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DALEK SUICIDE SQUAD!



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DALEK

ISSUE 107



ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE: DESTINY OF THE DALEKS – PART 4 3

Davros holds the key to the Daleks' victory in the war with the Movellans.



ANATOMY OF A DALEK: SUICIDE SQUAD DALEKS 6

All Daleks are prepared to sacrifice themselves for the Dalek cause.



STEP-BY-STEP BUILD: PART 107 10

Connector brackets, two skirt domes and a defector strip.

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DOCTOR WHO

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DESTINY OF THE DALEKS

PART 4

The Doctor realises that irrationality is the key to breaking the deadlock in the Dalek/Movellan war.

Season 17 Episode 4
First Broadcast:
22 September 1979

The Doctor runs to Romana and unsuccessfully tries to open the protective casing. A countdown beeps on the Nova Device. The Doctor is stunned into unconsciousness by Sharrel. As the countdown reaches zero, Agella reveals that she did not arm the device. Tyssan watches from a hiding place as the Movellans carry the two Time Lords back to their spacecraft.

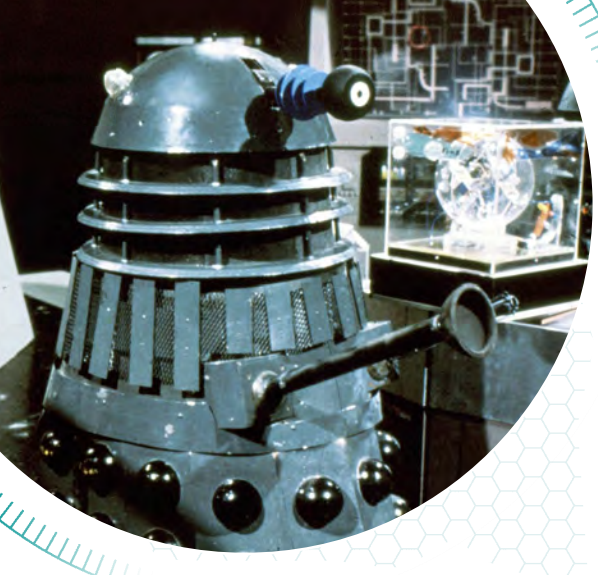
In the Dalek control room, Davros demands immediate transportation from Skaro. He is told that a deep-space cruiser will arrive in six hours. Davros knows that the Daleks possess a Computersphere containing every detail of their war against the Movellans, and orders it brought to him. "The information was checked and supervised by the Supreme Dalek," the Dalek leader says as it collects the device. Davros sneers at the title and states that he is the rightful commander of the Daleks. He is left to study the Computersphere's information.

Agella announces that the spacecraft will be ready to launch in 32 minutes. The Nova Device is armed. Lan suggests that a Movellan should remain on Skaro to operate it manually. Sharrel agrees and orders Lan to detonate the device. Lan leaves with the Nova Device.

The Doctor awakens. "Robots!" he cries. Sharrel acknowledges that all Movellans are robots and function entirely logically. "My condolences," the Doctor replies. Romana also awakens.

Davros concludes his review of the Dalek/Movellan war. "You have been fighting them for centuries," he says. The Dalek and Movellan battle fleets are facing each other in space but are not firing on one another. Their computers continually attempt to gain an advantage but always fail. "You have reached a logical impasse," Davros says. He realises why the Daleks have returned to find him: they want him to reprogram their battle computers.

The Doctor and Romana play a game of 'rock, paper, scissors'. When Agella and Sharrel play, they reach a stalemate every time, but the Doctor repeatedly defeats Sharrel. Sharrel realises that the Movellans are being confounded by their own logic: "Thank you, Doctor. Our battle computers must have a new element programmed into them. An advantage, however small, that will change the balance of power. You." The Doctor points out that Davros will be doing the same for the Daleks. Sharrel reveals that the Movellans intend to destroy Skaro before Davros can escape.



Outside, Lan waits for the Movellan spacecraft to launch. Hearing a noise, he investigates and is tricked by Tyssan and the other alien workers, who remove his power pack. As his energy drains away, Lan collapses. Tyssan makes adjustments to the power pack.

The Daleks discover that the Movellans are preparing to leave Skaro with the Doctor and Romana. Davros sees the danger of the Doctor helping the Movellans and orders their spacecraft to be destroyed. “Our firepower will be ineffective against its hull,” the Dalek leader states. Davros orders more explosives to be unpacked.



The Doctor and Romana resume playing ‘rock, paper, scissors’ as they try to plan an escape. Neither can think of a workable plan.

Agella goes outside to look for Lan. He approaches her and removes her power pack. Lan is now under Tyssan’s control. Tyssan makes the same adjustments to Agella’s power pack.

The Daleks attach high explosives to their casings. Davros orders them to proceed to the Movellan spacecraft and destroy it. “I will lead,” he says as they depart. “Davros will lead!”

Tyssan and the others approach the spacecraft. Agella has joined Lan as an obedient servant. Tyssan sneaks aboard and signals the Doctor. The Time Lord immediately jumps to his feet and stages a mock argument with Romana, distracting their guards. The aliens storm the ship, helped by Lan and Agella. They overcome the Movellans by removing their power packs. Only Sharrel escapes.

The Doctor sets off alone to stop Davros from leaving Skaro. He comes across the Daleks armed with explosives and hides. He overhears the Squad Leader as they move across the rough terrain: “Do not deviate! All units proceed as ordered! The space vehicle must be destroyed!”

Davros hears his name being whispered in the control room. The Doctor strolls in, grinning. “It seems we have both been much in demand, Doctor,” Davros says. He asks the Doctor what he thinks of the problem facing the Daleks and Movellans,



calling it “fascinating”. The Doctor agrees: “Two vast computers so evenly matched they can’t out-think one another.” Both men understand how easily the stalemate could be broken.

Davros gloats that the Doctor cannot prevent the Movellan ship from being destroyed. He points to a button on his chair, which he will use it to detonate the explosives surrounding the ship. The Doctor kneels down and moves to press the button before the Daleks reach their target, but Davros has held back one Dalek as a precaution. “Do not move!” it orders the Doctor.

Romana and Tyssan realise that Sharrel is missing, and that he will be heading for the Nova Device. Realising the danger, Romana races out of the spacecraft.



SCRIPT REVISIONS



Terry Nation’s original script differed in many ways from the finished episode. In the Episode Three cliffhanger, the scene takes place at night. The Doctor hides from a Petran (renamed Movellan) patrol holding Romana bound and gagged. The Commander uses a loudspeaker to call out to the Doctor, demanding that he surrender. She presses a gun against Romana’s head and begins counting down from 10. The Doctor gives himself up. Meanwhile, a ship departs from the Dalek fleet to collect Davros and the six surviving Daleks. The Petran Commander orders one of her forces to set the Nova Device to destroy the planet. Valtan (renamed Tyssan) and his rebels prepare to face the Daleks. The Doctor grabs Davros’ detonator and runs outside with it. He sees the Daleks and Valtan’s people about to engage. He presses the detonator, destroying the Daleks. Later, Valtan’s men clear the TARDIS doors. The Doctor suggests that Valtan’s group leave in the Petran ship, taking Davros with them in order to “turn him over to Earth scientists who can learn a great deal from him about the Daleks”.

STEADY WORK

Director Ken Grieve was able to obtain a Steadicam for use during the location shooting. The camera system was developed in the USA by Garrett Brown and manufactured by Cinema Products Corporation. In the UK, it was distributed by Samuelson. There were only three Steadicams in use in Britain in 1979. It proved highly effective for capturing dramatic shots of the action scenes filmed in the dunes at Winspit Quarry and Binnegar Heath. The Steadicam used a system of dampening to reduce juddering as the operator moved, and was attached to the operator with a special harness. It was operated by cameraman Fred Hamilton, who found that the heavy harness sometimes caused him to become stuck in the quarry sand.





The Doctor tries to grab an explosive, but the Dalek stops him. He hears the Squad Leader's voice on the intercom: "Now commencing final approach to ship…"

Tyssan detects the Daleks on the Movellan ship's sensors. He tells everyone to pick up their weapons.

Sharrel stumbles across the sandy wastelands, rapidly running out of power. He falls to the ground and starts crawling towards the Nova Device…

The aliens try to stop the Daleks but their weapons are useless. Several are cut down while the others flee.

Romana catches up with Sharrel just before he reaches the Nova Device. She and the Movellan struggle, and Romana is thrown to the ground. Sharrel reaches for the device, but Romana kicks him and grabs his power pack. Sharrel lies still as Romana slumps to the ground, relieved.



Davros tells the Doctor that he will "accompany" him when the Dalek ship arrives. The Doctor casually throws his hat over his shoulder, and it lands on the Dalek's eyestalk. "Vision impaired!" the Dalek cries out and starts firing, almost hitting Davros. The Doctor clamps an explosive to its casing and shoves it into a corridor. "Bye-bye!" he shouts as the Dalek is blown apart.

"Keep away," Davros says as the Doctor kneels in front of him again. The Doctor smiles and raises Davros' hand. Davros resists, but this proves to be a mistake. When the Doctor releases his hand, it plunges down and hits the detonation button. All the Daleks outside explode before they can reach the Movellan ship.

Some time later, Davros has been placed inside a cryogenic freezer aboard the Movellan ship. "There is not a ship, not a prison that can hold me!" he boasts. The Doctor presses a button, and the Daleks' creator is covered in an icy mist. He and Romana depart before the ship takes off.

The Doctor and Romana head back across the surface of Skaro to the TARDIS and manage to move the rocks away from the doors. Romana asks the Doctor if he could have solved the Movellans' problem and won their war. "Course I could!" he replies. "It was obvious. Both sides were fighting with computers, perfectly logically. Each computer could predict the move of the other and counter it! Result: stalemate!" Romana realises that the first side to switch off its computers and do something irrational would win the war.



"Make mistakes and confuse the enemy!" the Doctor says, smiling. "Is that why you always win?" Romana asks. "Because you always make mistakes?" They head inside the TARDIS. "Well, I have made the odd mistake," the Doctor concedes. The TARDIS slowly fades away, then instantly rematerialises. "Not that switch!" Romana snaps at the Doctor. The TARDIS disappears again…



VISUAL EFFECTS





Peter Logan started working on *Doctor Who* with the Jon Pertwee story *Inferno* (1970), as an assistant in the Visual Effects Department. He went on to work on many other stories, but *Destiny of the Daleks* was his first job as visual effects Designer. "I'm particularly fond of *Destiny* because it was the first one where the whole thing was my responsibility," he commented. Logan constructed five 'dummy' vacuum-formed Dalek props to be blown up for the story's climax at Binnegar Heath. The Daleks' bomb belts were made from soft drink cans he collected from BBC dustbins. Logan recalls Tom Baker with affection. "Tom was the one who was very pally with us," he said. "Of all the Doctor Whos, Tom was the one we most enjoyed working with." When the time came to destroy the Dalek props, Tom Baker had an amusing request: "Tom came up to me and said, 'Peter, do you think I could possibly press the trigger and blow them up myself?' I said, 'Be my guest!'"


THE
DALEK



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DALEK SUICIDE SQUAD

As the Daleks' invasion of the cosmos stretched over centuries, their society developed along the path of pure logic.

The Daleks eventually came to rely completely on their battle computers for strategy, ignoring instinct and ingenuity. Certain information about their origins was deemed unnecessary for Dalek Drones to possess. The most important piece of history removed from the central Dalek memory banks was the existence of Davros.

The Daleks have a pathological belief in their own superiority over all other lifeforms – it is the prime motivation for both their ambition and their hatred of other species. Anything that might challenge that ideology was deemed dangerous by the Supreme Dalek. The fact that the Daleks owed their creation to an inferior creature – an elderly humanoid with a decaying body – challenged their sense of identity. The story of Davros and the Kaled bunker was therefore erased from the Daleks' historical records. Only the Supreme Dalek and a handful of high-ranking members of the Dalek Council were left knowing the truth. No Dalek ever questioned how their species came to exist, because none had ever possessed that level of curiosity.

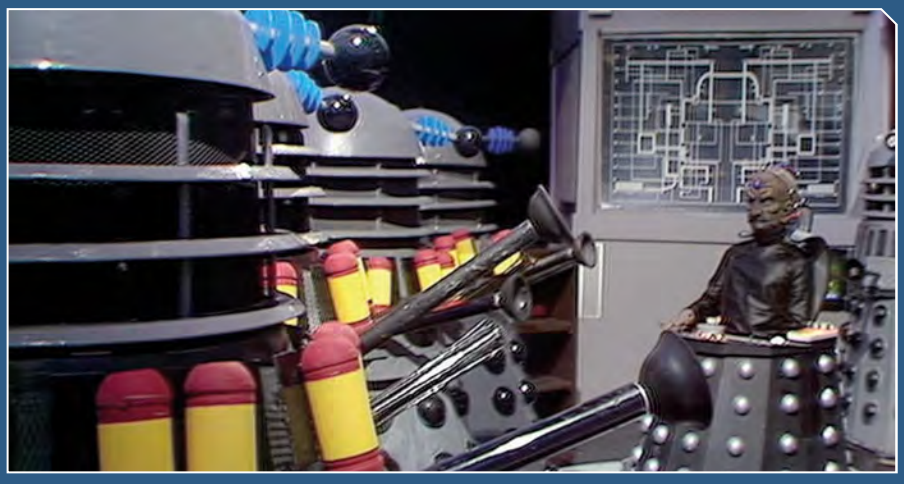
The Daleks and Movellans had been engaged in an interstellar war for centuries, with both sides' battle computers locked in a logical stalemate. With the Dalek and Movellan battle computers unable to gain an advantage over one another, the Supreme Dalek turned its thoughts to their ancestral homeworld. The Daleks had long since abandoned Skaro, but perhaps the answer could be found there – with Davros.



A Dalek assault squad was summoned. It was a small unit that had performed well during a campaign in the ice caverns of Korstunn, and the Supreme Dalek was confident in its abilities. The squad was placed inside a Mnemonic Resonance Chamber, where all the information about Davros and his role in the origins of the Daleks was restored to their minds. The Squad Leader was momentarily repulsed by the revelations but managed to conceal its reaction from the Supreme Dalek.

"Davros will expect total obedience from you," the Supreme Dalek explained. "You must give it to him. Nothing is more important than his safe recovery. You will all act as if he is the natural leader of the Daleks."

The Squad Leader considered the difficulty of the task that lay ahead. Returning to Skaro and excavating the ruins of the Kaled bunker would be a slow task, even with the aid of slaves. If Davros was still alive, he might need medical assistance – something of which Daleks had little knowledge. After a lengthy excavation, Davros was located. But the Doctor, the ancient enemy of the Daleks, found a quicker way to access the lower levels of the Kaled bunker and reached Davros first, ahead of the Daleks. The Squad Leader began to exterminate the slaves in a bid to force the Doctor to surrender. The Doctor, in turn, threatened to assassinate Davros with a bomb, even if it meant his own death. "Self-sacrifice illogical, therefore impossible," the Squad Leader stated. Davros ordered the Squad Leader to obey the Doctor's commands and release the slaves. To obey an inferior was a struggle for the Squad Leader – now it had to obey two masters at once. Nonetheless, it complied. Davros was just as demanding as the Supreme Dalek had warned. His emaciated body was severely atrophied, yet he behaved as though he were their superior. "The Daleks shall be made into perfect creatures," he told them. He seemed to perceive them as works in progress rather than the pinnacle of universal evolution. "You will make any sacrifice that is required to protect me," he ordered. "I obey," the Squad Leader replied, but in its mind it was responding to the orders of the Supreme Dalek, not the pathetic old man before it.



Davros even dared to dismiss the rightful ruler of the Daleks. "I created the Daleks," he said. "It is I who will guide their destiny. I am the supreme commander!" To insult a Dalek had always been a death sentence for any other lifeform. Yet the Squad Leader merely responded, "You will be obeyed." Its gunstick twitched only slightly.

The crisis point arrived when Davros demanded that the Daleks attach explosives to their casings and destroy themselves along with the Movellan ship. He spoke to them as if they were children, issuing his orders in the simplest possible language: "The sacrifice you make will ensure total Dalek victory in the space war!"

There was a pause. The Squad Leader and its team were all resisting the urge to exterminate Davros. "Carry out your orders!" Davros shouted. The Daleks turned and left.

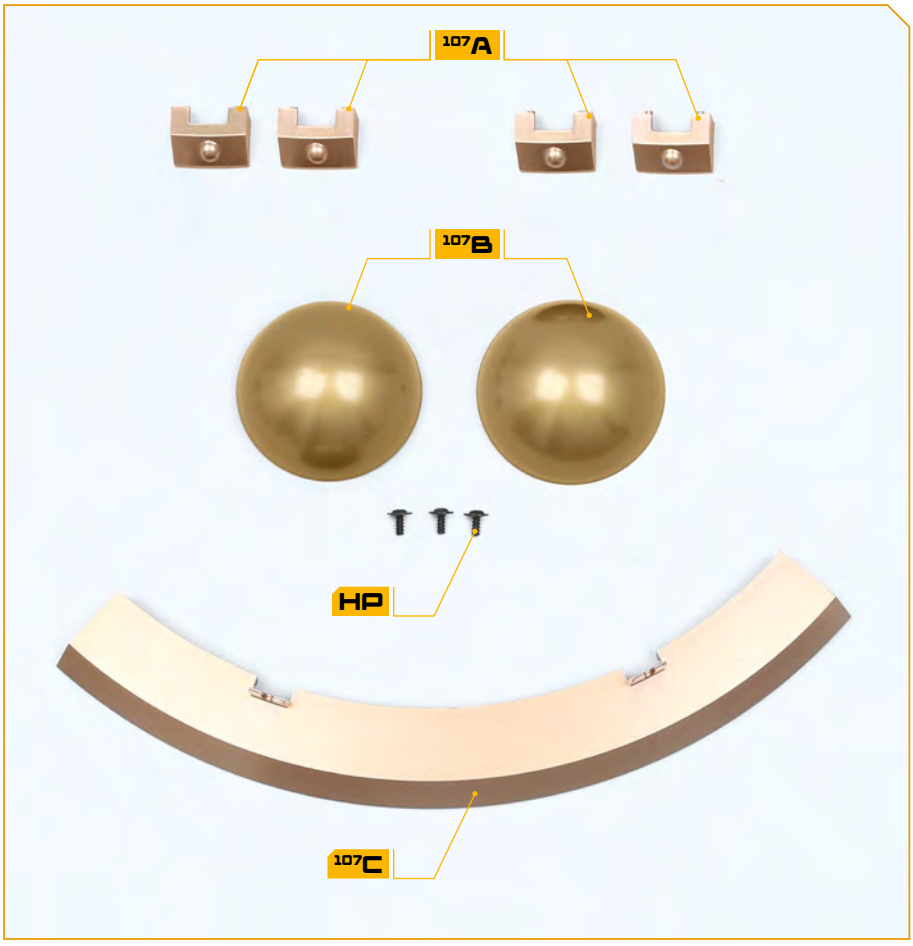
The Dalek squad moved swiftly across the plains of Skaro, knowing that they were doomed and fully aware that they were following the commands of an inferior lifeform. Suddenly, one of the Daleks exploded before they had reached their target. Then another two. Then another five.

The Squad Leader was the last. It watched its comrades die, unsurprised. The plan had come from an imperfect creature – its failure had seemed inevitable. The Squad Leader remained convinced that Davros had made a fundamental error.

"Self-sacrifice illogical, therefore impossible," was its final thought.

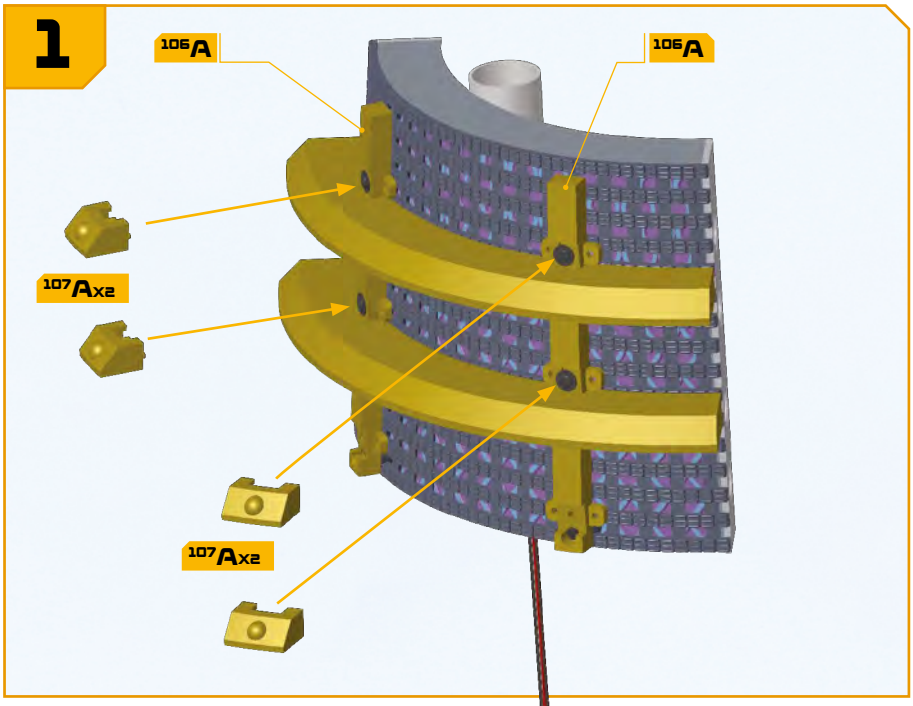
BASE SECTION

OUTER PANELLING



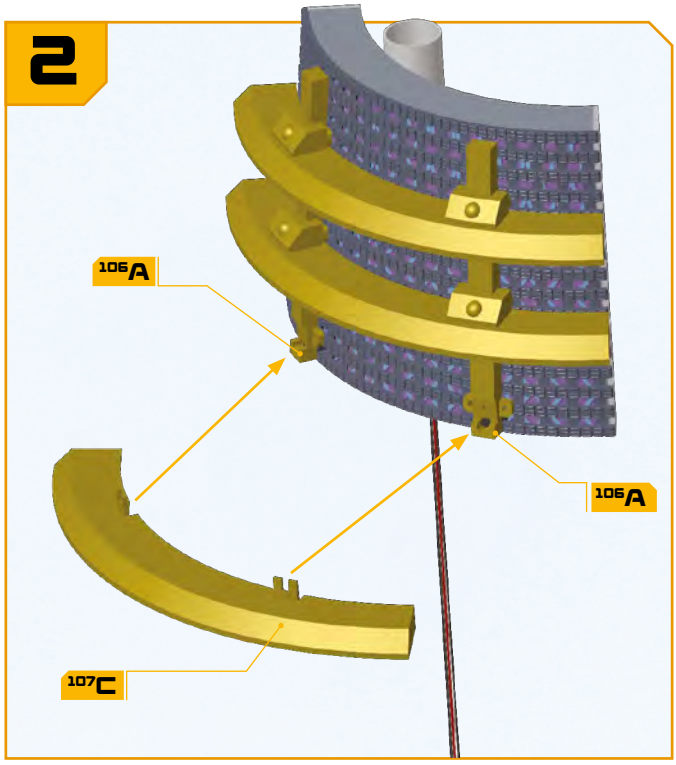
COMPONENTS OF ISSUE 107

- 107A CONNECTOR BRACKETS (X4)
- 107B SKIRT DOME (X2)
- 107C DEFLECTOR STRIP
- HP THREE 2.6 X 6MM PWB SCREWS (1 SPARE)
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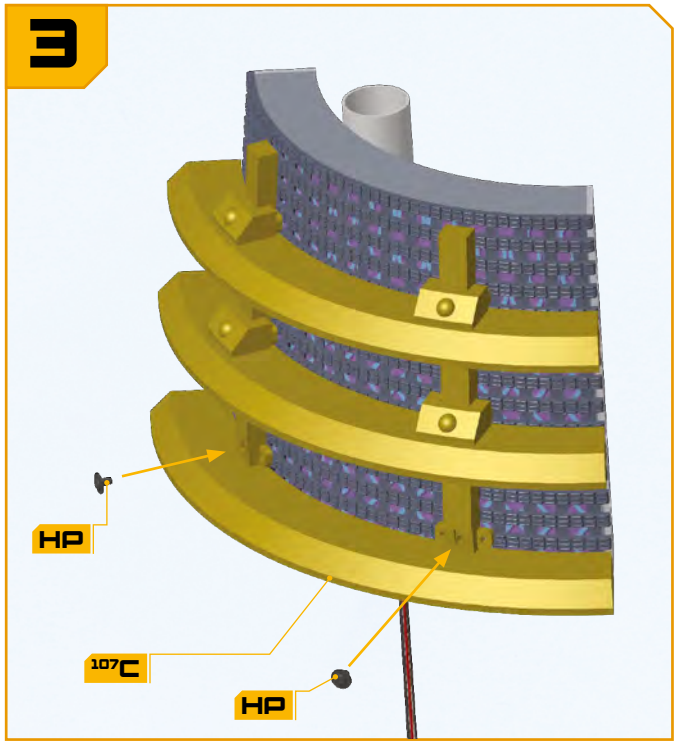


#107-01

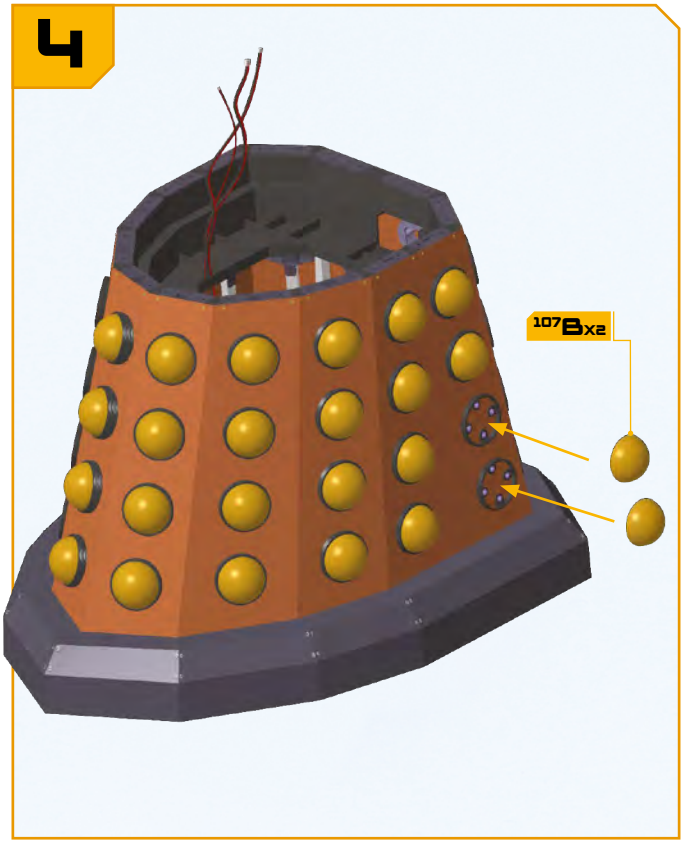
Take the assembly from Issue 106. Fit the four connector brackets **107A** over the **HP** screws holding the deflector strips in place. The small pegs on each side of the brackets fit into holes in the fixing strips **106A**. These are push-fit connections.



#107-02
Take the deflector strip **107C** and fit it over the lowest recesses in the strips **106A**. The open screw holes on the tabs of part **107C** should align with the screw sockets in the recesses in parts **106A.**



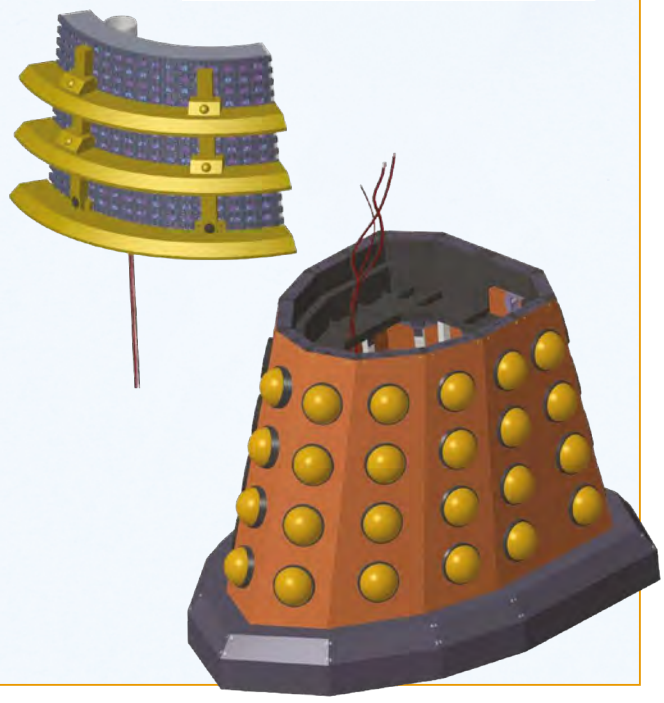
#107-03
Secure the deflector strip **107A** in place with two **HP** screws, one on each side.



#107-04
Fit the skirt domes **107B** into the next pair of silicone rings at the bottom of the left-hand side of the skirt assembly.

COMPLETED WORK

#107-COMPLETED WORK
The brackets and deflector strip have been fixed in place, and two more domes have been fitted to the skirt assembly.



THE DALEK

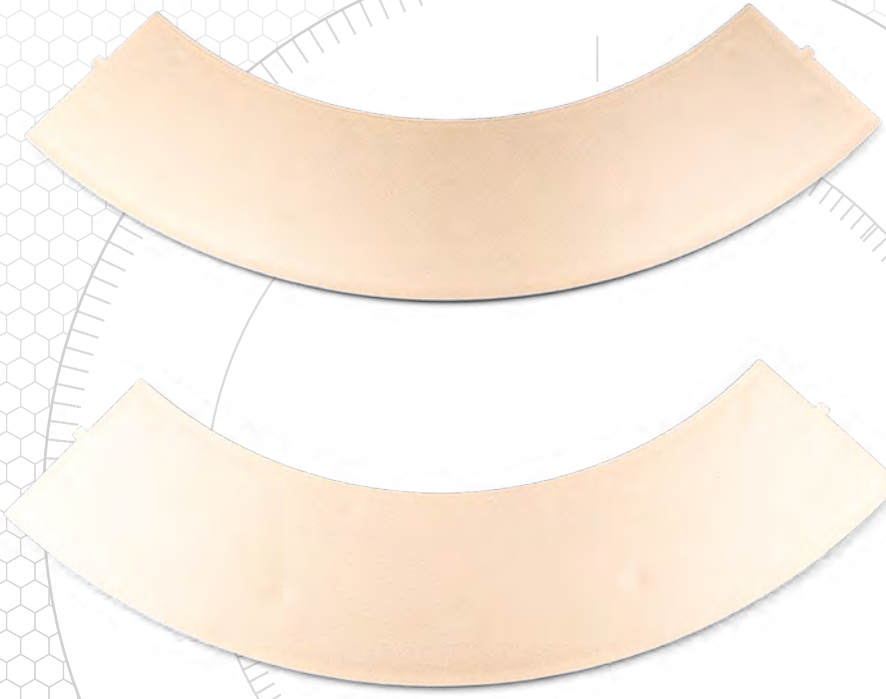


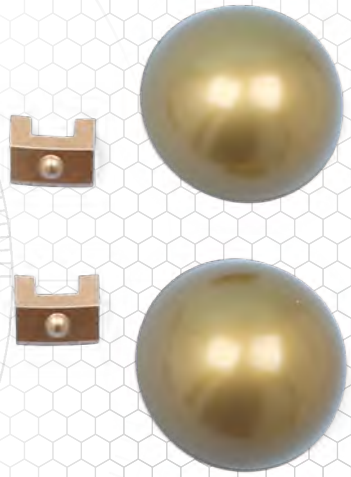
COMING IN ISSUE 108



BUILD PART 108

Continue assembling the skirt area of the model by fitting two more connector brackets, another deflector strip and two further skirt domes.





THE TIME VORTEX



A lone Dalek accidentally discovers a unique time-space phenomenon – one that could finally lead to the extermination of the Doctor!

ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE



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