



SCAPE MAIL

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15th January 2019

Leys Institute (upstairs)

20 Saint Marys Road

Ponsonby

COMMITTEE

Chairman - John Swarbrick Dave Stewart

Secretary - Brett Peacock Lance Whitford

Treasurer - TBC

EDITOR: Lance Whitford

e: lancewhitford@hotmail.com

WEBMASTER: Robert Willis

e: jaxbw@orcon.net.nz

EMAIL: ipmsauckland@gmail.com

WEB: ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com

YAHOO:
groups.yahoo.com/group/ipmsauckland

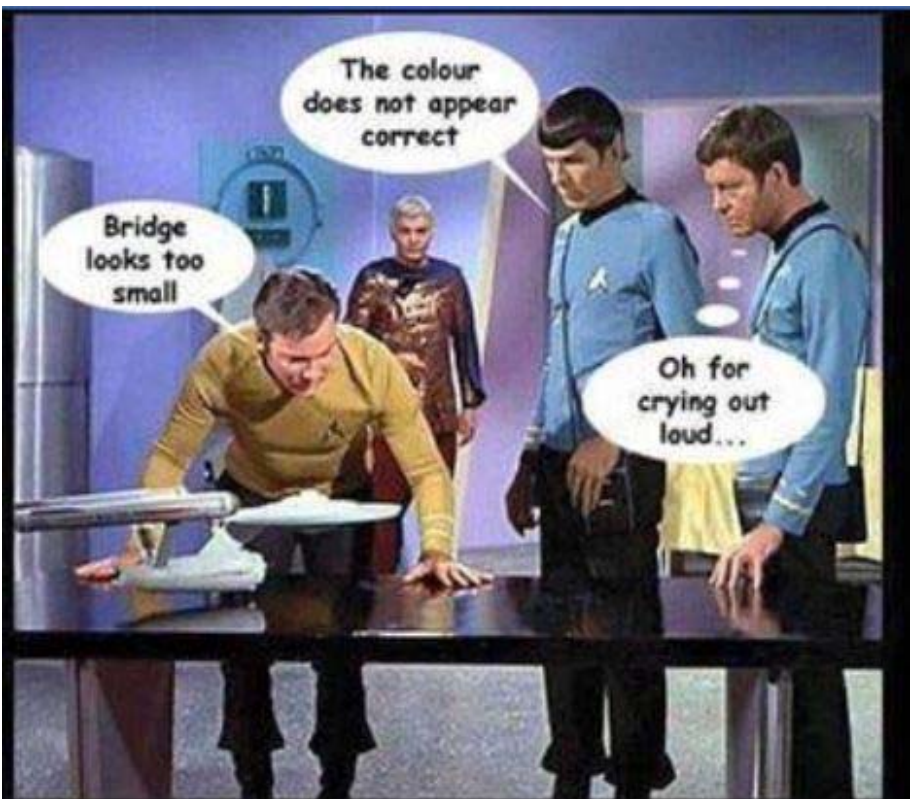
FACEBOOK:
Link from the IPMS Auckland Website

From the Editor

Happy new year to you all. How are all those resolutions going? My planned 300 kits completed in 2019 is off to a shaky start but there's nothing unusual with that.

We kick off a new series of workshops this month with a session on techniques for exhausts and staining. The workshops will feature an open forum where your participation is welcomed. If you have anything that is worth demonstrating or maybe some advice you can shed with the group then don't be backward about coming forward. None of us are too old to learn some new tricks.

The suggestion for this year's theme build is '1939' which for starters encompasses the start of WW II, end of the Spanish Civil War the Finnish Winter war and Japanese activities in China.



McCoy was starting to regret entering the inaugural Star Fleet model competition.

BULLETIN BOARD

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBS *** 2018/19 NOW DUE *******

Subs for 2018/19 now DUE -see below for club account details or see the club secretary

| Membership Type | Description | Cost |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Full | Living in the Auckland Metropolitan Area | NZ\$45 |
| Out Of Town | Living 75km or more from central Auckland | NZ\$30 |
| Junior | Same rights as full membership for those under 16 | NZ\$25 |

IPMS BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

03 0162 0012960 00

*Please add your name and details
so we know who has paid!*

EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT EVENTS

IPMS Auckland Meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every Month at the Leys Institute (upstairs), 20 Saint Marys Road, Ponsonby

15th January Workshop -Exhausts and staining

19th February Workshop— Using and creating masks to paint markings

19th March Workshop— Basics of seam filling and sanding

MODELLING EVENTS

Nothing on the events front this month

BULLETIN BOARD

CLUB SUPPORT

The following retailers have kindly agreed to offer IPMS Auckland club members a discount on their purchases upon presentation of their current IPMS Auckland Membership card.

The discount only applies on selected product lines and remains at the discretion of the retailer.



ModelAir

349 Dominion Road
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Auckland
p: 09 520 1236



Stoker Models

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10% on kits and modelling supplies



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15% Off the normal retail price on:

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- Lego (Excludes Lego Mindstorm's they will be 10% if available as most have already been pre-ordered)

(Note: not in conjunction with any other promotion)



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Italeri 1/48 Vickers Supermarine Spitfire Mk Vc

By Brett Peacock



In Box Kit Review

Kit # 2727, 105 Parts on 6 Grey and 1 clear sprue trees & 17 PE parts on 1 brass fret. Decals for 6 marking options (5 RAF and 1 USAAF on a large (probably Cartograf) decal sheet.

Retail at Modelair was \$61.00 NZ.

The copyright date printed on both the box and Instruction sheet is 2013, and I do recall seeing this kit a few years ago, on sale at Modelair and Hobby City. And, yes, this is an Italeri Re-boxing of the original Special Hobby kit. It has also been issued by Revell of Germany in yet another boxing, so the mouldings have been around a bit, including Special Hobby's own release, back I think, somewhere around 2005, so this is not a "Brand New" kit by any stretch of the imagination. So, the big question is: IS this kit worth your time? So, let's have a look inside the box.

First the instruction, which are done in the typical Italeri fold out style, with both sides printed and deft line drawings providing constructions steps and options with colour s indicated by letter tags. But, in a departure the markings guides are in full colour, not just on the printed box lid, but also on the instruction sheet itself: Always nice to see a company improve themselves in this way.



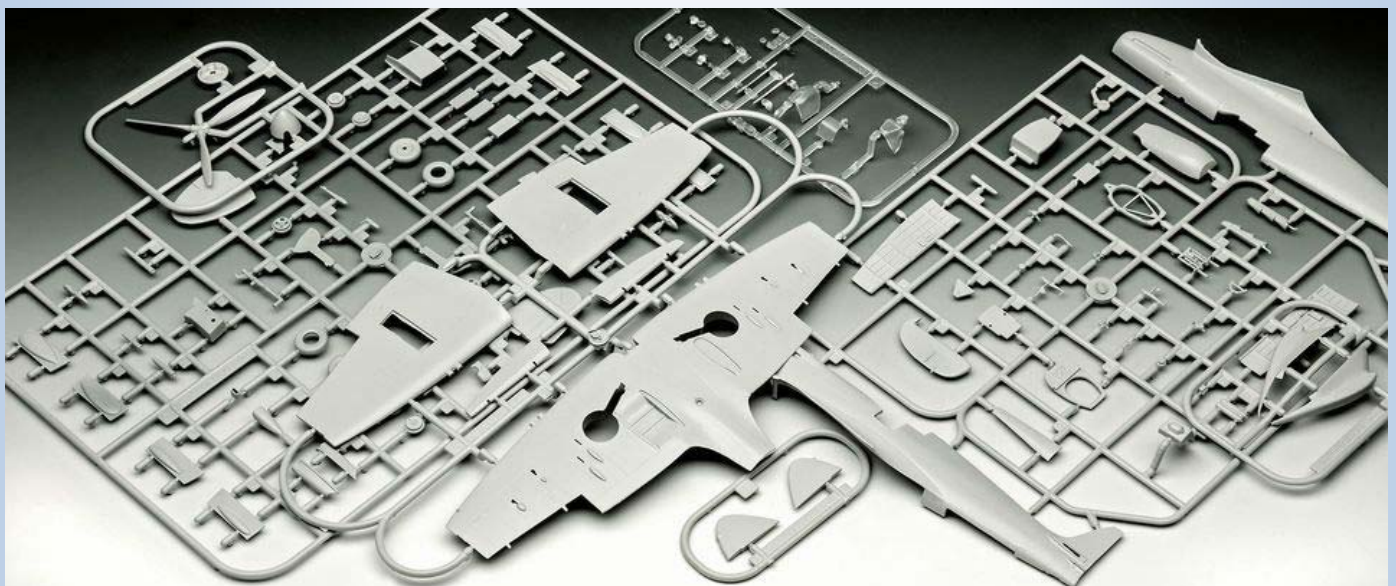
*RAF, No 615 Squadron, Pilot F/O Lawrence Weggery
Dohazary, India, 1944.*



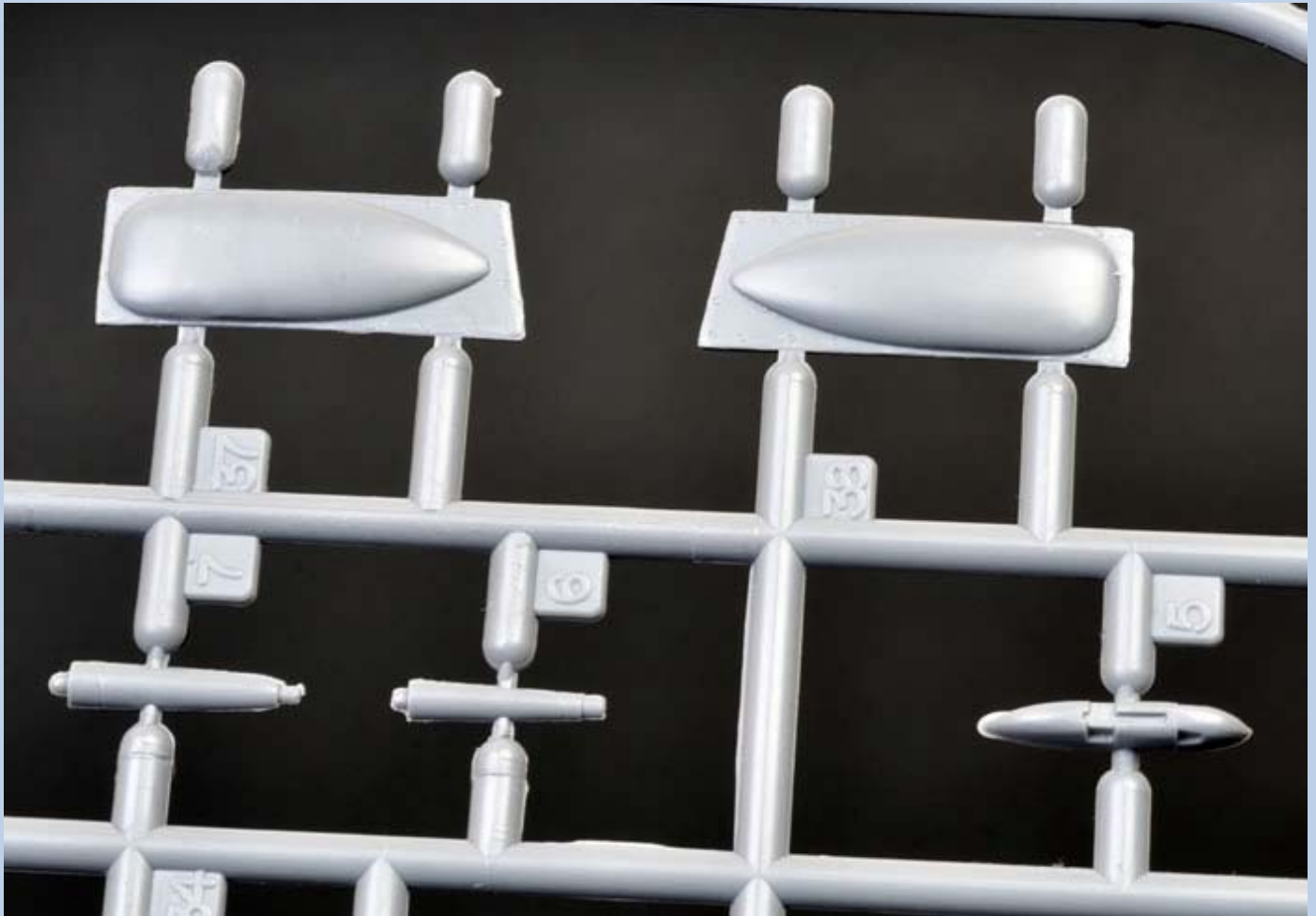
*RAF, No 249 Squadron, Pilot F/O Frank Jones
Malta, June 1942.*

The six options cover most aspects of the Spitfire Vc's operational career, with 1 option from the UK in 1942, 3 differently configured (and camouflage differently too!) machines based in Malta, 1 USAAF machine from Tunisia in 1943 and the last machine (the Boxtop version, being a SEAC machine from India in 1944. (this last machine was flown by F/O Lawrence Weggery, a kiwi) and is adorned with a white fern on the port engine cowl.

The camouflage schemes included vary widely too, Dark Earth & Dark Green over Sky (with Vokes Filter), to Dark Green/Ocean Grey over Med Sea Grey (standard nose), to Dark Earth/Middle Stone over Azure Blue with Vokes Filter, to Dark Grey/blue over Azure and Standard nose. Two options also use the 4x20mm cannon arms fit and all options use the wide cannon blisters on the wing uppers (the only option provided in the kit.) The decal sheet offers a reasonable selection of standard stencilling, walkways and all the roundels and stars needed. Decals are thin and quite glossy and look to be Cartograf in origin, although the Italeri name is on them.



The plastic parts are well moulded, if sometimes a little softly moulded, with little of the snap-lock precision of some of the competition from Asia. Some test fitting and some basic assembly skills will be useful when you start this kit. It is NOT going to snap-lock into place like the latest Tamiya 109G does, that is certain. But with patience and a bit of sanding and fettling, you should be able to produce a very good Vc Spitfire from this box. Bear in mind the closest competition this kit has was the dreadful (I have one) Airfix Vc/Seafire II kit of 25 years ago where in they combined the old 70s vintage Vb kit with "new" wings to make a Vc/Seafire II. Except the wings were god awful, too thick (both externally and internally!), badly fitting and clunky in execution (Old Matchbox had little on what Airfix called engraved panel lines on those wings!) On the plus side of that kit: The decals were classic Airfix – accurate and easy to use



There is some flash and mould seams on the parts provided that will need to be cleaned up, but, by and large they are acceptable. The clear parts are well done and are separately bagged in one of the main parts bags. The PE fret is reasonably thought out and, but not pre-painted, and is made using thin flexible brass.



Overall this is a welcome kit of an important Spitfire sub-type that has been overlooked by model companies far too often, and I welcome Italeri having the courage to rebox the SH kit for a more general sales audience. I can see myself buying, maybe 2 or 3 more of these at some point, principally to act as a base for an RAAF option.



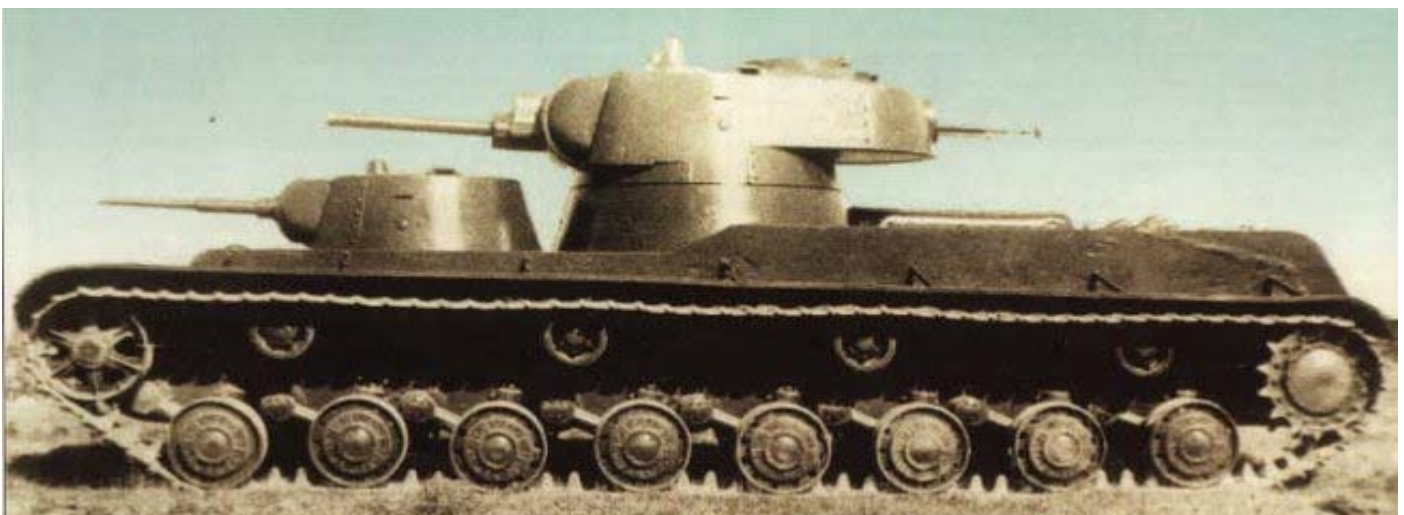
Takom 1:35 Soviet Heavy Tank SMK

By Lance Whitford



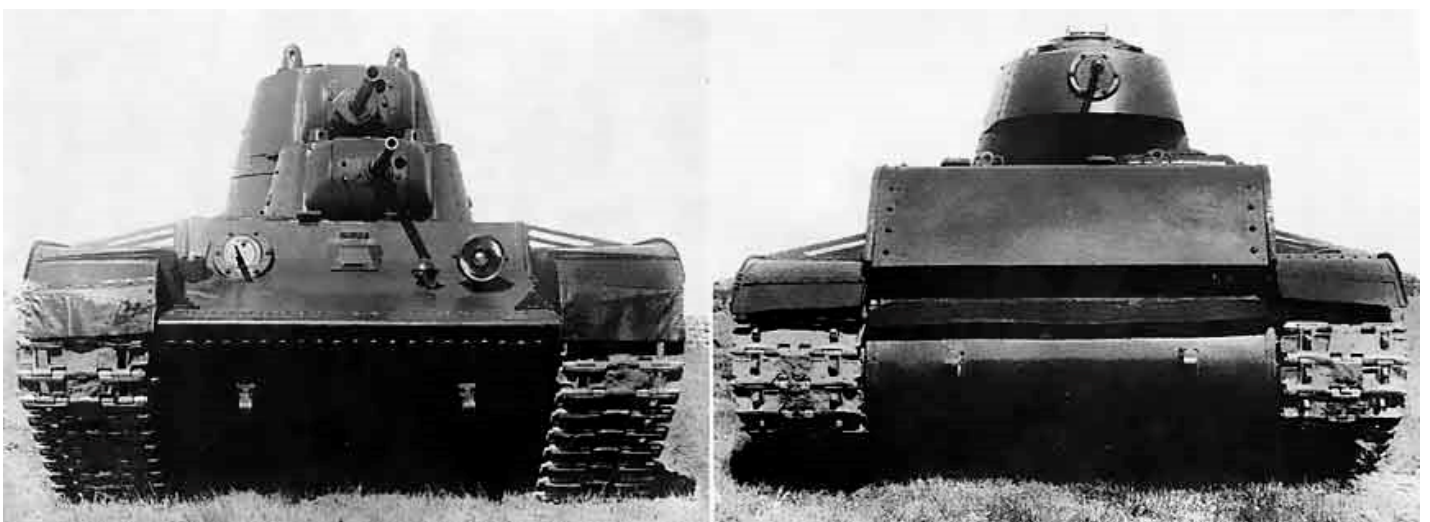
Kit No. 2112. In Box review.

In the years between the wars and many nations toyed with the concept of multi turreted land battle-ships. Ultimately these would be seen as folly but the Soviets embraced the idea with more enthusiasm than most with 5 turreted T-35 seeing limited series production. These leviathans undoubtedly looked impressive when paraded out for the proletariat on May Day. The combat effectiveness of these designs was very poor. Often overweight and under armored they made little real impact on the course of history. The difficulties of commanding such a beast where multiple turrets could engage multiple targets did not help either. The SMK marked the end of the Soviet love affair with these impressive looking beasts.



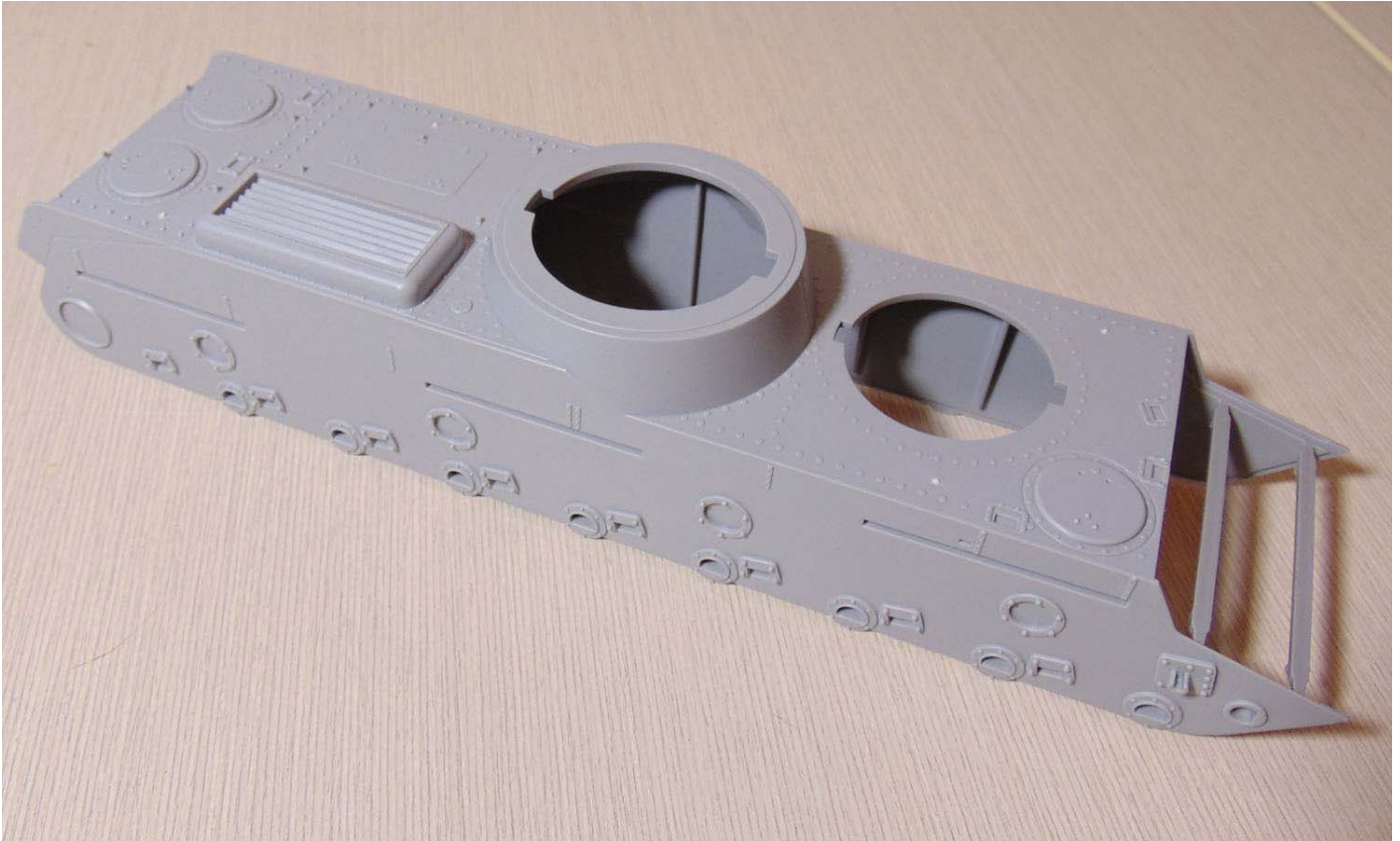


One SMK prototype was sent to Finland for combat trials during the Winter War along with the similar T-100 prototype and also a KV-1 prototype. The SMK ran over a mine and proved too heavy to recover initially, highlighting one Achilles heel of these designs. The single turreted KV which included many of the same components of the SMK proved both in Finland and on the proving grounds to be a much better proposition as the basis for the next generation of Soviet heavy tanks. While the SMK was less of a mobile village than the T-35 in having only 2 turrets as opposed to 5 it still bristled with armaments including a 75mm L-11 gun in the larger turret, A 45mm in the smaller turret plus 3 machine guns including a 12.7mm DsHK mounted at the rear of the main turret.



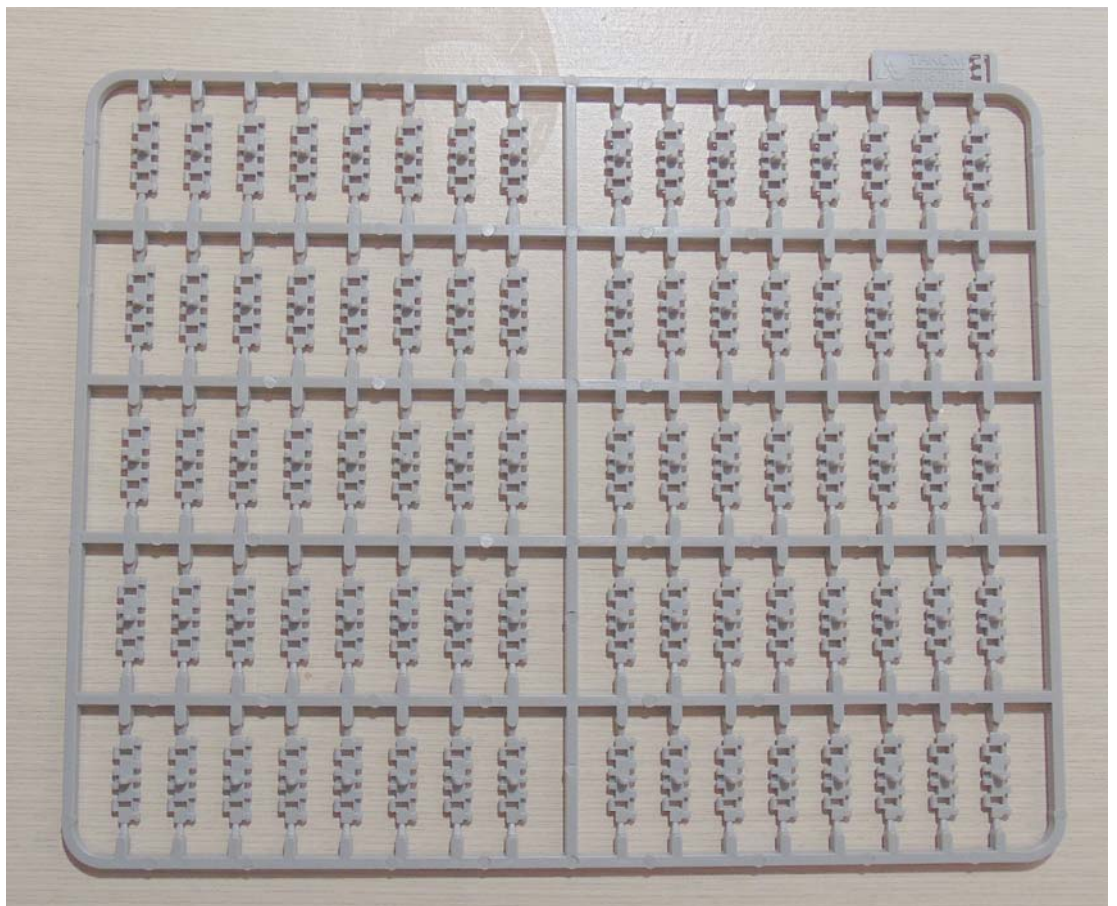
Takom have continued their trend of kitting many off beat subjects in releasing a kit of the SMK heavy tank prototype. I was drawn to the kit because of the attractiveness of the subject combined with the fact that it was used in anger (even if it was ever so briefly). While this is an in-box review I have seen a few of these built up on line and can attest that the kit builds up into a very nice looking replica of the SMK

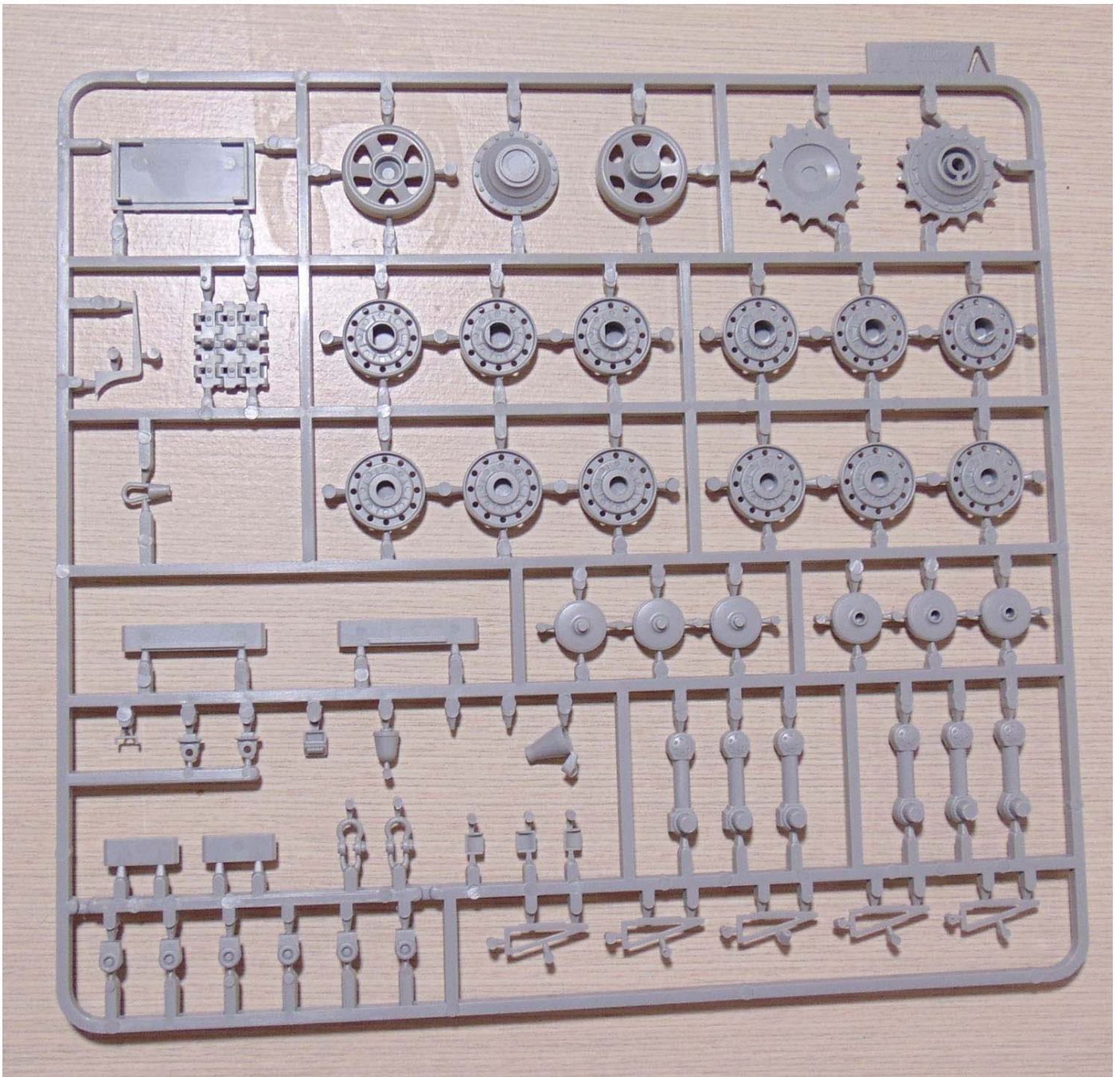
Takom have a habit of doing things a little differently and this kit is no exception. A good example is the main hull where the top and side are moulded as a single unit. It has long been common for the lower hull and sides to be supplied as single piece but I can't recall another with this configuration in any kit my collection. The drivers hatch is moulded integrally with the upper hull so cannot be modelled in the open position without a lot of messy surgery. The same goes for the transmission inspection hatches on the engine deck. The air intake is also moulded onto this piece.



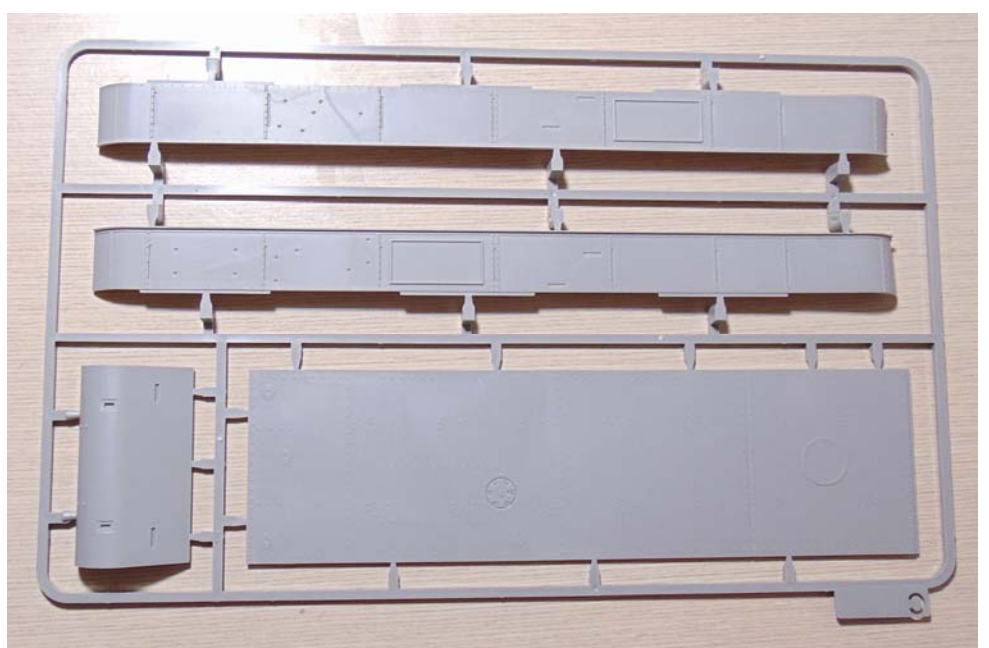
The single photo-etch item in the kit is a grill to cover this.

Most of the work in building the model will go into the running gear. The tracks are of the individual link type and come on 3 sprues which by all reports leaves a few spares. The suspension parts also come on 3 identical sprues. The SMK had 8 roadwheels compared to 6 on the KV series.



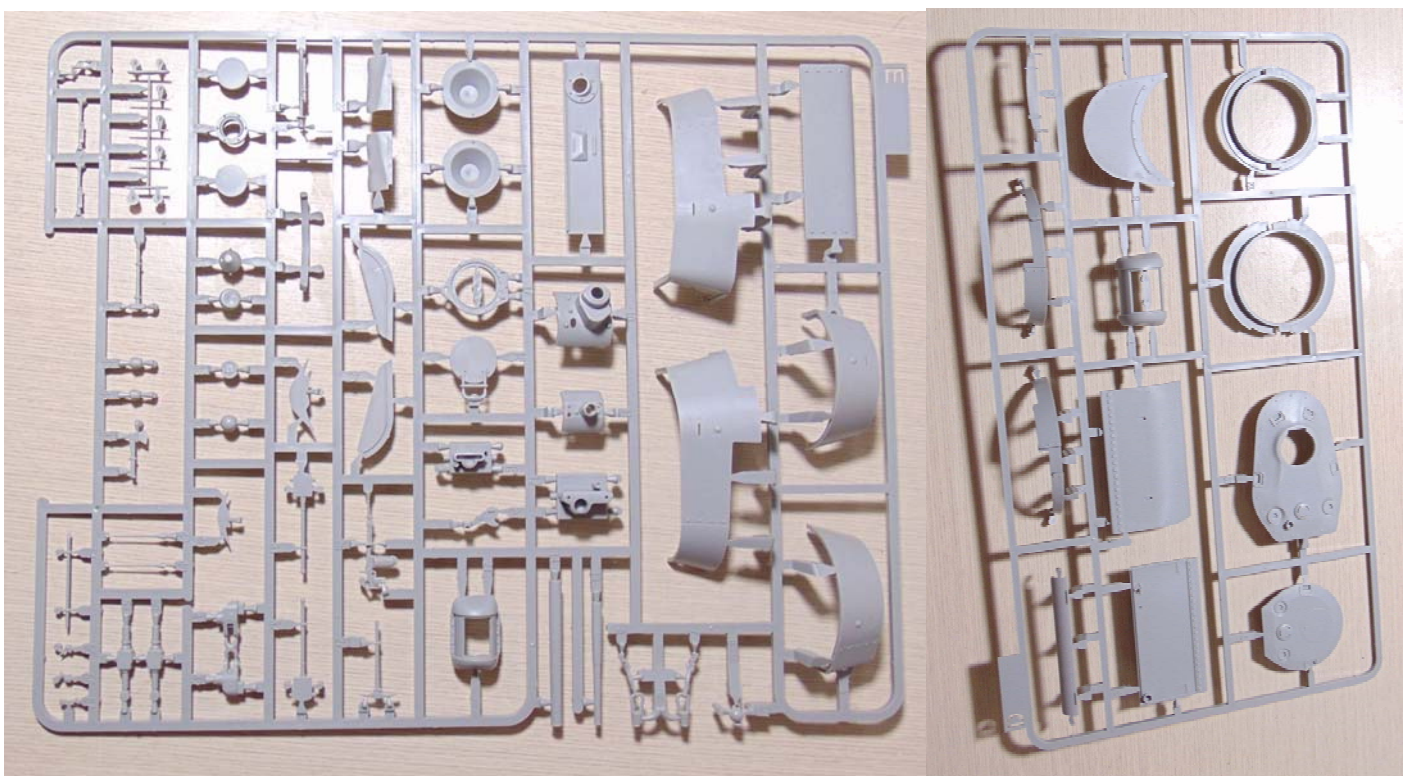
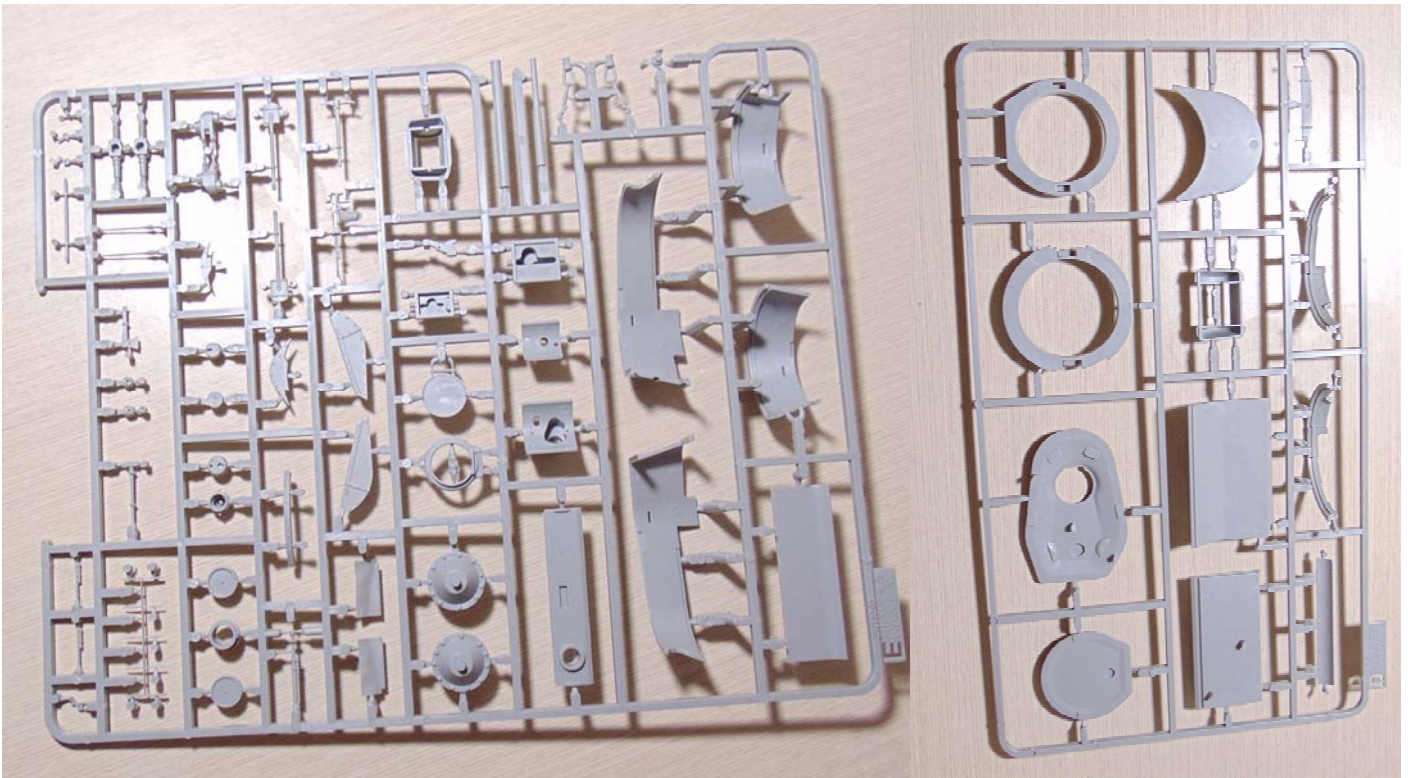


There is a good level of detail on the suspension components with a very nice depiction of the road wheels. The suspension and tracks can be fitted before the mudguards are added which makes life easier when dealing with the tracks. Some modellers will simply paint these on the model while other may want to build them in 2 or more parts that can be fitted after painting and final assembly.

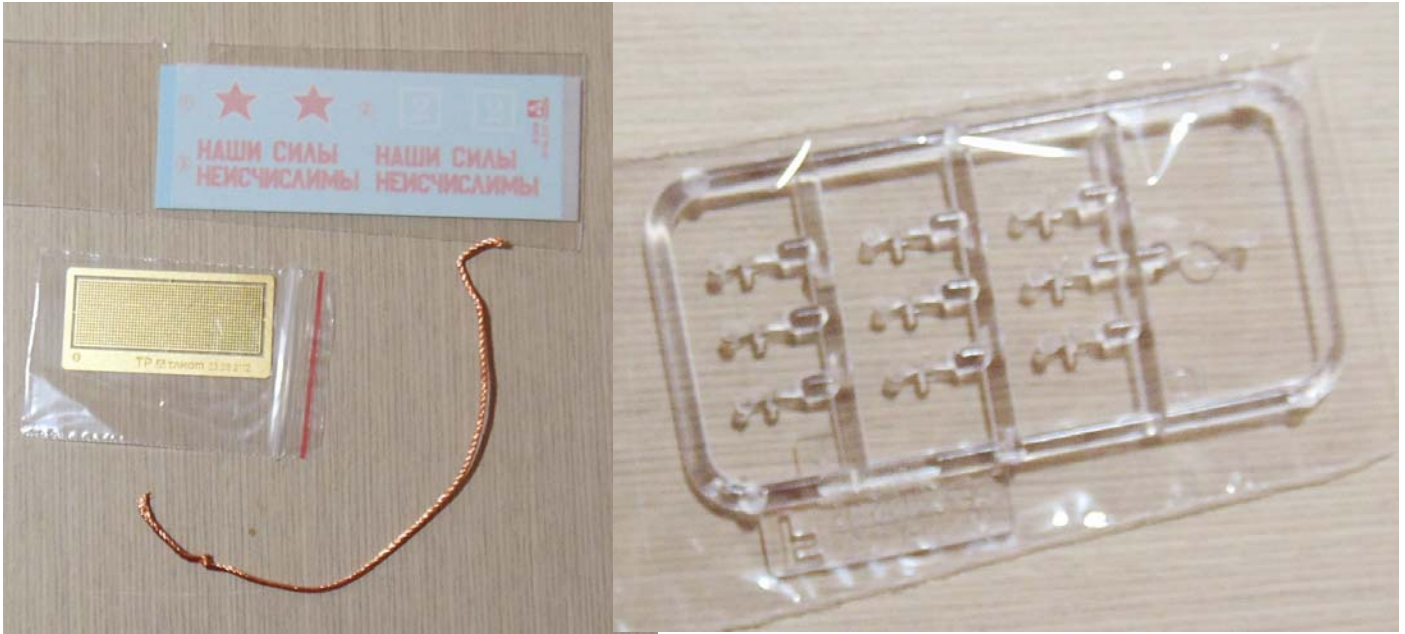


There turrets have a reasonable level of detail although the hatch on the smaller turret is again moulded closed which is a little disappointing. The 12.7 mm MG poking out the rear of the larger turret is nicely done but the DT MG on it's AA mounting on the commander's cupola could do with replacement as the detail is a bit on the chunky side. The 75mm and 45 mm gun barrels are slide moulded as single pieces. There are after market alternatives but from the evidence I have seen the kit ones scrub up pretty well.

Takom supply a few items to adorn the track guards such as tools, stowage boxes and spare track links. These should not be fitted if depicting the prototype at Kubinka.



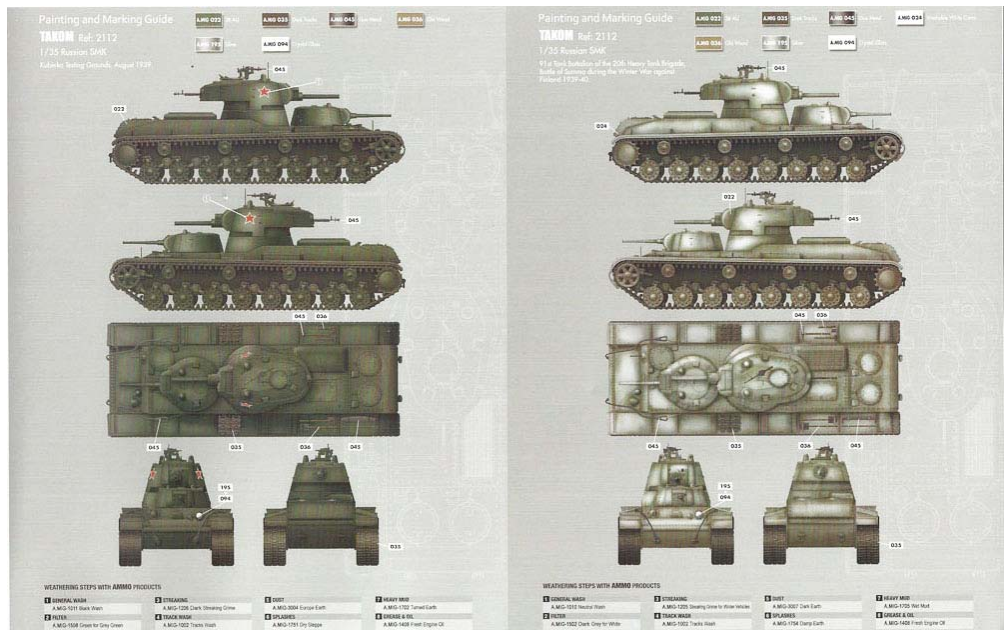
A length of copper wire is supplied for the tow cable and modellers may prefer to substitute something else for this. A single clear sprue provides a headlight lens plus some periscope inserts.

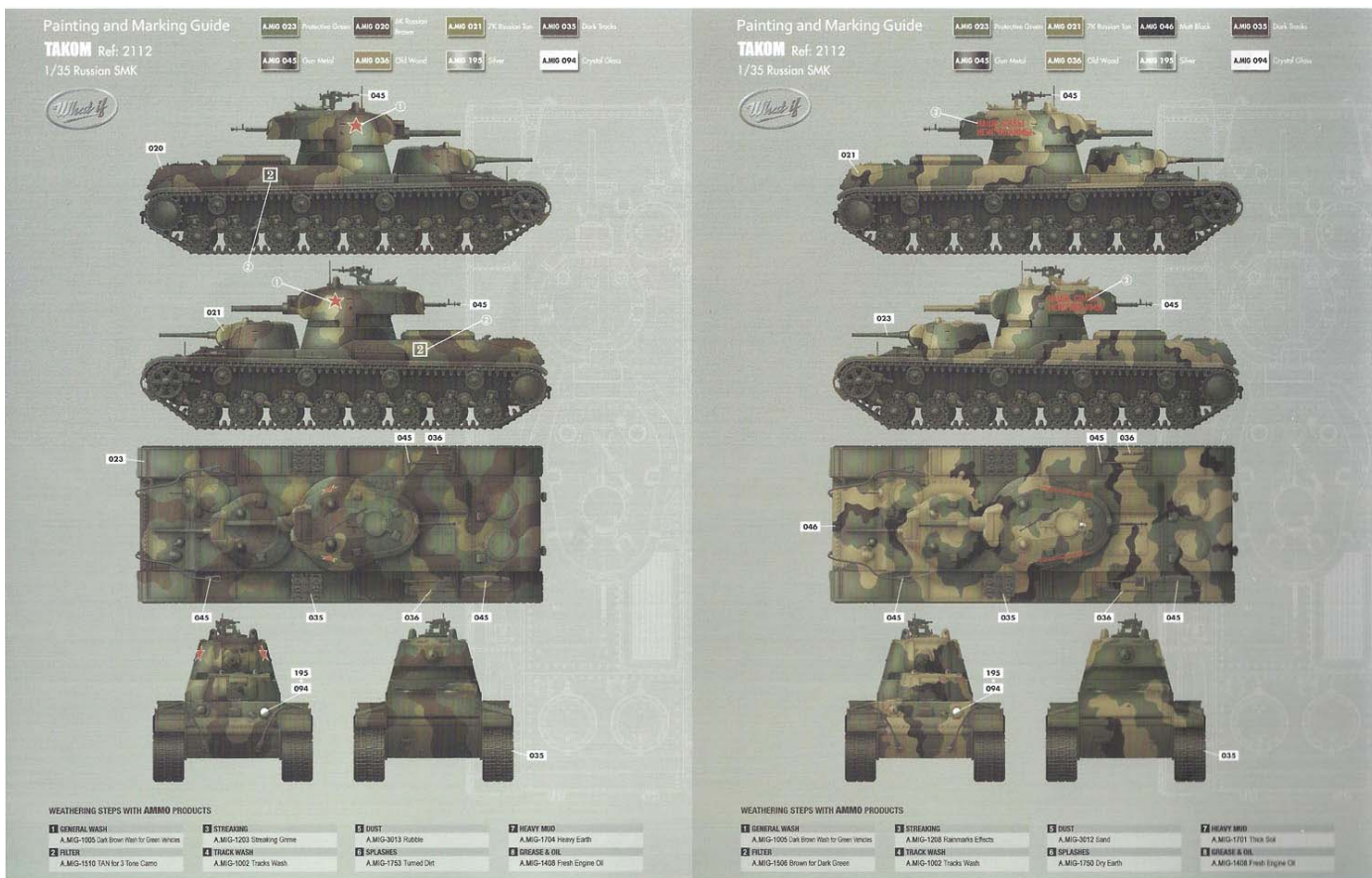


The kit provides 4 marking options, of which 2 are 'what-if' speculations which are non the less quite attractive and are based on standard Soviet camouflage patterns.

The examples on this page show the options for the prototype at Kubinka in plain 4BO green and another for the vehicle as deployed to Finland resplendent in winter white wash over 4BO green. I'll probably go for the Whitewash.

The 2 'what-if' options suggested are shown on the next page . Both of these options would result in colorful and attractive models if that takes your fancy.





In conclusion Takom have produced a kit that I never thought would appear in plastic. As a distant relative of the KV tank which is one of my all time favourite subjects it also strikes a chord with me as the family resemblance is plain to see when the 2 are placed side by side. The kit will build up into an impressive model but I think that overall it is on the simpler side in terms of parts and details when compared with a lot of other current generation kits. Not necessarily a bad thing. There is no a lot of info out there on the subject so finding references to aid in adding improvements is no mean feat. Perhaps a good kit to build out of the box for the sheer enjoyment of it.



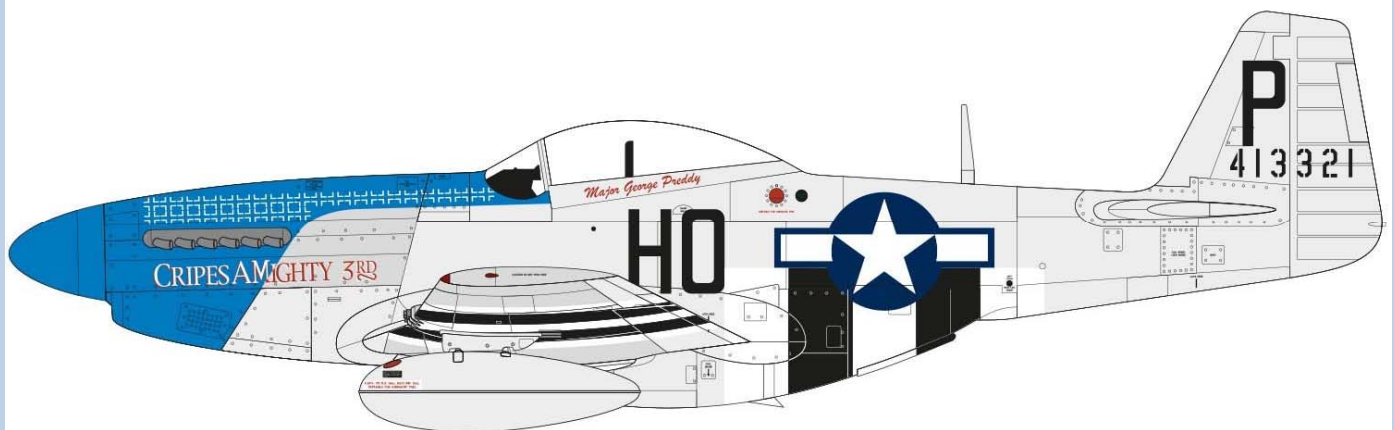
Airfix News

Found in the 2019 Airfix Release announcement:

Another "New" P-51D Mustang...

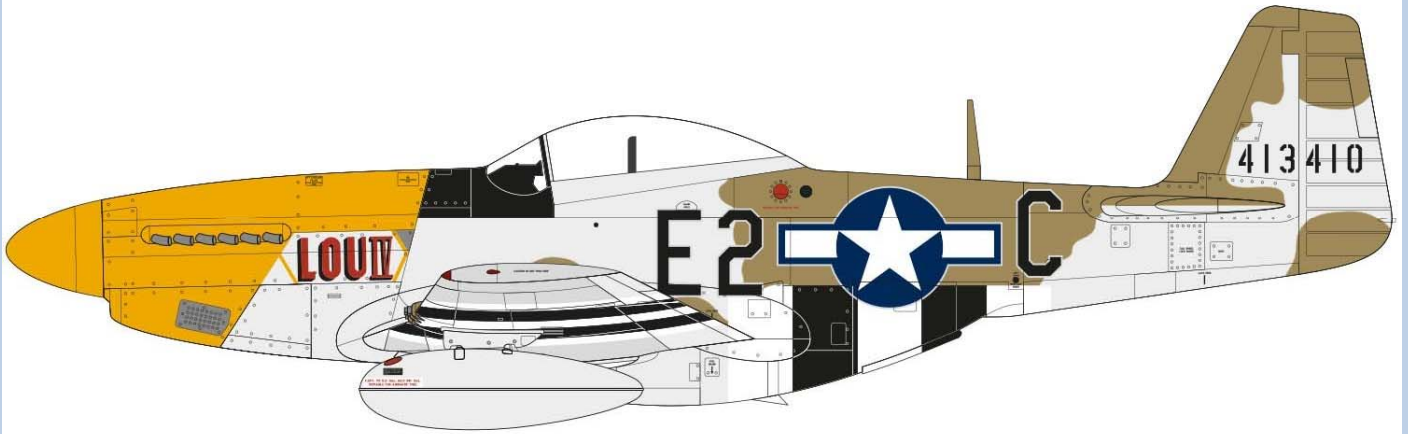


Spot the "New" feature.... (1 of the two options, is for George Preddy...)



NOT FINAL PRODUCT ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGE

And the other option is for TJ Christian.... (as seen in the recent Revell 1/32 Kit!)



NOT FINAL PRODUCT ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGE



GALLERY

CLUB NIGHT MODELS

Check out our Website gallery for photos taken of models at our monthly meetings

<http://ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com>



And as usual -check out the IPMS Auckland website as we're trying to keep the content a bit more dynamic. We won't be regurgitating content found on other websites but will provide links to sites we think are of interest to members.

