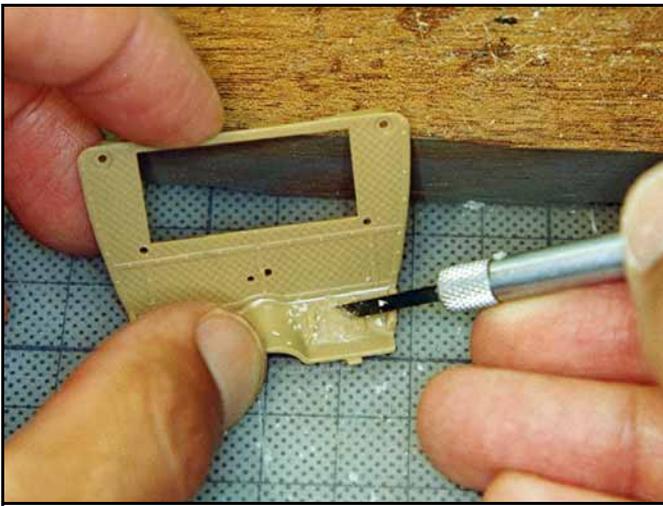




**MIKE ASHEY PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS
BUILDING AND DETAILING HELLER'S 1/35 SCALE
OPEL BLITZ -3(T) TYPE-S
BY
MIKE ASHEY**

This model was well detailed and it fit together very well. I made some improvements in the cab area by removing the molded on clutch, brake, and gas pedals, and scratchbuilding new ones. I also scratchbuilt engine and firewall parts that were missing, and with the addition of some wiring and cabling, the engine area looks pretty realistic. I used Testors enamel paints and several different shades of the same color to help give the truck a sun bleached weathered appearance. This model was a lot of fun to build and detailing to the engine was a real challenge since the pictures in my reference material were not very good.

Finished photos of this model are posted on the military ground vehicles web page.



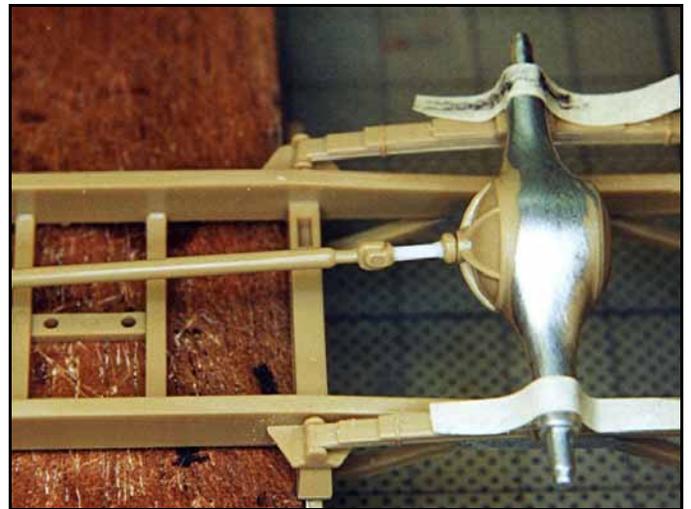
I carefully scraped off the molded on brake, clutch and gas pedals using an X-Acto stencil knife. I then smoothed out the surface with small lengths of sanding paper wrapped around balsa wood.



The new gas, brake and clutch pedals were made from small strips of Evergreen strip and rod.



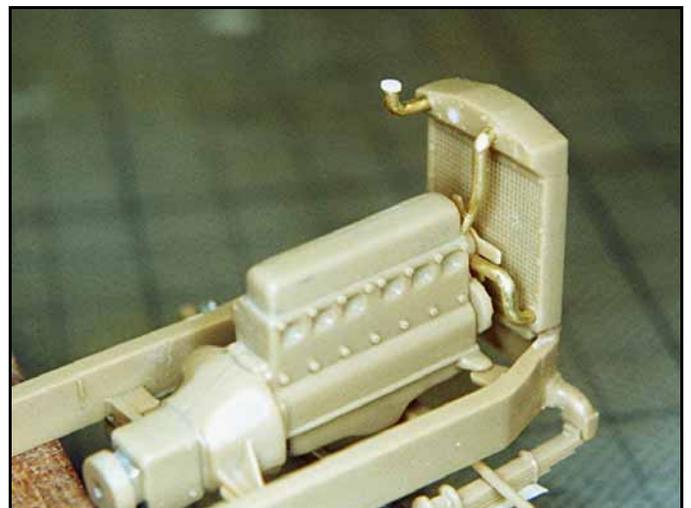
The halves of the front steering and frame assembly were taped together. You need to be careful to align the halves perfectly. I then glued them together with a tiny bead of super glue applied along the seam line.



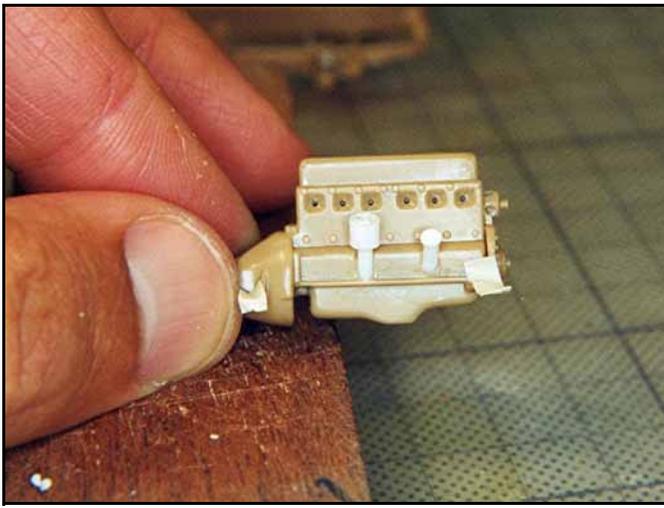
The drive shaft was a bit short so I added an additional length with Plastruct rod.



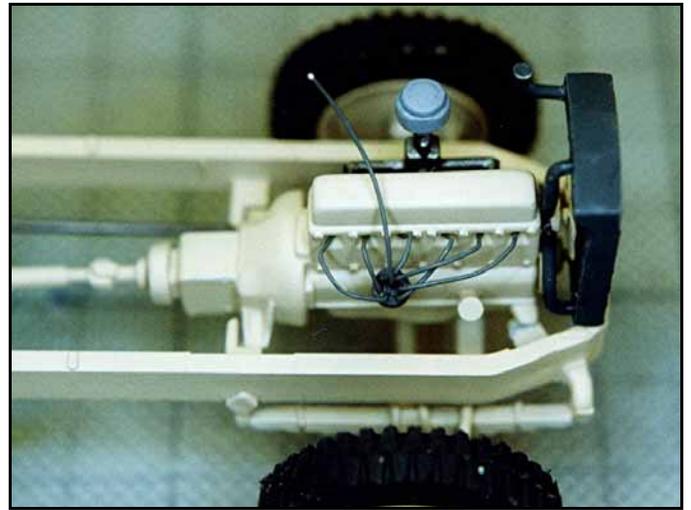
The model has a complete engine, but no steering column so I added one from a length of brass rod.



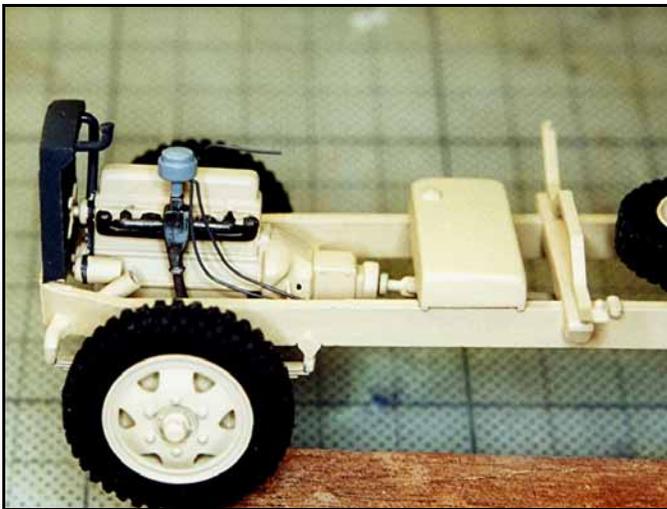
The kit did not supply any radiator tubing so I made them from brass rod. The three lengths are the fill port, the intake pipe, and the return pipe.



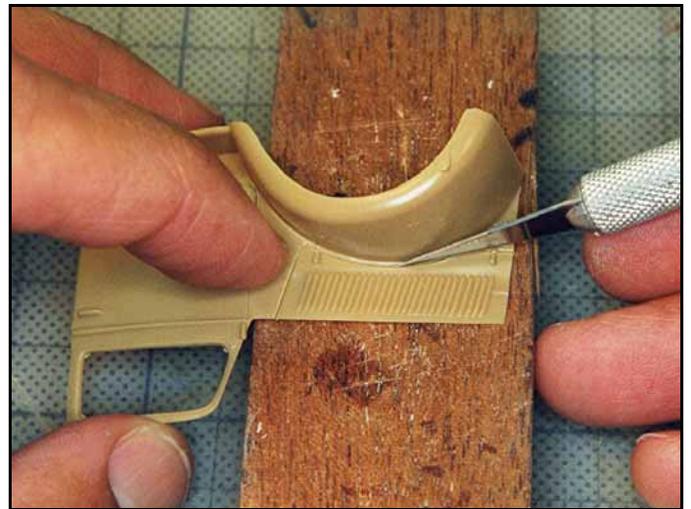
The engine needed some additional detail. I made the spark plug wire distributor and an oil fill port from Plastruct rod.



I made spark plug wires from lengths of stretched plastic that I painted black. The center wire will go to the magneto.



I also added some cabling for fuel control and tubing from the gas tank to the carburetor.



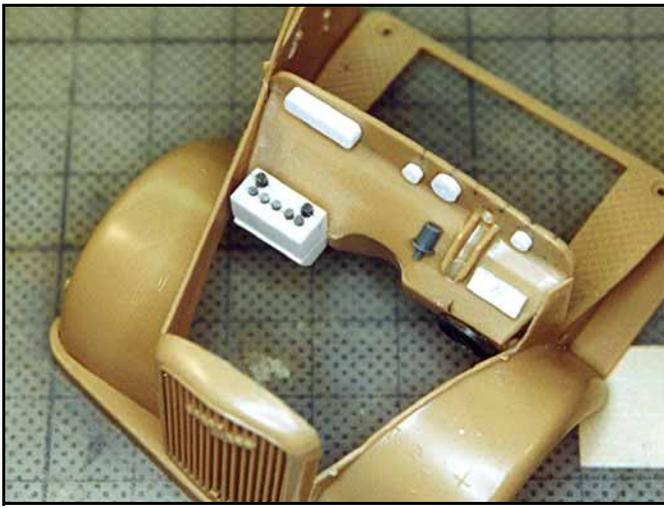
I opened one side of the engine hood so that the detail I added would be readily visible. I used a number 11 X-Acto to cut out the side grill.



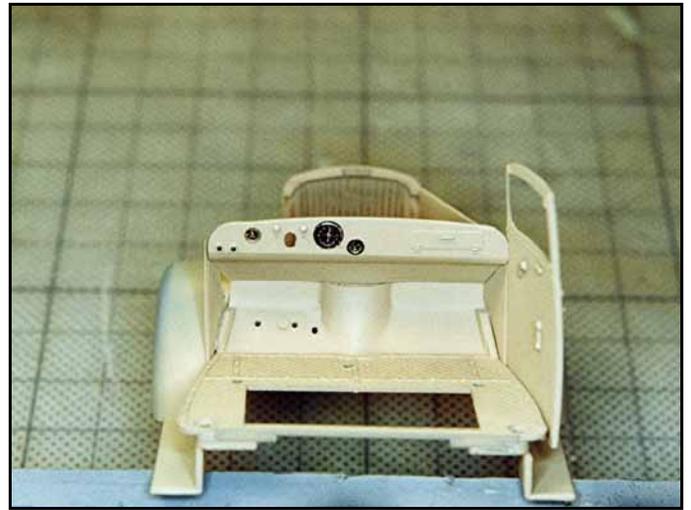
I used my trusty Bare Metal Foil plastic scribe to cut out the hood. I used labeling tape to guide the tip of the scribe.



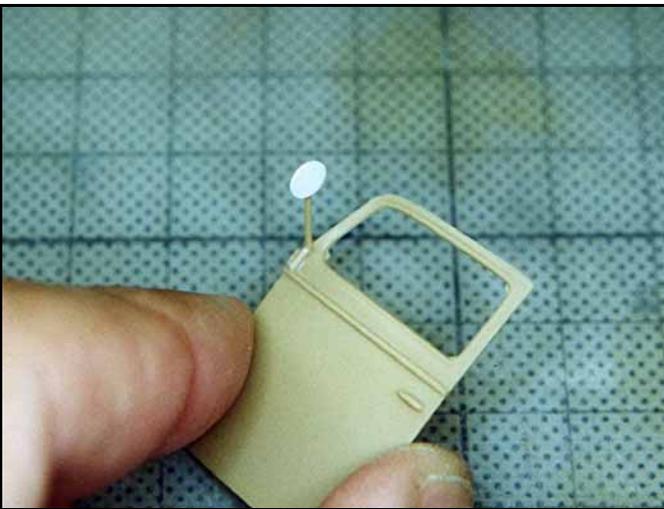
I taped up the cab assembly to check the fit now that one side of the hood and side grill have been cut out.



I added details to the inside of the engine firewall. The battery also has a shelf support. The small disks are the backsides of the dash board instruments. The gray part is the magneto.



I used car instrument decals to detail the dashboard.



I made a new side rear view mirror with my Waldron Punch Tool.



I made one last check to be sure all the parts fit together before final assembly and painting.



I also cut off the rear section of the canvas cover so that you can see the beds interior.



With the engine hood folded up you can clearly see all the additional details, wiring, and plumbing.