MINUTES
OMSS OTTAWA Meeting
Tuesday, 29 September 2026

OIC – Julian B **Minute Man – Doug C** **Photographer – Steve A**

List of Attendees: Francois Brisebois, Doug Cope, Steve Hammond, Dennis DeRusha, Julian Bomford Kelly Hayes, Alan Macdonald, Bob Thompson, Sylvain Allaire, John Shrives, Dave Waddell, Scott Paget, Steve Alexander, Mark Hilash, Morley Verdier, Tom Wright, Paul Theriault

INTRODUCTIONS

- New Attendee introductions: none

- **How are our other regulars**? **Juan Lopez** was ill and **Rob Kelly** played trivia in the other room

OMSS CLUB BUSINESS & SPECIAL PROJECTS

OMSS Executive Update – **Steve A** reports not much new

Future of OMSS Zoom Meetings: Zoom meetings are currently suspended

Zoom Meeting in October? – **Bob T** reports on a possible ZOOM meeting with **James Opie** on 20 October Stay tuned for an announcement

Jeff Duncan OMSS "Club Sales" Proposal – **Bob T** reports that **Jeff Duncan** has proposed an Ottawa Member Only email sales Zoom meeting and list . Stay tuned

OMSS Ottawa in 2026

We still need volunteers to fulfill required processes to keep our group going.
– **Bob T** will circulate notes to help keep our Ottawa Chapter running in an organized manner.

Proposed OMSS Ottawa Toy Soldier Show for Saturday 27 February 2027 at the Kanata Legion Branch 638**.** – **Dave Waddell** is the lead for this project

- A draft poster was circulated – there followed a lengthy discussion on redesign – it is needed soonest
- **Dave W** held a **ZOOM meeting on Wednesday 7 October** with various members to discuss all that is needed in order to proceed.

WHAT'S NEW? – ANNOUNCEMENTS, & SHOWS

HOBBY NEWS, COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

- Michael C (former Toy Soldier Market) – not at the meeting

Other Toy Soldier related News

- **Mark H** brought a folding table that is available at CTC for approximately $50 plus tax
- Where does **Steve H** keep his horse?

EVENT REPORTS:

OMSS Ottawa August Meeting – Refer to **Doug C's** meeting minutes
– Show & Tell was " Canadians in World War 2 "

OMSS Toronto September Meeting – **Steve A** & **Alan M** attended – Guest Speaker was **Eric Shaw** and he talked of his trip to Japan and his 1905 uniforms. **Alan M** reports that he bought 2 boxes of 'stuff' and that our **Brendan Hogan** attended. He also gave a detailed report of their visit and stay at the large home of **Victor Rudik**, OMSS President. And of Victor's extensive collection

International Toy Soldier Club September Video Meeting – **Bob T** failed to connect but **Scott P** did and Reported on the collection of **Elastolin** vehicles and cannons **[See A Below]**

BMSS September Zoom Meeting -– James Opie – **Bob T** did connect this time and reports 'lots of stuff' displayed Topic was "British Indian Army"

Chicagoland Toy Soldier Show – **Steve A** was a dealer – he reports it was likely the best turnout he has seen at this show since the COVID problems. He had problems with the overbooked hotels but eventually he sold 'a lot'.

Merrickville Legion 100th Anniversary – Saturday 26 September – **Bob T., Steve A, Alan M, and Eduardo** all attended - - Massed Pipes & Drums estimated as 150 pipers & 50 drummers.
Scott Dummitt was the drum major and led the parade, **Jim Qualtrough** was a drummer See photos on OMSS Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/groups/651838872296984/

Model Show at Walkley Armouries – Sunday 27 September – **Bob T , Morley V, & Mark H** were on the organizing committee, many OMSS members attended. **Steve H** displayed his excellent Tiger Tank Factory diorama (see below). Many great models – **Tom W** took photos.
There was 1/6 scale Churchill tank kit that cost $10,000

UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

OMSS Toronto Monthly Meeting – Next Meeting is 5 October – **Frank MacKay** is guest speaker – his presentation topic is "Bases and groundwork: more than just rocks and dirt"

International Toy Soldier Club Video Meeting – Saturday 10 October – Andrew Stevenson (Replica Miniatures)

BMSS October Zoom Meeting -– James Opie – generally involves old Britain's figures

Nostalgia Show – Sunday 18 October – Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa – under new management

Ottawa Military Heritage Show – Saturday 24 October – Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa – **Bob T** & **Steve A** are to be vendors

On Parade Toy Soldier Show - Toronto - Saturday 8 May 2027

SHOW & TELL PRESENTATIONS

– This month Show & Tell topic – " **Paratroops – Market Garden** "

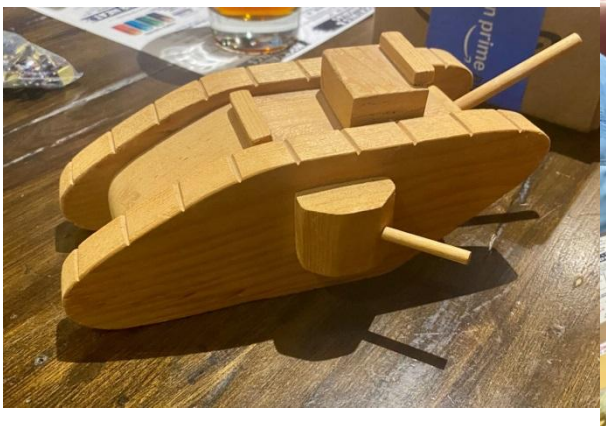
Dennis D – brought some Britain's figures to be purchased by **Bob T**

- He also had a boxed plastic **21st Century Toys** 'US Army mortar team that was quite detailed **[See B Below]**

Alan M – several large Marx figures including one German and 1 Japanese in WW2 uniforms

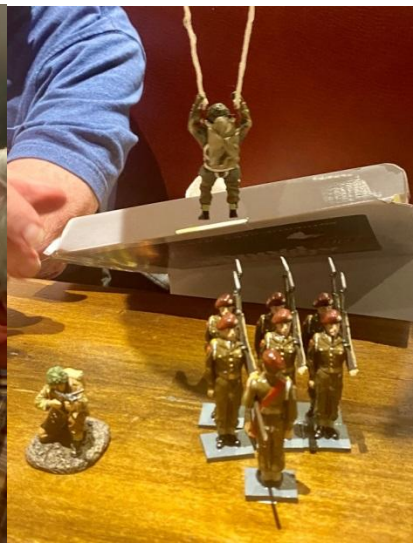
- 1 large wooden Napoleon figure
- A pewter trumpeter
- A hand made, wooden WW1 British tank with an odd cannon configuration
- Several bags of plastic army figures and zoo animals
- A plastic British bugler
- 3 repainted and repaired Royal Scots cavalry
- A **Conestoga Company** catalogue of **Big Bang Cannons [See C Below]**

He also told of visiting the **Bomber Command Museum** in Nanton, Alberta **[See D Below]**



Kelly H – in the Market theme he brought out a lead based Britain's Floral Garden **[See E Below]**

Scott P – produced a parachutist produced by King and Country



Paul T – produced a tiny army

Dave W – had some 1/87 or HO scale paratroops

Steve H – he brought out 2 sections of his nearly complete Henshel Tiger Tank factory **[See F Below]**
He told us of the need for '**transport tracks' [See G Below]**

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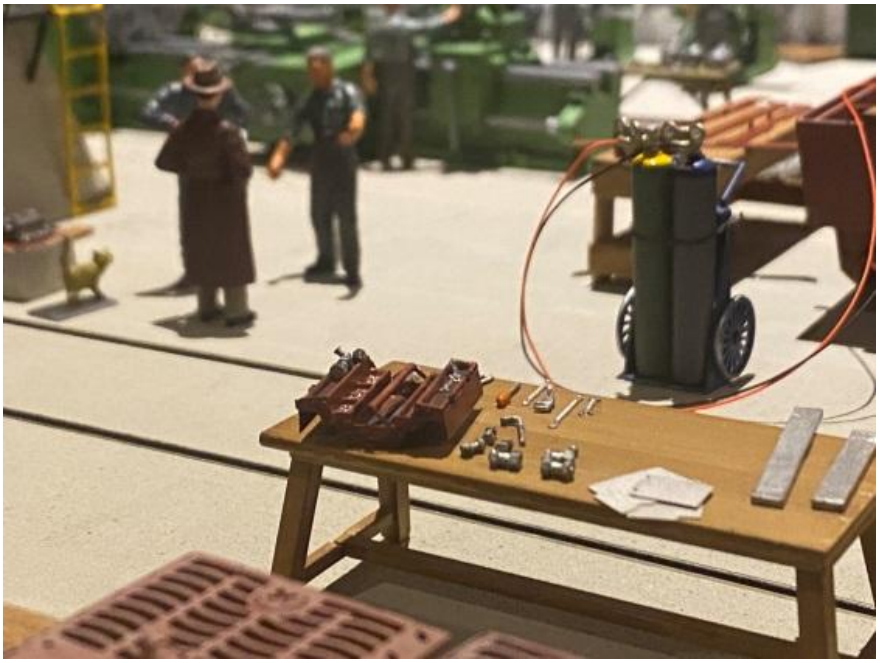

Doug C – again produced his WW2 dime store set – some were likely at Market Garden and an assortment of Scots who probably were not

Julian B – produced his 1’6 scale farm house and section of Castle wall with vines and an SS trooper in the tower. Also General Urquart and British paratroops **[See H Below]** – not there was a photo of Joan or Arc on the wall. One German equipped with a MG 34 **[See J]**

Francois B – 3 western style buildings and a plastic Canadian submarine by **Reliable Toy Company**
[See K Below]

Steve A – brought a host of paratroops, several balloon figures, and an Airborne Division sweatshirt from Somalia and a paratrooper helmet

- An Ark of the Covenant – 3 of them
- 1 Fort Henry Guard
- Some Greeks and Spartans. Polish troops and some highlanders
- 40 mm Napoleonic figures – 100 mounted and 70 on foot
- Aylmer German Paras - Lego compatible - WW1 Brit, germans
- Ww2 Polish
- Greek spartans & Corinthians
- Matt conessiur
- Various Canadian parachute Battalion by:
- music in miniature
- Martin Tabony
- 3d printed picked up in Chicago.

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AIRBORNE CANADA
REGIMENT
1
CANADIAN PARACHUTE
BATTALION

Bob T – brought nothing – the group were in stunned silence [for seconds]

MEETING ADJOURNMENT & LAST POST

Next meeting on Tuesday 27 October 2026

The result of the vote for Show & Tell Topic for the next meeting was**: 'Sinister figures'**

Meeting Adjourned at: **2110**

ADDITIONS

A] Preiser Elastolin

https://www.toysoldierco.com/Preiser-Elastolin/Brand.aspx?BrandID=54&AssocDeptID=2

Germany, 40mm, 54mm & 70mm painted and unpainted hard plastic figures and accessories.
Originally produced by the Hausser company, for over 70 years these have been considered among the finest mass-produced soldiers available. Preiser's range of Elastolin models set the standard against which all plastic and lead soldiers and accessories must be measured when considering modelling, paint work and pure artistry. Each figure features incredibly well-detailed and life-like sculpting, covered by matte paint jobs with fine shading and detail work that is clearly superior to all but the finest collector-painted lead soldiers

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elastolin

Elastolin was a trademark used by the German company O&M Hausser (O&M Haußer) for the toy soldiers and other types of figures it manufactured from composite material and later from plastic. The Hausser firm was founded in 1904 by Christian Hausser and his sons Otto and Max. The factory was situated in Ludwigsburg near Stuttgart.

Production of all figures (and all other toys) was interrupted when the German economy was put on a "total war" footing in 1943. Limited production of composition figures resumed several years after the end of World War II in 1945. Hausser continued to use the brand name Elastolin when it began production of figures in a hard polystyrene plastic in 1955 while production of figures in the older sawdust-based composition material continued into the 1969. Hausser production of plastic figures continued through 1982. The company filed for bankruptcy in June 1983 and ceased production by the end of the year.

Scales of figures

Elastolin composition figures were manufactured in 40mm (also known as 4-cm), 65mm (6.5-cm), 70mm (7-cm), and 105mm (10.5 cm) scales. Since 70-mm is approximately 3-inches, a 70-mm figure is approximately 1/24 scale. The Elastolin catalogs of the 1930s describe the 7-cm figures as being "normal size" (normalgrosse) and the 4-cm figures as Miniatur-Soldaten. The catalog numbers for the 4-cm figures began with the preface M so the catalog number for a 4-cm marching Heer Trommler (Army snare drummer) was M 47/1.

B] 21st Century Toys

https://www.toysoldierco.com/21st-Century-Toys/Brand.aspx?BrandID=64&AssocDeptID=8

21st Century Toys does not have an active official website because the company went out of business and closed in the early 2000s. Established in the 1990s and ceased operations in the early 2000s.
Products: Known for "The Ultimate Soldier" line, which included detailed 1/6, 1/18, and 1/32 scale military action figures, vehicles, and accessories.
Most users on Reddit agree that the company closed down because of declining sales and a failed exclusivity agreement with a major retailer like Toys 'R' Us.

https://www.toysoldierco.com/21st-Century-Toys/Brand.aspx?BrandID=64&AssocDeptID=8
21st Century Toys - U.S.A., 54mm scale painted plastic vehicles and figures. When they first arrived on the scene in the 1990s, 21st Century Toys took the toy soldier world by storm. Unfortunately, the company was forced to close down in the early 2000s, 21st Century Toys are accurate down to the last detail and their vehicles contain many moving parts: the turrets rotate and the guns elevate, hatches open and close, figures can be placed at the controls, and so on. Unlike New Ray, these vehicles are not motorized, but the paint work is superior. 21st Century Toys' toy soldiers are hand-painted as well, and again, the attention to detail is remarkable.

C] The Conestoga Company's Big-Bang® Cannons

https://www.bigbangcannons.com/Information
The Conestoga Company, Inc. 323 Sumner Ave., Allentown, PA 18102-1856
Phone: 610-866-0777 Fax: 610-433-8406 customerservice@bigbangcannons.com

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The Conestoga Company's Big-Bang® Cannons are a great way to Celebrate July 4th and all events! A safe alternative to consumer fireworks, Big-Bang® Cannons have been in production since 1912. Made in USA to last a lifetime.

Big-Bang® Cannons are safe and easy to use. Water, some fresh air, Bangsite® and a spark is all you'll need to get a loud bang with a realistic flash of light. Bangsite® is pulverized calcium carbide. There is no recoil or kick. The safety features make Big-Bang® Cannons a fun toy for kids and adults of all ages. There are Big-Bang® Cannons currently in use that have lasted over 100 years! You won't find many products today that have lasted so long and still work.

D] The Bomber Command Museum of Canada

https://bombercommandmuseum.ca/

Wikimedia | © OpenStreetMap

Established	1986
Location	Nanton, Alberta
Coordinates	50.350606°N 113.776594°W
Website	http://www.bombercommandmuseum.ca/

The Bomber Command Museum of Canada, formerly the Nanton Lancaster Society Museum, is an aviation museum in Nanton, Alberta. The museum opened in 1986 and was founded to protect and restore Avro Lancaster FM159, one of 17 remaining Lancasters in the world, two of which are flying and two are taxi only.

Address: 1529 - 21st Ave, AB, Hwy 2, Nanton, AB T0L 1R0 Phone: (403) 646-2270

It has since grown to include a large collection of aircraft, many of which were used during the War by the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan.

The Nanton Lancaster Society was formed in 1985 with the mission of preserving the town's Avro Lancaster, which had been on outdoor display since 1960. The following year, the society officially began displaying the aircraft as a museum. In 1991 the NLS completed a building to house the plane, and throughout the 1990s the museum acquired a large collection of aircraft to complement the Lancaster. Following the opening of the original building, the museum has expanded in 1998, 2002, and 2007. The museum includes a library, archive, and restoration shop. It is presently working to add second hangar for its collection.

Since 1986, the museum's Lancaster has undergone a full restoration, and all four engines are operational, and the aircraft can taxi under its own power, one of only 4 similar Lancasters in the world. The Society elected to restore the aircraft using the livery of Lancaster FM-159 (F2-T) "T for Tommy," the Lancaster in which Ian Bazalgette was killed on 4 August 1944. In 1990 the Society held a dedication ceremony for the aircraft. Among attendees were Mrs. Ethel Broderick, Ian's sister, F2-T crew members Chuck Godfrey and George Turner, as well as 407 Squadron's commanding officer, Colonel Terry Chester.

In 2005 the museum dedicated its Bomber Command Memorial, and in 2010 changed its name to the Bomber Command Museum of Canada. Now a nationally recognized museum working with other aviation museums in Alberta and Canada and hosting members of the Royal Canadian Air Force in recognizing the contribution of Canadian airmen and women during and after the second world war. In addition to its airplanes and vehicles, the museum has an extensive collection of engines, a significant collection of nose art pieces and documentation, and other related objects. The museum acquired a Cessna UC-78 in 2018.

E] Britains Floral Garden

https://www.google.com/search?q=william+Britain%27s+floral+gardens+history&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7

Britains Floral Garden was a popular modular toy series produced by the toy company William Britain's (Britains Ltd.) across two main eras: a painted lead miniature range in the 1930s and a reimagined plastic construction toy in the 1960s.

The Lead Miniature Era (1930–1939)

Britains introduced the Miniature Gardening painted soft lead series in 1930 as a follow-up to their successful Model Home Farm series. The system featured flat-moulded plants with bendable stems that children could insert into modular, slotted components like flowerbeds, rockeries, lawns, crazy paving, and small buildings.: Production of lead garden sets ceased by 1940 as resources shifted toward manufacturing for World War II.

Britains – Set 4MG – Miniature Gardening Series, [1931 – 36 Only], comprising: Rectangular Flower Bed, Garden Walling, Pillars, Urns & Flowers.,

Britains – Set 9MG – Miniature Gardening Series, [1931 – 36], comprising: Rectangular Display with – Flower Beds, Pergola, Garden Walling, Pillars, Crazy Paving & Flowers

The Plastic Floral Garden Era (1960–1970s)
Relaunch: Britains reintroduced the line as Britains Floral Garden in 1960 using modern plastic components after merging with Herald Miniatures. The plastic range was redesigned and sculpted by toy designer Roy Selwyn-Smith. The "Dibber" Tool: The plastic sets featured brown plastic flowerbeds pre-molded with small holes. Children used a special planting tool called a "dibber" to press flat, snowflake-like plastic flower and greenery stems into the beds so they stood upright. The system allowed children to buy starter sets and expand their collections with extra accessories like greenhouses, garden sheds, fences, lawns, and eventually Floral Garden People figures in 1967.
End of Production: The line was later rebranded as Lucy's Little Garden in the late 1970s before being fully discontinued and transitioning into a sought-after collector's item.

Britains – Floral Garden Range – Retailer Display, early 1960's

F] Henschel & Son Factory Complex

https://www.google.com/search?q=henschel+tiger+tank+factory&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7

The primary production site for the legendary German Tiger I and Tiger II heavy tanks during World War II was the Henschel & Son factory complex located in Kassel, Germany.

Tank production primarily took place at Henschel Werk 3 in the Mittelfeld area of Kassel. The plant employed around 8,000 workers operating in grueling 12-hour shifts, supplemented heavily by forced and slave labor.Rather than a continuous modern moving assembly line, workers moved around static tanks across nine distinct assembly stages known as Takt.

Henschel served as the final assembly point, relying on a massive rail network to ship components from external firms—such as hulls and turrets from Krupp in Essen and engines from Maybach in Friedrichshafen.

Tiger I: Production ran from July 1942 (or August 1942 depending on official milestone records) until August 1944, with roughly 1,347 to 1,355 units built. Peak output reached 104 tanks per month in April 1944. Destruction and Aftermath: Because of its immense strategic military value, the Henschel factories were heavily targeted by Allied bombing raids and nearly completely destroyed by the end of the war. The site later rebuilt after the war and evolved into major modern industrial and locomotive manufacturing facilities.

The Construction Networkhttps://tankmuseum.org/article/building-a-tiger-tank/

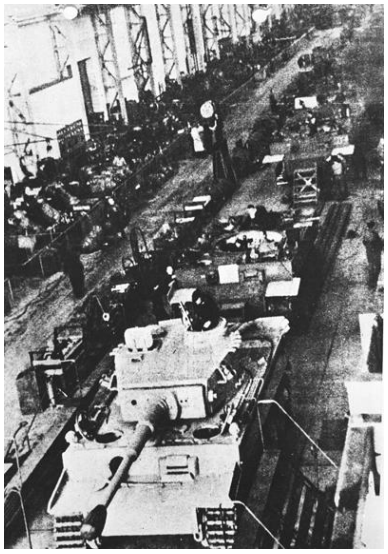
The Tiger I was built by Henschel at their factory in Kassel in the centre of modern Germany. This was at the epicentre of a large network of firms that produced components for the tank and transported them by rail to Henschel for final assembly.

To give an idea of the scale of this network, the armour plate for hulls and turrets was made by Krupp in Essen in Western Germany. Many of the 88mm guns were built by DHHV in Dortmund, not far from Essen. Engines came from Maybach in Friedrichshafen, well to the south near the Swiss border, but the transmissions they would be connected to were built by Adler in Frankfurt, halfway back to Essen. Getting the completed turrets to Henschel was somewhat easier – Wegmann Waggonfabrik was also based in Kassel.

A brand new Tiger leaving the factory.

Henschel employed 8,000 workers manufacturing tanks (not just Tigers). They worked in two 12 hour shifts, with the night shift up to 50% less productive than the day shift. They also made railway locomotives, and in fact of the two production sheds used to build Tigers one was only half converted – Tigers were built on the right, locomotives on the left.

German tank manufacture didn't use production lines as we understand them today. Instead Tigers were built in nine stages or Takt. The tanks did move around the factory, but not generally as part of the construction process – workers moved around a static tank whilst adding parts.



The final assembly line at Henschel.
Takt 1 was the receipt of the unfinished hull from Krupp, and the process of moving it into the factory. Takt 2 and Takt 3 involved precisely drilling and machining holes for the suspension arms, drive sprockets and final drives. In Takt 4 the turret ring was machined on a massive lathe.

These stages required careful positioning of the hull around the large, static machine tools used for this work. On average there would be 18 tanks in these stages at any one time.
The next steps saw the hull move to the final assembly line. Takts 5 and 6 saw the installation of major internal components such as the engine, transmission, torsion bars and fuel tanks, and the fitting of the road wheels, drive sprockets and tracks. These stages would see a buzz of activity, with parts being craned into place and carefully fitted, welders at work around the tank and components being carefully installed all over the vehicle. Takt 7 was a test drive, and assuming this had gone well the final components were fitted in Takt 8. By far the largest of these was the turret, which was craned into place. Takt 9 saw final painting in red oxide primer and the prescribed base coat, either Panzer Grey or later Dunkelgelb.
The finished tank would then be loaded onto a railway wagon for delivery. The final assembly line had an average of 10 Tigers being built at a time. Total construction time was around 14 days.

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Tiger I production ran from July 1942 to August 1944, with 1347 built. After this Henschel built 490 Tiger IIs until the end of the war, with the last 13 produced between the 1st and 4th April 1945 and handed directly over to the German forces defending Kassel.

G] Transport Tracks

https://www.google.com/search?q=WW2+German+tank+transport+tracks&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7

German heavy tanks like the Tiger I used narrow Verladeketten (transport tracks) measuring 520 mm wide instead of their standard 725 mm operational combat tracks (Marshketten) to fit safely onto standard railway flatcars.

Why Transport Tracks Were Needed

Rail Clearance: Standard operational tracks made heavy tanks too wide for the loading gauge of the German National Railway (Reichsbahn) and standard flatbed wagons like the SSyms.

Switching to the 520 mm transport tracks reduced the overall width of a Tiger I to 3,142 mm, allowing it to clear oncoming trains and infrastructure on the rails

The Track-Changing Process

Removal of Outer Wheels: Crews had to remove the eight outermost interleaved road wheels on each side of a Tiger I because they overlapped the track path and clearance limits. Side skirts (Schürzen) were detached, and outer track guards were folded or hinged inward. The wider combat tracks, removed road wheels, and side skirts were loaded onto the same railway flatbed alongside the tank. An experienced crew could complete the track and wheel conversion in approximately 20 minutes.

H] Major-General Robert Elliot "Roy" Urquhart and Market Garden

https://www.google.com/search?q=general+urquhart+at+market+garden&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7

Major-General Robert Elliot "Roy" Urquhart commanded the British 1st Airborne Division during Operation Market Garden in September 1944.

Roy Urquhart led the 1st Airborne Division starting in January 1944, despite having no prior parachute jump experience and suffering from severe airsickness. He landed by glider during the invasion. His division was tasked with capturing and holding the vital lower Rhine road bridge at Arnhem at the far northern end of the Allied advance.

Drop Zone Distance: Urquhart had advocated for drop zones closer to the objective bridge, but higher command placed them roughly 6 to 8 miles away due to concerns over anti-aircraft defenses, which heavily impacted the speed and element of surprise.

Trapped Behind Enemy Lines

Radio Failures: Communications broke down almost immediately after landing, leaving Urquhart unable to contact his battalions or higher headquarters (I Airborne Corps). While trying to assess the chaotic situation near Arnhem with Brigadier Gerald Lathbury, German forces pinned them down. Urquhart and other officers were forced to hide in the attic of a Dutch civilian house (No. 14 Zwarteweg in Oosterbeek) for nearly 30 to 40 hours, completely cut off from commanding his division directly during the crucial early phase of the battle.

The Oosterbeek Perimeter: Once he managed to return to his division, he found his forces heavily outnumbered, outmaneuvered, and battered by powerful German armored units. He organized and held a desperate defensive pocket around Oosterbeek. After the main relief effort failed, Urquhart organized the courageous nocturnal withdrawal ("Operation Berlin") across the Lower Rhine on the night of September 25–26, 1944, successfully evacuating roughly 2,000 surviving members of his devastated division.

His tumultuous experience during the battle was famously dramatized in Cornelius Ryan's book and the 1977 film A Bridge Too Far, where Urquhart was memorably portrayed by actor Sean Connery.

J] German MG 34

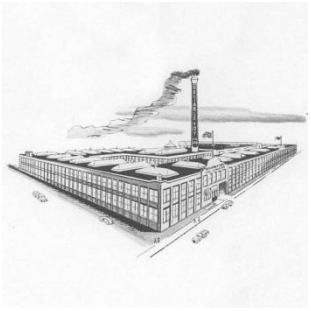
https://www.google.com/search?q=MG+34+in+1942&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7

The MG 34 served as the primary general-purpose machine gun of the German military in 1942, though it began to be supplanted that year by the cheaper, mass-produced MG 42.

- **Eastern Front**: German infantry squads relied heavily on the MG 34 during intense frontline combat, including defensive operations at the Battle of Stalingrad.
- **Mounts**: Crews operated the weapon using a folding bipod for mobile squad support or mounted it on the complex Lafette 34 tripod for stable, long-range heavy fire.
- **Manufacturing Costs**: The MG 34 required precision-milled engineering, taking roughly 150 man-hours to build, which limited production speed during wartime demands.
- **The Shift to MG 42**: Germany manufactured 63,163 units of the MG 34 in 1942, but officially introduced series production of the stamped-metal MG 42 the same year to cut manufacturing time and costs in half. [1, 2, 3]
- **Field Sensitivity**: While valued for its accuracy and high rate of fire (800–900 rounds per minute), troops noted that the MG 34 remained sensitive to extreme mud, dirt, and freezing winter weather encountered across battlefields.

K] Reliable Toy Company

https://exploredundascarlaw.heritagetoronto.org/reliable-toy-company#gallery-1



258 Carlaw Avenue Toronto

The Reliable Toy Company of Toronto pioneered Canadian plastic toy manufacturing after World War II using injection-moulding expertise gained from producing wartime military components. While the company produced various plastic watercraft, vehicles, and airplanes (such as the Supermarine Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane), an **official dedicated plastic *submarine*** is not a widely documented core catalog item from their vintage post-war production lines, which more commonly featured tugboats, sailboats, sedans, and trucks.

Founded in 1920 as Canadian Statuary and Novelty Company by brothers Alex, Ben, and Solomon Frank Samuels in Toronto, Canada. Renamed Reliable Toy Company in 1922. The Samuels brothers produced plush toys, novelties, and dolls from a 500-square-foot space on Queen Street in Toronto. The company quickly gained popularity for the dolls it assembled from elements imported from Germany and the United States.

As the company grew, the Samuels brothers purchased larger spaces allowing for the manufacture dolls and toys from all-original parts. As plastics grew in popularity, the company invested in injection molding technology. In 1933, Reliable Toy Company purchased Canadian doll making rival, Dominion Toy.
By 1935, Reliable Toy Company became the largest toy factory in the British Empire.

` The company produced over 300 varieties of dolls and manufactured over one and a half million dolls in 1936. In 1985, Reliable Toy Company was purchased by Allied Group.

The significance of Reliable Toy Company was commemorated in 2018 by Heritage Toronto with a plaque on an early Samuels' factory location at 260 Carlaw Avenue in Toronto.

Original Reliable Toy Company dolls remain popular with collectors. Its Tousle Head (1933), Chubby (1935), Hairbow Peggy (1935), Royal Canadian Mounted Police (1936), Wetums (1939), and Clicquot Club Soda Eskimo (1939) dolls are coveted collectibles.

The Canadian Museum of History preserves the history of Reliable Toy Company in its collections.

Reliable Toy Company continues to manufacture toys through its parent company, Allied Group.

Beyond Dolls

In the early 1940s, Reliable Toy Company formed a partnership with the Government of Canada, leveraging their expertise in injection molding plastics to produce wartime supplies, including plastic bullet tips and gun accessories.

The company also gained attention for its plastic fighter jets based on real-life aircraft, such as the Avro Arrow and Avro CF-100.