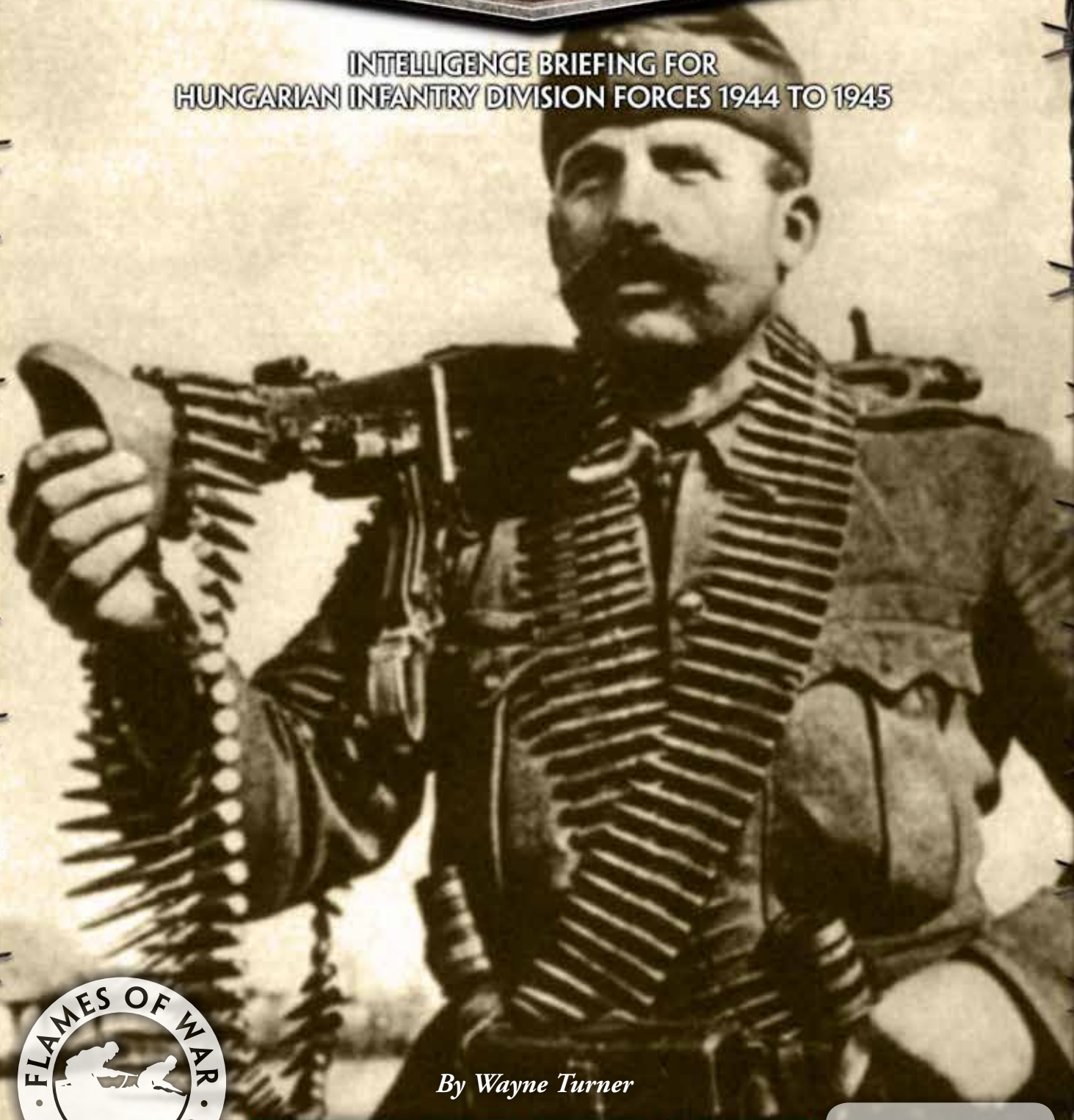


# HUNGARIAN INFANTRY

## OFFICIAL BRIEFING

INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING FOR  
HUNGARIAN INFANTRY DIVISION FORCES 1944 TO 1945



*By Wayne Turner*

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# FLAMES OF WAR

THE WORLD WAR II MINIATURES GAME

# Hungarian Infantry Forces in 1944

After their experience on the Don River in the winter of 1942/43 the Hungarians instituted a number of changes to their infantry forces in 1943. The first of these reforms was known as the *Szabolcs I* plan and was updated in early 1944 to the *Szabolcs II* plan. The new infantry divisions were based around three 3-battalion infantry regiments (the forces on the Don were two regiment light divisions). They were upgraded with heavier artillery, replacing the old 80mm field guns with 100mm howitzers and reinforced by 149mm howitzers. An effort was made to obtain heavier anti-tank weapons such as the 75mm PaK40 from the Germans and each infantry regiment was issued with nine of these. Another lesson learned from the Germans was the need for the infantry to have their own armour and the Assault Artillery was formed with the intention to have a battalion of Zrínyi assault howitzers available to each infantry division.

As war continued to push closer the Hungarian border, provisions were made for mobilising more forces in the form of Reserve or Replacement divisions. These were formed along the same organisation as the first line divisions, but usually had less artillery available, with just three instead of four battalions, and no assault artillery battalion.

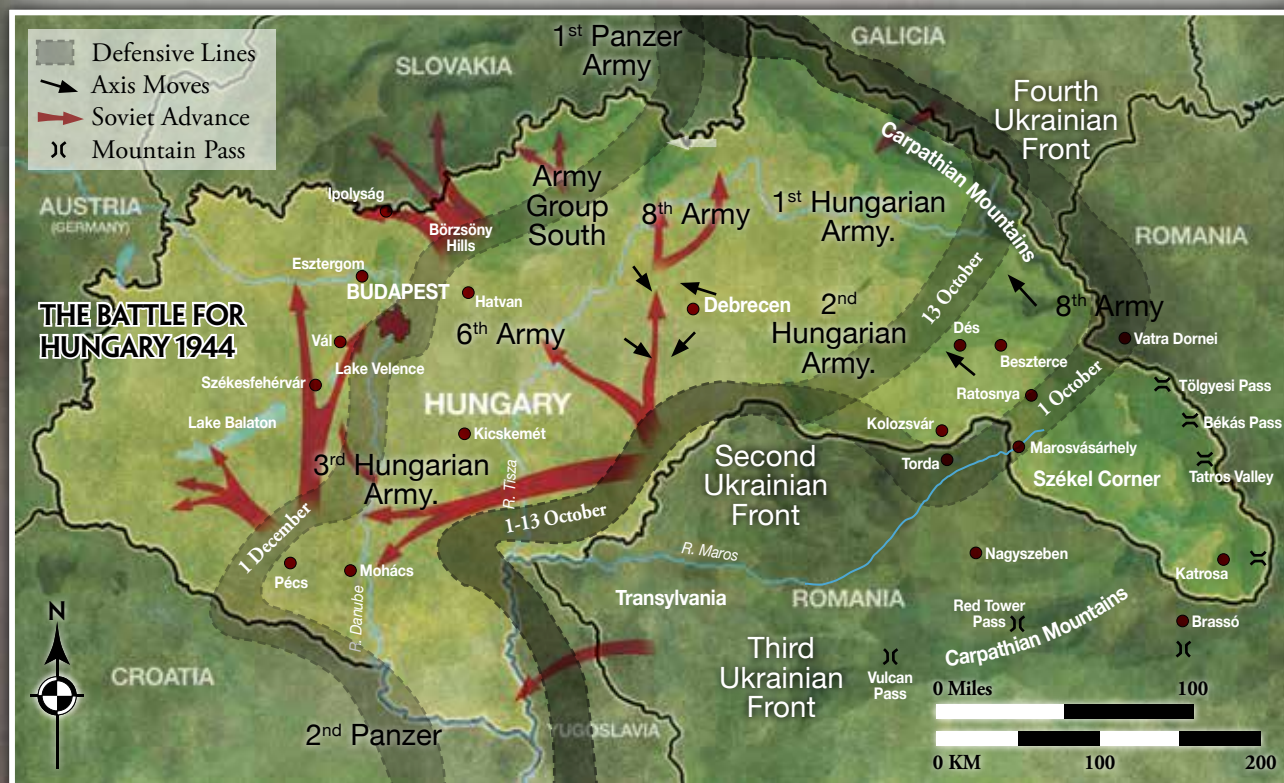
The other infantry forces the Hungarian had at hand for home defence were the various border troops. These included the Border Guard, Border Police, Mountain Border Police and the traditional border levy of the Székler Command. The Border Police were part of the Ministry of the Interior and their roles included customs and excise, and immigration control, but in times of war they could be mobilised to defend the border. The Mountain Border Police were mobilised in times of war

to provide the two Hungarian Mountain Brigades and new Border Guard units were raised to replace them. The Border Guard came under the Army and also patrolled the borders in peacetime, but they also provided fortress companies for the guarding of strategic passes and fought if Hungary was invaded.

The Székler Command has its roots in the traditions of the Austro-Hungarian empire, which had a tradition of keeping irregular light border troops to harass any invading enemy (usually the Ottoman Turks). The Székely are the ethnic Hungarian people of Transylvania. During World War II their responsibility was the Székely Corner, the part of Hungary known as Northern Transylvania that jutted out over the Romanian controlled territory of the rest of Transylvania. Because of the way Transylvania was divided in 1940 the border had no natural features on which to anchor the border defence and defence in this sector became a difficult prospect. It had only been linked by rail to the rest of Hungary in 1942. The Székler Command was made up of a mix civilian Border Police, army Border Guard and local militias whose responsibilities included the defence of any passes and roads navigable by enemy tanks in the Carpathian Mountains. Because of its isolated position the Székely Corner was supplied with ammunition and provisions for four weeks fighting in case it was cut-off, as well as food stockpiles for the civilian population.

## FIGHTING FOR THE SZÉKELY CORNER

The Romanians changed sides after their defeat by the Soviets in the battles for Iași and Chișinău in August 1944 and the threat of invasion became an imminent reality. As early as 10



August Lieutenant-General *vitéz* (meaning brave, an honorary title somewhat like a knighthood) Lojos Veress, commander of the Hungarian Second Army, with the IX Corps at Kolozsvári (Cluj) in Northern Transylvania, held a meeting with his senior commanders and German Generalmajor von Grolman, the chief of staff of Army Group South Ukraine, to discuss the defence of the Eastern Carpathians. The original defensive plan had been made with Romania still allied with the Germans, but new provisions had to be made with the threat of the Romanians attacking from Southern Transylvania.

With the collapse of the Romanians on the Iași/Chișinău front Army Group South Ukraine had effectively lost five corps and 18 divisions while they retreated through hostile territory towards Hungary and the western Ukraine. The front opened up rapidly and Soviet mechanised and cavalry forces poured through Romania heading for the Carpathian mountain passes to Transylvania. This left only Hungarian troops to secure their border with Romania. Despite their defeat at the hands of the Soviets, the Romanians still had substantial forces in the field, and while they went about re-assembling the Third and Fourth Armies, they had many training and reserve units of the First Army watching the Hungarian border in Transylvania in case the Hungarians decided to strike.

The first Romanian probe into Hungarian territory occurred on 25 August, west of the Moras (Mures) River, when a battle group of Romanian infantry crossed the border in the Keleman (Călimani) Mountains on the northwestern edge of the Székel Corner and clashed with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Border Guard Battalion and local Gendarmes (rural police).

A day later more serious fighting broke out when elements of the Soviet 7<sup>th</sup> Guards and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Tank Corps crossed the border into the Úz and Csobányos valleys and north from the Ciuc Mountains, bringing the fighting proper to Hungarian soil for the first time in the war. On 27 August fighting occurred at Ojtózi, on 28 August at Gyimesi and in the Tatros Valley, all in the Eastern Carpathian Mountains.

Some German units had arrived to join the fighting, with *Kampfgruppe* Abraham and *Kampfgruppe* Fessner joining the defence. However it became clear that the Hungarian border forces were not going to be enough to hold back the might of the Red Army. Hungarian units had begun mobilising in central Hungary with the Second Army mobilising as further troops were sent to aid the IX Corps fighting in Transylvania. The VII Corps headquarters was detached from the First Army, which was fighting on the border with the Ukraine, and given command of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 20<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division, all veteran units who had been fighting in the Ukraine since April. The

Second Army was further boosted by troops quickly raised as part of the field replacement army, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Replacement Division.

Retreating German units increasingly joined the fighting and the 4. *Gebirgsdivision* was transferred from the north to join the defence of Transylvania. With only border troops immediately available the Germans played an important role in the fighting around the Baróti Mountains, at Nyárád and holding the Maros (Mures) River and Szászrégent (Reghin) line and at Marosludas (Luduș) up until the beginning of October 1944.

The Ojtózi Pass held for several days, but was lost when the 24<sup>th</sup> Border Guard Battalion was forced out the southeast corner of the front line, but with the aid of German units they were able to halt the advance until 9 September along the Ojtózi (Ozsdola) – Berecki (Bereck) – Lemhény (Lemnia) – Torja (Turia) – Kásonújfalú (Cașinu Nou) line. The 24<sup>th</sup> Border Guard Battalion and 67<sup>th</sup> Border Guard Group's determined defence played an important role. During these battles there were outstanding displays of fighting by the Hungarian border troops.

Among these should be mentioned the exploits at Ojtózi Farm by the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion's 1<sup>st</sup> Fortress Company. The Germans and Hungarians, after a short but fierce battle, were pushed out of the southern exit of the Pass into the widening Ojtózi Valley, where the Hungarian 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion's 1<sup>st</sup> Fortress Company's position was built near the village of Sósmező (Poiana Sărată). Sósmező was the first village within the Kingdom of Hungary to be occupied by Soviet troops in 1944. During the fighting around the village, most of the buildings were destroyed and many civilians lost their lives. Company commander Lieutenant Sándor Megyery, deputy company commander Lieutenant Ferenc Kovács, and the platoon commander at Ojtózi Pass reserve Ensign János Vác, were all awarded the Hungarian Cross of Merit with Swords and Ribbons. At no other time during the war had three Hungarian officers from the same company received an honour for the same action.

In another outstanding action reserve Ensign Ferenc Mező commanded the machine-gun company of the 24<sup>th</sup> Border Guard Battalion defending the area between Kásonjakabfalva, the 1,051 metre Nyir peak, and the village of Katrosa on 3 September. During the day his positions repelled several Soviet infantry and cavalry attacks. Mező took command of the last machine-gun after its crew had been lost, and, already wounded himself, he beat back several more Soviet infantry assaults. With nothing but resolute determination he held his position with hand-to-hand fighting all around him. He died fighting off Soviet infantry, unwilling to retreat. He was posthumously awarded the Officers Gold Medal for Bravery, the 17<sup>th</sup> officer to be so awarded during the war.

All along the Transylvanian border similar fighting occurred at the Úz, Csobányos and Tatros valleys. The Hungarians held a line through the Csíki Mountains in desperate fighting by various battle groups through 12 to 14 September. The bulk of the defence was taken up by the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> *Székely* Border Guard battalions, the fortress companies of the *Székely* Border Guard battalions, and the German 'Fessner' battle group. Troops began to arrive in Northwest-Hungary in the form of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Infantry regiments.

The Soviet 50<sup>th</sup> Guard Rifle Corps, of the 40<sup>th</sup> Army, sent patrols into Hungary on 3 September to the north and south of the Békás (Bicas) pass. They headed north to the heights at Point 1502 to increase pressure on the hard-pressed Hungarians. If the Soviets were able to take possession of this commanding elevation, they planned to then take the Békás and Tölgyesi passes and at the same time the 1078 meters high pass at Balázsnakát where the road between Gyergyóbékás (Bicazu Ardelean) and Gyergyótölgyes (Tulgheş) crossed. The positions of the 1<sup>st</sup> *Székely* Mountain Border Battalion were supported by the 21<sup>st</sup> Mountain Battery with four guns. Also in the area was the 21<sup>st</sup> Border Guards Battalion, which also had a four-tube mortar platoon and two German mortars and a German field artillery battery. The key figure in the defence was the commander of the 21<sup>st</sup> Mountain Battery, Lieutenant Vilmos Brambring. The Battery became key to the defence with good positions that allowed it to fire on the Soviet assembly areas before their attack. This soon bore fruit, as the four Hungarian mountain guns, along with the German battery, were able to lay down a curtain of fire covering the front line in the immediate foreground of the Tölgyesi pass and essentially close down the Soviet attack.

Meanwhile, the areas beyond the Tölgyesi Pass action was also reinforced by the IX Corps. As a consequence a battalion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Replacement Division was sent to Gyergyószentmiklósi and arrived around midnight at the train station.

The Kelemen Mountains in the east of Northern Transylvania had not yet been threatened, but on 1 September, the Beszterce 22<sup>nd</sup> Border Guard Battalion and two battalions of the Kosnánál *Székely* Border Guards crossed the border by rail into Vatra Dornei. There, the Germans formed a bridge-

head, based around an important manganese ore mine.

However, all was not well with the *Székely* border guards. The *Székely* Guard was set up in 1942 and organised along the lines of the traditional Habsburg system. These formations were made up of local men, anywhere from teenagers to men in their late middle age, and could include up to three generations of one family. Training and equipment was poor and their fighting spirit was low. On 20 August 1944 the *Székely* border guard battalions entered the fighting. They suffered from mass desertions during the first days of fighting, as the men of the battalions first thoughts were to protect their families from the invading armies. The phenomenon came as a bitter surprise to both the Hungarian and German command, because the *Székely* had a reputation for their fighting spirit during World War I, but in little more than twenty years it had vanished.

Having done all that they could to hold Northern Transylvania, on 7 September the Hungarians and Germans began to evacuate the area. Any plans for the capture of the passes of the Carpathians before the Soviets could have proved utterly illusory. The German Sixth and Eighth Armies, and Hungarian Second Army, under the headquarters of German Army Group South Ukraine, withdrew in several phases due to the space limitations. As a result, by roughly mid-September a new defensive position was established on the Moras River. The superior firepower of German mobile battle groups was used to cover the withdrawal of the marching infantry columns of shattered Hungarian frontier units. From 16 September arriving battalions in good order were redeployed along the Kelemen and Görgényi mountains and at the Ratosnyai Gorge on Maros River. During this period the Germans took operational command of all the Hungarian units of the IX Corps and *Székely* Border command, for both tactical and political reasons.

On 12 October 1944 in the area of Ratosnya (Răstolița) – Beszterce (Bistrița) – Dés (Dej) – Szászrégen (Reghin) bordering Northern Bukovina more heavy fighting took place. The *Székely* 27<sup>th</sup> Light Division was redirected to halt the Soviet advance, but they could do little to stop the Soviet mechanized and armoured force. All the lightly equipped division could do was delay them.



## THE BATTLE FOR TORDA

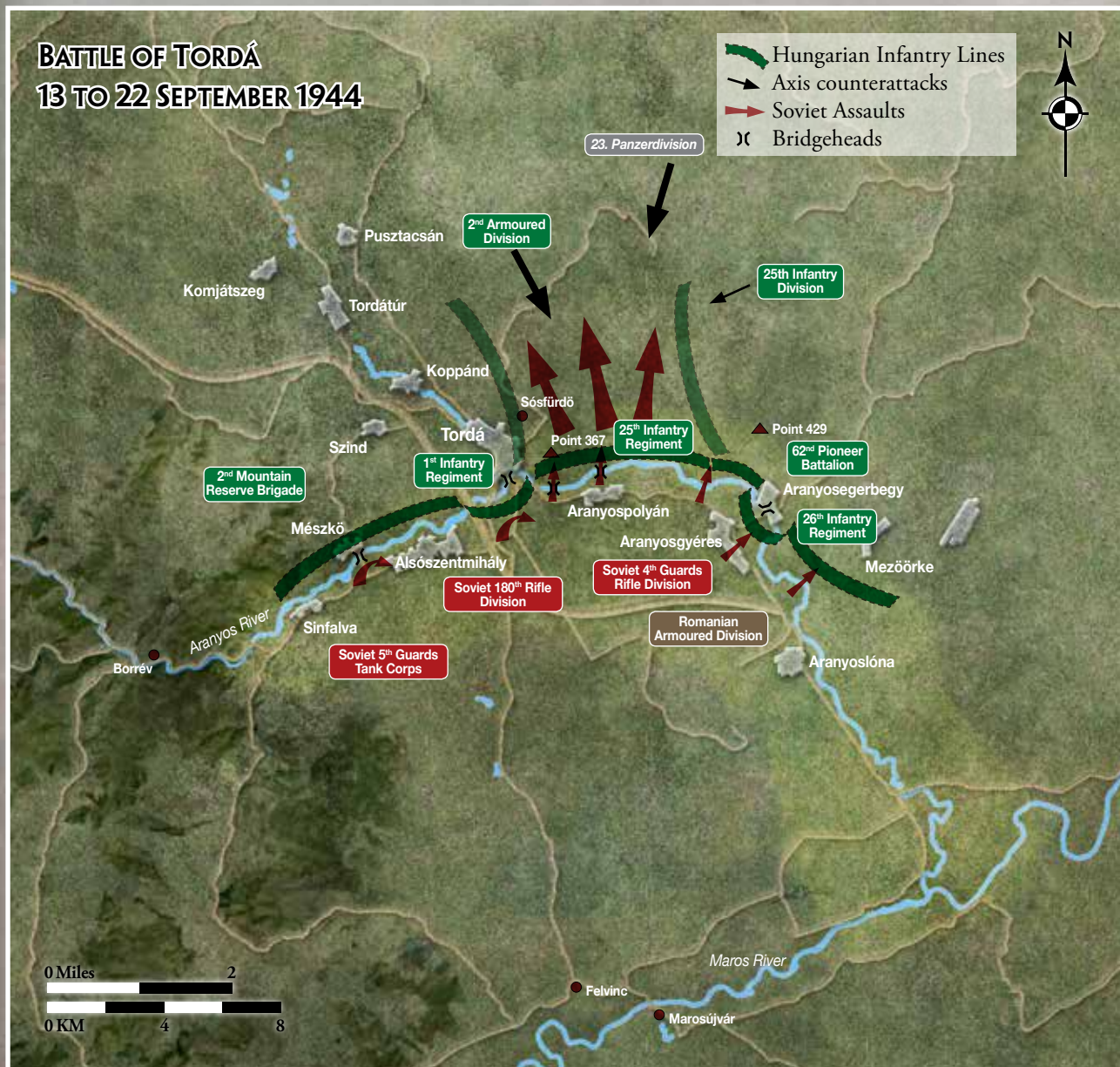
In late August 1944 the Hungarian command decided to make a push towards the Southern Carpathian Mountains to seize the passes before the Red Army could move through them. They faced the Romanian First Army, which was made up of a mix of units still rebuilding after the campaign in the Crimea and training units. The Romanians soon added the reforming Fourth Army to the troops gathering in Transylvania. The campaign was to be entirely conducted by Hungarian troops with the Germans still withdrawing from Romania or committed to fighting further north.

The Hungarian Second Army, under General Lajos Veress, was mobilised for the task with the IX and II Corps. While the IX Corps was to hold Northern Transylvania, it was up to the II Corps to push south. Initially the II Corps had just the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Divisions, but more experienced troops were transferred from the north to take part and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division arrived in early September. The attack was finally launched at dawn on 5 September 1944. By this stage the Hungarian command had given up on their initial plan to push to the Southern Carpathian passes and instead simply wanted to establish a

more defensible line along the Maros River. Veress decided to straighten out the salient between Marosvásárhely (Targu Mures) and Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca).

Meanwhile Soviet units of the Second Ukrainian Front moved through Vulcan Pass in the Southern Carpathians and captured Brassó (Braşov) and Nagyszeben (Sibiu). The Soviets then intended to capture Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), and expected little resistance. The Romanians had also been building up their force in the area and had assembled some 11 divisions, though not all of them were up to full strength.

During the first five days of the attack the 9<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division had advanced along the Kolozsvár-Tordá main road. To their right units of 7<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division move down the road from Magyarlóna (Luna de Sus) to Borrév (Buru) on the Aranyos (Arieş) River. On the left flank in the area of Vasasszentgothárd (Sucutard) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division's attack moved towards Nagysármás (Sărmaşu) and surprised the Romanian border guards, who either retreated or surrendered. The only Romanian resistance encountered was from the outposts of the 20<sup>th</sup> Infantry Training Division, but their resistance was weak, and the Romanians soon broke off.



By the evening of 5 September the 9<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division had taken Tordá and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Regiment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division had reached Marosludas (Luduş). On the 7<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division's line there was little or no resistance and they took Borrév without a fight. The first battalions of the veteran 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division also joined the attack at Nagyvárád (Oradea).

On 6 September the German reconnaissance troops observed Soviet tanks in the area of Nagyszeben (Sibiu). General Veress did not halt his troops, he considered a defeat of the Romanians as good for the soldiers' morale. The armoured troops attacking on the left flank reached Dicsőszentmárton (Tárnăveni) on 7 September, in the centre 9<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division troops took Marosújvár (Ocna Mureş) and Felvinc (Unirea), and the 7<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Division stood before Nagyenyed (Aiud). The appearance of Soviets and General Rozin's Romanian Armoured Division halted Hungarian attacks on 9 September and the Hungarian troops on the Aranyos - Maros line withdrew back to where defence would be made easier by the terrain, especially at Tordá and Aranyosegerbegy (Viişoara). This line, which was already held by three battalions of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, was particularly good for defence with the Maros River running in front of it. It was also protected by north bank of the river valley, which was flanked by steep hills slopes 60 to 80 metres high.

The Hungarian attack had taken the Soviet command by surprise and they decided to reinforce with area with more troops as well as launching an attack of their own towards Tordá in cooperation with the Romanian Fourth Army. The Hungarians were able to hold this line against attacks by the Romanian Fourth and Soviet 27<sup>th</sup> Armies for the next few days. The 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division had started taking up positions on 12 September, first taking up defensive positions at the river crossing points before Tordá and Aranyosegerbegy. Of the division's nine battalions only three were immediately available to fight at Tordá, four others were deployed with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Field Replacement Divisions in rearguard actions while two more were still on route to the front by train and expected to arrive on 13 September. Another battalion arrived by foot from the rear the same day.

On 13 September the Soviet 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Corps appeared

behind the retreating Hungarian troops near Alsószentmihály (Mihai Viteazu) west of Tordá, causing some panic. An ad hoc defensive battle developed in the evening and into the next day, with Colonel Géza Böszörményi, commander of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, holding off the Soviet thrust with III Battalion/25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 59<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Battalion and the 25<sup>th</sup> Heavy Anti-tank Company. By the next day the Hungarians had knocked out seven Soviet tanks.

In the afternoon the Romanian 20<sup>th</sup> Infantry Training Division arrived in the area of Aranyospolyán (Poiana) lying east of the city and began to attack through the Szent János valley in the direction of Sósfürdő (the salt baths). The area was only held by I Battalion/1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment. After heavy fighting, in which the battalion's commander was killed, the enemy pushed into the east of Tordá. The situation was finally restored with a counterattack by I Battalion/25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

The Soviet 6<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Army was not only attacking the left of the city on 13 and 14 September, but was also attempting to out flank to the west of the city. By then the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division had deployed to the right of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mountain Reserve Brigade, and they were able to halt the Soviet attack launched towards Tordátúr (Tureni). However, they were only able to stave off the attack at great loss. They deployed a weak battalion at the most critical points in small German style blocking groups with high firepower and anti-tank support. Thus, the encirclement of the city was stopped.

The motorised 75mm anti-tank guns (PaK40) of the 25<sup>th</sup> Assault Artillery Battalion's 1<sup>st</sup> Battery, under Captain Vilmos Vértes, also played an important role in halting the Soviet armour. The previous two days, while under very heavy mortar and artillery fire, the battery knocked out three tanks, a rocket launcher, and a few other weapons, and seven more Soviet tanks were immobilised. The next day while fighting off an infantry assault on his gun's positions Captain Vértes was killed. He was later awarded Officer's Gold Medal for Bravery.

On 15 September the Soviet High Command directed Marshal Malinovsky to advance on the Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca) – Beszterce (Bistriţa) line, crush the Hungarian and



German forces in Transylvania, and then attack in north-easterly direction and unite in the Carpathian Mountains with the Fourth Ukrainian Front. The operation's ultimate aim was to outflank the German Sixth, Eighth and Hungarian Second Armies, in short to destroy the entirety of German Army Group South Ukraine. The Battle of Tordá quickly evolved in an effort to prevent this. It would prove to be one of the war's most successful operations for the Royal Hungarian Army.

On 15 September the Soviets launched the first big attack on Tordá. This was again in the direction of Sósfürdő (the salt baths), but only after a massive artillery preparation. At the same time, an overwhelming attack was launched against the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment's bridgehead at Aranyosegerbegy. The 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division commander Major-General László Hollósy-Kuthy, a brave man with a reputation as a tough nut, requested support from the II Corps when it became clear that the weight of the enemy attack was north through Sósfürdő in the direction Tordá. The attack proved too powerful for the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment to hold the eastern edge of Tordá. However, they managed to slow the attack before withdrawing.

With the situation becoming critical the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division counterattacked. The division, positioned northeast of the city, launched a counterattack to the south. However, the enemy proved stubborn and the attack stalled against strong resistance. The Soviets and Romanians were able to hold the plateau stretching to the east of the Tordá bridgehead.

On 16 September the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division and the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division made preparations for their next counterattack, aimed south between Sósfürdő and Point 367 to eliminate the enemy bridgehead. The following day, the counterattack was launched by the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment supported by a battle group of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division. They were hit by incredibly heavy enemy artillery and rocket fire, and their progress was halted before they could reach their targets.

Another Hungarian attack began at 1100 hours on 19 September after a strong and coordinated artillery preparation. The 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and supporting 10<sup>th</sup> Assault Artillery Battalion captured the northern river embankment, but the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division's 6<sup>th</sup> Motorised Infantry Battalion was blocked before Point 367. Together they could not eliminate the Soviet bridgehead. The enemy's extremely tough resistance was characterised by one particular Red Army infantry battalion of 300 men of the Soviet 4<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Division that was encircled, but kept fighting. At the end of the battle 200 men lay where they had fought and died. During the day the capable Colonel Geza Boszormenyi died heroically at the head of his troops on the eastern edge of the Tordá cemetery, just a few hundred yards from the tomb of his parents, when he was hit by rocket fire. However, the tenacious defence of the Soviet Guardsmen had halted the Hungarian thrust and the Red Army still held the bridgehead.

The next few days passed relatively quietly as both sides took stock of the situation. However, heavy artillery fire continued to be exchanged between both sides. At 0800 hours on 22 September hostilities continued anew. After unprecedented heavy artillery preparation, in the narrow space between Sósfürdő and the Szent János Valley, the Soviet 180<sup>th</sup> Rifle Division began an attack, with support from 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Corps' motorised rifleman and 30 to 40 T-34 tanks. At the same time east of the railway line the Soviet 4<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Division attacked with three regiments. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Division's eastern flank the Romanian 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division advanced. The attack first struck along the riverbank northwards, hitting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division, before the full force of the attack hit the Sósfürdő and Szalonnás area against the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

The thrust towards Sósfürdő encountered the 10<sup>th</sup> Assault Artillery Battalion's 1<sup>st</sup> Battery with six Zrínyi II assault howitzers under the command of Ensign János Bozsoki. Bozsoki's battery knocked out 18 T-34 tanks during the day's fighting



preventing the encirclement of Tordá. Later in the day Bozoki returned to the front line to rescue seriously wounded comrades and recover damaged assault howitzers. He was awarded the Officers' Gold Medal for Bravery.

However, the Soviets also attacked the Tordá bridgehead from the west where the 1st Infantry Regiment and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Mountain Brigade defended the front line. At 1200 hours to the south the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division front was virtually split in two, the gap was only closed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Motorized Infantry Regiment's counterattack with supporting armour. In Egerbegyi and the northeastern sector of the city the defence firmly held, but could not hold the key high ground at Point 429. The I Battalion/25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment played a major role in the fighting, during which Major László Siprák also won the Officers' Gold Bravery Medal for his leadership. He was almost always at the head of his troops with his rifle in hand. However, it became clear to the defenders that it was impossible to hold the city on their own against the overwhelming numbers the Soviets and Romanian could throw at them.

On 23 September, at Vaskapu (Iron Gate) and Sósfar in the east-northeast of the city, the German 23. *Panzerdivision* arrived with two panzergrenadier regiments and about 65 tanks. The German *Panzertruppen* attacked at dawn. This powerful counterattack was on a wide front, but narrowed when it hit Point 367 where a Soviet bridgehead remained. During the battle the Germans destroyed five Soviet tanks, a self-propelled gun, and 37 anti-tank guns. The panzergrenadiers took 35% losses. The situation was more severe in the

west, where the Soviet 18<sup>th</sup> Guard Mechanised Brigade's tanks reached Komjátszeg and the Tordá - Kolozsvár road. The situation was stabilised with the deployment of the German troops in the western sector.

The next few days remained stable around Tordá, with no heavy attacks by the Soviets. However, the Soviet 18<sup>th</sup> Guards Mechanized Brigade, Romanian mountain troops and infantry continue to jointly probe in the northwest to encircle the Komjátszeg and Tordátúr area. The Soviets moved their focus from the west of Tordá on 2 October to the southeast in front of Aranyosegerbegy. They attacked the German-Hungarian line, but four Soviet rifle divisions were halted south of Tordá.

On 4 October repeated Soviet attacks from the west pushed the front line back east of the Tordá - Kolozsvár road. To the east of Tordá the Soviet-Romanian penetration was further exploited by tank forces, so that by the end of the day Tordá had been almost encircled. To prevent the full encirclement a counterattack was needed, so the Hungarian defensive line commander, General Veress, left just a small holding group on the southern edge of Tordá, and moved the bulk of his troops to the north of the city, withdrawing the defensive line. With this move Hungarian and German troops had effectively abandoned Tordá.

From 13 September the Hungarian Second Army together with German troops had obstructed attempts by 11 Soviet and Rumanian infantry divisions, a Soviet Guards Tank Corps and a Guards Mechanised Corps to breakthrough towards Kolozsvár.





## HUNGARIAN SPECIAL RULES

## HUSZÁR

Descended from Magyar horsemen, Hungary has a strong cavalry tradition. Hungarian knights often stood alone against the Ottoman Turks as the defenders of Europe and during the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries they supplied the Habsburg Empire's elite light cavalry. Hungarian mobile troops are famed for their aggression and wide sweeping movements.

*Hungarian platoons that are Huszár Platoons are indicated under those platoons.*

*Any Huszár Platoon with a Command team may attempt a Huszár move at the start of the Shooting Step instead of shooting. If a platoon attempts to make a Huszár move, it may not shoot even if it fails to make a Huszár move.*

*Roll a Skill test for each platoon:*

- *If the test is successful, the platoon may move another 4"/10cm,*
- *Otherwise the platoon cannot move this step.*

*All normal rules apply for this movement. Platoons cannot make Huszár moves if they are Pinned Down or have moved At the Double. Bugged Down or Bailed vehicles cannot make Huszár moves.*

## PREPARING FOR THE COMING STORM

The Hungarians have learnt harsh lessons on the Don front during the winter of 1942/43, so now when they prepare for defence they prepare well.

*Hungarian platoons may re-roll failed Skill Tests to Dig In.*



# Puskás Század

RIFLE COMPANY

(INFANTRY COMPANY)



HEADQUARTERS

## HEADQUARTERS



Puskás Század  
HQ

You must field one platoon from each box shaded black and may field one platoon from each box shaded grey.

Your Company must be either a Puskás Század (marked ) or a Veteran Puskás Század (marked ). Whichever company you choose, you may only choose platoons and options marked with your company symbol or no symbol.

COMBAT PLATOONS

## INFANTRY



Puskás Platoon

## INFANTRY



Puskás Platoon

## INFANTRY



Puskás Platoon

## MACHINE-GUNS



Puskás Machine-gun  
Platoon

## MACHINE-GUNS



Puskás Machine-gun  
Platoon

WEAPONS PLATOONS

## MACHINE-GUNS



Puskás Machine-gun  
Platoon

## ARTILLERY



Puskás Mortar Platoon

## ANTI-TANK



Puskás Anti-tank  
Platoon

REGIMENTAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

## ANTI-TANKS



Motorised Anti-tank  
Platoon

## ARTILLERY



Heavy Mortar Platoon

## INFANTRY



Huszár Platoon

Scout Platoon

## INFANTRY



Utász Platoon

DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

## ARMOUR



Rohamgyús Platoon

Armoured Platoon

## ARMOUR



Rohamgyús Platoon

## INFANTRY



Határvadász Platoon

Utász Platoon

## INFANTRY



German Panzergrenadier  
Platoon

German Grenadier Platoon

## RECONNAISSANCE



Armoured Car Platoon

## ARTILLERY



Artillery Battery

German Motorised Artillery  
Battery

## ARTILLERY



Artillery Battery

## ANTI-AIRCRAFT



Anti-aircraft Platoon

Heavy Anti-aircraft Platoon

## AIRCRAFT



Air Support

## ALLIED PLATOONS



German Platoons in your force are Allies and follow the Allies rules on page 70 of the rulebook.

MOTIVATION AND SKILL



The Hungarians have built up their infantry forces rapidly as the threat of Soviet invasion loomed. Divisions have be raised from reservists and new recruits. Training is adequate, but they have little combat experience. However, they will fight hard to protect their homeland. A Puskás Század is rated as **Confident Trained**.



The 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions all served with the Hungarian First Army during the battles for Galicia in 1944. During this period they gained valuable experience they were able to put to good use during the battles for Transylvania and the Tisza River. A Veteran Puskás Század is rated as **Confident Veteran**.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	VETERAN

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	<b>VETERAN</b>

HEADQUARTERS

PUSKÁS SZÁZAD HQ

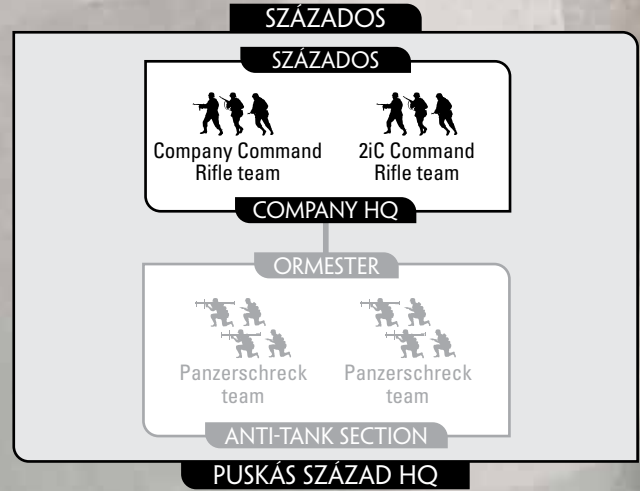
HEADQUARTERS

Company HQ	25 points	30 points
Add Panzerschreck team	+20 points	+25 points
Add 2 Panzerschreck teams	+40 points	+50 points

OPTION

- Replace the Command Rifle teams with Command Páncélvadász SMG teams for +10 points per team or Command Panzerfaust SMG teams for +15 points per team.

The bulk of the Hungarian Army, or *Honvéd* (pronounced hon-veed), was made up of the infantry of the *Puskás Század* (Rifle Company, pronounced poosh-kash sahr-zod). During the mass mobilisation of 1944 the small number of veteran divisions who had been fighting in the Ukraine during the early part of the year were joined by newly mobilised regular, reserve and replacement units.



During 1943 and 1944 the Hungarians had also been reforming their organisation and arming their troops with more modern heavy weapons such as German 75mm anti-tank guns, 120mm mortars and German Panzerfaust and Panzerschreck anti-tank weapons. They even began manufacturing their own version of the Panzerschreck anti-tank rocket launcher.

COMBAT PLATOONS

PUSKÁS PLATOON

PLATOON

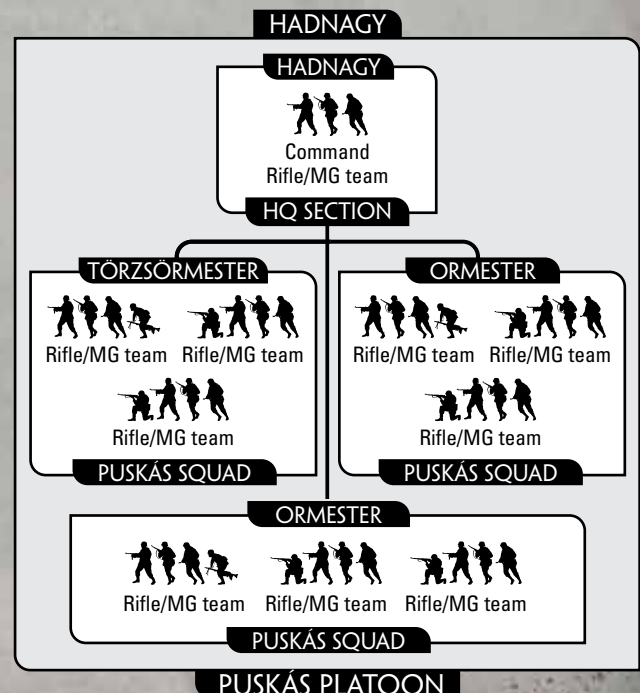
HQ Section with:

3 Puskás Squads	160 points	210 points
2 Puskás Squads	110 points	145 points

OPTION

- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.

Hungarian riflemen are either armed with Steyr-Mannlicher M95/31, an unusual bolt action rifle with a unique straight pull action, or the more conventional German K98 Mauser rifle. Their heavy firepower was supplied by Solothurn M31 light machine-guns or German supplied MG-42 machine-guns.



## PUSKÁS MACHINE-GUN PLATOON

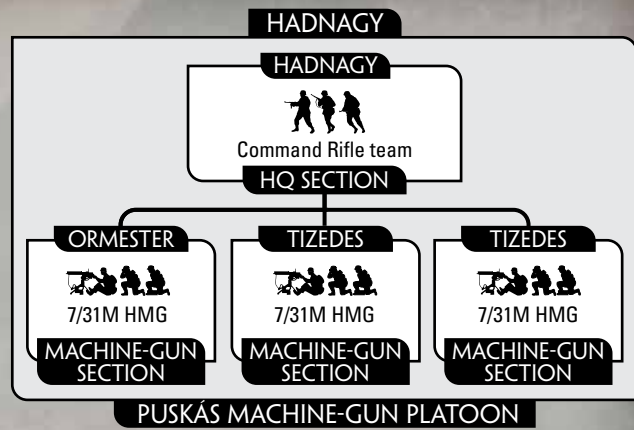
### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

3 Machine-gun Sections    75 points    100 points

The Hungarians use the same machine-gun they did during WWI, the Schwarzlose 7/31M.

*A Puskás Machine-gun Platoon may make Combat Attachments to Puskás Platoons.*



## WEAPONS Platoons

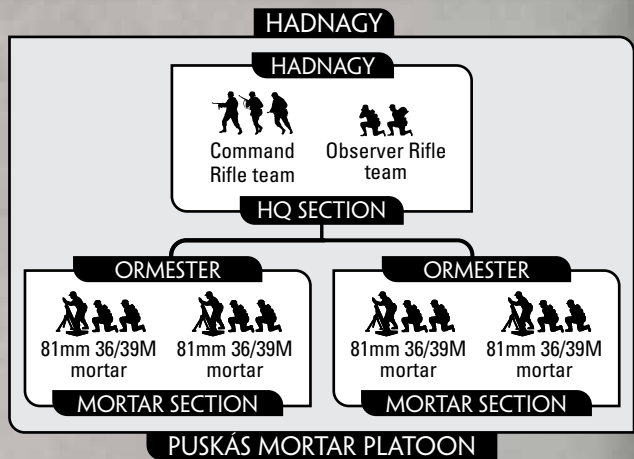
### PUSKÁS MORTAR PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

2 Mortar Sections    85 points    115 points  
1 Mortar Section    50 points    65 points

Mortars are ideal support weapons for the infantry. They can be called on to give instant support against an assaulting enemy. On attack they can fire on the enemy positions to keep their heads down, while the infantry approach to assault.



### PUSKÁS ANTI-TANK PLATOON

### PLATOON

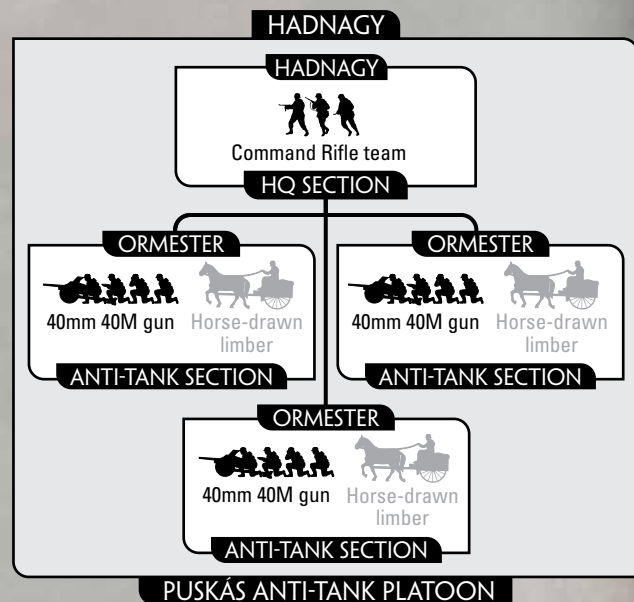
HQ Section with:

3 Anti-tank Sections    60 points    80 points

### OPTION

- Add horse-drawn limbers at no cost.

The Hungarian field their own version of the German PaK36 gun that has been modified to take the same 40mm round as their Bofors anti-aircraft gun. This gives the guns slightly better anti-tank performance. They can also be fitted with the Hungarian version of the muzzle fired *Stielgranate* anti-tank grenade.



## REGIMENTAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

### MOTORISED ANTI-TANK PLATOON

#### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

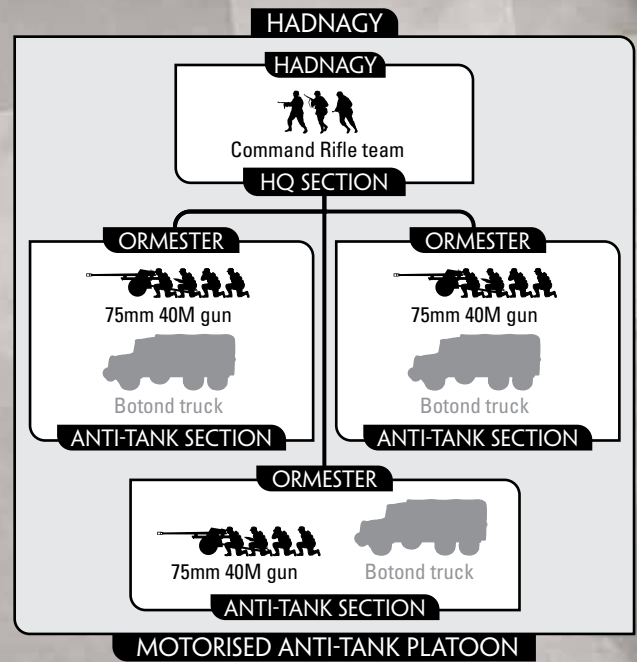
3 Anti-tank Sections	120 points	160 points
2 Anti-tank Sections	80 points	105 points

#### OPTION

- Add Botond trucks for +5 points for the platoon.

One of the lessons the Hungarians learnt from their fighting on the Don River in 1942 and 1943 was the need to have heavier anti-tank weapons to deal with Soviet tanks like the T-34 and KV-1. They were able to obtain 7.5cm PaK40 guns from the Germans, which they designated the 75mm 40M.

This excellent weapon allowed the Hungarian anti-tank troops to deal with most of the tanks that the Soviets threw at them.



### HEAVY MORTAR PLATOON

#### PLATOON

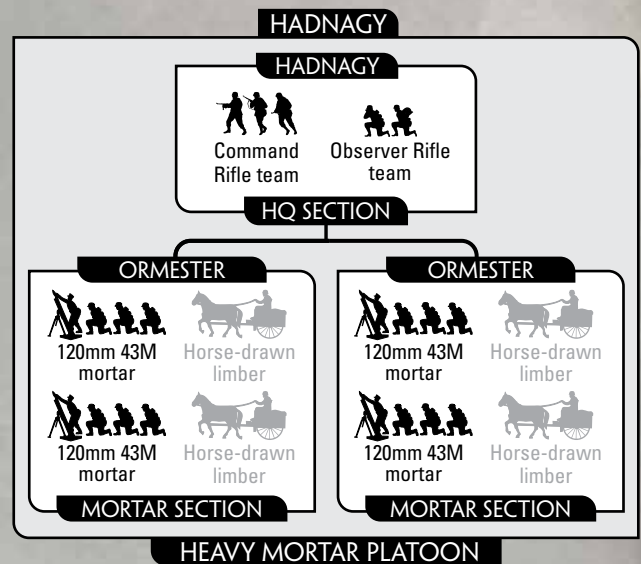
HQ Section with:

2 Mortar Sections	105 points	140 points
1 Mortar Section	60 points	80 points

#### OPTION

- Add horse-drawn limbers at no cost.

During the fighting on the Don in 1942 the Hungarian were able to capture a number of 120mm Soviet mortars. The Hungarians were impressed with this weapon and similar mortars used by the Germans. They soon began to make their own, giving their infantry added heavy support in the front line.



### SCOUT PLATOON

#### PLATOON

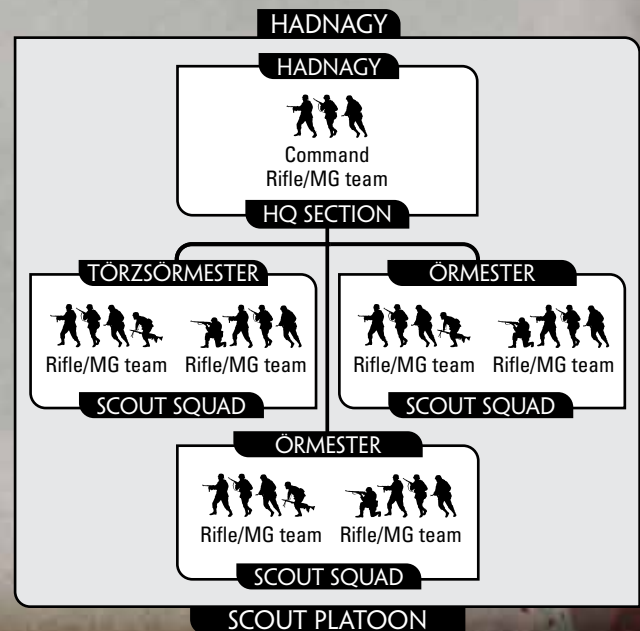
HQ Section with:

3 Scout Squads	145 points	190 points
2 Scout Squads	105 points	135 points

#### OPTION

- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.

*A Scout Platoon is a Reconnaissance Platoon.*



# Felderítő Század

RECONNAISSANCE INFANTRY COMPANY

(INFANTRY COMPANY)

You must field one platoon from each box shaded black and may field one platoon from each box shaded grey.

**HEADQUARTERS**



Felderítő Század  
HQ

15

**COMBAT PLATOONS**


**INFANTRY**



Felderítő Platoon

15

**INFANTRY**



Felderítő Platoon

15


**INFANTRY**



Felderítő Platoon

15

**MACHINE-GUNS**



Felderítő Machine-gun  
Platoon

16

**WEAPONS PLATOONS**

**ARTILLERY**



Felderítő Mortar Platoon

16


**ANTI-TANK**



Motorised Anti-tank  
Platoon

13

**INFANTRY**



Utász Platoon

19

**INFANTRY**



Huszár Platoon

16

**RECONNAISSANCE**




Armoured Car Platoon

17

**DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS**


**ARMOUR**



Rohamgyűs Platoon

24

**INFANTRY**



Puskás Platoon

11

Utász Platoon

19

**ARTILLERY**



Artillery Battery

25

**ANTI-AIRCRAFT**




Anti-aircraft Platoon

26

Heavy Anti-aircraft Platoon

26

**AIRCRAFT**



Air Support

26

**MOTIVATION AND SKILL**

The Hungarian reconnaissance companies of the infantry divisions have been expanded to contain armoured cars as well as their original bicycle mounted infantry scouts. A Felderítő Század is rated as **Confident Trained**.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	VETERAN

**HEADQUARTERS**

**FELDERÍTŐ SZÁZAD HQ**

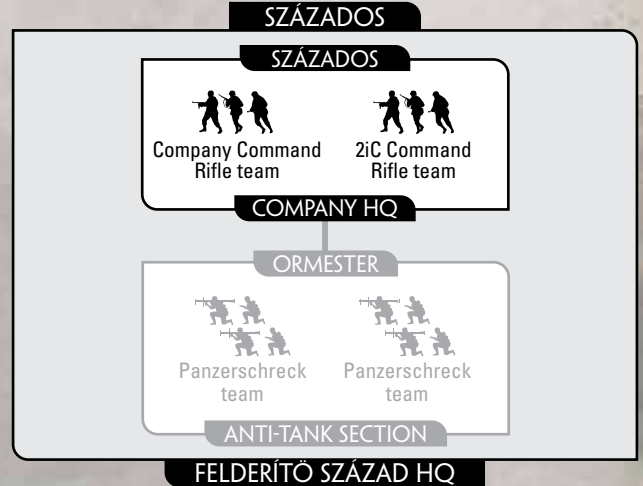
**HEADQUARTERS**

Company HQ 35 points

**OPTIONS**

- Replace the Command Rifle teams with Command Páncélvadász SMG teams for +10 points per team or Command Panzerfaust SMG teams for +15 points per team.
- Add Panzerschreck teams for +20 points per team.

A Felderítő Század (scout company, pronounced feld-er-ee-tah sahr-zod) are the troops of the infantry division's reconnaissance battalion. Their roles include scouting enemy positions and securing the path of the advance for the division. The battalion was also issued armoured cars for longer range reconnaissance.



*The teams of a Felderítő Század HQ are Reconnaissance teams.*

**COMBAT PLATOONS**

**FELDERÍTŐ PLATOON**

**PLATOON**

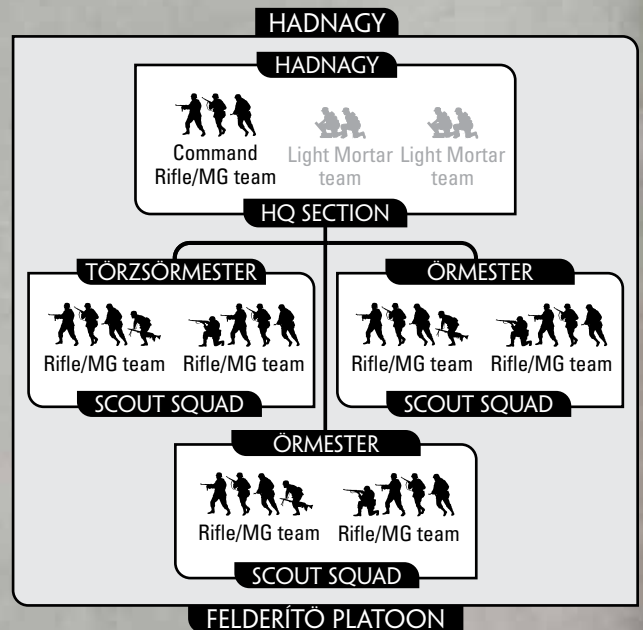
HQ Section with:

3 Scout Squads 145 points  
 2 Scout Squads 105 points

**OPTIONS**

- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.
- Add Light Mortar teams for +20 points per team.

A Felderítő Platoon is armed with rifles and machine-guns. In addition they can also be equipped with 50mm light mortars that can be used for additional support to cover their withdrawal once they have finished their scouting mission.



*A Felderítő Platoon is a Reconnaissance Platoon.*

## FELDERÍTŐ MACHINE-GUN PLATOON

### PLATOON

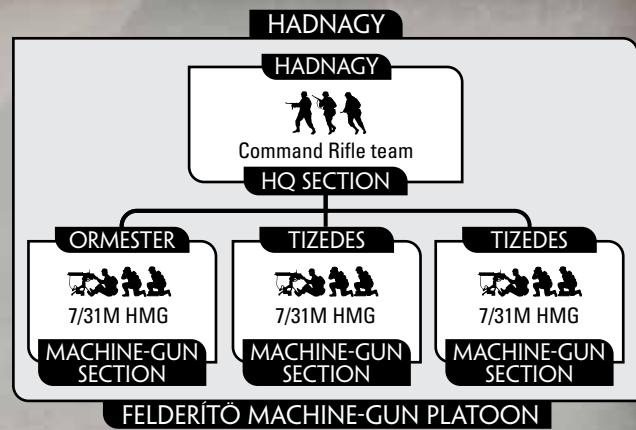
HQ Section with:

3 Machine-gun Sections

75 points

A Felderítő Század is also supported by machine-guns to help deal with enemy posts encountered during their reconnaissance.

*A Felderítő Machine-gun Platoon may make Combat Attachments to Felderítő Platoons.*



## WEAPONS PLATOONS

### FELDERÍTŐ MORTAR PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

2 Mortar Sections

90 points

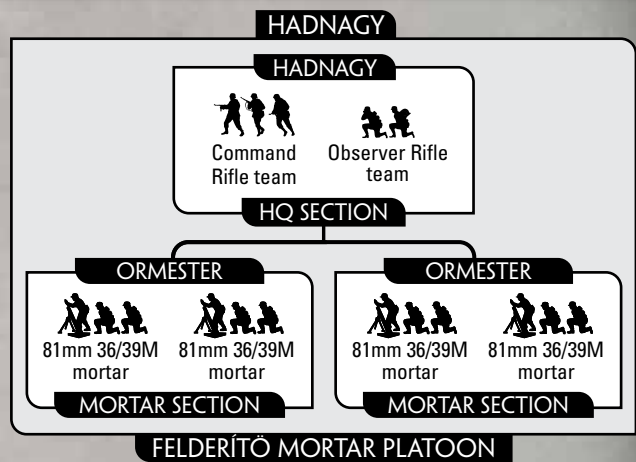
1 Mortar Section

50 points

### OPTION

- Replace all 81mm 36/39M mortars with 120mm 43M mortars towed by horse-drawn limbers for +20 points per Mortar section.

Mortars provide smoke for concealing the withdrawing scouts once they have located the enemy.



### HUSZÁR PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

3 Huszár Squads

220 points

2 Huszár Squads

155 points

### OPTIONS

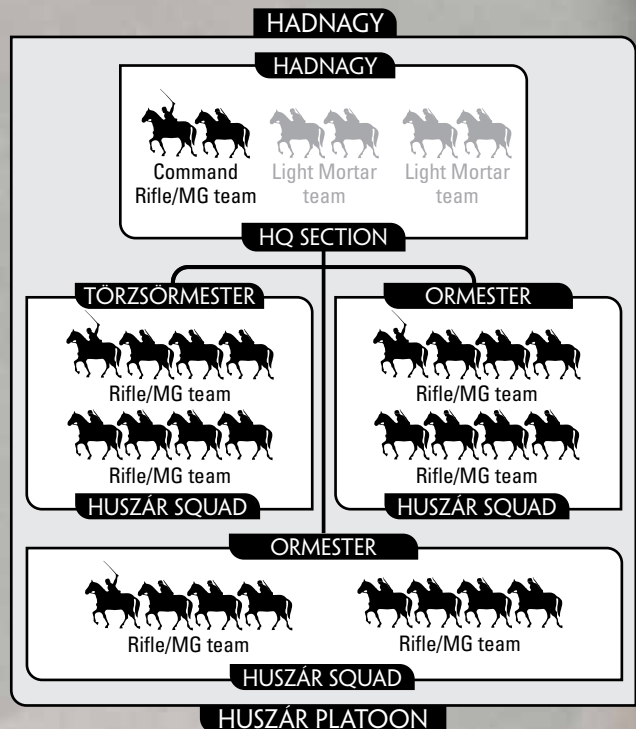
- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.
- Add Light Mortar teams for +30 points per team.

The advantages of the mounted *Huszár* (Hussar, pronounced hoo-sahr) become obvious on the Russian Front. Speed is their major asset, especially on the counterattack, where the enemy is not set for defence and the surprise of a cavalry force appearing on the flank can send even the steadiest company into disarray.

*The elite Huszár light cavalry of Hungarians has a long and proud history. A Huszár Platoon is rated*

**CONFIDENT**

**VETERAN**



*A Huszár Platoon is a Huszár and Reconnaissance Platoon.*



ARMoured CAR PLATOON

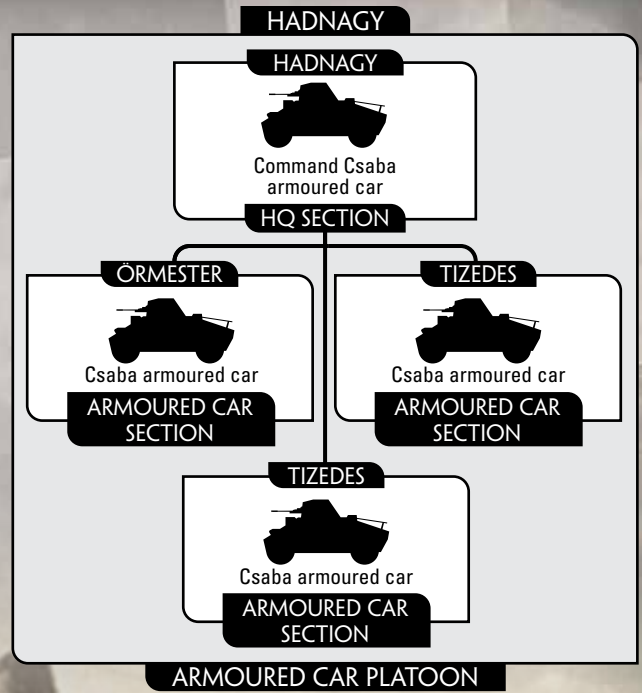
PLATOON

- 4 Csaba 115 points
- 3 Csaba 85 points

With the role of long range reconnaissance in the armoured divisions being taken up by the Toldi light tank, the Csaba (pronounced chah-bah) armoured car became available to the infantry divisions. The Csaba is an excellent armoured car, it was even considered by the British for purchase before the war broke out.

In the hands of the infantry reconnaissance troops its mobility is used to scout ahead of the division, checking its line of advance and patrolling the flanks.

*An Armoured Car Platoon is a Huszár and Reconnaissance Platoon.*



# Utász Század

PIONEER COMPANY

(INFANTRY COMPANY)

HEADQUARTERS



HEADQUARTERS



Utász Század HQ

19

You must field one platoon from each box shaded black and may field one platoon from each box shaded grey.

Your Company must be either a Utász Század (marked ) or a Veteran Utász Század (marked ). Whichever company you choose, you may only choose platoons and options marked with your company symbol or no symbol.

COMBAT PLATOONS

INFANTRY



Utász Platoon

19

INFANTRY



Utász Platoon

19

INFANTRY



Utász Platoon

19

DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

ARMOUR



Rohamgyús Platoon

24

Armoured Platoon

24

INFANTRY



Puskás Platoon

11

Felderítő Platoon

15

ANTI-TANK



Motorised Anti-tank Platoon

13

ARTILLERY



Artillery Battery

25

ANTI-AIRCRAFT



Anti-aircraft Platoon

26

Heavy Anti-aircraft Platoon

26

AIRCRAFT



Air Support

28

### MOTIVATION AND SKILL



The Hungarians have built up their infantry forces rapidly as the threat of Soviet invasion loomed. Divisions have be raised from reservists and new recruits. Training is adequate, but they have little combat experience. However, they will fight hard to protect their homeland. A Utász Század is rated as **Confident Trained**.



The 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions all served with the Hungarian First Army during the battles for Galicia in 1944. During this period they gained valuable experience they were able to put to good use during the battles for Transylvania and the Tisza River. A Veteran Utász Század is rated as **Confident Veteran**.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	VETERAN

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	<b>VETERAN</b>

## HEADQUARTERS

### UTÁSZ SZÁZAD HQ

#### HEADQUARTERS

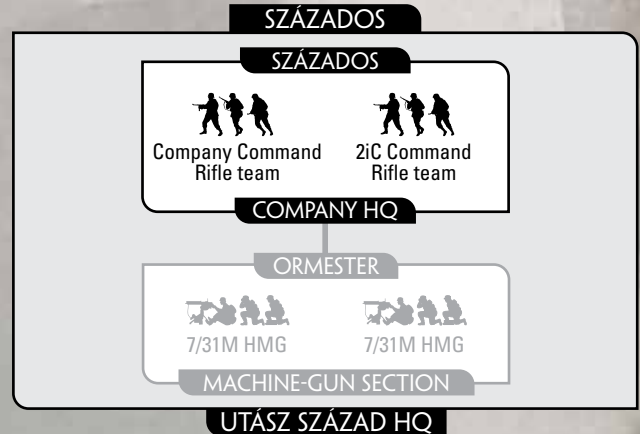
Company HQ	25 points	30 points
Add Machine-gun Section	+50 points	+60 points

#### OPTION

- Replace the Command Rifle teams with Command Páncélvadász SMG teams for +10 points per team or Command Panzerfaust SMG teams for +15 points per team.

The Hungarians have excellent engineering troops. The men of the Utász Század (sapper or pioneer Company, pronounced oo-tahs sahr-zod) were involved in fighting throughout the Soviet invasion of Hungary.

During the battle for Budapest several engineer battalions were heavily engaged in the fighting and proved to be some of the best troops fighting in the pocket.



Each infantry division has an engineering battalion. They provide immediate support to the infantry when obstacles, minefields and barricades need to be dealt with. In a pinch, they can also knock out the enemy armour. Each company has a pair of machine-guns for support, covering the sappers while they carry out their various tasks.

## COMBAT PLATOONS

### UTÁSZ PLATOON

#### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

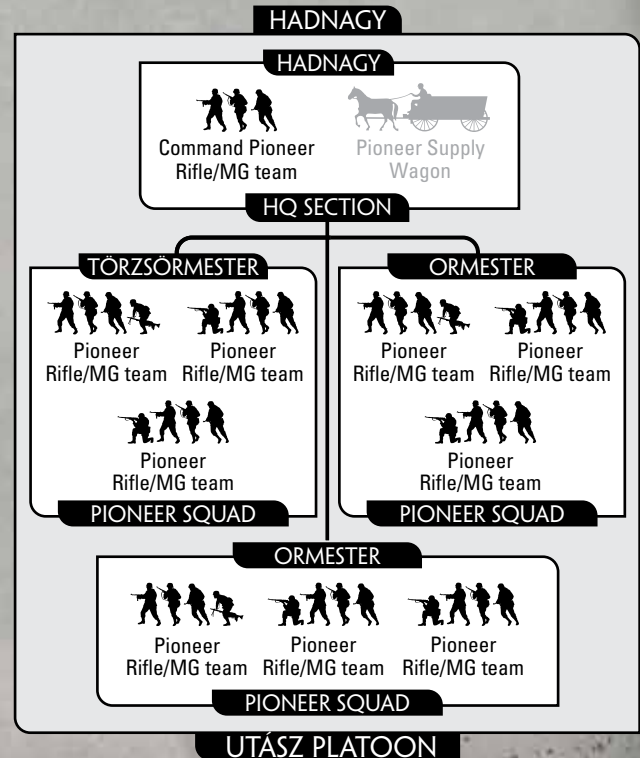
3 Pioneer Squads	210 points	275 points
2 Pioneer Squads	145 points	190 points

#### OPTIONS

- Replace the Command Pioneer Rifle/MG team with a Command Panzerfaust Pioneer SMG team for +10 points.
- Add Pioneer Supply horse-drawn wagon for +20 points.

The men of the Utász Platoon are armed with rifles and machine-guns as well as specialist engineering equipment from simple picks and shovels to mines, satchel charges and flame-throwers.

*You may replace up to two Pioneer Rifle/MG teams with Flame-thrower teams at the start of the game before deployment.*



# Határvadász Század

BORDER GUARD COMPANY

(INFANTRY COMPANY)

HEADQUARTERS

HEADQUARTERS



Határvadász Század HQ

You must field one platoon from each box shaded black and may field one platoon from each box shaded grey.

COMBAT PLATOONS

INFANTRY



Határvadász Platoon

INFANTRY



Határvadász Platoon

INFANTRY



Határvadász Platoon

MACHINE-GUNS



Határvadász Weapons Platoon

MACHINE-GUNS



Határvadász Machine-gun Platoon

WEAPONS PLATOONS

MACHINE-GUNS



Határvadász Machine-gun Platoon

ARTILLERY



Határvadász Mortar Platoon

ANTI-TANK



Határvadász Anti-tank Platoon

INFANTRY



Utász Platoon

DIVISIONAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

INFANTRY



Határvadász Platoon

Székely Határvadász Platoon

INFANTRY



German Panzergrenadier Platoon

German Grenadier Platoon

ARTILLERY



German Motorised Artillery Battery

ARTILLERY



Mountain Artillery Battery

## GUARDING THE FRONTIER

The Border Guards hold the vital strategic mountain valleys, passes and roads against enemy invaders.

*A Határvadász Század Always Defends (see page 257 of the rulebook).*

## ALLIED PLATOONS



German Platoons in your force are Allies and follow the Allies rules on page 70 of the rulebook.



**MOTIVATION AND SKILL**

The Border Police and Guards normally patrolled Hungary's borders and their roles included customs and excise, and immigration control, but in times of war they were mobilised to defend the border. A *Határvadász Század* is rated as **Confident Trained**.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	VETERAN

**HEADQUARTERS**

**HATÁRVADÁSZ SZÁZAD HQ**

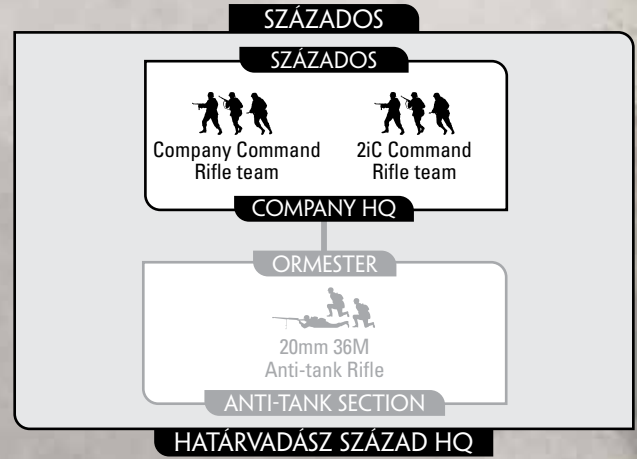
**HEADQUARTERS**

Company HQ 25 points

**OPTIONS**

- Replace the Command Rifle teams with Command Páncélvadász SMG teams for +10 points per team.
- Add 20mm 36M Anti-tank Rifle team for +10 points.

The Border Guard were Hungary's first line of defence if invaded. Their primary role was to hold the strategic passes over the mountains in Transylvania.



**COMBAT PLATOONS**

**HATÁRVADÁSZ PLATOON**

**PLATOON**

HQ Section with:

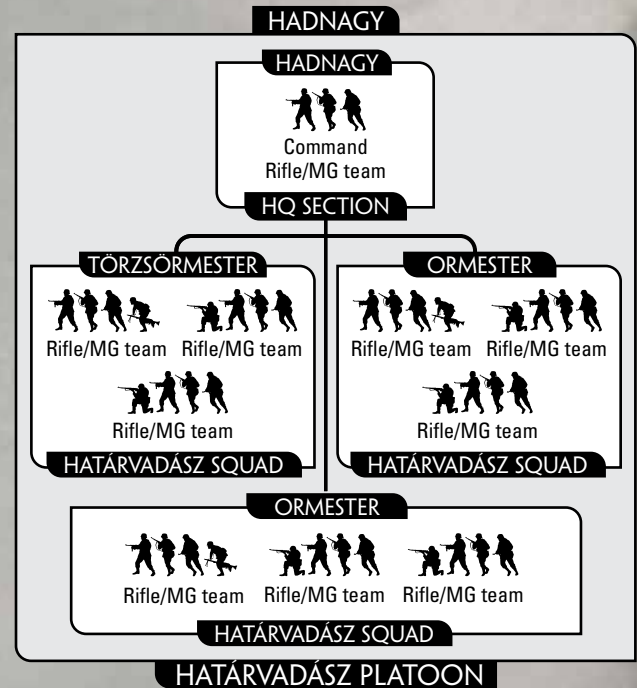
- 3 Hátárvadász Squads 160 points
- 2 Hátárvadász Squads 110 points

**OPTION**

- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points.

The *Határvadász* (border guards, pronounced ho-tar vo-dahs) were equipped much like any other Hungarian rifleman. However, the fortress companies were often issued with flame-throwers to help in the defence of border passes and valleys.

*You may replace up to one Rifle/MG team with a Flame-thrower team at the start of the game before deployment.*



## HATÁRVADÁSZ WEAPONS PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

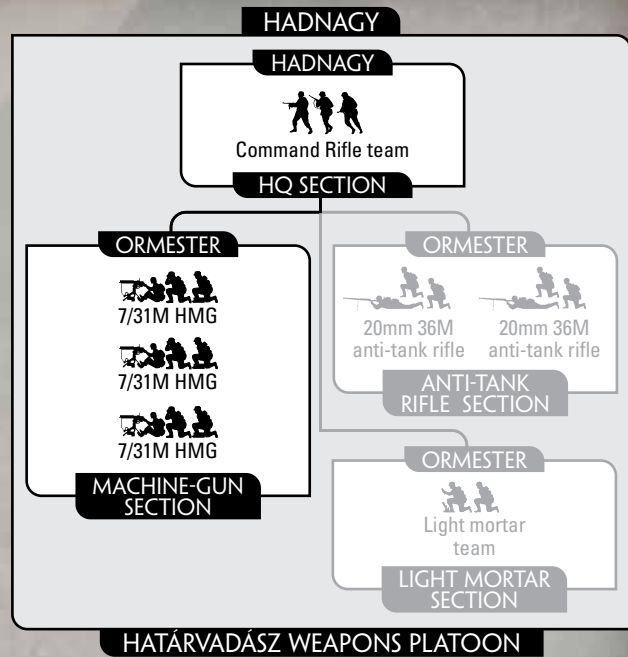
1 Machine-gun Section 75 points

### OPTIONS

- Add Anti-tank Rifle Section for +20 points.
- Add Light Mortar Section for +15 points.

The border troops were equipped with a variety of heavy weapons, including the 7/31M machine-gun, the 20mm 36M Solothurn ant-tank rifle and a limited number of 50mm light mortars.

*A Határvadász Weapons Platoon may make Combat Attachments to Határvadász Platoons.*



## HATÁRVADÁSZ MACHINE-GUN PLATOON

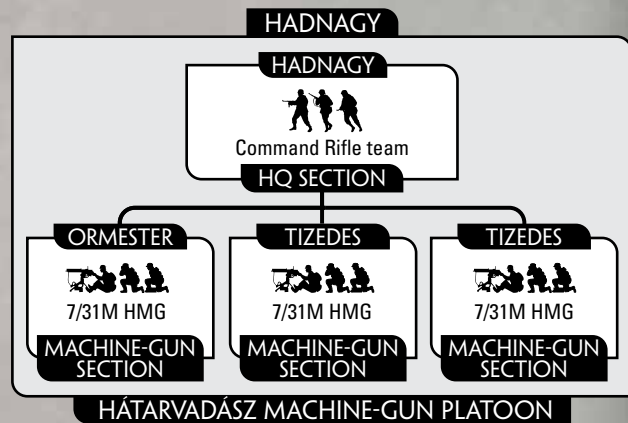
### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

3 Machine-gun Sections 75 points

Machine-guns become vital when troops are defending narrow passes and mountain valleys.

*A Határvadász Machine-gun Platoon may make Combat Attachments to Határvadász Platoons.*



## WEAPONS PLATOONS

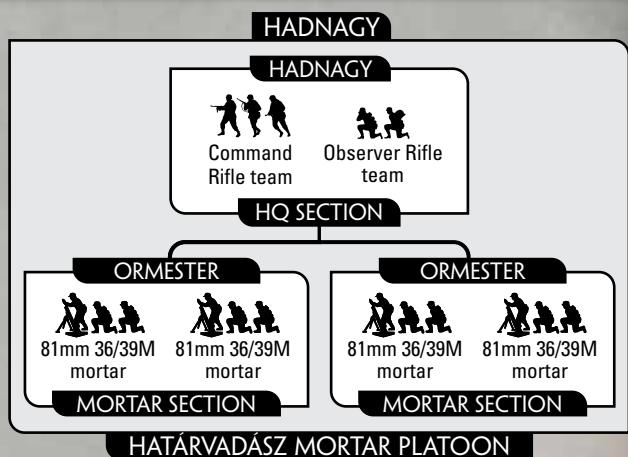
### HATÁRVADÁSZ MORTAR PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

2 Mortar Sections 85 points  
1 Mortar Section 50 points

Light indirect fire weapons like mortars are ideal for moving around the hills and mountains of Hungary's mountainous Transylvanian border regions. They are able to pour fire on compressed infantry forces as the enemy try to storm the pass defences.



### HATÁRVADÁSZ ANTI-TANK PLATOON

**PLATOON**

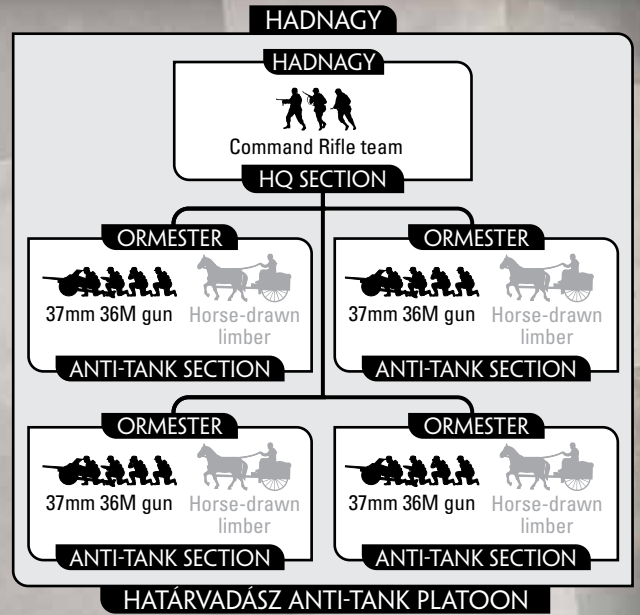
HQ Section with:

4 37mm 36M	70 points
3 37mm 36M	55 points
2 37mm 36M	40 points

**OPTION**

- Add horse-drawn limbers at no cost.

Each border guard battalion usually had two anti-tank platoons equipped with German designed 37mm 36M (3.7cm PaK36) guns. These light guns could be easily moved about the border passes where they could be located for flanking shots to take out unsuspecting enemy vehicles.



### SUPPORT PLATOONS

#### SZÉKELY HATÁRVADÁSZ PLATOON

**PLATOON**

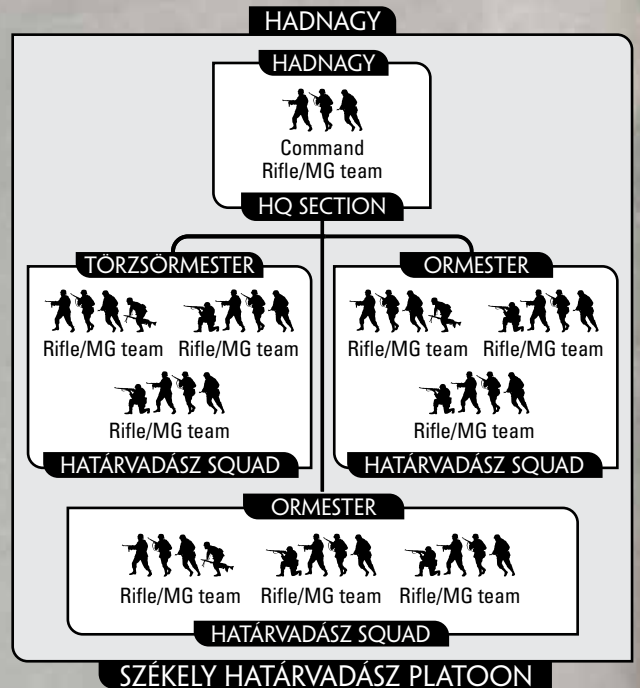
HQ Section with:

3 Hátarvadász Squads	125 points
2 Hátarvadász Squads	85 points

**OPTION**

- Replace the Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Páncélvadász SMG team for +5 points.

The Székely (pronounced see-kay) Guard was set up in 1942 and organised along the lines of the traditional Habsburg system. These formations were made up of local men, anywhere from teenagers to men in their late middle age and could include up to three generations of one family. Training and equipment was poor and their fighting spirit was low. On 20 August 1944 the Székely border guard battalions entered the fighting. The Székely border guards suffered from mass desertions during the first days of fighting, as the men of the battalions first thoughts were to the protection of their families from the invading armies. The phenomenon came as a bitter surprise to both the Hungarian and German command, because the Székely had such a reputation for their fighting spirit during World War I.



*Székely border troops had limited training and poor morale. A Székely Hátarvadász Platoon is rated*

RELUCTANT | TRAINED

# Divisional Support

## MOTIVATION AND SKILL



The Hungarians have built up their infantry forces rapidly as the threat of Soviet invasion loomed. Divisions have been raised from reservists and new recruits. However, they will fight hard to protect their homeland. A Divisional support platoons are rated as **Confident Trained**, except where noted.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	VETERAN



The 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions all served with the Hungarian First Army during the battles for Galicia in 1944. During this period they gained valuable experience they were able to put to good use during the battles for Transylvania and the Tisza River. A Veteran Divisional support platoons are rated as **Confident Veteran**, except where noted.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>TRAINED</b>
FEARLESS	<b>VETERAN</b>

## ROHAMÁGYÚS PLATOON

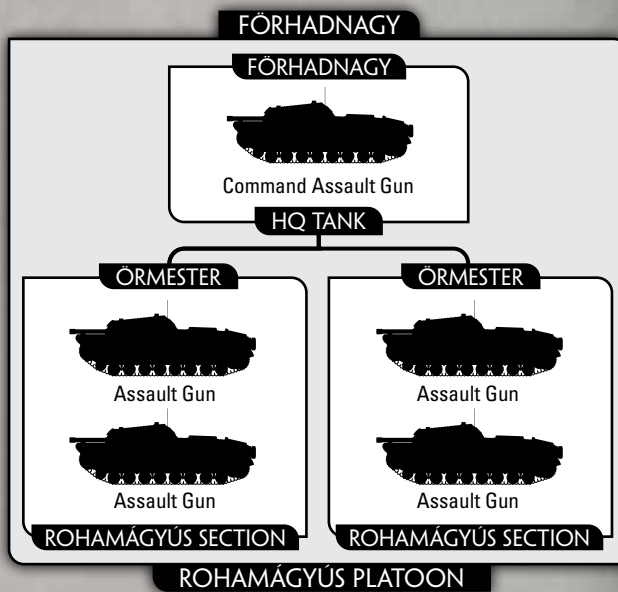
### PLATOON

3 Zrínyi II	225 points
• Add Schürzen to any or all Zrínyi II assault guns for +5 points per vehicle.	
3 StuG G	285 points
5 Hetzer	425 points
4 Hetzer	340 points
3 Hetzer	255 points

During the battles for Hungary in 1944 and 1945 the newly formed assault gun forces of the Hungarian Artillery provided armoured support for infantry divisions fighting to hold back the red tide.

The assault artillery are the elite of the artillery arm. A Rohamágyús Platoon is rated

<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>VETERAN</b>
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A Rohamágyús Platoon is a Huszár Platoon.

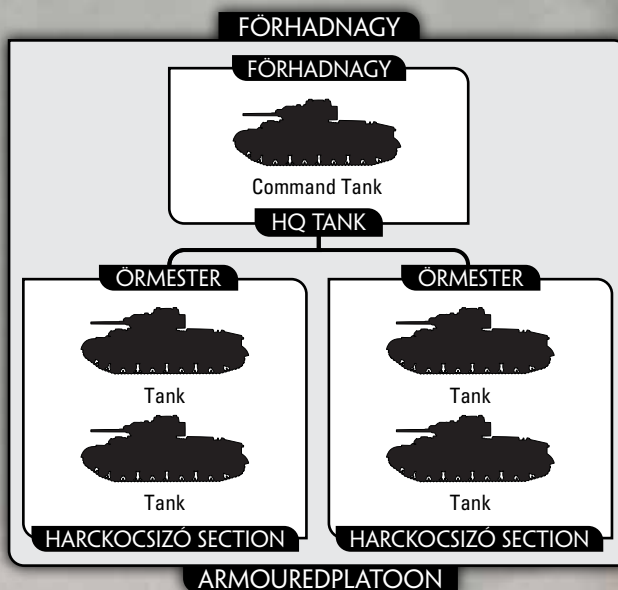
## ARMOURED PLATOON

### PLATOON

5 Turán I	290 points
4 Turán I	230 points
3 Turán I	170 points
3 Turán II	170 points
4 Panzer IV H	360 points
3 Panzer IV H	270 points
3 Panther A	550 points
2 Panther A	365 points

The tankers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Division are a well-trained and experienced elite. An Armoured Platoon is rated

<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>VETERAN</b>
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An Armoured Platoon is a Huszár Platoon.



ARTILLERY BATTERY

PLATOON

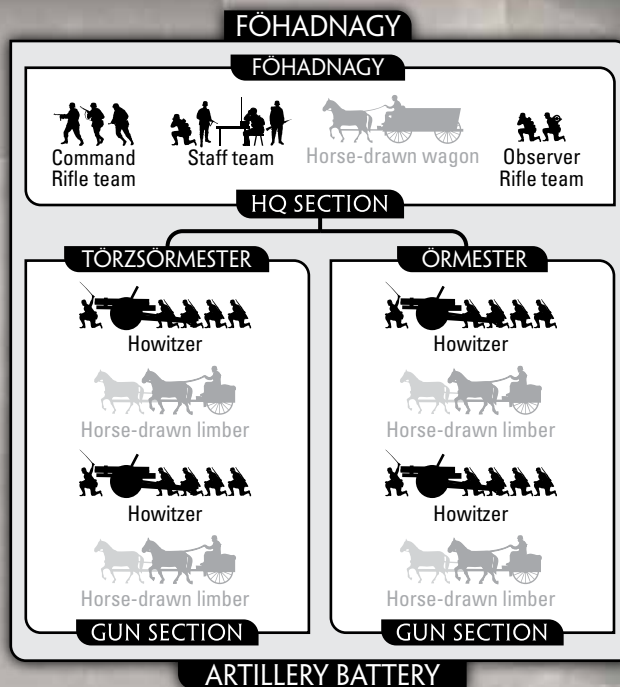
HQ Section with:

4 100mm 14M	140 points	185 points
2 100mm 14M	80 points	105 points
4 149mm 14/31M	175 points	230 points
2 149mm 14/31M	100 points	130 points

OPTIONS

- Add horse-drawn wagon and limbers for +5 points for the battery.
- Replace horse-drawn wagon and limbers with 3-ton trucks for 149mm 14/31M howitzers for +5 points for the platoon.

The artillery of the infantry divisions has undergone changes since 1943. The infantry's artillery fights with 100mm 14M Skoda howitzers as the standard weapons instead of the now retired 80mm gun. The medium batteries are now armed with 149mm 14/31M howitzers.



MOUNTAIN ARTILLERY BATTERY

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

4 75mm 15M howitzers	90 points
2 75mm 15M howitzers	55 points

OPTION

- Add Pack Mules at no cost.

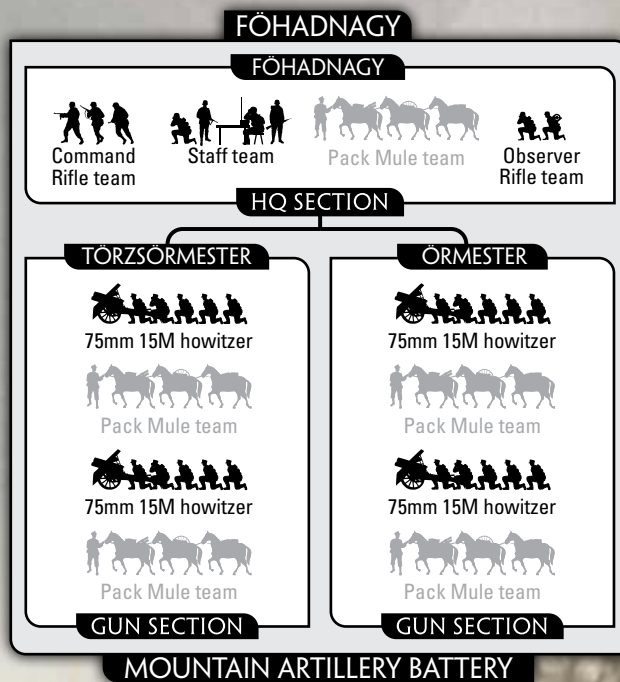
Some border guard battalions were supported by mountain artillery batteries armed with light Skoda model 1915 pack howitzers.

*Infantry teams, Man-packed Gun teams and Gun teams carried by Pack Mule teams are Mountaineers.*

*Gun teams carried by Pack Mule teams move as Man-packed. Pack Mule teams don't have to be modelled.*

*The border guard artillery are well-trained, but inexperienced in combat. A Mountain Battery is rated*

**CONFIDENT** **TRAINED**



## ANTI-AIRCRAFT PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

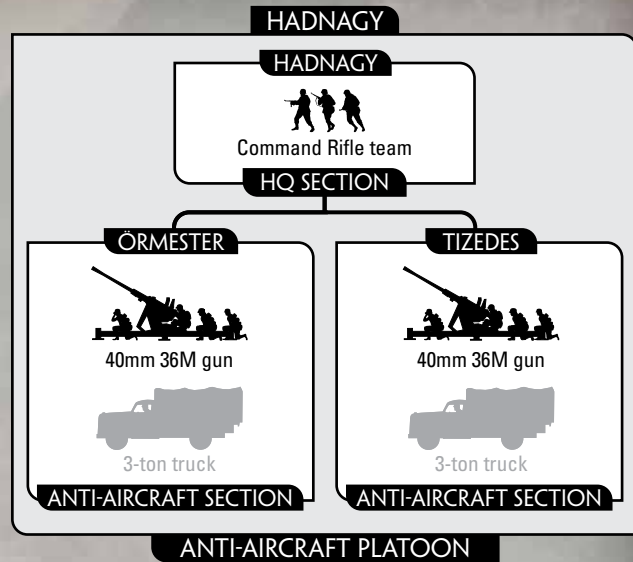
2 Anti-aircraft Sections    55 points    70 points

### OPTION

- Add 3-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.

The standard anti-aircraft weapon of all Hungarian divisions is the Swedish designed 40mm Bofors gun. This modern and very effective anti-aircraft weapon is ideal for protecting your troops from roaming Allied ground-attack aircraft.

The Bofors gun's excellent rate-of-fire also makes it an effective weapon against ground targets.



## HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

2 80mm 29/38M guns    75 points

### OPTIONS

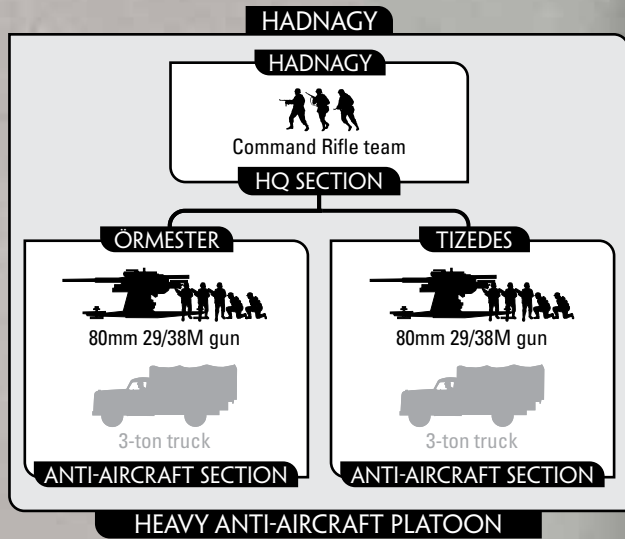
- Model 80mm 29/38M gun with eight or more crew and increase their ROF to 3 for +10 points per gun.
- Add 3-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.

Hungarian heavy anti-aircraft fire was provided by the men manning the 80mm 29/38M guns. These Bofors-designed guns also made good anti-tank weapons when desperation called for it.

*The heavy anti-aircraft artillery has seen only limited combat. A Heavy Anti-aircraft Platoon is rated*

CONFIDENT

TRAINED

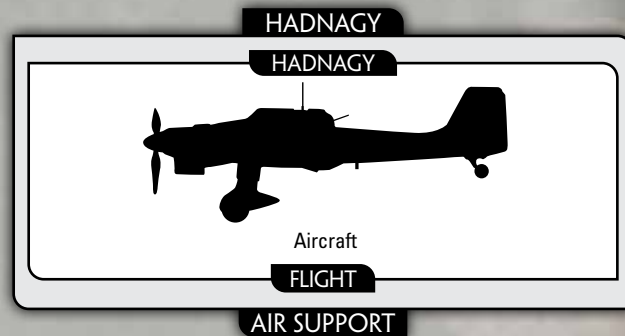


## AIR SUPPORT

### SPORADIC AIR SUPPORT

Ju 87D Stuka    100 points  
Ju 87G Stuka    100 points

The Royal Hungarian Air Force used the German-built Ju 87 dive-bomber for ground-attack to support the army in the field. The 102<sup>nd</sup> Dive Bomber Group operated under the German 4. *Luftwaffe Luftflotte*.



# German Support

## MOTIVATION AND SKILL

During the fighting in Hungary and Transylvania the Hungarian infantry formations were sometime supported by German troops. The Germans are rated **Confident Veteran**, and are Allied Platoons.

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	TRAINED
FEARLESS	<b>VETERAN</b>

## GERMAN PANZERGRENADIER PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

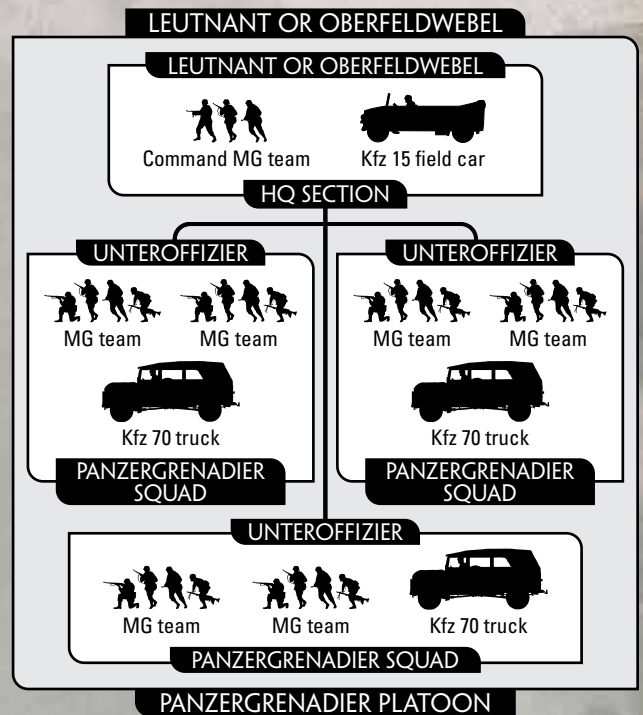


- |                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 3 Panzergrenadier Squads | 185 points |
| 2 Panzergrenadier Squads | 135 points |

### OPTIONS

- Replace Command MG team with a Command Panzerknacker SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.
- Remove Kfz 15 field car and replace Kfz 70 trucks with 3-ton trucks at no cost.

Throughout the battles for Hungary and Transylvania the Germans fought alongside the Hungarians. During the fighting for the passes mobile German battle groups would join the Hungarian defenders as they arrived from the hostile territory of Romania.



## GERMAN GRENADIER PLATOON

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

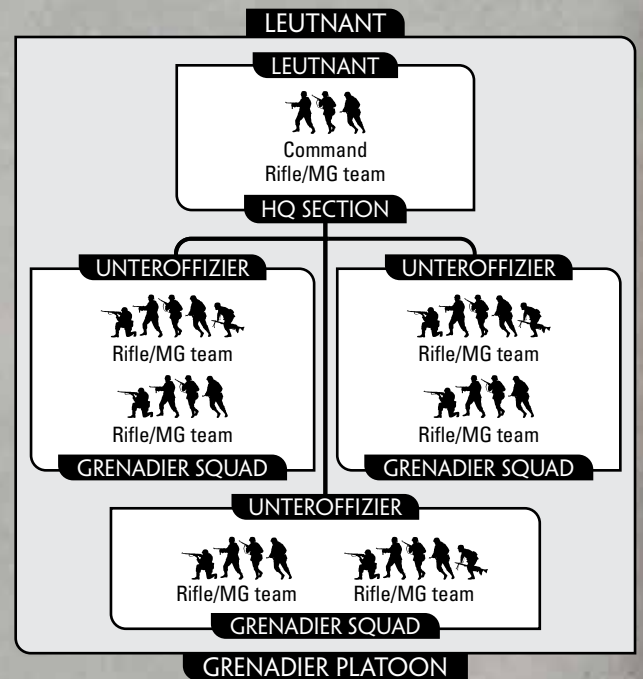


- |                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| 3 Grenadier Squads | 155 points |
| 2 Grenadier Squads | 110 points |

### OPTION

- Replace Command Rifle/MG team with a Command Panzerknacker SMG team for +5 points or with a Command Panzerfaust SMG team for +10 points.

The humble German grenadier fought alongside the Hungarians throughout 1944 and 1945. They provided support in Transylvania, on the Tisza River, and during the fighting around Budapest and into the final battles in Austria.



## GERMAN MOTORISED ARTILLERY BATTERY

### PLATOON

HQ Section with:

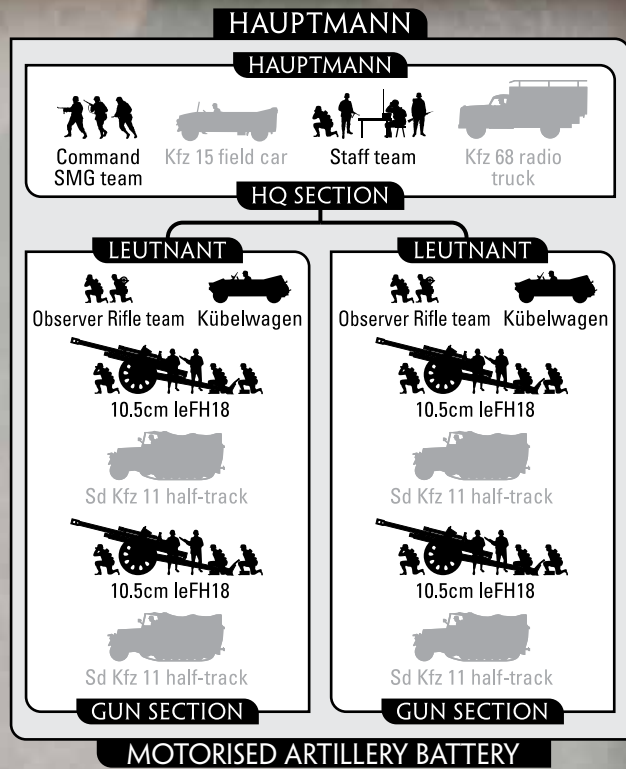


2 Gun Sections	210 points
1 Gun Section	115 points

### OPTIONS

- Add Kfz 15 field car, Kfz 68 radio truck and Sd Kfz 11 half-tracks for +5 points for the platoon.
- Replace all Kübelwagen jeeps with Sd Kfz 250 half-tracks for +5 points per half-track.

When available German artillery often supported Hungarian operations, such as those of the Border Guards in September 1944.



## HUNGARIAN EQUIPMENT RECOGNITION GUIDE

Hungarian Name	Foreign Name	Original Nationality	Model to Use
Zrínyi II	-	Hungarian	HU100
StuG G	StuG G	German	GE123
Hetzer	Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer	German/Czech	GE102
Csaba	-	Hungarian	HU300
40mm 36M gun	40mm Bofors gun	Swedish	US541 or BR540
80mm 29/38M gun	80mm Bofors Model 1929 gun	Swedish	HBX02
40mm 40M gun	Modified 3.7cm PaK36 gun	German	GE501
100mm M14 howitzer	100mm M1914 Skoda howitzer	Czech	IT580
149mm M14/35 howitzer	149mm M1914 Skoda howitzer	Czech	HBX02
Botond truck	-	Hungarian	HU420
3-ton truck	ZIS-5, Opel Blitz	Soviet, German	SU422, GE431

### SPECIAL ORDER CATALOGUE

Remember the Hungarians appear in the Special Order Catalogue where you can get the HSO101 Hungarian Artillery Group. Also available are the GSO189 German heads for converting Soviet Cossacks (SSO142) or Romanian Cavalry (RO708) into Huszárs.

# Arsenal

## TANK TEAMS

Name <i>Weapon</i>	Mobility <i>Range</i>	Front <i>ROF</i>	Armour Side <i>Anti-tank</i>	Top <i>Firepower</i>	Equipment and Notes
<b>ASSAULT GUNS</b>					
Zrínyi II <i>105mm 43M gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>24"/60cm</i>	7 <i>2</i>	2 <i>10</i>	1 <i>2+</i>	AA MG, Protected ammo. <i>Breakthrough gun, Hull mounted.</i>
StuG G <i>7.5cm StuK40 gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>32"/80cm</i>	7 <i>2</i>	3 <i>11</i>	1 <i>3+</i>	Hull MG, Protected ammo, Schürzen. <i>Hull mounted.</i>
Hetzer <i>7.5cm PaK39 gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>32"/80cm</i>	7 <i>2</i>	2 <i>11</i>	1 <i>3+</i>	Hull MG, Overloaded. <i>Hull mounted.</i>

<b>TANKS</b>					
Turán I <i>40mm 41M gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>24"/60cm</i>	5 <i>3</i>	3 <i>7</i>	1 <i>4+</i>	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Protected ammo.
Turán II <i>75mm 41M gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>24"/60cm</i>	5 <i>2</i>	3 <i>9</i>	1 <i>3+</i>	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Protected ammo.
Panzer IV H <i>7.5cm KwK40 gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>32"/80cm</i>	6 <i>2</i>	3 <i>11</i>	1 <i>3+</i>	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Protected ammo, Schürzen.
Panther A <i>7.5cm KwK42 gun</i>	Standard Tank <i>32"/80cm</i>	10 <i>2</i>	5 <i>14</i>	1 <i>3+</i>	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Wide tracks.

<b>ARMoured CARS</b>					
Csaba <i>20mm 36M anti-tank rifle</i>	Wheeled <i>16"/40cm</i>	1 <i>3</i>	0 <i>5</i>	0 <i>5+</i>	Co-ax MG.

<b>VEHICLE MACHINE-GUNS</b>					
<i>Vehicle MG</i>	<i>16"/40cm</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>ROF 1 if other weapons fire.</i>

## GUN TEAMS

Weapon	Mobility	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
7/31M HMG	Man-packed	24"/60cm	6	2	6	ROF 3 when pinned down or moving.
20mm 36M anti-tank rifle	Man-packed	16"/40cm	3	5	5+	
81mm 36/39M mortar	Man-packed	24"/60cm	2	2	3+	Minimum range 8"/20cm, Smoke.
Firing bombardments		40"/100cm	-	2	6	Smoke bombardment.
120mm 43M mortar	Light	56"/140cm	-	3	3+	
37mm 36M gun	Light	24"/60cm	3	6	4+	Gun shield.
firing Stielgranate		8"/20cm	1	12	5+	
40mm 40M gun	Light	24"/60cm	3	7	4+	Gun shield.
firing Stielgranate		8"/20cm	1	12	5+	
75mm 40M (7.5cm PaK40) gun	Medium	32"/80cm	2	12	3+	Gun shield.
40mm 36M Bofors gun	Immobile	24"/60cm	4	7	4+	Anti-aircraft, Turntable.
80mm 29/38M Bofors gun	Immobile	32"/80cm	2	12	3+	Heavy anti-aircraft, Turntable.
75mm 15M howitzer	Medium	16"/40cm	2	5	3+	Gun shield.
Firing bombardments		64"/160cm	-	3	6	
100mm 14M howitzer	Immobile	24"/60cm	1	9	2+	Breakthrough gun, Gun shield.
Firing bombardments		72"/180cm	-	4	4+	
10.5cm leFH18 howitzer	Immobile	24"/60cm	1	10	2+	Breakthrough gun, Gun shield, Smoke.
Firing bombardments		72"/180cm	-	4	4+	Smoke bombardment.
149mm 14/31M howitzer	Immobile	16"/40cm	1	8	1+	Bunker buster, Gun shield.
Firing bombardments		72"/180cm	-	5	2+	

## INFANTRY TEAMS

Team	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
Rifle team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	
Rifle/MG team	16"/40cm	2	2	6	
SMG team	4"/10cm	3	1	6	Full ROF when moving.
Light Mortar team	16"/40cm	1	1	4+	Can fire over friendly teams.
Panzerschreck team	8"/20cm	2	11	5+	Tank Assault 5.
Flame-thrower team	4"/10cm	2	-	6	Flame-thrower.
Staff team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	Moves as a Heavy Gun team.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

Panzerfaust	4"/10cm	1	12	5+	Tank Assault 6, Cannot shoot in the Shooting Step if moved in the Movement Step.
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Páncélvadász and Pioneer teams are rated as Tank Assault 4.

## AIRCRAFT

Aircraft	Weapon	To Hit	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
Ju 87D Stuka	Bombs	4+	5	1+	
Ju 87G Stuka	Cannon	3+	11	4+	

## TRANSPORT TEAMS

Vehicle Weapon	Mobility Range	Armour			Equipment and Notes
		Front ROF	Side Anti-tank	Top Firepower	

### TRUCKS

Motorcycle team	Jeep	-	-	-	
Kübelwagen or Kfz 15 field car	Jeep	-	-	-	
Botond, 3-ton, Kfz 68 radio, or Kfz 70 truck	Wheeled	-	-	-	
Horse-drawn wagon	Wagon	-	-	-	

### TRACTORS

Horse-drawn limber	Wagon	-	-	-	
Sd Kfz 11 (3t) tractor	Half-tracked	-	-	-	

### ARMoured PERSONNEL CARRIERS

Sd Kfz 250 half-track	Half-tracked	1	0	0	Hull MG, Passenger-fired AA MG.
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