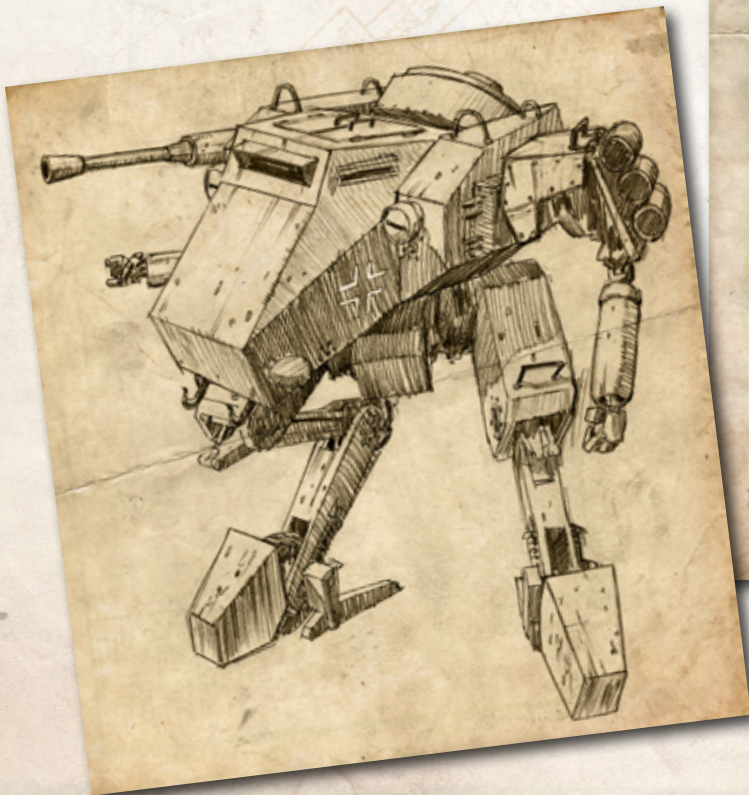
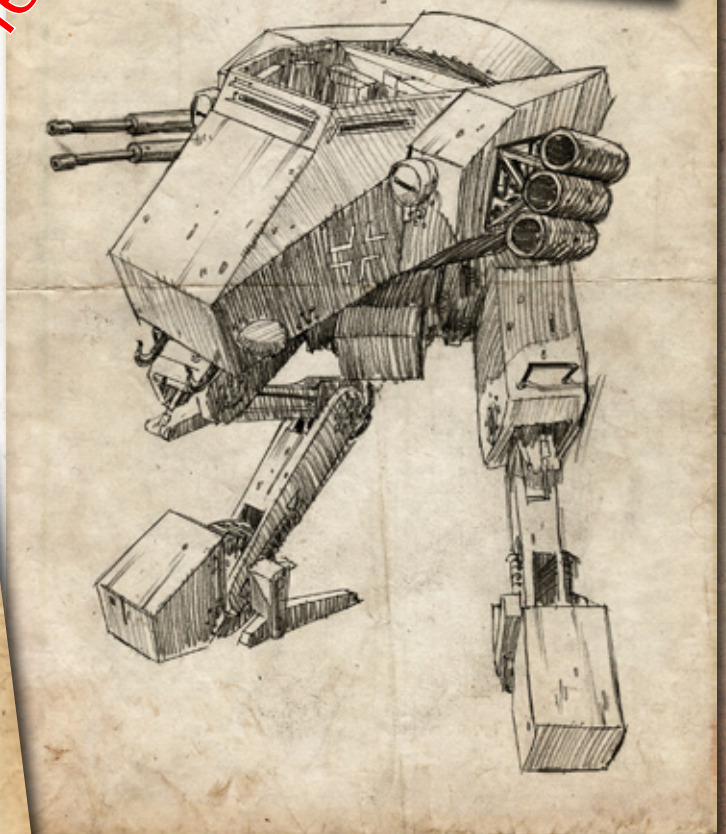
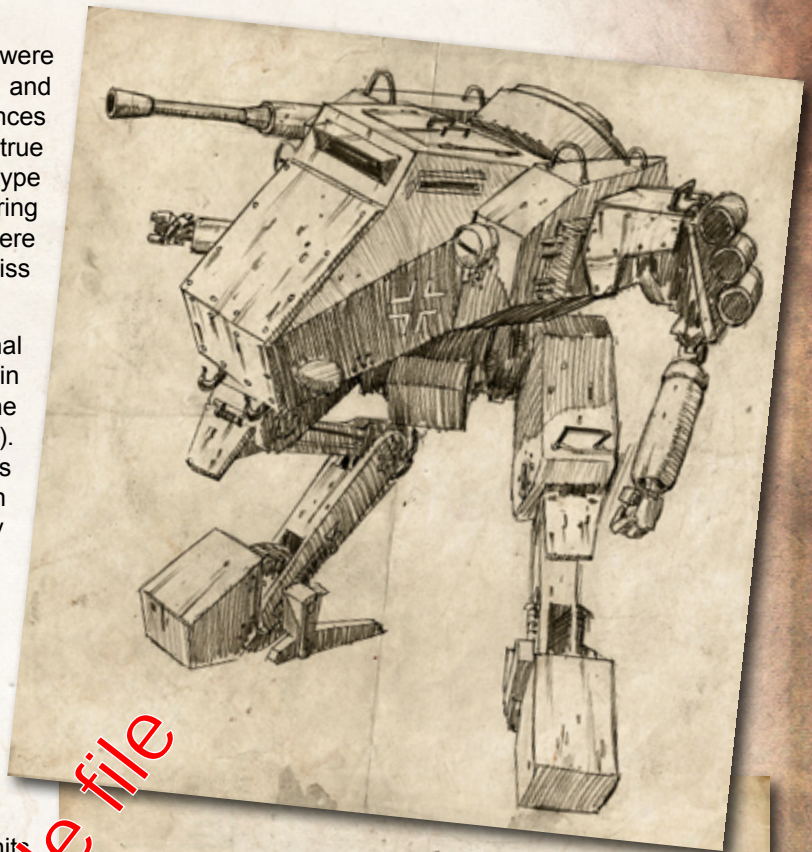


4. German Panzerkämpfer IV “Loki” units

In 1937, specifications for a light (5-ton) combat walker were made and issued to Daimler Benz, Henschel, MAN, Krupp and Rheinmetall. The designers' work was based on experiences from the Großarbeiter “GrArb” project, so named to hide its true purpose from the Treaty of Versailles. Daimler-Benz's prototype was eventually selected, though additional manufacturing contracts for both whole chassis and sub-assemblies were handed out to other companies (notably the complex Zeiss computer).

The Loki's design was partially based on Christy's original 1926 chassis, which was secretly purchased from him in 1926. Most of the design work, however, was made on the GrArb I through III series (later called Panzerkämpfer I to III). After numerous tests in mid-1934, the improved GrArb was designated as PzKpf IV Ausführung A and entered production at the end of the year. The vehicle was produced in two very similar variants: Ausführung A (1934), which was armed with machineguns, and Ausführung B (1935), which mounted a self-loading 1.8cm cannon. Both were open-topped to save on weight and allow the crew better visibility; it was supposed that the height of the vehicle would protect them from most small arm fire from the ground.

Its first combat test took place in secret during the Spanish Civil War (1936-38). Its very thin armour offered only protection against small firearms, and the Ausführung A's twin MGs were no match for anything other than infantry units (though the “grenade launchers” - actually, very short ranged mortars - were useful as demolition devices). Still, performance showed the potential of the vehicle, and walkers became a permanent part of the German order of battle. Though production ceased in early 1943, the Loki was extensively modified to serve in a variety of battlefield roles, and many fought right up to the end of the conflict. Its design was also a great help in the development of its bigger brothers.



5. German Panzerkämpfer IV Command Asset

PzKpf IV Panzerbefehlsskämpfer I – 130 points

In Service: 1939 **Availability:** R **Asset:** Command

During Early War a limited number of Ausführung A Lokis were modified to serve as command walker. The hull was the same as a basic Ausführung A Loki, though the hull was slightly modified and additional radio equipment was added.

The Panzerbefehlsskämpfer I was the first to benefit from the new style Krupp suspension that was at that time developed for the Walküre, it featured articulated tracks at the rear for better traction and shock absorption. Combined with the lower weight of the Loki hull it soon gained a reputation for being a highly reliable and effective vehicle. Only cost considerations prevented a more wide spread use of this walker configuration.

Modeling Notes: This is a very interesting but easy to do conversion. You will need a Loki and a Walküre kit. Build a Loki Ausführung A as normal but use the legs of a Walküre, then add a suitable commanding officer miniature and as much jerry cans, ammo boxes and stowage as you can fit around the cupola. Add huge radio aerials and you are done!



Type	Size	Move	Close Combat	Target	Save	Kill	Traits
Panzerbefehlsskämpfer I	G/2 W/3	G/5" W/4"	G/2xD10 W/1xD10	7+	6+	8+	Command, Hits/2, Independent, Lumbering, Multiple Movement System, Tracks/12", Walker/8"

Unit: Panzerbefehlsskämpfer I with one Twin MG (FaF) and Anti-Tank Explosives

Supporting Artillery (if purchased): Calling in Supporting Artillery requires a Ready action. This is used as an Artillery attack, but the initial Impact Point must be in the unit's Line of Sight. There is no minimum range for this attack (yes, you can call it down right on your own head!).

Weapon	Range	Damage	Traits
Anti-Tank Explosives	Placed	D10	Lethal Zone/2", One-Shot, Piercing/2
Heavy Artillery	Special	2xD6+1	Lethal Zone/4", One-Shot
Light Artillery	Special	D6	Lethal Zone/4", One-Shot
Pintle MG	24"	3xD6	AA, Auto, Double Suppression
Twin MG	24"	3xD6	Accurate, Auto, Double Suppression

Options:

- A Pintle MG (FaF) may be added for +15 points.
- This unit may purchase up to 3 uses of Supporting Artillery. Light Artillery costs +50 points per use, while Heavy Artillery costs +100 points per use.