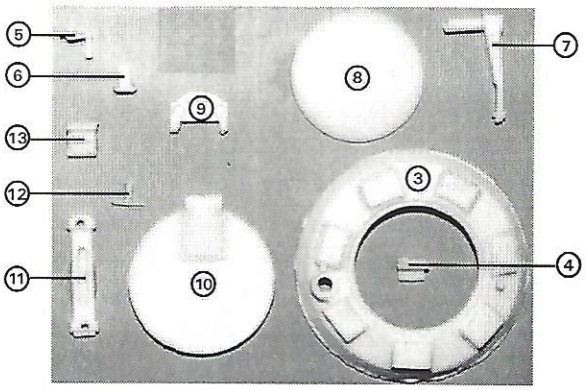
LATE PRODUCTION TIGER 1 TURRET ABM009
March 1944 - October 1944
Introduction

The resin components which make up this update kit allow the modeler to replace the injection-plastic turret of the Tamiya Late Production Tiger 1 with a turret shell configured to replicate the asymetrical horizontal profile of the prototype (see D.Bryden: Military Modelling June 1994 and T. Jentz: New Vanguard #1 - Tiger 1) and 40mm raised turret roof. Modelers can replicate vehicles with production turret modifications common to the period of March to August 1944. You will find that some of the parts will require a small amount of cleanup work using your hobby knife of choice and sandpaper/file. Proceed carefully; some of the parts provided are delicate (part 5) and will not take well to overly vigerous cleaning. A slow-setting cyanoacrylate glue will provide you with sufficient time to fiddle with some of the more important parts alignments. Remember that final attachment of some of the minor components (cupola periscopes) will necessitate pre-painting of the same.

Turret Components

Please familiarize yourself with the kit parts as presented in the photo below:



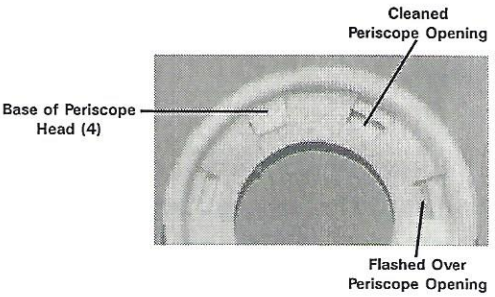
Part No.	*Description*	*Quantity*
1	**Turret Shell (Not Shown)**	**1**
2	**Turret Roof (Not Shown)**	**1**
3	**Commander's Cupola**	**1**
4	**Periscope Head**	**7**
5	**Spare Track Lower Support**	**7**
6	**Turret Lifting Mount**	**1**
7	**Cupola Hatch Hinge**	**1**
8	**Cupola Hatch**	**1**
9	**Escape Hatch Hinge**	**1**
10	**Escape Hatch**	**1**
11	**Escape Hatch Locking Bar**	**1**
12	**Locking Bar Turn Buckles**	**2**
13	**Loader's Periscope**	**1**

Turret Construction

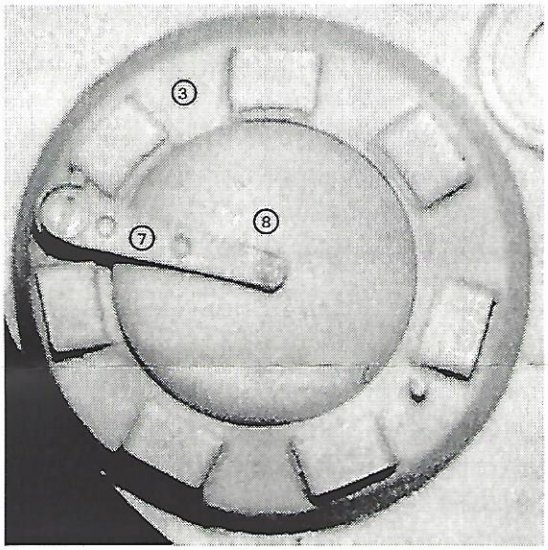
1. Clean the turret shell **(1)** of all flash. Assemble the Tamiya gun mantlet taking note that turrets produced in March of 1944 were still equipped with the binocular openings for the sighting telescope while those produced from April on were equipped with a monocualr opening. Make sure the cavities in the inside face of the front of the turret shell are clear; the stubs on the sides of the gun mantlet locate into these openings. Position the gun matlet in the turret shell.

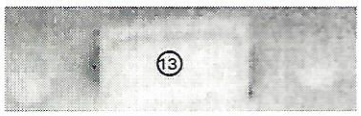
2. Clean the turret roof **(2)** of all flash. Take note that the roof weld bead has been replicated a-along the outside circumfrance of the roof - **DO NOT REMOVE!!!**. Turn the roof over and locate the hole at the right rear of the turret that locates the point where you shoud drill out the locating hole for the roof close defense weapon. The roof will rest on the ledge found along the upper inside edge of the turret shell **(1)**. Test fit to make sure alignment is optimal. Use a **slow-curing** glue to glue the roof to the turret shell. Determine if the vehicle you are replicating was equipped with the turret pilsen mounts. Vehicles produced from March to May 1944 were not equipped with the pilsen. If you do retain these features make sure to remove the small, vertical, rectangular flash attached to the front of each pilsen mount. You may wish to run a thinned solution of putty around the roof weld bead to blend it in to the upper edge of the turret shell.

3. Clean the commander's cupola **(3)** of all flash. Be cautious when cleaning the periscope covers on the upper surface of the cupola; these features are thin and must be cleaned with care. The periscope heads **(4)** fit inside the covers by inserting through the openings in the undersurface of the cupola. Glue into place and check for alignment. Do not remove the replicated weld bead along the bottom edge of the cupolas upper surface.



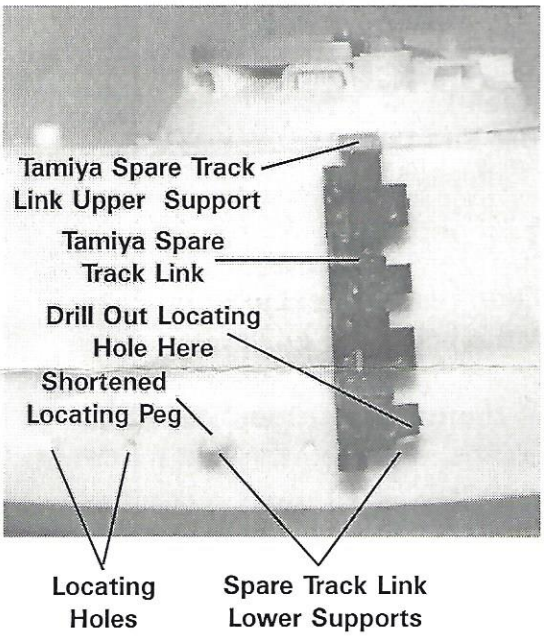
Underside of Commander's Cupola

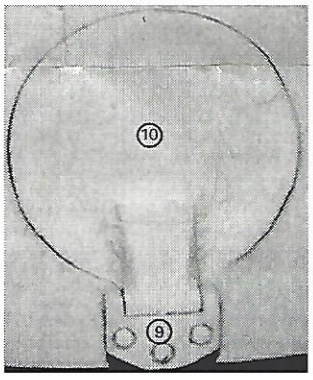


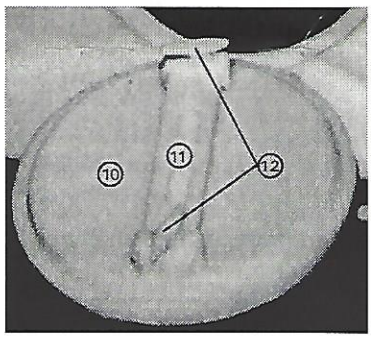


4. Glue the cupola to the turret roof. Alignment pegs (2) on the roof mate to cavities in the underside of the cupola rim providing positive alignment. Glue the cupola hatch hinge **(7)** to the cupola hinge **(8)**. Glue the turret lifting mount **(6)** into the cavity found at the rear of the turret shell along the upper ledge. Glue the loader's periscope **(13)** into the rectangular opening just forward of the hatch opening.

5. Clean the flash off of the spare track supports **(5)**. Make sure the 5 locating holes on the left side of the turret and the 2 locating holes on the right side of the turret are flash free; a drill bit of a suitable diameter should be used to clean the holes out. If you are planning on mounting the spare track links then shorten the upper locating peg on each support so that they are 1.5mm in height. Drill out the injection-plastic track link of your choice as shown in the photo to the left. Glue the link to the lower support and glue the upper support into place as shown. This step should be left to the end of the assembly sequence.







6. Glue the escape hatch hinge **(9)** to the lower, rear, turret shell exterior. Use the escape hatch **(10)** to facilitate its correct alignment. Decide if the hatch will be open or closed. If closed make sure the hatch is correctly leveled so that there are no gaps between the left and right sides of the hatch and the hatch opening. If open, glue the locking bar **(11)** to the inside face of the hatch and then glue the turnbuckle hatch locks **(12)** into their locations at the terminal ends of the bar.