

Surviving Comet cruiser Tanks (A34)

Last update : 30 March 2021

Listed here are the A34 Comet cruiser tanks that still exist today.



<http://www.pansarmuseet.se/Comet.htm>

Comet – Arsenalen Tank Museum, Strängnäs (Sweden)



Dennis Trowbridge, August 2011 - <http://jtrowbridge5.smugmug.com/>

Comet – Johan Sjögren Collection (Sweden)

SN 335096. This tank was a gate guardian at Castle Martin fire range in South Wales, it was then part of the Isle of Wight Museum



Massimo Foti, June 2017 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/massimofoti/35124702103/>

Comet – Bovington Tank Museum (UK) – running condition



"Megashorts", November 2008 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/megashorts/3029529371/in/set-72157609057315170/>

Comet "Adamant" – Bovington Tank Museum (UK)



Roland Turner, June 2010 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sisaphus/4676292126/>

Comet "Camelot" – Bovington Tank Museum (UK)



Massimo Foti, October 2014 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/massimofoti/31983280996/>

Comet "Gynaecolator" – Imperial War Museum, Duxford (UK)



Massimo Foti, September 2016 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/massimofoti/31896360252/>

Comet "Cambrai" – Imperial War Museum, Duxford (UK)



Photo provided by Craig Moore

Comet "Ironduke" – Muckleburgh Collection, Weybourne (UK) – running condition
Comes from Ireland. The museum received it in 1987 in exchange for a Peerless lorry (Craig Moore)



Stephen Drew, photo taken at Beltring War & Peace show - <http://www66.tok2.com/home2/tankguy/beltring06/comet02.html>

Comet – East England Military Museum, Snetterton (UK)



Stephen Drew - <http://www66.tok2.com/home2/tankguy/thetford/comet.html>

Comet "Iron Sides" – East England Military Museum, Snetterton (UK)

This tank was previously displayed at the Museum of Army Transport, Beverley (UK) until the museum closed a year or 2 ago (<http://www.armouruk.net/>). The photo was taken by Stephen Drew at the East England Military Museum, Snetterton, near Thetford (UK). It could be indeed the same tank as above, before its restoration, but this needs to be confirmed



Ian Sadler - <http://www66.tok2.com/home2/tankguy/beltring06/comet.html>

Comet "Victor" – Ian Galliers Collection (UK)

Ian purchased this vehicle from the Geneva military museum when it closed down. It is fitted with a Meteor Mk 4 (Centurion) engine (<http://www.armouruk.net/>)

Comet – Kevin Wheatcroft Collection (UK)

Kevin Wheatcroft owns a Comet, which can be seen here : http://www.militarymodelling.com/news/Images/Wheatcroft_019.jpg
It is the tank with the blue-green-red camo on the turret



"Cold War Warrior", October 2004 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/16498755@N07/6038823691/in/photostream/>

Comet "Achilles" – Swanton Morley (UK)



Photo from the owner

Comet – Private collection, Yard of Wessington Cabins, Calne (UK)

This vehicle is undergoing full restoration in a workshop by the owner, who has owned it for about seven years, but only started work on it last year. This Comet's war time number is T-335222, it has been built at Leyland in late 1944 and has the 'A' type hull . Its original engine number is 41490, later re-engined at 13 Command workshops Aldershot 14/6/1956 to 41094. Its post war number is 15ZR05. The owner thinks that after it was re-engined it may have been transferred to other duties or moth balled not sure which? It was brought back on census and then finally released 1/7/66 which was quite late. It stood for years as a gate guard at the Kings Royal Hussars Museum, Winchester, until it closed and was sold to a dealer from whom the owner bought it (info. from the owner)



"ACTIVEARMOUR", November 2010 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/westrat/5559184751/in/set-72157626527866327>

Comet – Irish Defences Forces Training Centre, Curragh Camp, The Curragh (Ireland)



Raphael Riccio, February 2008

Comet – Irish Defences Forces Training Centre, Curragh Camp, The Curragh (Ireland)



"odin_je" - http://gallery.irishmilitaryonline.com/main.php?g2_itemId=513

Comet – Irish Defences Forces Training Centre, Curragh Camp (Ireland) – running c.
The tank is stored inside



Anthony Ryan, January 2009 - <http://www.militaryphotos.net/>

Comet – Custume barracks, Athlone (Ireland)

The tank was previously located at Longford Barracks with 4th Cav., but the base closed and the tank monument was relocated in Athlone in January 2009 (<http://www.militaryphotos.net/> forum)



Massimo Foti, October 2012 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/massimofoti/8661649865/in/photostream>

Comet “Ben Hur” – Panzer Museum Munster (Germany)



Walter Schwabe, October 2014

Comet – Militärgeschichtliches Museum der Bundeswehr, Dresden (Germany)



<https://www.troostwijkauctions.com/uk/1944-comet-military-tank/03-22698-28126-3783725/>

Comet "Victor" – BAIV trading, Maarheeze (Netherlands)
Previously part of the Isle of Wight museum



Photo provided by Craig Moore

Comet "Why Worry" – BAIV trading, Maarheeze (Netherlands)



<http://www.baiv.nl/comet/>

Comet (Ps. 252-33) "The Saint" – BAIV trading, Maarheeze (Netherlands)

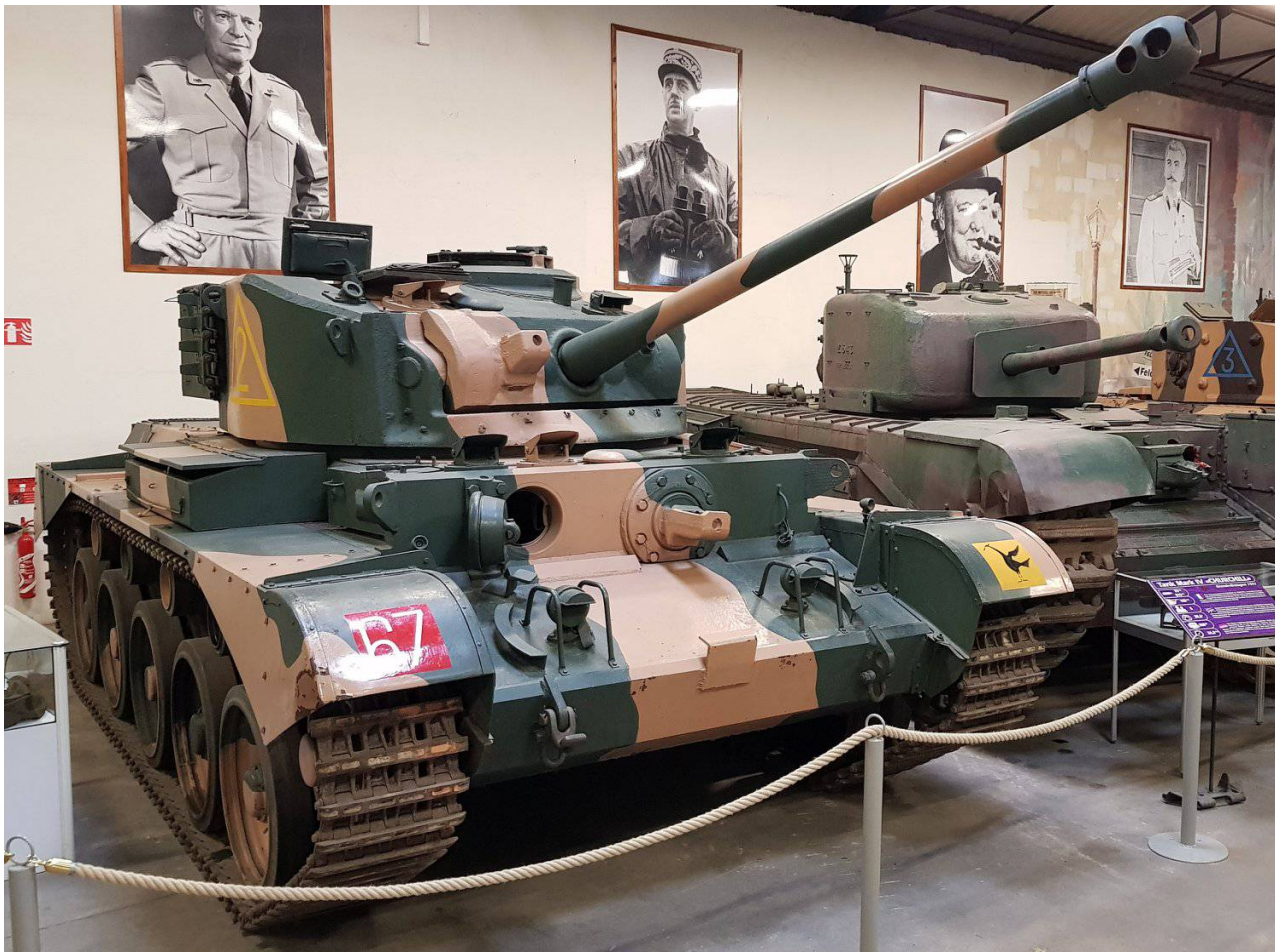
This ex-Finnish tank was offered in an auction in September 2007. It has its original war time registration T335817. It has the 'B' type hull (A34 Comet Mk 1 Model B). This vehicle was built in late 1944 and delivered in the beginning of 1945 with British registration number T335817. This is one of the 40 Comets that went to Finland in 1960. This Comet was the 92nd build by Fowler under the contract licence M10536, where 350 Comets were ordered, but only 150 were built



Phil De Clercq, 2014 - <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.566681126775256&type=1>

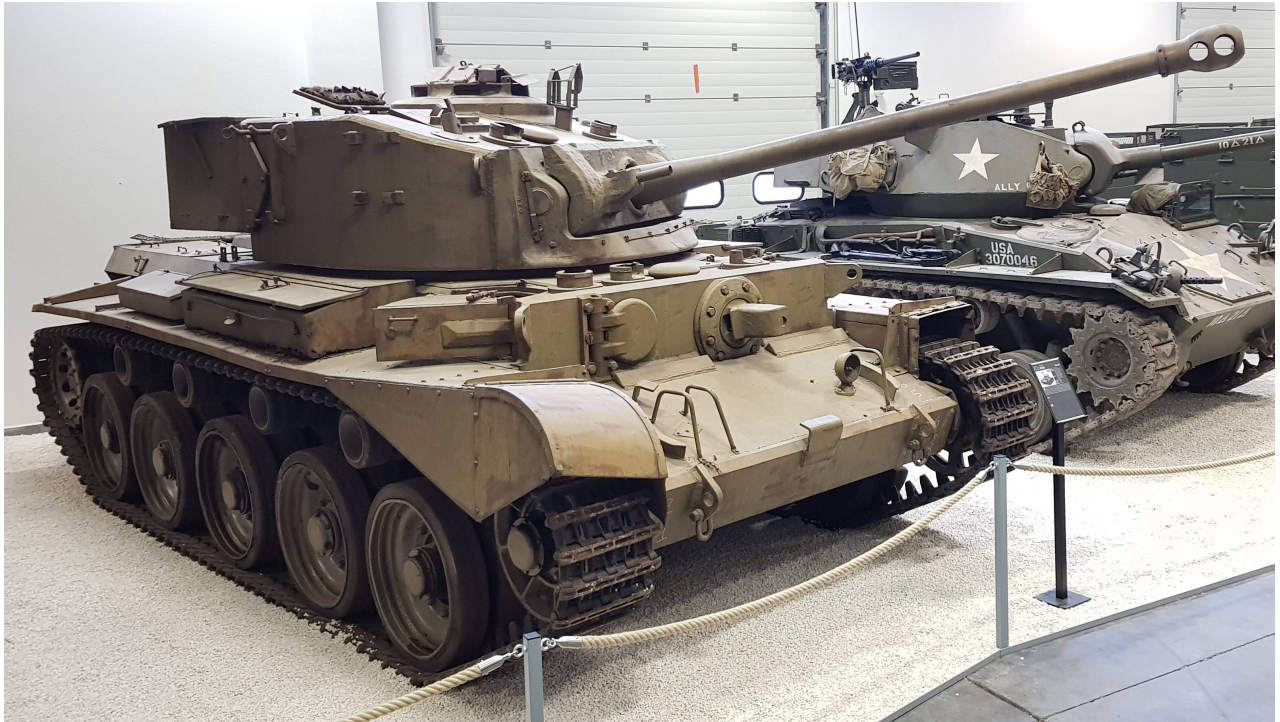
Comet – Heintz Barracks, Bastogne (Belgium)

Ex-Finnish tank, the tank has a Finnish Army number on the hull



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2019

Comet – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2018

Comet – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France) – running condition

This tank comes from the former La Réole museum collection, near Bordeaux, France (Eric Kauffmann)



<http://www.someplaces.spb.ru/suomi/Parola/Parola.htm>

Comet (Ps. 252-23) – Finnish Armour Museum, Parola (Finland)



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Comet_MK_I_Model_B_Parola_tank_museum.jpg

Comet (Ps. 252-38) – Finnish Armour Museum, Parola (Finland)



<http://www.rajajoki.com/tanks.html>

Comet (Ps. 252-??) – Savon Prikaati garrison, Mikkeli (Finland)



"Methem", August 2007 - http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Comet_tank_in_Oulu_2007_c.jpg

Comet (Ps. 252-5) – Garrison area in Hiukkavaara, Oulu (Finland)



"s.niemelainen", July 2009 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/saminkuvat/3875283618/>

Comet (Ps. 252-24) – Lappeenranta (Finland)



http://www.mil.fi/liite/Psv-huutokauppa_luettelo_ENG.pdf

Comet (Ps. 252-6) – Current location unknown

This ex-Finnish tank was offered in an auction in September 2007. Its current status is unknown



Maciej Waśniewski, May 2010 - <https://plus.google.com/photos/>

Comet – Panzerfarm, Kęszycki Brothers Collection (Poland)

This tank comes from South Africa (Rafał Białęcki)



"tankysmrzovka", August 2011 - <http://tankysmrzovka.webgarden.cz/>

Comet (Ps. 252-10) – Army Technical Museum, Lesany (Czech Republic)

This tank was offered in an auction in September 2007, in Finland. It was bought by Czech armor fans from the Smrzovka tank museum and was restored (AFV News forum). It has been recently sold to the Lesany museum ("Patrik")



"Patrik", July 2015

Comet (Ps. 252-36) – Smrzovka private tank museum (Czech Republic)

This tank was offered in an auction in September 2007, in Finland. It is currently being restored (AFV News forum)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2020

Comet – National Museum of Military History, Johannesburg (Republic of South Africa)



FJR Louw, February 2011

Comet – Light Horse Regiment, Kelvin, Johannesburg (South Africa)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2020

Comet – Pretoria Regiment base (on Magasyn Road), Salvokop, Pretoria (South Africa)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2020

Comet – School of Armour Museum, Tempe, Bloemfontein (Republic of South Africa)



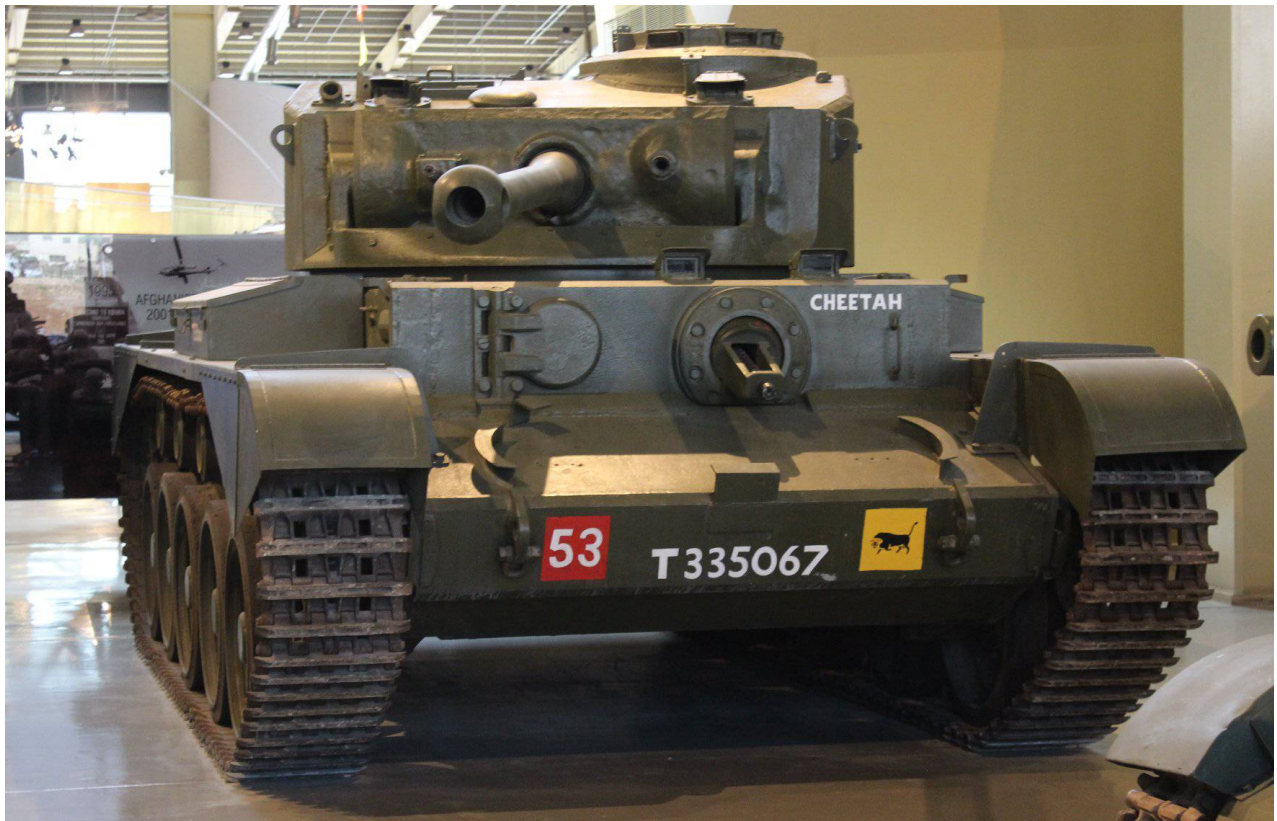
Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2020

Comet – Special Service Battalion Mus., Tempe, Bloemfontein, Free State prov. (RSA)



"playtym" - <http://www.militaryphotos.net/forums/showthread.php?t=64954&page=19>

Comet – Natal Mounted Rifles HQ, Durban (Republic of South Africa)



<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10215419683709077&set=pb.1346855703.-2207520000.1525531581.&type=3&theater>

Comet – Royal Jordanian Tank Museum (Jordan)

This tank comes from Chobham in Surrey, and has been used as an experimental vehicle. It has had a new front welded on as the original had been removed to accommodate a prototype rocket launcher (info. from the Isle of Wight museum). This tank has been sold to the Royal Museum in Jordan



<http://www.museum-tank.ru/llwar/tables2A/comet0.html>

Comet – Kubinka Tank Museum (Russia)



Lin Ye Htun, March 2011

Comet – Defence Services Historical Museum, Yangon (Burma/Myanmar)

This Comet is one of 26 tanks which were still in active service in the Burma army until 2000, when they were retired from active duty



<https://scontent.fcy1-1.fna.fbcdn.net/>

Comet – Defence services museum, Naypyidaw (Burma / Myanmar)



<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10157669003950964&set=pcb.3669978429738268>

Some Comets – Still in use in the Burmese Army (Burma / Myanmar)



"TMA_0", August 2009 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/39568612@N08/3802697178/in/set-72157621984487484/>

Comet "Nina" – Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Hong Kong (China)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, October 2019

Comet – American Heritage Museum, Hudson, MA (USA)

This tank carries the WD number T335001, making it the 101st Comet built at the British Leyland plant in December 1944 (Craig Moore). It was a tank of 3 Troop, 2nd Fife & Forfar Yeomanry which served in Germany in April-May, 1945 (Barry Weston). It is also one of the 8 Comet sold by the UK to Ireland in the 1960s, this is confirmed by the number plate on the rear of the turret basket (Anthony Ryan). She is marked as a tank belonging to the 35rd Royal Tank Regiment (RTR) in the 29th Armoured Brigade of the 11th Armoured Division in 1945. It was the only Brigade to be totally equipped with the Comet tank before war ends. She is painted in British standard camouflage colour 15 (SCC 15) green. During restoration it was found that she had been painted SCC 61 light stone at some point in her service possible due to a deployment in Egypt with the British Army (Craig Moore). This vehicle was part of the Budge Collection (UK) before it was scattered. It was then part of Jacques Littlefield Collection



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2018 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13963542@N08/sets/72157699601182542>

Comet – U.S. Army Armor & Cavalry Collection, Fort Benning, GA (USA)

This vehicle is currently stored and is not publicly visible



Craig Moore, July 2016

Comet "Celerity" – Private collection, Wichita, KS (USA)

Previously part of the Isle of Wight museum. This Comet has been built by Leyland in 1944 and given the number T335252. It has been used by British Forces during the WW-II and remained in service till the early sixties. After this the Comet was stationed outside the Sennelager Barracks close to Paderborn in Germany. In 1994 it was recovered and partly restored and now it is back again in restoration to complete and perseve this lovely tank. The turret comes from Finland. It has been sold to a private collector in Wichita, Kansas



<http://cdn.havanatimes.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/tanque.jpg>

Comet – Botanical garden, across the Havana Bay Tunnel, Havana Bay (Cuba)

At least 15 A34 Comet tanks were purchased by the regime of Fulgencio Batista. The tanks were delivered at the end of 1958 (probably in December) and were supposedly only used in the fight against Castro "Barbudos" attacking the city of Santa Clara. The tanks remained in service for quite a short time, but were scrapped almost immediately after the arrival of heavy weapons from the Soviets, except for a single vehicle. It stood until 1986 as part of a monument in Castillo San Salvador de la Punta (castle), which is the "guardian" of the entrance to the bay of Havana. It was then displaced to an unknown location (info from

<http://forum.valka.cz/topic/view/532>



Pierre-Olivier Buan, June 2014 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13963542@N08/14420189648/in/set-72157645570837201>

Comet wreck – Cobbaton Combat Collection, Umberleigh (UK)



"plainmilitary" - <http://s144.photobucket.com/albums/r183/plainmilitary/Plain%20Military%20wrecks/>

Comet wreck n° 1 – Salisbury Plain firing range (UK)



"plainmilitary" - <http://s144.photobucket.com/albums/r183/plainmilitary/Plain%20Military%20wrecks/>

Comet wreck n° 2 – Salisbury Plain firing range (UK)



"plainmilitary" - <http://s144.photobucket.com/albums/r183/plainmilitary/Plain%20Military%20wrecks/>

Comet wreck n° 3 – Salisbury Plain firing range (UK)



"plainmilitary" - <http://s144.photobucket.com/albums/r183/plainmilitary/Plain%20Military%20wrecks/>

Comet wreck n° 4 – Salisbury Plain firing range (UK)



"plainmilitary" - <http://s144.photobucket.com/albums/r183/plainmilitary/Plain%20Military%20wrecks/>

Comet wreck n° 5 – Salisbury Plain firing range (UK)



http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet wreck (196) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



© RCAHMS

http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet wreck (191) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



© RCAHMS

http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet wreck (294) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963562/>

Comet wreck (192) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963570/>

Comet wreck (200) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963634/>

Comet wreck (264) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963571/>

Comet wreck (201) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963604/>

Comet wreck (234) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963741/>

Comet wreck (371) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963614/>

Comet wreck (244) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963602/>

Comet wreck (232) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



© RCAHMS

http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet wreck (487) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)

This tank may be the same one as above (n°232), but the photos don't show enough details to confirm this



http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet wreck (233) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet hull wreck (187) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



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http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet hull wreck (202) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963578/>

Comet hull wreck (208) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



<http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/details/963560/>

Comet hull wreck (190) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/240905/digital_images/kirkcudbright+training+area/

Comet hull wreck (194) – Kirkcudbright training area (UK)



IPMS Ipswich branch, June 2007 - <http://www.ipms-ipswich.org.uk/meeting0607.htm>

Comet wreck – Tobin James Collection (UK)

This tank came from Stanford Training Area (STANTA) near Thetford, and was recovered and stored for some time at the East of England Tank Museum, Beaumont (info. from 2003, <http://www.tankmuseum.com/news.htm>). Then, it went to a private collection in UK (Adrian Barrell)



"Ford Prefect22", January 2008 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/halfpenny/2224385920/>

Comet wreck – Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes, Saltfleet (UK)

This tank is badly corroded and half-buried in the sand, and is missing its turret and tracks and most of its wheels and suspension. It is also missing its engine deck, rear plate and many other components (Trevor Larkum)



"Gavromian", May 2008 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/24706081@N05/2458834967/>

Comet wreck – Finnish Armour Museum, Parola (Finland)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2020

Comet Maintenance Repair Vehicle – School of Armour Museum, Tempe, Bloemfontein
(Republic of South Africa)



http://www.nortfort.ru/coastal/foto_kvs39_e.html

Comet w/ MTO-66 Missile Launcher – Coastal Guns Museum, Kuivasaari Island (Finland)

British tank Comet with dismounted gun. It was used as rocket site of antiship missile MTO-66.
These missile were purchased in USSR in 1960s (http://www.nortfort.ru/coastal/foto_kvs39_e.html)

I'm looking for photos of those tanks :

Comet wreck – East of England Tank Museum, Beaumont (UK)

Comet wreck – Rex & Rod Cadman Collection (UK)

Comet – Truck Farm Museum, Wallmansthal (South Africa) - private collection, owner Mr Wallush

Comet – Two tanks in Training Branch, Army Battle School, Lohatla (South Africa)

About 25 Comets – Retired from active service in Burma in 2000, these Comet tanks were spread across various museum and parks around the country for static display (Lin Ye Htun)

two Comet Maintenance Repair Vehicle – 4VRP Collection, Wallmansthal (South Africa)

information about two of the four A34 Comets offered in an auction in Finland

any Comet that I forgot....

This document is a compilation of photos published on the web. I would like to thank especially **Rafał Białęcki**, who deserved the most of the job on this document, and also the people who took these photos and put them on their websites, or sent them to me, and those who helped me doing these lists (particularly people of the AFV News Discussion Board). For any question, you can email me at soldat_ryan@hotmail.com

Main page : http://the.shadock.free.fr/Surviving_Panzers.html