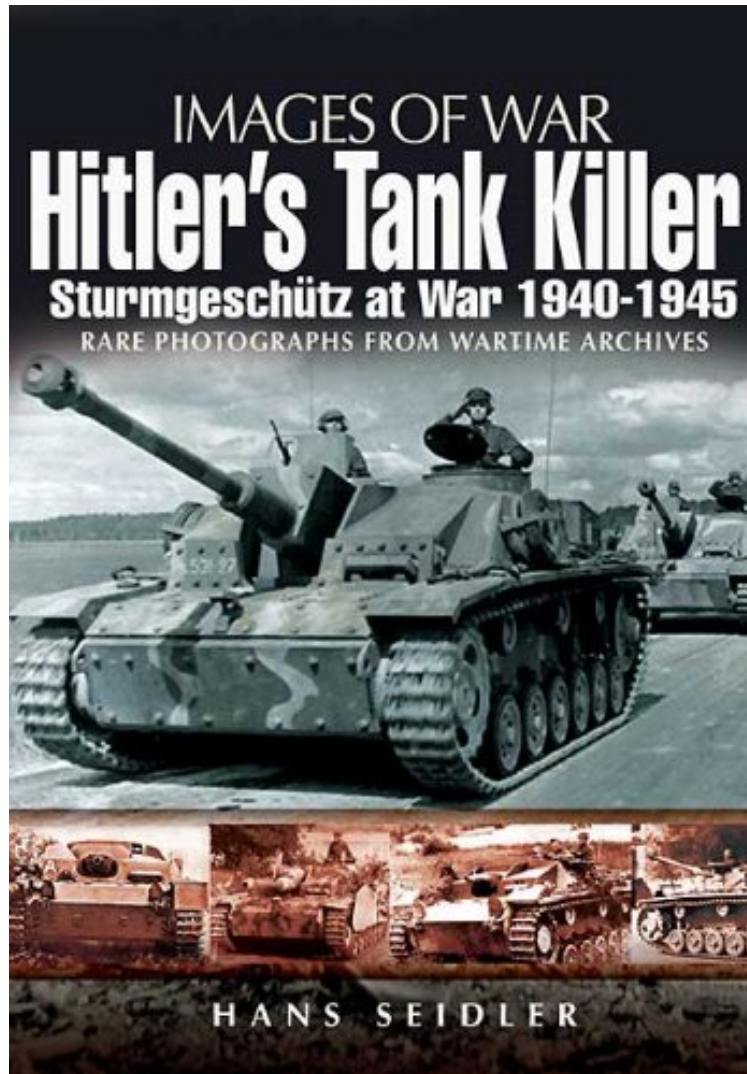


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## Hitler's Tank Killer: Sturmgeschütz at War 1940 – 1945 (Images of War)

*Hans Seidler*

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**Hans Seidler : Hitler's Tank Killer: Sturmgeschütz at War 1940 – 1945 (Images of War)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hitler's Tank Killer: Sturmgeschütz at War 1940 – 1945 (Images of War):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Reference work By Customer Good reference for my military modeling 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Russ Arrived safely 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Photos yes, text no By Justin Bittick This is a great photo essay on the StuG III. What text

there is offers little of interest. The average WWII history buff already knows more than what the book contains. The captions are also weak. The author clearly needed to write something so he must have just written whatever popped into his head. Most captions are mundane and state the obvious, and are repeated throughout the book. A few are of interest but not a high or even reasonable percentage. Some are just silly or nonsensical. The technical information provided on the various StuG models is very basic and can be found anywhere. Ignore the text and most of the captions, the value of this book is in its photographs. They show paint schemes (some of which I have never seen before), stowage, modifications (i.e. track extenders to improve flotation in soft ground similar to what Americans used on the Sherman), some markings of interest, a variety of models are shown, tarps wrapped around the gun mantlet in an effort to keep out rain, etc. The only thing really lacking in the photos are shots of the interiors. Its a fairly good picture book, don't expect anything else.

Sturmgeschütz III was originally designed as an assault weapon, but as war progressed it was increasingly used in a defensive role and evolved into an assault gun and tank destroyer. By 1943 its main role was providing anti-tank support to the units in its area of operation. This consequently led to many StuGs being destroyed in battle. Nonetheless they were very successful as tank killers and destroyed, among others, many bunkers, pillboxes and other defenses. While not considered to be a true tank because it lacked a turret, the gun was mounded directly in the hull, with a low profile to reduce vehicle heights, and had a limited lateral traverse of a few degrees in either direction. Thus, the entire vehicle had to be turned in order to acquire targets. Omitting the turret made production much simpler and less costly, enabling greater numbers to be built. Most assault guns were mounted on the chassis of a Panzer III or Panzer IV, with the resultant model being called either a StuG III or StuG IV respectively. The StuG was one of the most effective tracked vehicles of World War II, and over 10,000 of them were eventually produced.

About the Author Hans Seidler is an avid collector of rare wartime images. He is the author of Hitler's Tank Killers and cooperated with Ian Baxter on Barbarossa (both published by Pen and Sword in the Images of War Series). He can be contacted through Ian Baxter who lives near Chelmsford.