

A SPECIAL TIGER TANK THE BLACK BEAST



This model is straight from the kit box other than the paint job, it is produced by Tamiya as a 1/16 scale model of an early production Tiger as used in the second world war.

When I obtained this model it was retailing in this country for a considerable amount of hard earned pounds,

I was lucky in having a friend in the Armed Forces based in Holland and he obtained it for me at a very reasonable price, so much for the common market!

My version of the kit came complete with the electronics package and all the sound effects, along with all the gear boxes and everything else you need to put it together. The only thing you need to do is paint it in whatever livery you require. There are plenty of examples of this model around painted in all sorts of different campaign colours and very impressive some of them are.

I decide to be different and produce the thing in out of the factory condition, but also painted it in Black and call it Hitler's Show Tiger. Complete fiction of course as far as I know, but what the hell that's a modellers privilege. The badge on the front with the dreaded swastika is a genuine Hitler Youth Badge, just took the clip of the back and the SS logos I made up from white tape.

If you wanted to invest in one they can be built sitting at the table, all the chassis is stainless steel and the wheel suspension is completely authentic with torsion bars on each pair, it gave me a lot of pleasant hours just putting it together, I did however spray the parts as built it rather than when it was all assembled.

When in operation the sound effects, so I understand are recordings of the real thing, and both the main armament and the machine gun sound effects are completely authentic.

This model is the only one where you actually switch on the receiver circuits before the transmitter, as soon as this is switched on the start up sound effects in the model are astounding, the same applies when turning off the transmitter the diesel engines shut down.

Main Armament fires and the barrel recoils, then the Tank recoils, just like the real thing would have done. The machine gun has a flashing LED. when it is firing and stops after six seconds which is the correct time for a long burst of fire.

Power is provided by two six cell Nimh packs, one handles all the sound effects and the other the motive power. I used a six channel receiver because I had it handy, along with a futaba transmitter, this being the only extras you need to have to put the model into battle.

I hope you like the model in its clean livery and this IS not the only one of its kind, however I have never seen another Black One! Have You?

Stan Robinson

