



SHOOTING STARS

Using Battlefront's New US Decals

By Victor Pesch 

Last month saw the release of *Blood, Guts, & Glory*, Battlefront's new intelligence handbook covering the tank battles in the Lorraine, September 1944 - January 1945.

To coincide with this release, this month sees the arrival of the new US Decal sheet (UBX941). Victor is going to walk us through how to get the most from these sheets and give your armoured force the war paint it deserves.



Advances in Allied armour development has shorted the technological gap between them and the Germans. But what does that mean for us *Flames Of War* players? New bad-ass American tanks! The 'Easy Eight' and 'Jumbo' are the most notable, and are sure to add a new element to many American players' *Flames Of War* games. It's only fitting they look the part too!

UBX941 American Decals are essentially an updated and improved version of the previous US decal pack. It adds two new sheets to the pack, giving a total of three white sheets, and one 5 colour sheet. These two new sheets add more specific designs to represent the tanks fighting in Lorraine and on to Germany towards the end of WWII. I'm going to go through each sheet in more detail over the following pages and hopefully give you some insight and inspiration for decorating your American tanks accurately.



US941 A

The first sheet in the blister gives you all the different types of Allied stars commonly found on US vehicles.

There was no standard way of applying these stars, so feel free to have a mix in your army. The examples below are just a sample of the more common practices in terms of where the stars go, but if you're looking to represent tanks in a specific historical battle, period photos are your friend.



Tanks

US tanks would typically have six stars: turret sides, hull sides, hull front, and engine deck. These varied in style. Some would have basic stars, while others had stars with rings around them. A large star with a ring was often on the engine deck for air recognition.

Some crew would paint over them later so they didn't provide easy targets for the Germans, so leaving some off is an easy way to add variety to your force.



M4A3 (late) Sherman



M4A1 Sherman

Tank Destroyers

Tank Destroyers usually have the stars in broken circles. Some M18's had a large star on the front armour.



M10 3in GMC

Armoured Artillery

A similar treatment to the tank destroyer was given to armoured artillery, but they commonly had a large star in a circle on the side armour where there was room.



M7 Priest HMC

Utility/Transport Vehicles

Due to the smaller nature of these vehicles, there sometimes wasn't room for the larger stars and so small stars were used.



M8 armored car



Armoured Division symbols
Some tankers proudly displayed the red, yellow, and blue triangle symbol of the US armoured divisions on the sides of their vehicle.



Lt. Gen George S Patton Jr.
In *Blood, Guts, & Glory*, a player can field Patton as a warrior in his M20 command car. Included with his blister (blister code US885) is an adhesive sheet, which has two flags and two rank plate stickers.
For those who prefer decals, our colour decal sheet also has those same rank plates, as well as his M20's serial numbers.



OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

Videos
For a beginners guide on how to apply decals, check out Blake's video called 'Flames of War Decal Basics' on our *Flames Of War* YouTube channel along with other great videos:
www.youtube.com/flamesofwar



Book and Website
Blood, Guts, & Glory has a handy painting guide for getting your US tanks looking right, and make sure to check out our website over the coming month for all the great new US releases:

www.FlamesOfWar.com

