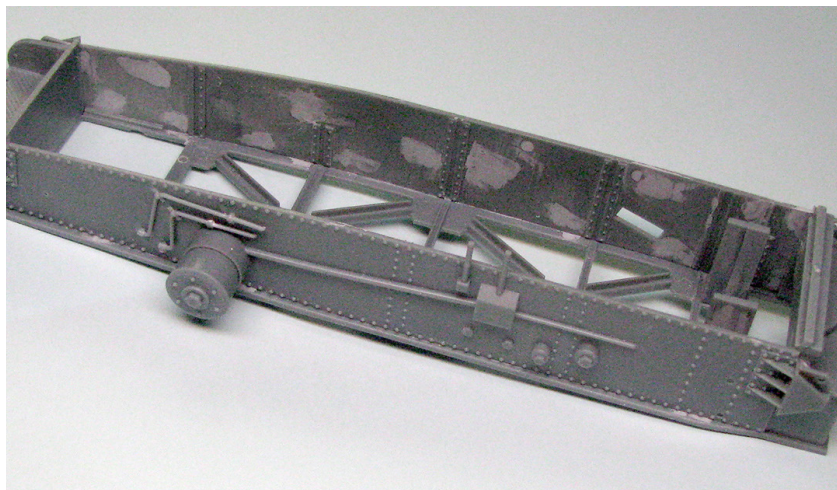


As per the following pictures I am showing the breech and body assemblies joined together with the five recoil pieces. They show the top and sides where putty is necessary. Sorry I did not take pictures of the bottom. The long barrel will be inserted into this later on. Warning here, don't join the breech and body assemblies with the five joining pieces as I did until you read through this review. That also delays gluing the barrel in place.

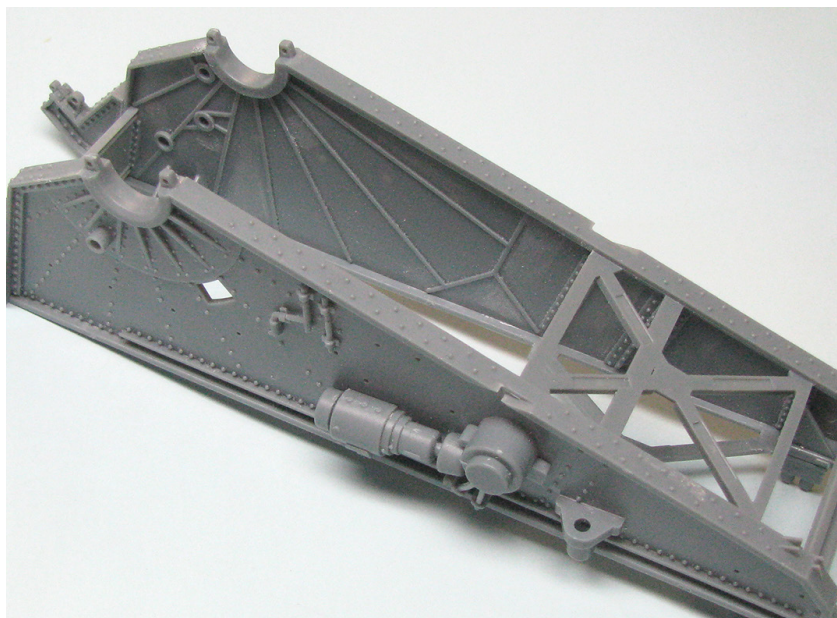
Cont. on p 5

Build Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 4



Before you assemble the lower structure for this beast of a howitzer, putty up the sink holes and smooth them out. The pictures below show both sides assembled after sanding the sink holes smooth. These sink holes were easy compared to what was to come.

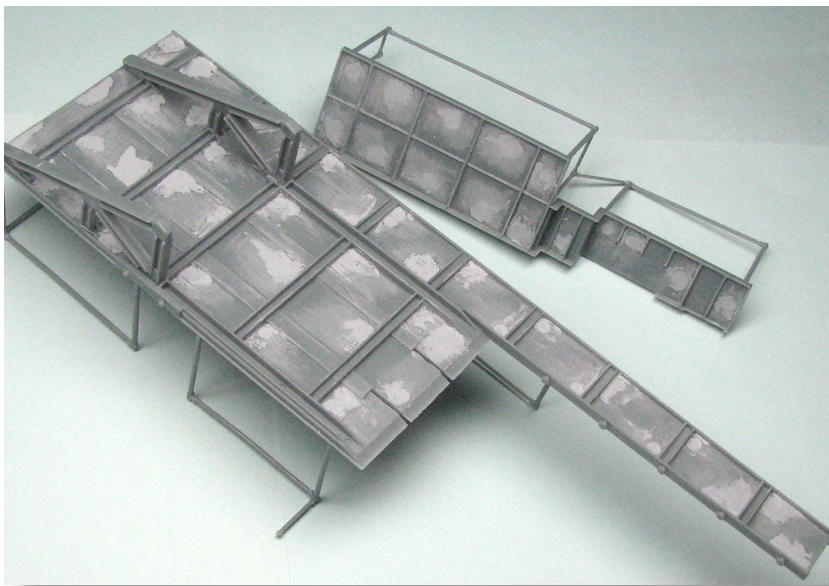


A positive note here! You get a break from all this puttying. The howitzer cradle structure is putty free. My fingers got a reprieve from sanding, but there was an ample amount of filing out the seams all along the edges.

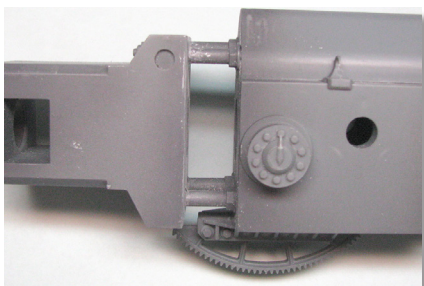
Cont. on p 6

Build Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 5



The platforms are next in line for work, and you should plan on spending a lot of time on these. Building a model isn't only what you see from above or eye level. If you can see upward a little, below eye level, you must fix what will be visible to the eyes. I have never encountered so many sink holes in a kit as these. Look close as the sink holes are surrounded by raised frames. After working on sanding a couple, I considered cutting sheet plastic and gluing them in, but the surrounding frames were too shallow. Putty them up and prepare the sand paper for when dry. Oh yeah. You need small fingers.



The completed pictures are needed to point out what happened when assembling the final product. I started to test fit the assemblies and it appeared to me that the howitzer had to be in the horizontal position at all times. If you try to elevate the gun, the breach was too far back to descend below the decking.

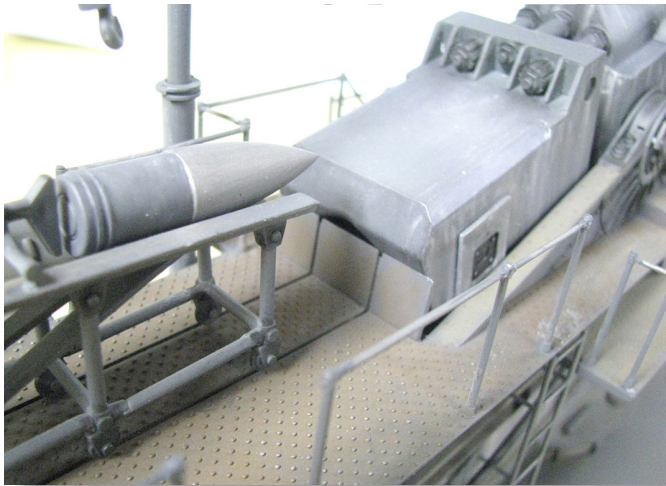
I like displaying the massive guns ready to fire. There wasn't any choice but to reduce the distance the easiest means possible, the five joining pieces. Even if I left the howitzer built in a horizontal position, it would have been obvious to the eye the long overlap beyond the floor door. The picture shows the floor door in the open position.



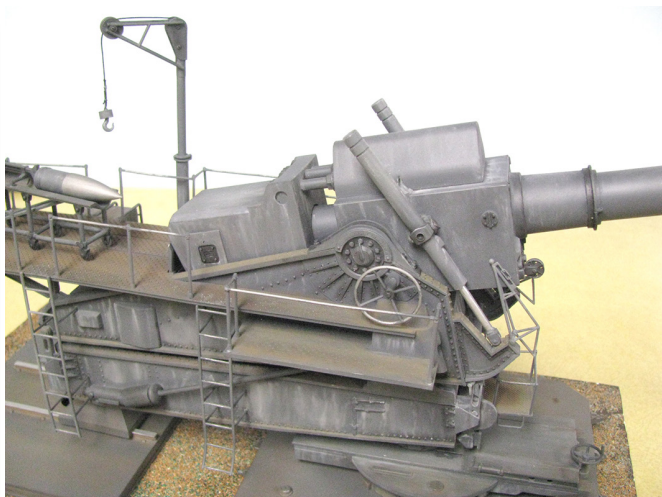
Cont. on p 7

Build Review *by Robert DeMaio*

Cont. from p 6



As you can see, my clearance is very close with the floor door. With the gun raised the boldness of it will distract the eyes, I hope.



This picture obviously tells it all. The ammo diameter is a misfit for the barrel diameter. Interesting....! But which is correct to scale? I waited to build in 1/35 scale for fifty years. If the engineering is anything like this kit, I'll have to take a lot of breaks. Oh yes, I sold the German Twin 128cm Flak kit.

Test fit the hydraulic arms if you wish to elevate and lower the gun movement. There are pin locaters in the upper tube that have to be removed before gluing it together or you will have to drill or file inside. The long triangular shape support rods in front of the hydraulic arms are sketchy to work in a location as per instructions. Be careful here before gluing in place. (insert Picture 12)



This being my first Takom kit was really a building disappointment. Most kits have minor issues with parts fitting perfectly, but It took a lot of effort to alter the engineering fit flaws to make this howitzer look decent. Put together, it still looks massive and bold. I stay away from other Takom purchases except a recent German V2 and trailer kit that I waited to build in 1/35 scale for fifty years. If the engineering is anything like this kit, I'll have to take a lot of breaks. Oh yes, I sold the German Twin 128cm Flak kit.



Gary Morgan: work in progress of a Rye Field Model kit of a lower Panzer V Panther chassis and a Tamiya Panther turret.



A Revell 1/25 Corvette CTR OOB Indy Car, Decals by Jim Boulukous



Steve Andreano working on a Tamiya 1/35 Char B1.



Craig Donitz finished a 1/35 Tamiya kit of a M113 APC.

Cont. on p 9

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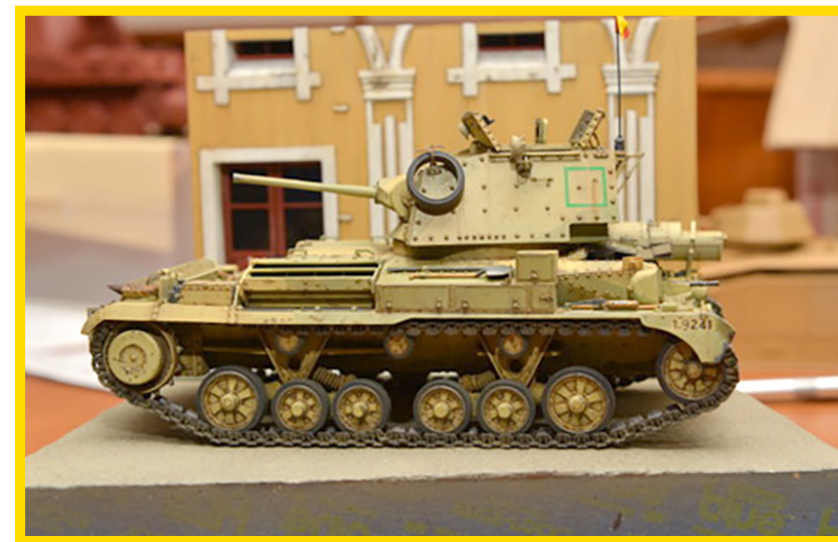
Anthony Fardella is building an Amusing Hobby 1/35 scale Morser Bar 30.5cm kit.



Marshall Volzard built this Revell 1/25 Testors Pontiac Firebird and converted it into a dragster, then used Testors enamel paint.



Ray O'Neil built this 1/72 scale kit of a US Navy Fury.



Jim Guld taking a 1/35 scale A10 Tank with a Gecko Scratchbuilt building and Façade.

Show Calendar Listing for 2020

See Bob DeMaio for details

Date/Day	Event & Location	Website
March 28 Sat	RepLIcon 30 Freeport Recreation Center, 130 E. Merrick Rd, Freeport, NY www.lisms-ipms.org	
March 29 Sun	Vallycon 30, Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Rd, Chicopee, MA, http://www.wwmodelclub.org/	
April 4 Sat	Mosquitocon, 1 Pal Drive, Wayne, NJ www.njipms.org	
April 5 Sun	Downeastcon, Saco Middle School, 40 Buxton Road, Saco, ME https://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/event/downeastcon-2020-0	
April 5 Sun	Buffcon 37, Justin & Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY, 14227 http://ipmsniagarafrontier.com/Buffcon2020/index.html	
May 1-2 Fri-Sat	Noreastcon 49 Quality Inn & Suites, 8250 Park Rd. Batavia, NY 14020 https://www.facebook.com/Noreastcon49/	
May 7-9 Thu-Sat	AMPS Natioanal Convention, Radisson Hotel Harrisburg 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011 http://amps-armor.org/SiteShows/ShowMain.aspx	
Sept 12 Sun	Patcon 2020 Hudson Elks Lodge 959 99 Park Street, Hudson, MA, 01749 www.ipmspatriot.org	
Sept. 18-19 Fri-Sat	Armorcon Crown Plaza, Danbury, CT 06810 http://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/event/armorcon-1	

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And don't forget to mention that you are a member of the LISMS and appreciate his or her support. Everybody likes a thank you.

Depending upon the size of your purchase, these shops have agreed to provide a possible 10% or more discount if you have our membership card.

Alsand's Toy Soldiers Plus

www.alsandtoyandsoldier.com

Alan & Sandy, Shop closed. On line orders only at this time.

Baseline Model Inc.

Eric, 250 Little East Neck Rd., West Babylon, NY 11704, (631) 376-0060, Military Model Specialist, old and new kits bought and sold. Retail and Mail Orders. Closed Mondays.

Get It On Paper

Gary Weickert, 185 Maple St., Islip, NY 11751, (631) 581-3897, open every Saturday noon to 5 PM. – Vintage Toys & Model Kits, Automobilia & auto Literature. Model kits wanted.

Men-At-Arms Hobbies

James Katona, 134 Middle Country Rd. (Rt. 25), Middle Island, NY (631) 924-0583– Excellent selection of lead miniatures-Historical and Fantasy. Plastic Models, War games & Modeling supplies. Books and Magazines.

The Marx-Man

John Stengel, (718) 418-9439 – We carry an array of toy soldiers in plastic and metal, from HO to 54 mm/60 mm. Die cast vehicles and Dragon action figures.

Trainville Hobby Depot

Weekend shows only: website: www.trainville.com and e-mail: info@trainville.com



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