

## The building of 1:35 ICM 35507 Model W.O.T.6



Box art



My rendition

First issue: 2018. 272 parts, including five PE parts; for a 180 mm long truck, it certainly packs a lot of plastic, +/- 1.5 part per mm. Survey instructions first to get an idea of its complexity. The rubber tires are a nice touch.

Although the Model War Office Truck 6 WWII British Truck was mostly used near the front (to wit: typical roof machine gun opening above the passenger seat), it was also part of the East Anglia USAAF Eight Air Force scenery, used as a transport platform for anything from machinery to bombs. Its maximum load capacity was 3 tons. Nearly 30 000 were produced between 1942 and 1945.

There even is a machinery conversion kit available, from Resicast.

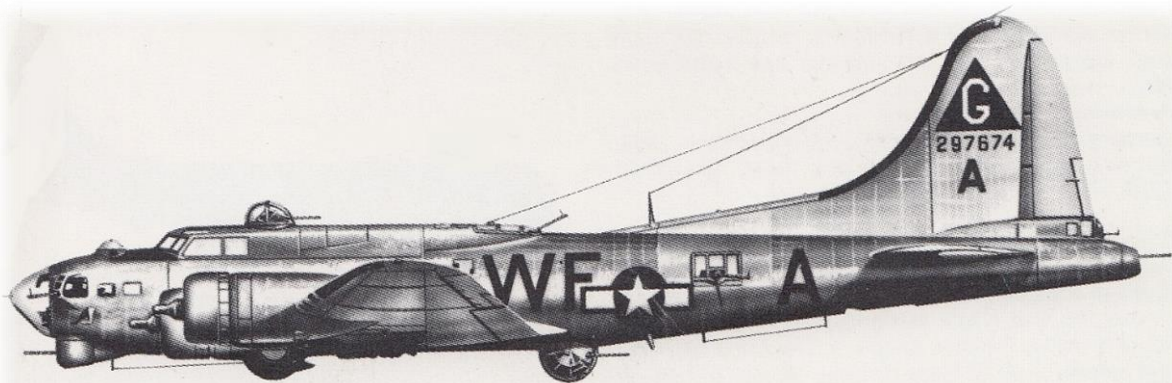
Note I will only add comments to the various steps when warranted; otherwise, the detailed drawings of each step are self-explanatory.

**Alerts are in red: these alerts are suggestions on modifications to the order in which the steps should be organized, or to the model itself.**

There are numerous sub-assemblies throughout the build; for simplicity's sake, I prefix each with the acronym SA, followed by the step number to identify each.

This model is not destined to be displayed alone, and that no one is going to inspect its underbody; it will be part of the vehicles and accessories included in a 4' x 4' diorama depicting a 1:32 Hong Kong Models USAAF Eight Air Force B-17G as it is readied for a mission over Merseburg, August 24, 1944, at RAF Chelveston.

B-17G "297533" was brought down by 88mm flak. All 10 crew members survived and ended up in Stalag Luft III. The diorama was commissioned by the two sons of its bombardier, Lt. Lester Sorensen, and is destined for Washington, DC, from my workshop in Montreal, Canada; hence, solidity of this build is paramount.



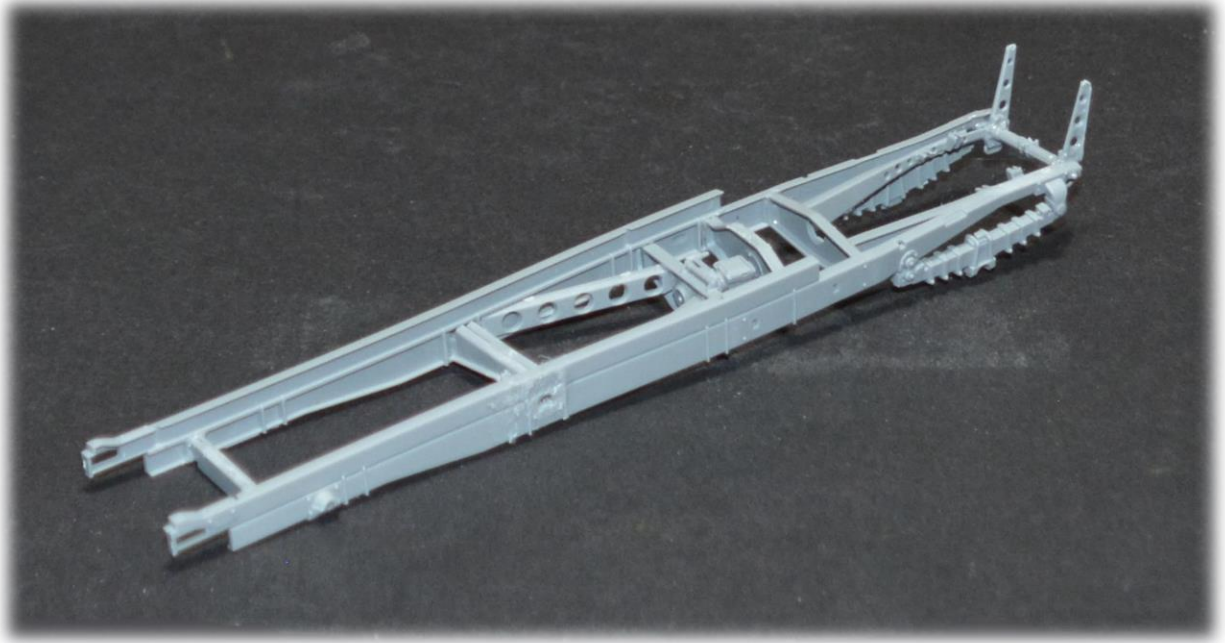
Boeing B-17G- Fortress (305th BG, 8th AAF, Chelveston)

**This is as close to B-17G WF  E "297533" as I could find in my archives**

**Steps 01 to 38: underbody**

**Step 05:** nearly impossible to get lever, part C90, in place on the pins of SA04 solidly; remove pins and simply cement C90 to the flat portion of SA04. As well, line up the two inboard locator pins on part C23 vertically, ready for step 07.

**Step 08:** long side frame parts number not indicated; A8 is the right-hand part; check horizontal alignment after cementing all crossbeams to long side frame B8.



**Steps 01 to 08 completed**

**Step 09:** part C5 is not necessarily important; I skipped installing it. Your call.

**Steps 13 to 19:** if you are building the truck with the hood closed, as I am, you can omit the small parts C2, C4, C12, C14, C25, C66, and C87, as these will not show once engine is installed in step 20. Your call.

**Step 21 and 22:** once mufflers assembled, enlarge holes to 3/64" in the front walls of the piped mufflers, enough to accommodate the back of the exhaust pipes, parts C1 and C9.

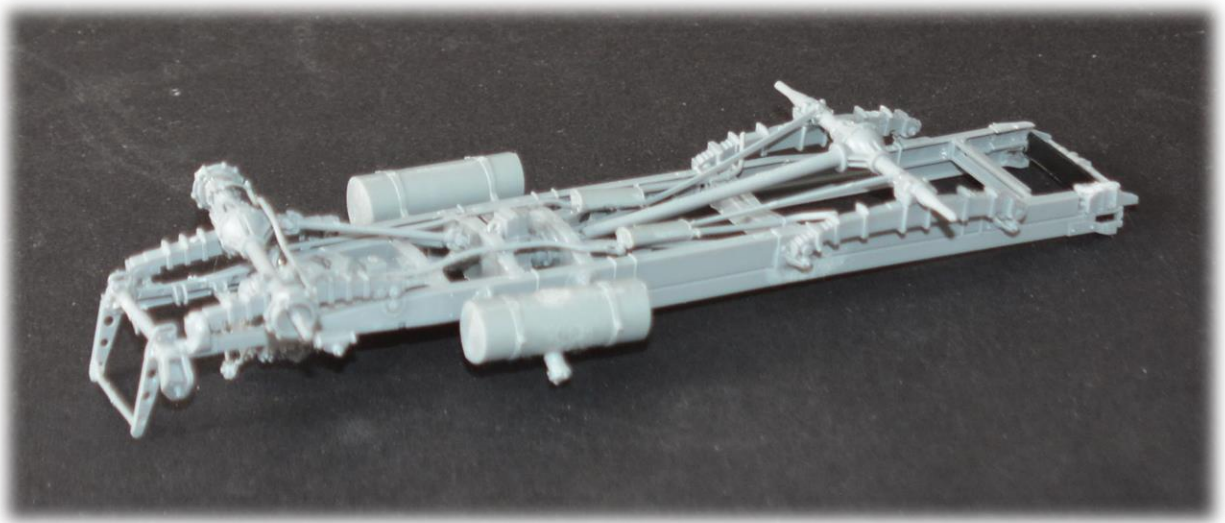
**Step 25:** the front axles, part C60, is not labeled as such on the instructions.

**Step 26:** clean out any cement residue from the back of SA03 (page 5). I installed the right side of SA25 on a forward angle to the first forward leaf spring, so the front wheels will be slightly turned. Your call.

**Step 29:** front wheel drive axle, part C32, also not labeled. The angling of the front axle will result in front wheel drive axle, part C32, to be a little short of reaching the front of SA05 (page 5).



**Step 30:** also not labeled: left gas tank, from SA28.



**Steps 09 to 30 completed**

### **A note on paint**

I selected Tamiya acrylics XF-74 Olive Drab (JGSDF) to differentiate this truck from the paint color of the 25 or so USAAF vehicles and accessories I have already painted, using Tamiya XF-62 Olive Drab. Reasoning: the W.O.T.6 was produced in the UK, and therefore painted there; the mostly USAAF vehicles were likely to have been painted in the US; hence, I doubt very much the USAAF vehicles would have been the same Olive Drab hue. Your call.

### **Steps 31 to 36: tires**

Prime, paint all polystyrene parts before assembling with the rubber tires. Make sure you overpaint the rims along their edges, as unpainted rim edges will show. Leave all parts on their sprues; much easier to identify what goes where; one can then touch up the sprue contact points once parts are snipped off. I color-coded the outside of the brake drums for the front tires, as these are different from the rear tires with regards to the outer hub parts (front: part E4; back: part E9). Do the same with all four brake pads (parts E2 and E6). Below left: front tires.



**Steps 37, 38: attaching the completed wheels**

These steps will be completed once the model is painted and ready for its wheels.

**Steps 39 to 74: the upper body, forward of the flatbed**

**Step 39:** the front fenders, part A7, are joined together with a thin “framing link”; its inherent fragility means it must be handled gingerly until step 40 is completed.

**Step 40:** took me a few minutes to figure where the bracing, part C48, was meant to go. Looking at the drawing of step 45, the lightbulb went on. Test-fit in order to know where to apply the cement, and do.



**Step 41:** look at the box art for exact positioning of the headlamps brackets, parts D43. Do not bother drilling holes. Simply amputate the offending bracket locator pins, and cement in proper position. **As well, install the engine crank starter handle only at step 102;** otherwise, it will be in the way until it really needs to be installed; I got fed up with it sooner than step 102, and re-installed it only then.

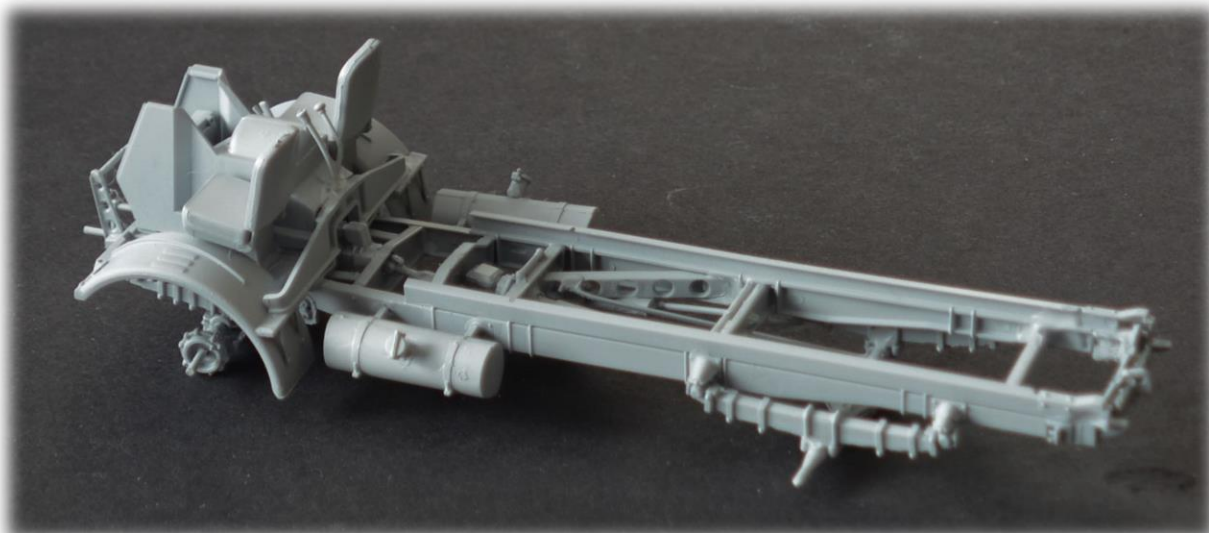


**Step 44:** you may need to slightly trim the lower forward locator tabs; I did.

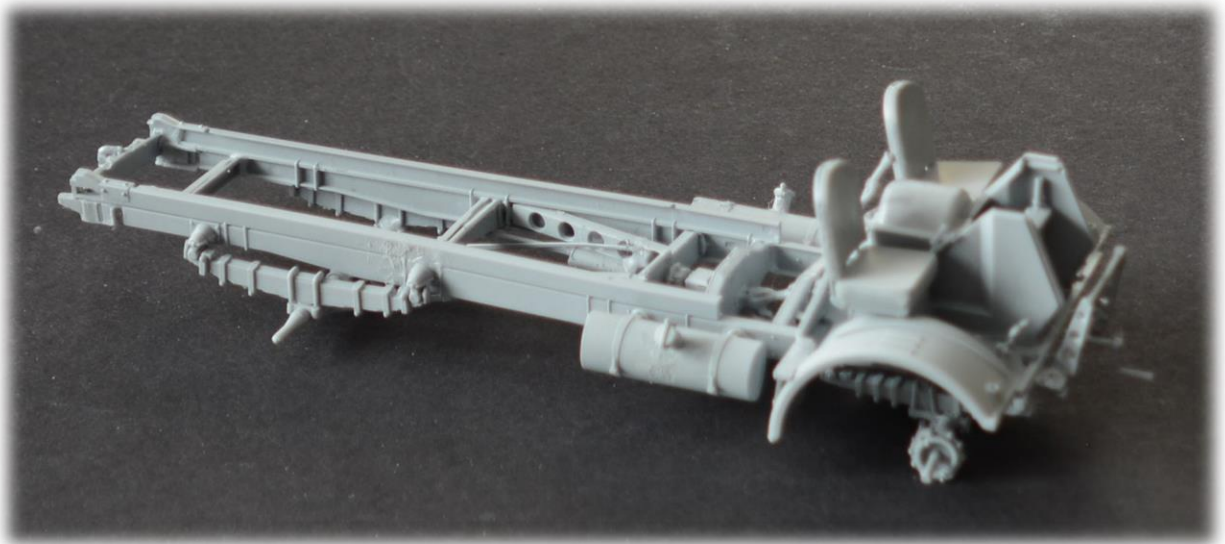
**Step 45:** the radiator fits on brackets in front of engine; drawing is misleading.

**Step 43, 46, and 47:** as the engine is completely covered up by parts C43 and C49, I omitted all these steps, and their parts.

**Step 51:** dressed-up dashboard, part C61: attach at step 65, once model is fully painted; paint it Tamiya Black X-1, and Future it. Add decal. Prime the model.

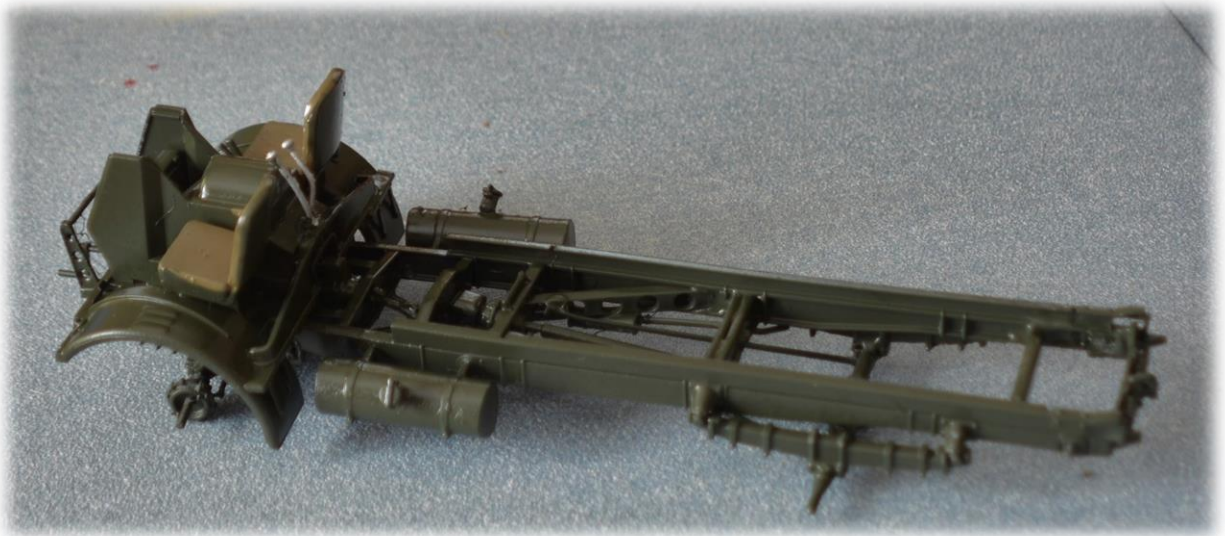






**Completed to step 57 inclusive, and primed**

Airbrush the model. I used Tamiya XF-74 Olive Drab (JGSDF), well diluted with Tamiya Lacquer Thinner; your call as to paints, and colors. Airbrush Future wax to seal and protect the paint.

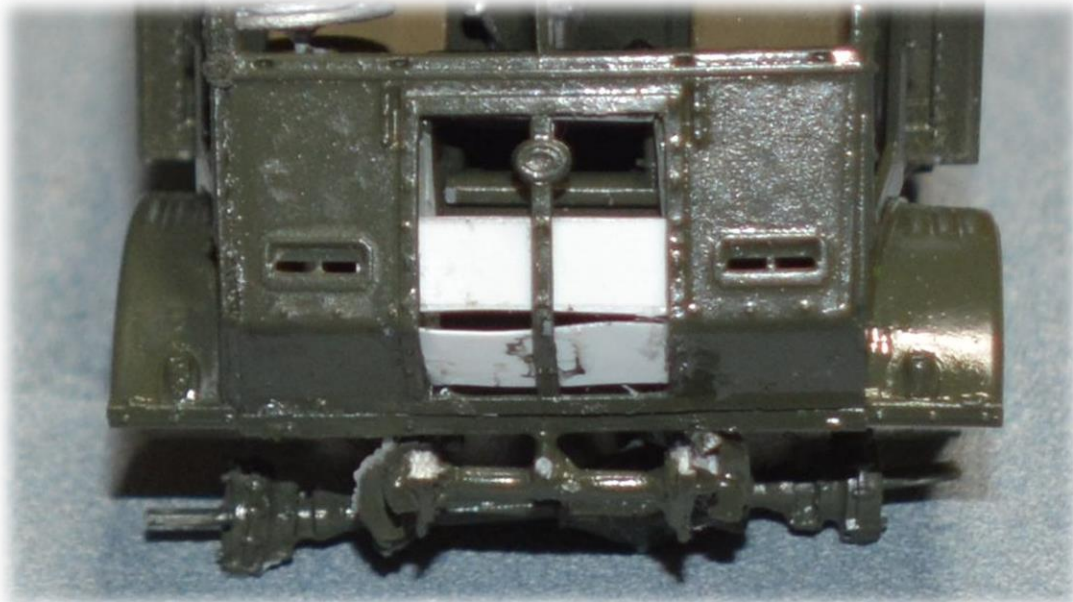


**Post-step 57:** Everything else will wait until after the model is airbrush painted and coats of airbrushed Future wax are applied; I painted the seats Tamiya XF-49 Khaki, for contrast, and the pedals and two “stick-shifts” Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum. One can Testors Dullcote or other such dulling product at the final step, masking the clear parts. Your call. Prime, hand-paint or airbrush, and apply Future wax (airbrushed or with Q-tips) the following parts:

- from step 58 and 59: windscreen frames, parts C8 and C9

- from step 63, without SA58 and SA59, airbrush the entire sub-assembly, perhaps hand-painting the small parts a different color for contrast
- from step 64, steering column, wheel; I used Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum; note the steering column/wheel does not line up properly with the driver's seat as per instructions; adjust accordingly.
- from step 65, paint lower dashboard, part C70, Tamiya X-1 Black, and handle, part D13, Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum for contrast.
- from steps 67 to 70, airbrush both inside and outside of the doors whatever color you selected for the model, and generously airbrush Future wax. I painted the inner door handles, parts D46, window cranks, parts D25, and outer door openers, parts D24, Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum.
- from step 71, airbrush SA68 and SA70, perhaps painting details a different color, again for contrast; I installed the doors in the opened position after step 100 was completed
- from step 73: airbrush SA72
- from step 74: bend parts P1 and P2, install; airbrush assembled roof SA

**Step 60:** **Save yourself aggravation, not to mention cursing, later:** in my case, too late to avoid the aggravation and cursing, but I belatedly managed; install PE grilles NOW instead of at step 74. PE grilles: lightly prime. I stained mine Tamiya XF-28 Dark Copper; your call. I inserted a thin polystyrene card stock 1" wide x ¼" high at the bottom of part A6 and directly above where the angle starts, as there are no other support points for the grilles provided by the kit, except at the top:



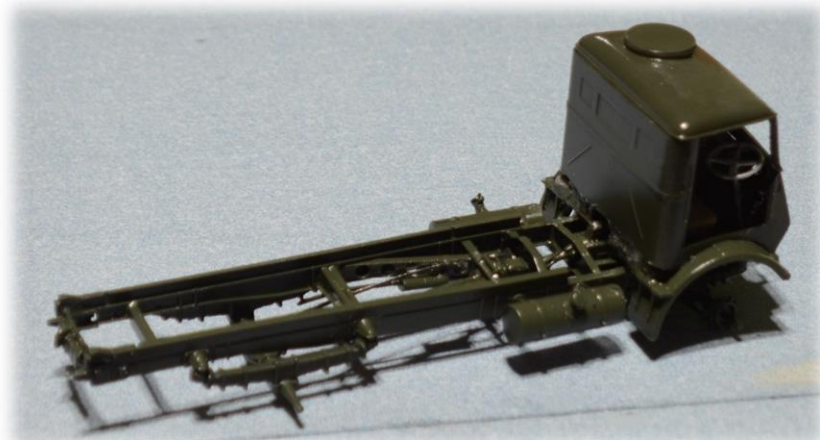
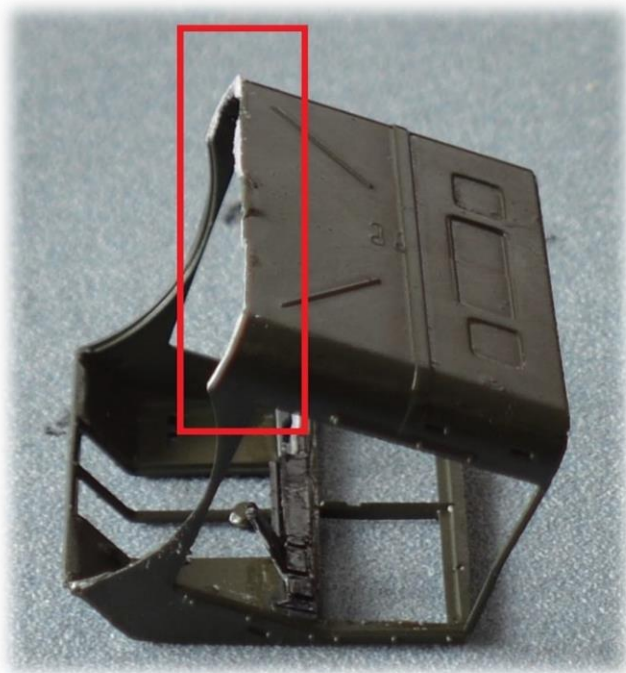
**Once installed, paint these strips black**



The bending point of the PE grilles is at 14mm from the top, and the angle of the bend is +/- 45 degrees. As well, only at step 100 will I install the window SA58 and SA59, along with the wipers, with the driver's window ajar, as per the box art.

**Step 61:** I did not bother with windscreen wiper motors nor the side frames, as no one will ever see them once the roof and the doors are installed.

**Step 63:** **Deviation from instructions: trading one evil for a far lesser one:** evil one: follow the instructions, or the lesser evil: assemble the cab cube as per step 73. I preferred to assemble the cube now, then airbrush it. However, in order to fit the cube on the model, I had to amputate 1/4" off the base of the back of the cube wall. I then proceeded as per instructions. I just did not wish to fight with this, and it will not show once the flatbed portion of the model is completed. Cement SA64 and SA65 in place. Cement dashboard, from step 51, in place. Your call.



**Steps 67 to 70: door windows:** I did not install; the diorama scene takes place on August 24, 1944, a warm sunny East Anglia day; hence, windows would have been rolled down. As well, I applied one “star” decal on each door. Your calls.

**Step 71:** I will install both doors in the opened position, but not until the end of Step 100, after all other small parts are installed. Too vulnerable otherwise.

**Steps 75 to 95: the flatbed**

In order to install the tailgate in the lowered position, I amputated the rear of the underbody frame accordingly; the lowered tailgate will hide this amputation.

**Steps 76 and 77:** drawings showing the location of some of the parts D2 are incorrect.

**Step 78 and 79:** I omitted these two steps, as I am installing the tailgate lowered.

**Step 80:** use generous amounts of Testors tube cement, making sure these side panels are perfectly aligned. Do this right side up, instead of upside down as shown on the drawing.

**Step 81:** installing the tailgate in the opened position only at step 100. I thus removed the two “steps”; keeping these would not make any prototypical sense.

**Step 82:** install forward panel, part A6, right side up, instead of upside down as shown on the drawing. As I will be placing a load of sixteen Hong Kong Models 500lbs bombs on the flatbed, I reinforced the sides and back of the flatbed with additional Testors tube cement; the bomb load will hide this reinforcement.

**Step 83:** be careful when removing jerrycans “cages”, parts D11 and D12, as these are fragile and the ribs will easily break.

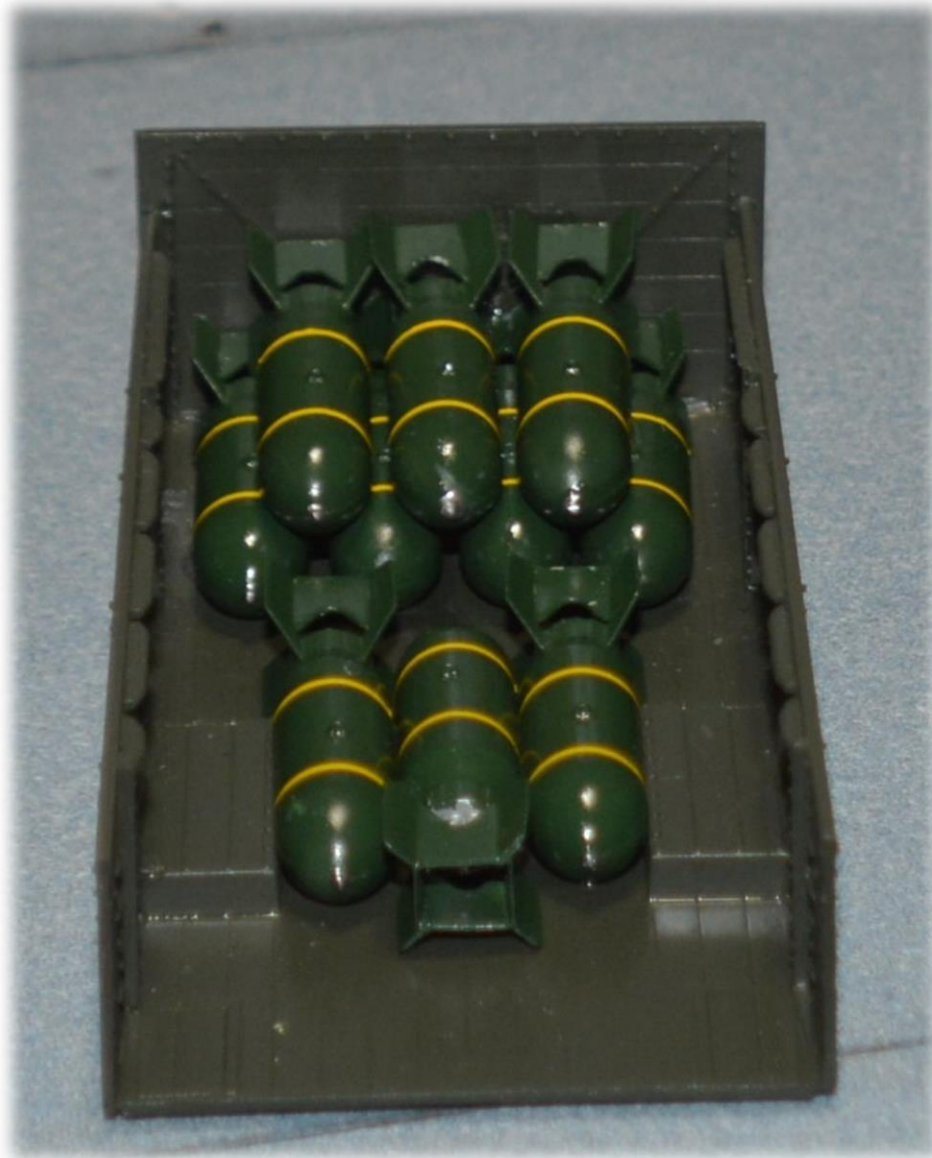
**Steps 84 and 88:** drawings are misleading: parts D14 are stoppers up in the center of the “cages” (SA83), to prevent jerrycans from falling out.

**Step 86:** I painted the jerrycans Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum, as the other 80 or so other jerrycans on my diorama are all painted in a similar manner.

**Step 87:** no need to cement the jerrycans in place, these fit snugly.

**Before step 92:** I completed and cemented in the flatbed ten 1:32 Hong Kong Models 500lb bombs, as the maximum load capacity of the W.O.T.6. was 6 000 pounds, and the weight of a 500lb bomb was really closer to 600lbs. The three bombs between the flatbed wheel wells did not quite fit if all pointing aft, as the bomb fins are just a tad too wide for a perfect fit; turning the middle bomb around solved the issue without resorting to fin amputation. I am also building a mobile Crane Resin, Royal Model 532, to complement the W.O.T.6., with one bomb suspended (in the process of being offloaded) by the crane boom cables. The bomb decal stripes come from HO scale Canadian Pacific Caboose (Diesels)

Microscale #87-87; these stripes are almost prototypical, but were a handful to get them identically lined up.

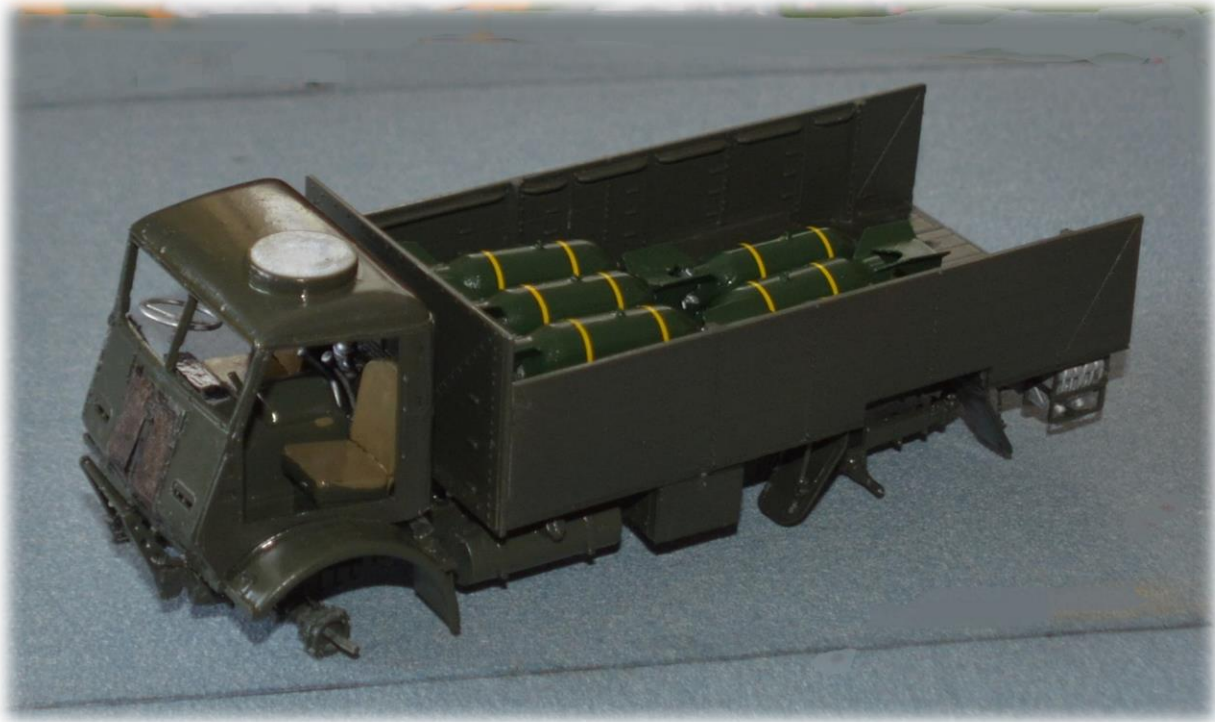


**Step 92:** jerrycan “cages”, SA88: strictly for the sake of solidity, I amputated the rearmost rib the width of the cages, and enlarged the holes with a 1/16” drill bit. For the same reason, I cut the forward ribs appropriately where the tool boxes, SA91, are to be installed, and generously used Testors tube cement. I touched up the paint afterwards, including the top surface of the flatbed. I also added a spare handgrip, part D4, on the lower right side of the flatbed, right at the rear.

**Steps 93 and 94:** first, I used tube cement to attach the four mudguards, identical parts D31 and D35; once set, I then attached their support braces, parts D47, starting with the inboard braces. I looked carefully at the decal drawings on page



27; methinks that, should you follow the instructions for step 93, you would end up with the mudguards far too “flared out”, by +/-15 degrees, and the braces would not be perfectly vertical, as per the drawings. Your call.



*Steps 95 to 102: finishing the assembly of the model*

**Step 95:** paint the sub-assembly (SA95) before cementing to the front of the cab.

**Step 96:** air scoops, parts D6, are difficult to identify as to which way is front and back; use a magnifying glass. Test-fitting the flatbed assembly to the rear frame, you probably will realize, as I did, that the mudguards get in the way because they are a tad too wide on the inboard portion; I simply trimmed all four with snippers until I had a good fit, and touched up the paint where I snipped; not a big deal for me; no one will ever see the underneath of this truck, once on the B-17G diorama.

**Step 97:** **Install both mirrors after step 100**, as the installed mirrors will deny you the ability to lay the model flat on its sides.

**Step 98:** paint the inside of the headlamps Tamiya X-11 Chrome Silver.

**Step 99:** note: the box art does not show these lights. Just barely enough room on the fenders to install.

**Step 100:** **?: I opted for the non-hooded type of headlamps**, as by August 1944, Luftwaffe raids were nearly non-existent this far north of the Channel. Your call. Paint shovel bracket XF-74. I have no idea what the purpose of bracket C64 is. If

installing doors in the opened position, apply whatever door decals first, then cement doors in place.

**Steps 101, 103:** I did not install the canvas supports. Your call.

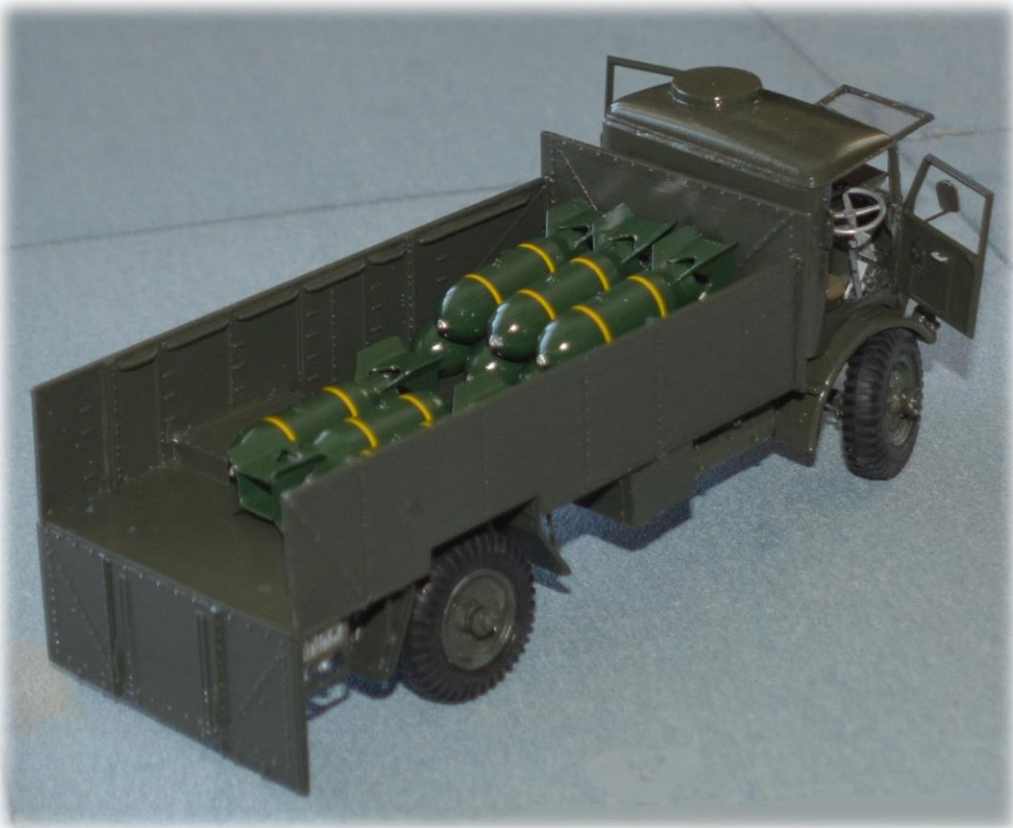
**Step 102:** if you opt to install the driver's side windscreen slightly opened, **delay the installation of the wipers, parts D44, until said windscreens are in place.** At the end of step 102, I installed the tires; the elation is akin to finally putting an aircraft model you have spent countless hours building on its wheels. **For the front tires, I drilled 3/64" holes on an angle, offset in the inner portion of the rims on an angle, to create a greater wheel angle,** as I had installed the axle on an angle turning left. I had to do the same for the right rear tire, without an angle, as I erred, angle-wise, when installing the rear axle; refer to photograph below.



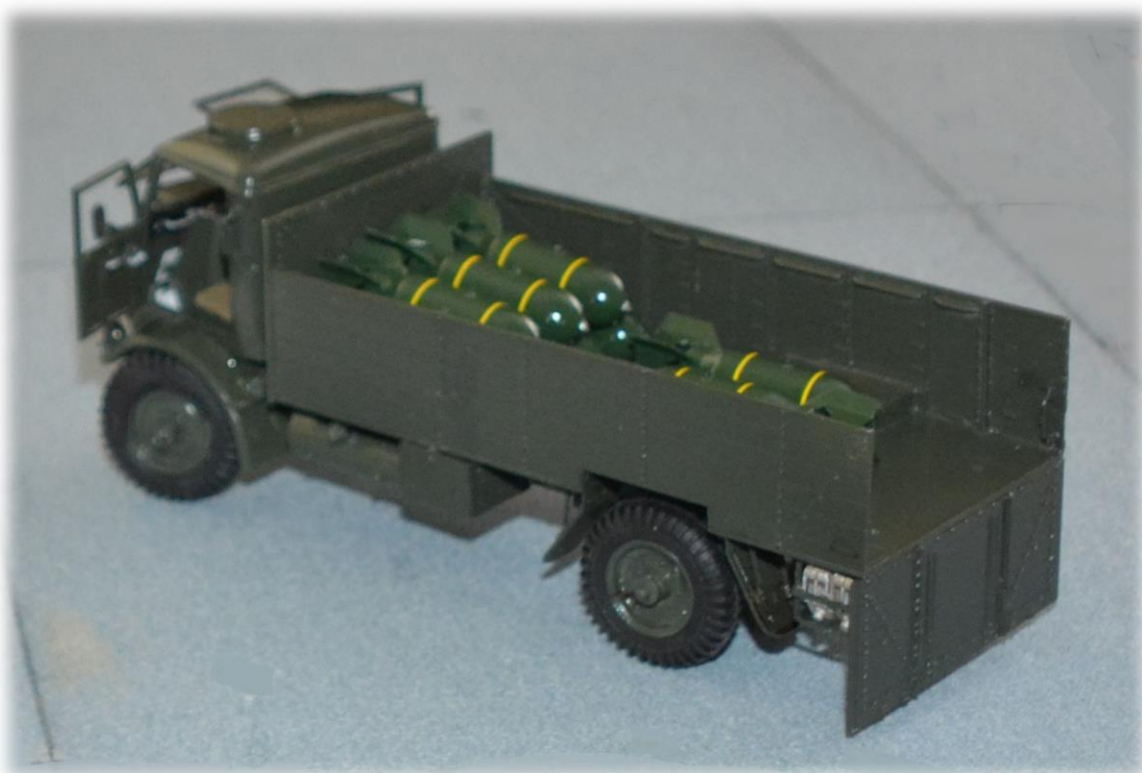
Inserted toothpicks demonstrate where and at which angle I drilled the holes;  
from left to right: rear right, rear left, front left, front right;  
the rear right tire did not require drilling a hole in its rim

**Still at step 102,** I installed both windscreens, one fully opened (the driver's side), the other quite ajar. I drilled 3/64" holes on the upper front frame of the cab to accommodate the locator pins of the wiper blades, parts D44, arms painted the color of the model and wiping blades black, and cemented these in place. I then cemented the tires in their respective positions, checking the alignment so that the model's four tires are touching the ground, and the tailgate in the lowered position; if your opt for the tailgate to be opened, it fits perfectly along the underside of the rear of the flatbed, directly behind the jerrycan "cages".

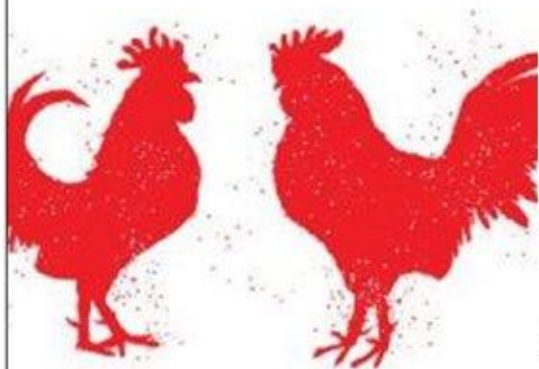
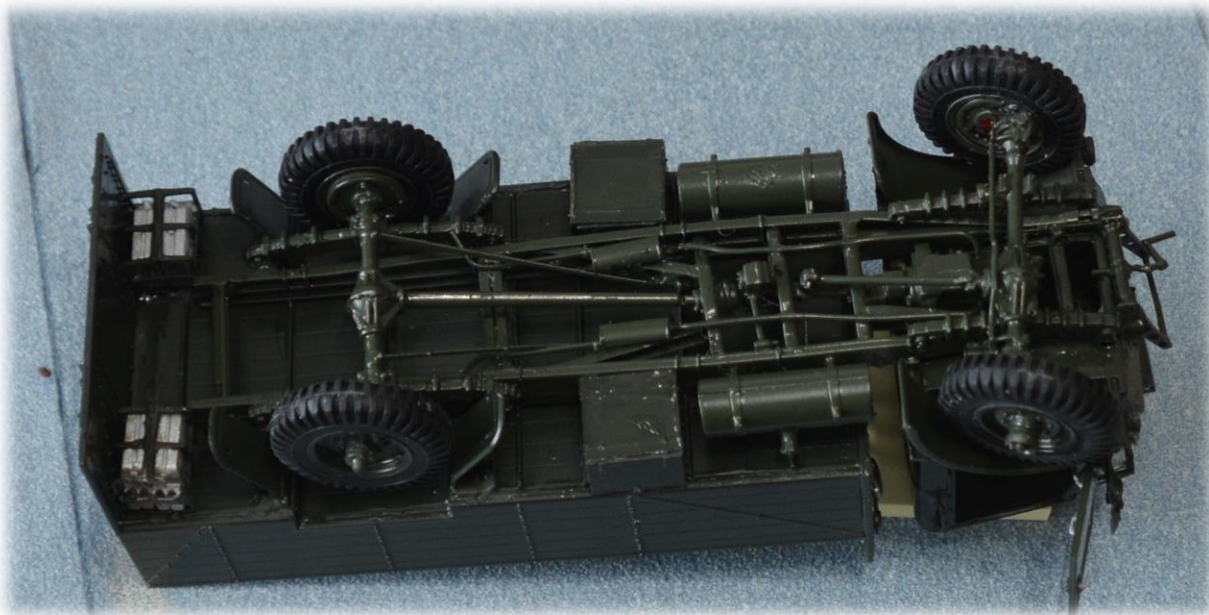
## Gallery











# **Red Roosters Miniature Aircraft**

Gilles Pepin, MBA  
[gfp@sympatico.ca](mailto:gfp@sympatico.ca)