



# M40 and M42

Italian 75-mm self-propelled guns

Scale 1:35

Made in Russia

№3515



Weakness of Italian medium tanks weapon demonstrated during Libyan campaign caused Italian designers to accept German experience building self-propelled guns. New models of such vehicles were evaluated in 1941. Based on M series command tank they featured an all-closed battle compartment and mounted 75-mm da 75/18 1935 model howitzer. This weapon was light enough - a barrel/breech assembly weighted only 172 kg and its rate of fire reached 8 round per minute. The howitzer could fire 6.4 kg high-explosive and shrapnel shells at distances up to 9560 m with muzzle velocity being 425 m/sec. The new vehicle was named "Semovente" (self-propelled gun), and its designation depended on the base used - the M40 da 75/18 was based on the M13/40 tank chassis, M41 da 75/18 - on M14/41, and M42 da 75/18 - on M15/42.

The new self-propelled guns first time saw combat in Libya in January 1942 when the 3rd mobile and the 132 armored artillery regiments of Ariete tank division were equipped with M40 da 75/18 and this division along with German Africa Corps advanced from Tripolitanian border to Ghazala and Tobruk and pursued British 8th army down to El Alamein. During El Alamein combats in October self-propelled guns were often converted to mobile "shelters" covered with with track links and sand bags.

After defeat in Egypt and retreat to Tunisia self-propelled guns were adopted by the 131st artillery regiment of 30th corps, the 32nd armored regiment and the 17th corps headquarters. Besides newly formed Ariete armored division some modernized M41 da 75/32 and M42 da 75/34 self-propelled guns. These new self-propelled guns were armed with 75 mm 1937 model guns with barrel length 32 and 34 caliber respectively. They could fire up to 10 rounds per minute at distances up to 12 km.

810 self-propelled guns were produced until September 8, 1943 and Germans manufactured some additional 135 units on occupied territory apart from 159 Semoventes captured from Italians. In Wehrmacht the 336th Infantry division and the 26th armored division were armed with this guns.

In Italian Army self-propelled guns were usually painted in desert color with green and brown camouflage. The tactical marks were applied at the hull sides their color identified company the vehicle belonged to: 1st company - red, 2nd - blue, 3rd - yellow, headquarters - black. At the rear portion of the battle compartment group and regiment markings were applied - Arabian and Roman digits respectively. In German Army Semoventes retained their Italian colors, but German insignia was applied.

## Assembly directions:

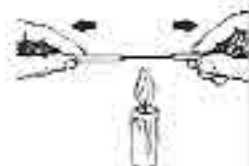
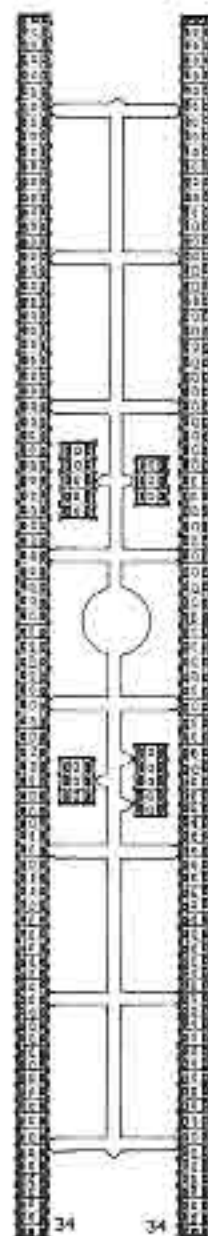
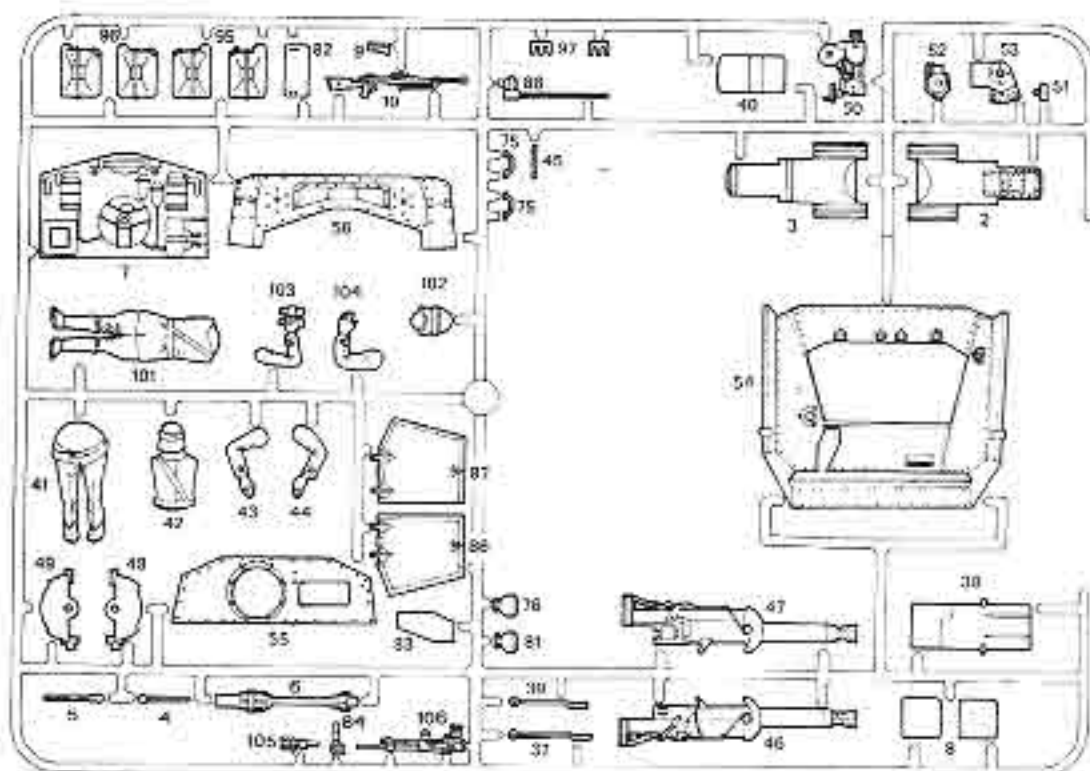
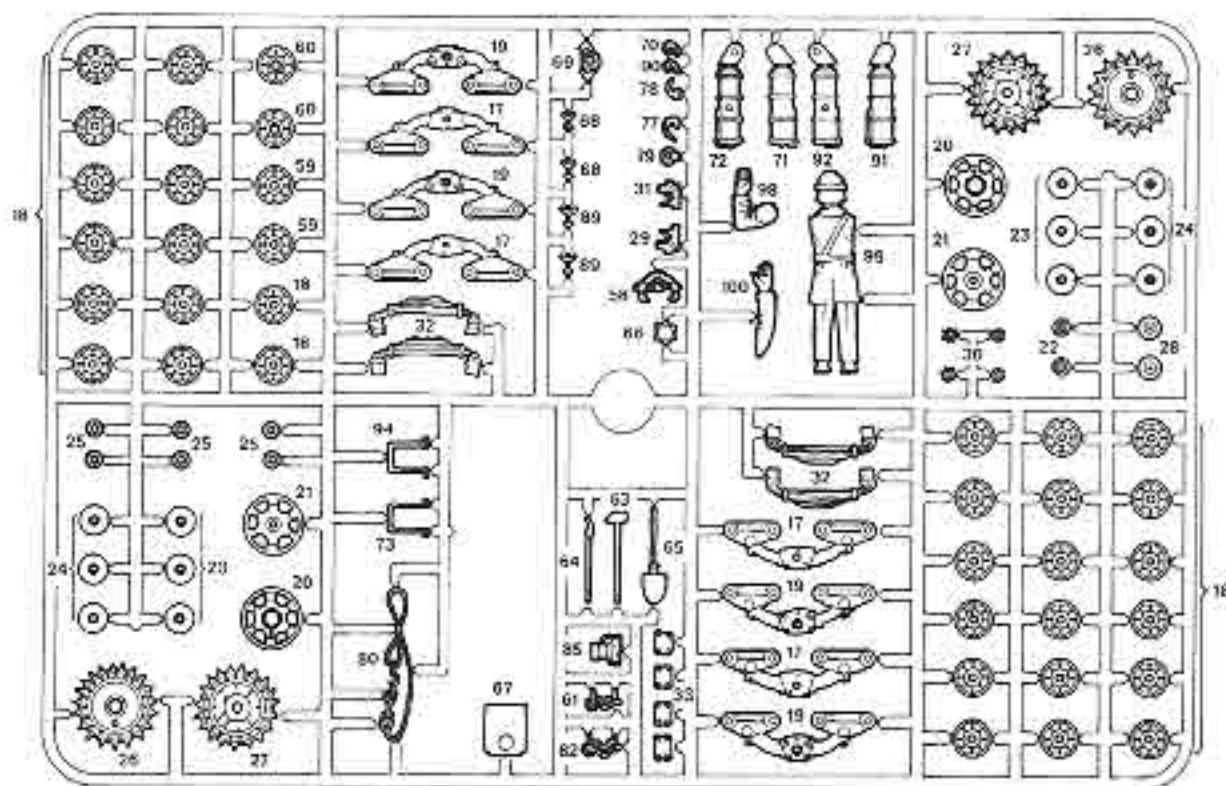
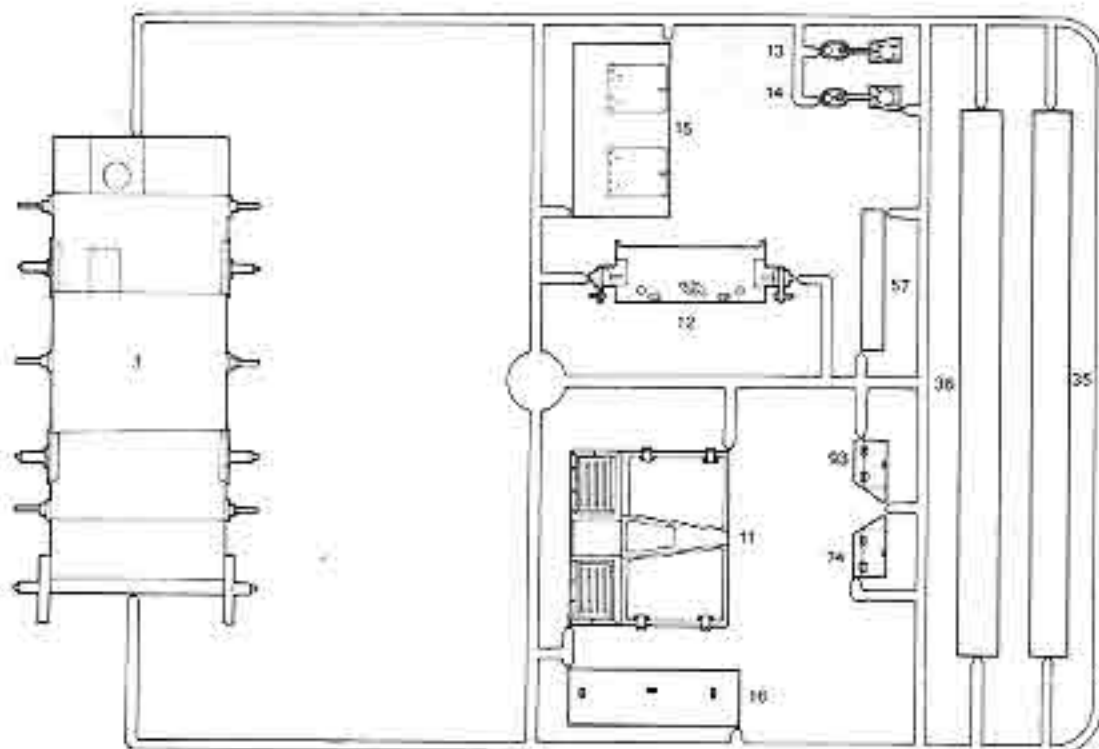
1. Use a sharp knife or a pair of scissors to remove parts from the sprue. For easy assembly each part is numbered. Paint small parts before removing from the sprue.

2. Care should be taken when using tools and modelling knives, as these can cause personal injury.

3. Plastic parts broken from sprues can have sharp, pointed or jagged edges. Remove these with a file or an emery board.

4. Keep out of the reach of children under 36 months old, as some parts are detachable. Children must not be allowed to suck any metal part or wire included with this kit.

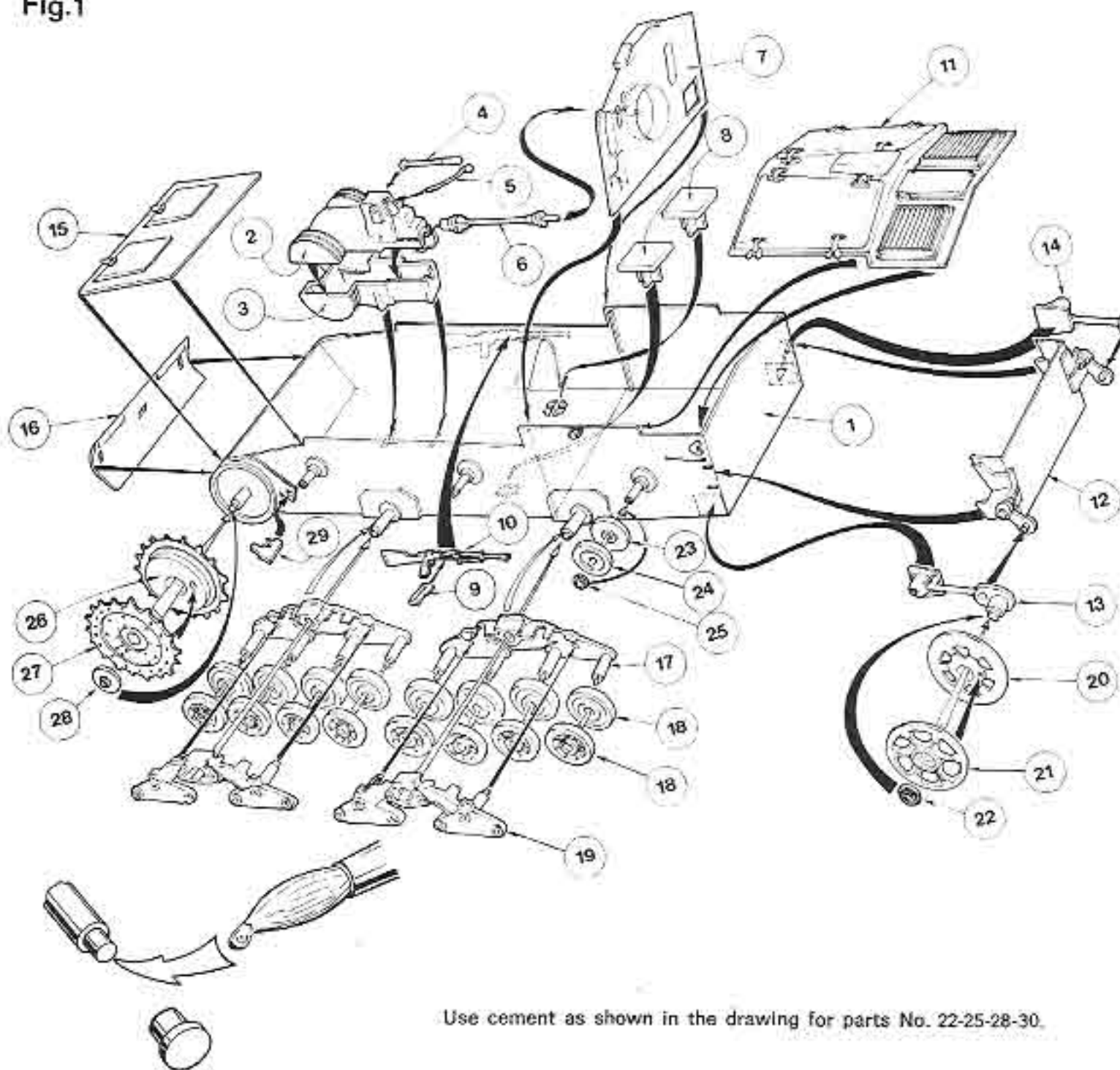
5. This document should be retained for reference at a later date, if the need arises, as it includes the "EEC" company name and address as a means of identification of the importer and supplier.



1) MAKE THE AERIAL THINNER HEAT UP A PLASTIC LENGTH

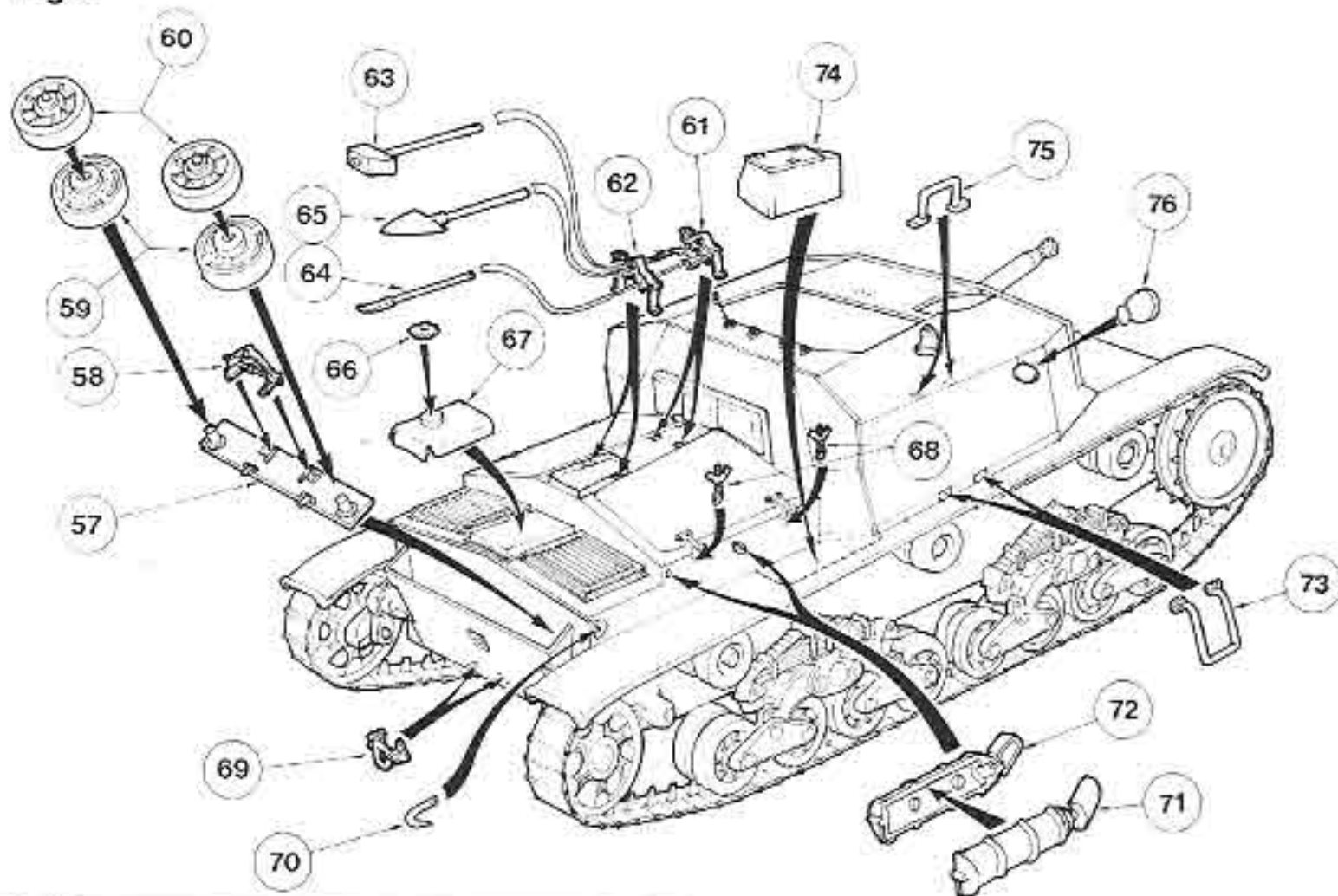


Fig.1



Use cement as shown in the drawing for parts No. 22-25-28-30.

Fig.4



Do not cement the casemate No. 54, but lean it on the hull and on the fender panels; these latter, when cementing, must be set in a perfectly plane position. In the M41-75/18 version, the fender panel can be long or short, the jack is placed in the back (see photo 2). The marking F is the only one to be used.

Fig. 2

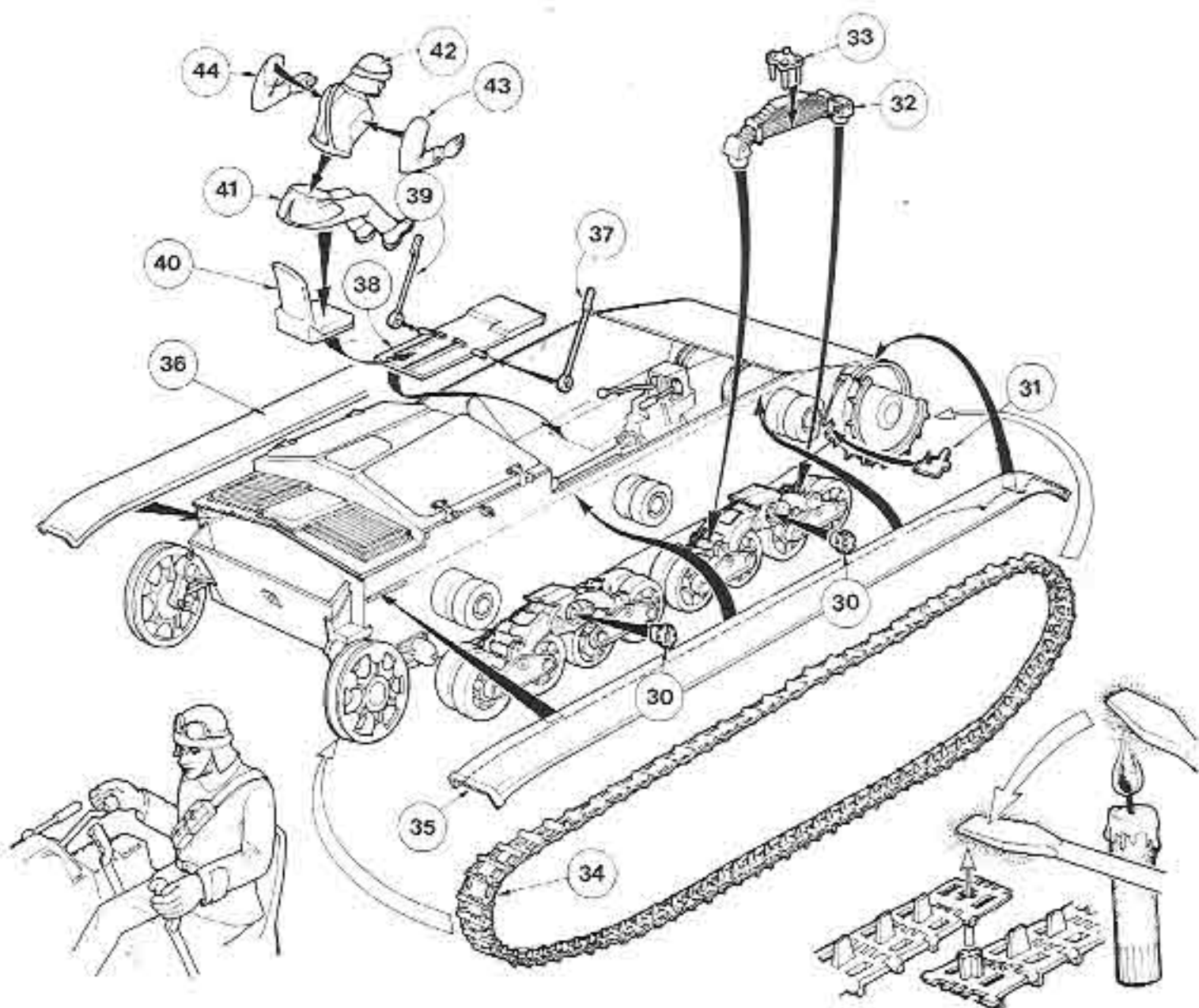


Fig. 5

Use these pieces for M41-75/18 Model only.

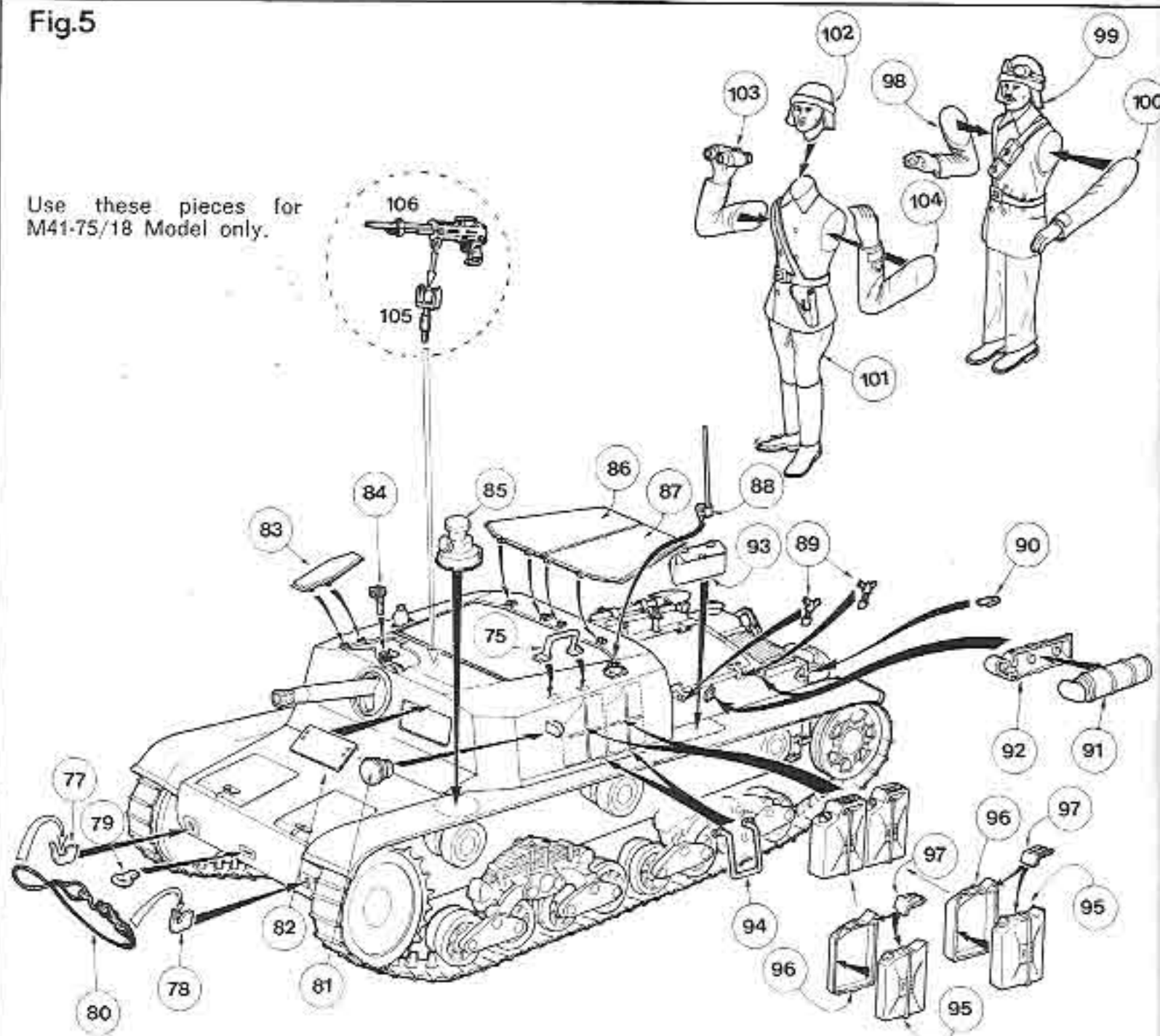


Fig. 3

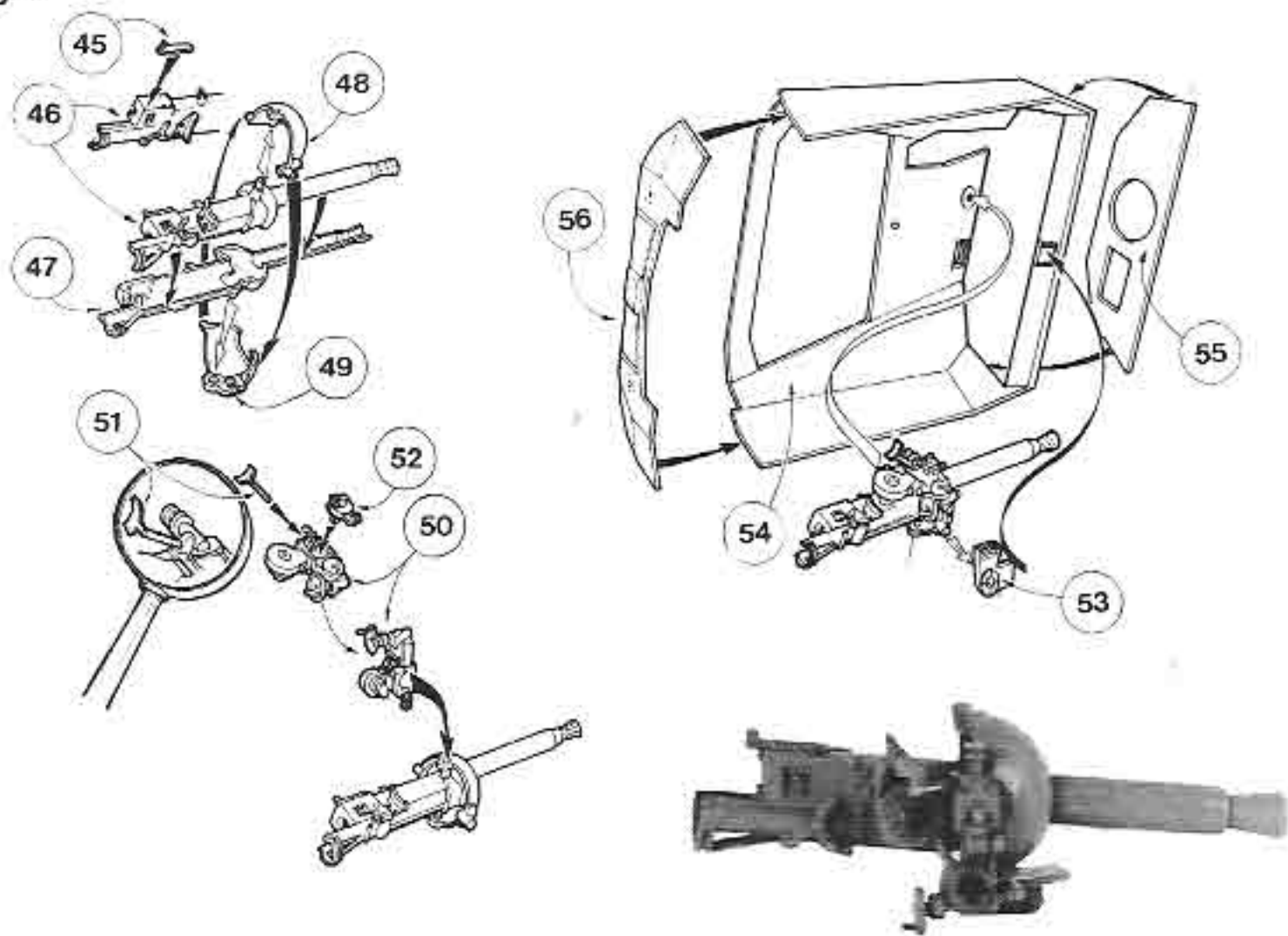




Fig.1



SAND YELLOW otherwise DARK GREEN

Fig.2



SAND YELLOW

Fig.3



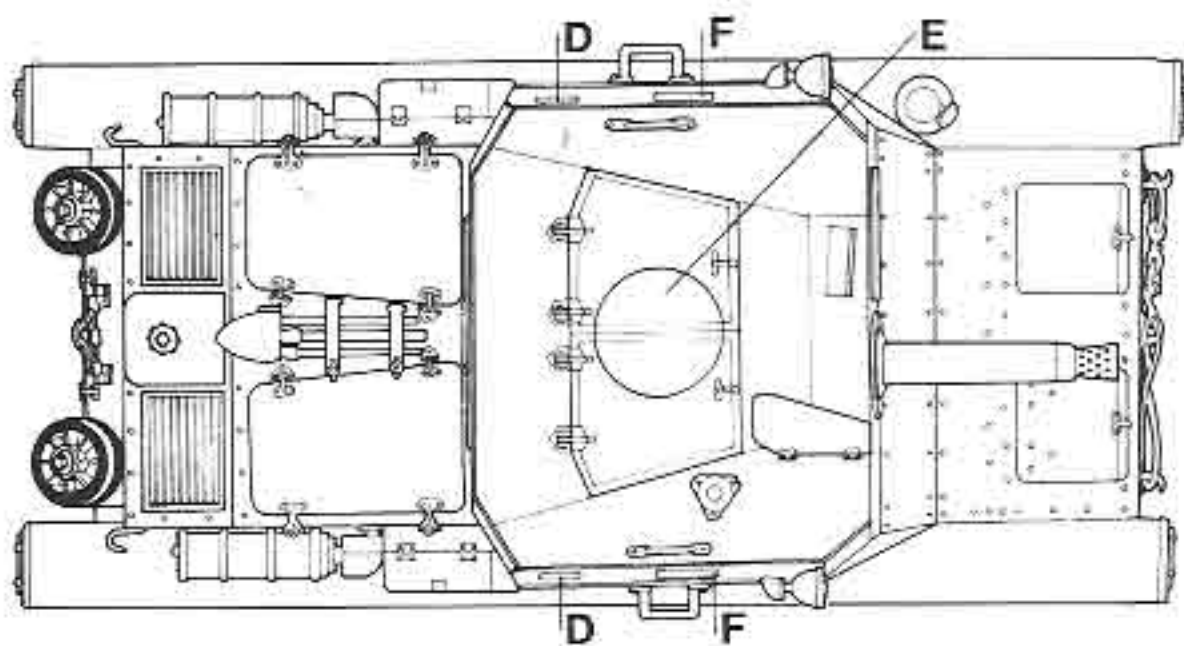
DARK GREEN



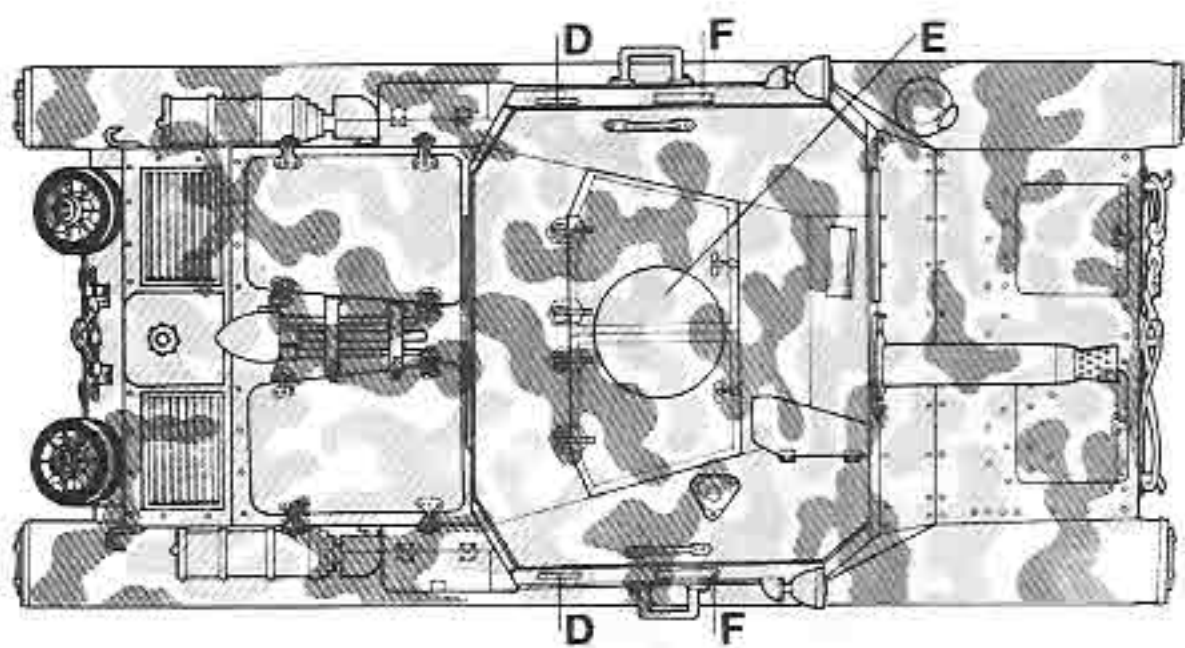
DARK RED



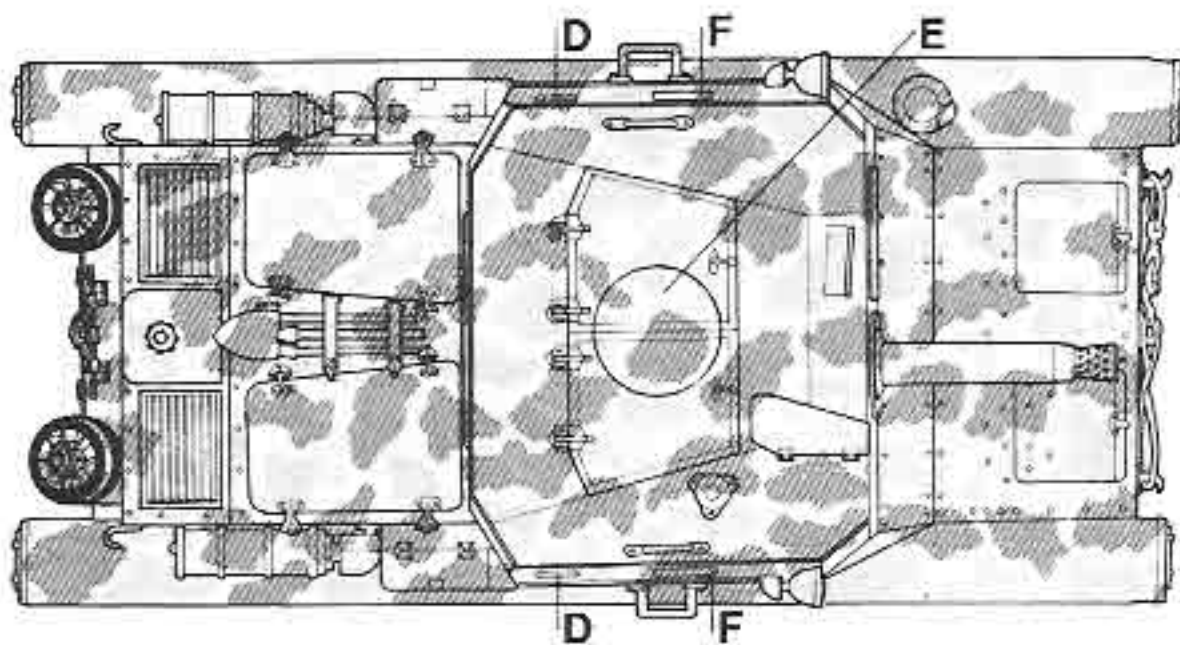
BL



Fig



Fig



Fig

MANUFACTURER:  
ZVEZDA,  
PROMYSHLENNAYA, 2 -  
LOBNYA, 141730, RUSSIA

SELLER:  
ITALER SPA  
VIAP RADAZZO, 6 -  
CALDERARA (BO), ITALY

BLACK

Fig.1

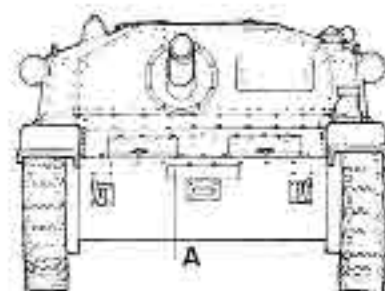
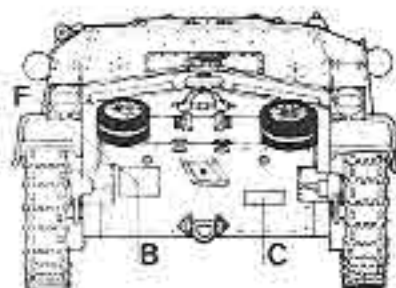
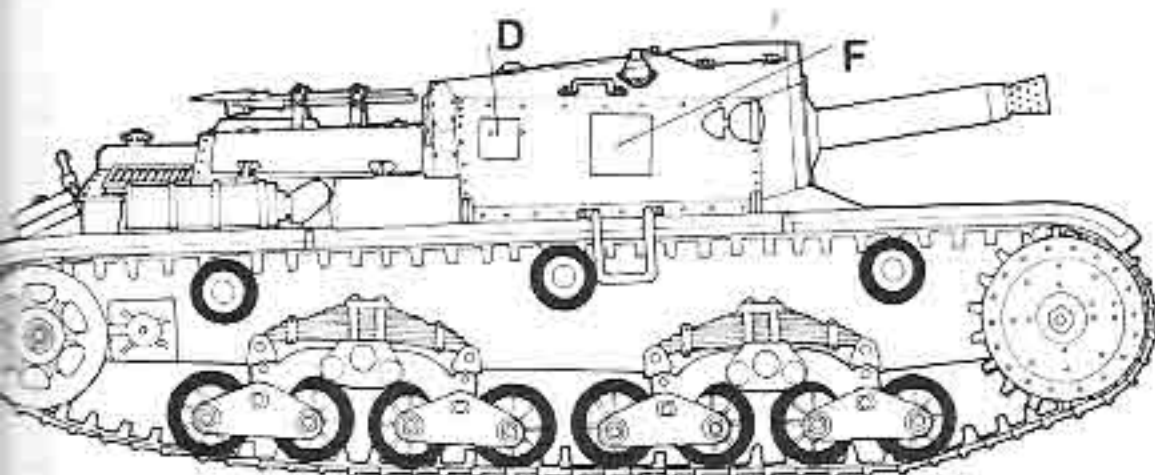


Fig.2

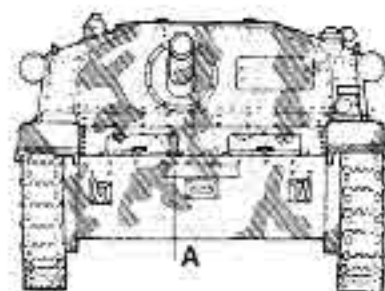
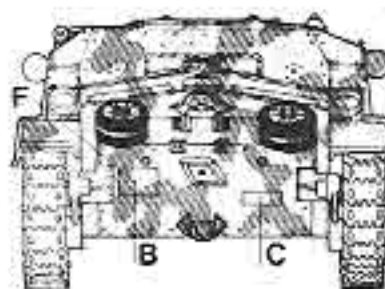
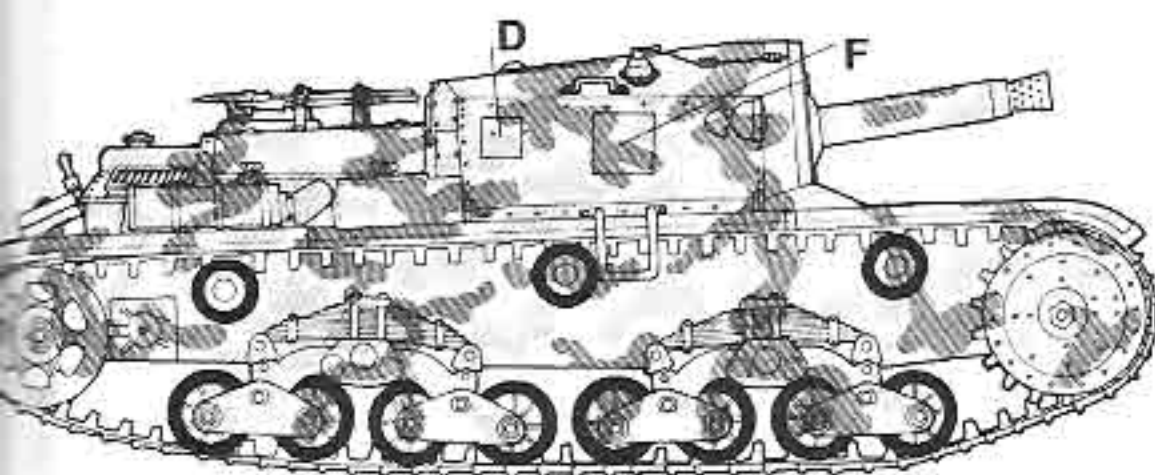
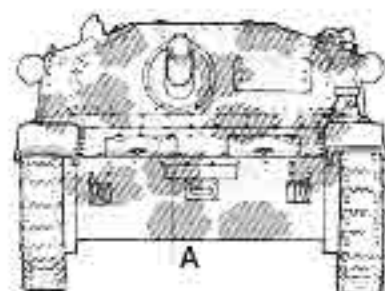
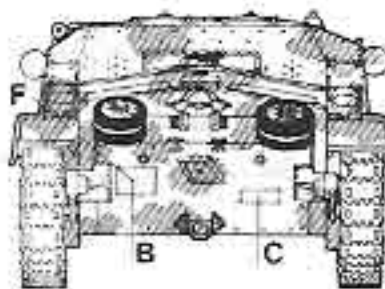
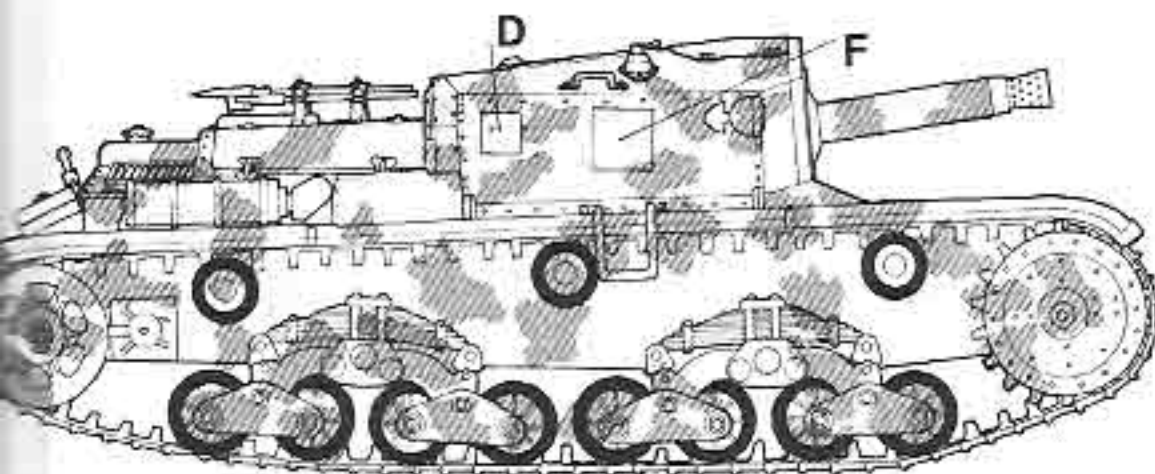
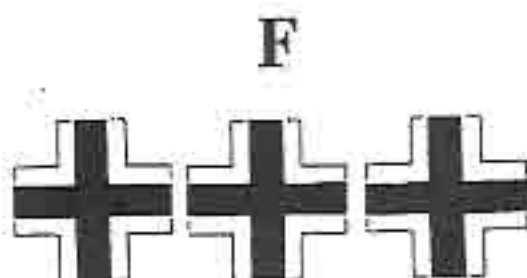
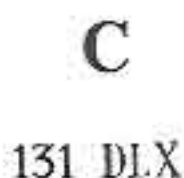
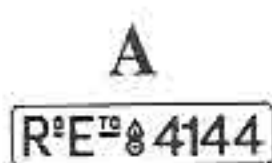


Fig.3

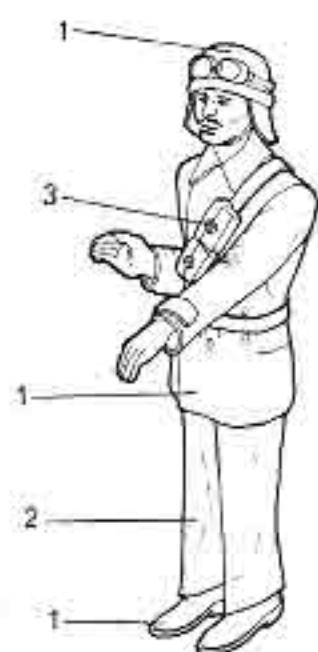




## MARKINGS POSITIONING KEY

- A** Front plate for Regio Esercito A.F.V.
- B** Rear plate for Esercito Italiano A.F.V. (after 1945)
- C** Arab numbers indicating the regiment for Regio Esercito SPG
- D** Markings for vehicles of 1st battery, 3rd self-propelled artillery regiment CELERE (Armored division LITTORIO), rhomb indicates the first vehicle.
- E** National air identification markings used Regio Esercito A.F.V.
- F** Markings applied by Germans on captured Italian vehicles

**Letters indicate the position of each decal shown on the painting scheme.**



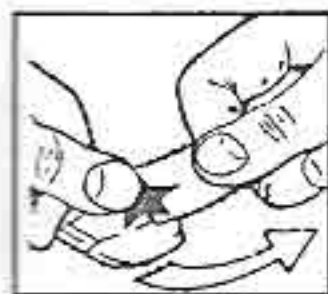
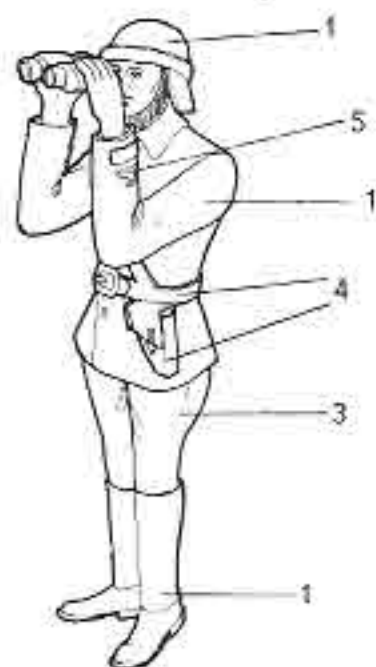
1 BLACK LEATHER

2 BLUE

3 GREY GREEN

4 BROWN

5 GOLD YELLOW



### Direction for applying the decals:

Cut each image out of the backing sheet; soak in water for about 1/2 minute; place the decal in exact position and remove the backing sheet. Remove excess water with the cotton swab.