



History

The Swedish army became interested in the Czechoslovakian TNH tank, also known as the Panzerkampfwagen 38(t) from 1937 onward. In March 1940, some 90 tanks were ordered from the ČKD company. They were never delivered as Germany, which had occupied Czechoslovakia in 1938, commandeered them for its own use. After negotiations with the German authorities, Scania-Vabis received a license to build their own tanks, as compensation for the seized TNH tanks.

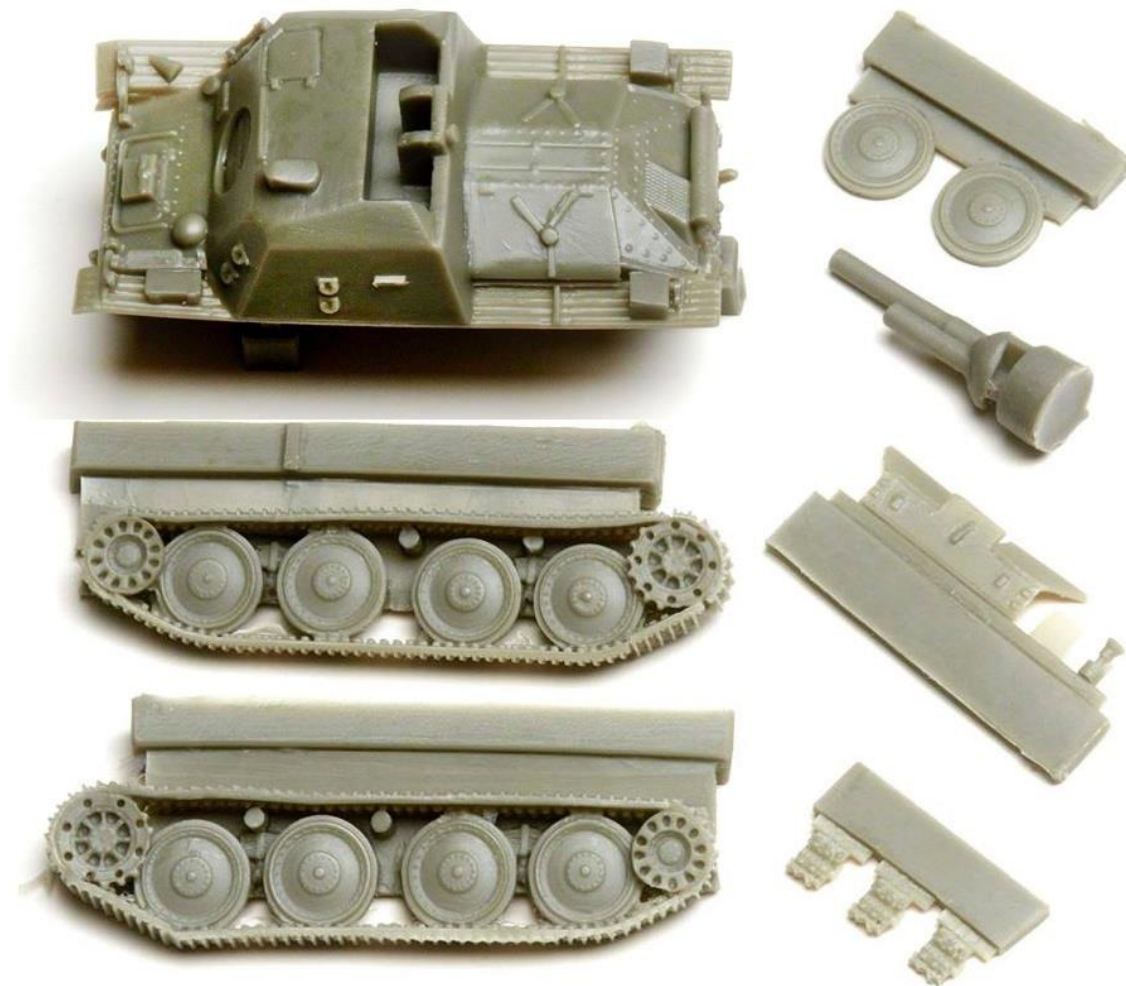
In June 1941, 116 Stridsvagn m/41 SI [**GEC72001**] were ordered. These were delivered from December 1942 - August 1943. The Stridsvagn m/41 was of riveted construction which made for easy manufacture. As with the preceding Strv m/38-Strv m/40, it was armed with a 37 mm Bofors m/38 gun, and the first batch had the same engine as the Strv m/40L, the Scania-Vabis type 1664. The tanks also carried spare wheels on brackets located on either side of the engine deck. The exhaust system was also modified.

In June 1942, a further 122 Stridsvagn m/41 were ordered under the designation Strv m/41 SII. These had thicker frontal armor and Scania's new type L 603 engine which required the hull to be stretched in the middle. The exhaust system was also modified compared to the SI on account of the different engine. The first SII vehicles were delivered in October 1943. Production of the SII ceased in March 1944 after 106 vehicles had been delivered with the last 18 of the 122 ordered being rebuilt as Stormartillerivagn or Sav m/43 assault guns.

During 1941, the Swedish Army General Staff ordered the integration of self-propelled gun carriage into the artillery service. A variety of feasible guns and chassis were analyzed. Of these, 36 vehicles were ordered in March 1944. This led to the stoppage of Strv m/41 SII production, of which the last 18 units were completed as Sav m/43 during the rest of 1944 and 1945. Vehicle No. 80122 was the prototype and had a slightly different casemate from series production vehicles. The Sav m/43 was configured like many German assault guns of WWII vintage and was first armed with a 75 mm gun. By March 1946 they were rearmed with a 105 mm m/44 gun. A second series of vehicles 18 vehicles was produced between 1946 and 1947, which received the 105 mm m/44 gun from the start. The serial numbers ran from 80123 to 80159, which were displayed like license plates at the lower front of the hull with yellow numbers on a black background.

The Sav m/43 was used by the artillery in A9 Regiment at Kristinehamn. In 1951, they were transferred to the armored forces. With one Sav m/43 used in training, they were allocated to infantry assault gun companies with six assault guns in each brigade. They Sav m/43 remained in service until 1973 when a reorganization of Swedish Armed Forces as well as the instruction of more modern equipment led to them being phased out of active service.

Instructions Stormartillerivagn m/43



Carefully remove parts from casting blocks. Clean all components and sand off any remaining injection gates. Prime all components with Gunze Sangyo Mr. Surfacer, Halfords Grey or similar automobile primer spray paint in a well-ventilated room. Cement gun to hull using Cyano Acrylate (superglue) or epoxy glue. The turret hatch can be cemented open or closed depending on modeler preference. If modeling the hatch open, cut "flaps" at the rear of the cover plate off. Cement main hatch upright at the front of the crew compartment and cement rear flaps at the back of the casemate facing perpendicularly rearward. Next, fashion small side flaps. Cement mushroom shaped ventilation unit on left top corner of the casemate, in front of the hatch. Paint or airbrush all remaining components before further assembly. Please refer to paint schemes on internet. When paint is dry, coat hull and turret with gloss varnish. Make own markings consisting of serial number, large white side number based on last 3 digits of serial number and small Swedish flags and apply at the correct location. When dry, cement tracks to side of hull. Cement spare track links at the front of the glacis according to internet photos. Attach spare wheels at attachment points on engine deck. Coat entire tank in mat varnish. Weather to taste. If modeling the Sav m/43 with open hatch, Swedish tank crews wore black leather helmets similar to Soviet tank crews which are available in white metal from wargaming model companies or other kits..

General instructions

Most of the original period photos of the tanks are copyrighted and therefore cannot be included with these instructions. Please refer to the internet using a search engine for help with paint schemes and hatch positions.

Useful Web Sites:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stormartillerivagn_m/43

<http://www.achtungpanzer.com/swedish-tnh-variants.htm>

<http://www.sphf.se/Axvall/sav.htm>

http://www.ointres.se/sav_m43.htm

General Information:

We try to make our details and conversions as easy to fit as possible. However, we expect our customers to have some experience in modelling. We urge you to clean up the parts with soap and water, to remove possible remains of release agents. Usual plastic cement does not work on resins and metals. Cyano acrylate glue or epoxy does the job. Resin Parts are preferably sanded wet, to avoid inhaling the dust. The use of Cyano acrylate and epoxies should also be done under well ventilated conditions.

NOT RECOMMENDED TO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 14.