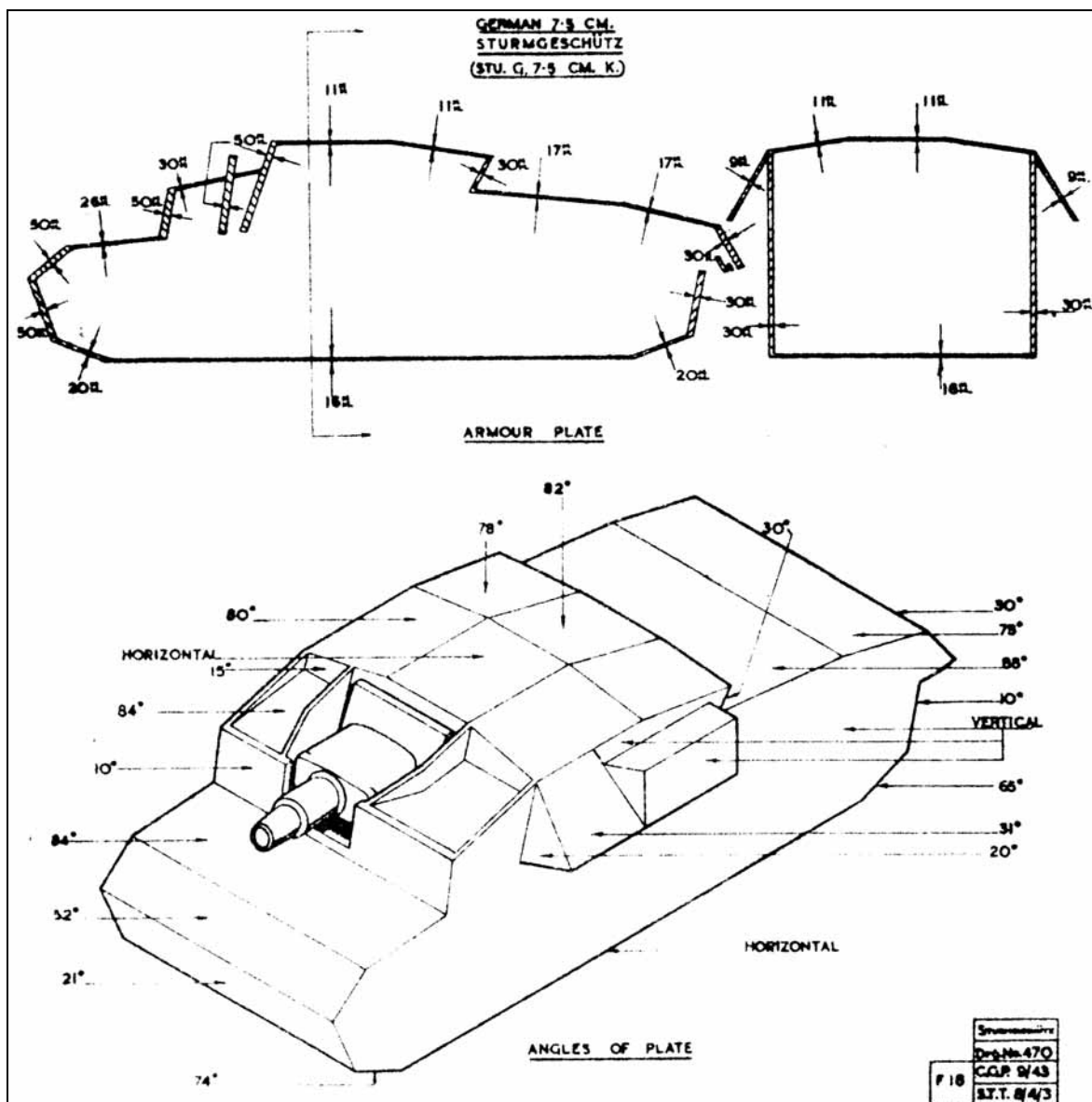


124
Ausführung C/D



Layout of armor for the Ausf C and D shown in a British test report / Worth noting is the self-contained and rigid concept of the front area of the superstructure / Alkett, 3. - 10. 1941

Ausf D incorporated a number of internal improvements: the speaking tube for communication between commander and driver was replaced by an on-board intercom.²⁴⁰ The vehicles were now also equipped with an MG 34 machine gun that stood in the right rear corner of the fighting compartment. Also new was a rack on the engine bulkhead that accepted twelve hand grenades.²⁴¹

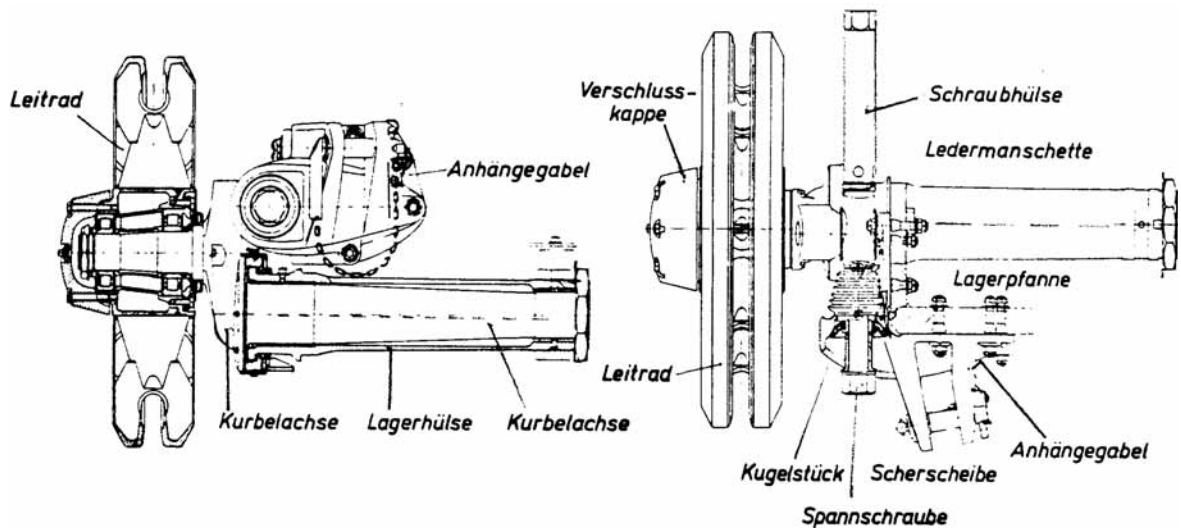
²⁴⁰ OKH : Heeresdienstvorschrift D 652/43a : Sturmgeschütz 7,5 cm Kanone Ausführung E, Gerätebeschreibung und Behandlungsvorschrift für den Aufbau : 1.4.1943, S. 7

²⁴¹ AHM 1941, Zffr.585 : OKH (Ch H Rüst u. BdE) : 7.6.1941

125
Ausführung C/D



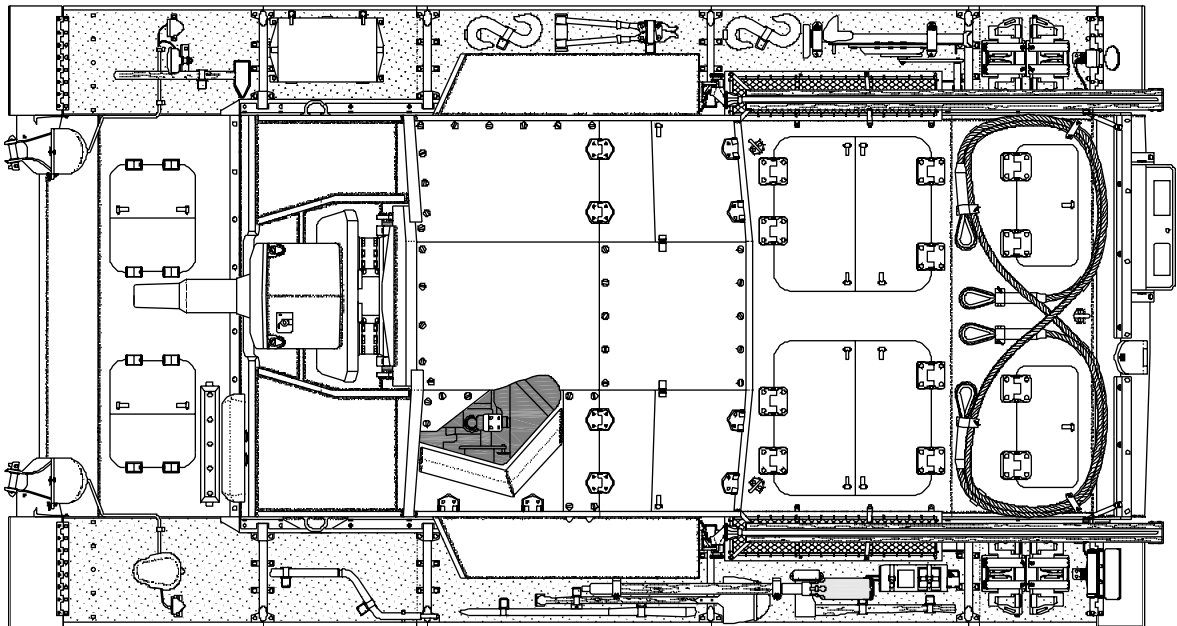
StuG III Ausf D / Armored smoke candle discharger on the stern and the distance light on the left track guard can be seen clearly / Note the new antenna mount and the visibility marking on the mud flaps / Engine and ventilator maintenance hatches are open / Alkett, 5. - 10.1941



Left-hand idler wheel of Ausführungen C to G with the later type track tensioning device that now protruded towards the front / Rear and plan elevations

128
Ausführung E

Ausf A to D; all others had space for 50 rounds.²⁴² Assault Guns used in battalion or brigade staffs had an additional Fu 8 fitted.²⁴³ Tank or tank destroyer units had Fu 5 or Fu 2 and Fu 5 fitted that were technically identical to those of the assault artillery, but operated on different bandwidths (Assault Artillery Fu 16: 23.00 – 24.95 MHz, Tanks Fu 5: 27.20 – 33.30 MHz).²⁴⁴



Original layout of StuG III Ausf E, not to scale / The hatches on the engine decking were still without vents / Alkett, 9. – 11.1941

Feedback from the Russian Front soon began to be integrated into the production process. At the beginning of November, after completion and acceptance of around 65 vehicles, three modifications were ordered that improved repair autonomy and camouflage effects:

- A spare road wheel was mounted on the rear of each fender.²⁴⁵
- Each vehicle was fitted with a bar on the lower front hull to hold eleven spare track links and pins.²⁴⁶
- A sheet metal deflector over the engine muffler redirected expelled cooling air away from the ground.²⁴⁷ Hitherto, substantial dust clouds had been blown up by the cooling air.

²⁴² AHM 1941, Zffr.747 : OKH (Ch H Rüst u. BdE) : 21.7.1941

²⁴³ Nachrichtenblatt der Panzertruppen, 1944

²⁴⁴ OKH, Anlage zu Wa Stab 1441/42 g.Kdos. : Liste der abgenommenen Waffen und Geräte im Berichtsmonat Juli 1942 (abgeschlossen am 31.7.1942) : [8.1942]

²⁴⁵ AHM 1941, Kraftfahrtechnischer Anhang, Zffr. 100 : 3.11.1941

²⁴⁶ AHM 1941, Kraftfahrtechnischer Anhang, Zffr. 101 : 4.11.1941

²⁴⁷ AHM 1941, Kraftfahrtechnischer Anhang, Zffr. 99 : 3.11.1941