

History | 历史介绍

On September 1, 1943, AGK (German Munitions Trade Community), on behalf of the German military, officially ordered Henschel to prepare one fully armed, ammunition and fueled Tiger E outside of the production schedule for the German Army and send it to the Army Armor Depot at Königsberg to be prepared for shipment to Japan. Germany decided to ship the Tiger and Panther from Bordeaux, France to Japan on October 10, 1943. Under the auspices of the AGK, the developers, manufacturers and weapons bureaus held secret negotiations and drafted contracts around export prices. And as a report back to Germany, the Germans needed some raw materials they could not easily find, especially rubber - which was in ample supply in British Malaya, which Japan had conquered as early as 1942.

By the end of September 1943 Japan was already pushing Germany for quicker delivery. And the German side was arguing over the scheme of dividing the parts of the Tiger tank at the time of shipping, and finally came to the following conclusion: Weight of the complete vehicle with the turret and tracks removed - 36 tons. Weight of the complete vehicle with the sprockets and running gear removed but retaining all interior and exterior equipment - 29 tons. Weight of the turret and gun - -11 tons. Weight of the running gear with sprockets but without tracks - 7 tons. Weight of the sprockets - 1 ton. Weight of one set of two tracks for combat - 6 tons. Weight of one set of two tracks for transport - 5 tons.

The Japanese ambassador to Germany, after seeing the Tiger tank at a German tank testing center, was impressed. Then there was a plan for the Japanese military to purchase Tiger tanks. A delegation of 12 Japanese officers went to inspect and consult on the purchase, and in addition to supplying Germany with the necessary strategic supplies, the tanks had to be paid for. The retail price of a brand new 1943 production Tiger initial model reached 300,000 Reichsmark. But the German company Henschel eventually offered Japan as much as 645,000 Reichsmark, more than double the price.

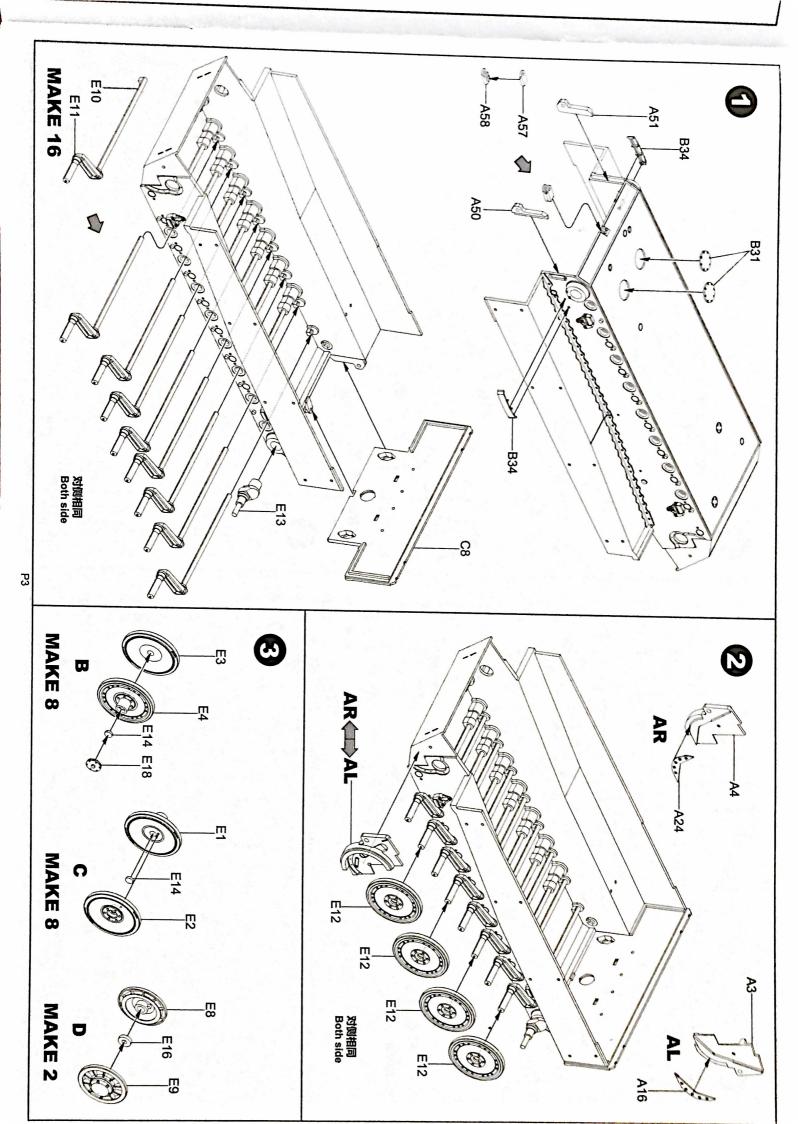
But then the Allies landed in Normandy in June 1944. The war-strapped Germans needed all the tanks they could get their hands on, and at this point the Japanese couldn't ship the tanks, and the Germans needed them. Did the Germans use the disassembled tank as a spare part, did they reassemble the Tiger, did they give the Japanese a full refund, or did they lease the Tiger from the Japanese. Either way, the Tiger was handed over to the combat unit. The Tiger, which belonged to Japan, was eventually destroyed in the fighting on the Western Front. The Tiger, which was briefly possessed by the Japanese, proved to be effective, and the Japanese began to design and build their own larger Type V tanks, with better guns and armor. However, as the Japanese were losing ground, the American forces were soon to hit the Japanese mainland. The Allies were fortunate that only 1 prototype of the Type V tank was made, staying in the prototype development stage and ultimately not finalized. Whether the Tiger tank or the Type V tank developed by Japan itself was suitable for Japan's actual battle needs is still controversial.

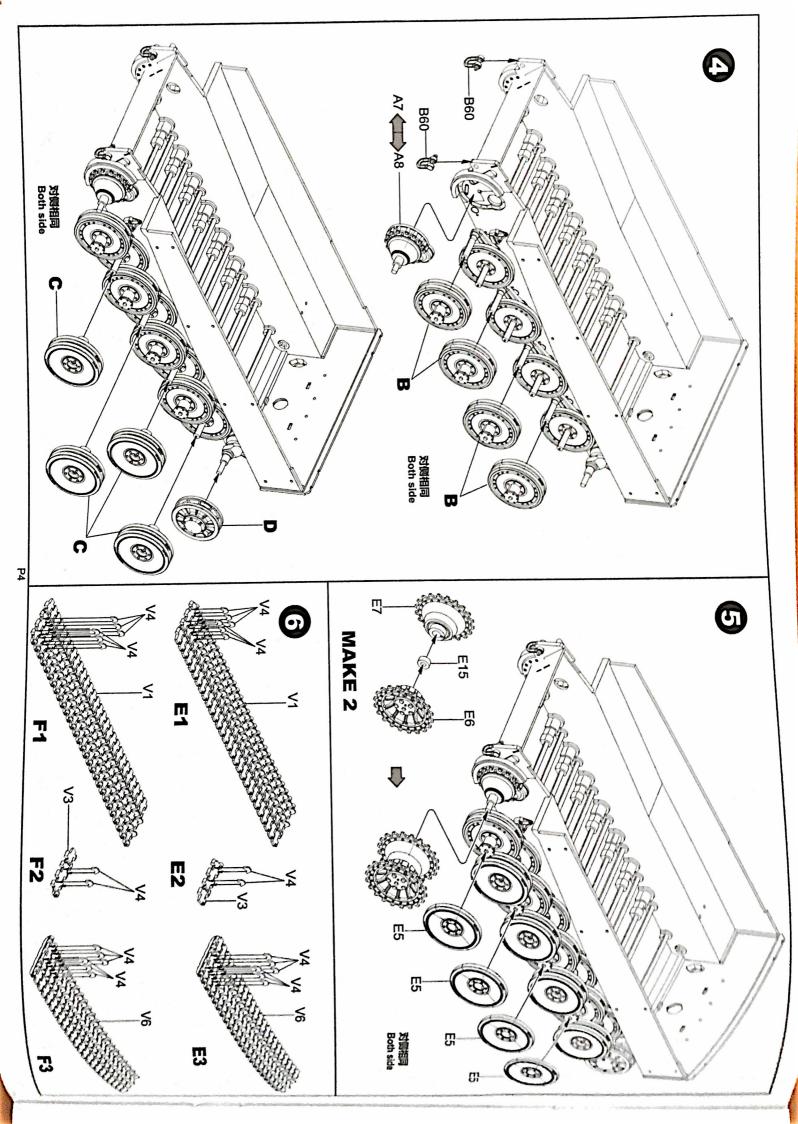
1943年9月1日,AGK(德国军需器材贸易共同体)代表德国军方正式命令亨舍尔公司在供德军生产计划外准备1辆武器、弹药和油料齐备的虎式坦克E型,并送到柯尼斯伯伦的 马克迪贝克陆军装甲兵站准备运往日本。德国决定于1943年10月10日从法国波尔多将虎式坦克和黑豹坦克运往日本。在AGK的主持下,各开发商、生产商和武器局围绕出口价格进 行了秘密磋商并草拟了合同。而作为对德国的汇报,德国人需要一些他们不容易找到的原材料,尤其是橡胶——日本早在1942年初便征服了英属马来亚,橡胶有充足的供应。

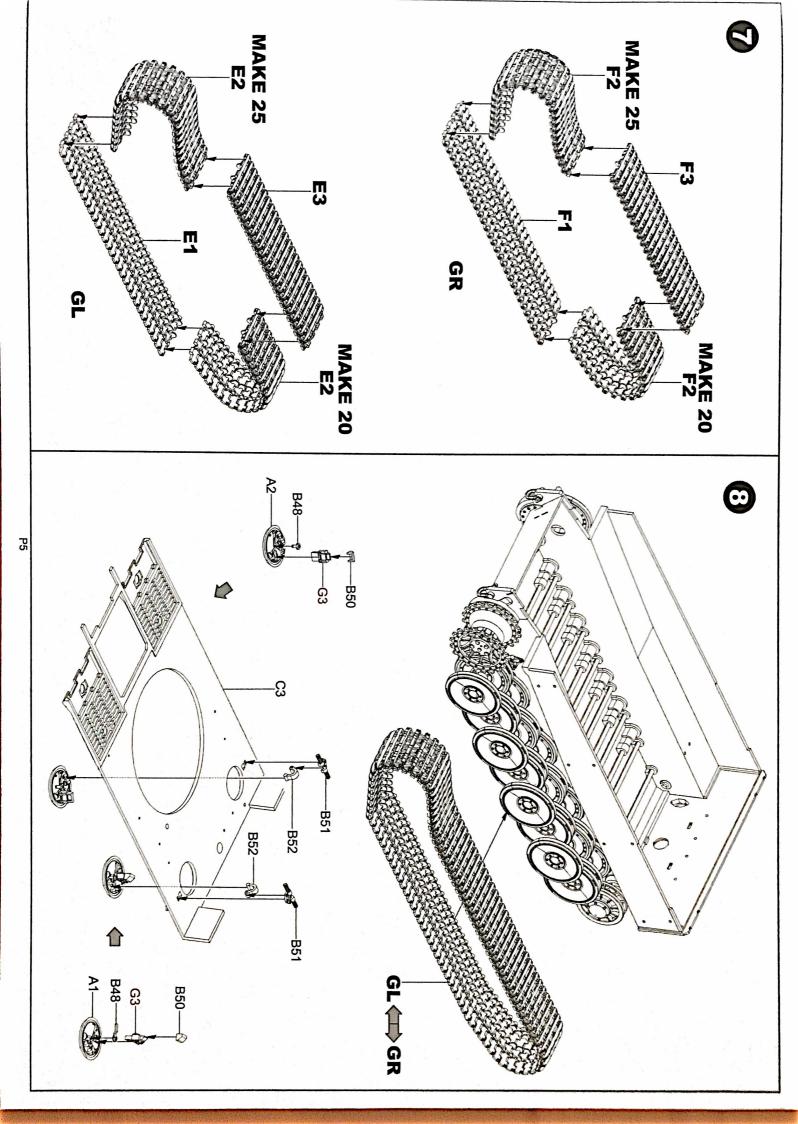
1943年9月底日本就已经在催促德国快些交货。而德国方面正在为船运时虎式坦克的零件分割方案争吵不休,最后得出的结论如下:拆除炮塔和履带的整车重量——36吨,拆除主动轮和行走装置、但保留全部车内外装备的整车重量——29吨,炮塔和火炮重量——11吨,带主动轮但不包括履带的行走装置重量——7吨,主动轮重量——1吨,战斗用履带1套2根重量——6吨,运输用履带1套2根重量——5吨。

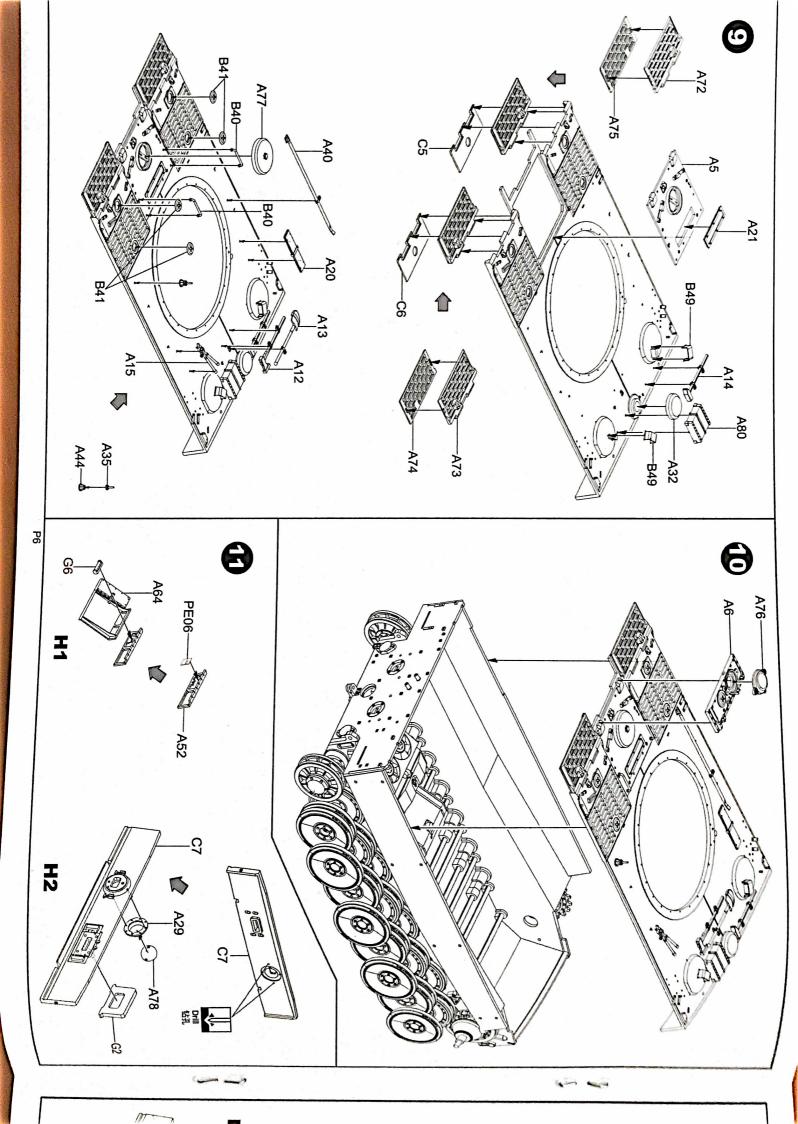
日本驻德国大使,在德国的坦克测试中心看到了老虎坦克后,便留下了深刻的印象,便有了日本军方采购虎式坦克的计划,由12名日本军官组成的代表团去考察和咨询了购买事宜,除了为德国供应必要的战略物资外,坦克还得花钱买。一辆全新的1943产老虎初期型的零售价格达到了30万帝国马克。但是德国亨舍尔公司最终给日本的报价高达64万5千帝国马克,翻了一倍还不止。

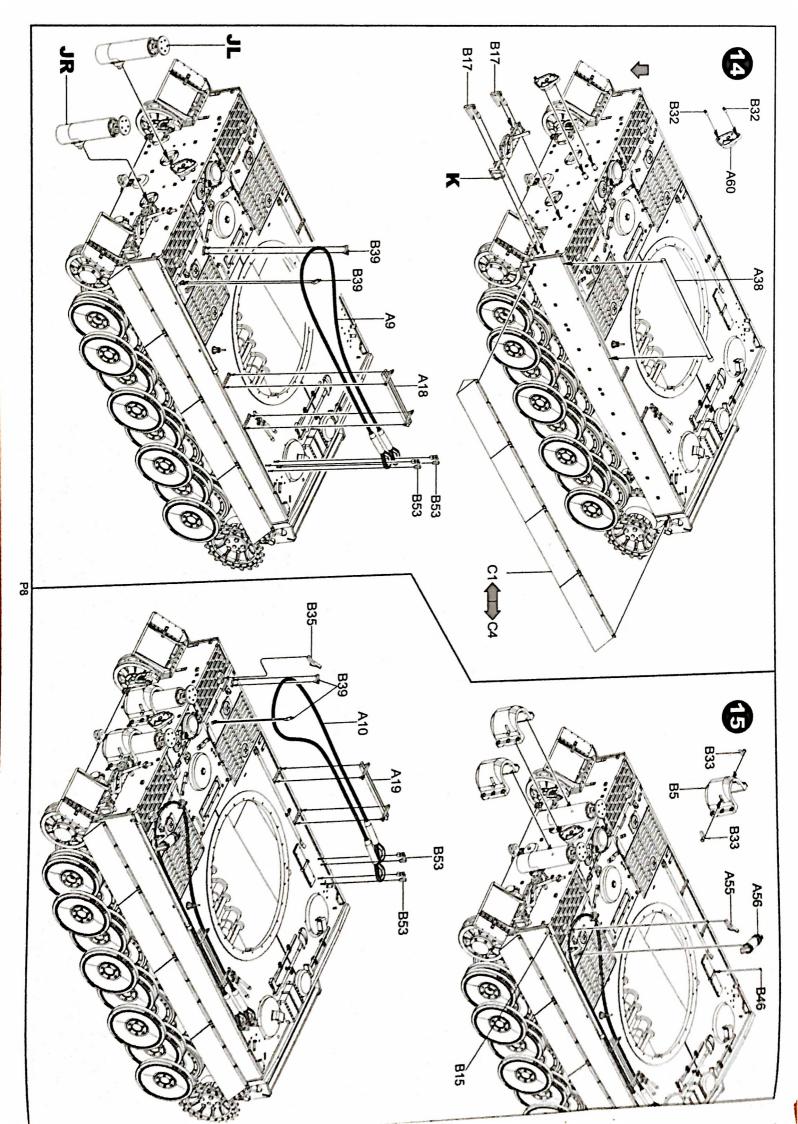
但是后来盟军1944年6月在诺曼底登陆。战事吃紧的德国人需要所有他们能拿到的坦克,此时日本人无法运走坦克,而德国人需要坦克。德国人是将这辆拆卸的坦克当做备用部件,还是重新组装好了这辆虎式坦克,还是全额退款给日本人,亦或者他们从日本人那里租来了这辆虎式。无论哪种方式,这辆虎式坦克被移交给了作战单位。这辆属于日本的虎式坦克最终在西线的战斗中被击毁了。而这辆被日本人短暂占有的虎式坦克并证明起到了效果,日本人开始自行设计制造更大的五式坦克,拥有更好的火炮和装甲。然而,由于日军节节败退,美军很快要打到日本本土。盟军很幸运,五式坦克仅制成1辆样车,停留在样车研制阶段,最终未能定型。不管虎式坦克还是日本自行研发的五式坦克,是否适合日本的实际战斗需要,仍存在争议。

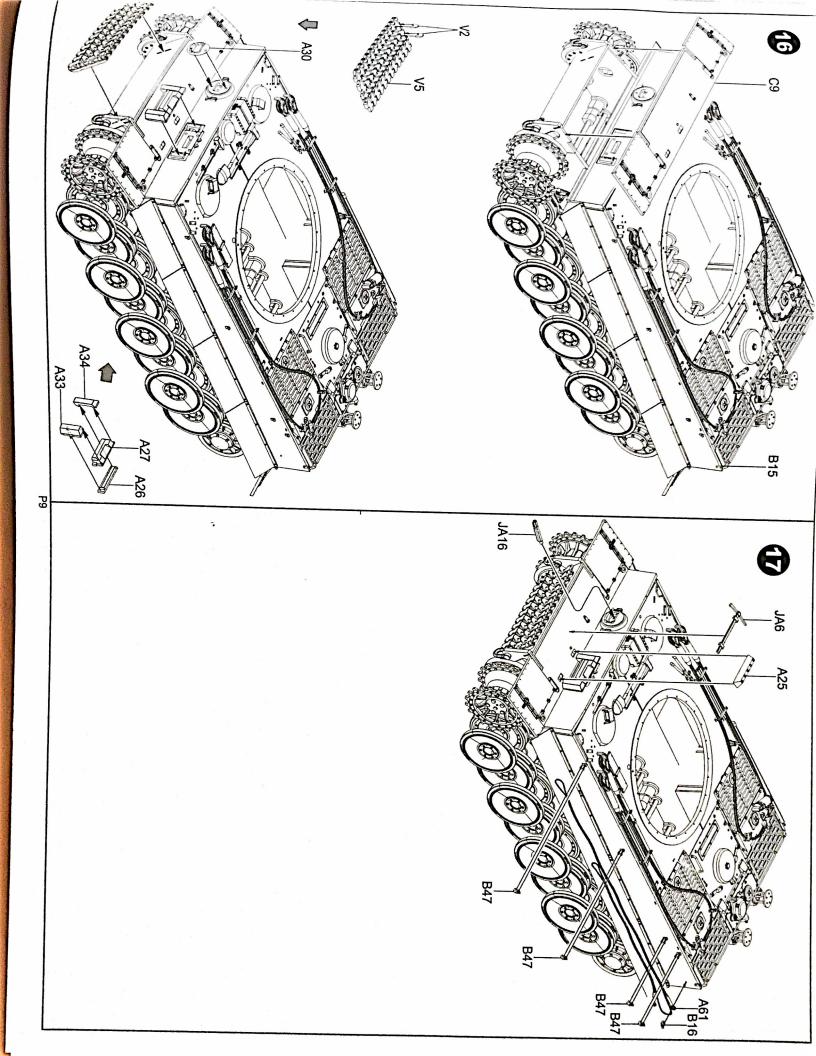


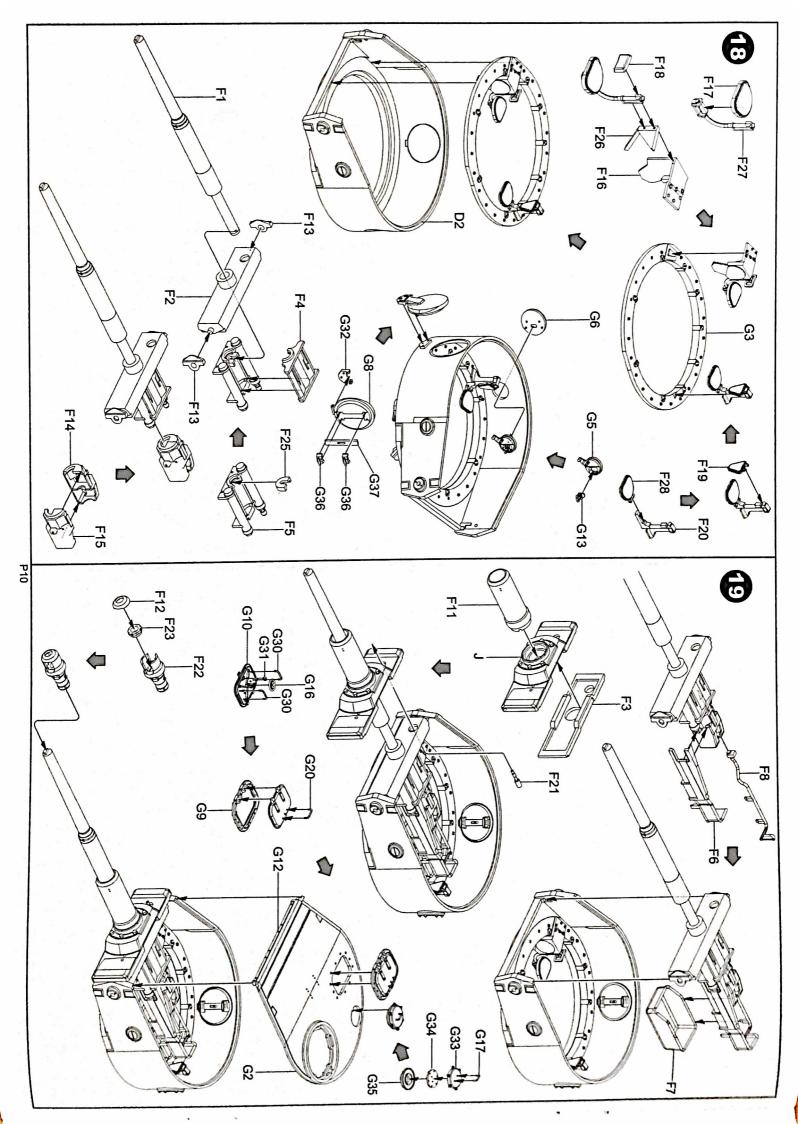


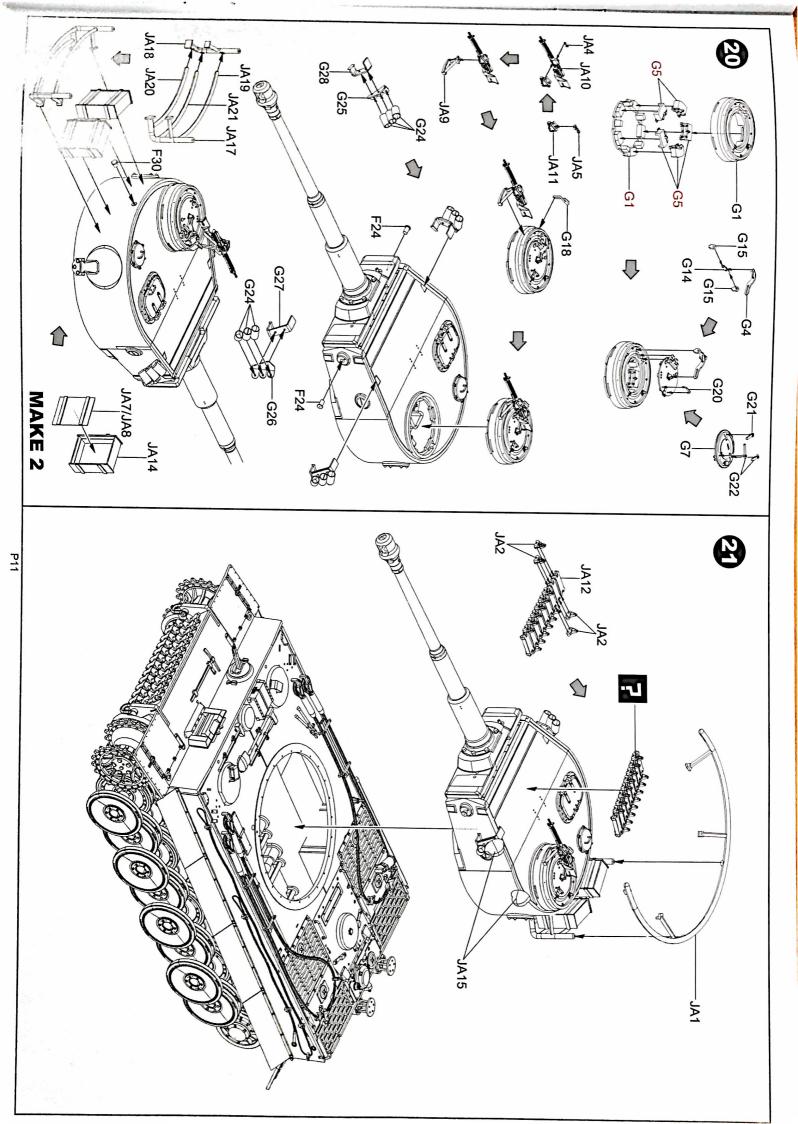














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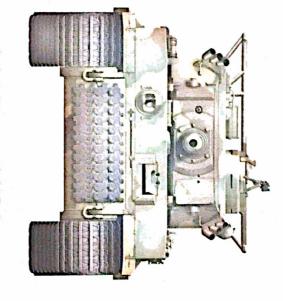
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