

**Chapter 1 : Mechanized infantry - Wikipedia**

*1 Organization of French Cavalry, Motorized, Mechanized, and Armored Divisions 2 September to 23 June 1st Cavalry Division: (upon mobilization) 1st Cavalry Brigade*

In a battle of such scale, their contribution went unnoticed. Towards the end of World War I, all the armies involved were faced with the problem of maintaining the momentum of an attack. Tanks, artillery or infiltration tactics could all be used to break through an enemy defense, but almost all the offensives launched in ground to a halt after a few days. Following infantry quickly became exhausted, and artillery, supplies and fresh formations could not be brought forward over the battlefields quickly enough to maintain the pressure on the regrouping enemy. It was widely acknowledged that cavalry was too vulnerable to be used on most European battlefields, although many armies continued to deploy them. Motorized infantry could maintain rapid movement, but their trucks required either a good road network, or firm open terrain such as desert. They were unable to traverse a battlefield obstructed by craters, barbed wire and trenches. Tracked or all-wheel drive vehicles were to be the solution. German SdKfz half-track APC Following the war, development of mechanized forces was largely theoretical for some time, until many nations began rearming in the s. The British Army had established an Experimental Mechanized Force in , but they failed to pursue this line due to budget constraints and the prior need to garrison the frontiers of the Empire. Although some proponents of mobile warfare such as J. As the Germans rearmed in the s, they equipped some infantry units in their new Panzer armored divisions with the half-track Sd. Together with the motorization of the other infantry and support units, this gave both armies highly mobile, combined-arms formations. The German doctrine was to use these to exploit breakthroughs in Blitzkrieg offensives, the French envisaged them being used to shift reserves rapidly in a defensive battle. M3 halftracks and infantry on exercises, Fort Knox, June As World War II progressed, most major armies integrated tanks or assault guns with mechanized infantry and other supporting arms such as artillery and engineers as combined arms units. Allied armored formations included a mechanized infantry element for combined arms teamwork. In the British and Commonwealth armies, "Type A Armoured Brigades" which were intended for independent operations or to form part of armored divisions had a "motor infantry" battalion mounted in Bren Carriers or later in Lend-Lease halftracks. The Canadian Army , and subsequently the British Army also, used expedients such as the Kangaroo APC , usually for specific operations rather than to create permanent mechanized infantry formations. The first such operation was Operation Totalize in the Battle of Normandy which, although it failed to achieve its ultimate objectives, nevertheless showed that mechanized infantry could incur far fewer casualties than dismounted troops in set-piece operations. In the middle years of the war, they created entire mechanized infantry divisions, which they named Panzergrenadier divisions. Because the German economy could not produce adequate numbers of their half track APC, barely a quarter or a third of the infantry in Panzer or Panzergrenadier divisions was mechanized, except in a few favored formations. The rest were moved by truck. However, most German reconnaissance units in these formations were also primarily mechanized infantry and could undertake infantry missions when needed. The Allies generally used jeeps, armored cars or light tanks for reconnaissance. The Red Army began the war while still in the process of reorganizing its armored and mechanized formations, most of which were destroyed during the first months of the German invasion of the Soviet Union. About, a year later, the Soviets recreated division-sized mechanized infantry units termed Mechanized Corps , usually consisting of one tank brigade and three mechanized infantry brigades, with motorized supporting arms. They were generally used in the exploitation phase of offensives, as part of the pre-war Soviet concept of Deep operations. The Soviet Army also created several Cavalry mechanized groups in which tanks, mechanized infantry and horsed cavalry were mixed. These also were used in the exploitation and pursuit phases of offensives. Red Army mechanized infantry were generally carried on tanks or trucks, with only a few dedicated Lend-lease APCs. The New Zealand Army ultimately fielded a division of roughly similar composition to a Soviet Mechanized Corps, which fought in the Italian Campaign , although it had little scope for mobile operations until near the end of the war. With the exception of airborne formations, the

Red Army mechanized all its infantry formations. Initially, wheeled APCs were used. This nevertheless gave the Soviet Army greater strategic flexibility, given the large land area and long borders of the Soviet Union and its allies in the Warsaw Pact. The Army established the basic configuration of the tracked APC with the M75 and M59 before adopting the lighter M113, which could be carried by Lockheed C-130 Hercules and other transport aircraft. The vehicle gave infantry the same mobility as tanks, though with much less effective armor protection but with nuclear, biological, and chemical protection. In Vietnam, the M113 was often fitted with extra armament and used as an ad-hoc Infantry Fighting Vehicle. Early operations by the Army of the Republic of Vietnam using the vehicle showed that troops were far more effective while mounted in the vehicles than when they dismounted. Its introduction prompted the development of similar vehicles in Western armies, such as the West German Marder and American M2 Bradley. Unlike the APC which was intended merely to transport the infantry from place to place under armor, the IFV possessed heavy firepower that could support the infantry in attack or defense. Many IFVs were also equipped with firing ports from which their infantry could fire their weapons from inside, although these were generally not successful and have been dropped from modern IFVs. Soviet organization led to different tactics between the "light" and "heavy" varieties of mechanized infantry. Both types of infantry regiment nevertheless were officially titled "Motor Rifle" units. The first of these was the BMD-1, which had the same firepower as the BMP-1, but which could be carried in or even parachuted from the standard Soviet transport aircraft. This made airborne formations into mechanized infantry at the cost of reducing their "bayonet" strength, as the BMD could carry only three, or at most four, paratroopers in addition to its three-man crew. They were used in this role in the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. This trend has had limited uptake in Western forces, with only Germany equipping their airmobile division with the similar Wiesel tankette, two of which can be carried inside a Sikorsky CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter. At present, almost all infantry units from industrialized nations are provided with some type of motor transport. Infantry units equipped with IFVs rather than lighter vehicles are commonly designated as "heavy", indicating more combat power but also more costly long-range transportation requirements. The Army was concerned about the lack of mobility, protection and firepower offered by existing rapid deployment units. The experience led the U.S. Army to form combat brigades based on the Stryker wheeled IFV. The transport and other logistic requirements have led many armies to adopt wheeled APCs when their existing stocks of tracked APCs require replacement. On the other hand, the Italian, Spanish and Swedish armies are adopting and exporting new indigenous-produced tracked IFVs. Such vehicles are usually expedients, and lack of space prevents the armament of an IFV being carried in addition to an infantry section or squad. In the Russian Army, such vehicles were introduced for fighting in urban areas, where the risk from short range infantry anti-tank weapons, such as the RPG-7, is highest, after Russian tank and motor infantry units suffered heavy losses fighting insurgents in Grozny during the First Chechen War in 1999. New technologies that promise reduction in weight, such as electric drive, may be incorporated. However, facing a similar threat in Post-invasion Iraq to that which prompted the Russians to convert tanks to APCs, the occupying armies have found it necessary to apply extra armor to existing APCs and IFVs, which adds to the overall size and weight. Some of the latest designs such as the German Puma are intended to allow a light, basic model vehicle, which is air-transportable, to be fitted in the field with additional protection, thereby ensuring both strategic flexibility and survivability. Combined arms operations File: Irish Piranha on display. JPG It is generally accepted that single weapons system types are much less effective without the support of the full combined arms team; the pre-World War II notion of "tank fleets" has proven to be as unsound as the World War I idea of unsupported infantry attacks. The lesson was re-learned, first by the Pakistani Army in the War with India, where the nation fielded two different types of armored divisions: The latter division showed itself to be far more combat capable than the former. Having achieved spectacular successes in the offensive with tank-heavy formations during the Six Day War, the Israeli Defense Force found in the Yom Kippur War of 1973 that a doctrine that relied primarily on tanks and aircraft had proven inadequate. As a makeshift remedy, paratroopers were provided with motorized transport and used as mechanized infantry in coordination with the armor.

*Motorized divisions are considered soft units Because of their high speed, they are the prime targets for adding to Mechanized Divisions or Armored Divisions in a ratio, to get the combined arms bonus.*

In mounted attacks, it will often be necessary shortly before the enemy is engaged to regain the battle formation that has been lost in moving over difficult ground. This will be carried out behind the last available cover. Speed must be temporarily reduced, or a short halt made. After a breakthrough, rapid and extensive battle reconnaissance is important, especially on the open flanks. An attack on foot must be carried out according to the principles of H. If the enemy has time to make preparations for action and the ground is such as to preclude a mounted attack, the motorized infantry will be assembled for attack. The assembly order is usually given by a higher commander. As far as possible the motorized infantry units should be moved up in vehicles to the assembly position. Their armor and cross-country performance make it possible to assemble close to the enemy. If the ground, or enemy fire, does not allow this, or if surprise is aimed at, a line can be laid down beyond which the vehicles may not go. The armored personnel carriers remain, as a rule, in the assembly positions. If the troops are dismounted beforehand, the vehicles usually remain where the troops dismount. Often the regimental commander must allot motor parks for the vehicles in order to prevent concentration of vehicles and interference with the movements of other units, especially tank units. Surprise can be achieved by moving into the assembly positions at dusk or in darkness. Commanders will send out, sufficiently in advance, parties under command of an officer to reconnoiter the ground and enable the troops to assemble in their allotted positions in the minimum time. The order to the reconnaissance patrol must contain: Unless protection is taken over by other forces, assembly positions must be protected against enemy reconnaissance and surprise attack by means of outposts. Above all, provision must be made for defense. All the preparations required for the conduct of the attack will be made in the assembly position. Information gained from reconnaissance by all arms concerning terrain, enemy centers of resistance, and especially the position of antitank weapons and artillery, must be fully utilized. Company commanders and as many subordinate commanders as possible should be personally shown over the ground, providing this does not betray the plan. To prevent the enemy from getting a warning of an impending attack from radio traffic, radio silence will be observed within the regiment in the assembly position. As a rule, a mobile reserve will be kept. The commanders of this reserve will reconnoiter approaches, and will hold their forces in readiness so that they can be quickly utilized. The launching of an attack on foot, the penetration of the enemy position, and the subsequent fighting are carried out in accordance with the principles given in H. The attack is continued until the vehicles arrive. Unarmored motorized infantry will bring up their vehicles only when the enemy fire allows. When motorized infantry follow tank units, they usually assemble behind the tanks, mounted on their vehicles. The motorized infantry should move out of their assembly position in the formation in which they are to follow the tank attack. If the ground does not allow this, a short halt must be made after they have left the assembly position. When motorized infantry units have to clear a way for tanks through obstructed country, they attack on foot in advance of the tanks. Their object is, by constant concentration of their forces, to force a breach rapidly in the enemy main line of resistance and make lanes for the tanks. Engineers will be placed under command of the forward attacking companies. The first objective is the far side of the tankproof ground. When this is reached, the motorized infantry must push on to keep the exits open for the following tanks. If motorized infantry and tanks have to attack simultaneously, the task of the infantry is to produce the maximum fire power of all weapons at the decisive moment by adopting a -broad attacking formation. Before the enemy position is assaulted, natural and artificial obstacles to the front will be cleared. The assistance of engineers will usually be necessary for this task. The attack is carried out on foot. After the enemy has been disabled by the fire of the tanks, the motorized infantry will assault the enemy position. Mobile reserves on vehicles will be held ready to follow up and exploit rapidly a successful tank attack. If the motorized infantry units have orders to follow the tanks on foot and to break through the enemy position immediately behind the tanks, they must take advantage of the disablement of the enemy, caused by the fire from the tanks, to make a

determined assault. The same applies when tanks are sent through motorized infantry to help in their advance. Infantry units utilize the time before the tank attack to prepare themselves for the common battle. The fire of all weapons must support the tanks by concentrating on the enemy antitank weapons. Some of the heavy weapons especially those on self-propelled mountings and armored carriers, join the tanks and move forward rapidly to alternative positions. When, in collaboration with the tanks, the enemy antitank weapons have been accounted for, mobile re- ATTACK 33 serves of motorized infantry advance, keeping in close contact with the tanks. The vehicles of the dismounted troops are moved up. Every unit entrucks on the battlefield and follows the tanks independently. If tanks are put under command of motorized infantry to prevent an enemy recovery or to destroy particularly troublesome pockets of resistance, they must only be employed en masse; their offensive power must not be split up. They will clear the way for the infantry by short advances with limited objectives and in close cooperation with the infantry. If the ground favors an attack by tanks and if no tank obstacles have been detected inside the enemy main line of resistance, the task of the motorized infantry units will usually be to follow the tank attack. They will remain on vehicles behind the tanks so that they can quickly exploit the success of the tanks. Narrow and deep formations, will be the rule, in order to avoid as far as possible the effects of enemy artillery fire and to retain a mobile reserve in rear of the foremost units. Pockets of resistance and defense areas which the tanks have not reduced will be dealt with as encountered. For this, dismounting may be necessary. The remaining infantry will continue to follow up the tank attack in their vehicles. Contact with the tanks must never be lost. Antitank troops will, as a rule, be used for the protection of an open flank. The speed and mobility of motorized infantry can be used with particular advantage in pursuit, to prevent the enemy from building or occupying a new defense line, to overtake him, or to forestall him by occupying certain areas. If the enemy gives ground, he is to be pursued relentlessly even through the night until he is completely destroyed. The commanders will spur on their men to greater efforts by personal example. Units in pursuit will be given strategical objectives, accessible as far possible by road. An enemy resisting weakly will be engaged from the armored personnel carriers. If the enemy offers strong resistance, a detour will be made and the succeeding troops left to deal with it, unless this course is impossible because of the ground or because it involves too serious a danger. In order to carry out pursuit on a broad front or to be able to dispatch a force to overtake the enemy, task forces are frequently formed. Principles governing their composition and use are laid down in pamphlet D 66 "Handling of the Armored Division. If in its pursuit the unit has pushed deep into the enemy lines, march bivouacs will be formed at night or when resting to give strong all-around fire. Tank-proof localities and areas affording cover and good observation are especially suitable for bivouacs. To avoid heavy losses from bombing and shelling, vehicles must be dispersed. Covering patrols on foot will be sent out. Defensive fire will be put down from armored carriers on a signal from a patrol. Motorized infantry can be used for defense on a broad front. When used in this role, they will as far as possible hold "topographical sectors. Mobile reserves will be held in readiness to launch a rapid counterattack at crucial points. Detailed reconnaissance and preparation are indispensable. Roads and trails will be reconnoitered and marked quickly, so that, especially at night, mobile reserves can be thrown in rapidly. Outposts will be strengthened by heavy weapons, in particular antitank weapons, and by artillery and engineers. The mobile employment of elements of the motorized infantry, especially the heavy weapons, deceives the enemy as to the strength of the forces facing him and makes it difficult for him to locate and engage these weapons. This also applies to delaying forces. Even single heavy weapons on armored personnel carriers can, on suitable ground, keep up a mobile fire. The frontage of a motorized infantry battalion in defense may be twice that of an infantry bat- 36 DEFENSE 37 talion--from 1, to 4, meters and even more, depending on the situation and the terrain. The vehicles of units engaged in the defense will be placed sufficiently far back to be out of range of fire from the enemy main line of resistance. Alternate positions and routes will be allotted to motor columns to enable them to withdraw from enemy fire. If motorized infantry have to break contact, their armored carriers enable them rapidly to outdistance any nonmotorized, unarmored pursuit. Counterattacks with limited objectives are most effective in assisting disengagement. The mobility and speed of infantry on vehicles must always be exploited to deliver the counterattack from an unexpected quarter. Disengagement from enemy tanks is made easier if time is available to build up strong defensive fire

in a position in the rear which has good natural antitank defense. Vigilant reconnaissance on the flanks and well-timed use of flank protection-preferably attached antitank troops and engineers-are necessary to prevent envelopment by highly mobile enemy forces. The commanding officer lays down the order of withdrawal, the supporting tasks for heavy weapons, and the time for breaking contact. As a rule, the armored personnel carriers go forward and bring in the infantry as they disengage. Reconnaissance Platoon and Company, Dar. The vehicles of unarmored motorized infantry can move forward only as far as the last cover. In order to impose the maximum delay upon the enemy, the withdrawal of heavy weapons on armored personnel carriers or self-propelled mounts can be left to the last. Even after disengagement of the heavy weapons, fighting patrols will remain in contact with the enemy. The use of smoke assists disengagement. It conceals the time and direction of the withdrawal. The rear guard will have attached heavy weapons units on self-propelled mounts, antitank troops, and engineers. The engineer platoons will support the withdrawal of the rear guard by erecting obstacles and blowing up bridges.

**Chapter 3 : The German Motorized Infantry Regiment (1 Mar ) - Axis History Forum**

*Motorized infantry divisions were renamed Panzergrenadier (armored infantry) divisions in Division Nummer A sort of placeholder division, with a number (Nummer) and staff but few if any combat assets.*

Edit A representation of a Balearic Slinger , the slingers are one of the oldest types of infantry The infantry with their soldiers, known as infants, since antiquity , have always been the main force fighting in an army. A notable exception was the nomadic societies, like the Huns or Mongols, who basically fought with soldiers riding on Cavalry. In the ancient age the most known armies were the Greek and Roman soldiers, who fought in compact groups, armed with swords and spears and protected by metal armor and helmets. The Roman Legion perfected the organization of infantry units and subunits, which today is based on the organization of modern armies. A legion was divided into ten cohorts , in turn divided into a variable number of centuries, which were composed of about a hundred men each. In total, vary depending on the historical period, the Roman legion could be between 3 to 6 thousand men. A drawing of hoplites making a Phalanx formation, the hoplites were one of the most effective types of Heavy Infantry during the classic age With the advent of firearms, in the late Medieval age , infantry came to have tactical organization and different job, being employed in solid lines shooters, side by side that went against the other line, in front of the enemy. As the weapons of the era, muskets and arquebuses had a very slow rate of fire, shooters were complemented by other troops armed with swords or long spears called pikes. Over time the guns were being improved and the pikemen were gradually disapp An reenactment of a Roman Legion. The roman legions were the dominating type of infantry until the fall of the Roman Empire aring, and that its role was replaced by the Bayonet , a sharp blade that is fitted to the mouth of the rifle and is used if the soldier needs to proceed to a hand to hand combat. The evolution and increasing the capacity of firearms has led the infantry ceased to be employed in the firing line. The development of artillery in the nineteenth century, when the guns started to have longer range and greater rate of fire, also contributed to the use of infantry was changed. In the American Civil War , the Paraguayan War and the Franco-Prussian War , the infantry began to act only in line and began to dig trenches for protection. The World War I becam A drawing of a Janissary a famous ottoman infantry unit e known as the "war of the trenches" for the greater firepower of artillery and machine guns blocked the movement of infantry. Although, during the World War II , the tanks of the cavalry came to have a role in the great offensive, the infantry was still the most numerous weapons and responsible for the maintenance and occupancy of the land taken from the enemy. When being transported in vehicles, it became known as motorized or mechanized infantry. A specialized form of the infantry is the Marine , whose transport is done by sea in ships of war, especially prepared for the landing, and amphibian cars that can go from sea to land directly in combat conditions. Uniform At the classic znd medieval age the uniforms of infantry were metal armours with helmets and shields , the last could be made of metal like the greek hoplites bronze shields or wood like the roman Hastati to representation of two Voltigeurs a french unit of light infantry wer shields this only not occurred on Japan where the Samurai did not used shields. Richer soldiers and officers used richly ornated armours, this was the common style of "uniform" until the gunpowder age At the time of the Napoleonic Wars from to , the soldiers had uniforms flashy and colorful as the clothes of the nobles of fashion to be recognized by peers and distinguish the enemy in the confusion of the battlefield. With the passage of time and the evolution of techniques and weapons of war became the uniform color that confused with the surrounding environment, which became known as camouflage uniform. Organization The Infantry is notable for its reliance on organized formations. By the twentieth century Infantry units were mostly used in closed formations until the last moment. These were necessary to allow commanders to maintain control of the unit, especially during the maneuver, as well as the officers could maintain discipline in the ranks. With the development of weapons with greater firepower, it was necessary to disperse the infantry on the ground. This made the German Wermatch soldiers during the World War II units less vulnerable to weapons fire faster and more explosive power. Since World War I came to the conclusion that the infantry would be used more successfully taking advantage of its ability to maneuver in restricted terrain and their ability to avoid detection,

something impossible for other troops, like cavalry. The decentralization of command was made possible through the improvement of communications equipment and greater focus on training small units. Mission Edit The most important function of the infantry has been as a primary force Vietnamese soldiers during the Vietnam War. During this war the north vietnamese infantry had used an extensive Guerrilha Warfare to win the war of an army. It is the infantry that ultimately decides whether the land was taken and it is their presence that ensures control of the territory. While the tactics of employment were changed, the basic mission of the infantry was not. Attack is the most basic operation of the Infantry and, along with defense, form one of two primary missions of the infantry on the battlefield. Traditionally, in a confrontation in the open, two armies will steer towards the contact, in which their infantry and other arms will oppose. Then, one or two will move forward and try to defeat the enemy force. The aim of an attack remains: S Army infants during a patrol at Iraq my, to dislodge it and then establish control of the target. Attacks are often feared by the infantry leads because of the high number of casualties suffered while advancing under enemy fire. The successful attacks based on a sufficient force, reconnaissance and bombing of preparation and maintenance of unit cohesion during its execution. Defense is the natural operation of counter-attack, in which the mission is to hold an objective and defeat enemy forces who seek to take. An effective defense is based on the minimization of casualties caused by enemy fire, breaking the cohesion of enemy forces before the end of complete and prevention of penetration in the enemy defensive positions. Patrol is the most common infantry mission. Large-scale attacks and defensive efforts are very occasional, but patrols are constant. Patrols consist of small groups of infantry moving through areas where there is enemy activity in order to find its position and in order to ambush their own enemy patr Bundeswehr infantry at afghanistan ols. Patrols are used not only in advanced areas, but also in the rear, where the enemy infiltrations are possible. Persecution is the function that often takes the Infantry. The objective of pursuit operations is the destruction of enemy forces that are no longer able to engage the friendly units before they can recover and rebuild their strength and become efficient again. The Infantry, traditionally in the past was the main force to destroy enemy units in this situation. In modern combat Infantry is used in pursuit of enemy forces in restricted terrain, esp Russian Infantry training hand-to-hand combat ecially in urban areas where faster forces, as armored, are unable to maneuver or avoid being ambushed. Escort is to protect other units from ambush, particularly from enemy infantry. This is one of the most important tasks of modern infantry, especially when operating with armored vehicles. In this capacity, the basic infantry conducts patrols in motion, hitting the ground you can hide enemy forces waiting to ambush armored friends and identifying enemy positions that could be damaged by heavier units. The infantry, like all combat units, many times maneuvering on the battlefield, under enemy attack. The Infantry has to maintain cohesion and readiness during the move to ensure their effectiveness at the time it reaches the target. Infantry traditionally relied on their own legs for mobility, but currently uses motorized and armored vehicles to carry. Reserve such missions involve the use of infantry in the rear, keeping patrol and security operations to prevent infiltration of the enemy. This is usually the best time for infantry units to integrate replacements to their units, and in order to service your equipment. In addition Four greek soldiers in patrol training , soldiers can rest improving their readiness to come. However, the unit has to be ready for use at any time. Buildings can be carried out either in front or the rear and consist of the use of infantry troops as labor for the construction of field positions, roads, bridges, airfields and other infrastructure. Infantry is often given this task because of the number of staff in its stores. Defense key points happens when infantry units are tasked to protect certain points such as command posts and bases.

**Chapter 4 : German Panzergrenadier-Division 44 and Motorized Infantry Division**

*faster than motorized infantry on armored personnel carriers, although in difficult country movements on wheeled vehicles are restricted. Owing to lack of sufficient.*

This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. February 21 March Some of the first mechanized infantry were assault teams mounted on A7V tanks. The vehicles were extra-large to let them carry sizeable assault teams and would regularly carry infantry on board in addition to their already large crews that were trained as storm troopers. All machine-gun-armed A7V tanks carried two small flame throwers for their dismounts to use. A7V tank would often carry a second officer to lead the assault team. During the Battle of St. Quentin , A7Vs were accompanied by 20 storm troopers from Rohr Assault Battalion, but it is unspecified if they were acting as dismounts or were accompanying the tanks on foot. During the battle, tank crews were reported to have dismounted and attacked enemy positions with grenades and flamethrowers on numerous occasions. Another example of the use of such a method of fighting is the capture of Villers-Bretonneux, in which A7Vs would suppress the defenders with machine gun fire and assault teams would dismount and attack them with grenades. Tanks, artillery, or infiltration tactics could all be used to break through an enemy defense, but almost all offensives launched in ground to a halt after a few days. The following infantry quickly became exhausted, and artillery, supplies and fresh formations could not be brought forward over the battlefields quickly enough to maintain the pressure on the regrouping enemy. It was widely acknowledged that cavalry was too vulnerable to be used on most European battlefields, but many armies continued to deploy them. Motorized infantry could maintain rapid movement, but their trucks required either a good road network or firm open terrain, such as desert. They were unable to traverse a battlefield obstructed by craters, barbed wire, and trenches. Tracked or all-wheel drive vehicles were to be the solution. German SdKfz half-track APC Following the war, development of mechanized forces was largely theoretical for some time, but many nations began rearming in the s. The British Army had established an Experimental Mechanized Force in , but it failed to pursue that line because of budget constraints and the prior need to garrison the frontiers of the British Empire. Although some proponents of mobile warfare, such as J. As the Germans rearmed in the s, they equipped some infantry units in their new Panzer divisions with the half-track Sd. Together with the motorization of the other infantry and support units, this gave both armies highly-mobile combined-arms formations. The German doctrine was to use them to exploit breakthroughs in Blitzkrieg offensives, whereas the French envisaged them being used to shift reserves rapidly in a defensive battle. World War II[ edit ] U. M3 halftracks and infantry on exercises, Fort Knox, June As World War II progressed, most major armies integrated tanks or assault guns with mechanized infantry, as well as other supporting arms, such as artillery and engineers, as combined arms units. Allied armored formations included a mechanized infantry element for combined arms teamwork. For example, US armored divisions had a balance of three battalions each of tanks, armored infantry, and self-propelled artillery. The US armored infantry was fully equipped with M2 and M3 halftracks. In the British and Commonwealth armies, "Type A armoured brigades," intended for independent operations or to form part of armored divisions, had a "motor infantry" battalion mounted in Bren Carriers or later in lend-lease halftracks. The Canadian Army and, subsequently the British Army, used expedients such as the Kangaroo APC , usually for specific operations rather than to create permanent mechanized infantry formations. The first such operation was Operation Totalize in the Battle of Normandy , which failed to achieve its ultimate objectives but showed that mechanized infantry could incur far fewer casualties than dismounted troops in set-piece operations. The German Army, having introduced mechanized infantry in its Panzer divisions, later named them Panzergrenadier units. In the middle of the war, it created entire mechanized infantry divisions and named Panzergrenadier divisions. Because the German economy could not produce adequate numbers of its half-track APC, barely a quarter or a third of the infantry in Panzer or Panzergrenadier divisions were mechanized, except in a few favored formations. The rest were moved by truck. However, most German reconnaissance units in such formations were also primarily

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The vehicle gave infantry the same mobility as tanks but with much less effective armor protection it still had nuclear, biological, and chemical protection. In the Vietnam War, the M was often fitted with extra armament and used as an ad hoc infantry fighting vehicle. Early operations by the Army of the Republic of Vietnam using the vehicle showed that troops were far more effective while they were mounted in the vehicles than when they dismounted. Its introduction prompted the development of similar vehicles in Western armies, such as the West German Marder and American M2 Bradley. Unlike the APC, which was intended merely to transport the infantry from place to place under armor, the IFV possessed heavy firepower that could support the infantry in attack or defense. Many IFVs were also equipped with firing ports from which their infantry could fire their weapons from inside, but they were generally not successful and have been dropped from modern IFVs. 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Infantry units equipped with IFVs rather than lighter vehicles are commonly designated as "heavy", indicating more combat power but also more costly long-range transportation requirements. Army was concerned about the lack of mobility, protection and firepower offered by existing rapid deployment i. The experience led the U. Army to form combat brigades based on the Stryker wheeled IFV. The transport and other logistic requirements have led many armies to adopt wheeled APCs when their existing stocks of tracked APCs require replacement. Such vehicles are usually expedients, and lack of space prevents the armament of an IFV being carried in addition to an infantry section or squad. In the Russian Army, such vehicles were introduced for fighting in urban areas, where the risk from short range infantry anti-tank weapons, such as the RPG-7, is highest, after Russian tank and motor infantry units suffered heavy losses fighting insurgents in Grozny during the First Chechen War in New technologies that promise reduction in weight, such as electric drive, may be incorporated. However, facing a similar threat in post-invasion Iraq to that which prompted the Russians to convert tanks to APCs, the occupying armies have found it necessary to apply extra armor to existing APCs and IFVs, which adds to the overall size and weight. Some of the latest designs such as the German Puma are intended to allow a light, basic model vehicle, which

is air-transportable, to be fitted in the field with additional protection, thereby ensuring both strategic flexibility and survivability. It is generally accepted that single weapons system types are much less effective without the support of the full combined arms team; the pre-World War II notion of "tank fleets" has proven to be as unsound as the World War I idea of unsupported infantry attacks. The lesson was re-learned, first by the Pakistani Army in the War with India, where the nation fielded two different types of armored divisions: The latter division showed itself to be far more combat capable than the former. Having achieved spectacular successes in the offensive with tank-heavy formations during the Six-Day War, the Israel Defense Forces found in the Yom Kippur War of that a doctrine that relied primarily on tanks and aircraft had proven inadequate. As a makeshift remedy, paratroopers were provided with motorized transport and used as mechanized infantry in coordination with the armor.

**Chapter 5 : Full text of "The German Motorized Infantry Regiment"**

*Note that the word Panzergrenadier literally translated is "tank grenadier", but the correct term nowadays is mechanized infantry or even armored infantry, but in World War 2 most Panzergrenadiers were actually motorized infantry.*

Symbolism This regiment was organized in from the Fourth Infantry shown on the small shield. The field is blue for Infantry. The regiment served in France in the Fourth Division shown by the ivy leaf from the shoulder insignia. The torpedo commemorates the first losses of the regiment when the Troop ship Moldavia carrying some of the regiment was torpedoed, May 23, The broken chevron commemorates the piercing of the German line between Soissons and Rheims, which are represented by the silver and golden fleurs-de-lis taken from the coat of arms of those cities respectively. Background The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 26 Nov The regiment was organized in from the Fourth Infantry shown on the small shield. The torpedo commemorates the first losses of the regiment when the troopship RMS Moldavia carrying some of the regiment was torpedoed on 23 May Currently the regiment may have two battalions. These companies performed long range reconnaissance missions and were later redesignated as ranger companies of the 75th Ranger Infantry Regiment Airborne. The 1st Battalion, 58th Infantry Regiment was reactivated on 16 May It took over the personnel and mission of the 4th Battalion, 2nd Infantry Training Brigade. The 2nd Battalion, 58th Infantry is tasked to provide trained and ready soldiers for the Army as part of the th Infantry Brigade. The 58th Infantry was constituted on 15 May in the regular army as the 58th Infantry. Assigned to the 4th Infantry Division 19 November Reconstituted 8 April in the regular army as the 58th Infantry Regiment. Activated 24 April at Fort Lewis, Washington. Regiment broken up 26 January and its elements reorganized and redesignated as follows- 1st Battalion as the rd Infantry battalion. Headquarters 58th Infantry reconstituted 10 July in the regular army and consolidated with the rd Infantry Battalion Inactivated 2 March at Camp Shelby, Mississippi and with the 58th Armored Infantry Battalion constituted 15 May in the regular army as the 1st Battalion 49th Infantry and consolidated unit designated as the 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, an element of the 8th Armored Division. Relieved from the 8th Armored Division 23 July Activated 15 August in Germany; inactivated 9 August in Germany. Redesignated 30 September as the 43rd Armored Infantry Battalion. Relieved from the 2nd Armored Division and inactivated 1 July in Germany. Activated 6 July at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. Inactivated 1 February at Camp chaffee. Relieved from the 5th Armored Division 15 February It was later posted to Phu Tai under the U. By the 1st Battalion, 58th infantry was a mechanized infantry battalion assigned to the th Separate Infantry Brigade at Ft. The brigade was reorganizing as a separate mechanized infantry brigade with a go to war mission as the XVIII Airborne Corps heavy force package. During the period the battalion supported several important Army modernization initiatives. On return from three months of gunnery and maneuver training in at McGregor Range in New Mexico the brigade and battalion had previously deployed from Kelley Hill Barracks at Ft. Irwin and the National Training Center. Company A was assigned a tank platoon and additional tank section from 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor. The company then trained and validated as a unit capable of replicating a Soviet motorized rifle battalion. The two companies were deployed almost continuously for four months in the Turrentine Range Area and other locations on Ft. Benning performing one force on force exercise after another to develop data that eventually led to the deployment of the Bradley Fighting vehicle to the Army. A provisional 4th mechanized infantry platoon was formed. This additional platoon with the three tank sections allowed the company to render a Soviet motorized rifle battalion footprint during the force on force exercises of the tests. The 2nd Battalion, 58th Infantry was activated at Fort Hood, Texas on April 1, , and assigned to the 2d Armored Division as part of Brigade 75, a program that stationed a forward brigade in Europe while maintaining three brigades at Fort Hood. The Battalion deployed to Hohenfels Training Area in Germany in October as part of the rotations in place at the time, and redeployed in March , remaining at Fort Hood until inactivation on May 31,

**Chapter 6 : US Army Armored Division – Organization & Structure – World War 2**

*The division consisted of 1 Signal Company, 3 Tank Battalions, 3 Armored Infantry Battalions, the divisional Artillery consisting of 3 armored field artillery battalions, 1 Mechanized Cavalry Recon Squadron, 1 Armored Division Trains with a Medical Battalion and an Armored Maintenance Battalion. And 1 Armored Engineer Battalion.*

The latter one was only valid for a few months, until it was removed, because all German Panzer and Panzergrenadier divisions were reorganized in the Panzer-Division 45 organization layout. Thus, the 44 organization was the last motorized infantry division layout of the war. Das deutsche Heer Gliederung. Organization It consisted of a mixed recon battalion with armored cars and motorcycle units, 3 motorized infantry regiments each consisting of 3 infantry battalions, 1 anti-tank company and 1 infantry gun company. Additionally, 1 anti-tank battalion with 1 heavy MG company and 3 anti-tank companies. Note that the heavy MG Company was equipped with 2cm anti-aircraft guns and no machine guns. Furthermore, an Engineer battalion, a motorized artillery regiment consisting of 3 light artillery battalions, 1 heavy artillery battalion and 1 observation battalion. And finally a signal battalion. The main rear services consisted of a supply and transportation unit, administration and medical services. Also platoons and even smaller sub-units are not visible. For the Recon Battalion we have around men, one infantry regiment had a total of men, the anti-tank battalion had men, the Engineer Battalion men, the artillery regiment men, the signal battalion Now the sub-units of the Infantry Regiment, the 2 infantry battalions had men each, and about men in the anti-tank company and the infantry gun company. For the sub-units of the anti-tank battalion, there was a heavy MG company with men and about men in each anti-tank company. The sub-units of the Artillery regiment were 3 light artillery battalions with men each, 1 heavy artillery battalion with men and an artillery observation battalion with men. For the non-combat units there were men in the supply units, in the administration units and men in the medical units. In total the division consisted of men, with officers, officials, NCOs and enlisted men. Each Division was reduced by one motorized infantry regiment and one light field Artillery Battalion. Panzergrenadier-Division 44 Now the name can be quite misleading, because usually when somebody mentions the word Panzergrenadier they show either a picture or video footage of soldiers in or next to German halftrack. Yet, the reality was quite different than propaganda footage. Even in late war the basic layout of the Panzergrenadier Division 44 was using only trucks and no halftracks for the infantry units. After all, there were only 7 armored halftracks assigned to the whole division. Of course, there were Panzergrenadiers that acted as mechanized infantry and used halftracks, but these were limited and usually assigned to Panzer Divisions and some rare elite units. So a Panzergrenadier was usually motorized infantry and not mechanized infantry. Organization It consisted of an armored car recon battalion, 2 motorized infantry regiments each consisting of 3 infantry battalions, 1 heavy infantry gun company and 1 engineer company. Furthermore, one engineer battalion, 1 anti-tank battalion with 2 tank destroyer companies and 1 heavy anti-tank company. One assault gun battalion with 3 assault gun batteries. An Army anti-aircraft battalion, one motorized artillery regiment consisting of 2 light artillery battalions and 1 heavy artillery battalion. The main rear services consisted of supply and transportation units, administration, medical services, a replacement battalion and a maintenance unit. Numbers – Manpower For the Recon Battalion we have around men, one infantry regiment had a total of men, the Engineer Battalion men, the anti-tank battalion had men, the assault gun battalion had men, the Army anti-aircraft battalion had up to min men , the artillery regiment men and the signal battalion Now the sub-units of the Infantry Regiment, the 3 infantry battalions had men each, the heavy infantry gun company had and the engineer company men. For the sub-units of the anti-tank battalion, there were 57 men in each of the 2 tank destroyer companies and men in the heavy anti-tank company. The 3 assault-gun companies had 64 men each. The sub-units of the Artillery regiment were 2 light artillery battalions with men each and 1 heavy artillery battalion with men. In total the division consisted of men, with officers, 83 officials, NCOs, enlisted men and volunteers. Note that these volunteers were part of the official layout of the division not some ad-hoc addition on the front line. Organization Recon Element First in terms of organization, both divisions had a recon layout, but internally the changes were quite significant. The version

consisted of a company of motorcycles and an armored car company with 10 armored cars. Whereas the version had a headquarters company with 17 or 20 armored cars depending on the layout. Additionally, 3 companies of light motorized infantry with the same amount of weapons each like the motor cycle company and also a heavy company that doubled the amount of mortars. Hence, both the numbers in equipment and manpower was quite different. The version had men, whereas the version had men. Infantry Units Now in terms of the infantry regiments, the version had 3, whereas in this number was already reduced to 2. Same goes for the version that had only 2 infantry regiments. Yet, the infantry gun company was changed to a heavy infantry gun company, whereas the anti-tank gun company was removed. Yet, an engineer company was added, which had 18 flamethrower vehicles at its disposal. The version had only towed equipment available and the main force was located in 3 anti-tank companies, whereas the version had only one company of towed anti-tank guns, yet 2 companies with tank destroyers. Stumartillerie Engineer Units The engineer battalion stayed almost the same both in numbers and equipment. Artillery Units The Artillery unit had two changes, the minor change was one light artillery battalion less, but the total number of guns was the same, hence this was mainly a change in the overall structure. The original setup had artillery observation battalion. This unit was assigned to the Army units and removed from the division after the Polish campaign. In this setup had changed significantly, there was a dedicated army anti-aircraft battalion with a heavy company and an additional light or medium company, depending on the setup. The different aa-guns were not only located in the anti-aircraft battalions, there were several in each infantry battalion, in the headquarters companies of the artillery battalions and the self-propelled AA guns were located in the assault gun battalion. Assault gun This assault gun battalion, was a major change. Whereas in there were only 24 light infantry guns available, in this number had changed to 8 heavy infantry guns, but an addition of 42 assault guns clearly increased the amount of high caliber direct fire weapons to support the infantry in combat. Other Changes There are quite many other changes, the number of supply companies in individual units increased, furthermore maintenance and other units were added also, which is a direct result of the increased amount of tracked vehicles most notably the tank destroyers and assault guns. Numbers â€” Equipment Now, to wrap this up, a short comparison in the equipment numbers, I choose various numbers that changed considerably and also show the evolution of certain areas. In there were a mere 31 sub-machine guns assigned to the Division, in this number increased to In terms of light machine guns the number almost doubled from machine guns or should I say Spandaus to light machine guns. In terms of anti-aircraft guns there was a increase from 12 light anti-aircraft guns to 63 light and 12 heavy anti-aircraft guns. There was also some reduction in equipment numbers, the division had motorcycles, whereas the layout had only assigned. In terms of anti-tank capabilities the original setup had 72 anti-tank guns, whereas the had only 19 anti-tank guns of a higher caliber, since now 31 tank destroyers were used in the anti-tank role. And an additional 42 assault guns that could be used similarly. Summary Changes To summarize the biggest differences were in terms of equipment were the reduction of the number of motorcycles. The vast increase in anti-aircraft weaponry, the addition of assault guns and the change of most of the anti-tank capability from towed anti-tank guns to tank destroyer. There will be an update video shortly on the infantry divisions and probably one for the units mentioned in this video too.

### Chapter 7 : Motorized Division - Hearts of Iron 2 Wiki

*Motorized Infantry = motorbikes, quadbikes, dune buggies Mechanized Infantry (wheeled) = jeeps, humvee's, trucks. Mechanized Infantry (tracked) = halftracks, Snow Trac's, tractors, and light APC's like the M or Bandvagn*

### Chapter 8 : Motorized and Mechanized Infantry

*Mechanized infantry is distinguished from motorized infantry in that its vehicles provide a degree of protection from hostile fire, as opposed to "soft-skinned" wheeled vehicles (trucks or jeeps) for motorized infantry. Most APCs and IFVs are fully tracked or are all-wheel drive vehicles (6Ã—6 or 8Ã—8), for mobility across rough ground.*

Chapter 9 : U.S. Army in WWII Tables of Organization and Equipment Photocopy Index

*Catch the action as the SAF's Motorised Infantry Battalion in their TERREX Infantry Carrier Vehicles (ICVs) carry out their missions. Working in sync with each other, the men and machines of the.*