

## FN82 Turret update December 2020

November ended with a plan to start painting some cleaned up items and then to continue with stripping out and cleaning more parts.

Seen here are the control components that have now been sprayed with wash and primer. They now need a light dusting of black and can then be built back into the support frames of the main superstructure.

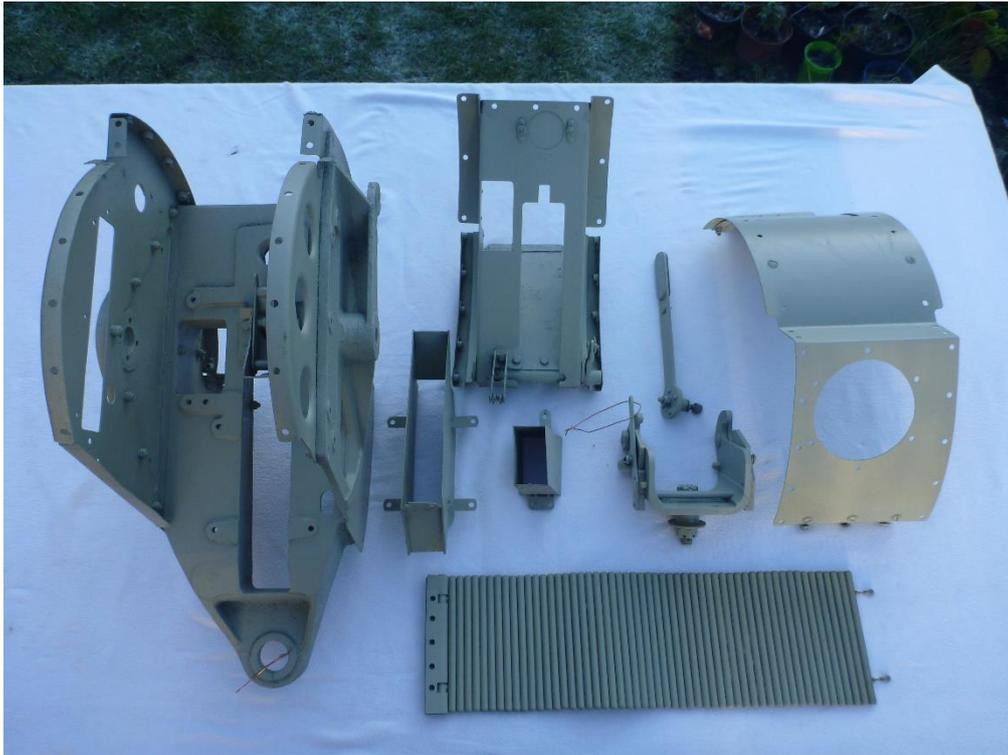


With the controls set to one side for the time being, attention turned to the gun cradles. These are complex assemblies and almost a project in their own right. Each has been subject to many previous layers of paint and, without exaggerating, in some areas the paint was up to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick. It was decided to do these one at a time as, despite having the relevant Air Publications, it is always easier to have a complete example to copy.

Although they looked to be in poor state, they had survived remarkably well and came apart without undue difficulty. Removing the paint took quite a while, but was made slightly easier by the lack of any paint in the void areas.



Once dismantled, the parts could be cleaned, inspected and then sprayed in preparation for re-assembly. Again, these will be dusted over in black before re-assembly and then finally sprayed again in their assembled state.



By this point, there are many assemblies awaiting spraying in black, however, the black paint has yet to arrive. Therefore, there was a useful period during which some time could be spent on the display FN82 Series 2 turret. The servo ammunition feed unit was completed and is now ready for painting. On the Series 2 turret the servo feed is an electrically driven unit as opposed to the hydraulic one on the Series 1.



That done there was a chance to re-manufacture the cupola inner arch support brackets. These complex parts were missing from the display turret but need to be made to enable the construction of NX611's cupola on the display turret.





Seen above are some of the components of the display turret control system. The torque tube needs to be bolted onto the bearing ends and then the control levers fitted. The two alloy blanks are for the re-manufacture of the two missing control levers.

So, next month should see a great deal of spraying over with black and then the re-build of several of the sub-assemblies. The control system of the display turret can be progressed and, hopefully, built into the turret along with the servo ammunition feed. The only major problem could be the somewhat cold weather we are experiencing at the moment.