

'New' German System: TI-BA Urs Flammer kindly sent details of the set shown here, including the invaluable notes on the parts from Jürgen Kahlfeldt.

It is thought that TI-BA was probably made in the 1946-50 period but nothing is known of the maker.

The SETS The set here is labelled '1+2' and so perhaps there were also Sets 1 & 2. Or was '1+2' just to impress potential buyers? The Set's box is wooden and measures 366*236*35mm. The top of lid is shown in Fig. 1 and held on its underside (Fig.2) is a sheet with the set contents, and a model leaflet folded into four.

The PARTS Many of them can be seen in Fig.3, the open box. Axles and the N&B are steel, the other parts are anodised aluminium, .9 to 1.2mm thick, and coloured green, orange, yellow, blue, & natural, as shown. All Brackets & small parts are blue except for the green Flat Bracket. Holes are 3.6mm at 10.0mm pitch, though the latter varies by $\pm .06$ in the 25h parts. The thread is M3. The parts in the set contents list follow with notes, quantities in curly brackets, and an asterisk for parts missing from the Set. #1-6 **Strips** 25,15,12,10,5,3h. 10.8mm wide. {6,4,10,4,10,4}. #7 **Flat Bracket** with 2 slotted holes. {4}. #8 **A/G** 25h. {4}. #9 **DAS** 1*5*1h. All holes except the centre 3 are slotted. {6}. #10 **A/B**, 2 slotted holes. {12}. #11 **Reversed A/B**. {2}. #12 **Double Bent Strip**. {1}. #13 **D/B** 2*1*2h. {1}. #14 **Bush Wheel**, 6h, 34mm \varnothing . {1}. #15,16,17 **Flanged Plates**: Sector; 5*5,12h (the 5*5h are under the 5*12h.), holes 3.2,3.5,3.2mm \varnothing . Slotted holes in flanges & along flanged edges. {2,2,1}. #18,19,20 **Pulleys** with boss, 69,33,22.3mm \varnothing . {2,4,2}. #21 **Screwdriver*** {1}. #22 **Spanner*** {1}. #23,24,25 **Axles** 100,50,30mm, 3.4mm \varnothing . {3,1,1}. #26 **Crank Handle*** {1}. #27 **Cord*** (Schnurrolle) {1}. #28 **Bolts**, cheesehead, 6,8mm u/h, some 6mm have raised (gewölbter) head. {50}. #29 **Nut** 5,5mm A/F. {50}. #30 **Spring*** {1}. #31,32 **Tyres**, Rubber, for #19, 20, 53/30, 38/22mm \varnothing , 12.5,8.5mm wide. {2,2}

The following parts were found but aren't in the maker's list. **A/G**, 3h long, all holes slotted, blue. {2}. **Collar**, **Coupling** 8mm \varnothing , 8,10mm long. Natural. {4,2}. **Tyre**, rubber, 29/15.5 \varnothing , 6.5mm wide. It has no obvious use. {2}.

The MODELS The model sheet right shows 24 models. Their unusual presentation was most likely for cheapness or to meet a deadline for the system's launch. Conceivably though it was to encourage youngsters to think through the way the models should be built. The first quite simple models would have provided an introduction to this and the relative mechanical simplicity of all of them would have avoided any real difficulties, at least for the enthusiast with some experience.

One oddity, arising from the set's contents, no 3- or 4-wheel model could have all the wheels the same diameter.

The two models bottom right reproduce poorly. One is a Signal Gantry with two signal arms on each of two masts, all?some of them lever-operated. The model above it is a Steam Engine with a connecting rod from a Bush Wheel on the end of a Crank Handle. The drive to the 2-arm governor above isn't clear.



Fig.1

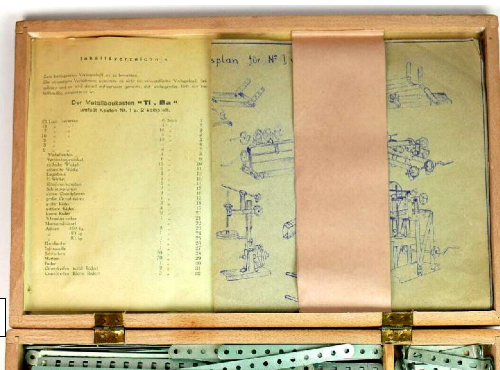


Fig.2

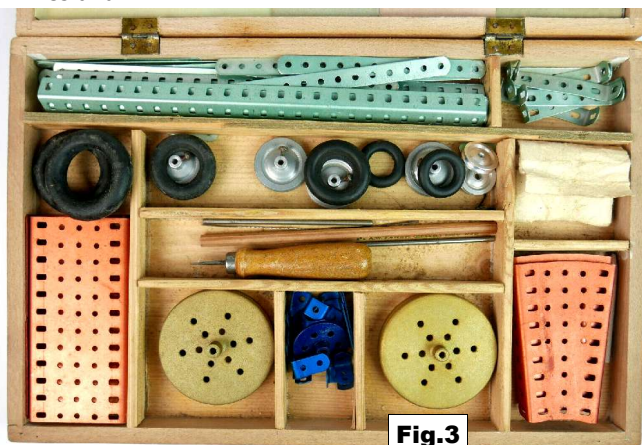


Fig.3

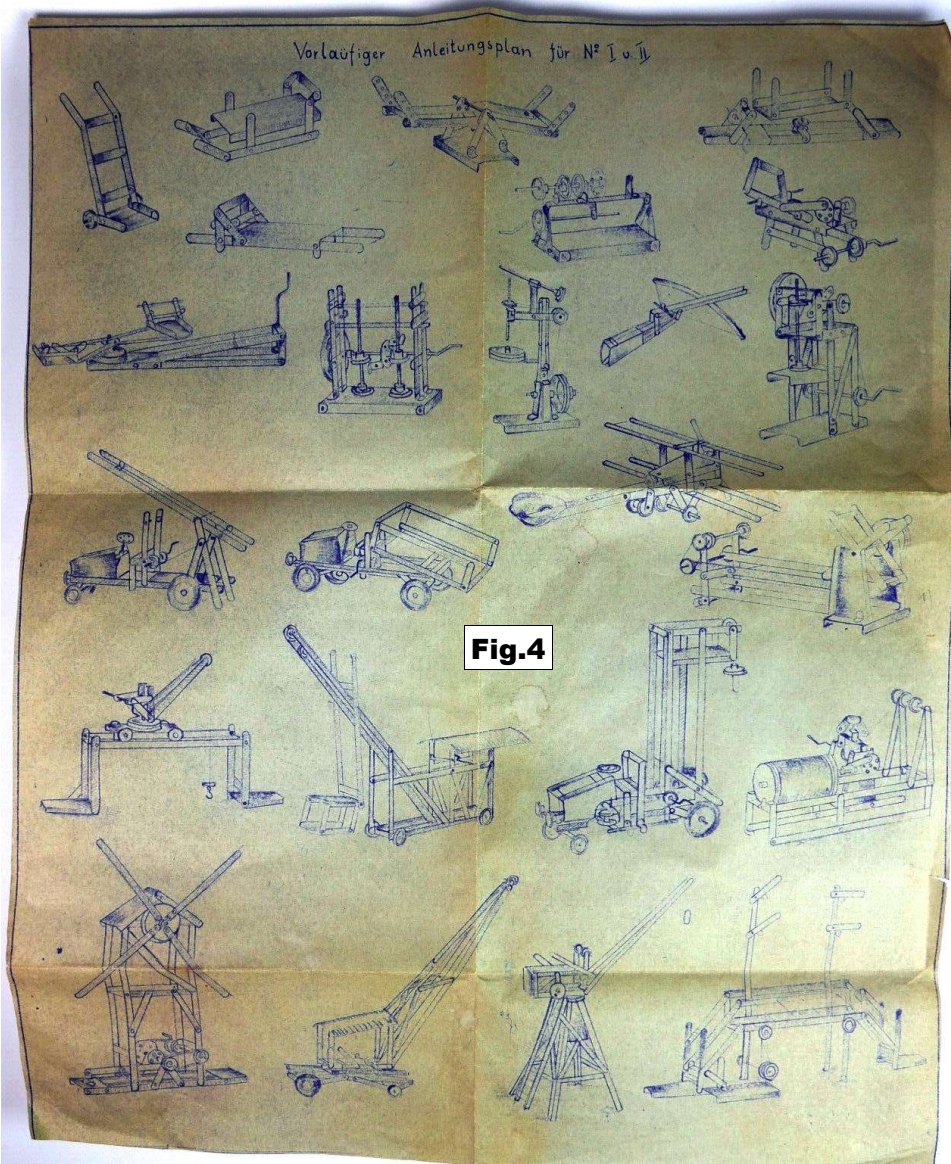


Fig.4