





ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS - PART I BY JOHN GARRETT

This is the first part in a series on new <u>Panzerblitz</u> unit counters. In the coming year, new units will be forthcoming for the Russian, British, American, French, Italian, and Japanese forces.

The following is a brief description of the new counters:

Row 1

The first four units are squeezebore guns. The shells were squeezed down as they passed through the barrel to impart a higher velocity and greater penetration. The second unit was the first used in the paradrop on Crete (1941).

The next three units are recoiless guns that were developed during the middle of the war and gradually replaced the heavier guns of the German infantry divisions.

The last two units are rocket launchers. The RPzB43 fired an 88mm rocket and the PzFst60 fired a 150mm rocket.

Row 2

The first two units are chemical mortars. Besides HE, they could fire gas or smoke. The towed version was of greater weight, range, and fire power (shell size).

The next two units are spigot mortars, leftovers from WW I. They were mostly used in trench fighting and sieges.

The last five units need little

explanation. The 50mm FIAK gun was rarely seen as other AA guns were of better design and efficiency.

Row 3

The first two units are power loaded FLAK guns. They were most likely found in flak towers in areas of great military or economic value.

The next four units again need little explanation.

The last three units are demolition tanks, first used at Anzio. The B-1 and B-2 were radio controlled with a range of two and three hexes respectively (traced from a second controlling unit). The B-4 was driven by a 'volunteer' who could theoretically drop the explosive charge and retreat before detonation. It could also be radio controlled.

The first unit is a heavy MG unit. It cannot CAT.

The next two units are used for motorcycle troops. When the motorcyclists dismount, they revert to a SMG plt and leave their motorcycles in the dismount hex.

The remaining units are halftrack varients.

Row 5
Various AFV's used primarily during the first half of the war. The size of their main armament is listed underneath each.

Row 6

The first five units are self-explanatory. The sixth unit is a rare halftrack varient. It was used in Russia for convoy protection. The seventh unit is a converted French R-35. The Germans used captured equipment quite extensively. The eight unit is a recon plt. It travels through water at

2 MF per hex. The last unit was used early in the war. It consisted of nine 50mm mortars.

Row 7

The first two units are CP vehicles. The next two units are six vehicle plts. The fifth unit has a specialized support role. It can only attack forts or towns. The CB stands for concrete busting. The sixth unit is again captured equipment adapted to an AT role. The last three units are self-explanatory.

The information for this series comes from the following:

1. Articles in <u>Moves</u>, <u>Panzerfaust</u>, and D-Elim magazines.

2. Articles and games in Strategy & Tactics.

3. Avalon Hill's Panzerblitz game.

4. Tanks, Halle and Demand, New York Graphic Society, 1971.

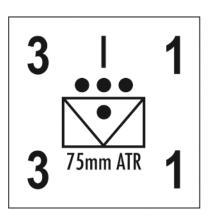
5. Fighting Vehicles, Chamberlain, Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd., 1972.

6. The Machinery of War, Young, Crescent Books, 1973.

7. The Guns 1939-45. Hogg, Ballantine Books, 1970.

8. Artillery, Batchelor and Hogg, Scribner Publishing, 1972.

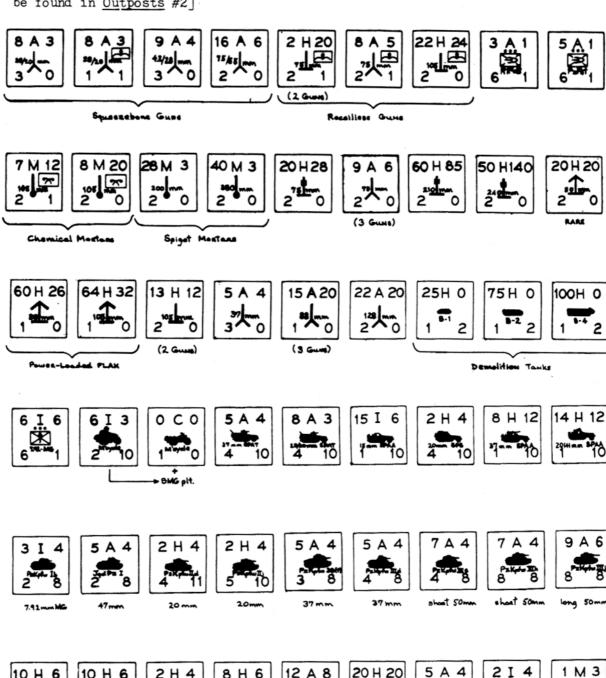
9. Personal correspondence.

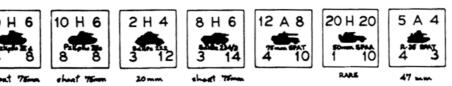


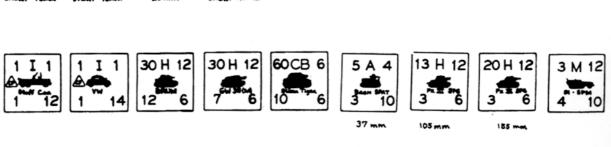
GERMAN UNITS

ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS-PART I

[Further description can be found in Outposts #2]

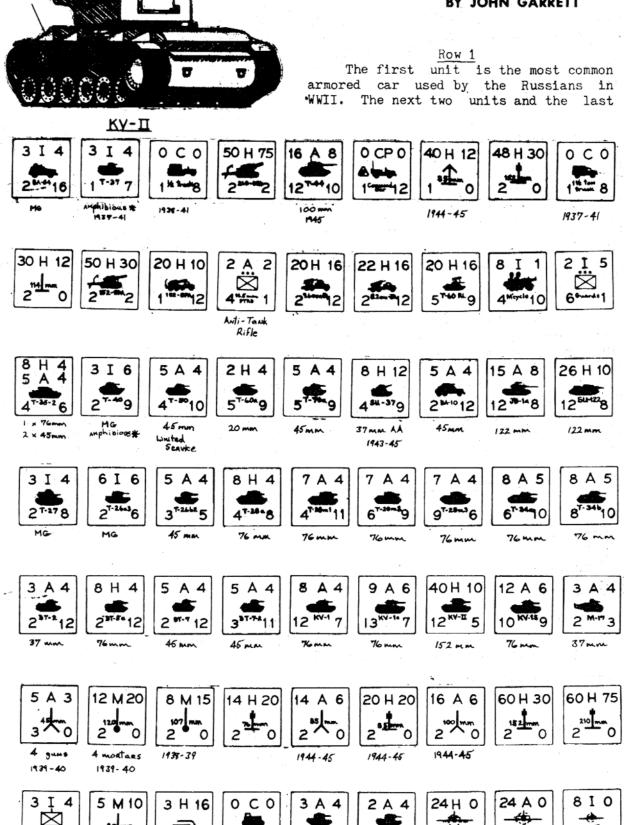






ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS-PART II

BY JOHN GARRETT



[All of the above units are Russian. **) denotes 'in water speed--3 Mr/hex']

1938-40

unit are pre-WWII vehicles that could have seen action in 1941-42. The fourth unit is a 210mm gun mounted on an industrial type tractor body. The next three units are self-explanatory. The eighth unit is a 122mm gun battery.

The first unit is pre-WWII artilery that was gradually phased out in favor of the 122mm gun-howitzer. The second unit is similar to the fourth unit in Row 1. The third unit is a 152mm howitzer mounted on a heavy truck as an emergency measure. The fourth unit is the standard anti-tank platoon that was in a rifle battalion. It was later replaced by 45mm AT guns.

The next three units are various rocket launcher combinations. The eighth unit can break down into a SMG company and a motorcycle counter. The last unit represents the better training a Guards company had over a regular rifle company. the company can be broken down into 3 platoons allowing a greater tactical flexibility.

Row 3
These units need little explanation

except that the first unit was pre-WWII and had three turrets. It can engage two different targets or combine all its AFs into one attack.

All these vehicles were pre-WWII models and were in the process of being replaced during 1941.

Except for the KV vehicles, all of these were obsolete by 1941.

Row 6

The first two units are pre-WWII organizations that had fewer guns or mortars. The third unit is also pre-WWII. The remaining six units are self-explanatory.

Row 7
The first two units are pre-WWII.
The rifle company had very few automatic weapons. The third unit is a small rocket launcher almost like a cluster of bazookas on a stand. The fourth unit was used to move heavy artillery. The next two units are pre-WWII vehicles. The last three units are tactical air units. An explanation of these is in another article in this issue.

THE KV-II

Weight: 57 Tons

Crew: 5

Armament: One 152mm howitzer w/36 rounds Three 7.62mm MGs w/3087 rounds

Armor: 75mm min., 105 max.

Engine: V2K 12 cyl. diesel, 550 hp

Speed: 19 mph max.

Range: 100 miles

The KV-II was an infantry support weapon, first entering service in early 1940. It was an adaptation of the successful KV-I tank and provided good service in an assault gun role until replaced by the SU series of assault vehicles. [Illustration is on the preceeding page.]

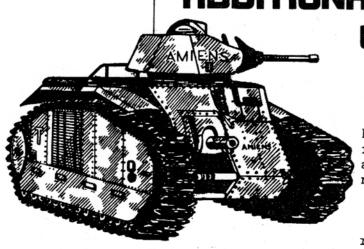
ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ

UNITS-PART III

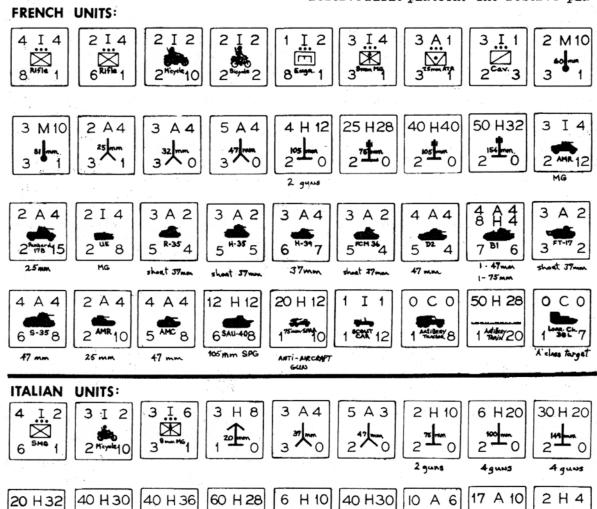
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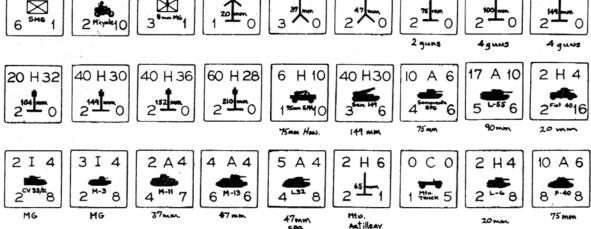
In this article, two countries are highlighted, France and Italy. The first four rows of counters are French and the last three rows are Italian units.

The first unit is a regular-type rifle platoon that had an abundance of automatic rifles. The second unit is a reserve rifle platoon. The reserve pla-



THE CHAR BI-BIS





toon type comprised the majority of infantry platoons in 1939-40. The next two units can dismount to form a reserve rifle platoon each plus a transportation counter. The next five counters are self-explanatory.

Row 2

All of these units should be self-explanatory.

Row 3

The first unit was also used by the Germans after the fall of France and was known as the SdKfz 178 [f]. The second unit is a MG carrier similar to the Bren Gun Carrier. The rest of the units are self-explanatory except for #8. This unit was the Char B1 which carried a hull mounted 75mm gun besides a turret 47mm.

Row 4

The first three units are self-explanatory. The fourth unit is an infantry support weapon based on the S-35 chassis. The next two units need little explanation. The eighth unit consisted of two 75mm gun batteries. The last unit is a Lorraine chassis with an open-

topped armored personnel carrier on the rear.

Row 5

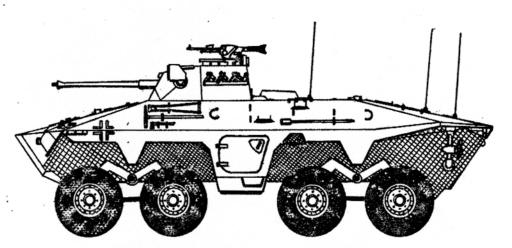
The first row is self-explanatory. The Italian rifle platoon is identical to the French reserve rifle platoon.

Row 6

Most of this row is self-explanatory. The eighth unit was very rare and was discontinued after Italy dropped out of the war in 1943.

Row 7

The first unit is similar to the Bren Gun Carrier. The next three units were the main tanks used by the Italians. The fifth unit was an assault gun on an L-6 chassis. The next two units were used in mountainous terrain such as the Balkans, East Africa, and the Italian Appenines. The mountain truck had oversized tires and a special transmission. When it traverses slope or gully hexes, it does so at 1 MF per hex instead of 3 MF's. The L-6 was to replace the M-3 which was completely inadequate. The P-40 was to become the standard Italian medium tank: but was discontinued in 1943.



BW-SPÄHPANZER RADSCHWIMM

Weight: 18 tons

Crew: 4

Armament: One 20 mm cannon; one 7.62mm MG

Engine: 10 cyl., 400hp

Speed: 60mph[max] in water-6mph

Range: 480 miles

ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS-PART IV

By John Garrett

Row 1

The first six units are infantry types. The Marines were usually better : trained and slightly larger than regular army infantry. Unlike the Americans, the heavy infantry weapons were capable of being transported by manpower alone. The labor platoon was not really a combat unit, but was often used as such when nothing else was available. The last three units are self-explanatory. Notesince the Japanese were usually deficient in artillery stores, a good rule to use is to allow the Japanese to fire their M or H class weapons every other turn.

Row 2

All these units are self-explanatory. There was quite a hodgepodge of artillery available.

Row 3

The first six units are self-explanatory. The 200mm rocket launcher was used at Okinawa and was quite inaccurate. A fire scatter rule should be used with it. The Vickers-Crossley armored car was purchased from England in the 1930's. (It travels cross-country at the truck movement rate.)

Row 4

The Sumida AC had interchangeable wheels so that it could be driven on rail lines. The Otsu tanks were made under: Renault license. The next six units are self-explanatory. The T-95 had the same characteristics as the Tk-97.

Row 5

The first four units are self-explanatory. The T-3 was also known as the: Chi-Nu. Only a few were built. The Ka-Mi and the Ka-Chi were used by naval landing forces. After coming ashore, their pontoon sections were removed for: better mobility. The Japanese relied heavily on landing barges for transport in the Pacific. The cavalry unit was employed in China. The last unit is the 'knee' mortar.

Row 6

All of these units should be selfexplanatory. The 37mm AT guns were used to repel banzai charges and were supplied with canister rounds. The 81mm mortar was also used. but is not included in the counter mix.

Row 7

All of these units should be selfexplanatory. The M4 could be outfitted for amphibious or mine-clearing roles. The LVT was an amphibious personnel carrier used in the assault wave of a landing.

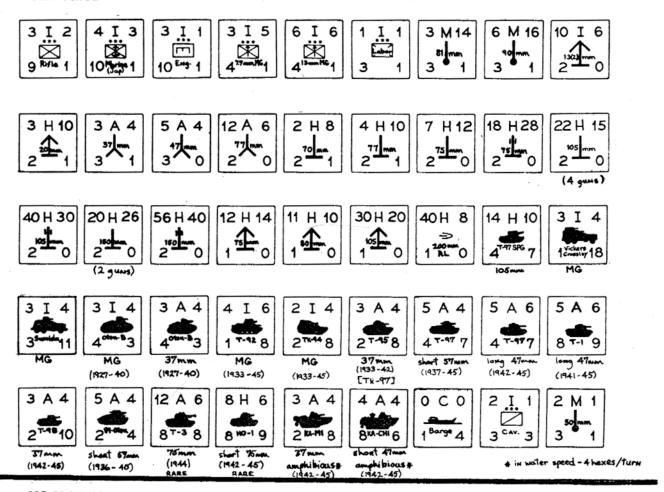
Row 8

The first two units are self-explanatory. The mules can be used to move the heavy infantry weapons (.50 cal MG, 37mm AT, 75mm pack howitzer, 4.2" mortar.) The next three units furnished the fire support for the initial landing. The LST rocket ship takes at least 5 turns to reload, but when it fires, the target hex and the six surrounding hexes are all attacked with 100 AF. The two gun units were used in the coast defense battalions.

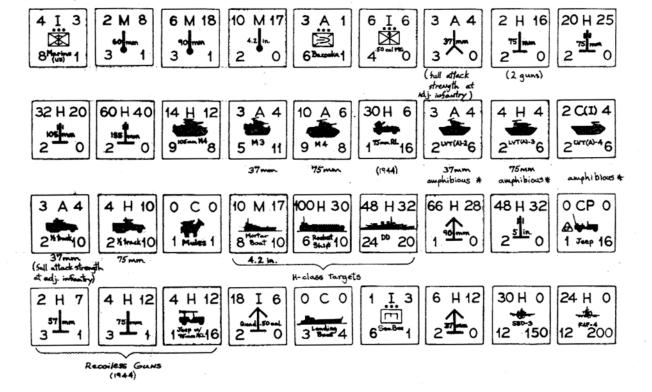
Row 9

The recoilless guns were available toward the end of the war. The quad .50 cal MG was found in the coast defense battalions. The landing boats carried the bulk of the invading forces. The Sea Bees was basically a construction unit, not a combat engineer unit. The two airplane units were typical of the Cactus Air Force operating on Guadalcanal in 1942.

JAPANESE



US MARINE



ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS-PART V Row 1

The first unit is a spring-loaded anti-tank weapon somewhat similar to the U.S. bazooka. The second unit is a tri-ple-barrelled AA gun used for convoy protection. The third unit is a twinbarrelled 40mm Bofors AA gun. The fourth unit was used in North Africa in both an AA and close support role. The fifth unit is a heavy AA gun found at corps level and used to protect supply depots, etc. The sixth unit is self-explanatory. The seventh unit is a 6-pdr AT gun mounted to fire from a truck or it could be dismounted to fire. The eighth unit was used in Burma as light jungle artillery and in Europe by airnorne troops. The last unit is a shoulder-fired recoilless rifle.

Row 2

The first unit is a recoilless rifle. The second unit was used in North Africa. The third unit is a patrol of the Long Range Desert Group used in North Africa (when four of these units are operating together, a 60mm mortar plt and a 37mm gun unit are available for use). The last six units were used in Europe and North Africa. They were organized into platoons of three AFV's which accounts for the low DF's of some of them. However, there were five platoons in each tank company instead of three platoons. The tank company sometimes also had two howitzer-armed close support tanks in the HQ section.

Row 3

Most of these units are self-explanatory. The Baron flail was an unarmed A-12. The last two units were organized into platoons of four AFV's. The Challenger was used at Normandy but proved to be a dud mechanically.

Row 4

The first unit had a 2-pdr mounted in the turret and a 75mm howitzer mounted in the hull. This was the type of tank used at Dieppe. The next four units are self-explanatory. The sixth unit was a Royal Engineer "funny." It fired a plastic squash explosive against emplacements. The CB designation means that it can only be used against towns or fortifications (concrete-busting). The Grant was used in North Africa in 1942 before being replaced by the Sherman. The Mark VIb was the most widely used light recon tank in the Eritish Army. The Tetrarch was capable of being

John Garrett

carried in a glider and saw limited use in airborne operations.

The Centurian never saw action in WWII but two platoons were in Europe when hostilities ceased. The next two units were the British versions of the German flak panzers. The Archer was a Valentine chassis with a 17-pdr mounted. to fire over the rear. The Quad tractor was used to pull the 25-pdr field gun. The MH-2 was used in North Africa. The next two units are self-explanatory. The Bishop SPA had the disadvantages of limited traverse and elevation and was replaced by the U.S. Priest.

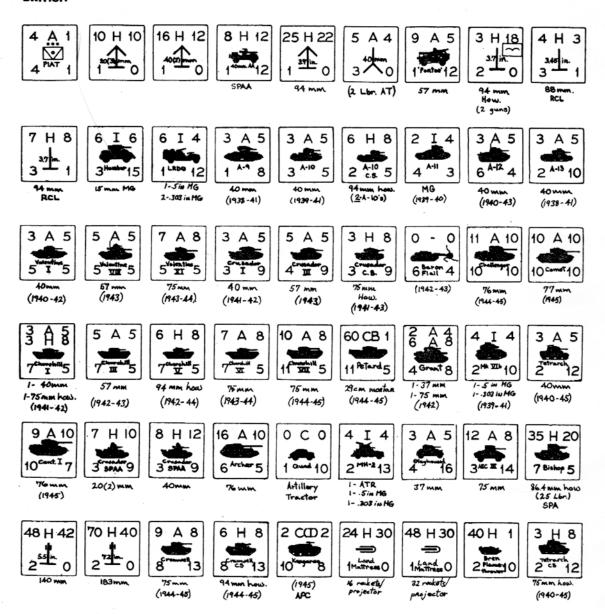
Row 6

The first two units are the ones listed in AH's Panzer Leader. The next two units are corrections to the Cromwell unit in Panzer Leader. The Cromwell was a cruiser style tank and could reach speeds of 40 mph on firm ground. The Kangaroo APC was made from Canadian Ram II tanks with their turrets removed. The infantry had to climb out through the hull top which was a clumsy operation even without being fired upon. The next two units are rocket launchers developed by the Canadians. The Bren carrier functions in the same way as the Churchill Crocodile. There should be a limit as to the number of times that a flamethrower can be used as the fuel supply was quickly used up in action. The last unit is the close support version of the Tetrarch tank.

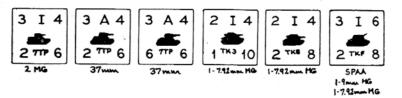
Row 7

The 7TP tank was the Polish version of the Vickers 6-ton tank and produced under British License. It was constantly being upgraded but was still inferior to German tanks. The last three units were machine gun carriers similar to the Bren carrier. The TKF was not really effective against aircraft. The Poles relied on the French for much of their equipment so the appropriate French units can be used to flesh out the Polish Army. The Poles only had one battalion of R-35 tanks which never saw action and were evacuated to Rumania. their artillery was French 75mm gums with some 105mm howitzers.

BRITISH



POLISH



The Polish Army was also supplied with French R-35's and FT-17's. Use French reserve inf., cavalry, and artillery.

ADDITIONAL PANZERBLITZ UNITS-PART VI

BY JOHN GARRETT

Row 1

The first three units are Chinese infantry companies with varying degrees of combat effectiveness. The first unit represents roughly 4% of the Nationalist Chinese Army in WWII. These were relatively well trained troops armed with Czech or German weapons. The second unit was only partially trained and armed with Japanese weapons. The third unit represents the worst of the Chinese Army which were armed only with swords, spears, etc. This third unit can only close assault. When the second and third units CAT, they should only subtract one from the die roll instead of two. In terms of manpower three of the rifle-1 units are equal to two of the rifle-2 units. The next two units are self-explanatory except that the engineer unit when used in combat does not raise the attack one column on the CRT. The first two tank units were purchased from England. There were very few of these as indicated so they shouldn't be overused. The third tank unit was purchased from the US until 1941. The 57mm field artillery was typical of the obsolete equipment used.

When devising Sino—Japanese scenarios, the Chinese can use MG, mortar, and light artillery units of French, German, British, American, Russian, and Japanese origin. They can also use Russian T-26 and T-27 tanks, Italian CV33 tankettes, and American M3, M4, and M5 tanks depending on the time period. Don't go overboard on the use of foreign weapons as there weren't many available except for Japanese at first. Later on, American weapons became more available under the Lend-Lease program.

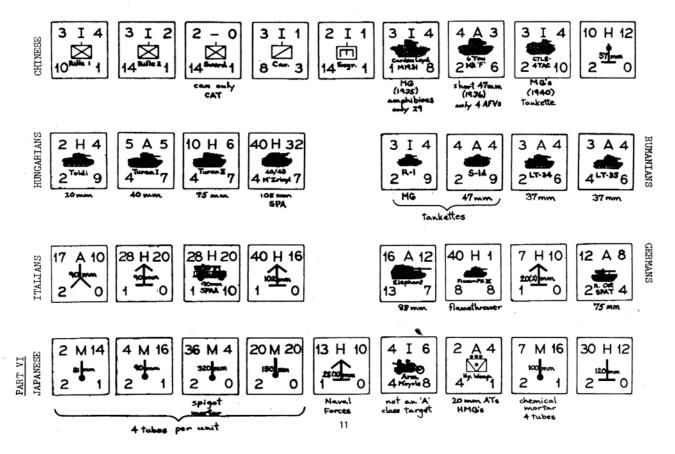
Row 2

The first four units represent the equipment of the Hungarian Army armored units. In 1943, the Germans started supplying them with PZ III and PZ IV tanks. The PanzerBlitz security units are used for Hungarian infantry. German mortars and light artillery (75mm or less) are also used. The Italian CV33 tankette was used, too.

The last four units were of Czechoslovak make but here they represent the armored units of the Rumanian Army. They also used the French R-35 and the German PZ 38(t). The rest of the makeup of the Rumanians is the same as the Hungarians. In addition, they can use the French cavalry unit.

Row 3
The first four units are Italian and are self-explanatory.

The second group of units are German. The first unit is the Ferdinand or Elephant Jagdpanzer used at Kursk in 1943. It was employed in platoons of four AFV's. When CAT'd, its defense factor is reduced to six DF's unless there are friendly infantry stacked with it. The second unit is just one of various types of tanks equipped with a flamethrower by the Germans. The third unit is self-explanatory. The last unit was a commercial tractor chassis altered to carry an AT gun.



Row 4

The first two units are corrections to earlier versions that appeared in Outposts #5. The earlier versions had assumed six mortars per unit which proved to be incorrect. The third unit was employed at Okinawa where a total of 24 mortars were formed into an artillery mortar regiment. The next two units should be self-explanatory. The fourth unit, while called an armored motorcycle didn't have enough armor plate to make it an "A" class target. It was used in China. The last three units are a-again self-explanatory.

This completes the series on articlés on additional Panzerblitz units.

