

D-DAY TANK WARFARE

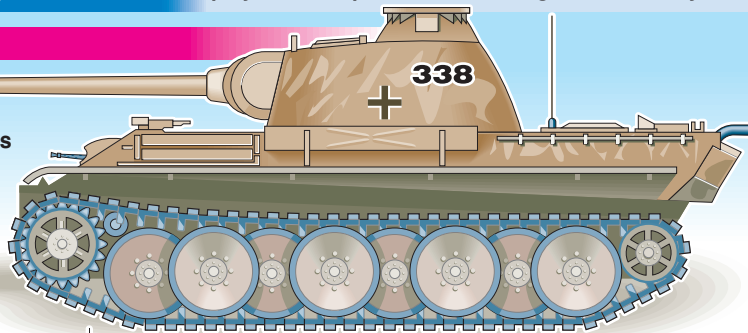
The fierce, the fast and the funny

Up against Germany's powerful Panzer Divisions, Allied tanks had to make up in terms of speed and quantity what they lacked in firepower. A variety of armoured vehicles specially adapted to cope with German defences played a vital part in establishing the Normandy beachheads on D-Day

Panther

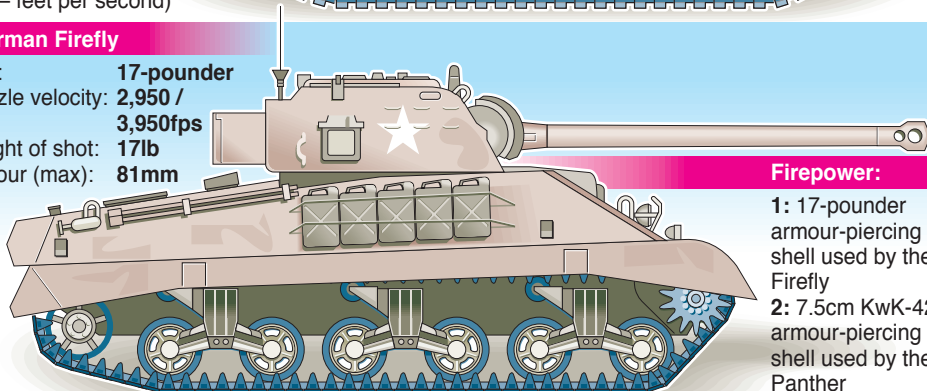
Gun: 75mm
Muzzle velocity: 3,068fps
Weight of shot: 15lb
Armour (max): 120mm

(fps – feet per second)



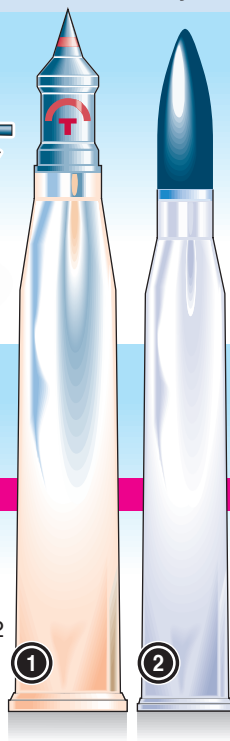
Sherman Firefly

Gun: 17-pounder
Muzzle velocity: 2,950 / 3,950fps
Weight of shot: 17lb
Armour (max): 81mm



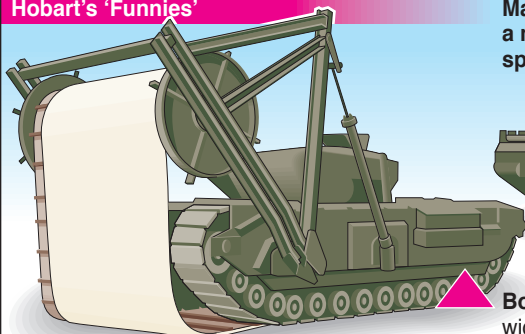
Firepower:

- 1: 17-pounder armour-piercing shell used by the Firefly
- 2: 7.5cm KwK-42 armour-piercing shell used by the Panther

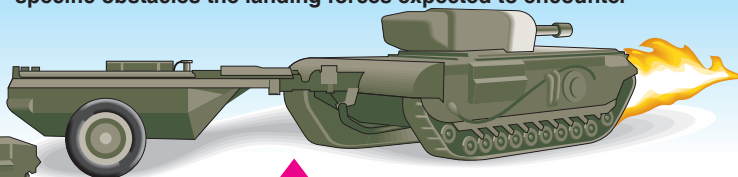


Hobart's 'Funnies'

Major-General Percy Hobart was brought out of retirement to develop a number of armoured vehicles and explosive devices to deal with specific obstacles the landing forces expected to encounter



Bobbin: Built to lay 10ft wide canvas 'carpet' for vehicles to cross soft sand



Churchill Crocodile

Flame thrower with a range of 120 yards mounted in place of hull machine gun. Compressed nitrogen was used to force fuel from 400-gallon tank in trailer to gun