

SCR-193 SET

Armoured Jeep / WWII

radio waves

WWII ARMoured JEEP

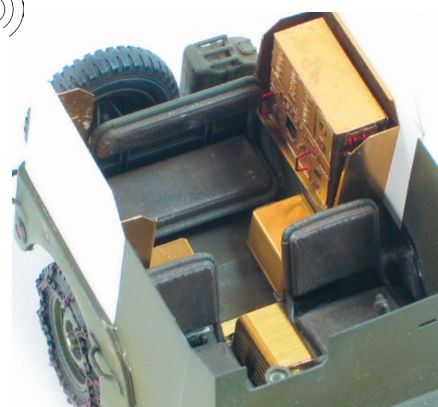
Radio Waves

ANDY RENSHAW CONTINUES HIS ACCLAIMED SERIES WITH THIS
WORLD WAR II ARMORED JEEP WITH SCR-193 SET

MOBILE UNIT COMMANDS

ONE OF THE PRIMARY REQUIREMENTS OF ANY MILITARY UNIT IS TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE. FOR LARGER commands, a stationary command center would push out high-powered signals, which would be relayed among mobile units in the field. Smaller vehicles often acted as mobile unit commands for the company and platoon level, and these would always be equipped with some type of radio. During World War II, most radios were still using vacuum tube technology, which required larger boxes with plenty of 'breathing room' to keep the cool. An assortment of several components was needed, all with major functions including the transmitter, receiver, and dynamotor, each being housed separately. These were tethered together with various cables, junction boxes, batteries, keys, speakers, and headsets, to form an entire radio set. The SCR-193 was such a set, and weighing in at 234lbs it would easily fill up the rear of a quarter-ton jeep. Stationary, the AM radio had a range of sixty miles for cypher code and twenty miles with voice; however, ranges while moving were cut in half.

You may be familiar with the depot kit armour package that was added to jeeps late in 1944. Used by the 82nd Airborne and others, there are some famous images of the line of them driving through the snow



The Minor radios and equipment being added. Each component took a full evening to assemble, and are nicely detailed

or the one with bazooka mounted. There is a later photograph that shows a jeep with the armour package and the SCR-193. I always wanted to have a model of this, and decided to do this on an unfinished jeep that had been sitting unfinished for over a decade. This was the standard Tamiya kit, but with Eduard armour plate and Tank Workshop chained wheels, and the release of the SCR-193 by Minor Model gave me just what I needed to finish the project. Minor provides a full-etched set, which is not for the faint



Here you can see my unfinished jeep kit as described in the text, now sporting the Minor Model radio racks



I TENDED TO STRETCH MY 'ETCH TIME' OVER SEVERAL EVENINGS
TO KEEP FROM GOING CROSS-EYED!

SCR-193 SET

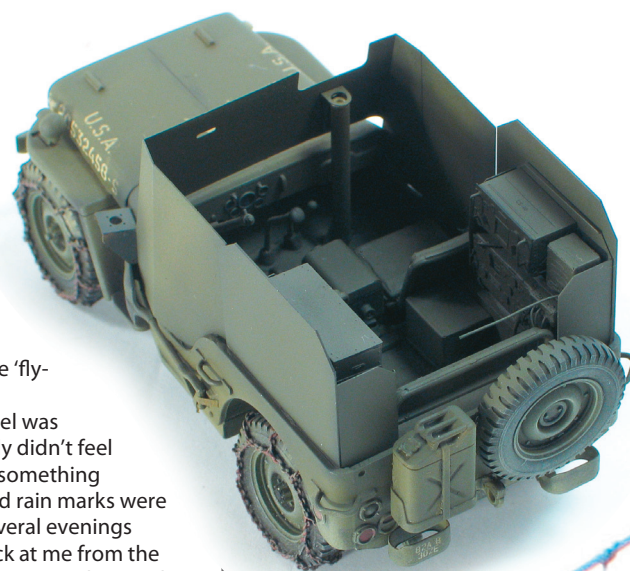
Armoured Jeep / WWII

As I started to install the Minor set, it became apparent that the old Eduard armored front around the driver and passenger was a tad oversize, and the Minor mounting shelving was dwarfed by the Eduard armour, and this should not be the case. So instead of ripping out the Eduard portion, I cut new 'false backs' from plastic stock for the SCR radio mounts, and simply matched them to the Eduard parts. It may not be 100% accurate, but the overall affect

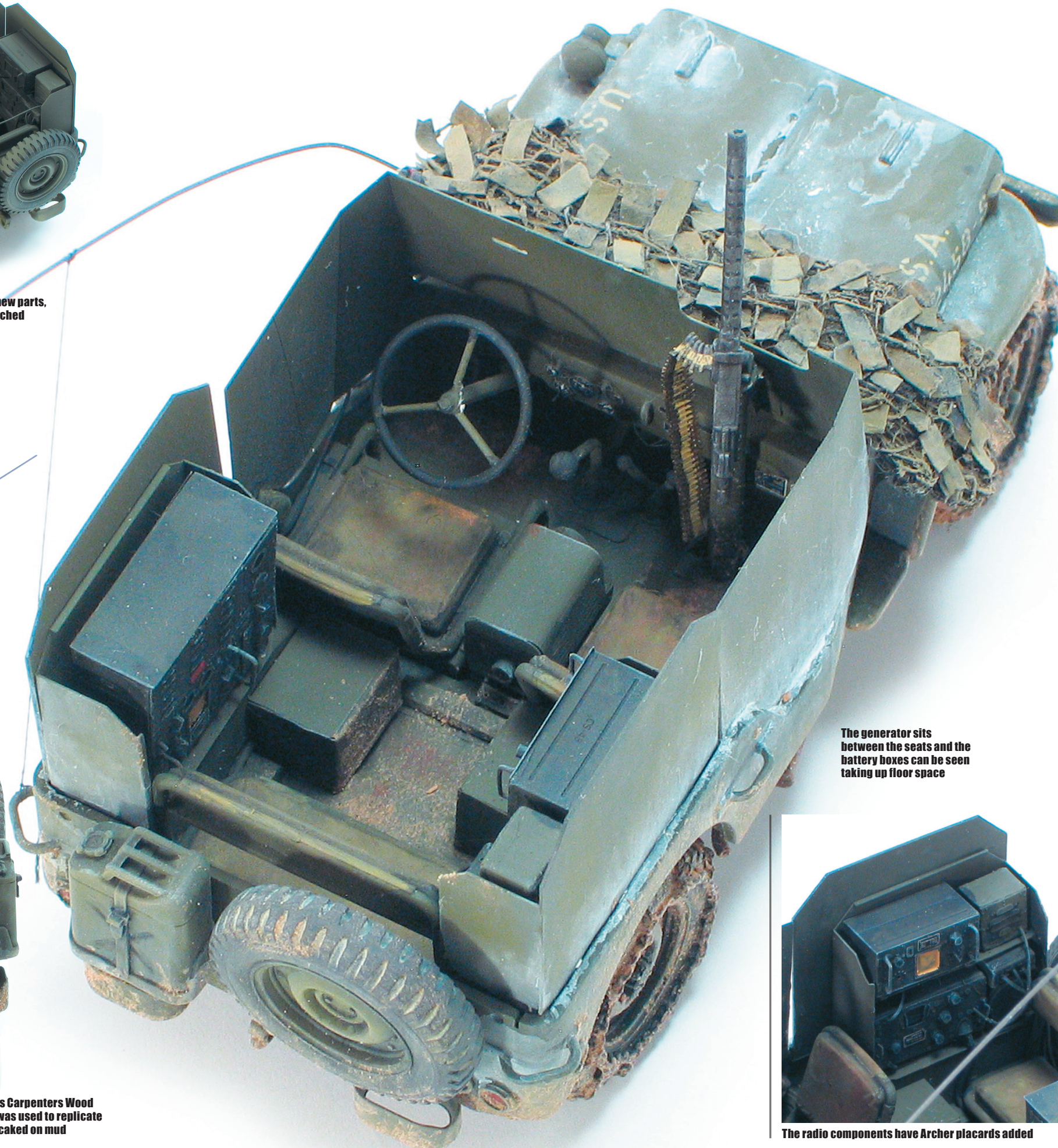
from the vehicle, or as part of the whole. A measured piece of fine diameter piano wire made the scale twelve-foot whip aerial, which in turn was tied down with thread for the 'fly-fishing flies'.

At this point the model was finished, but it personally didn't feel that way. It just needed something more, and more dust and rain marks were not the answer. After several evenings of the model staring back at me from the workbench, I felt a highly worn whitewash followed by some mud could be the answer. So I applied some Ammo of MIG 'Heavy Chipping Fluid' to the areas the whitewash would be applied and once dry I added a slightly thinned application of Lifecolor White. Immediately I dampened a cotton bud in water and started to remove the whitewash, creating a streaking affect. I also used a bit of thinned White to blend the edges and do further some refinement of the worn portions. In-between the chipping fluid and thinned paint, a very effective worn look was achieved. For the mud, I used Elmer's Carpenters Wood Filler. This is a series of pre-coloured filler that comes in a squeeze tube, and has a subtle texture and dries flat. The filler was slightly thinned with water and applied with an old brush, and I have to give credit to Steve Zaloga for discovering this product, as it really looks the part. With the whitewash and mud, the model now has a more completed look. Thanks to Minor Model for the SCR-193 build sample. Military

is pleasing and suited my needs. The rest of the radio set was then installed, including the various cables and connectors, which were made from fine wire. Paint was only needed on the added Minor parts, however an airbrush was used to blend the newly painted areas in with the older ones that had already been applied. This was actually accurate, as many times the radio set was added later in a particular jeeps operational history. After the coat of Dark Green and then Olive Drab, weathering of was done using Ammo of MIG washes and their 'Rainmarks' effect. The camouflage netting was made from rolled gauze with small strips of tape or paper cut to random sizes and tucked in. A dip in diluted PVA glue then helped the net conform to the contours of the bonnet. Once dry it was gently eased off, and could then be painted separately



Base colour is applied over new parts, leaving previous work untouched



The generator sits between the seats and the battery boxes can be seen taking up floor space

Elmer's Carpenters Wood Filler was used to replicate some caked on mud



The radio components have Archer placards added