



Sabot Away!

Special points of interest:

- Next AABS club meeting to be held July 3, 2002 at 7:00 PM.
- Name your five favorite combat/war movies.
- Kit Review: Dragon Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther A Early Type (Italy 1943/1944) in 1/35 Scale by Roderick Bell
- New Newsletter format

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July 2002 Issue

June 26, 2002

What's Up!

Sorry I missed the last meeting, I had a few appointments that changed up on me. I would like to thank Terry Lowman for keeping me up to date on the activities of the club. It sounds like I missed a great meeting in June. I feel that I have let the club down for not keeping up with things. This is where reality kicks in and priorities take over. I hope to get past these obstacles and carry on, but for now the club and my other hobbies will have to take a back seat. For those of you that know me, I drive a school bus,☺ I know we are having are quarterly contest and The Village Hobby Shop has donated gift certificates for first and second place. Terry Lowman has been gracious enough to donate a model kit for third. Don't forget our contest in November. This will be a good one; maybe I might have something finished...who am I kidding. ☺☺☺ I thought this might be a fun addition for

the club Newsletter. Name your favorite combat/war movie. Your top five would be great, just drop your name and list to me via email and we will start posting. My top five are as follows:

1. Band of Brothers
2. Saving Private Ryan
3. A Bridge Too Far
4. Where Eagles Dare
5. The Longest Day

All of these are classics in my book. I look forward to seeing you all on the 3rd of July! **DJ**



Band Of Brothers



Saving Private Ryan



The Longest Day

Next Meeting

Our next club meeting will be July 03, 2002 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the City of Austin Yarborough Public Library. Street address is: 2200 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756. Telephone number is 512-454-7208.

Russ Holm will be demonstrating airbrushing techniques - Panel fading and other neat tips.

This should be a great learning experience for us all. Also, we are looking for people to demonstrate at future meetings the following:

- Transporting your models
- Ground work for displays
- Buildings for Dioramas

- Adhesives - Different glues for different materials and the best way to apply them, etc.
- Roughing it - Making armor look like cast / rolled metal.

Please contact Ted Paone (Program Coordinator) if you wish to present or have an idea.

Upcoming Club Events

Here are a list of activities schedule for future AABS club meetings:

August 2002

- Bob Bethea - Optical Illusions "Camo in 1/35 scale"
- On the Workbench - Session to prep for ASMS contest.

September 2002

- Club Activity - Gadgets Galore - Bring your favorite tool(s), homemade or store bought.

October 2002

- Open
- On the Workbench - Session to prep for November club contest.

November 2002

- Club Activity - The contest.

December 2002

- Open
- Annual Schultz's Beer Garden Party (December - TBD)



M18 Hellcat Tank Destroyer - Brent Mullin's Open House

Kit Review

By Roderick Bell

Dragon Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther A Early Type (Italy 1943/1944) in 1/35 Scale

This is an out of the box review of the Dragon Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther A Early Type (6160). This is my first kit review, so it might not be what you want out of a review. My first impression of this kit is AWE-SOME! I don't want to get ahead of myself.

History

The Panther A is the second version of the Panther. The Panther D was the original mark. I am not sure why the Germans named the first version with a D - maybe to confuse Allied/Soviet intelligence? The Panther A was produced between August 1943 and May 1944. A total of between 2000 and 2200 were built by MAN, Daimler-Benz, Demag and Henschel.

The Panther A was used on The Eastern, Italian, and Western Fronts during World War II. The Panther A was actually

the most numerous version of the Panther in the Normandy Campaign.

The Kit

Box art - Ron Volstad did an outstanding job on the box art. It seems to depict a Panther A in Italy. The box art shows the tank with zimmerit. Unfortunately, the kit does not provide it in photo-etched or show you how to make it. By the way, I have heard that the figures on the box top will be released as a figure set by Dragon in the future.

Instructions - These are actually photographs of the kit being built in stages. There are 27 stages of construction. I like the instructions. I have heard complaints about them, but I like the layout and the photographs very much.

Sprues - The sprues consist of one A (Turret and hull top parts) sprue, one B (fenders and tools) sprue and, one C (hull). Two D (Gun halves, and hull top parts) sprues, a combined E (rear hull parts) and F

sprue (turret parts). Four G (Wheels and individual track links) sprues and two PS (side skirts) sprues.

Markings - Two options are given with the kit:

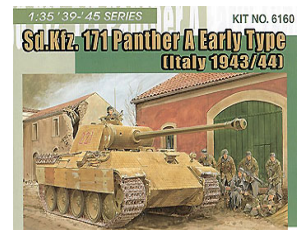
- 1.Abteilung/Panzer-Regiment 4, Italy, near Anzio, 1944. Tank number is red 221 with white outline.
- 7.Kompanie/Panzer-Regiment 23, Eastern Front, Winter 1943/44. Tank number is black 701 with white outline.

Overall Impression / Rating

I believe this kit represents a Late Panther D more than a Early Panther A version. It is hard for me to determine if the kit is a early Panther A. Here are some discrepancies/problems I found:

- The gunner's sight is binocular instead of monocular - two holes in the turret instead of one.
- The tank jack is stored

"The Panther A is the second version of the Panther. The Panther D was the original mark. I am not sure why the Germans named the first version with a D - maybe to confuse Allied/Soviet intelligence?"



Kit Review - Continued

- No ball mounted MG34 (again, this was added on later Panther A's)
- There is no Flak MG34 machine gun provided in the kit.

However, these are very minor annoyances. The kit looks great and will build into an extremely nice model. I give this kit 4 stars out of 5 stars.



Dragon Panther A Early Type

Support these Vendors

King's Hobby Shop
8810 N. Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
512-836-7388

Tamiya America
2 Orion
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-4200
949-362-2240

The Tank Workshop
6110 W. Solano Drive S.
Glendale, AZ 85301
636-915-3862

Archer Fine Transfers
1205 Silvershine Way
Knightdale, NC 27545
919-266-4181

RHPS Models
PO BOX 906
Massillon, Ohio 44648
330-837-1031

CRM Hobbies
3326 Watson Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63139
314-645-1117

VLS/Warriors
1011 Industrial Court
Moscow Mills, MO 63362
636-356-4888

RZM Imports Inc.
PO Box 995
Southbury, CT 06488

"AABS / AMPS

Show

Supporters

Thanks for your

support, we

could not have

done it without

you!

Links of Interest

AMPS

amps-armor.org

Missing-Lynx

missing-lynx.com

Track-Link

WWW.Track-link.net



M4A1 Sherman Tank at Brent Mullin's 3rd Annual Open House - College Station, Texas

New Newsletter Format

If you haven't noticed by now Sabot Away has undergone a format change. The goal of the newsletter is to keep the club up-to-date on club news and activities as well as industry/hobby news. We need volunteers to contribute How-To articles, Kit Reviews, Book Reviews, etc... Lets make this the best club newsletter we can. This format is NOT etched in stone. If you have an idea that you want to see in the newsletter each month, let us know. Please provide your critique and feedback at the

next club meeting.

M1A2 Nose Dive



“We need volunteers to contribute How-To articles, Kit Reviews, Book Reviews, etc...”

New Kits - Future Releases



Academy M3 “Honey” and M3A1 Stuart Light Tanks (1/35)



Dragon Panzer D (1/35)



Tamiya M26 Pershing (1/35)

AUSTIN ARMOR BUILDERS SOCIETY

Don Jones (President of AABS)
13245 Briar Hollow
Austin, Texas 78729-2800

Phone: 512-257-1596
Email: djmaus14@aol.com
austinarmorbuilders.tripod.com

Austin Armor Builders Society

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

National Museum of the Pacific War
Fredericksburg, Texas

PRESENTS



Island Assault: 1944

PHOTO COURTESY OF DODDLEY HARRIS

DEMONSTRATIONS BEGIN AT:

10:30 AM 12:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM

- See demonstrations of the only operational World War II flamethrower in Texas.
- Experience a combined arms attack on a Japanese pillbox.
- Follow a authentically dressed and equipped World War II soldiers on a tour of a Pacific War battlefield.
- Get an up-close and personal look at some of the most famous vehicles and weapons of World War II — including a Stuart tank, halftrack, TBM torpedo bomber, VAL dive bomber, and much, much more!

FREE with purchase of regular museum admission.

Without museum admission: \$2 — adults, \$1 — students.
Regular museum admission: \$5 — adults, \$3 — students, 5 and under are free.

The PACIFIC COMBAT ZONE is located a block and a half east of the main museum complex. Parking is available along the street.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**March 9-10
May 25-26
July 6-7**

SAT., SUN. & MONDAY

**August 31 –
September 2**

(no 4:00 show on Mon.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE MUSEUM AT (830) 997-4379

For Sale / Want Ads

This space is available

