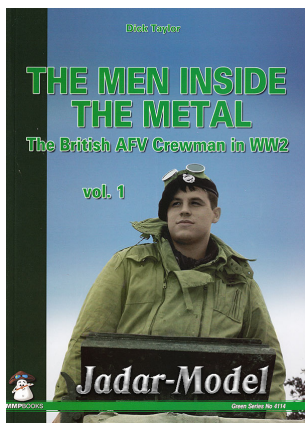


Mushroom Green 4114 - The Men Inside The Metal vol.1



Cena :

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Mushroom 4114 The Men Inside The Metal vol.1
The British AFV Crewman in WW2

Uniformy, ekwipunek oraz uzbrojenie brytyjskich czołgistów w czasie II wojny światowej.

Książka zawiera 112 stron (112 w kolorze).

Wydrukowano na błyszczącym papierze, format **297x210 mm (A4)** , miękka oprawa. **Tekst całkowicie angielski!**

Wydawca: Stratus (Polska)

Dick Taylor

THE MEN INSIDE THE METAL

The British AFV Crewman in WW2

vol. 1



Jadar-Model



MMPBOOKS

Green Series No 4114

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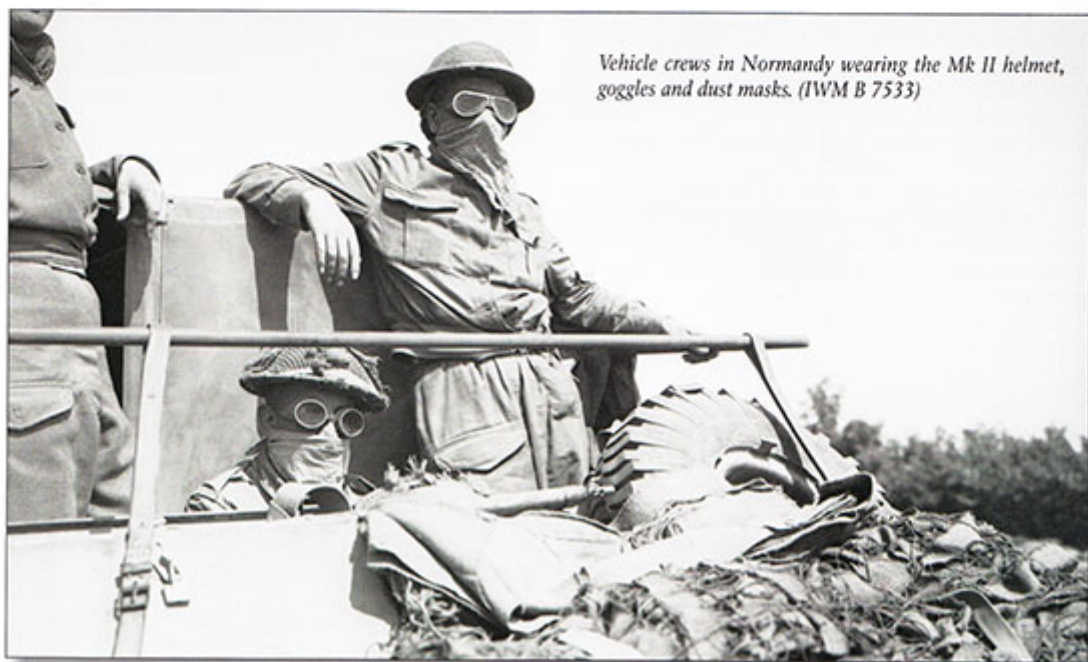
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Never say never! The Co-Driver of this Sherman in Normandy is wearing the Mk II infantry pattern helmet. (IWM B 6980)



Vehicle crews in Normandy wearing the Mk II helmet, goggles and dust masks. (IWM B 7533)



The M1938 helmet in use by a Sherman crew of 116th Regt RAC in Burma 1945. (IWM SE 3515)



Above: The US M1938 Tankers Helmet; note the colour of the lining. (Courtesy robertsarmory.com)



Left & below: The US M1938 Tankers Helmet.



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A privately-made Officer's BD in the 1937 pattern, but with the officer's style open collar and a somewhat greener shade than officially sanctioned. This one was made for an RA Captain, serving with 8th Army; note the red pip backings, the "mudguards", the RA lanyard, and the AOS strips.

guards, parades, and other ceremonial occasions. This set was usually adorned with the full range of insignia, collar dogs, lanyards (plain cord, twisted or knotted), medal ribbons and the like as described later, whilst normal "working dress" BD was often much less ornate, with only the minimum of decoration. However, on active service best BD could still be used if the need was pressing, so it would be possible to see two members of the same crew, one wearing BD with next to no insignia, and the other in full, best regalia.

An order of dress very similar in design to the austerity pattern BD but dating to 1939 and used throughout the war was Denim Overalls. As the name implies, these were intended to be worn over BD either to protect BD

A knotted lanyard.

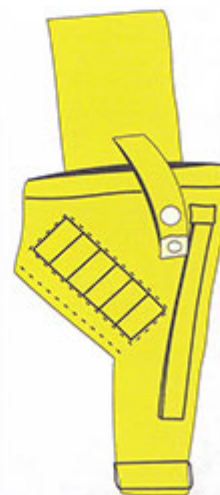




Once this modification was made, it was logical that the standard 1937 pattern officer's pistol holster could also be used by tank crews. The *Case Pistol* was originally meant for personnel working on foot, and thus had a full size flap with a snap-button fastener to protect the pistol from dirt. It could be worn either left or right, and fittings were provided to allow it to be worn either directly on the belt, or suspended underneath the ammunition pouch. A pocket for a cleaning rod was sewn on

A Cruiser IVa crew from the RTR showing the approved early war method of wearing webbing in an AFV.

Below and right: The modified Mk II or Case Pistol Web RTC Mk II. (Courtesy Rob Pile)



WEAPONS

The normal personal weapon issued to AFV crews throughout the war was the .38 (equivalent to 9.65mm) revolver pistol. The standard pistol was a Webley-Scott design, which was designed "Pistol Revolver Enfield No 2", in various marks: Mk I, Mk I* or Mk I**. All of these were top-break designs, and the latter two of which were produced specifically for tank crews as they were made without a hammer spur, because the standard hammer could easily catch on something and cock the weapon on the inside of the tank. The Mk I* first appeared in June 1938. The Mk I**, produced from July 1942, had the safety stop removed to make war-time production easier, with the result that it could accidentally fire if dropped! Externally though they were all but identical.

Other .38 pistol types used were the top-break "Pistol Revolver Webley No 4", based on the WW1 vintage .455 weapon, and which incorporated a clever mechanism for automatically ejecting all six spent cases from the cylinder on breaking opening the action; and the US supplied side-opening Smith & Wesson, which was known officially - and confusingly - as the "Pistol Revolver No 2 Colt". John Fisher recorded two memories of weapon issues:

Asked if I wanted a Webley or a Smith and Wesson 0.38 revolver, I plumped for the Smith and Wesson. I thought that it was a better looking weapon and probably of better quality too... [Later I found out that the Smith and Wesson was a better looking weapon and probably of better quality too... it was a poor looking weapon, but I was so equipped.]¹⁶

The Kings Dragoon Guards' history noted that many American soldiers "had a lust for the British .38 Service Revolver, which the British soldier found quite incomprehensible." One can only speculate that the GIs had a hankering for six-shooters!

The Pistol Webley No 4 showing the case ejection mechanism.



16. Fisher Snapshots pp 28 & 57



The Pistol Enfield No 2 Mk I - note the lack of a hammer spur.*



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The side-opening Pistol Colt No 2 (Smith & Wesson).