



## Mouse Armour

1/35 scale Kit  
MA104  
M113A1 APC Long Tan August  
1966

Researched and crafted by John Myszka

### Background

The conversion is designed to convert an M113A1 to Australian standards as used during the Battle of Long Tan 18 August 1966. This requires a new hull top to represent the early deliveries, new antennae mounts, and wire holders for jerrycans. The gun shield is of the 1 APC Squadron design used at that time.

### Tools

Handy tools would include a sharp model knife and wet and dry sandpaper.

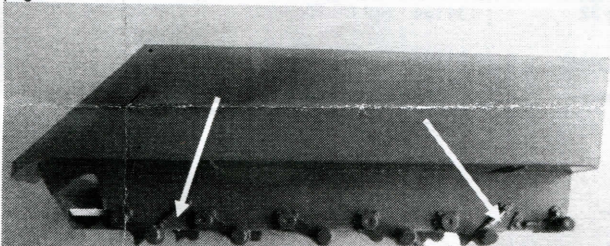
### Safety

This is a resin product so keep it away from extreme heat and naked flames. When sanding do it in a well-ventilated area and do not inhale the resin dust – wear a mask. Use wet sanding methods to reduce the dust.

Hull top	Cargo hatch with filter box
2 x Aerial bases with aerials	3 x Jerrycans in wire holders (2 x metal+ 1 x water)
Gun shield	50 cal ammo liners (x8)
Spot welded tie downs (10)	



Make sure that you have an M113A1 model that has only one shock absorber front and rear, plus the old style flat radiator cap (see image next page).



### Construction

1. Replace the kit hull roof with resin part.
2. Replace the kit cargo hatch with resin part.
3. Add gun shield and mount to 50 cal machine gun.
4. Replace rear mounted kit jerrycans with resin parts. Use Tamiya tape to represent strapping from wire basket to spot welded tiedown above jerrycan on rear plate.
5. Use resin aerial bases along left side of hull – one or two bases as required
6. Add 50 cal ammo liners strapped down to the hull roof using Tamiya tape to represent strapping to spot welded tiedown in twos and threes
7. The vehicles were still painted in US Army Olive drab. Australian olive drab lustreless was not made until 1967.

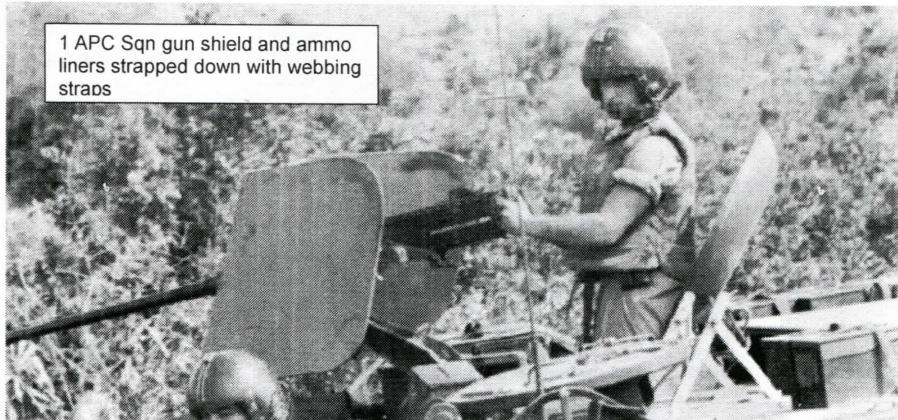
### Other references:

[http://www.aussiemodeller.com.au/pages/History/Myszka\\_Long%20Tan%20M113.html](http://www.aussiemodeller.com.au/pages/History/Myszka_Long%20Tan%20M113.html)

[http://www.aussiemodeller.com.au/pages/Gallery/Trucksnvehicles/Myszka\\_M113Vietnam.html](http://www.aussiemodeller.com.au/pages/Gallery/Trucksnvehicles/Myszka_M113Vietnam.html)

<http://www.aussiemodeller.com.au/pages/hintsNtips/Myszka%20M113A1%20ammo%20storage%20Vietnam.html>

1 APC Sqn gun shield and ammo liners strapped down with webbing straps



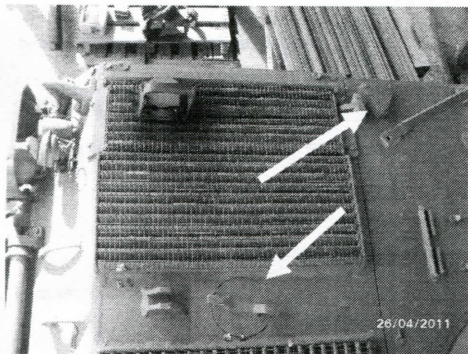
M113A1 APCs used during the Long Tan battle:

The carriers were:

CALLSIGN	ARN*	COMMANDER		Aerials
30A	134186	Lt FA Roberts	Mentioned in dispatches	Three
30B	134152	2Lt IC Savage		Three
32	134164	Sgt RE Richards	Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star	Two
32B	134145	Cpl RJ Cross		Two
33A	134161	Cpl P Fottrill		Two
33B	134332	CPL JJ O'Shae		Two
39M	134260	Cpl JA Carter	Distinguished Conduct Medal	Two
23	134200	CPL JT O'Reilly		Two
23A	134168	Cpl PE Clements	Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star	Two
23B	134206	LCpl WG Smith		Two

Note: \* The Army Recognition Numbers (ARNs) are based on a mileage return for October 1966 and assumed to be the same as two months before. Antennae mounted on driver's side of the vehicle.

Should you have more accurate information about the carriers during the battle please send the info to us for updating.



The image at left shows the M113A1 radiator cap.

Also note that the A1 version only **has one** triangular blanking plate (NOT TWO as in A2 models)

**Be aware that some academy kits although marketed as M113A1 are actually M113A2s**