

# **Notes on the organization of the German Motorised Infantry Battalion 1938 to 1942**

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## Introduction

This piece marks the start of the second round of studies of various German Army unit organizations of the Second World War.

Having begun these studies with the Infantry and Grenadier Battalion, there is a dilemma in trying to apply the same criteria to other unit types. This is because no matter how specialised they may appear to be, the framework of a typical Infantry Battalion is almost always discernible in their organization, and they will in large part use the same weapons and equipment that have already been covered.

There is also an overriding factor when it comes to the German Motorised Infantry Battalion, in that the only complete KStN set remaining is that for the Battalion in its final form, issued towards the end of 1941. Initially I was going to focus on this version, until some information was pointed out on [www.germandocsinrussia.org](http://www.germandocsinrussia.org) that I had missed myself. I was also able to see the summary figures for various unit types as detailed in the pre-war German Army mobilisation plans, which did include various 'target figures' for the Motorised Infantry Battalion in 1937.

I have then attempted to rebuild the Motorised Infantry Battalion based upon the figures available for 1937 and the descriptions for 1941. I have tried a few reconstructions on the site and they are always an unsatisfactory exercise but in the absence of the original documents they are the best I can offer. Please see the sources and acknowledgements section for details of the sources used.

This document gives an outline of the development of the Battalion, before looking at its component subunits in more detail. Complete descriptions of the various German Motorised Infantry Battalions discussed here are available in PDF files accessible from the below linked area of the site.

### [German Army organization during the Second World War](#)

There are always gaps in my understanding, so just after sources and acknowledgements is a list of topics I am still seeking information on. If anyone reading them can give me a pointer on where to look, or more direct assistance, I would be very interested to hear from you. See the Home page for contact info.

I hope this proves of use and interest to anyone interested in the subject.

Gary Kennedy

May 2020

## **Organization of the German Motorised Infantry Battalion**

### **1938 to 1942**

In 1939 the German Army fielded four Motorised Infantry Divisions. These used the same overall structure of the Infantry Division, but replaced horse-drawn transport with motor vehicles. At the beginning of 1940 the Motorised Infantry Divisions were reduced in size, each losing its third Infantry Regiment along with one Motorised Artillery Battalion. By early 1941 there were ten Motorised Infantry Divisions, still with two Motorised Infantry Regiments, and varied supporting units.

During 1942 a number of Motorised Infantry Divisions added a Panzer Battalion and an Anti-aircraft Battalion, with most of these particular formations being destroyed in Stalingrad in early 1943. The remaining Motorised Infantry Divisions were retitled as Panzer Grenadier Divisions in the summer of 1943, with their infantry becoming Grenadier Regiments (Motorised). Around this time the Panzer Grenadier Divisions began to receive a Panzer Assault Gun Battalion equipped with the Stug.

The three Motorised Infantry Divisions lost at Stalingrad were reformed, though their Grenadier Regiments a different organization. At the end of 1943 the Grenadier Regiment (Motorised) of the Panzer Grenadier Division, and the Motorised Panzer Grenadier Battalions and Regiments of the Panzer Division converted to a new series of KStN tables, which marked the end of the Motorised Infantry Regiment.

### **Overview**

The Battalion as detailed herein was that found in the Motorised Infantry Regiment of the Motorised Infantry Division up to the closing months of 1943.

As mentioned above, only a fraction of the KStN tables issued for the Motorised Infantry Battalion and Regiment remain. The outline development below is therefore pulled together from a patchwork of sources until 1942. Full details of these are given in the sources and acknowledgements section at the end of this piece.

### ***Outline development - 1938 to 1942***

The pre-war German Motorised Infantry Division was built around three Infantry Regiments, each with three Infantry Battalions, an Infantry Gun Company and an Infantry Anti-tank Company. At the end of 1939 each Motorised Infantry Division lost its third Infantry Regiment and one Artillery Battalion, and for the remainder of the war operated with two Infantry Regiments.

All elements of the Infantry Regiment were fully motorised, in that they had sufficient motor transport to move all of their personnel and weapons in one lift. The Motorised Infantry Battalions used the same basic organization as the type 'b' Infantry Battalion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Wave Infantry Divisions.

This consisted of a Battalion Headquarters (which included the Commander's staff, a Communication Detachment and the Battalion Trains), three Rifle Companies and a Machine Gun Company. The Machine Gun (MG) Company had two MG Platoons, each with four heavy machine guns, and a Mortar Platoon of six 8-cm weapons. Each Rifle Company had its own MG Section of two weapons, and three Rifle Platoons, each with three Rifle Squads and a 5-cm mortar detachment. There was an MG34 in each Rifle Squad, with the same weapon being used in the heavy role in the MG Sections and Platoons.

As detailed in the [Organization of the German Infantry Battalion](#) study, the standard Infantry Battalion underwent a fundamental change in late 1939. This involved the reorganization of the Rifle Platoons from three Squads into four, while all heavy machine guns were removed to the MG Company. These same alterations do not appear to have been made to the Motorised Infantry Divisions until August 1940, when a new set of KStN were published for their Motorised Infantry Regiments. These were superseded in February 1941 by a further set of tables that appear to have made only detail changes to the August 1940 issues.

In June 1941 there were ten Motorised Infantry Divisions in the German Army. Their Infantry Regiments used the same outline organization of the standard Infantry Regiment and Battalion. For the latter, this consisted of Battalion Headquarters, an MG Company with three MG Platoons of four guns each, plus a Mortar Platoon of six 8-cm weapons, and three Rifle Companies. Each Rifle Company had three Platoons with four Squads and a 5-cm mortar detachment, while Company Headquarters included an Anti-tank Rifle Squad of three weapons.

In November 1941 a new set of KStN were issued for the Motorised Infantry Regiment. These abolished the former Regimental Anti-tank Company and added one Anti-tank Platoon with three guns (nominally the 3.7-cm Pak) to each MG Company. These in turn deleted their third MG Platoon, while adding two heavy machine guns to each remaining MG Platoon. In the Rifle Companies the Anti-tank Rifle Squad added a new weapon and each Rifle Platoon received two spare light machine guns for issue as required.

At the end of 1943 a fundamental review of the organization of Panzer and Panzer Grenadier Divisions saw a slew of KStN tables issued for both types of formation. The previously different organizations of the Motorised Panzer Grenadier Regiments and the Grenadier Regiments (Motorised) were merged into a single type, which will be examined in the Panzer Grenadier study.

Overleaf is a chart that outlines the development of the German Motorised Infantry Battalion from 1938 to 1942.

### **Evolution of the German Motorised Infantry Battalion, 1938 to 1942**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>1938</b>	<b>1941</b>	<b>1942</b>
<b>i). Personnel</b>			
Officers	21	24	24
<i>Beamte</i> (Officials)	3	4	4
NCOs ('O' group)	5	14	14
NCOs ('G' group)	131	120	129
Privates ('M' group)	704	752	781
Total, all ranks	<b>864</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>952</b>
<b>ii). Transport</b>			
Kfz.1 light personnel car	0	2	1
Kfz.2 light personnel car	3	2	2
Kfz.11 medium personnel cars	5	5	1
Kfz.15 medium personnel cars	9	15	10
Light personnel cars	2	7	8
Medium personnel cars	7	0	0
Kfz.69 light trucks	0	0	5
Light trucks	23	23	7
Medium trucks	51	58	71
Kfz.31 ambulance	1	1	1
Kfz.2/40 light repair cars	0	5	5
Motorcycles, solo	21	48	31
Motorcycles, with sidecar	30	11	19
<b>iii). Weapons</b>			
Pistols	237	244	281
Machine pistols	0	67	66
Rifles	637	619	622
Light machine guns	27	36	55
Heavy machine guns	14	12	12
5-cm mortars	9	9	9
8-cm mortars	6	6	6
Anti-tank rifles	0	9	9
Heavy anti-tank rifles	0	0	3
3.7-cm anti-tank guns	0	0	3

## The elements of the Battalion, 1938 to 1942

Below follows a more detailed examination of the subunits of the Battalion (defined herein as Companies and Platoons and where applicable the various Trains). The difficulty here is that there is a good deal of duplication with the organization described in the [Organization of the German Infantry Battalion](#) section. This is then a somewhat abbreviated description and concentrates on those areas where the Motorised Infantry Battalion differed from the standard model.

### **Battalion Headquarters (*Stab eines Infanteriebataillons mot*) (1938 to 1942)**

The core of the command staff remained largely unaltered, consisting of the Battalion commander, Adjutant, Orderly (Ordnance) Officer and two medical officers. The junior of the two physicians became a 'blocked post' during 1942, meaning while the role still appeared on the KStN it would not necessarily be filled.

The other element of Battalion Headquarters was the messenger staff. This was made up of an NCO and eight men throughout, equipped with an ever changing ratio of motorcycles and motorcycle combinations. Headquarters transport was quite slim, initially just two personnel cars, briefly doubled at the start of 1941 before being pared back to three at the end of the same year.

### **Communication Detachment (*Nachrichtenstaffel*) (1938 to 1942)**

This was a modification of the same subunit found in the Infantry Battalion proper. It initially had two Light Field Telephone Troops, each of four men, and four Pack Radio Troops, each of two men. Two of the Pack Radio Troops were motorised, having a Kfz.2 light car with driver apiece, while the other two Radio Troops and both Telephone Troops travelled in the Detachment's single 3-ton truck.

Under the November 1941 KStN the Detachment underwent a somewhat unusual alteration. One of the two Telephone Troops was deleted, though its equipment seems to have been retained, while the Detachment Headquarters personnel were expected to be able function as a Telephone Troop in addition to their other roles. The Telephone Troop also changed from type 'a' to 'd', but I have not been able to identify what the change in equipment was for type 'd'.

### **Battalion and Company Trains and Baggage**

One thing that becomes apparent through any study of German unit organization is the importance of Trains down to Company level. Trains was originally the term applied to the line of wagons that carried baggage and supplies in the pre-mechanised era of warfare, and that was in large respect what it remained in the German Infantry arm of World War Two. In 1937 the Battalion Trains consisted of;

**The Battle Train (*Gefechtstross*)** initially with cooks and a kitchen truck and the unit ambulance.

**The Repair Group (Instandsetzungsgruppe)** including mechanics and armourers.

**The Rations Train (Verpflegungstross)** with two trucks.

**The Baggage Train (Gepäcktrass)** included the Paymaster and Battalion clerk.

Over the coming few years the personnel in these various detachments underwent several rearrangements without necessarily affecting the numbers involved. By February 1941 the unit armourers had been segregated into a separate detachment (*Waffenmeisterei*) before they were absorbed back into the Repair Detachment in late 1941. At this date the Battle Train was expanded and split into two halves. Battle Train I remained largely as before, while Battle Train II consisted of the Repair Detachment and a new Provisions Detachment. This latter was tasked with both fuel and ammunition supply, and looks to have been largely formed by moving trucks from the Company Trains.

In the Rifle Companies the Trains initially consisted of the Battle Train and the Baggage Train. The former included cooks, repair personnel and various NCO billets, plus a truck fitted as a field kitchen and two more for fuel and ammunition. The latter had a single truck and the usual tailor and shoemaker. By 1941 the mechanics had been formed into a small Repair Troop with a special fitted light car to act as a service vehicle. At the end of that year the ammunition trucks were transferred into the Battalion level Battle Train II.

A major aspect of the various Trains elements throughout German Divisions from 1942-43 onwards was the use of foreign volunteers to replace German personnel. These volunteers were more commonly known as *Hiwis*, a nickname derived from the full title of *Hilfswilliger*. In the Motorised Infantry Battalion they mainly occupied posts as drivers, cooks and equipment repairers.

### **The Machine Gun (MG) Company (*Maschinengewehrkompanie mot*)**

The Machine Gun Company of the Motorised Infantry Battalion does not have quite the torturous history of that of the standard Infantry Battalion, but it did have three incarnations.

The first KStN of October 1937 outlined a Company with two MG Platoons, each of four guns, and a Mortar Platoon with six 8-cm weapons. These Platoons were organized in almost exactly the same manner as those in the MG Company 'b', the only differences being for transport. The MG Platoon was carried in two Kfz.15 personnel cars and two 3-ton trucks, while the Mortar Platoon had four Kfz.11 cars and six 3-ton trucks. The cars were used for the Platoon and Groups Headquarters personnel, with the trucks carrying the guns, mortars and ammunition.

In August 1940 a new KStN was issued that adopted the revised format seen in the Infantry Battalion MG Company back in 1939. A third MG Platoon was added, still with four guns, and the Mortar Platoon was as before. Previously Company

Headquarters had included a Communication Detachment, large enough to warrant a 3-ton truck to carry it. The August 1940 table reduced this to a half-dozen messengers who also doubled as telephonists.

Finally in November 1941 came a more substantial reorganization. Under this the MG Company absorbed one 3.7-cm Anti-tank Platoon from the disbanded Regimental Anti-tank Company. This was equipped with three guns, these being the Pak 35/36 that had been the standard German anti-tank gun since the late 1930s. Given its brief appearance with the Motorised Infantry Battalion I hope to look at it in more detail with the Panzer Grenadier study. Suffice to say that, in 1942, the 3.7-cm was only marginally effective as a tank killer, particularly against the newer Allied machines such as the Valentine, Sherman and T-34. The Platoon had five Kfz.69 light trucks, three for guns and one each for Headquarters and an LMG detachment.

The MG Platoons also underwent an unusual change under the November 1941 organization. The third MG Platoon was disbanded, however its guns were allocated two each to the remaining two MG Platoons. They were not however added as a third Group, as might be expected. Instead, they were designated as *verstärkungs* or reinforcing guns, each gun having a six-man crew. Each Platoon added a third truck to carry the extra weapons, these coming from the disbanded MG Platoon.

### **The Rifle Company (*Schützenkompanie mot*) (1938 to 1945)**

The German Rifle Company underwent multiple changes during the course of the war, which are reflected to a lesser extent in the Motorised version.

In late 1937 the German Army adopted a new Squad and Platoon organization. This was used by normal Infantry Battalions, Motorised Infantry Battalions and also the *Schützen* Battalions of the recently formed Panzer Divisions.

It consisted of a Platoon Headquarters, a 5-cm Mortar Troop and three Rifle Squads. Platoon Headquarters was simply the commander and three messengers, while the Mortar Troop had an NCO and two men with a single 5-cm mortar. Each Rifle Squad was 13 strong, with two NCOs, seven riflemen and four light machine gun numbers, the latter serving the Squad's MG34. The Platoon commander and three LMG numbers in each Squad were armed with pistols, all the others having rifles.

When operating in the Motorised role the Platoon added four drivers, each with a medium truck, and a motorcycle messenger, with a motorcycle and sidecar. Finally the Platoon's stretcher-bearer, normally allotted from the Company Battle Train, was counted as part of the Platoon itself. Overall, the strength of the Motorised Rifle Platoon was 52 all ranks, with four trucks and one motorcycle combination.

The three Rifle Platoons were supported by a Heavy Machine Gun Group, with two MG34s on tripod mounts. This was organized in exactly the same way as in the standard Rifle Company, except its horse-drawn wagon was replaced by a personnel car, a medium truck and a motorcycle with sidecar with appropriate drivers.

Company Headquarters consisted of the commander, four messengers, three motorcycle messengers and a driver with a Kfz.15 personnel car. Also in Headquarters were two NCOs, the Company HQ leader and the Company Vehicle (transport) leader, and the final stretcher-bearer.

In the Rifle Platoons the first three trucks each carried one Squad completed, leaving the fourth to transport Platoon Headquarters and the Mortar Troop. Company Headquarters had a dozen men and only one four-seater car however it also had two solo motorcycles and two combinations (which were judged capable of carrying two passengers, one in the side car and the other on the pillion seat behind the driver). That might have been considered enough to lift all its personnel, though there was likely to have been spare capacity in the Platoon trucks.

Completing the Company was a Battle Train, with three trucks and a light personnel car, and the Baggage Train with a further truck. One of the Battle Train trucks acted as a field kitchen, while the others carried equipment and fuel.

A revised Rifle Company organization was adopted by the Infantry Divisions shortly before the end of 1939. Both the Motorised Infantry and Panzer Divisions however remained on their previous models through the early campaigns of 1940. In August of that year the Motorised Divisions adopted a new KStN for their Rifle Companies, bringing them into line with the remainder of the Infantry.

This saw the Rifle Platoon shift to four Squads, each of an NCO and nine men. Three of these acted as crew for the Squad's light machine gun, the Nos.1 and 2 armed with pistol, No.3 a rifle. The remaining six men were all rifle armed, while the NCO was authorised an MP40 machine pistol. Platoon Headquarters added an NCO and the officer was also given an MP40, while the two gunners in the Mortar Troop swapped their rifles for pistols. Transport remained as four trucks, which allowed one per Rifle Squad but meant that Platoon Headquarters had to be carried split up over the vehicles. Total Platoon strength was now one officer and 53 men.

Company Headquarters acquired an Anti-tank Rifle Squad of an NCO and six men, with three 7.92-mm *Panzerbusche* 38 weapons and added a medium truck to transport it. As with the standard Rifle Company the Squad could double as an ammunition supply troop if required. The Company level heavy machine guns were deleted as these weapons were centralised in the MG Company

A further KStN was published in February 1941, a transcription of which confirms the overall look of the Company. There were some minor changes evident from the earliest version. These included the replacement of motorcycle combinations with solo motorcycles for messengers, and the formation of a small Repair Troop, largely done by transferring maintenance personnel from the Battle Train and adding an extra mechanic with a Kfz.2/40 service vehicle.

It is not until November 1941 that the first full KStN for the Motorised Rifle Company can be found, and this would prove to be (almost) its last incarnation.

Company Headquarters was as described above, with a few minor and one major change. The NCO Vehicle leader forfeited his motorcycle and was now reliant upon a motorcyclist with a combination to carry him in the sidecar. The same was true for the Medical NCO, now shown under Headquarters rather than the Battle Train.

The Anti-tank Rifle Squad was increased by four men and added a new weapon, the *schwere Panzerbusche 41*. This is something I intend to look at in a little more detail with the Panzer Grenadier study. In brief it was a heavy anti-tank rifle using a 'tapered bore' that meant its 2.8-cm calibre round was squeezed down a barrel that narrowed to 2.0-cm at the point the round exited. This had the effect of increasing the kinetic energy of the round and achieving a much higher muzzle velocity, and with it better armour penetration. The sPzB41 was more a small artillery piece than a rifle, weighing some 225kg and being mounted on a two-wheel carriage.

The firepower of the Rifle Platoons was also increased, each receiving two unallocated light machine guns to give the Company 18 LMGs in total, the same as found in a Panzer Grenadier Company. Unlike other units the Motorised Rifle Company retained its 5-cm mortar per Rifle Platoon through 1942, on paper at least.

Overleaf is a brief summary of the changes in Rifle Platoon organization in the Motorised Rifle Company.

**Rifle Platoon (Motorised), under KStN 138 - October 1937 (Reconstruction)**

Personnel	No.	Pistol	Rifle	LMG	5-cm	Truck	m/c*
<b>Platoon Headquarters</b>							
Platoon commander	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Messenger	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
Motorcycle messenger	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Stretcher-bearer	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle driver	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Light Mortar Troop</b>							
Leader (NCO)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Gunner	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Assistant	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Headquarters</b>	10	2	8	-	1	1	1
<b>Three Rifle Squads, each</b>							
Squad leader (NCO)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Deputy leader (NCO)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Rifleman	7	-	7	-	-	-	-
Light machine gunner	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Assistant gunner	3	2	1	-	-	-	-
Vehicle driver	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Total, Squad</b>	14	3	11	1	-	1	-
<b>Total, Platoon</b>	52	11	41	3	1	4	1

**Notes**

1. Trucks are described as medium, for troop transport.
2. \* is a motorcycle is fitted with sidecar.
3. Weapons issue as would be found under KStN 131c of same date.

**Rifle Platoon (Motorised), under KStN 138c - February 1941**

Personnel	No.	Pistol	MP	Rifle	LMG	5-cm	Truck	m/c*
<b>Platoon Headquarters</b>								
Platoon commander	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Platoon NCO	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Messenger	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Motorcycle messenger	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Stretcher-bearer	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Light Mortar Troop</b>								
Leader (NCO)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Gunner	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Assistant	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Headquarters</b>	10	5	1	5	-	1	-	1
<b>Four Rifle Squads, each</b>								
Squad leader (NCO)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Rifleman	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Light machine gunner	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Assistant gunner	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Vehicle driver	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Total, Squad</b>	11	2	1	8	1	-	1	-
<b>Total, Platoon</b>	54	13	5	37	4	1	4	1

**Notes**

1. Trucks are described as medium, for troop transport.
2. \* is a solo motorcycle.
3. Taken from a contemporary description with weapons issue as would be found under KStN 131c of same date.

**Rifle Platoon (Motorised), under KStN 138c - November 1941**

Personnel	No.	Pistol	MP	Rifle	LMG	5-cm	Truck	m/c*
<b>Platoon Headquarters</b>								
Platoon commander	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Platoon NCO	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Messenger	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Motorcycle messenger	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Stretcher-bearer	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Light Mortar Troop</b>								
Leader (NCO)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Gunner	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Assistant	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Headquarters</b>	10	5	1	5	-	1	-	1
<b>Four Rifle Squads, each</b>								
Squad leader (NCO)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Rifleman	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Light machine gunner	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Assistant gunner	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Vehicle driver	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Total, Squad</b>	11	2	1	8	1	-	1	-
<b>Total, Platoon</b>	54	13	5	37	6	1	4	1

**Notes**

1. Trucks are described as medium (3-ton), for troop transport.
2. \* is a solo motorcycle.
3. Assume 1 rifle grenade launcher added per Rifle Squad during 1942.
4. Of the total 6 light machine guns in the Platoon 2 are unallocated.

## Example ammunition load, Motorised Infantry Battalion

### I Battalion, 156 Infantry Regiment (Motorised)

19<sup>th</sup> October 1940

Weapon	Weapons by Unit				Ammunition by weapon				
	Battalion HQ	Rifle Company	MG Company	Total, Battalion	On man or with gun	On combat vehicles	On Light Column	In Divisional Column	Total rounds, per weapon
Pistol	23	48	92	259	8	-	2	2	<b>12</b>
Machine pistol	0	16	0	48	160	352	128	128	<b>768</b>
Rifle	0	141	0	423	45	15	20	10	<b>90</b>
Rifle	69	0	117	186	20	0	5	5	<b>30</b>
LMG	0	12	0	36	1100	1400	750	500	<b>3750</b>
<i>Ball</i>					924	1176	630	420	3150
<i>AP</i>					110	140	75	50	375
<i>AP tracer</i>					66	84	45	30	225
HMG	0	0	12	12	1800	2950	1250	750	<b>6750</b>
<i>Ball</i>					1515	2480	1050	630	5675
<i>AP</i>					199	329	138	84	750
<i>AP tracer</i>					86	141	62	36	325
5-cm mortar	0	3	0	9	45	45	45	30	<b>165</b>
8-cm mortar	0	0	6	6	21	75	24	20	<b>140</b>
Anti-tank rifle	0	3	0	9	120	0	0	0	<b>120</b>

#### Notes

Each light machine gun (with gun);

4 drum magazines (50 rounds each) and 3 ammunition cases (300 rounds each).

Each light machine gun (on combat vehicles);

4 drum magazines (50 rounds each) and 4 ammunition cases (300 rounds each).

Each heavy machine gun (with gun);

6 ammunition cases (300 rounds each).

Each heavy machine gun (on combat vehicles)

12 ammunition cases (300 rounds each). This does not reconcile with the remaining ammunition of 2950 rounds per gun.

## Sources used and Acknowledgements

My particular thanks to Massimo Baroffi (Max) for his efforts in chronicling the contents of the [germandocsinrussia](http://germandocsinrussia.org) site (see below) and for sharing his own information on the 1937 organization of the Motorised Infantry Battalion.

Please see below for website links as appropriate.

### ***Kriegsstärkenachweisung* tables**

Staff of an Infantry Battalion (motorised);

115c - 1<sup>st</sup> November 1941

Rifle Company (motorised) of an Infantry Division (motorised);

138c - 1<sup>st</sup> November 1941

Machine Gun Company (motorised) of an Infantry Division (motorised);

161c - 1<sup>st</sup> November 1941

### **Website links**

Dr Leo Niehorster's site - <http://niehorster.org/>

Richard Hedrick's website - <http://www.sturmpanzer.com/Default.aspx>

The German documents in Russia Project site

<http://germandocsinrussia.org/de/nodes/1-russisch-deutsches-projekt-zur-digitalisierung-deutscher-dokumente-in-den-archiven-der-russischen-f-deration>

In particular the document at page 408 of the below link highlighted by Max;

<https://wwii.germandocsinrussia.org/de/nodes/14413-akte-77>

(There is other information in there that will be of relevance to the Panzer Grenadiers, which I hope to get onto at some point in the future).