

Center for Creative Photography

The University of Arizona

1030 N. Olive Rd.

P.O. Box 210103

Tucson, AZ 85721

Phone: 520-621-6273

Fax: 520-621-9444

Email: info@ccp.arizona.edu

URL: <http://creativephotography.org>

Finding aid for the
David Levinthal Collection
AG 177

David Levinthal Collection

AG 177

Creator

Levinthal, David (1949-)

Abstract

Artifacts and research materials used by David Levinthal (1949 -) in his photographic dioramas. Includes: books about German military history, toy soldiers and toy military equipment.

Quantity/ Extent

4 linear foot.

Language of Materials

English

Biographical Note

David Levinthal was born in 1949 in San Francisco, California and currently lives and works in New York City. He received a BA in studio art in 1970 from Stanford University and an MFA from Yale University in 1973. Levinthal is known for his creation of miniature environments using small toys and props with dramatic lighting. (Wiki)

Scope and Content Note

The David Levinthal Collection consists of two series organized into four boxes. Series one is made up of eleven research books collected by Levinthal that relate to German World War II military history. Series two consists of artifacts used by the artist in his *Hitler Moves East* project from 1972-1975. The series is organized into four different groups based on how the objects were originally housed. Those in box one are housed in a metal box with 24 drawers, therefore the container list lists the objects by drawer. The model soldiers in this box are painted and 1:35 scale unless otherwise specified, while the tanks and other vehicles are HO scale. Those objects in box two were originally housed in a metal cookie tin and have since been sorted and transferred to numbered thirty-nine plastic bags, therefore the container list lists the objects by bag number. The objects in box three were originally housed in a shoebox and have since been sorted and transferred to twelve numbered plastic bags, therefore, again, the container list lists the objects by numbered bag. All model vehicles contained in the box are HO scale unless

otherwise specified. Objects stored in box four were originally housed in a cardboard box and have since been sorted and transferred to eight numbered plastic bags.

Arrangement

Series 1: Books (Box 1)

Series 2: Artifacts (Boxes 1-4)

Names and Subject Terms

Levinthal, David, 1949-

Photography

WWII

Restrictions

Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

Conditions Governing Use

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The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

Provenance

Gift of the artist, 1999.

Preferred Citation

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Processing Information

Initial inventory prepared by Carl Anderson, December 1999.

Finding aid updated by Meghan Jordan in May 2016.

Container List

Series 1: Books, 1956-1978

Related to German WWII military history, collected by the artist

- Box 1 Flower, Desmond and Reeves, James, ed. The Taste of Courage: Vol. II: The Axis Triumphant. New York: Berkeley Medallion Books, 1971.
- Flower, Desmond and Reeves, James, ed. The Taste of Courage: Vol. III: The Tide Turns. New York: Berkeley Medallion Books, 1971.
- Guderian, Heinz. Panzer Leader. New York: Ballantine Books, 1957.
- Hogg, Ian V. The Guns 1939-45. New York: Ballantine Books, 1970.
- Jukes, Geoffrey. Kursk. New York: Ballantine Books, 1968
- Von Mellenthin, F.W. Panzer Battles. New York: Ballantine Books, 1956.
- Whiting, Charles. Battle of the Ruhr Pocket. New York: Ballantine Books, 1970.
- Wykes, Alan. The Siege of Leningrad. New York: Ballantine Books, 1968.
- Ziemke, Earl F. The Battle for Berlin: End of the Third Reich. New York: Ballantine Books, 1968.
- HO Model Miniatures Minitanks Manual, R. Kohnstam, Ltd., England.
- 1978 MRC-Tamiya Catalog, Model Rectifier Corp., NJ, 1978.

Series 2: Artifacts, 1972-1975

Materials include artifacts for the Hitler Moves East project, 1972-1975. The first box is housed in a metal box with 24 drawers. The rest of the materials in the next three boxes are housed in bags.

Box

- | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--|
| 1 | Drawer | 1 | 3 plastic Nazi soldiers
Parts of soldiers |
| | | 2 | 3 plastic Nazi soldiers
3 plastic Nazi soldiers with camouflage uniforms
1 plastic Nazi soldier (21 mm)
3 soldier's arms
Misc. equipment |
| | | 3 | 4 plastic Nazi soldiers; 1 with knife, 1 with rifle
2 plastic Nazi soldiers with camouflage uniforms, one without helmet |
| | | 4 | 4 plastic Nazi soldiers
1 armless plastic Nazi soldier with camouflage uniform
1 unpainted plastic Nazi soldier and stand
Misc. equipment |

- 5
 - 1 armless plastic Nazi soldier
 - 1 unpainted plastic Nazi soldier
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier torso
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier bottom half
 - 1 arm
- 6
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier
 - 1 knife
- 7
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier (prone position)
- 8
 - 2 plastic tanks
 - 2 plastic armored cars
- 9
 - 2 plastic Nazi soldiers
 - 6 plastic Nazi soldiers, painted with primer- 2 are armless
 - 3 plastic Nazi soldier torsos, painted with primer
 - 2 plastic Nazi soldier bottom halves, painted with primer
 - 3 arms
 - 2 helmets
 - 1 canteen
- 10
 - 2 plastic Nazi soldiers
- 11
 - Misc. plastic parts
- 12
 - 35 small scale plastic Nazi soldiers, unpainted (21 mm)
 - Misc. arms and equipment, some on breakers
 - Misc. plastic parts
- 13
 - Nazi decal sheet
 - 2 arms
 - 1 helmet
 - Misc. equipment
- 14
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier
 - 5 plastic Nazi soldiers (flight or tank crew?)
 - 1 helmet
- 15
 - 1 plastic Nazi soldier
 - 1 piece equipment
- 16
 - 1 plastic armored car with anti-aircraft gun
 - 1 plastic trailers
- 17
 - 6 plastic Nazi soldiers
- 18
 - 1 plastic tank
 - 2 plastic Nazi soldiers
- 19
 - 1 plastic tank
 - 1 plastic truck
- 20
 - 1 plastic armored car
 - 1 plastic armored personnel carrier
 - 1 plastic armored car chassis
 - Misc. vehicle parts
- 21
 - 2 plastic bedrolls
 - 1 misc. plastic piece

			22	3 plastic Nazi soldiers 1 arm with submachine gun
			23	2 plastic pieces and misc. plastic parts (found in bottom of container)
			24	1 armored car 1 truck cover 2 plastic pieces
Box	2	Bag	1	1 green plastic flight crew member
			2	2 white plastic flight crew members
			3	3 red plastic (Russian?) soldiers
			4	2 plastic Nazi soldiers on motorcycles, painted (HO scale)
			5	8 plastic wounded Nazi soldiers on stretchers, 1 painted Nazi stretcher bearer
			6	18 green plastic Nazi soldiers
			7	19 "wounded" plastic Nazi soldiers, painted (1:72 scale)
			8	24 gray plastic soldiers- flight crew 1 gray plastic dog
			9	20 plastic Nazi soldiers, painted gray (1:72 scale)
			10	40 gray plastic Nazi soldiers (1:72 scale) some painted minimally
			11	55 plastic German Afrika Korps soldiers, painted olive drab (1:72 scale)
			12	25 plastic Nazi soldiers, painted white (various sizes)
			13	45 plastic Nazi soldiers, painted camouflage (1:72 scale)
			14	80 olive green plastic Nazi soldiers, minimally painted (21 mm)
			15	39 plastic Nazi soldiers, painted gray (1:72 scale)
			16	34 gray plastic Nazi soldiers, minimally painted (23 mm)
			17	65 gray plastic Nazi soldiers, minimally painted (23 mm)
			18	16 gray plastic Nazi soldiers, minimally painted (23 mm)
			19	48 plastic soldiers, minimally painted (20 mm)
			20	11 plastic flight crew members, painted black (1:72 scale)
			21	49 yellow plastic civilians, some painted (various sizes)
			22	35 misc. plastic soldiers (various sizes)
			23	22 plastic Nazi soldiers in prone positions, painted (1:72 scale)
			24	16 soldier flight crew, still on breakers 3 dogs 2 chairs
			25	8 plastic horses, painted
			26	11 plastic telephone poles
			27	24 white picket fence sections
			28	1 plastic stone archway

			3 plastic sandbags
			6 plastic brick sections
		29	1 plastic cart
			1 plastic artillery piece (horse drawn?)
		30	8 plastic oil drums
		31	4 plastic tank tracks
		32	10 plastic artillery shells
		33	3 loose artillery pieces
		34	1 artillery piece
			2 trailers
			Misc. vehicle parts
		35	1 plastic tank (HO scale)
			1 plastic armored car (HO scale)
		36	Misc. plastic parts: bombs, rifles, limbs, etc.
		37	Military decals
		38	1 plastic airplane (HO scale)
		39	1 Danish butter cookie tin
Box	3	Bag	1 1 plastic truck
			2 2 plastic tanks
			½ plastic tank
		3	1 plastic armored car
			1 plastic model truck with anti-aircraft gun
			1 truck top
		4	1 die-cast metal tank model, partially melted
		5	Misc. plastic parts: 1 plastic anti-aircraft gun, vehicle pieces, weapons, etc.
		6	1 plastic model German airplane, painted, with decals
		7	11 plastic bridge pieces (various sizes)
		8	12 plastic bridge pieces (various sizes)
		9	1 plastic bridge piece
		10	1 plastic factory building, partially melted
		11	1 plastic model farm building
			1 stack of boards
		12	1 plastic model German plane with bomb, painted, with decals
Box	4	Bag	1 1 plastic model bridge section (not in box originally)
			2 1 gray metal die-cast model tank, with "battle scars"
			3 1 plastic model airplane, painted, missing 1 wing (HO scale)
			1 plastic wing
			1 plastic Nazi soldier (23 mm) found in plane
		4	2 metal flatbed model train sections
			3 plastic bridge pieces

- 1 plastic brick piece
- 1 plastic airplane landing gear
- 1 misc. plastic piece
- 5 2 plastic model brick houses
- 6 1 plastic model brick 4-story townhouse
- 1 plastic model railroad bridge section
- 7 1 plastic model farmhouse scene (2 buildings on 1 base)
- 8 Green plastic model bunker (2 pieces)
- 1 green plastic twin anti-aircraft gun