GEBIRGSJÄGER IN THE WEST OFFICIAL BRIEFING®

2. GEBIRGSDIMISION AND 6. SS-GEBIRGSDIMISION 'NORD' ON THE WESTERN FRONT 1945





By Derek Body and Wayne Turner

UPDATED ON 1 AUGUST 2014

THE WORLD WAR II MINIATURES GAME

2. GEBIRGSDIVISION

After the *Anschluss* (the incorporation of Austria into Germany) 2. *Gebirgsdivision* was formed from the Austrian 6th Division in Innsbruck on 1 April 1938 as part of *Wehrkreis XVIII* (Military District 18). On 26 August 1939 the division was mobilised and in September it took part in the Polish campaign as part of *Heeresgruppe Sud* (Army Group South).

POLAND

2. Gebirgsdivision fought alongside 1. Gebirgsdivision in Poland, their main goal being the capture of Lemberg (Lvov, Lviv), the Galician provincial capital and an important communications and rail hub. The division entered Poland from Käsmark (Kežmarok) in Slovakia, marching on foot through Nida, Neu Sandec and Jasslo, capturing the Dukla Pass on the way, before reaching Lemberg. They made fast progress through the mountains and hilly terrain of the Slovakian and Polish border region, and once in Poland 2. Gebirgsdivision quickly linked up with 1. Gebirgsdivision, who had taken a northern approach across the border. By 11 September both division had covered well over 240km (150 miles). On14 September they had reached the foot hills around Lemberg. 1. Gebirgsdivision formed a Kampfgruppe to attack the city, while the rest of the two divisions formed a cordon around Lemberg to prevent arriving Polish troops from relieving the besieged city. Fighting with the Polish garrison and relieving forces was fierce, but after six days the Polish defenders finally surrendered, but only if they were allowed to surrender to the German Gebirgsjäger and not to the recently arrived Soviet troops. The victorious Gebirgsjäger then had to hand the city over to the Soviets, who had belatedly joined the invasion of Poland.

NORWAY

After the Polish campaign 2. Gebirgsdivision and 3. Gebirgsdivision were selected to take part in the invasion of Norway. 3. Gebirgsdivision's target was Narvik in the north of Norway. One regiment was loaded aboard 10 Destroyers of the Kriegsmarine (German Navy) and headed north. The German destroyers sunk two Norwegian coastal defence ships before entering Narvik Port and unloading the *Gebirgsjäger*. The Norwegians surrendered and on 9 April 1940 the port of Narvik was in German hands. However, supplies were short, as only one supply ship had reached Narvik.

The following morning the German Destroyers were attacked by a fleet of British Destroyers and two German ships were sunk. On 13 April the British attacked again, this time with heavy support from the Battleship HMS Warspite and the remaining eight German Destroyers were sunk. Without their naval support the *Gebirgsjäger* were somewhat stranded. The British and French had also landed troops 64km (40 miles) to the north. With over 15,000 Allied troops closing on Narvik, the trapped *Gebirgsjäger* and *Kriegsmarine* sailors had little choice but to fight and hope for relief. Despite the rest of *3. Gebirgsdivision* racing to relieve their comrades, the Allies withdrew on 8 June, and Norway formally surrendered, before defeating the isolated *Gebirgsjäger*.

2. Gebirgsdivision had meanwhile landed in Trondheim, joining the rest of 3. Gebirgsdivision in their attempt to relieve Gebirgsjager-Regiment 139 in Narvik. With the Norwegian surrender the division moved to the far north to take up occupation duties.

BARBAROSSA

In 1941 the division was in Lapland to participate in Operation Silberfuchs (Silverfox), the attack on the Soviet Arctic as part of Operation Barbarossa. Their target was the Soviet arctic port of Murmansk. As part of Gebirgsskorps Nowegen (Mountain Corps Norway) they were once more teamed with 3. Gebirgsdivision. Fighting through horrible Mosquito infested terrain that consisted of barren rock, swampland, and dark dank forests, the Gebirgsjäger initially made good progress, smashing through the Soviet defences until reaching the River Liza in early July, when Soviet resistance began to stiffen. The Soviets began to counterattack, but the Gebirgsjäger held them. However, the forward momentum of the offensive had stumbled to a halt. 3. Gebirgsdivision was replaced by 6. Gebirgsdivision, which formed with 2. Gebirgsdivision the XIX Gebirgskorps (19th Mountain Corps).



NORTHERN FINLAND

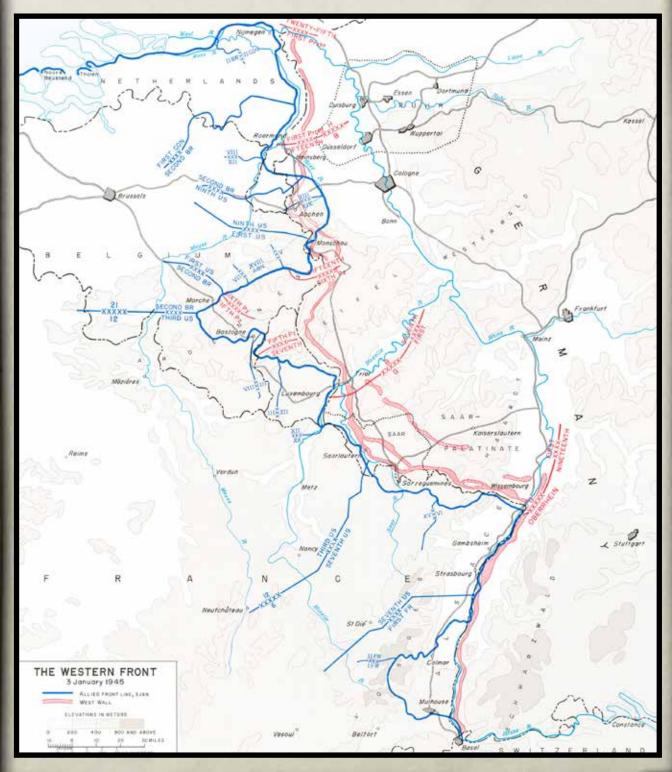
During the winter the Soviets launched a major counter-offensive. Despite heavy casualties *XIX Gebirgskorps* held its ground throughout the Winter of 1941/42 and a stalemate developed in the sector. Minor raids and skirmishes were carried out, but no heavy fighting occurred while both side rebuilt for the spring.

When Spring arrived, so did another major Soviet offensive. The Soviet offensive combined land and seaborne assaults in an attempt to cut off and isolate elements of the *Gebirgskorps*. The mountain troops held, but another Soviet attack almost succeed, but the timely intervention of bad weather brought all action to a halt. The weather respite allowed the Germans time to regroup and reorganise their defences. 1943 was spent once more in stalemate, with minor actions and no major offensives. However, in the Summer of 1944 the Soviets were in an offensive mood and the far north was not ignored. The Soviet offensive in Finland finally forced the Finns to the negotiation table and a peace treaty was signed in September 1944.

In late 1944 2. Gebirgsdivision withdrew to Norway and then transferred to Denmark, after a fighting retreat against the Finns, as the Finns fulfilled their treaty obligations to expel the Germans from Finland. In December 1944 the Division was sent to Denmark to refit.

TO THE WEST

In January 2. Gebirgsdivision was moved to the Western



Front to reinforce the Colmar Pocket on the Franco-German border in Alsace. They were stationed around the Neuf-Brisach bridgehead in the northeast of the pocket.

The French and Americans launched Operation Cheerful on 20 January 1945, their aim was to clear the German forces from the pocket and secure crossing over the Rhine River into Germany. The attack was started in a heavy snowstorm, the sort of conditions the *Gebirgsjäger* were well familiar with from their fighting in Finland. The attack around Mulhouse by the French *1er Corps d'Armée* was halted. However, the attack had successfully drawn the German reserves south and the French next attacked, two days later, the Erstein bulge, which lay to the north, just south of Strasbourg.

2. Gebirgsdivison came under attack from French and American forces on 24 January 1945. Gebirgsjäger-Regiment 136 held the town of Jebsheim. Between 24 January and 2 February a savage and bitter struggle for the town was fought, with it changing hands three times in nine days of fighting. The Gebirgsjäger were not alone in their defence and were supported by the Jagdpanther tank-hunters of 654. Schwere Panzerjägerabteilung. They faced the US 254th Infantry Regiment (attached to the 3rd Infantry Division), French 5th

Armoured Division, Paratroopers, Foreign Legion, Moroccan cavalry and FFI troops. The Americans and French finally clear the town of the last *Gebirgsjäger* at 1500 hours on 2 February. However, *2. Gebirgsdivision* still held the countryside around the town and fighting continued. Over the next few days the Germans continued to be pushed back in the pocket until finally permission was granted by Hitler for the Germans forces to withdraw from the Colmar Pocket across the Rhine.

SAARPFALZ AND TRIER

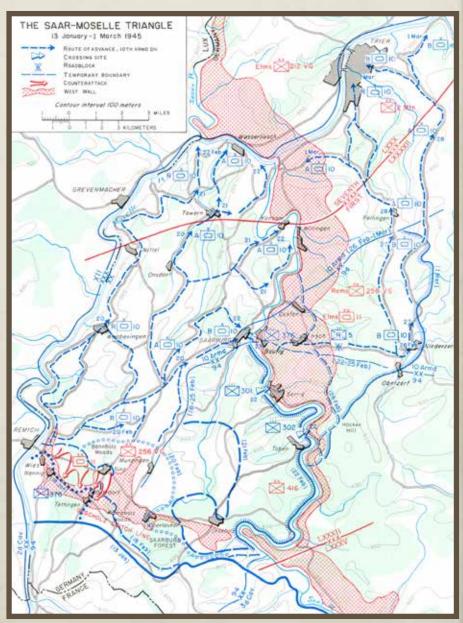
The division was next moved north to the Saarpfalz region in February 1945 where it was placed in the reserve of *1. Armee. 2. Gebirgsdivision* replaced *559. Volksgrenadierdivision* holding Bitche. After a short period of successful fighting most of the division was moved by motorised transport to the area south of Trier.

In late February the Americans began to push out of the Saar Brigdehead and advance towards the Rhine River. Fighting alongside 2. Gebirgsdivision was 212. Volksgrenadierdivision. An attack by the US 76th Infantry Division drew the Volksgrenadiers north away from Trier leaving the city lightly defended. The American 94th Infantry Division was then able to quickly take Trier. However, the Germans quickly organised a counterattack to take back the city. Initially 256. Volksgrenadierdivision was committed to hold any further American advance before 2. Gebirgsdivision and 6. SS-Gebirgsdivison 'Nord' attacked between 3 and 4 March form Zerf to the south of Trier. The attack cleared some US infantry, but 2. Gebirgs division's Hetzer tank-hunters soon became embroiled in a firefight with the tank-destroyers of the 778th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Finally, the 2. Gebirgsdivision attack was halted by US Artillery fire.

After the attack, the division was able to hold their positions until the middle of March, but suffered heavy casualties. The remnants of the division then retreated towards the Rhine near Germersheim.

GERMANY

This was followed by defensive battles in Southern Germany in Württemberg where further fighting almost destroyed the division. What was left of the division then retreated into the Tirol region in Austria where remnants surrendered to the Americans in May 1945.



6. SS-GEBIRGSDIVISION 'NORD'

BLACK EDELWEISS

SS-Kampfgruppe NORD was formed in February 1941 and were first deployed to Finland in June as a motorised infantry division, where they were renamed '*SS-Division NORD*'. The Finnish government was officially neutral at this time, but within days of their arrival Operation Barbarossa commenced and Soviet bombers and artillery began conducting attacks against bordering Finnish towns. Finland's 'Continuation War' was renewed, and with Soviet forces reeling under the German assault, the Finns were quickly able to reclaim most of their lost territory.

The as yet untried SS-Division saw their first combat in the northern sector as part of Operation *Silberfuchs* (Silverfox) to sever the Murmansk Railway. Here they were ordered to frontally attack the heavily fortified Soviet position of Salla but were bloodily repulsed. This position was later double enveloped by *169. Infanteriedivision* and the Finnish 6th Division, forcing the Soviets to withdraw.

After their baptism by fire, elements of NORD were temporarily brought under Finnish command. The German troops benefited greatly from this close co-operation, sometimes Finnish platoons would work alongside German companies and they gained invaluable experience in dealing with the terrain and winter conditions. On a strategic level they also made use of Finnish *motti* (small-scale encirclement) tactics that were far superior to the wider encirclements common to German doctrine due to the heavily wooded terrain. By the end of the year the Soviets had been forced back to heavily defended strongpoints and with Finland's small population (3.5 million) the cost of high attrition battles would result in the Murmansk railway remaining firmly under Soviet control.

The division slowly received reinforcements which were largely needed due to casualties caused by the bitterly cold winter conditions. These were often *Volksdeutsche* or ethnic Germans that helped evolve NORD into a multi-ethnic SS-Division. In 1942 both sides begun construction of sturdy defensive positions and operations were conducted to attack each other's supply lines with the Soviets aided by partisans. The Soviets launched their spring offensive in late April which endeavoured to cut off the main German supply route employing the 23rd Guards Division, 8th Ski Brigade and 80th Independent Brigade. Successful employment of *motti* tactics alongside Finnish Division J countered this Soviet thrust while inflicting heavy casualties.

SS-GEBIRGSDIVISION

In June the division was officially reorganised as a reinforced mountain division (*SS-Gerbirgsdivision Nord*). This was primarily a change for logistical reasons rather than the requirement to fight in alpine terrain. The equipment however was extremely useful and skis and sleds increased winter mobility greatly. Small groups aided by Finnish troops would conduct raids and demolish railway tracks which were duly repaired by Soviet forced labour camps.

The stalemate situation largely continued through 1943. The division received their final designation as 6. SS-Gerbirgsdivision 'Nord'. This comprised SS-Gerbirgsjäger-Regiment 11 'Reinhard Heydrich' and SS-Gerbirgsjäger-Regiment 12 'Michael Gaißmair' and also included two volunteer Norwegian units on the grounds that they were only to be employed against the Communist forces.

By 1944 the Soviets staged a major offensive on the Lagoda-Karelia front which caused Finland to sue for a separate peace. *6. SS Gerbirgs* therefore made plans to conduct a phased withdrawal (Operation Birke). The Soviets demanded that the Finns forcibly intern all German troops after 15 September, firefights broke out between the German rearguard and Finnish forces and they finally left Finnish soil in early November. After 3½ years of fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Finns they parted as respected foes, but many were bitter about the apparent betrayal of their close ally.

NORDWIND

The division headed south through Norway and would eventually complete a 1,600 kilometre (1,000 mile) foot trek, briefly stopping in Denmark to receive new weapons and equipment. It was only now that they were issued with MG42 machine guns and each rifle battalion received a new heavy company consisting of a platoon of two 7.5cm infantry guns and another of four 12cm mortars.

These units would require training while the bulk of the division was urgently needed for deployment in conjunction with the *Wacht am Rhein* (Watch on the Rhine or Ardennes) offensive begun in mid December 1944. This delay in transportation of units caused the division to only be committed piecemeal for the later *Nordwind* operation in the new year just as the Ardennes campaign was beginning to lose its impetus. They were however considered to be the freshest German force available in the West at the time.

Operation *Nordwind* began on New Year's Day 1945 and was the last German offensive in the West. *6. SS-Gerbirgsdivision Nord*' was tasked with the seizure of the town Wingen-sur-Moder and ultimately to open the Saverne Pass to allow an armoured breakthrough into the Rhine Valley. They received hasty training with their newly acquired panzerfausts and the lead elements began to infiltrate on 1 January. The main combat elements available were the 1st and 3rd battalions of *SS-Gerbirgsjäger-Regiment 12*. This force was designated *Kampfgruppe Schreiber* and were attached to *361. Volksgrenadierdivision*.

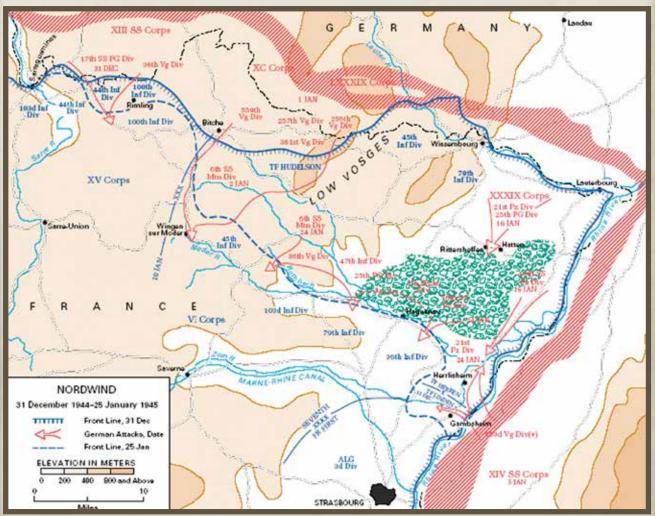
The attack on Wingen-sur-Moder began on 4 January. The town was defended by the 179th Regiment of the 45th 'Thunderbird' Division. After a brief fight the town was overrun with approximately 300 Americans captured. A counterattack in the belief that a force of only 'around 50 Germans' had occupied the town was easily repulsed by the force of 725 German troops. The Germans however were unable to establish radio contact with headquarters to request urgent reinforcements to exploit this and the Americans soon surrounded the town.

Troops from 276th Regiment (70th 'Trailblazers' Division) attacked on 5 January, but failed to dislodge the defenders. *Kampfgruppe Schreiber* were now running low on supplies and ammunition. When contact with headquarters was finally made the orders were to withdraw, but only a force of 205 managed to reach friendly lines. The high tidemark of Operation *Nordwind* had been reached without significant gain for the sacrifices made.

With American forces taking to the offensive troops of the 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Division were ordered to seize the high ground near Reipertswiller on 14 January. Here *SS-Gerbirgsjäger-Regiment 11* was able to entrap six companies with classic *motti* tactics. Desperate attempts to escape or relieve these forces were repelled by the Germans until a surrender ultimatum was agreed and 450 men were led away to captivity. With recent well publicised events of prisoner massacres still fresh in their minds the Americans were greatly relieved by their captors humane treatment. German forces were now fully on the defensive and would soon be forced to fight on their own soil.

DEFENCE OF THE REICH

After suffering under the Americans complete aerial dominance and overwhelming artillery, the SS troops had sustained heavy losses. They received paltry replacements and were ordered to recapture the town of Trier on the Moselle River in March, but were thwarted by the US 94th 'Pilgrim' Division. The American 3rd and 7th Armies offensive in the Saar-Palantine region was rapid and elements of NORD were largely cut-off and bypassed, only remnants of *SS-Gerbirgsjäger-Regiment 11* were able to cross the Rhine River as the last combat effective unit of the division. They were involved in a series of costly delaying actions until the remaining force estimated at 800 were captured by the 5th 'Red Diamond' and 71st 'Red Circle' Divisions in early April 1945 near Frankfurt.



GEBIRGSJÄGER RULES

A Gebirgsjägerkompanie uses all the German special rules on pages 241 to 245 of the rulebook. In addition many of its platoons use the Pack Mule special rule below.

PACK MULES

A *Gerbirgsdivision* had specific requirements for logistical supply and transportation. Trucks were part of the Valley echelon (*Talstaffel*) and a Pack Mule train formed the Mountain echelon (*Bergstaffel*). Mountain troops were issued

with light guns that could be broken into smaller loads and carried on pack horses or mules to move on the narrow mountain trails and terrain they are trained to fight on.

Gun teams carried by Pack Mule teams are Mountaineers, see page 61 of the rulebook. Pack Mule teams are Transport teams. Pack Mule teams carry Gun teams as Passengers and the Gun team is removed from the table while it is carried by the Pack Mule team.

Ŷ

2. GEBIRGSDIVISION RULES

In addition to the Gebirgsjäger special rule above, a *2. Gebirgsdivision* Gebirgsjägerkompanie uses the Mountaineers rule below.

MOUNTAINEERS

The Gebirgsjäger of *2. Gebirgsdivision* are trained to fight over the high mountains of Europe. They are equipped to scale any slope or rocky mountain pass.

Gebirgsjäger Infantry teams and Man-packed Gun teams are all Mountaineers.

6. SS-GEBIRGSDIVISION 'NORD' RULES

In addition to the Gebirgsjäger special rule above, a *6. SS-Gebirgsdivision 'Nord'* Gebirgsjägerkompanie uses the Wassecial rule below.

WALDJÄGER

When SS-Division 'Nord' was converted into a *Gebirgsdivision* their experience fighting alongside the Finns in the frozen north had already shaped their training. With high mountains few and far between in Finland they concentrated on improving their mobility through the forests

and snow of northern Finland. Experience and training soon made them almost as adept at *Wald*, or forest, fighting as the native Finns.

6. SS-Gebirgsjäger Infantry and Man-packed Gun teams may move At the Double through Woods, Snow and Deep snow (see page 30 of the rulebook).





Heer pattern Edelweiss arm patch worn on the right upper sleeve of *Gebirgsjäger*.

Heer pattern Edelweiss cap badge worn on the left side of the *Bergmütze (mountain cap)*.





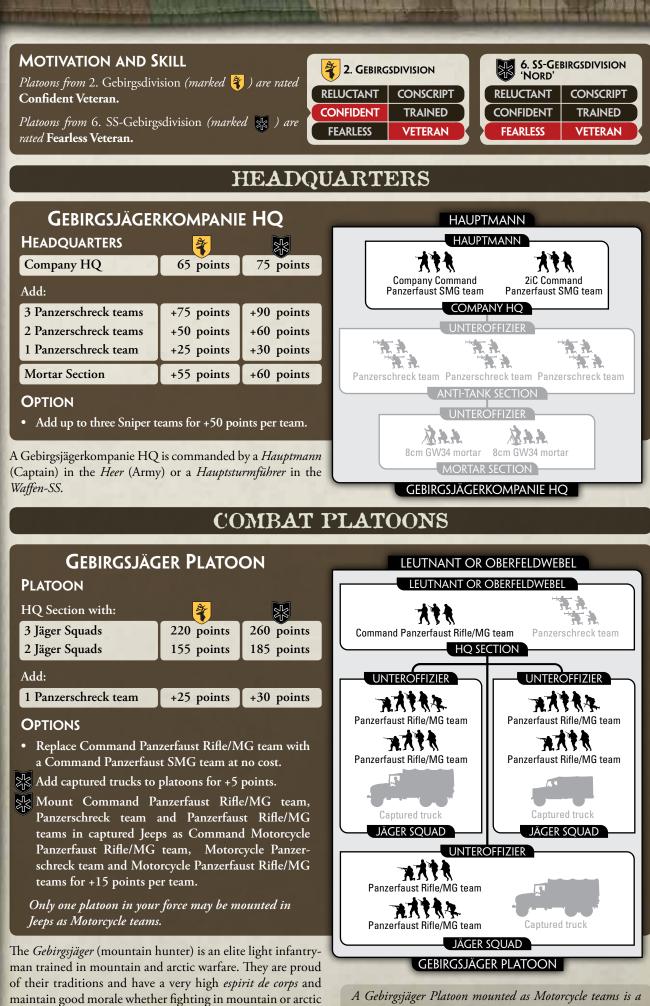
Waffen-SS pattern Edelweiss arm patch worn on the right upper sleeve of *SS-Gebirgsjäger*.

Waffen-SS pattern cloth Edelweiss cap badge worn on the left side of the *Bergmütze*.



GEBIRGSJÄGERKOMPANIE MOUNTAIN INFANTRY COMPANY INFANTRY COMPANY

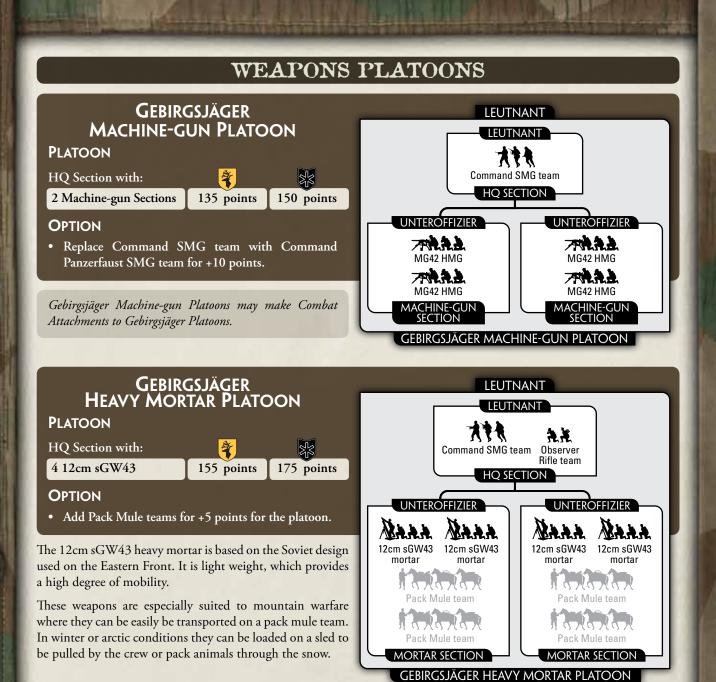
You must field one platoon from each box shaded black and may field one platoon from each HEADQUARTERS HEADQUARTERS box shaded grey. Your force must be either 2. Gebirgsdivision (marked 3) or 6. SS-Gebirgsdivision (marked 3). If a platoon has either of these symbols, you can only take equipment and options marked with your selected symbol. If the platoon does not have either symbol, you can take equipment and オキネ Gebirgsjägerkompanie HO options marked with any symbol, or no symbol. **DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS** COMBAT PLATOONS INFANTRY MACHINE-GUNS **WEAPONS PLATOON** ARTILLERY ARMOUR *** ALL Gebirgsjäger Machine-gun Platoon Gebirgsjäger Platoon Mountain Artillery Battery Gebirgsjäger Tank-hunter Platoon MACHINE-GUNS INFANTRY Light Artillery Battery Looted Panzer Platoon 不能乱 ATTA-Heavy Artillery Battery Heavy Tank-hunter Platoon Ŷ Gebirgsjäger Machine-gun Platoon Gebirgsjäger Platoon Volks Assault Gun Platoon 88 ARTILLERY ARTILLERY ACHL INFANTRY ANTI-TANK Maaa Mountain Artillery Battery *** **That**A Gebirgsjäger Heavy Mortar Platoon Gebirgsjäger Platoon Anti-tank Gun Platoon Light Artillery Battery Volks Rocket Launcher Battery **.**†,₅ ARTILLERY INFANTRY **That** **** ANTI-AIRCRAFT ALLIED PLATOONS Gebirgsjäger Infantry Gun Platoon 14 A.A.A +SS-Panzergrenadier Platoon \oplus Anti-aircraft Gun Platoon INFANTRY Volksgrenadier Sturm Platoon + Luftwaffe Platoons in your AX SS-Self-propelled Anti-aircraft Gun Platoon force are Allies and follow Volksgrenadier Schützen Platoon + the Allies rules on page 70 Gebirgspionier Platoon of the rulebook. ANTI-AIRCRAFT Volks Platoons in a 6. SS-· MAA Gebirgsdivision force are **PLATOONS** ARTILLERY SS-Heavy Anti-aircraft Gun Platoon Allies and follow the Allies 12.5 rules on page 70 of the Luftwaffe Heavy Anti-aircraft Gun rulebook. Gebirgsjäger Heavy Infantry Gun Platoor REGIMENTAL SUPPORT AIRCRAFT ANTI-TANK 74444 Gebirgsjäger Anti-tank Gun Platoon Air Support RECONNAISSANCE AAAA Gebirgsjäger Scout Platoon



conditions, or fighting in other situations. The individual

Gebirgsjäger is fit and strong due to hard training and having to carry much of his own equipment when campaigning.

A Gebirgsjäger Platoon mounted as Motorcycle teams is a Reconnaissance Platoon while mounted, see the Motorcycle Reconnaissance rules on page 196 of the rulebook.



_ (GEBIRGS	JÄGER	
INFAN	try Gu	N PLATO	ON
TOON			

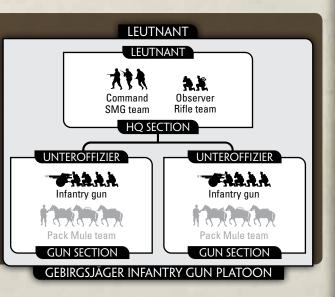
HQ Section with:	*	
2 7.5cm IG37	65 points	75 points
2 7.5cm PaK50	75 points	85 points
2 7.5cm LG40		55 points

OPTIONS

PLAT

- Replace Command SMG team with Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.
- Add Pack Mule teams for +5 points for the platoon.

New infantry guns were introduced in 1944 and as the *Gebirgs* divisions refitted in Denmark in December they received new modern guns like the 7.5cm IG37 gun or the 7.5cm PaK50 gun.



GEBIRGSPIONIER PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:	*	SLS
3 Pioneer Squads	235 points	280 points
2 Pioneer Squads	165 points	195 points

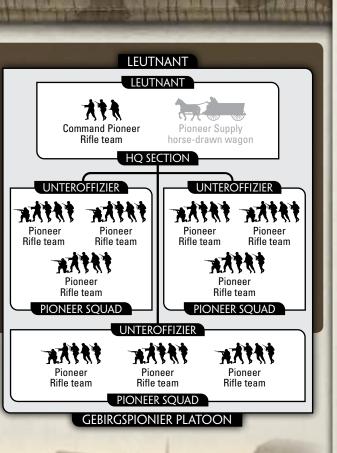
OPTIONS

guns and infantry.

- Replace Command Pioneer Rifle team with Command Panzerfaust Pioneer SMG team for +10 points. If you do this, you may replace all remaining Pioneer Rifle teams with Panzerfaust Pioneer Rifle teams for +30 points per squad.
- Add Pioneer Supply horse-drawn wagon for +20 points or Pioneer Supply 3-ton truck or RSO tractor for +25 points.

You may replace up to one Pioneer Rifle team per Pioneer Squad with a Flame-thrower team at the start of the game before deployment.

The *Gebirgpionier* troops provide combat engineering support for the *Gebirgsjäger*. Wherever they fight minefields, obstacles and fortifications are obstructions that need to be cleared by the specialists.



Gebirgsjager of Gebirgsjager-Regiment 136, 2. Gebirgsdivision, taken prisoner after the battle for Jebsheim, Colmar Pocket 2 February 1945.

REGIMENTAL SUPPORT PLATOONS



GEBIRGSJÄGER ANTI-TANK GUN PLATOON

PLATOON

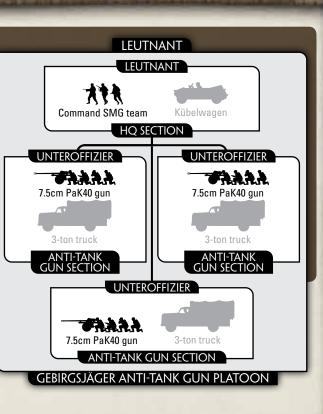
HQ Section with:	*	
3 3.7cm PaK36		75 points
3 5cm PaK38		100 points
3 7.5cm PaK40	155 points	175 points

OPTIONS

- Add Kübelwagen jeep and 3-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.
- Replace 3-ton trucks with RSO tractors at no cost.

The 7.5cm PaK40 is the standard anti-tank gun of the *Heer* and *Waffen-SS*. The *Gebirgsjäger* are no exception, the power offered by the 7.5cm PaK40 gun is now more important than the mobility offered by lighter guns. However, the transfer from Finland was so fast that some units still had older guns.

The enemy's tanks has increased in number and protection and this powerful weapon is needed to deal with them.





OPTIONS

- Replace Command Rifle team with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +15 points or a Command Panzerfaust Assault Rifle team for +25 points.
- Replace all Rifle teams in each Scout Squad with Assault Rifle teams for +15 points per team.

Gebirgsjäger Scout Platoons are Reconnaissance Platoons.

LEUTNANT LEUTNANT Command Rifle team HQ SECTION UNTEROFFIZIER Mifle team Rifle team SCOUT SQUAD GEBIRGSJÄGER SCOUT PLATOON

Each *Gebirgsjäger* Regiment has a scout platoon. These filled the role of reconnaissance for the regiment, searching out enemy positions and locating the best routes of march.

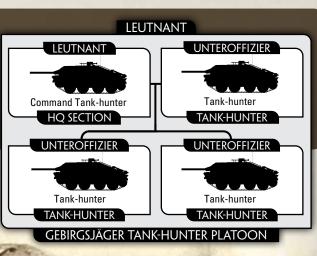


GEBIRGSJÄGER DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

GEBIRGSJÄGER TANK-HUNTER PLATOON

Platoon	*	
4 Hetzer	340 points	380 points
3 Hetzer	255 points	285 points
2 Hetzer	170 points	190 points

2. Gebirgsdivision was issued with Jagdpanzer 38 Hetzer tankhunter in January 1945 as part of their Panzerjäger Abteilung (Anti-tank Battalion). 6. SS-Gebirgsdivision received some Hetzer tank-hunters in February 1945, most likely from Heer units.





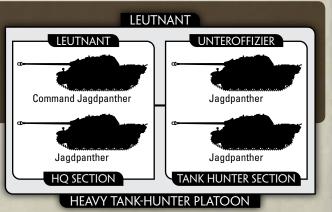
LOOTED PAN	VZER PLAT	OON	LEUTNANT
Platoon	*	××	LEUTNANT
1 M5 Stuart & 1 M8 Scott HMC 1 M5 Stuart	-	85 points	Command Captured tank
& 1 M4A1 Sherman		115 points	HQ SECTION
1 M5 Stuart	1.1 - 1.1	45 points	UNTEROFFIZIER UNTEROFFIZIER
1 M8 Scott HMC	-	40 points	
3 M4A1 Sherman		200 points	
2 M4A1 Sherman		135 points	Captured tank Captured tank
1 M4A1 Sherman		70 points	PANZER SECTION PANZER SECTION
LOOTED PANZER PLATOON			

6. SS-Gerbirgsdivision captured a number of US vehicles during their operations in the last year of the war. These were quickly pushed into service to make up for their short fall of tank-hunters.

A Looted Panzer Platoon is rated Fearless Trained.

Heavy Tank-hunter Platoon			
*	S/S		
40 points			
05 points	-		
70 points			
	40 points 05 points 70 points		

During the battle for Jebsheim, in the north of the Colmar Pocket, from 24 January to 2 February 1945 *Gebirgsjäger-Regiment 136* of 2. *Gebirgsdivision* was supported by the Jagdpanther tank-hunters of 654. Schwere Panzerjägerabteilung.



FEARLESS

TRAINED

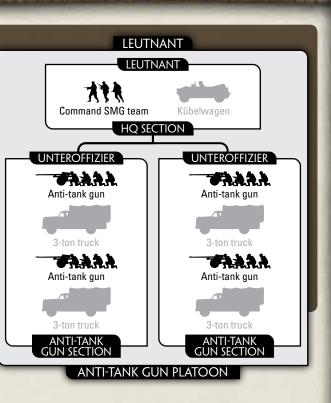
ANTI-TANK GUN PLATOON

PLATOON		
HQ Section with:	*	**
4 7.5cm PaK40	205 points	245 points
3 7.5cm PaK40	155 points	175 points
2 7.5cm PaK40	105 points	125 points
4 5cm PaK38		130 points
3 5cm PaK38	-	100 points
2 5cm PaK38	-	70 points

OPTIONS

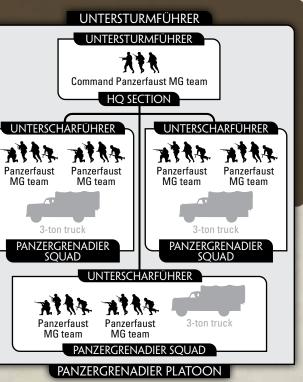
- Add Kübelwagen jeep and 3-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.
- Replace 3-ton trucks with RSO tractors at no cost.

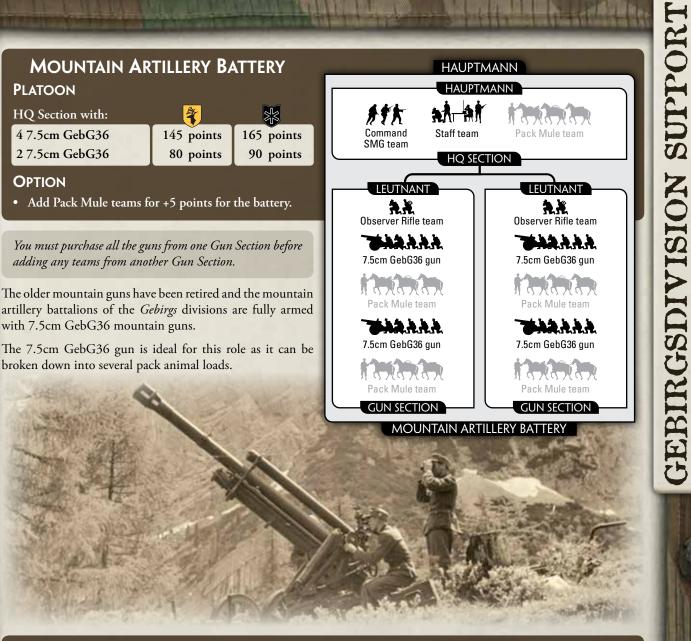
Both divisions each had their own anti-tank battalion armed with 7.5cm PaK40 guns. Because of their haste in redeploying to the West Wall, 6. SS-Gebirgsdivision's SS-Gebirgspanzerjäger-Abteilung 6 did not have their old 5cm PaK38 guns replaced until after Operation Nordwind. 2. Gebirgsdivision's guns came from Panzerjäger-Abteilung 55.





SS-Panzergrenadier-Bataillon 506 was part of 6. *SS-Gebirgsdivision 'Nord'*. It was formed from *Schützen-Bataillon* (*mot*) 6 and wasn't given the '506' designation until the division was deployed on the western front. It was often used as a mobile reserve force for the *SS-Gerbirgsjäger* Regiments. It took part in supporting attacks during Operation *Nordwind* and in the turmoil of the last few weeks of the war it was often forced to fight as a separate entity.





LIGHT ARTILLERY BATTERY

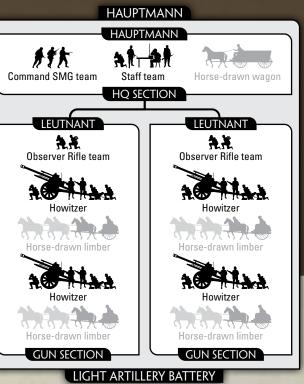
Platoon		
HQ Section with:	*	××
4 10.5cm leFH18/40 2 10.5cm leFH18/40	-	235 points 125 points
4 10.5cm GebH40 2 10.5cm GebH40	205 points 105 points	

OPTIONS

- Add horse-drawn wagon and limbers for +5 points for the battery.
- Replace horse-drawn wagon and limbers with Pack Mule teams at no cost for a Battery equipped with 10.5cm GebH40 howitzers.

You must purchase all the guns from one Gun Section before adding any teams from another Gun Section.

Each division also had a light howitzer battalion. These were either armed with standard 10.5cm leFH18/40 howitzer like *6. SS-Gebirgsdivision 'Nord'*, or the specially designed 10.5cm GebH40 mountain howitzer like *2. Gebirgsdivision*.



15

HEAVY ARTILLERY BATTERY

Platoon

HQ Section with:	*	
4 15cm sFH18 2 15cm sFH18	310 points 160 points	360 points 185 points
4 s10cm K18 2 s10cm K18		445 points 230 points

OPTION

• Add Kubelwagen jeep, Kfz 68 radio truck and Sd Kfz 7 half-tracks for +5 points for the battery.

You must purchase all the guns from one Gun Section before adding any teams from another Gun Section.

A heavy artillery battalion of three batteries supported each *Gebirgsdivision. 2. Gebirgsdivision* simply had three heavy howitzer batteries of 15cm sFH18 howitzers, while *6. SS-Gebirgsdivision* had two howitzer batteries and the third battery was armed with s10cm K18 heavy guns.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN PLATOON PLATOON

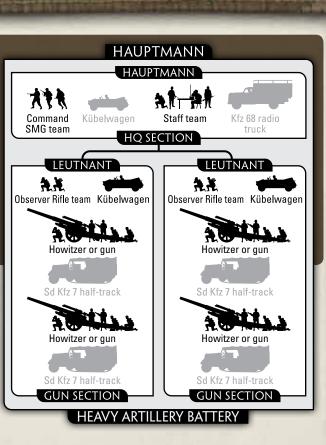
HQ Section with:	*		
3 2cm FlaK38	75 points	85 points	
3 3.7cm FlaK43	-	110 points	
3 2cm FlaK38 (V)		95 points	

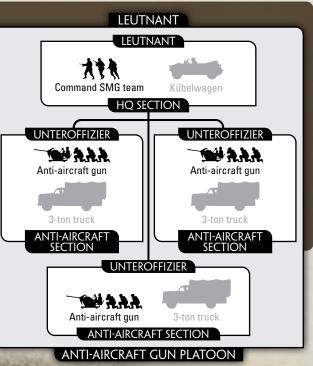
OPTIONS

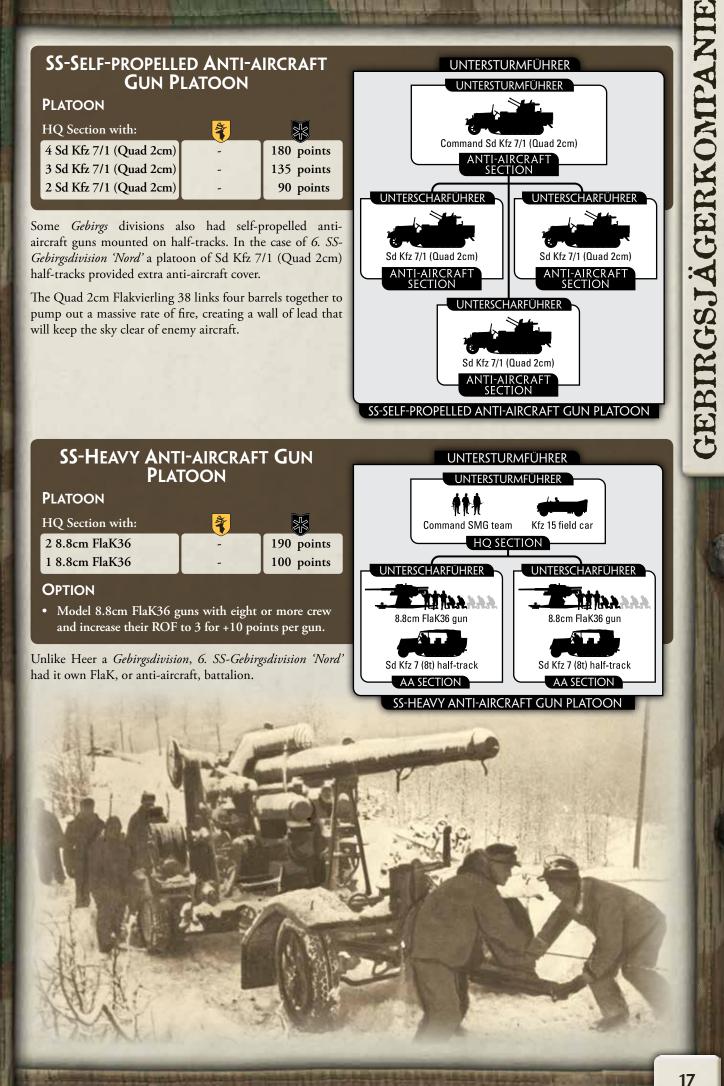
- Add Kübelwagen jeep and 3-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.
- Replace Kübelwagen jeep and 3-ton trucks with Pack Mule teams fat no cost.

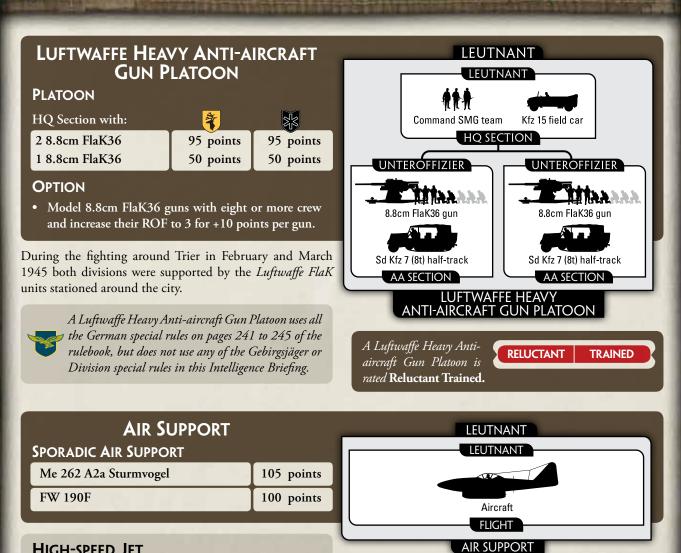
The *Gebirgsjäger* are not immune to air attack and have their own anti-aircraft guns to keep the skies clear. They use the 2cm FlaK38 anti-aircraft gun because it is light and mobile, ideal for the rough terrain that they normally fight in.

Twelve 2cm FlaK38 anti-aircraft guns are part of the *Panzerjäger Abteilung* (anti-tank battalion). *6. SS-Gebirgsdivision 'Nord'* also had a company of 3.7cm FlaK43 guns in its *FlaK Abteilung*.









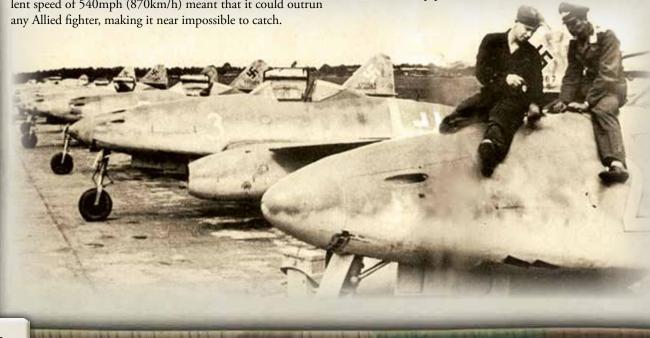
HIGH-SPEED JET

Ground attacks by Me 262 A2a aircraft cannot be intercepted using the Fighter Interception rule on page 179 of the rulebook.

The Luftwaffe (German Air Force) was not idle over the skies of Belgium, with fighter-bombers attacking targets of opportunity. However, it was also the debut of the world's first operational jet fighter: the Me 262. The ground attack version, the Me 262 A2a Sturmvogel (Storm Bird), was armed with two 30mm cannons and a pair of 250kg (550lb) bombs. Its excellent speed of 540mph (870km/h) meant that it could outrun

OPERATION BODENPLATTE

Operation Bodenplatte (Baseplate) was to be launched on 16 December 1944. Its mission was to cripple Allied air support, giving the ground units of Wacht Am Rhein a fighting chance. However, the weather refused to co-operate and the operation wasn't launched until 1 January 1945. Over 900 aircraft took to the skies and struck the Allies' air bases in Belgium and Holland and destroyed somewhere between 300 and 400 Allied aircraft. This success, however, came at the steep price of over 300 German aircraft.



VOLKSGRENADIER SUPPORT PLATOONS

MOTIVATION AND SKILL

Platoons from 361. Volksgrenadierdivision (*marked* +) *are rated* **Reluctant Trained.**

Platoons from 212. Volksgrenadierdivision (*marked* =) *are rated* **Confident Veteran.**

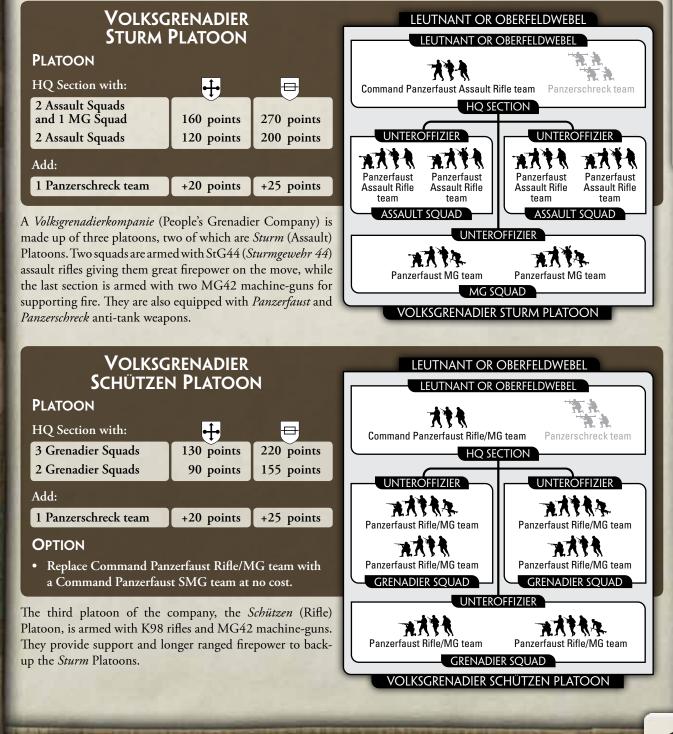
212. VOLKSGRENADIERDIVISION

2. Gebirgsdivision fought alongside 212. Volksgrenadierdivision during it fighting around Trier in February 1945. 212. Volksgrenadierdivision was mostly made up of young men from Bavaria with a veteran cadre from the 212. Infanteriedivision. The division had high morale and had fought well during the Ardennes campaign.



361. VOLKSGRENADIERDIVISION

During Operation Nordwind 6. SS-Gebirgs division's Kampfgruppe Schreiber was attached to 361. Volksgrenadierdivision. 361. Volksgrenadierdivision was formed from Luftwaffe and Kreigsmarine troops with a cadre from the old 361. Infanteriedivision. Casualties inflicted during January eventually caused the division to be disbanded.



VOLKS ASSAULT GUN PLATOON

Platoon	+	Ð
3 StuG IV	195 points	-
2 StuG IV	130 points	
2 StuG G (late)	135 points	

As 6. SS-Gebirgsdivision didn't have any official armour of their own they received support from 361. Volksgrenadierdivison who they were attached to during Operation Nordwind. 361. Volksgrenadierdivison had mostly StuG IV assault guns, but had received two new StuG G (late) assault guns in January 1945 as replacements.



VOLKS ROCKET LAUNCHER BATTERY Platoon

HQ Section with:

6 15cm NW41	135 points
3 15cm NW41	70 points
6 21cm NW42	160 points
3 21cm NW42	85 points
6 30cm NW42	195 points
3 30cm NW42	100 points

OPTION

• Add Kübelwagen jeep and Sd Kfz 11 half-tracks for +5 points for the battery.

RELUCTANT

TRAINED

A Volks Rocket Launcher Battery is rated **Reluctant Trained.**

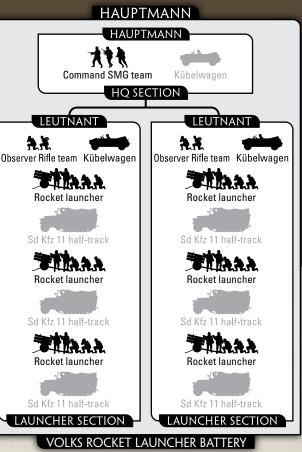
SUPER-HEAVY ROCKETS

The massive 30cm rockets used by the NW42 rocket launchers are slow to load and therefore the full battery is not always available to fire on command. A Volks Rocket Launcher Battery equipped with 30cm NW42 rocket launchers uses the Super-heavy Rockets special rule.

At the start of the game, place a Full Salvo marker with a platoon equipped with 30cm NW42 Super-heavy Rockets. Remove this marker after firing an Artillery Bombardment.

If a platoon with Super-heavy Rockets does not have a Full Salvo marker when it fires an Artillery Bombardment, roll a Skill Test for each Rocket Launcher able to fire in the Bombardment. Only those that pass the Skill Test can fire as part of the Bombardment.

Place a Full Salvo marker on a platoon with Super-heavy Rockets at the end of any Shooting Step in which every Rocket Launcher in the platoon was able to fire an Artillery Bombardment, but none did so.



You must purchase all the rocket launchers from one Launcher Section before adding any teams from another Launcher Section.

Five Volks-Werfer Brigaden (People's Rocket Launcher Brigades) supported the German forces during the Ardennes offensive. Each brigade consisted of two regiments with six batteries of 15cm NW41 rocket launchers and three heavy batteries of either 21cm NW42 or 30cm NW42 rocket launchers, depending on if it was the first or second battalion.

The biggest advantage of *Nebelwerfer* rocket launchers is their ability to saturate a wide area quickly with high-explosive rounds. They are ideal for pinning down an enemy position while attacking forces approach for the assault.

Contractor of the

GERMAN ARSENAL

TANK TEAMS

Name Weapon	Mobility <i>Range</i>	Front <i>ROF</i>	Armour Side <i>Anti-tank</i>	Top Firepower	Equipment and Notes
TANK HUNTERS					
Hetzer 7.5cm PaK39 gun	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	7 2	2 11	1 3+	Hull MG, Overloaded. <i>Hull mounted</i> .
Jagdpanther 8.8cm PaK43 gun	Standard Tank 40"/100cm	10 2	5 16	1 3+	Hull MG. Hull mounted.
LOOTED PANZERS					
M5A1 Stuart M6 37mm gun	Light Tank 24"/60cm	4 2	2 7	1 4+	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, AA MG.
M8 Scott HMC M1A1 75mm howitzer Firing bombardments	Light Tank 16"/40cm 64"/160cm	3 2 -	2 6 3	0 3+ 6	.50 cal AA MG. Smoke.
M4 or M4A1 Sherman <i>M3 75mm gun</i>	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	6 2	4 10	1 3+	Co-ax MG, Hull MG. <i>Smoke.</i>
Assault Guns					
StuG IV 7.5cm StuK40 gun	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	7 2	3 11	1 3+	Hull MG, Protected ammo, Schürzen. <i>Hull mounted</i> .
StuG G (late) 7.5cm StuK40 gun	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	7 2	3 11	1 3+	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Protected ammo, Schürzen. <i>Hull mounted</i> .
ANTI-AIRCRAFT (SP)					
Sd Kfz 7/1 (Quad 2cm) 2cm FlaK38 (V) gun	Half-tracked 16"/40cm	- 6	- 5	- 5+	Gun shield. <i>Anti-aircraft.</i>
RECONNAISSANCE					
Motorcycle Panzerfaust Rifle.MG	team Jeep	-	-	-	Motorcycle reconnaissance, Dismount as Panzerfaust
When firing Rifle/MG When firing as Panzerfaust	16"/40cm 4"/10cm	2 1	2 12	6 5+	Rifle/MG team. Hull-mounted, Vehicle MG. Awkward layout.
Motorcycle Panzerschreck team	Jeep	-	-	-	Motorcycle reconnaissance, Dismount as Panzerschreck team.
Panzerschreck	8"/20cm	2	11	5+	Awkward layout.
VEHICLE MACHINE-G	UNS				
Vehicle MG	16"/40cm	3	2	6	ROF 1 if other weapons fire.

TRANSPORT TEAMS

Mobility <i>Range</i>	Armour Front Side Top Equipment and Notes ROF Anti-tankFirepower
Jeep	
Wheeled	
Wheeled	
Half-tracked	
Wagon	
Half-tracked	
Slow Tank	
Wagon	
Man-packed	Pack mules.
	Range Jeep Wheeled Wheeled Half-tracked Wagon Half-tracked Slow Tank Wagon

GUN '	TEAMS
-------	-------

Weapon	Mobility	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
MG42 HMG	Man-packed	24"/60cm	6	2	6	ROF 3 when pinned down or moving.
8cm GW34 mortar Firing bombardments	Man-packed	24"/60cm 40"/100cm	2 -	2 2	3+ 6	Smoke, Minimum range 8"/20cm. Smoke bombardment.
12cm sGW43 mortar	Light	56"/140cm	-	3	3+	
7.5cm LG40 recoilless gun	Man-packed	16"/40cm	2	9	3+	Recoiless.
7.5cm IG37 gun Firing bombardments	Light	16"/40cm 56"/140cm	2 -	9 3	3+ 6	Gun shield, Smoke.
7.5cm PaK50 gun Firing bombardments	Medium	24"/60cm 64"/160cm	2 -	10 3	3+ 6	Gun shield.
15cm sIG33 gun Firing bombardments	Heavy	16"/40cm 56"/140cm	1 -	13 4	1+ 2+	Bunker buster, Gun shield.
2cm Flak38 gun	Light	16"/40cm	4	5	5+	Gun shield, Anti-aircraft, Turntable.
2cm Flak38 (V) gun	Immobile	16"/40cm	6	5	5+	Gun shield, Anti-aircraft, Turntable.
3.7cm Flak43 gun	Immobile	24"/60cm	4	6	4+	Gun shield, Anti-aircraft, Turntable.
8.8cm FlaK36 gun	Immobile	40"/100cm	2	13	3+	Gun shield, Heavy anti-aircraft, Turntable.
3.7cm PaK36 gun Firing Stielgranate	Light	24"/60cm 8"/20cm	3 1	6 12	4+ 5+	Gun shield.
5cm PaK38 gun	Medium	24"/60cm	3	9	4+	Gun shield.
7.5cm PaK40 gun	Medium	32"/80cm	2	12	3+	Gun shield.
7.5cm GebG36 gun Firing bombardments	Heavy	16"/40cm 72"/180cm	2 -	9 3	3+ 6	Gun shield, Smoke. Smoke bombardment.
s10cm K18 gun Firing bombardments	Immobile	32"/80cm 96"/240cm	1 -	15 4	2+ 4+	
10.5cm leFH18/40 gun Firing bombardments	Heavy	24"/60cm 72"/180cm	1 -	10 4	2+ 4+	Breakthrough gun, Gun shield, Smoke. Smoke bombardment.
10.5cm GebH40 howitzer Firing bombardments	Heavy	24"/60cm 72"/180cm	1	10 4	2+ 4+	Breakthrough gun, Smoke. Smoke bombardment.
15cm sFH18 gun Firing bombardments	Immobile	24"/60cm 80"/200cm	1 -	13 5	1+ 2+	Bunker buster, Smoke. Smoke bombardment.
15cm NW41 rocket launcher	Light	64"/160cm	-	3	4+	Rocket launcher, Smoke bombardment.
21cm NW42 rocket launcher	Light	72"/180cm	-	3	3+	Rocket launcher.
30cm NW42 rocket launcher	Light	56"/140cm	-	3	1+	Rocket launcher, Super-heavy rockets.

INFANTRY TEAMS

Team	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
Rifle team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	
Rifle/MG team	16"/40cm	2	2	6	
MG team	16"/40cm	3	2	6	ROF
SMG team	4"/10cm	3	1	6	Full R
Assault Rifle team	8"/20cm	3	1	6	Full R
Flame-thrower team	4"/10cm	2	-	6	Flame
Panzerschreck team	8"/20cm	2	11	5+	Tank
Staff team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	Move

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT Panzerfaust 1 12

4"/10cm

]	ROF 2 when pinned down.
]	Full ROF when moving.
]	Full ROF when moving.
]	Flame-thrower.
	Fank assault 5.
1	Moves as a Heavy Gun team.

Tank Assault 6, Cannot shoot in the Shooting Step if moved in the Movement Step.

Pioneer teams are rated as Tank Assault 4.

AIRCRAFT

5+

Aircraft	Weapon	To Hit	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
Me 262 A2a Sturmvogel	Cannon Bombs	3+ 4+	9 5	5+ 2+	High-speed Jet.
FW 190F	Cannon Bombs	3+ 4+	7 5	5+ 1+	