

German Volks Grenadier Battalion

KStN 111V, 131V and 151V

All tables dated 1st September 1944

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Composed of;

Battalion Headquarters	4 Officers, 13 men
Communication Detachment	(27 men)
Supply Platoon	(2 Officers, 45 men)
Three Rifle Companies, each	2 Officers, 117 men
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 19 men)
Two MP Platoons, each	(1 Officer*, 32 men)
One Rifle Platoon	(33 men)*
Heavy Company	3 Officers, 191 men
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 23 men)
Two MG Platoons, each	(1 Officer*, 28 men) - (four heavy machine guns)
Infantry Gun Platoon	(1 Officer, 51 men) - (four 7.5-cm guns)
8-cm Mortar Platoon	(60 men) - (six 8-cm mortars)
Total strength	642 all ranks (15 Officers and 627 men)

*One MP (Machine Pistol) Platoon and the Rifle Platoon in each Rifle Company, and one MG Platoon and the 8-cm Mortar Platoon in the Heavy Company are commanded by Senior NCOs from *Stellengruppe 'O'*.

Summary Table, German Volks Grenadier Battalion, September 1944

Detail	Battalion Headquarters			Total, Headquarters	Three Rifle Companies, each			Total, Rifle Company	Heavy Company				Total, Heavy Company	Total, Battalion
	Headquarters	Communication Detachment	Battalion Supply Platoon		Company HQ	Two MP Platoons (each)*	Rifle Platoon		Company HQ	Two Heavy MG Platoons, each*	7.5-cm Infantry Gun Platoon	8-cm Mortar Platoon		
i). Personnel														
Officers*	4	0	1	5	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	3	14
Beamte (Officials)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
NCOs ('O' group)*	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	3	2	0	0	1	4	15
NCOs ('G' group)	2	3	5	10	4	3	3	13	6	6	7	6	31	80
Privates ('M' group)	10	24	39	73	14	29	29	101	15	22	44	53	156	532
Total, all ranks	17	27	47	91	20	33	33	119	24	29	52	60	194	642
ii). Transport														
Riding horses	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	5	9
Draught horses	0	4	42	46	1	3	3	10	2	3	14	18	40	116
Infantry carts	0	4	0	4	1	1	1	4	2	1	4	12	20	36
Infantry carts (as trailers)	0	4	0	4	1	1	1	4	2	1	0	12	16	32
Horse-drawn wagons	0	0	12	12	0	1	1	3	0	1	3	3	8	29
Kitchens (horse-drawn)	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Bicycles	3	0	4	7	5	0	0	5	4	0	1	0	5	27
Motorcycles, solo	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Kettenkrads (tracked motorcycles)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Light cars	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Medium trucks	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
iii). Weapons														
Pistols	2	1	3	6	1	2	4	9	3	9	5	21	47	80
Machine pistols	12	8	2	22	3	26	9	64	7	9	9	5	39	253
Rifles	3	18	42	63	16	5	20	46	14	11	38	34	108	309
Light machine guns	0	1	1	2	0	3	3	9	0	0	1	0	1	30
Heavy machine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	8	8
8-cm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	6
7.5-cm light infantry guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	4

*one MP Platoon in each Rifle Company and one MG Platoon in the Heavy Company are commanded by NCOs from *Stellengruppe "O"*

Battalion Headquarters (4 Officers, 13 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battalion commander	Officer - B	1	Machine pistol Riding horse	1 1
Battalion Adjutant	Officer - Z	1	Machine pistol Riding horse	1 1
Orderly officer*	Officer - Z	1	Machine pistol	1
Medical officer (Battalion physician)	Officer - K	1	Pistol	1
Messenger leader	Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol	1
Battle clerk	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
Medical NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol Bicycle	1 1
Mounted messenger	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol Riding horse	2 2
Messenger	Soldier - M	4	Machine pistol Bicycle	4 2
Motorcycle messenger	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol Motorcycle	2 2
Horse holder	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Vehicle driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle Light personnel car (4-seat)	1 1
*also Communications Officer	Total, all ranks	17		

Communication Detachment (27 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Detachment leader*	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Light machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol Light machine gun	1 1
Light machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle Infantry cart, Jf.8 Draught horse	1 2 1
<i>Light Field Cable Troop '6'</i>				
Telephonist, Troop leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Telephonist	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Telephonist	Soldier - M	1	Rifle Infantry cart, Jf.8 Draught horse	1 2 1
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Two Light Field Cable Troops '3'				
Telephonist, Troop leader	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol	2
Telephonist	Soldier - M	6	Rifle	6
Telephonist	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
Four Pack Radio Troops 'd'				
Radio operator, Troop leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Radio operator, Troop leader	Soldier - M	3	Machine pistol	3
Radio operator	Soldier - M	4	Rifle	4
Radio operator	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
*also telephonist and radio operator	Total, all ranks	27		

Supply Platoon (2 Officers, 45 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Paymaster; Officer of TSD (Supply)	Officer - Z	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Senior armourer	Official - Z	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Battalion clerk (also for Senior NCO duties)	Non-commissioned - O	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Senior blacksmith	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
			Bicycle	1
Clerk (1 operates LMG)	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
			Light machine gun	1
Blacksmith	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Horse-drawn wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
			<i>baggage & equipment</i>	
Ammunition & Equipment Detachment				
Equipment NCO (QM duties)	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Assistant armourer**	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	4	Rifle	4
			Horse-drawn wagon, Hf.1	4
			Draught horse	8
			<i>ammunition & equipment</i>	
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Battalion clothing reserve</i>				
Pay clerk (Leader)	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
Tailor*	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Shoemaker*	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Saddler*	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
			Horse-drawn wagon, Hf.1	2
			Draught horse	4
			<i>reserve clothing</i>	
<i>Rations Detachment</i>				
Rations leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Field cook NCO**	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
Field cook**	Soldier - M	4	Rifle	4
Field cook (also wagon driver)	Soldier - M	5	Rifle	5
			Field kitchen, small, Hf.12 or 14	1
			Draught horse	2
			Field kitchen, large, Hf.11 or 13	4
			Draught horse ¥	16
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	5	Rifle	5
			Horse-drawn wagon	5
			Draught horse	10
			<i>kitchen equipment</i>	
Rations issue***	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Vehicle driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			2-ton truck	1
			<i>rations</i>	
Total, all ranks		47		

*2 of these also wagon escorts

**also a field kitchen escort

***also a vehicle escort

¥ Drivers from Saddle for the Field Kitchens are found from the Trains personnel

Additional notes on weapons

Weapon	No.	Notes
<i>The 63 rifles in Battalion Headquarters may include the following</i>		
Rifle grenade launcher	3	

Three Rifle Companies (2 Officers, 117 men), each

Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 19 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Officer - K	1	Machine pistol	1
Company (HQ) Troop leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Senior NCO (combat vehicle leader)	Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Pay clerk	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
			Bicycle	1
Equipment NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
			Bicycle	1
Medical NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Messenger	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
			Bicycle	1
Radio operator (also messenger)	Soldier - M	4	Rifle	4
Sharpshooter	Soldier - M	6	Rifle	6
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
Total, all ranks		20		

Two MP (Machine Pistol) Platoons (1 Officer or Senior NCO, 32 men), each

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Officer - Z <u>or</u> Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol*	1
Messenger	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol*	2
Stretcher-bearer	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Horse-drawn wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
			<i>Ammunition and baggage</i>	
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
			<i>Ammunition and equipment</i>	
			Light machine gun (reserve)	2
Two MP Squads, each				
Squad leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol*	1
Rifleman	Soldier - M	8	Machine pistol*	8
Rifle Squad				
Squad leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol*	1
Rifle grenadier	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	3	Machine pistol*	3
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
			Light machine gun	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol*	1
Total, all ranks		33	<i>*assumed to denote an MP44</i>	

Note

The original KStN table does not distinguish between the MP40 and the MP44, merely giving an overall total of 64 machine pistols for the Rifle Company. A summary of weapons for the Volks Grenadier Division does indicate 55 MP44s (assault rifles) and 9 MP40s per Rifle Company. In the above where a machine pistol is marked * this is to denote that it was likely to be an MP44 but it is only my *estimation* and not derived from a contemporary document. The same applies to the Rifle Platoon on the following page.

Rifle Platoon (1 Senior NCO, 32 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol*	1
Messenger	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol*	2
Stretcher-bearer	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Horse-drawn wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
			<i>Ammunition and baggage</i>	
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
			<i>Ammunition and equipment</i>	
Two Squads, each				
Squad leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	4	Rifle	4
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
			Light machine gun	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
One Squad				
Squad leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Rifle grenadier	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
			Light machine gun	1
Rifleman & machine gunner	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
Total, all ranks		33	<i>*assumed to denote an MP44</i>	

Additional notes on weapons

Weapon	No.	Notes
The 46 rifles in each Rifle Company may include the following		
Self-loading rifle	3	
Rifle with x4 telescopic sight	10	6 for Sharpshooters
Rifle grenade launcher	10	3 per Platoon, 1 for Company HQ

Heavy Company (3 Officers, 191 men)**Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 23 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Officer - K	1	Machine pistol	1
			Riding horse	1
Company (HQ) Troop leader <i>(also Observation NCO)</i>	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Senior NCO (combat vehicle leader)	Non-commissioned - O	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Armament NCO (armourer)	Non-commissioned - O	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Equipment NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
			Bicycle	1
Pay clerk	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
			Bicycle	1
Radio operator	Non-commissioned - G	1	Rifle	1
Medical NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol	1
Mounted messenger*	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol	2
			Riding horse	2
Radio operator	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Motorcycle messenger	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
			<i>Kettenkrad (SdKfz2)</i>	1
<i>Two Light Field Cable Troops '6'</i>				
Telephonist, Troop leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Telephonist	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Telephonist, Troop leader	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
Telephonist	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
Telephonist	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	4
			Draught horse	2
*1 also Officer's horse holder	Total, all ranks	24		

Two Heavy Machine Gun Platoons (1 Officer or Senior NCO, 28 men), each

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	Officer - Z <u>or</u> Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol	1
Messenger	Soldier - M	2	Machine pistol	2
Assistant armourer*	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Stretcher-bearer	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Horse-drawn wagon, Hf.1	1
			Draught horse	2
			<i>Ammunition</i>	
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	2
			Draught horse	1
<i>Two Groups, each</i>				
Group leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
<i>Two Guns, each</i>				
Machine gun leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Machine gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
			Heavy machine gun	1
Machine gun crewman	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Machine gun crewman	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
*also a wagon escort	Total, all ranks	29		

Light Infantry Gun Platoon (1 Officer, 51 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	Officer - Z	1	Machine pistol	1
			Riding horse	1
Aiming circle NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol	1
Leader, combat vehicles*	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Rangetaker	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Messenger (also horse holder)	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Radio operator (also messenger)	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
Assistant armourer	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Stretcher-bearer	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Horse-drawn wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
			<i>Equipment & baggage</i>	
<i>Light Field Cable Troop '3'</i>				
Telephonist, Troop leader	Soldier - M	1	Machine pistol	1
Telephonist	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
<i>(with Guns)</i>				
Position NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Aiming circle II	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Ammunition handler	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
			Horse-drawn wagon, Hf.1	2
			Draught horse	4
			<i>Ammunition</i>	
			Light machine gun**	1
<i>Four Guns, each</i>				
Gun leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Gun crewman	Soldier - M	6	Rifle**	6
Horse leader	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
			Infantry cart (as limber)	1
			Draught horse	2
			7.5-cm light infantry gun	1
	Total, all ranks	52		

*also fodder master

**2 crewmen also serve the LMG; 1 of these armed with pistol instead of rifle

8-cm Mortar Platoon (66 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Non-commissioned - O	1	Machine pistol	1
			Riding horse	1
Radio operator (also messenger)	Soldier - M	6	Rifle	6
Assistant armourer*	Soldier - M	1	Rifle	1
Stretcher-bearer*	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Aiming circle I NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol	1
Aiming circle II NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Pistol	1
Position NCO	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
Wagon driver	Soldier - M	3	Rifle	3
			Horse-drawn wagon	3
			Draught horse	6
			<i>Ammunition & baggage</i>	
Three Groups, each				
Group leader	Non-commissioned - G	1	Machine pistol	1
<i>Two Troops, each</i>				
Mortar leader	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Mortar gunner	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
			8-cm mortar	1
Mortar crewman	Soldier - M	1	Pistol	1
Mortar crewman	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
Horse leader	Soldier - M	2	Rifle	2
			Infantry cart, Jf.8	4
			Draught horse	2
			<i>Equipment & ammunition</i>	
	Total, all ranks	60		

*also a wagon escort

Additional notes on weapons

Weapon	No.	Notes
The 108 rifles in the Heavy Company may include the following		
Rifle grenade launcher	10	1 for Company HQ, 1 for each MG Group and Mortar Group and 2 for Gun Platoon

Notes*Battalion Headquarters*

1. Includes 4 men trained as assistant stretcher-bearers.
2. Of the Position Group "G" NCOs, 2 are *Feldwebel*.
3. Forms a Gas Warning Troop of 1 Leader and 3 men, and a Disinfection Troop of 1 Leader and 6 men (among which is a Medic or a stretcher-bearer).
4. 1 Officer is responsible for Gas warfare readiness.
5. 1 NCO is detailed as Gas warfare NCO.
6. Of the 73 men in Position Group "M", 12 may be Hiwis.

Each Rifle Company

7. Includes 6 men trained as assistant stretcher-bearers.
8. Of the Position Group "G" NCOs, 3 are *Oberfeldwebel* and 2 *Feldwebel*.
9. The Company forms a Gas Warning Troop of 1 Leader and 3 men, and a Disinfection Troop of 1 Leader and 6 men (among which is a Medic or a stretcher-bearer).
10. 1 NCO in the Company is detailed as Gas warfare NCO.
11. Of the 101 men in Position Group "M", 4 may be Hiwis.

Heavy Company

12. Includes 8 men trained as assistant stretcher-bearers.
13. Of the Position Group "G" NCOs, 3 are *Oberfeldwebel* and 5 *Feldwebel*.
14. The Company forms a Gas Warning Troop of 1 NCO and 3 men, and a Disinfection Troop of 1 Leader and 6 men (among which is a Medic or a stretcher-bearer).
15. 1 NCO in the Company is detailed as Gas warfare NCO.
16. Of the 156 men in Position Group "M", 16 may be Hiwis, including 6 in the Train.

General

17. Horse-drawn wagons noted as Hf.1 may be replaced by Ef.43 type.
18. Unless otherwise stated, all other horse-drawn wagons are noted as being *Panjewagen (Pleskau 2)*.
19. The posts occupied by Hiwis to be determined by the Unit commander. Suggested Hiwi posts are not marked on a document showing the Battalion in diagram form.