THEATTOF SUDDENISTRIKE



Diary Soldiers Sketches

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Operation Overlord

Battle of the Bulge













Balaton Defensive Operation



Battle of Berlin







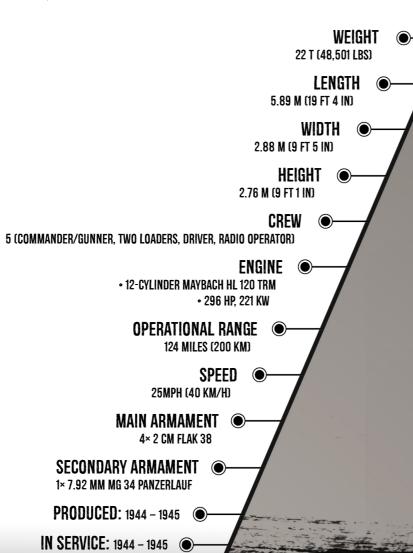






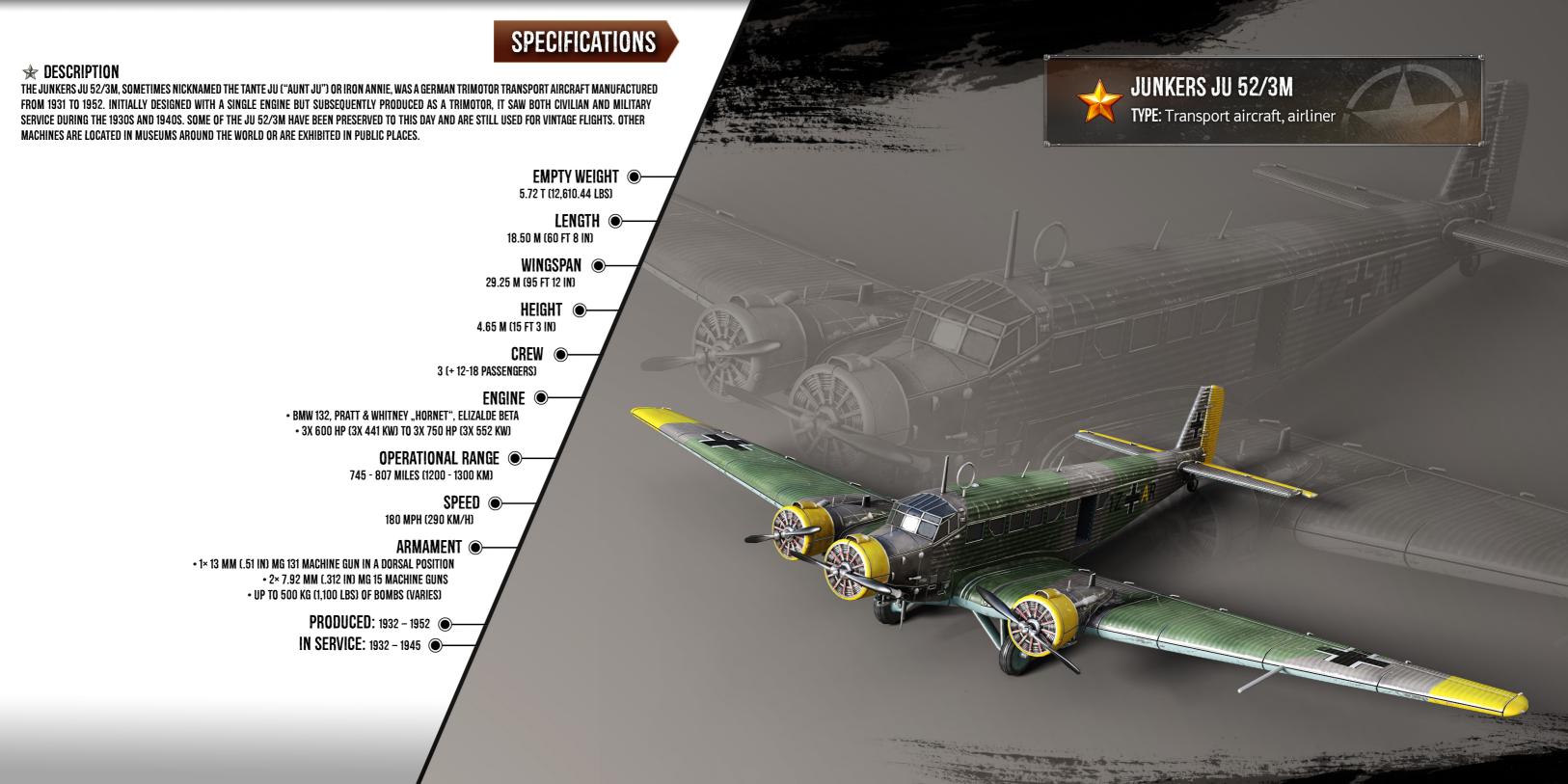
* DESCRIPTION

THE "WIRBELWIND" (ENGLISH: WHIRLWIND) WAS THE FIRST REAL FLAK TANK, AS IT HAD A FULLY ROTATABLE TURRET. WITH A CREW OF FIVE MEN, THE "FLAK TANK (2 CM) WITH CHASSIS PANZER IV (SD. VEHICLE 161/4)" HAD A BATTLE WEIGHT OF 22 TONNES. THE VEHICLE WAS ARMED WITH THE 2 CM FLAK QUADLING 38, WHICH HAD A HIGH FIREPOWER. THE ANGLED TURRET CONSISTED OF WELDED 16 MM-THICK PLATES. TO ALLOW UNRESTRICTED OBSERVATION, IT WAS OPEN AT THE TOP, BUT COULD BE COVERED WITH A TENT IN THE RAIN. INSIDE THE TOWER WAS THE COMMANDER, WITH THE GUNNER NEXT TO HIM, WHILE THE TWO LOADER GUARDS SAT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE WEAPON. A TOTAL OF 3200 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION COULD BE CARRIED IN 90 MAGAZINE BOXES. THE ASSEMBLY OF THE VEHICLES TOOK PLACE IN THE OKH-OWNED COMPANY IN THE EAST OF THE LOWER SILESIAN SAGAN. FROM AUGUST 1944 TO FEBRUARY 1945, 105 OF THESE "WIRBELWINDS" WERE PRODUCED.











SPECIFICATIONS

- IN SERVICE: 1939 – PRESENT

* DESCRIPTION

KATYUSHA (RUSSIAN: Katiolia) IS the Russian name for Soviet Multi-Launchers, which were developed and used in world war II. The name goes back to the Russian Love / Wartime song Katyusha (Diminutive of Catherine), which was created at the time and is still known to this day. On the german side, the Weapon was called the stalin organ, because the arrangement of the Rockets was reminiscent of an organ, and also because of the Characteristic whistling sound that could be heard when Launching Rockets.





SPECIFICATIONS

■ WEIGHT 52 T LOADED (114,640 LBS); 23 TONS EMPTY (50,706.3 LBS)

■ LENGTH 15 M (50 FEET)

- BEAM 4.3 M (14 FEET)

• DRAFT 0.91 M (3 FT) FORWARD; 1.2 M (4 FT) AFT

- SPEED 8 KNOTS (9.2 MPH) (LOADED); 11 KNOTS (13 MPH) (EMPTY)

→ ARMAMENT 2X .50-CAL M2 BROWNING MACHINE GUNS

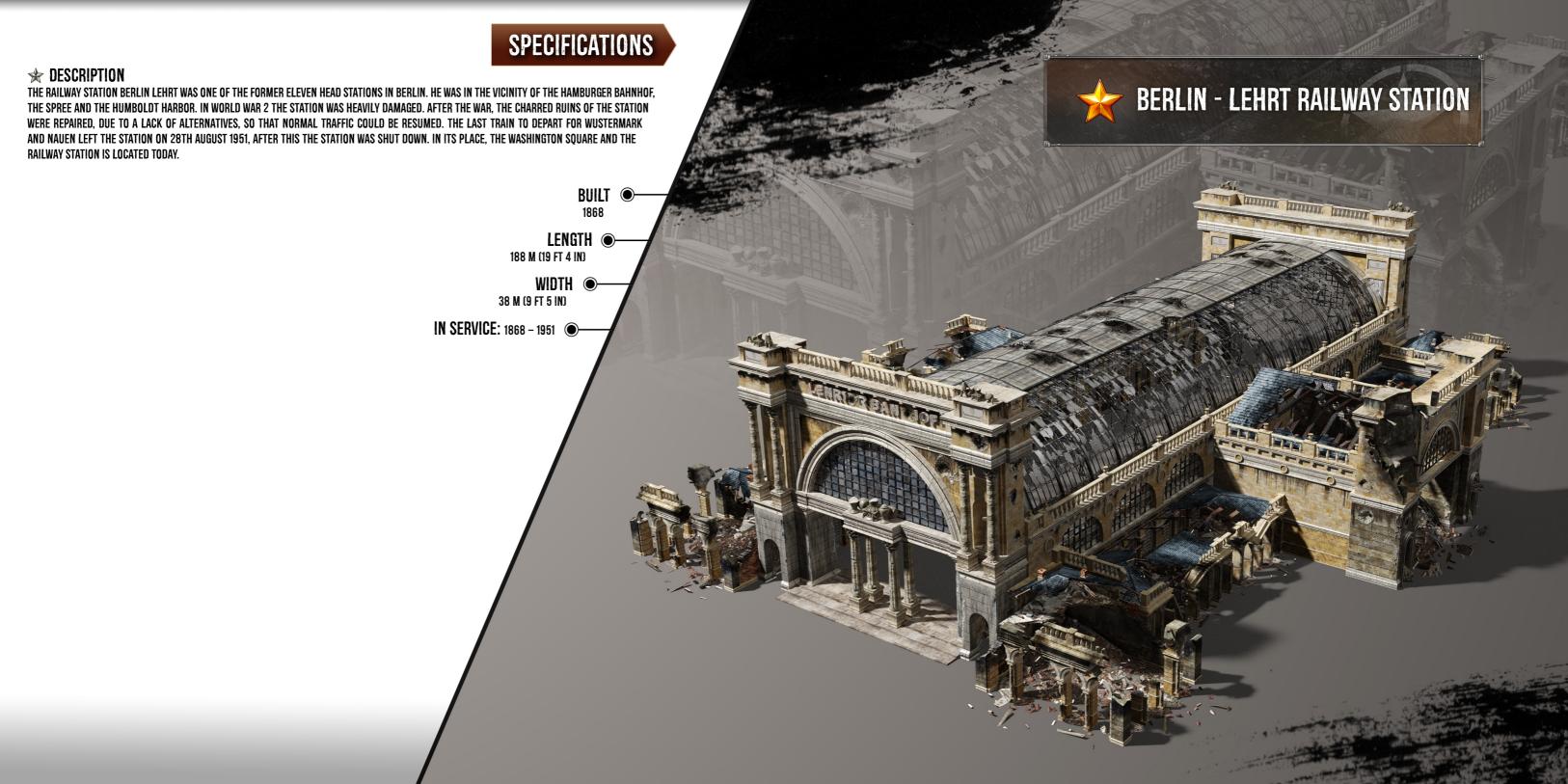
- CREW

CAPACITY

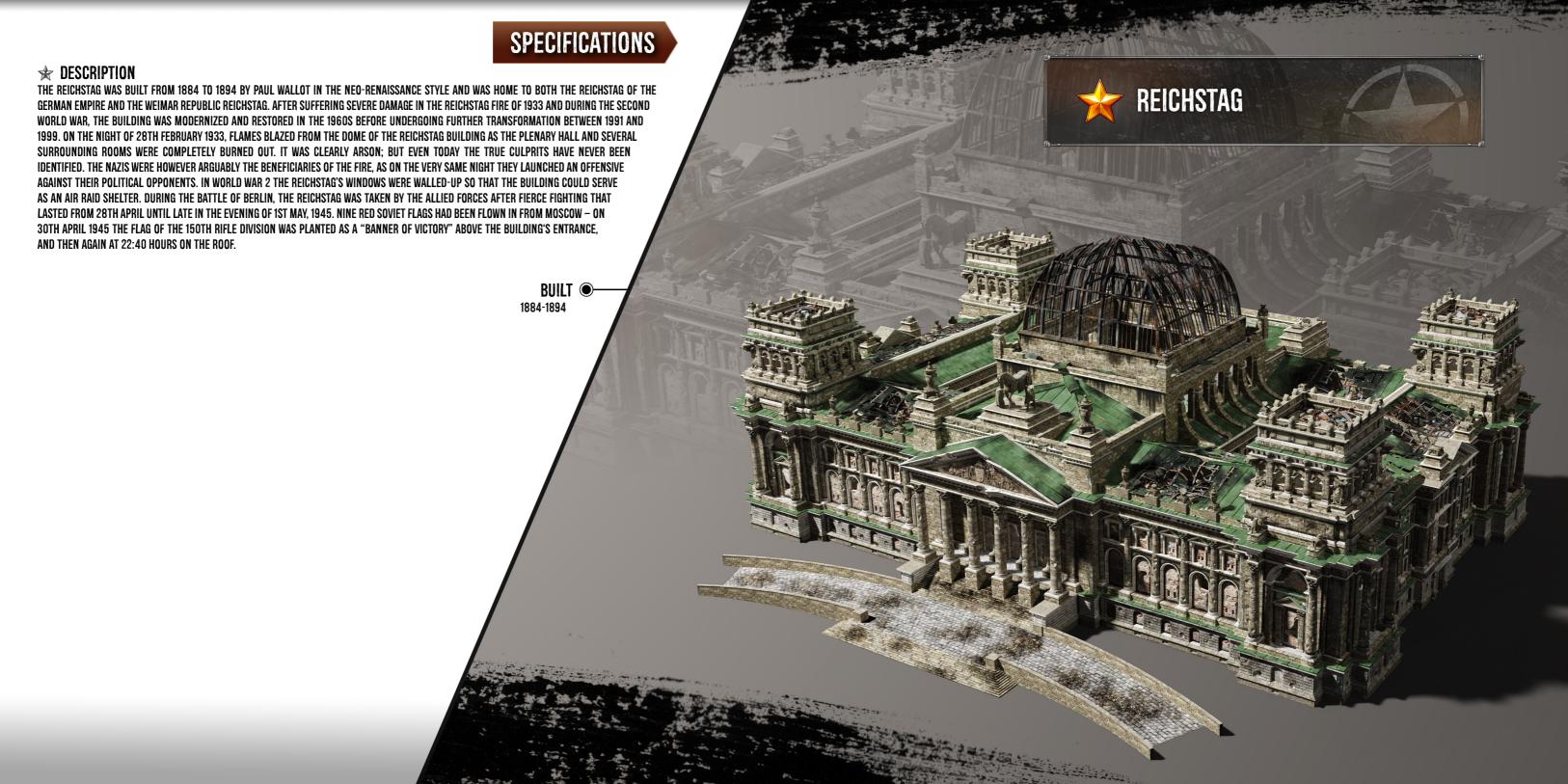
ONE 30 T TANK (EG. M4 SHERMAN), 60 TROOPS, OR 60,000 LB (27,000 KG) OF CARGO

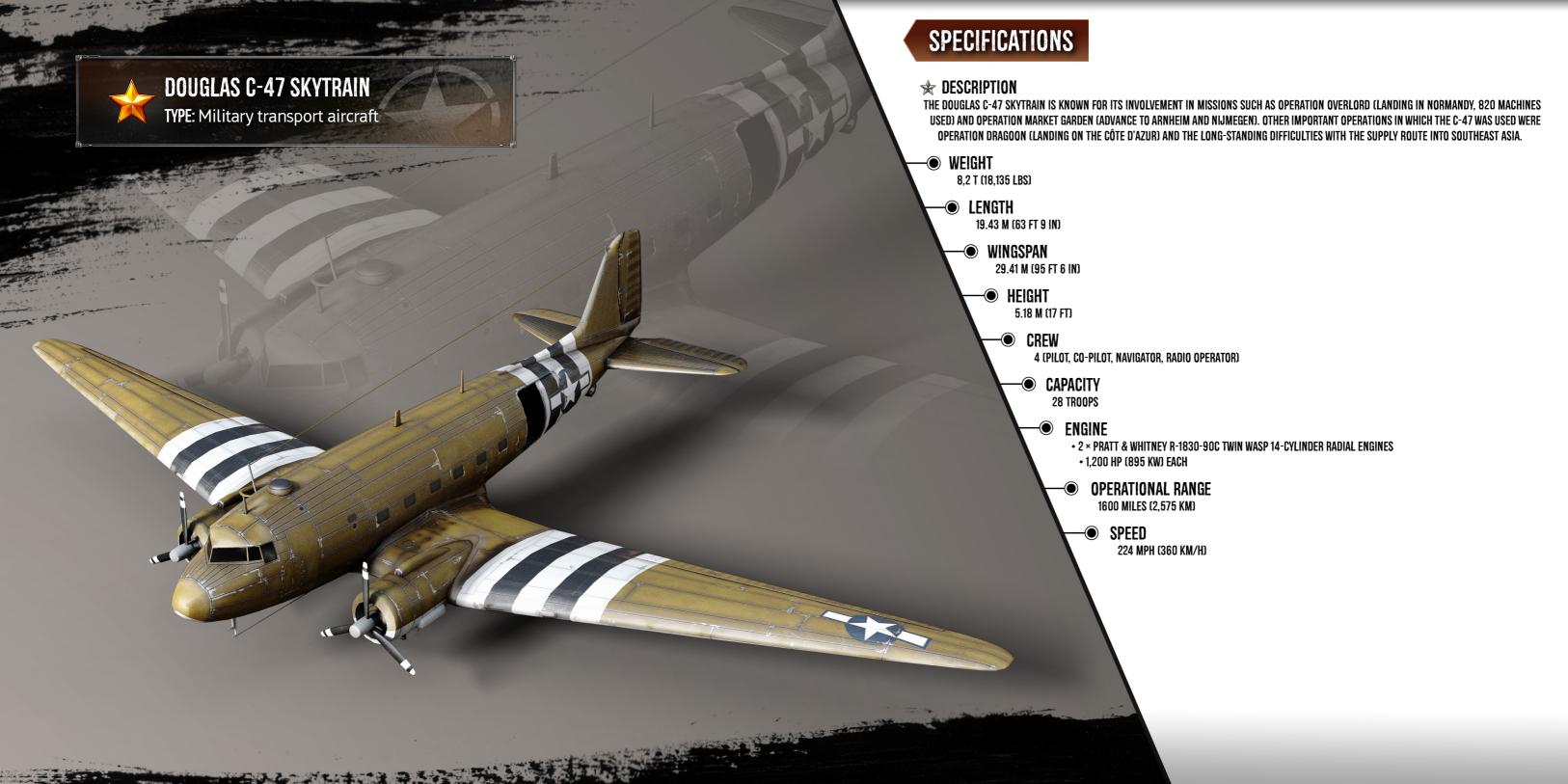
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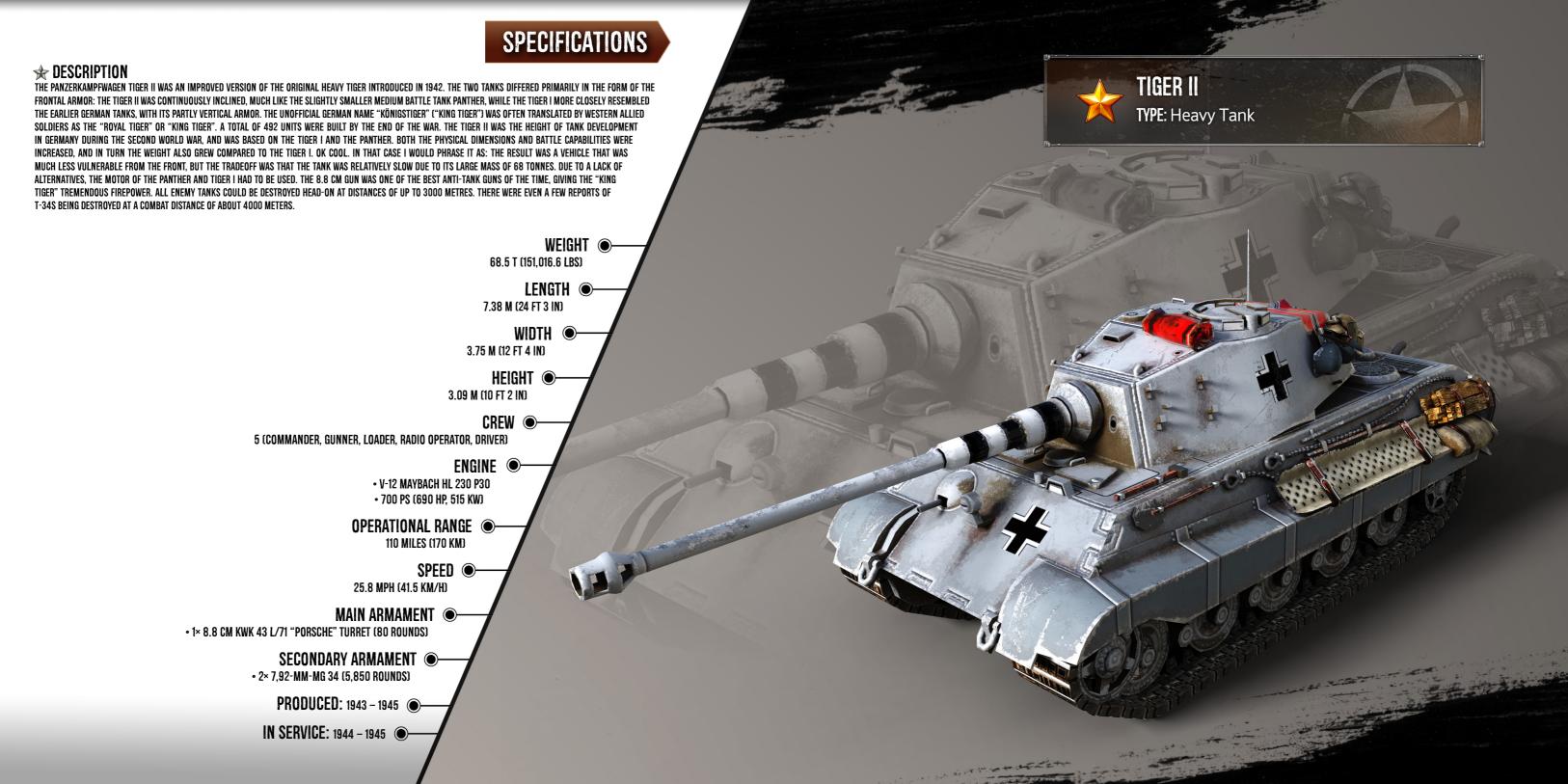
THE LANDING CRAFT MECHANIZED (LCM) IS A LANDING CRAFT DESIGNED FOR CARRYING TROOPS AND VEHICLES. THEY CAME TO PROMINENCE DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR WHEN THEY WERE USED TO LAND TROOPS AND TANKS, LIKE IN OPERATION OVERLORD - THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY.











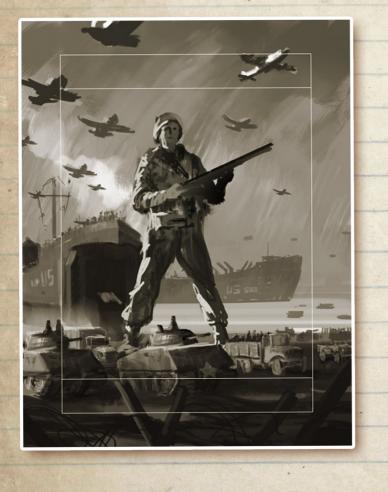














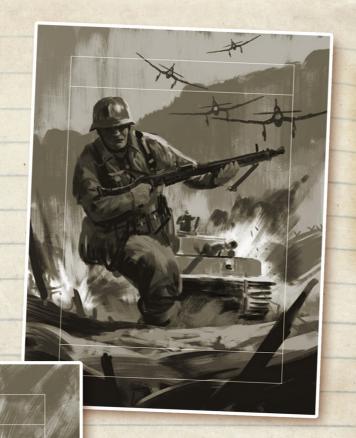








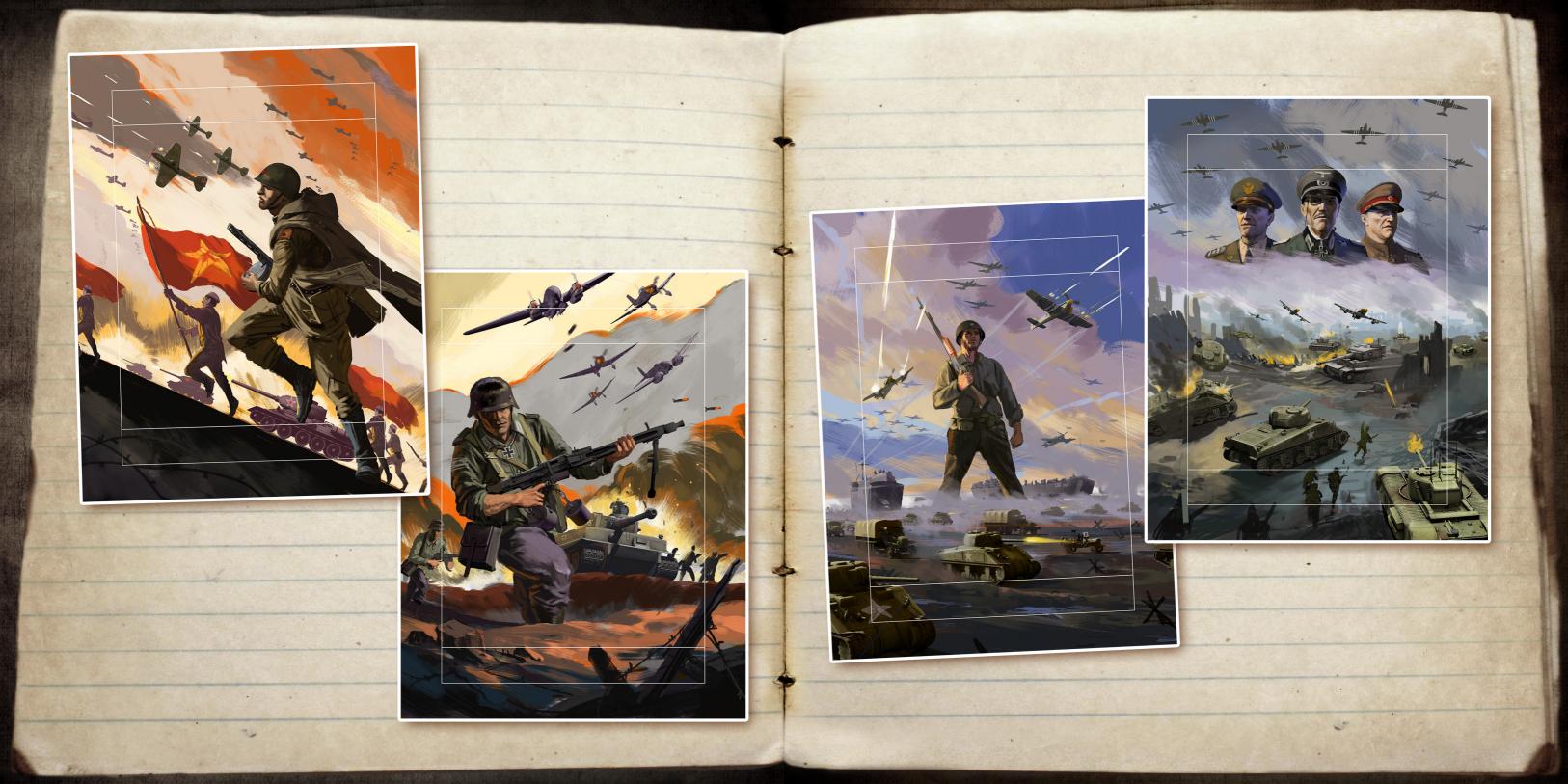
















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