

'Tribal' Class Destroyer H.M.S. TARTAR 1944

Resin & Photo Etched Metal Kit in 1/350 scale

History

HMS Tartar was built by Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson at Wallsend, on Tyneside and was launched on 21st October 1937. She was completed as a Flotilla Leader and commissioned on 10th March 1939, being assigned to the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla of the Home Fleet. At the outbreak of WW2, *Tartar* carried out various duties with the Home Fleet in the North Sea and off Norway including the search for *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* after the sinking of *HMS Glorious*. *Tartar* continued to operate in Arctic waters through 1941 helping to establish a garrison on Spitzbergen and escorting ships ferrying Norwegian personnel to the island from Murmansk. After a refit in early 1942 *HMS Tartar* was assigned to support operations in the Mediterranean including Operation Pedestal as part of the escort. In August she and *HMS Lookout* drove off an attack by Italian submarines *Granito* and *Emo* and also tried to take *HMS Foresight* in tow to Gibraltar after being damaged in an air attack. The attempt failed and the *Foresight* was sunk by a torpedo from *HMS Tartar* after she had taken off the crew. *Tartar* then returned and rejoined the Home Fleet at Scapa Flow. It was a short stay to provide escort to a convoy before she found herself back in the Mediterranean, this time providing cover and convoy screening for the Operation Torch landing in North Africa. From there she was attached to Force Q based in Algiers, where she was tasked to carry out attacks on enemy forces at sea as well as in coastal locations.

June 1943 saw *HMS Tartar* supporting operations off Pantellaria, followed in July by Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily. In August she helped cover the allied invasion of Italy and the landings at Calabria and Salerno, where whilst providing gunfire support against a German counter attack, was slightly damaged by radio controlled glider bombs. *Tartar* returned to Devonport for refit in October which lasted until the end of February 1944.

In March 1944 *HMS Tartar* joined as leader of the 10 Destroyer Flotilla, operating in home waters and carrying out offensive operations on the French coast. She provided cover for the Normandy landings on D-Day and subsequent escorting and screening of convoys and transport ships. During these operations *Tartar* was quite seriously damaged whilst in an engagement with German vessels and had to return to base for repairs.

After another refit from November 1944 until February 1945, *HMS Tartar* deployed to the far east, where she remained operating with the allied forces until the Japanese surrender in August 1945 where she was present in Tokyo bay. She returned to the UK in September 1945 and reduced to reserve early in 1946. She was used as a stores and accommodation ship, until being sold for breaking up in February 1948. *HMS Tartar* gained 12 Battle Honours for her service during World War 2.

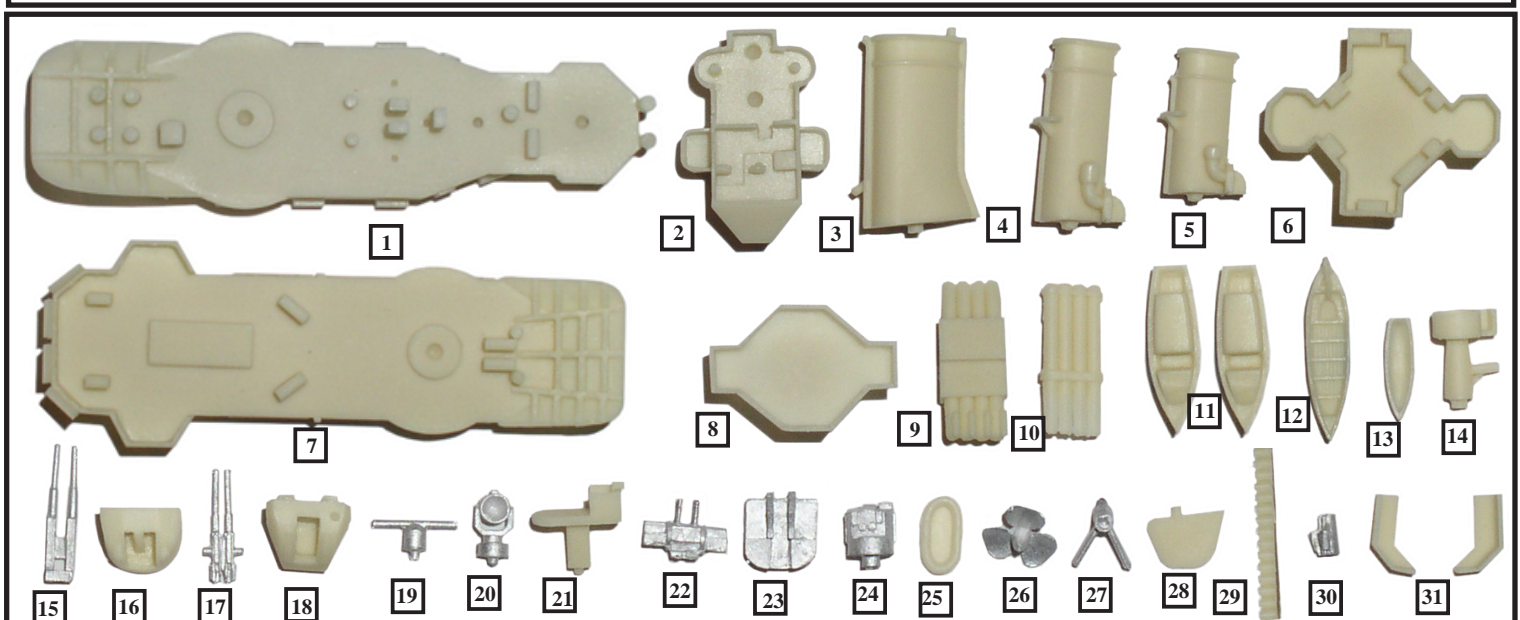
Specifications

Length 377 ft/ 114.9 mtrs overall. Beam 36 ft 6 inches/ 11.1 mtrs. Displacement 1854 tons/1883 tonnes standard. 2519/2559 full load.
Range 5,700 nautical miles at 15 knots Complement 190 Officers and Men

Armament

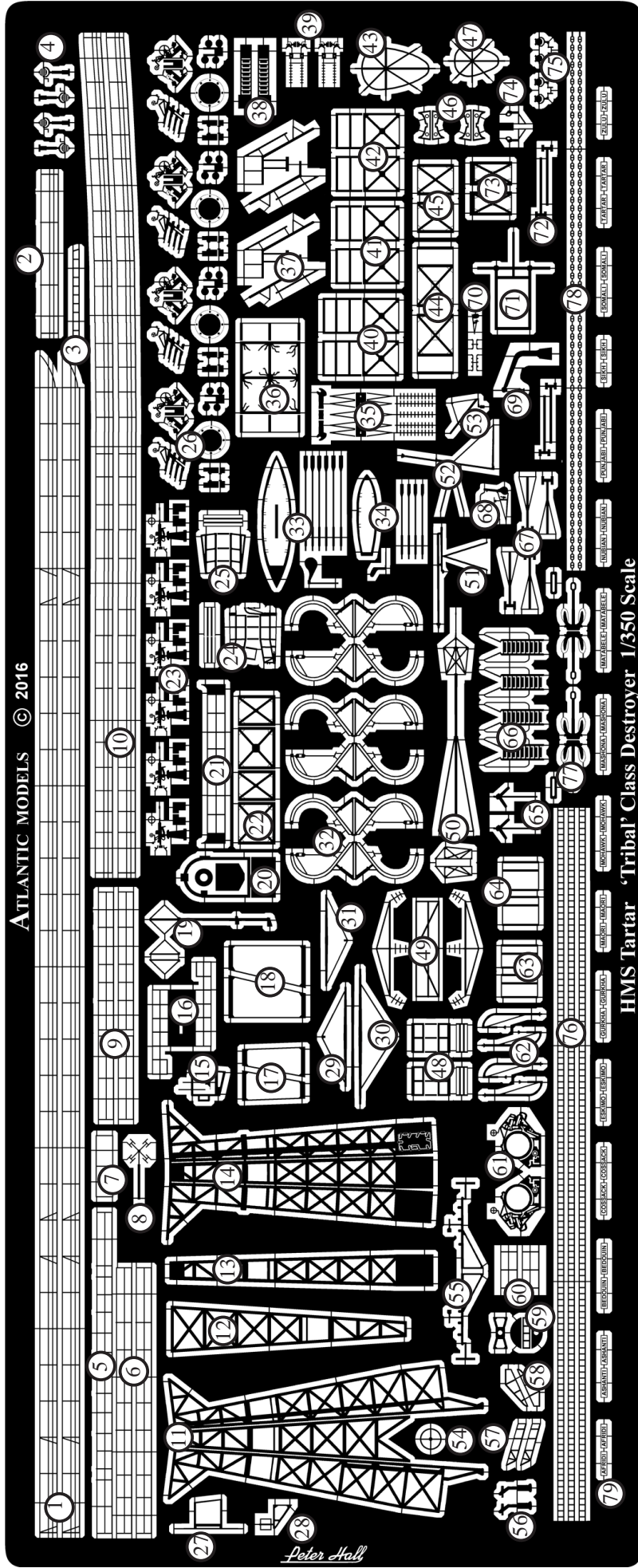
Four Twin 4.7 inch QF Mk XII mountings (X mounting later replaced with a Twin 4" HA/LA mounting)
Eight 0.5 inch Vickers Machine Guns in 2 Quad Mountings Four 21 inch Torpedoes in 1 Quadruple Mounting
One Depth Charge Chute with 10 reloads in racks

Resin and White Metal Parts Identification



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Aft Superstructure Assembly | 11. 25' Motor Boat x 2 | 22. 4 Barrelled Pom Pom Barrels |
| 2. Bridge | 12. 27' Whaler | 23. 4 Barrelled Pom Pom Base Plate |
| 3. Forward Funnel | 13. 16' Dinghy | 24. Director Control Tower |
| 4. Aft Funnel (Early Fit) | 14. Rangefinder Platform | 25. Carley Float x 8 |
| 5. Aft Funnel (Late Fit) | 15. Twin 4.7" Gun Barrels x 2 | 26. Propellers x 2 |
| 6. AA Gun Platform (Late Fit) | 16. Twin 4.7" Gun Turret x 3 | 27. Propeller A Frames x 2 |
| 7. Forward Superstructure Assembly | 17. Twin 4" Gun Barrels | 28. Rudder |
| 8. Pom Pom Platform (Early) | 18. Twin 4" Gun Turret | 29. Depth Charges x 2 Strips |
| 9. Torpedo Tubes (Late Fit) | 19. Rangefinder Bar | 30. Crows Nest |
| 10. Torpedo Tubes (Early Fit) | 20. Searchlight | 31. Gun Platform Extensions (Late) |
| | 21. Searchlight Platform (Optional) | |

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HMS Tartar 'Tribal' Class Destroyer 1/350 Scale

- 1. 3 Bar Railing (Main Deck Sections)
- 2. Railing (Fore Mast Deck)
- 3. Bridge Windscreen
- 4. Signal Lamps (Pedestal)
- 5. Railings (Pom Pom Deck)
- 6. Railings (X Gun Deck)
- 7. Railing (Siren Platform)
- 8. 291 Radar Antenna
- 9. Railings (B Gun Deck)
- 10. Railings (Shaped for Focsls)
- 11. Lattice Fore Mast Type 1
- 12. Fore Mast Front Section
- 13. Fore Mast Front Section (Narrow Type)
- 14. Lattice Fore Mast (Narrow Type)
- 15. Fore Mast Top Rear Antenna
- 16. Fore Mast Top Platform
- 17. Main Mast Tripod Braces
- 18. Fore Mast Tripod Braces
- 19. Fore Mast Top DF Antenna
- 20. Searchlight Platform (Option)

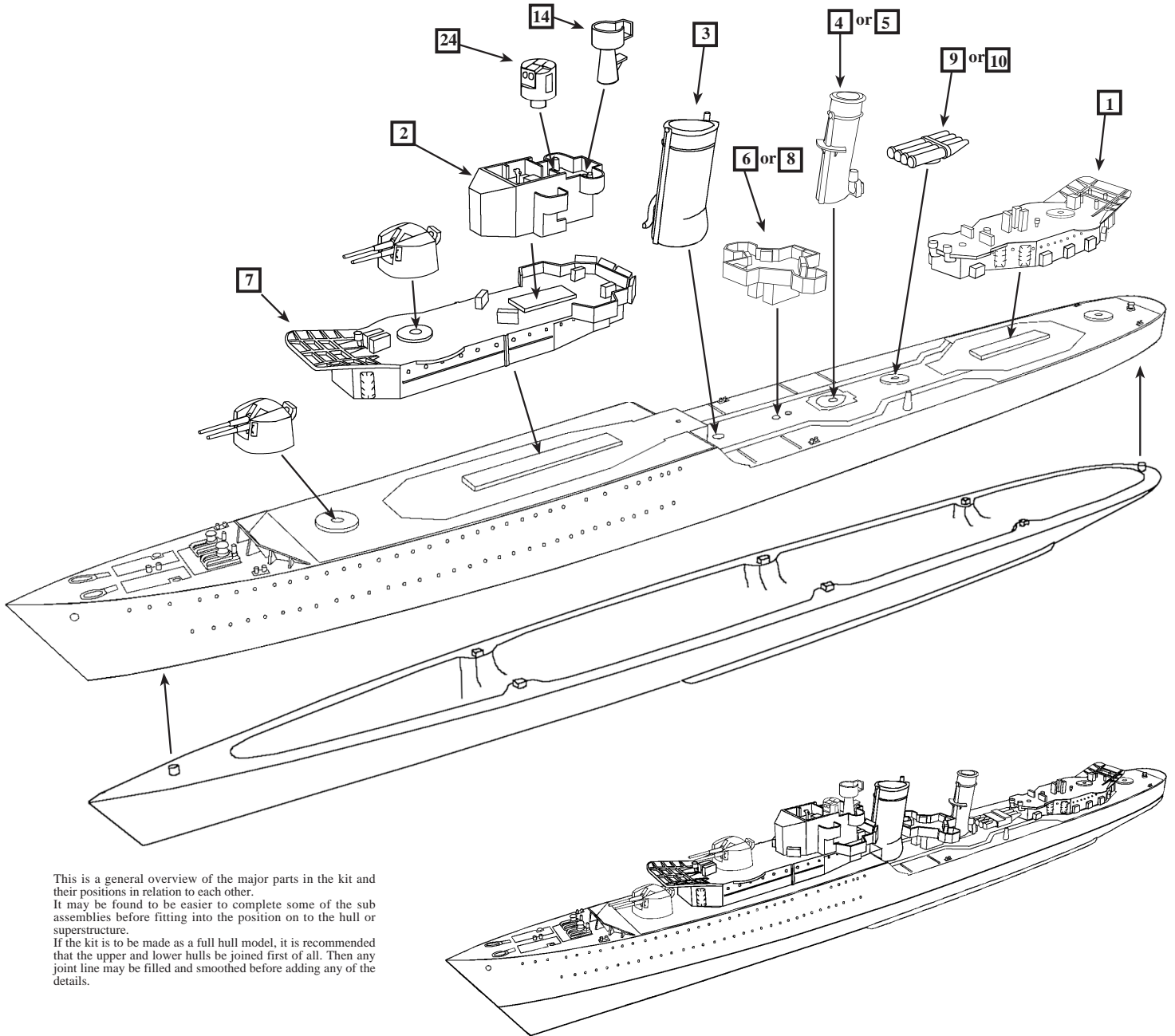
- 21. Railings (Searchlight Platform)
- 22. Searchlight Platform Supports
- 23. 20mm Single Oerlikons
- 24. Depth Charge Rails
- 25. Depth Charge Rails (Optional)
- 26. Quad 0.5" Vickers Machine Guns
- 27. Headache Antenna
- 28. Bridge Front DF Antenna
- 29. Tripod Foremast Top Yardarm
- 30. Tripod Foremast Lower Yardarm
- 31. Tripod Main Mast Yardarm
- 32. Boat Davits
- 33. 27' Whaler Fittings
- 34. 16' Dinghy Fittings
- 35. 285 Gunnery Radar Antenna
- 36. Bridge A-wing
- 37. Accommodation Ladder Rails
- 38. Accommodation Ladder Steps
- 39. 282 Gunnery Radar Antennas
- 40. Aft Life Raft Racks

- 41. Midships Life Raft Racks
- 42. Forward Life Raft Racks
- 43. Forward Funnel Cap Grill
- 44. Forward Gun Platform Supports (Large)
- 45. Forward Gun Platform Supports (Small)
- 46. 16' Dinghy Cradles
- 47. Aft Funnel Cap Grills
- 48. Depth Charge Stowage Racks
- 49. 286 Air Warning Radar Antenna
- 50. Main Mast MF/DF Pole Antenna
- 51. Jack Staff
- 52. Ensign Staff
- 53. Main Mast Gaff
- 54. Searchlight Lens Crosses
- 55. Lattice Foremast Yardarms
- 56. Binocular Sights
- 57. Y Gun Training Stop Frames
- 58. A Gun Training Stop Frames
- 59. 276 Radar Antenna
- 60. 4 Barrelled Pom Pom Railings

- 61. 4 Barrelled Pom Pom Mountings
- 62. DC Loading Davits
- 63. Midships AA Gun Platform Supports (Early)
- 64. Midships AA Gun Platform Supports (Late)
- 65. Bridge Semaphores
- 66. Inclined Ladders
- 67. Stove Pipes (Braced)
- 68. Admiralty Motor Cutter Fittings
- 69. Torpedo Loading Davit
- 70. Fast Motor Boat Fittings
- 71. Main Mast Wire Antenna Spreader
- 72. Stove Pipes
- 73. Midships Gun Platform Supports (Outer)
- 74. Funnel Sirens
- 75. Signal Lamps
- 76. Vertical Ladder Stock
- 77. Y Gun Training Stop Frames
- 78. Anchor Chain
- 79. Ships Name Plates

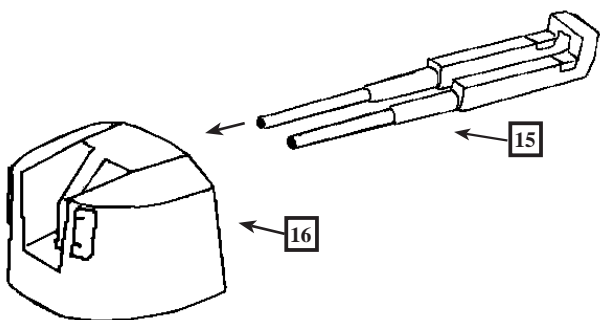
Peter Hall

Main Parts Location Diagram

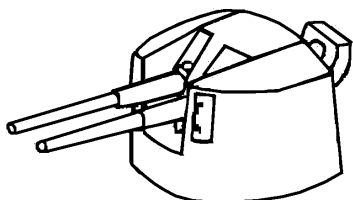


This is a general overview of the major parts in the kit and their positions in relation to each other. It may be found to be easier to complete some of the sub assemblies before fitting into the position on to the hull or superstructure. If the kit is to be made as a full hull model, it is recommended that the upper and lower hulls be joined first of all. Then any joint line may be filled and smoothed before adding any of the details.

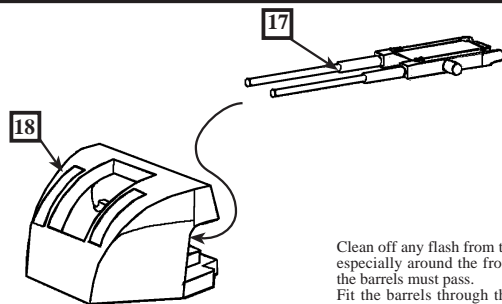
4.7" Twin Gun Mounting Assembly



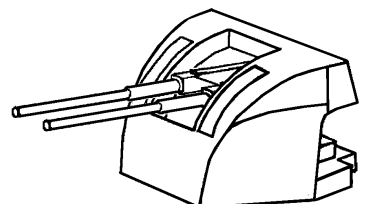
Fit the twin barrels in to the turret housing simply by pushing them through from the rear, ensuring the barrels pass either side of the centre pillar. Secure to the desired elevation before fitting to the decks. Make three items.



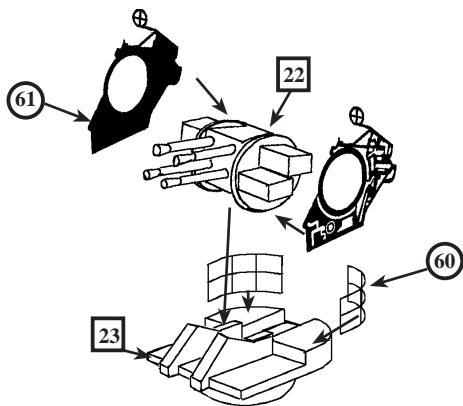
4" HA/LA Gun Mounting



Clean off any flash from the gun shield, resin part 9, especially around the front opening through which the barrels must pass. Fit the barrels through the opening and locate the spigots on the sides, into the mounting cradles. The barrels can now be secured in place after setting at the desired elevation. This mounting was fitted in place of 'X' turret in mid 1940.

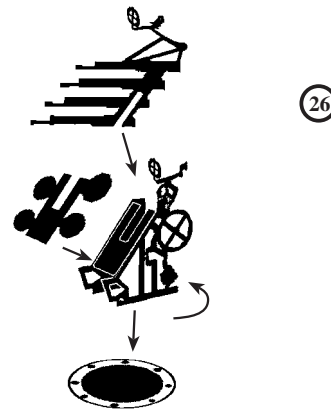


2 Pounder Quad Pom Pom Assembly



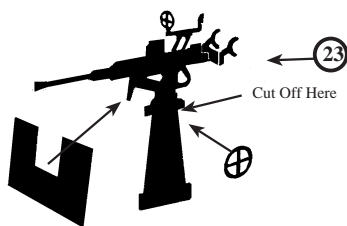
Clean any casting burrs off the metal parts 22 and 23. Fit the photo etched parts 61, mechanisms over the ammo boxes, so that the rings take up around the circular part of the barrel cluster 22. Secure the photo etched parts down either side of the angled center of part 23. These will hold the barrel cluster in place, enabling it to elevate, if the glue has not made contact with the circular area. Fit Handrails to the rear of the Pom Pom mounting. Fit completed assembly to the platform at the forward end of the aft superstructure. Alternatively, this mounting was originally sited on a small platform between the funnels in the early days. See the section on AA platforms at the bottom of the page.

0.5" Quad Vickers Machine Gun Assembly



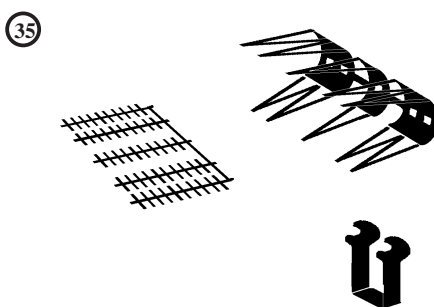
Assemble the half inch quad mounting by folding the side panels of the centre section so that they are parallel. Fix down to circular base. Fit the four offset magazine images so that they match the slot on the centre section. Fit the slot on the barrels section so that it slides over the slot on the centre section, with the barrels facing forwards as shown above. Make two of these if the ship is being modelled pre 1941.

20mm Single Oerlikon



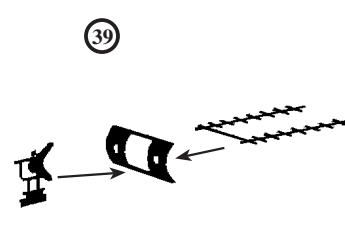
Assemble the single 20mm Oerlikons, etched parts 23, by first twisting the shoulder braces round to 90° then bending the arms back so that they are parallel. Fit the shield into position centrally on the spigot below the barrel. These gun mountings replaced the quad 0.5" machine gun mountings and were fitted additionally to bridge wings and the aft superstructure.

285 Radar Yagi Antenna Assembly



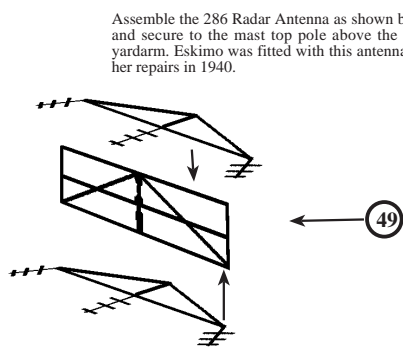
Assemble the 285 Fire Control antenna by folding a gentle curve on to the rectangular reflectors then folding over the stays so that they face forwards. Fit the set of dipoles centrally on to the reflector faces, locating the pegs into the slots. Nip the pointed ends of the stays together so that they trap the centre bar of the dipoles between them. Fit the mounting arms to the spindles between the reflectors. The complete assembly then fits on to the top of the rangefinder base pintle, part 19, after removing the extended arms, then fitting in to the rangefinder tub, part 14.

282 AA Radar Yagi Antenna



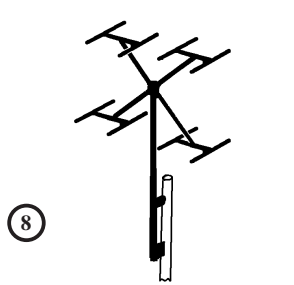
Assemble the yagi radar antennas by curving the rectangular dishes of etched parts 39 as shown. Fit the dipoles in to the holes in the centre of the dishes so that they are parallel. Fold mounting in half so that the etched detail is outermost, then attach centrally to the two joining bars between the radar dishes. Fit these to the base pintles located in the tubs at the rear of the bridge on late war fit ships in place of etched parts 56.

286 Radar Antenna



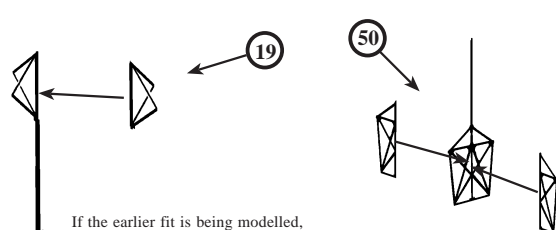
Assemble the 286 Radar Antenna as shown below, and secure to the mast top pole above the upper yardarm. Eskimo was fitted with this antenna after her repairs in 1940.

291 Radar Antenna



The 291 radar antenna is folded in to shape by bending the outer dipoles so that they face in the direction shown above. This antenna is fitted to the very top of the fore mast top pole and was fitted during 1943.

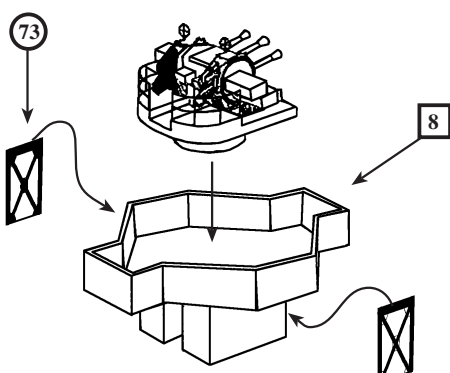
HF/DF Antenna



If the earlier fit is being modelled, make the mast top HF/DF antenna by folding each of the diamond shaped parts to 90° down the centre. Fit the centres together as shown so that the points are fore and aft and athwartships.

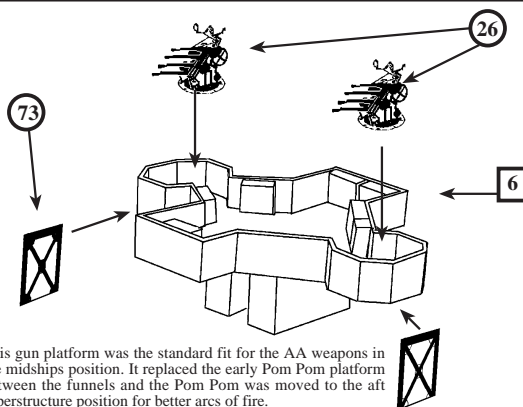
If the late war fit is being modelled, shape the large HF/DF antenna top as shown above. This can now be removed from the etched tripod pole and fitted to a pole on top of the fore mast lattice platform, as shown in a later diagram, or fitted in place of the main mast on the aft superstructure.

Amidships Pom Pom Platform (Early Fit)



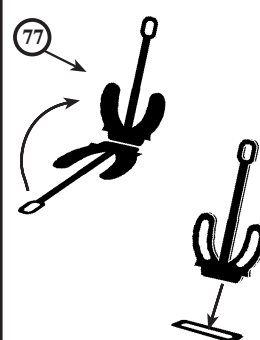
This gun platform, was fitted between the funnels in the early days of the Tribals career. Assemble in a similar manner to that used previously on the earlier platform.

Amidships AA Gun Platform (Late Fit)



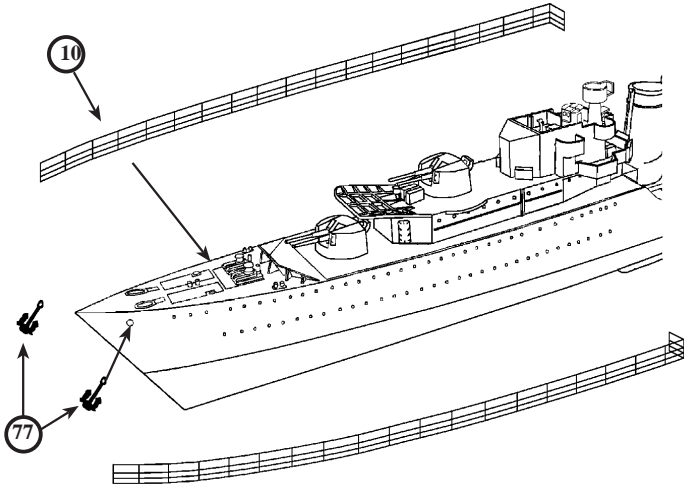
This gun platform was the standard fit for the AA weapons in the midships position. It replaced the early Pom Pom platform between the funnels and the Pom Pom was moved to the aft superstructure position for better arcs of fire. Assemble to the deck between the funnels, using etched parts 73 as the cross braced supports under the quad machine gun wings. The quad machine guns were replaced by 20mm single Oerlikons late war.

Anchor Assembly



Assemble photo etched anchors 77 as shown above. Fit anchors into the hawse pipes each side of the bow, after first drilling out the holes with a 1.5mm drill bit.

Fo'c'sle Railing Location



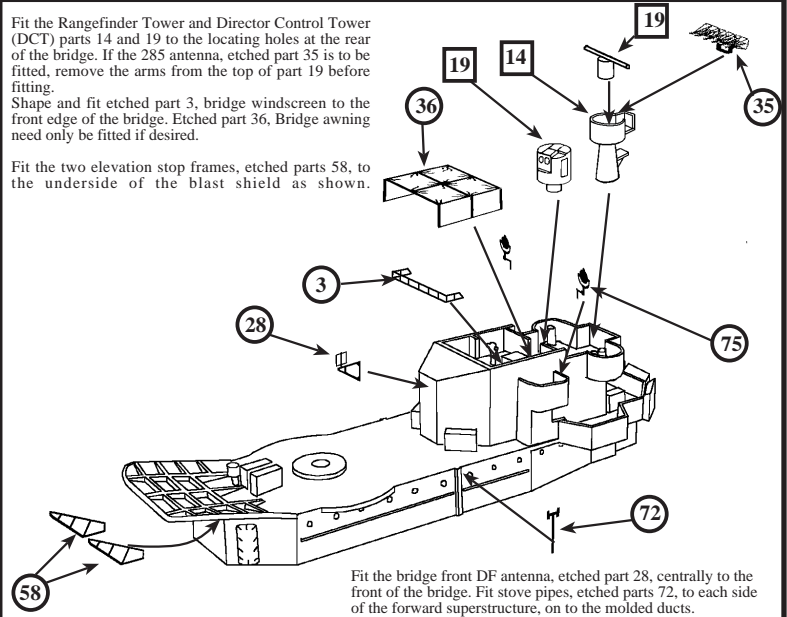
Shape and fit the railings, etched parts 10, to the focsle deck edges as shown above. Railing sections, etched parts 1, are fitted in the same manner to the edges of the main deck from the focsle step to the stern. The curved ends to these railings fit against the curved spray shields at the forward ends of the main deck. Fit the anchors, etched parts 77, in to the hawse pipes, as shown.

Bridge Fitting Details

Fit the Rangefinder Tower and Director Control Tower (DCT) parts 14 and 19 to the locating holes at the rear of the bridge. If the 285 antenna, etched part 35 is to be fitted, remove the arms from the top of part 19 before fitting.

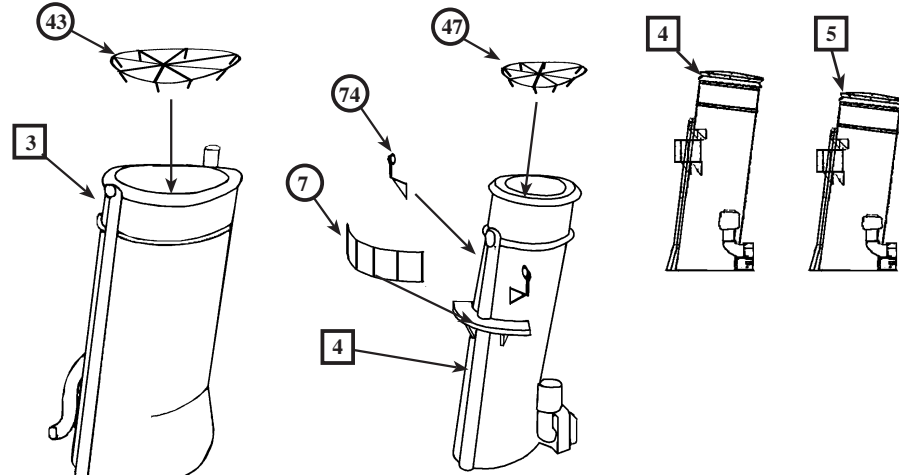
Shape and fit etched part 3, bridge windscreen to the front edge of the bridge. Etched part 36, Bridge awning need only be fitted if desired.

Fit the two elevation stop frames, etched parts 58, to the underside of the blast shield as shown.



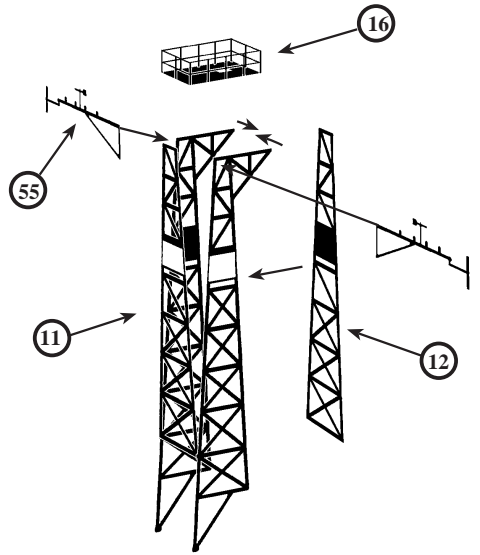
Fit the bridge front DF antenna, etched part 28, centrally to the front of the bridge. Fit stove pipes, etched parts 72, to each side of the forward superstructure, on to the molded ducts.

Funnel Fittings Assembly



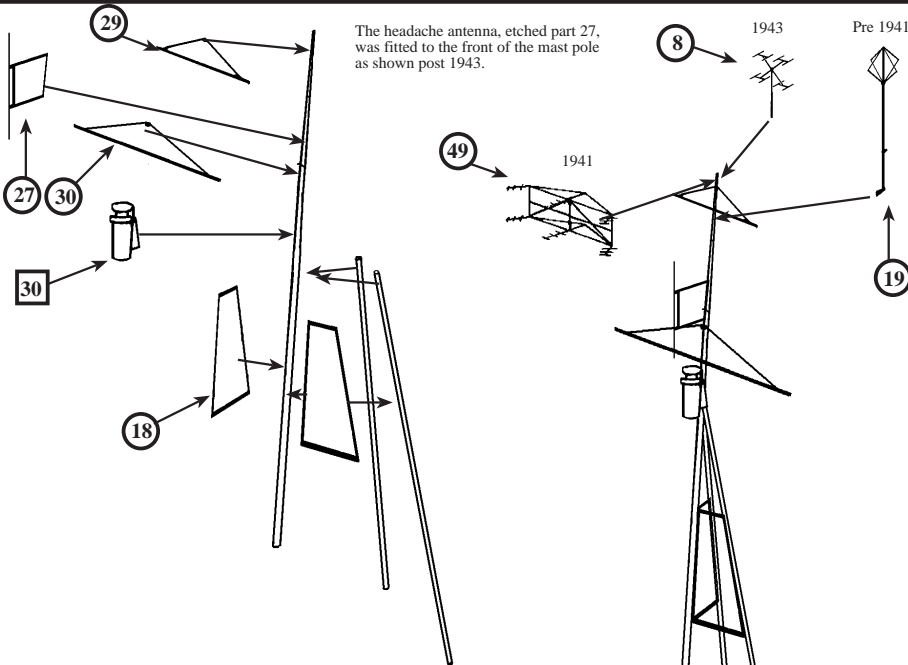
Bend the funnel cap grill attachment legs down so that they all attach to the top rims of the funnels. Secure the grill in to place. If the model is being portrayed before 1940, use the tall aft funnel, resin part 4. After 1941 the aft funnels were cut down to give a clearer arc of fire for the AA mountings. Use resin part 5 for the shorter funnel.

Lattice Fore Mast Assembly

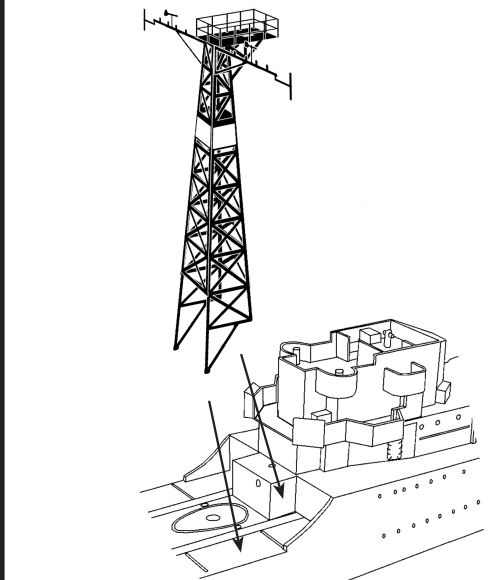


If the ship is being modeled post 1944, assemble the lattice fore mast as shown above using the etched parts provided. Fold the side lattice panels to 90° so that they are parallel, then angle them in towards the top until the edges touch all the way up. Secure in to place. Fit the front lattice panel so that the top fits between the top platform supports. Fold the railings on the top platform up to 90° and shape to fit around the edges of the platform. Fit the platform centrally on to the mast top. Fit the yardarms, etched parts 55 to each side as shown.

Early Tripod Fore Mast Assembly

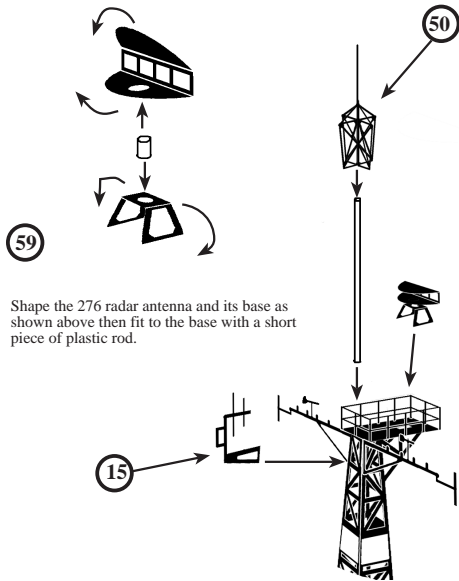


To make the tripod type fore mast, cut a 60mm length of 0.75mm (30thou) diameter brass rod for the main pole. This may be tapered at the upper end by using a file, if desired. Cut two 48mm lengths of 0.75mm (30thou) diameter brass rod for the tripod legs. Assemble the mast poles in to the locating holes in the deck behind the bridge and either side of the fore funnel. The tripod legs should then come against the mast pole, meeting at a height of 39mm from the base of the pole. Fit etched parts 18, an between the mast pole and the tripod legs, then fit the crow's nest, part 30 to the front of the mast pole at the point where the tripod legs meet.



To fit the lattice mast in to the place that would have been taken by the tripod mast the rear bulwark and signal flag boxes must be removed from the rear of the forward superstructure. There are two types of lattice mast provided in this set. They are both assembled in exactly the same way. The narrower mast base sits on top of the galley house roof rather than half and half as shown here.

Lattice Mast Top Platform Details

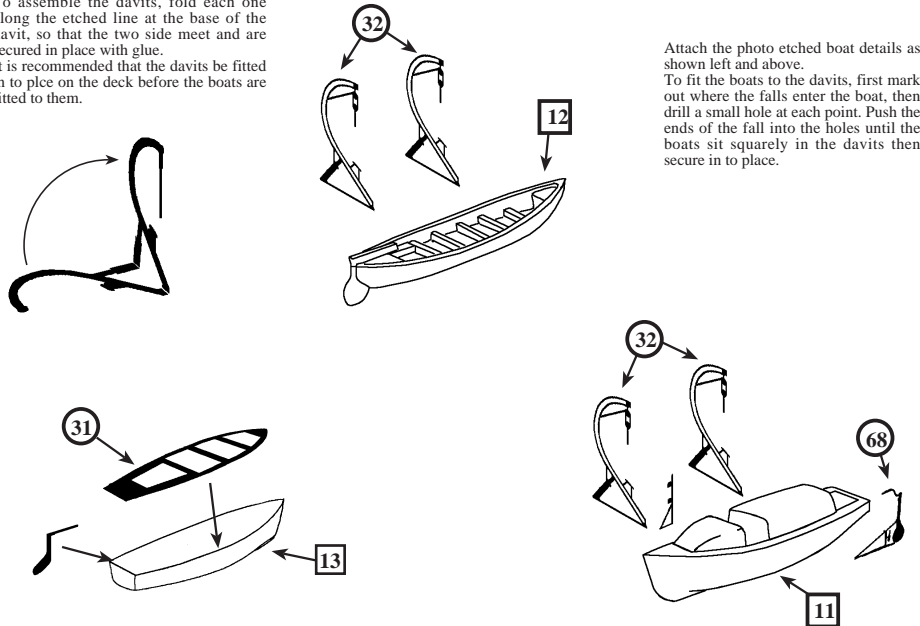


Shape the 276 radar antenna and its base as shown above then fit to the base with a short piece of plastic rod.

Cut a 20mm length of 20 thou (0.5mm) diameter brass rod and fit the assembled HF/DF in place on top of it. Fit the pole mast to the rear of the mast top platform. Fit antenna, etched part 15, centrally to the top section of the lattice mast.

Boats Assembly

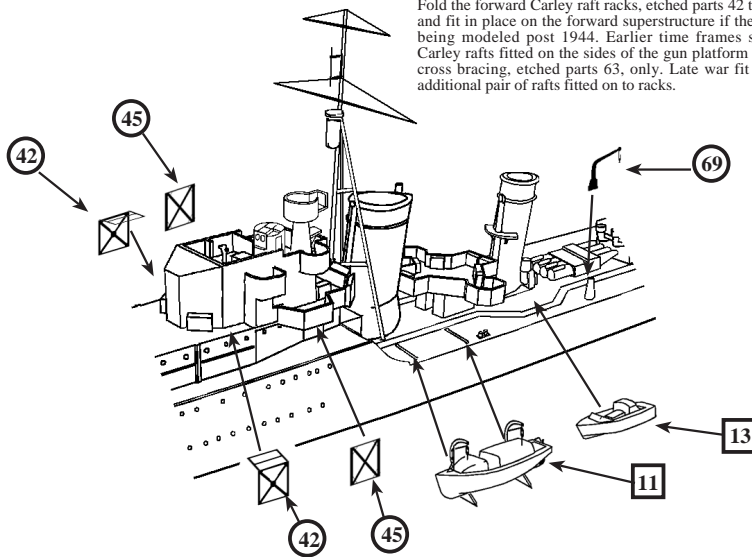
To assemble the davits, fold each one along the etched line at the base of the davit, so that the two side meet and are secured in place with glue. It is recommended that the davits be fitted in to place on the deck before the boats are fitted to them.



Attach the photo etched boat details as shown left and above. To fit the boats to the davits, first mark out where the falls enter the boat, then drill a small hole at each point. Push the ends of the fall into the holes until the boats sit squarely in the davits then secure in to place.

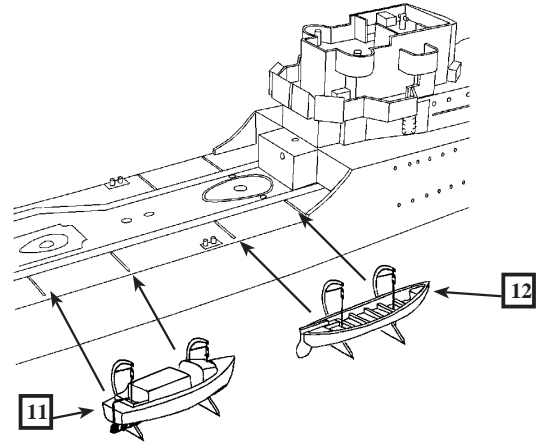
Fit the thwarts and rudder to the hull of the 16' Dinghy as shown here. The same can be done to the 27' Whaler if desired after first removing any of the molded detail.

Port Side Boats Location



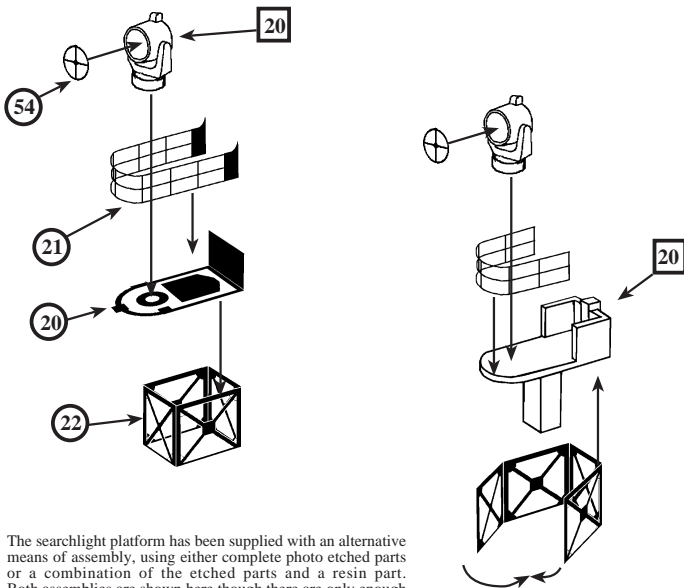
Fold the forward Carley raft racks, etched parts 42 to shape and fit in place on the forward superstructure if the ship is being modeled post 1944. Earlier time frames saw the Carley rafts fitted on the sides of the gun platform support cross bracing, etched parts 63, only. Late war fit saw an additional pair of rafts fitted on to racks.

Starboard Side Boats Location



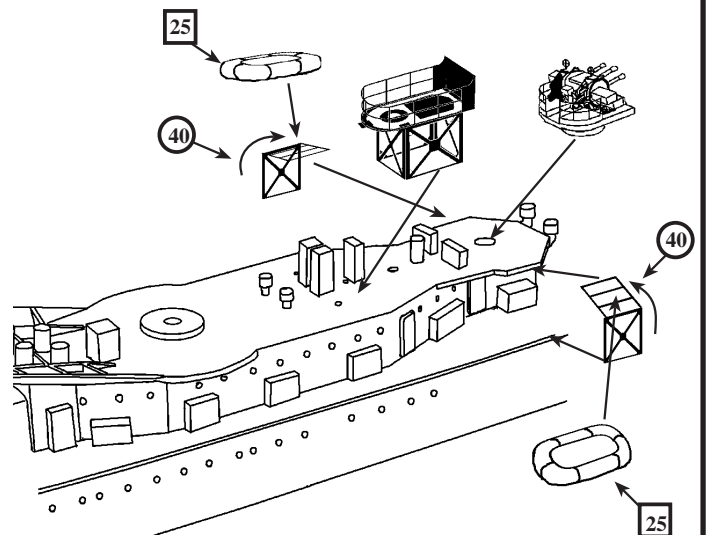
Fit the boats in to place on the main deck aft of the focsle step. It may be easier to assemble the boats to the davits if the davit are first fitted to the deck and secured in place. There are locating ridges on the main deck both port and starboard to aid correct positioning.

Searchlight Platform Assembly



The searchlight platform has been supplied with an alternative means of assembly, using either complete photo etched parts or a combination of the etched parts and a resin part. Both assemblies are shown here though there are only enough parts for one. When using the resin part, the etched railing section needs to be modified by cutting off the solid ends and one section of railing from each end to allow correct fitting to the resin part.

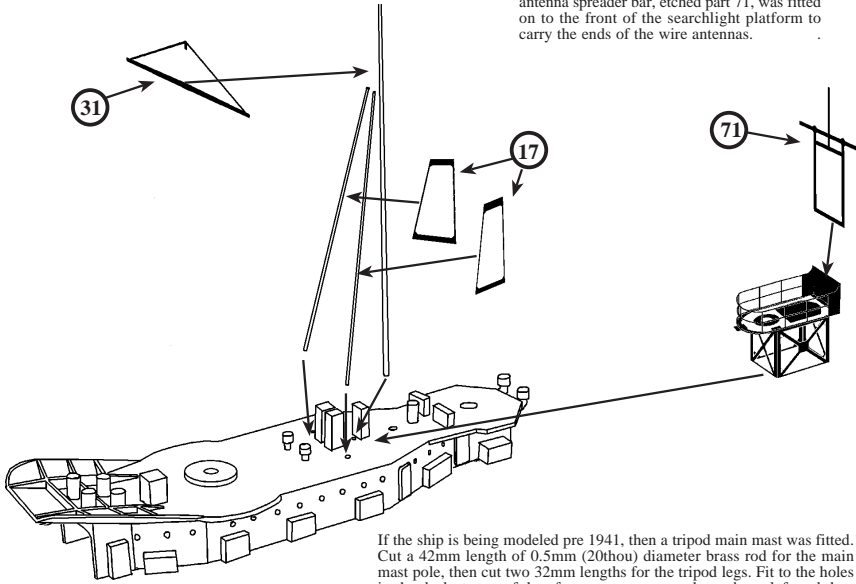
Aft Carley Float Rack Assembly



Fold and fit the large Carley raft racks, etched parts 40, to the sides of the Pom Pom platform, if the late war 1944 fit is being modeled. The early or pre war fit saw the carley rafts fitted against the searchlight platform cross bracing. 1941 to 1943 saw shorter racks, etched parts 63, fitted against the aft superstructure adjacent to the searchlight platform. Fit the 4 Barrelled Pom Pom assembly to the Pom Pom platform at the forward end of the aft superstructure.

Main Mast Alternatives

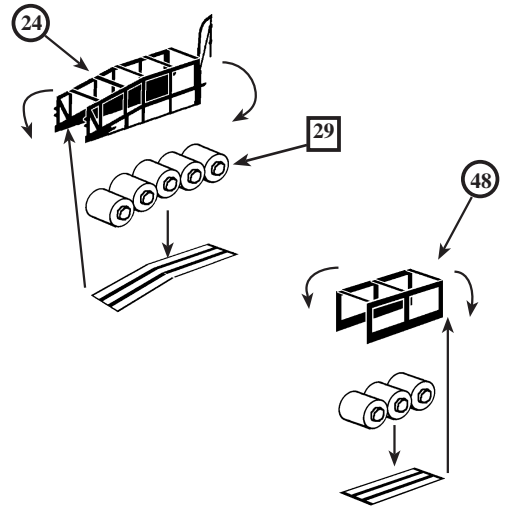
If the ship is being modeled post 1941 then the tripod main mast was removed, and a wire antenna spreader bar, etched part 71, was fitted on to the front of the searchlight platform to carry the ends of the wire antennas.



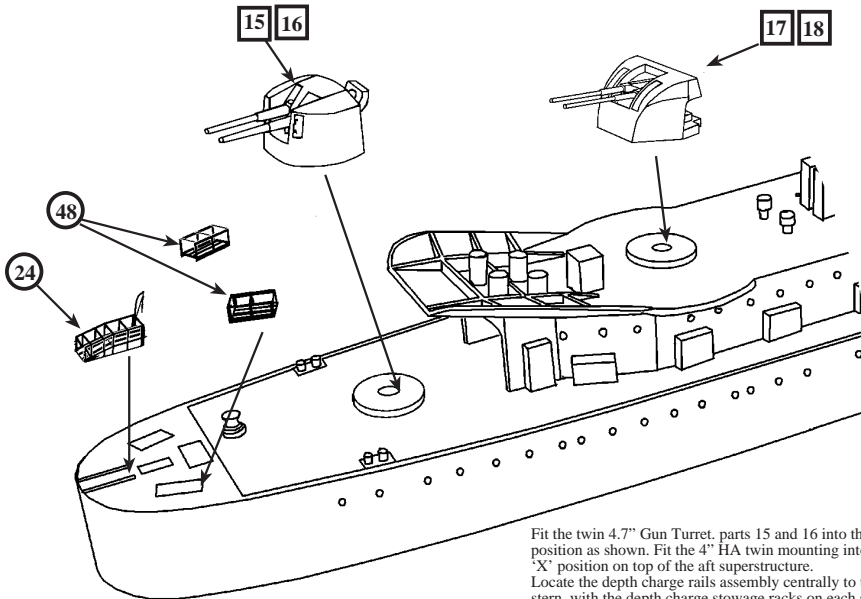
If the ship is being modeled pre 1941, then a tripod main mast was fitted. Cut a 42mm length of 0.5mm (20thou) diameter brass rod for the main mast pole, then cut two 32mm lengths for the tripod legs. Fit to the holes in the deck on top of the aft superstructure as show above left and then fit the bracing frames, etched parts 17. Fit the yardarm, etched part 31. This part can be reinforced by fitting a length of 0.5mm (20thou) diameter brass rod along the length of the spar.

Depth Charge Rack Assembly

Fold down the sides of the depth charge rails and stowage rack to 90° so that they are parallel, as shown below. Cut the required number of depth charges from the stock resin strips, parts 29. Fit these to the rail plates and paint as desire then fit the rails to the shaped horizontal bars on the inside of the frames.

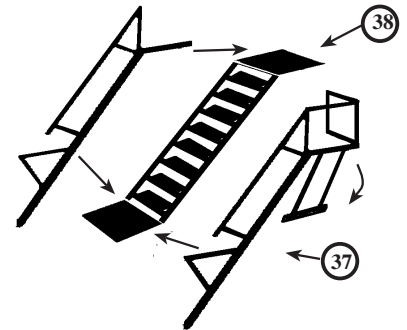


Aft Weapons Locations



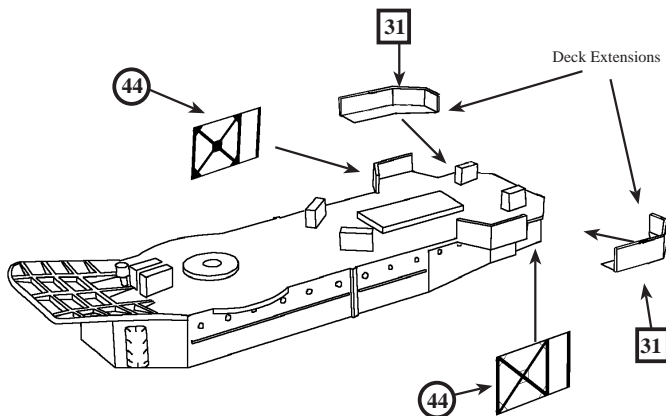
Fit the twin 4.7" Gun Turret, parts 15 and 16 into the 'Y' position as shown. Fit the 4" HA twin mounting into the 'X' position on top of the aft superstructure. Locate the depth charge rails assembly centrally to the stern, with the depth charge stowage racks on each side.

Accommodation Ladder Assembly



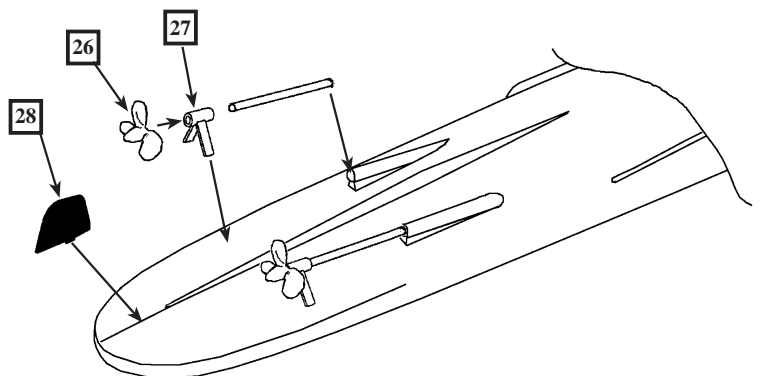
Assemble accommodation ladders as shown above and can be fitted to the ship either side of the main deck, adjacent to the aft superstructure if the ship is to be modelled at anchor.

Signal Platform Extensions



If an Australian Tribal is going to be modeled from this kit, the signal platform extensions will need to be enlarged. Do this by cutting away the bulwarks and signal flag lockers from the rear of the forward superstructure as far forward as the gun platform extensions, shown above. Fit the resin parts 31 as shown above. This will give the gun platform a greater area to mount the twin 20mm Oerlikon Powered mountings.

Running Gear Location and Assembly

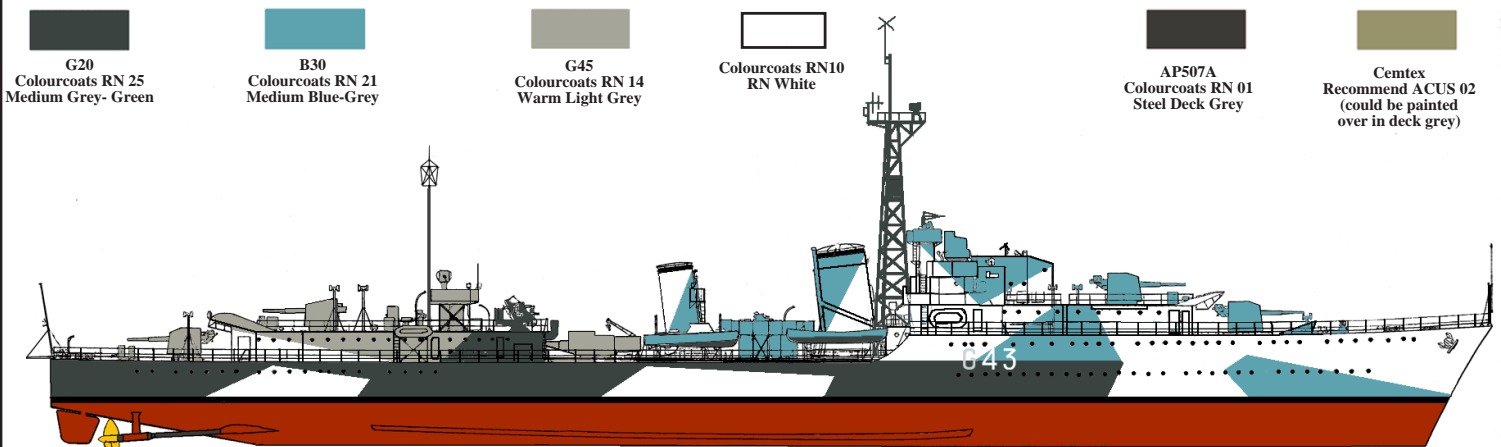


Cut two propeller shafts to a length of 16mm from 40thou (1mm) diameter plastic or brass rod and fit into one side of the propeller 'A' frame, metal parts 27. Fit the propeller 26 to the other side of the 'A' frame. Fit the other end of the shaft in to the recess in the hull fitting then fit the legs of the 'A' frame to the hull. These may require trimming to length to ensure that the propellers sit correctly at the same angle. Fit the rudder, part 28, centrally to the rear of the lower hull.

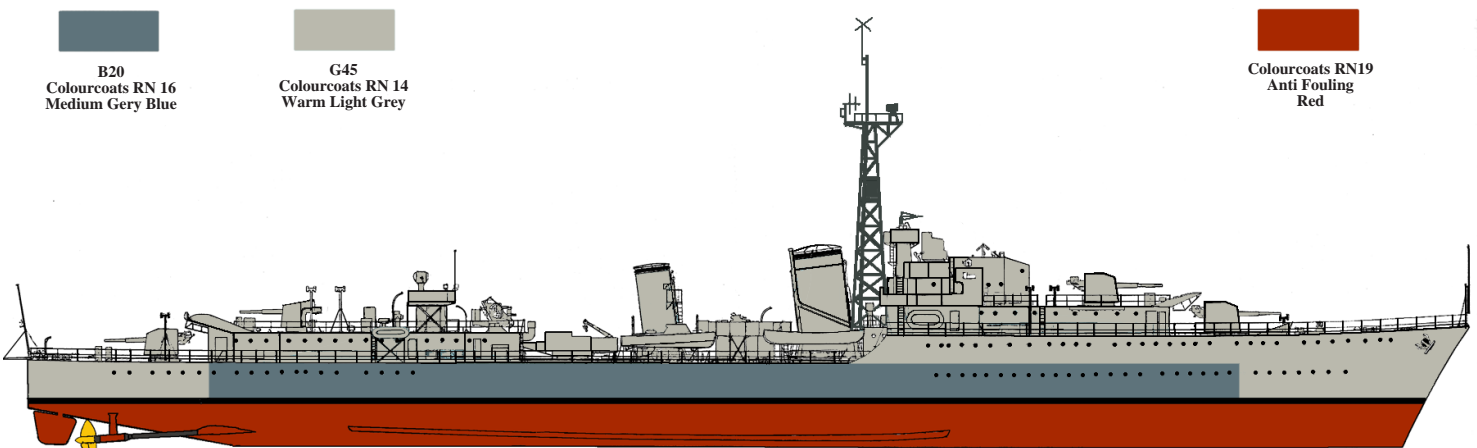
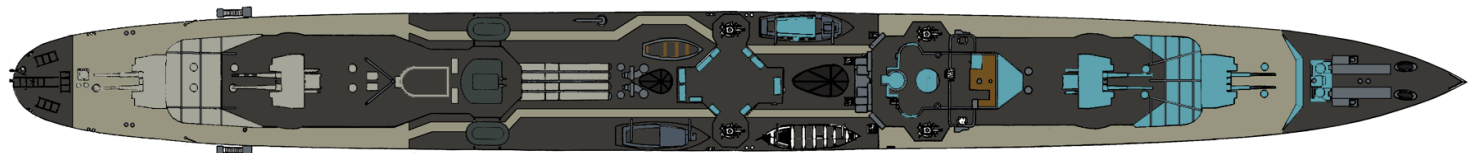
Other Instructions

1. The sections of railing provided in this kit have been tailored to fit certain areas of the hull and superstructure as follows. Etched parts 1 are the railings for the main deck edges from the focsle step running aft to the stern. The curved parts at one end fit against the curved spray shields. Etched part 2 is the small section of railing that fits around the galley roof at the base of the fore mast. Etched parts 5 fit around the Pom Pom platform on the aft superstructure and etched parts 6 fit on the same deck, further aft along the sides of 'X' turret. Etched part 7 is the railing for the funnel siren platform. Etched parts 9 fit on the forward superstructure deck on each side of 'B' turret. Etched parts 9 are the shaped sections for the deck edges on the focsle.
2. Etched parts 63 and 64 are the inner supports for the midships AA gun platform and are fitted under the fore and aft overhangs forming what should appear to be vertical poles. This can also be represented using 20thou diameter plastic rod fitted at the corners of the overhangs if desired.
3. Stock lengths of vertical ladders have been included on the etched details set, so that vertical ladders can be cut out to fit on to masts and platforms as required. Inclined ladders, etched parts 66, have been supplied in standard lengths to fit the focsle step positions on each side of the deck and the rear of the bridge.
4. Anchor chain has been supplied in sufficient lengths to allow the ship to be modelled in a diorama whilst at anchor, with the anchor chain running from the hawse pipes on the bow, to the surface of the water. If the anchors are in the stowed position, then short lengths of chain can be used to fit from the hawse pipe openings on the deck, back around the capstans and in to the cable locker holes.
5. Several extra parts have been included in this kit to allow the modeller to build the model set at any time period up to the end of WW2. It also allows the Australian Tribals to be built from this kit, though further research will be necessary to ensure the correct rig and fit.
6. Points of reference that will help build this model are found in the British Destroyers and Frigates by Norman Friedman and Destroyers of World War 2 by M.J. Whitley. British Warships of the Second World War by John Roberts has some detailed as fitted plans and profiles of HMS Eskimo which would be useful for building a pre war fitted model. Also the British Destroyers by Edgar March would be a great help if one could be obtained, though publication has been out of print for a while.

Clour Chart and Painting Guide



HMS Tartar 1944
Special Emergency Fleet Scheme



HMS Tartar 1945
British Pacific Fleet Scheme

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