

**The Tank Killers: Images, 1944 Part 1**



SC-188698: Recon men from the 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion fire a bazooka at a German strongpoint in the Rapido River area in January 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-10394\_1: The TD battalions, along with the rest of the Army, resorted to mule trains to move supplies in the Italian mountains. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



107.458\_1: An M10, its turret traversed to the rear, fires at a German target in a railroad tunnel outside Anzio, Italy, shortly after the landings in January 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



107.458\_2: The 3" tracer round from the TD's main gun is captured in the center of this frame as a streak of light. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-187823: An M10 from the 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion moves up at Anzio Beachhead, 29 February 1944. Note the extra ammunition stacked on the rear deck. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-189675: A 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion M10 motors between the wrecks of a Sherman tank and a German scout car in the Anzio Beachhead in April 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-329843: An early model German self-propelled antitank gun, the Marder III, captured in Italy in May 1944. The vehicle carried a 75mm gun on a light tank chassis. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-10419\_1: A recon peep from the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion rolls out near Sezze, Italy, on 26 May 1944 as American forces, having cracked the Gustav Line, push close to a link-up with the Anzio beachhead. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)





111-ADC-10419\_2: An M10 from the same unit passes a German 75mm gun. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-191073: Anzio breakout: Recon M8 armored cars, possibly from the 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion, pass a knocked out M5 tank on Route 7, the road to Rome, on 4 June 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-10406\_1: A 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion M10 races by a knocked out Mark IV near Monterosi on the road to Rome. A dead crewman is visible on the German tank. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



111-ADC-10406\_2: American troops drag a disabled Ferdinand in Italy in early June 1944. This German tank killer had an 88mm gun mounted in a virtual fortress on tracks. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



107.504\_1: Motion picture footage shows American troops approaching Rome. A Sherman (left) and M10 (right) work together at the head of the column, the tank slightly to the fore. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



107.504\_2: The M10 ferries the doughs, perhaps because the tank is likely to draw fire first. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-190100: An M10 engages a German machine gun nest on the outskirts of Rome on 4 June 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



107.504\_5. One of the first tank destroyers to pass the Rome city limits passes through a cloud of battle smoke. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)





SC-190221: Tank destroyers enter Rome on 4 June 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-190312: M10s approach the Coliseum as the Americans liberate Rome. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



ADC-1299\_5: A tank destroyer in action shortly after the Allied landings in Normandy, France, on 6 June 1944. This vehicle may belong to the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, the first TD outfit to go ashore. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



ADC-1314\_1: A TD fires down a road in support of doughs advancing near Cherbourg, 27 June 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-191956: German prisoners pass a camouflaged M10 in the Normandy bocage in July 1944. The terrain forced the self-propelled TDs to operate as tanks or artillery because they rarely had long fields of fire. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-417621: An 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion M10 passes through a hedgerow near St. Jean de Daye, France. The crew has been ordered forward to help deal with an attack by the Panzer Lehr Division, 11 July 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-CB-18\_4: Captured German combat footage shows an assault gun counterattacking in the bocage east of St. Lô, 17 July 1944. The assault guns were the forerunners of the German tank destroyers. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-191876: An M10 blasts retreating Germans at St. Lô on 20 July 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)





SC-191820: M10s, Shermans, and doughs enter St. Lô in Normandy on 21 July 1944. This photo illustrates the increasingly standard practice of keeping TDs a short distance behind the lead tanks to provide fire support. Note the exhaust stack used to prevent engine flooding during the landings, still attached to the rear of the M10. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-1677\_2: Crewmen from the 702d Tank Destroyer Battalion watch a close-support fighter-bomber wing overhead during the Cobra breakout on 26 July 1944. An air recognition panel, intended to forestall friendly attacks, is visible on the rear deck. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



111-ADC-1677\_3: The 702d Tank Destroyer Battalion moves out during Cobra. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-329848: The Mark IV panzer was the most frequent armored foe for the tank killers. These were captured in the Ponsacco, Italy, area in July 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-191589: The Mark VI Tiger—this one knocked out in Cecina, Italy—had thick armor and the deadly 88mm gun. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



SC-193111: A 3" gun crew uses building parts for camouflage during street fighting in France, in August 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-2100\_1: An M18 with doughboys crouching behind the turret for protection rolls down the road near St. Malo in August. The speedy M18 accompanied many of the spearheads. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



111-CB-18\_5: A TD engages the Germans near the port of Nantes in Brittany. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)





SC-195544: M18 crewmen load 76mm shells outside Brest in August 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-2149\_1: An M10 operating in support of the 90th Infantry Division approaches Alençon, France, on 12 August 1944, as the Falaise Pocket is sewn shut. Note the blade-style hedgerow cutter on the final drive housing. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)



SC-193322: An M10 and doughs advance under fire near the Seine River north of Fontainebleau, France, on 23 August 1944. The TD in this case appears to be filling the role of a tank at the point of the advance. (National Archives, Signal Corps photo)



111-ADC-2222\_1: Tank destroyers in the streets of Paris on 25 August 1944. (National Archives, Signal Corps film)

