



Close-up detail of the decal, this lying underneath the paste finish that has dried rapidly and caused a crazed effect.

The similarity between light tan sand paint and that of winter white camouflage can be difficult to distinguish apart sometimes after many years of wear. These two helmets are a case in point, the left hand helmet being an SS helmet that has been snow camouflage painted, the other helmet being a classic North Africa light sand tan camouflaged helmet. The period picture shows what appears to be a large amount of ammunition tins and machine gun drums as well as spare barrel cases. These have been painted in a tone that greatly contrasts with the white of the snow that lies behind. Are these in fact in dunkelgelb or simply a mid grey? It is indeed impossible to truly know, however this period photo does expose the difficulties in distinguishing paints in black and white imagery.



Externally this once camouflaged helmet has suffered greatly from rust bleed and darkening. However the interior is somewhat more revealing. This has been camouflaged to the inner skirt. This perhaps illustrates greatly the attention to detail that was paid to such items by some soldiers.

The frontal underside to the peak has lost all its paint finish but reveals the slate grey paint beneath, this is presumably due to constant wear and removal from the soldiers head being facilitated by him handling this area of the helmet. The interior even shows evidence of subtle olive and red brown over-spraying. The over-spray paint can clearly be seen upon the aluminium liner band that facilitates the fixation of the leather liner portion.

