

FRENCH IN ITALY

OFFICIAL BRIEFING

FRENCH EXPEDITIONARY CORPS IN ITALY, 1944



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FLAMES OF WAR

THE WORLD WAR II MINIATURES GAME

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FRENCH FORCES, ITALY 1944



"It is a matter of honour", General Juin to General Monsalbert, before the assault on Colle Belvedere, Italy, 23 January 1944.

No military force suffered more than the French army in the Mid-War period. The defeat of 1940 had left the French military painfully divided. There were those who felt duty bound to remain loyal to the Vichy government, a few who had escaped to join the Free French under De Gaulle, and many troops scattered throughout the colonies unsure which way to turn. Some even fought against the Allies, notably in Syria.

The Torch landings in North Africa at first did little to resolve the situation. Local commanders were sympathetic, but theatre CIC Admiral Darlan was pro-Vichy and ordered the French to resist the Allies. This did not endear them to the Allied high command, especially US General Mark Clark who would later be a key figure in their fighting in Italy. Eventually a truce was agreed. A few units under the patriotic General Barre fought with the American troops in Tunisia in 1943. The Free French Brigades under Leclerc and Koenig continued to fight with the British Eighth Army. However most of the French troops were only slowly equipped by the Allies, and their quality was considered as suspect as their loyalty to the cause. Nevertheless, under more patriotic leaders like General Giraud and General Juin over 230,000 Frenchmen eventually joined the Allied cause in North Africa.

Giraud and Juin desired to form a united French army to help liberate France from the Axis, but they knew it would take time. First they had to form and train them into a cohesive force. The soldiers were mostly volunteers and consisted of

the remnants of 60,000 Vichy Colonial troops, 12,000 Free French, and some 20,000 emigres who survived the perilous journey out of Vichy France via Spain. The majority, over 100,000, were local volunteers, French Europeans living in North Africa and native North Africans. The entire force was organised into eight Divisions along US lines and received American weapons, though often of second-line quality. The Free French had to return their British supplied weapons to the Eighth Army. The Allies only committed a handful to the Sicilian invasion and none initially to Italy. The enforced delay gave General Juin time to train and weld them into a united force.

DEPLOYMENT TO ITALY

Despite the prejudices of the Allied high command, by early 1944 a chronic shortage of infantry made use of the French essential in Italy. The Allies were trying to batter their way through the Gustav Line south of Rome. Some of Juin's forces were transported to Italy as individual divisions. Eventually permission was gained to form a corps structure. By mid-1944 the French Expeditionary Corps (FEC) in Italy consisted of five well trained divisions:

- 3rd Division d'Infanterie Algerienne (3 DIA)
- 2nd Division d'Infanterie Marocaine Division (2 DIM)
- 4th Division d'Infanterie Marocaine Division (4 DIM)
- 1st Division Française Libre (DFL) (1st Free French Division); it was later called 1e Division Motorisée d'Infanterie (1st Motorized Infantry Div) (1DMI)
- Goum Force (3 regiment sized Tabors)



BEFORE CASSINO

In Late 1943 Allied forces in Italy under Field Marshall Alexander had cleared the Axis from south of Naples and were approaching the Germans prepared defence line – the Gustav Line, which stretched across Italy at its narrowest point, in mountains south of Rome. Initial attempts to breach the Gustav Line were costly failures. On the eastern (Adriatic) coast the British Eighth army under General Brian Lees, tried to cross the Sangro River. The Canadian Division eventually cleared the town of Ortona after suffering heavy casualties. But Lees could not outflank the Sangro River line, which stretched all the way to the central Italian range. It was a stalemate. Eighth army units were transferred to the west coast for a combined attack.

On the western (Mediterranean) coast the US Fifth Army under General Mark Clark at first made good progress. US II Corps crossed the Volturno River and captured Mount Maggiore to close up on the Gustav Line. The FEC was attached to VII Corps of US Fifth army and was now used for the first time. General Juin had deliberately kept their vehicles and heavy weapons to a minimum for mobility in the mountains. Now the Moroccan and Algerian Divisions, 2 DIM and 3 DIA, attacked through the mountains on the right side of Cassino to reach the Gustav Line. They performed well and the assault was only barely stopped by German reserves.

But Clark as yet had little faith in the French. The main assault on the Gustav Line would be by British X Corps across the Garigliano River, and by US II Corps across the Rapido River near Cassino. X Corps crossed the river before being halted on the heights of the west coastal range, the Arunci Mountains. Meanwhile the US 36th Division was mauled trying to cross the Rapido River and fell back. The adjacent US 34th Division had been making some progress up Monte Cassino to the east, but was now trapped on the slopes with open flanks. It would be up to the FEC to help.

General Clark asked the FEC to mount an attack on the mountain east of Monte Cassino, Colle Belvedere. This was no easy task. Colle Belvedere was 2000 metres high, with a sheer dominating ridge face of almost 600 metres. The line was fortified with bunkers and mines, and defended by units of the German 44th and 71st Infantry Divisions. The Rapido River would have to be crossed merely to reach the position. Yet General Juin knew he could not refuse Clark's request if the Allies were to take the FEC seriously. As he said to General Monsalbert 'It is a matter of honour'.

On 25 January the 2 DIA led the attack, crossing the Rapido with speed and stealth rather than firepower, and making good progress. Yet as the regiments made their way up the steep slopes, they began to suffer losses from murderous German crossfire from the mountains above. Remarkably, they made the foot of the cliff and then, using its steepness to provide cover, climbed up over three hours to emerge and assault the defenders on top. After suffering horrific losses they captured Point 915 and Colle Abate in the centre of the ridge and the enemy's defence line. Over the next two days German reserves first threw them back, but follow up troops of 3 DIM recaptured the heights and held onto them. Indeed, if more reserves had been available the French may have been

able to capture Attina and outflank the Cassino position from the east, forcing a German withdrawal. But Clark had only ever seen the FEC assault as a diversion and no reinforcements were forthcoming.

With the Allies now pinned down on the mountains to east and west of Cassino, the offensive degenerated into a series of costly assaults up Route Six through the middle. These inevitably had to pass through the town and the adjacent Monte Cassino, with its dominant monastery. Over the next four months three successive attempts to break through the German positions would end in bloody failure. In part this was due to the epic resistance of the German 1st Fallschirmjäger Division. But a series of predictable and uncoordinated Allied frontal assaults were also to blame. General Juin, aware of his Corps' ability to move through the mountains, suggested that the position be outflanked, but was ignored by Alexander and Clark. British, New Zealand, Indian and US Divisions all suffered heavy casualties instead.

BREAKING THE GUSTAV LINE

Finally in April 1944 Alexander directed that there would be a coordinated offensive along the width of the entire front. Once again the FEC would be used in a support role, to attack the line through the coastal Arunci Mountains west of Cassino. But this time the FEC would be used as a united Corps. Juin's offensive was immediately successful, cracking the Gustav Line and outflanking the Cassino position. Although the FEC did not capture Cassino, their success forced the gradual withdrawal of German troops from Cassino. This made the capture of the monastery by General Anders' Polish Corps possible, after a brutal struggle, on 18 May 1944.

General Mark Clark recognised the efforts of the FEC in breaking the Gustav Line:

'Meantime, the French forces had crossed the Garigliano (River) and moved forward into the mountainous terrain lying south of the Liri River. It was not easy. As always, the German veterans reacted strongly and there was bitter fighting. The French surprised the enemy and quickly seized key terrain including Mounts Faito Cerasola and high ground near Castelforte. The 1st Motorized Division helped the 2nd Moroccan division take key Mount Girofano and then advanced rapidly north to S. Apollinare and S. Ambrogio. In spite of the stiffening enemy resistance, the 2nd Moroccan Division penetrated the Gustav Line in less than two days fighting.'

'The next 48 hours on the French front were decisive. The knife-wielding Goumiers swarmed over the hills, particularly at night, and General Juin's entire force showed an aggressiveness hour after hour that the Germans could not withstand. Cerasola, San Giogrio, Mt. D'Oro, Ausonia and Esperia were seized in one of the most brilliant and daring advances of the war in Italy, and by May 16 the French Expeditionary Corps had thrust forward some ten miles on their left flank to Mount Revole, with the remainder of their front slanting back somewhat to keep contact with the British 8th Army.'

'For this performance, which was to be a key to the success of the entire drive on Rome, I shall always be a grateful admirer of General Juin and his magnificent FEC.'

By 5 June the Allies captured Rome and advanced onwards to



northern Italy. For the FEC though, their time was over. In September they were withdrawn from the front and joined the Free French Army invading Southern France. Unfortunately for Juin, political manoeuvring by de Gaulle saw he and de Tassigny command French forces in France and Juin returned to Tunisia. The Goums too were split up and added to the divisions. Despite their success in battle, appalling violence outside combat made them notorious. Numerous assaults and the murder of over 100 Italian civilians in the Ciocaria area meant they would not be allowed to operate as a single force again.

ORGANISATION OF FEC IN ITALY

The French were organised as follows under the US Fifth Army.

1e Division Française Libre (DFL) (1st Free French Division) or *1e Division Motorisée d'Infanterie* (1st Motorized Infantry Division) (1DMI): The 1st DFL was formed in February 1943 out of a combination of the 1st and 2nd Free French Brigades. After a reorganization in August, it was designated as the *1e Division Motorisée d'Infanterie* (1st Motorized Infantry Division) and then again as the *1e Division de Marche d'Infanterie*, which is a general term used by the French for a mixture of diverse units. This division arrived in Italy in April 1944 and continued to be called the Free French Division and 1st Motorized Infantry Division. It took part in Diadem.

DEPICTING FRENCH TROOPS

Most of the French troops in Italy fought in US uniforms and vehicles, thus Battlefront's range of Late War US miniatures are the best choice. However, you could also mix in some Early-war French troops in Adrian helmets. Equipment included M3 Scout Cars, M5 Stuarts, M10s, M8s, 40mm Bofors, 105mm and 57mm guns. Vehicles were all US supplied. Markings and insignia were uniquely French though, with the Lorraine Cross popular on vehicles.



Most infantry wore US uniforms and helmets. Of course, there were exceptions too. A few veterans still had their French LMGs and World War One style helmets from the Early War period. Many officers wore the Kepi.

The Goums (FR802) still fought in their original uniforms with distinctive vertical striped colour scheme of brown and white or grey. A demi-brigade (2 battalions) of French Foreign Legion troops also fought in their French uniforms, including the Kepi with neck flap made famous in the desert. The survivors of Leclerc's Free French force from the North African campaign were re-equipped with US weapons for logistical reasons, but some of them probably also still had their Kepis.

2e Division d'Infanterie Marocaine (DIM) (Moroccan Infantry Division): The 2nd DIM was formed on 1 May 1943 and was the first French formation on active service in Italy. It arrived in Italy at end November 1943 and fought in all the FEC battles.

3e Division d'Infanterie Algérienne (DIA) (Algerian Infantry Division): The former Division of Constantine was a colonial unit stationed near the Tunisian border when the Allies landed in North Africa. They participated in the operations that led to the liberation of Tunisia. On 3 May 1943 they were combined with new local recruits and re-designated as the 3rd DIA or 3rd Algerian Infantry Division. After some amphibious training 3 DIA embarked for Italy and relieved the US 45th Division. It led the assault at Colle Belvedere.

4e Division Marocaine de Montagne (DMM) (Moroccan Mountain Division): The 4th DMM was originally formed as the *3e Division d'Infanterie Marocaine* but changed to the 4th DMM. Later it was renamed simply the *Division Marocaine de Montagne*, but it continued to be referred to as the 4th DMM. Units of this division participated in the liberation of Corsica in September and October 1943 and later fought in Italy.

There were also almost a division of Goums, organised into Rifle platoons, company groups, battalions (called Tabors) and ultimately three regiment-sized Tabor groups.



THE FRENCH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

A large force of French troops fought during 1944 and 1945. This force was organised and equipped along US lines, but they still retained much of their own unique French approach to warfare.

COMPAGNIE DE TIRAILLEURS

PAGE 7

The heart of the FEC are the infantry forces. First trained and now led by the indomitable spirit of General Juin, they have already proven in Italy that they are as good as any Allied infantry. For them Italy is only a stepping stone towards the real goal – France. But it is one they will approach with courage, discipline and skill.

General Juin has shown himself to be not only a good leader and organiser but also tactically astute. The decision to leave many vehicles behind and use mules for transport has given the French Corps a decided edge in the mountains. Combined with the mountain background of many of the troops, and Juin's emphasis on being lightly equipped and trained to march, the FEC is perhaps the most mobile formation in Italy. It is not as heavily armed as some of the Allied formations, but its combination of marching speed and combat skill make it formidable.

ESQUADRON DE SPAHI

PAGE 14

The French lacked any heavy or even medium tanks in Italy. They did not even have the half-tracks to create armoured infantry companies. Yet they did not lack for effective mobile forces, even if there were few opportunities to use them. There were Esquadron de Spahi mechanised recon forces equipped with M3 White Scout cars in each Division. The *Régiment de Fusiliers-Marins de Reconnaissance* in the Free French DMI Division was similar. The Spahi units and their Stuart tanks were lightly armed and armoured, and so the emphasis was on skirmishing and scouting, with accompanying infantry, artillery and M10 self-propelled anti-tank guns to deal with heavier opposition. They shared the aggressive spirit which permeated the FEC, and were not afraid to take on German panzers. But they relied on skill and speed to do so, not brute force.



FRENCH SPECIAL RULES



French infantry are not equipped with the Garand Rifles used by US units and do not use the Automatic Rifles, Excellent Communications, or Under Command special rules. Instead, it uses any of the other US special rules, such as Time on Target and Truscott Trott (or *March On* as the FEC would say), as well as all of the following French special rules. Goum Platoons use the special rules on page 13.

ASSAULT TROOPS

The French Expeditionary Force was led by French officers legendary for their personal bravery.

French Platoons may re-roll failed Motivation Tests to Rally from being Pinned Down.

IT IS A MATTER OF HONOUR

The FEC troops in Italy were renown for their stubborn defence and personal bravery of their officers.

When Tirailleurs Platoons, Tirailleurs Ammunition & Pioneer Platoons, Tirailleurs Intelligence & Recon Platoons, and Engineer Combat Platoons test their Motivation to Counterattack in assaults, you may re-roll the die and apply the re-rolled result to all the above platoons that failed on the original roll.

CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL

French Artillery doctrine introduced during the 1920s and 1930s influenced many nations. When a French Observer places a request for fire, the artillery battalion fire direction centre assesses its priority and assigns all available artillery batteries to fire the mission. This ensures that the battalion's artillery resources are used in the most efficient manner. However, everything must go through the proper channels with properly trained officers directing the artillery fire.

French Company Command teams cannot act as spotting teams for artillery bombardments.

When a French Artillery battery that has a Staff team fires a bombardment, you may chose to group other artillery batteries with Staff teams into the same bombardment before rolling to Range In as a Central Fire Control Bombardment.

Use the Mixed Bombardments rule on page 131 of the rulebook.

MOUNTAIN INFANTRY

Many of the FEC troops have experience fighting in the mountains of their North Africa homelands and are at ease travelling through seemingly impassable terrain.

French Infantry and Man-packed Gun teams are Mountaineers (see page 61 of the rulebook).





COMPAGNIE DE TIRAILLEURS

LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY



(INFANTRY COMPANY)

HEADQUARTERS

HEADQUARTERS



Compagnie de Tirailleurs HQ

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

COMBAT PLATOONS

INFANTRY



Tirailleurs Platoon

INFANTRY



Tirailleurs Platoon

INFANTRY



Tirailleurs Platoon

MACHINE-GUNS



Tirailleurs Weapons Platoon

WEAPONS PLATOONS

MACHINE-GUN



Tirailleurs Machine-gun Platoon

MACHINE-GUN



Tirailleurs Machine-gun Platoon

ARTILLERY



Tirailleurs Mortar Platoon

ANTI-TANK



Tirailleurs Anti-tank Platoon

INFANTRY



Tirailleurs Ammunition & Pioneer Platoon

REGIMENTAL SUPPORT PLATOONS

ANTI-TANK



Tirailleurs Anti-tank Platoon

RECONNAISSANCE



Tirailleurs Intelligence & Recon Platoon

ARTILLERY



Tirailleurs Cannon Platoon

SUPPORT PLATOONS

ARMOUR



US Tank Platoon

Spahi Assault Gun Platoon

Tank Destroyer Platoon

INFANTRY



Goum Platoon

Engineer Combat Platoon

RECONNAISSANCE



Spahi Platoon

ARTILLERY



Field Artillery Battery

ARTILLERY



Field Artillery Battery

Field Artillery Battery (155mm)

ANTI-AIRCRAFT



Anti-aircraft Artillery Platoon

AIRCRAFT



Air Support

AOP



Air Observation Post

ALLIED PLATOONS



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



MOTIVATION AND SKILL

French Expeditionary Corps (FEC) divisions were among the best trained and motivated Allied troops in Italy. They had gained much experience fighting in North Africa and Sicily in 1943, as well as many of them being long service veterans of the French colonial forces. A *Compagnie de Tirailleurs* is rated as **Confident Veteran**.

COMPAGNIE DE TIRAILLEURS

RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
CONFIDENT	TRAINED
FEARLESS	VETERAN

HEADQUARTERS

COMPAGNIE DE TIRAILLEURS HQ

HEADQUARTERS

Company HQ 15 points

OPTIONS

- Replace Command Rifle teams with Command SMG teams for +10 points per team.
- Add a Bazooka team for +20 points.
- Add up to three Sniper teams for +50 points per team.



COMPAGNIE DE TIRAILLEURS HQ

A French Company Command is led by an officer steeped in the traditions of the French Army. He is a patriot, his courage is unquestioned and he will lead the company to victory. He will see France free again but first the army must prove itself here in Italy.

COMBAT PLATOONS

TIRAILLEURS PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

3 Tirailleurs Squads 165 points

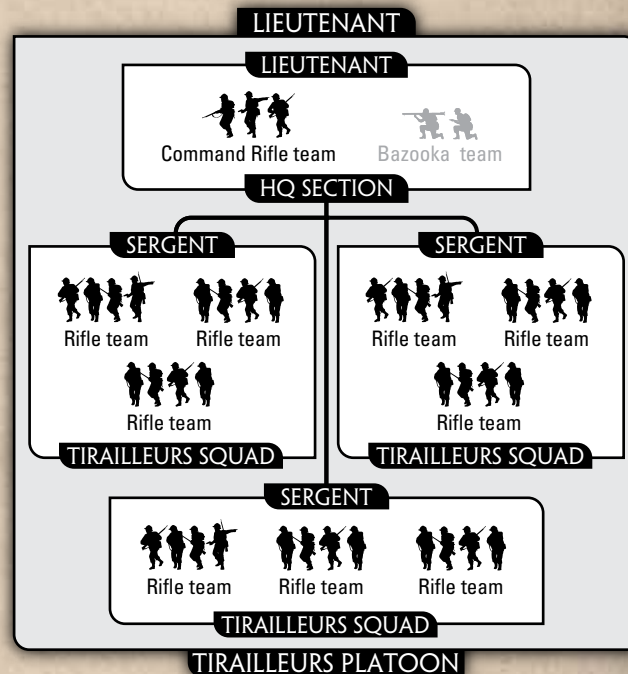
2 Tirailleurs Squads 120 points

OPTION

- Add a Bazooka team for +20 points.

Tirailleurs platoons are drawn from all of the men who have answered the call to liberate France from the Nazis. Whether émigrés, Free French, or others from the African colonies, they are trained and ready to fight.

The Americans have given them their oldest weapons – Springfield Rifles, a few BARs, some have their trusty FM 1924/29s - but it does not matter. With their courage, verve, and aggressive tactics, the Tirailleurs will take the fight to the boche.



TIRAILLEURS WEAPONS PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with Mortar Section and:

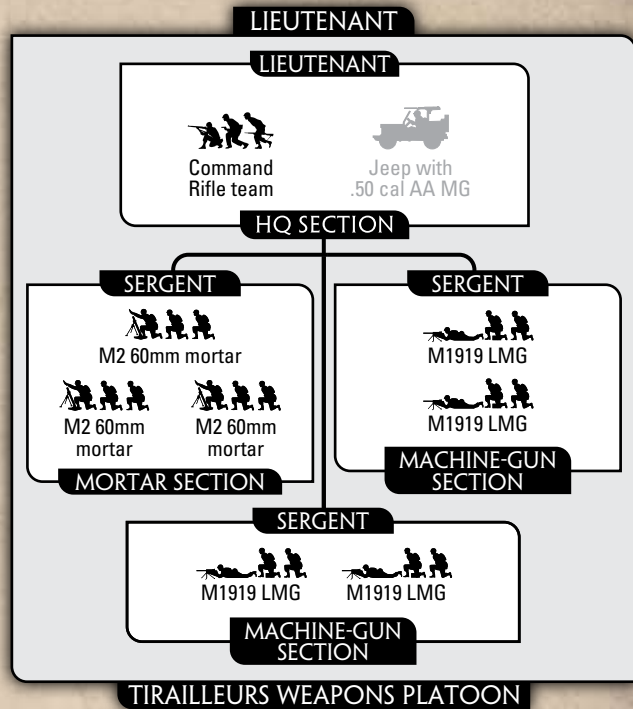
2 Machine-gun Sections	160 points
1 Machine-gun Section	120 points

OPTION

- Add Jeep with .50 cal AA MG for +5 points.

The weapons platoon gives you a handy reserve of firepower. It can either form a base of fire when attacking or be handed out to the rifle platoons to strengthen their positions when defending. The mortars in particular have proven very handy in the mountains of Italy.

Tirailleurs Weapons Platoons may make Combat Attachments to Tirailleurs Platoons.



WEAPONS PLATOONS

TIRAILLEURS MACHINE-GUN PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

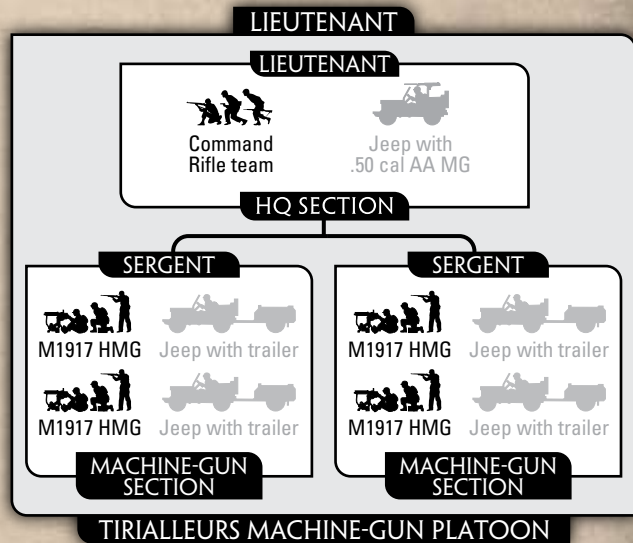
2 Machine-gun Sections	130 points
1 Machine-gun Section	65 points

OPTIONS

- Add Jeeps with trailers for +5 points for the platoon.
- Add Jeep with .50 cal AA MG for +5 points.

France was the first country in Europe to introduce machine guns – the mitrailleuse in the 19th century. Machine guns are a traditional strength of the French army and with these M1917 Brownings, the tradition continues.

Tirailleurs Machine-gun Platoons may make Combat Attachments to Tirailleurs Platoons.



TIRAILLEURS MORTAR PLATOON

PLATOON

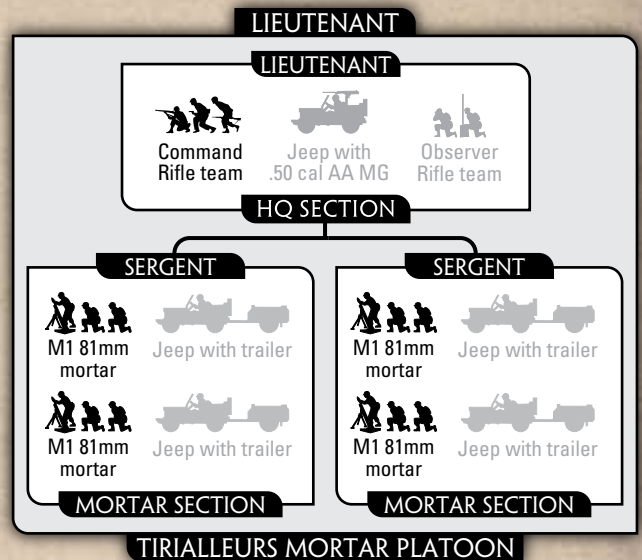
HQ Section with:

2 Mortar Sections	110 points
1 Mortar Section	55 points

OPTIONS

- Add Jeeps with trailers for +5 points for the platoon.
- Add Jeep with .50 cal AA MG for +5 points.
- Add an Observer Rifle team for +15 points.

The mortar platoon provides close fire support, able to fire onto targets over the steep hills. With mule transport they have proven very mobile and able to keep up with the fast marching French in the mountains. General Juin has wisely encouraged their use.



TIRAILLEURS ANTI-TANK PLATOON

PLATOON

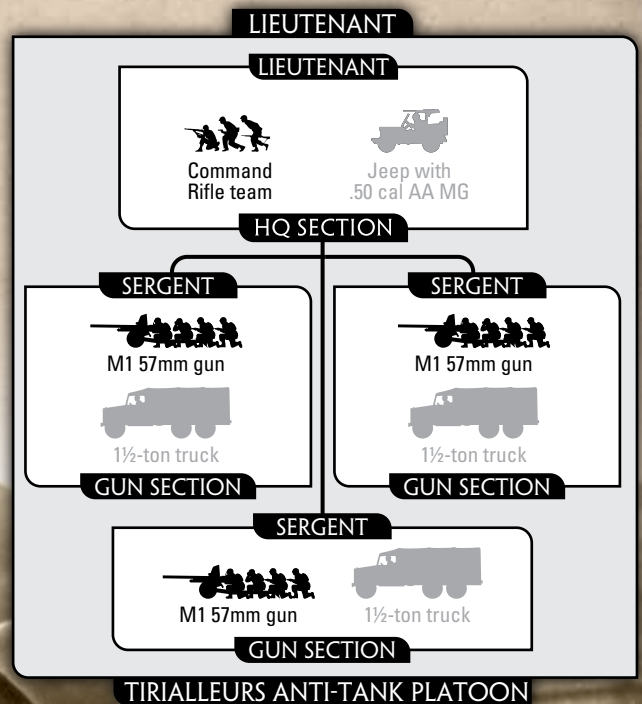
HQ Section with:

3 M1 57mm	100 points
2 M1 57mm	70 points

OPTIONS

- Add 1.5-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.
- Add Jeep with .50 cal AA MG for +5 points.

Though the French had to leave their 25mm and 47mm guns behind in North Africa, these new American guns are in fact much better, and keep the Panzers at bay.



TIRAILLEURS AMMUNITION & PIONEER PLATOON

PLATOON

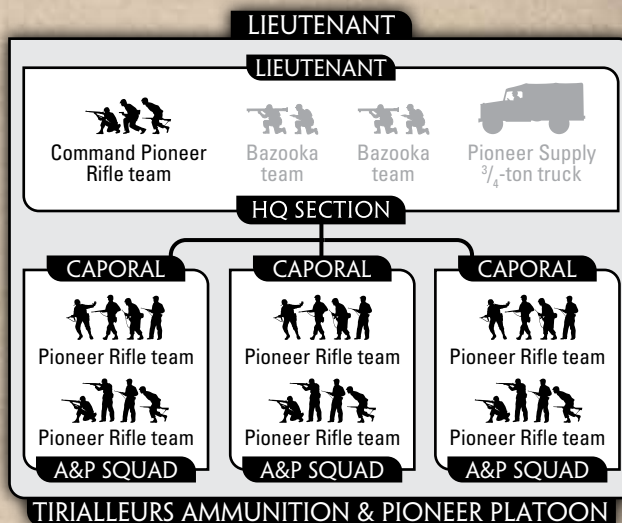
HQ Section with:

3 A&P Squads	145 points
2 A&P Squads	110 points

OPTIONS

- Add Bazooka teams for +20 points per team.
- Add Pioneer Supply ¾-ton truck for +25 points.

The pioneers are trained to both create and destroy fortifications. They only have Springfield rifles, but proved their courage clearing mines in the way of the French attacks on the Gustav Line.



SUPPORT PLATOONS

TIRAILLEURS INTELLIGENCE & RECON PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

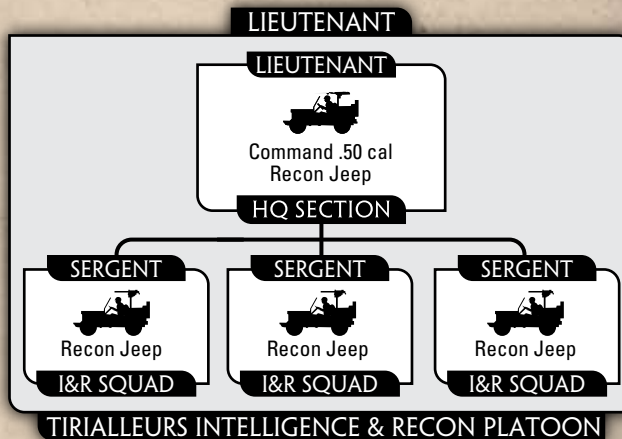
3 I&R Squads	95 points
2 I&R Squads	75 points

OPTION

- Replace Recon Jeeps with .50 cal Recon Jeeps for +5 points per jeep.

The Intelligence & Recon Platoon may be mounted in some of the few jeep transports kept in the divisions by Juin. They act as scouts before the French advance, locating defensive strongpoints and guiding fire to keep them pinned down until the infantry complete their demise.

A Tirailleurs Intelligence & Recon Platoon is a Reconnaissance Platoon.



DISMOUNT

Before deployment you may choose to dismount all of your jeeps. If you do this, all of the platoon's vehicles are permanently removed from the game. Replace each:

- Recon Jeep with a Rifle or M1919 LMG team.
- .50 cal Recon Jeep with a Rifle or .50 cal MG team.

Designate one of the teams as the Platoon Command team. The platoon remains a Reconnaissance Platoon.



TIRAILLEURS CANNON PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

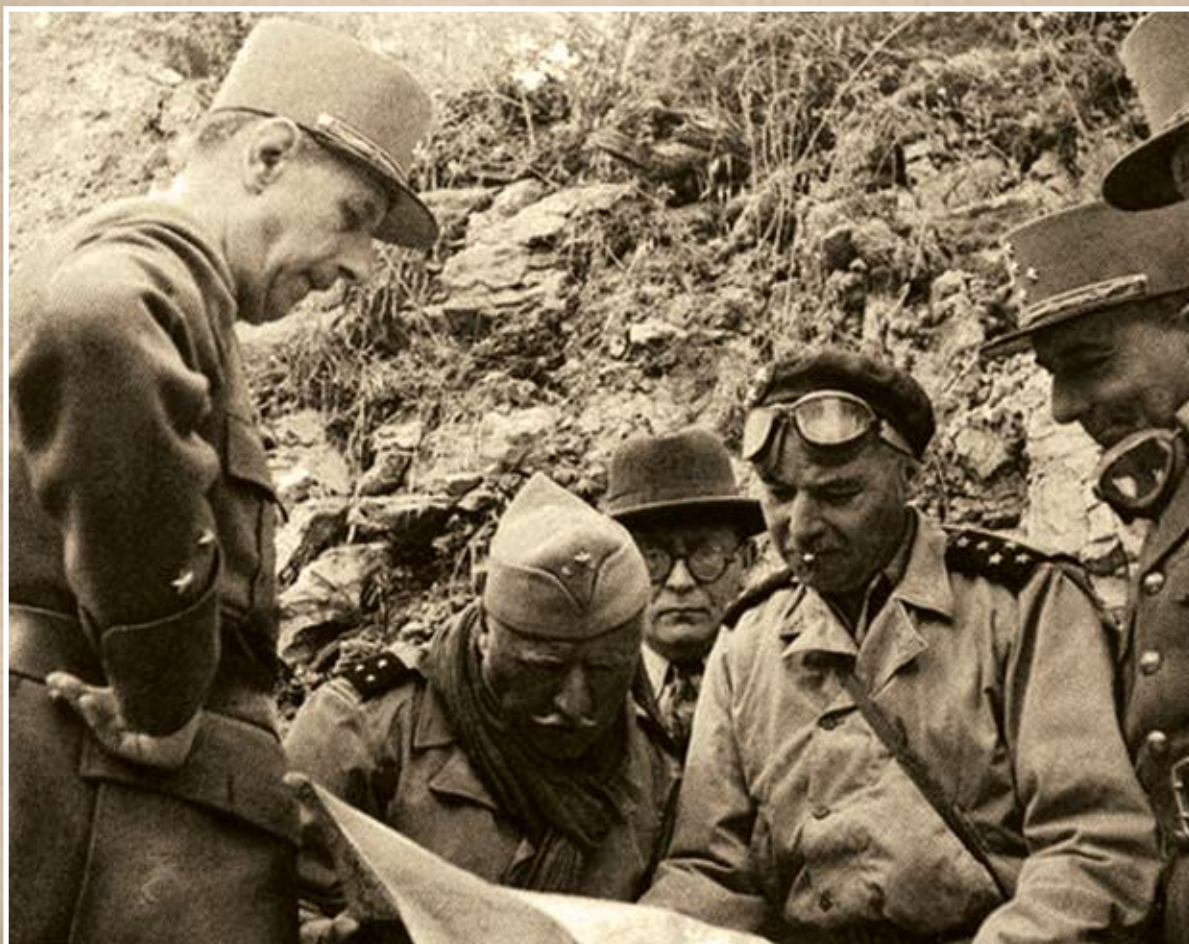
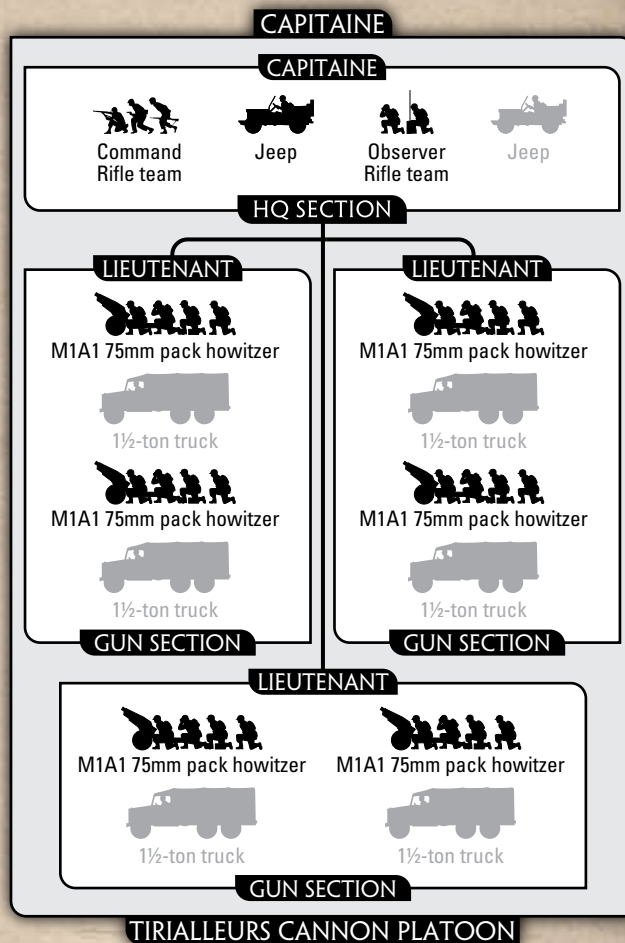
3 Gun Sections	160 points
2 Gun Sections	115 points
1 Gun Section	60 points

OPTION

- Add Jeep and 1½-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.

The Americans wisely adopted the French doctrine of forward use of howitzers and have supplied us with the guns to once again do the same. In the capable hands of French artillery officers these platoons provide excellent fire support. We use 75mm pack howitzers which can be broken down into man-packed loads. Mule transport keeps them going through the Appenines. Anywhere the infantry go, they follow.

The teams of a Tirialleurs Cannon Platoon are Mountaineers.



GOUM PLATOON

PLATOON

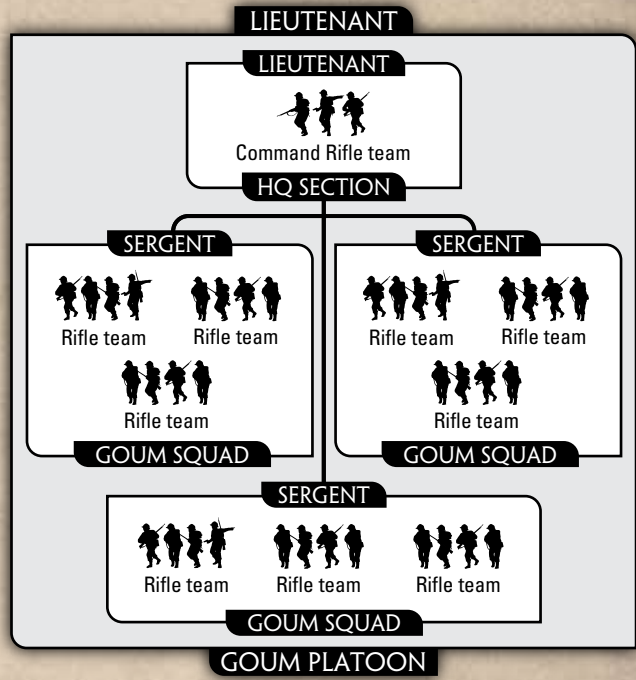
HQ Section with:

- 3 Goum Squads 200 points
- 2 Goum Squads 145 points

Goum platoons are the cutting edge of the French army. They are tribal warriors drawn from the Atlas mountains of Morocco. They are armed with the same old weapons as the Tirailleurs, Springfield rifles and a few BAR's, but they also have their knives. Stalking through the hills in the dead of night, they strike fear into the hearts of the Germans, who have no answer to them.

Goum Rifle platoons carry American Springfield rifles limiting their firepower, but the rifle's light weight enabled the Goums to move quickly and silently through rough terrain and close rapidly with their enemies.

The Goums are commanded by French officers, but they must be exceptional men, to keep control of the wild north Africans, and at the same time lead them in the French manner.



The fearsome Moroccan Goum fighters are rated Fearless Trained.

GOUM PLATOON	
RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
CONFIDENT	TRAINED
FEARLESS	VETERAN





GOUM SPECIAL RULES

A Goum Platoon uses most of the US Special Rules found in the *Flames Of War* rulebook. A Goum Platoon does not use the Automatic Rifles, Excellent Communications, or Under Command special rules. Instead, it uses any of the other US special rules as well as all of the following Goum special rules.

ASSAULT TROOPS

Goums attached to each division of the French Expeditionary Force led the charge on enemy positions.

Goum Platoons may re-roll failed Motivation Tests to Rally from being Pinned Down.

CAUTIOUS MOVEMENT

The Goums were experts at silently crossing the most barren terrain and surprise their prey before they could react.

Goum teams are always Gone to Ground, unless they move At the Double, carry Passengers that are not Recce teams, shoot, or assault.

COLONIAL TROOPS

France had a large colonial empire. Colonial troops are recruited to protect and maintain it from the native tribes of Algeria, Morocco and Senegal. While they may not be *au fait* with the latest military methods, they are renowned for their ferocity and prowess in personal combat.

Goum Platoons hit in assault combat on a roll of 3+ (instead of 4+ for being rated Trained).

NO OBSTACLE TOO TOUGH

The Goums called the mountains of North Africa home and were at ease in travelling through seemingly impassable terrain.

Goum Infantry and Man-packed Gun teams are Mountaineers (see page 61 of the rulebook).





ESCADRON DE SPAHI

MOTORIZED CAVALRY SQUADRON



(MECHANISED COMPANY)

HEADQUARTERS

HEADQUARTERS



Escadron de Spahi HQ

15

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

COMBAT PLATOONS

RECONNAISSANCE



Spahi Platoon

15

RECONNAISSANCE



Spahi Platoon

15

RECONNAISSANCE



Spahi Platoon

15

ARTILLERY



Spahi Assault Gun Platoon

16

WEAPONS PLATOONS

ARMOUR



Spahi Light Tank Platoon

16

ARMOUR



Spahi Light Tank Platoon

16

SUPPORT PLATOONS

ARMOUR



Tank Destroyer Platoon

17

INFANTRY



Goum Platoon

12

Engineer Combat Platoon

19

INFANTRY



Goum Platoon

12

ARTILLERY



Field Artillery Battery

18

ARTILLERY



Field Artillery Battery

18

Field Artillery Battery (155mm)

18

ANTI-AIRCRAFT



Anti-aircraft Artillery Platoon

20

AIRCRAFT



Air Support

20

AOP



Air Observation Post

20



MOTIVATION AND SKILL

Spahi units were the fast moving spearhead of the FEC when they finally broke free of the Nazi defences in Italy. They don't have the same modern equipment as their American counterparts, but they use it with great skill probing the enemy's defences. An Escadron de Spahi is rated as **Confident Veteran**.

ESCADRON DE SPAHI	
RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
CONFIDENT	TRAINED
FEARLESS	VETERAN

HEADQUARTERS

ESCADRON DE SPAHI HQ

HEADQUARTERS

Company HQ 45 points

OPTIONS

- Arm either or both Jeeps and M2 half-track with AA MG for +5 points per vehicle.
- Add M3A1 armoured cars for +35 points per vehicle.

French cavalry officers have found their place again in the Spahi units. They have the same equipment as the American units, and more initiative and daring. The ranks of the Spahi units contain many of the French troops with the most *élan*, including a lot of the former Free French Division.

CAPITAINE			
CAPITAINE		CAPITAINE	
Company Command Rifle team	2iC Command Rifle team	M2 half-track	Jeep
COMPANY HQ			
SERGENT		SERGENT	
M3A1 armoured car	M3A1 armoured car		
SECURITY SQUAD			
ESCADRON DE SPAHI HQ			

The teams of an Escadron de Spahi HQ are Recce teams.

COMBAT PLATOONS

SPAHI PLATOON

PLATOON

2 Armored Recon Patrols 230 points
1 Armored Recon Patrol 115 points

Before deployment you may replace any or all Spahi Platoons with Dismounted Spahi Platoons with the same number of Patrols.

In each Patrol, you may replace at no cost:

- up to two Rifle teams with .50 cal MG teams,
- up to three Rifle teams with M1919 LMG teams,
- up to one Rifle teams with an M2 60mm mortar team,
- up to two Rifle teams with Bazooka teams each or one Rifle team with a M3 37mm anti-tank gun.

All of the Dismounted Recon Patrols in a Dismounted Spahi Platoon operate as a single infantry platoon.

Armored Recon Patrols operate as separate platoons, each with their own Command team.

Armored Recon Patrols and Dismounted Spahi Platoons are Reconnaissance Platoons.

LIEUTENANT			
LIEUTENANT		LIEUTENANT	
Command M3A1 armored car	M3A1 armored car	Mortar Jeep	Recon Jeep
ARMORED RECON PATROL			
SERGENT		SERGENT	
Command M3A1 armored car	M3A1 armored car	Mortar Jeep	Recon Jeep
ARMORED RECON PATROL			
SPAHI PLATOON			

LIEUTENANT			
LIEUTENANT		LIEUTENANT	
Command Rifle team	Rifle team	Rifle team	
DISMOUNTED RECON PATROL			
SERGENT		SERGENT	
Rifle team	Rifle team	Rifle team	
DISMOUNTED RECON PATROL			
DISMOUNTED SPAHI PLATOON			

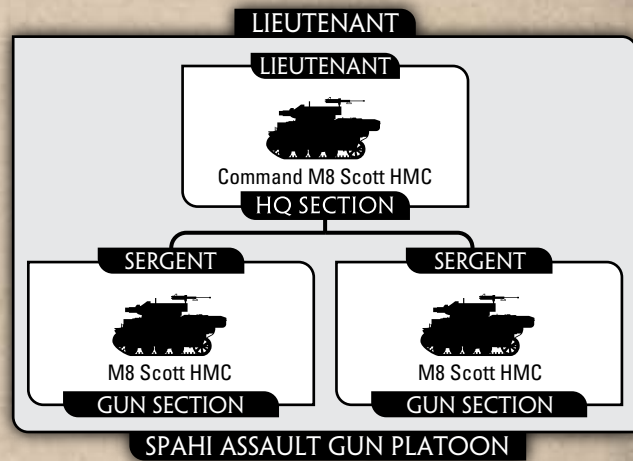


SPAHI ASSAULT GUN PLATOON

PLATOON

3 M8 Scott HMC	135 points
2 M8 Scott HMC	90 points

The M8 Scott HMC assault guns give fire support for the Spahi Platoons, either by performing direct fire from its 75mm gun to knock out machine-gun nests and anti-tank guns, or firing bombardments to keep the enemy's head down while the Spahi platoons probe the line.



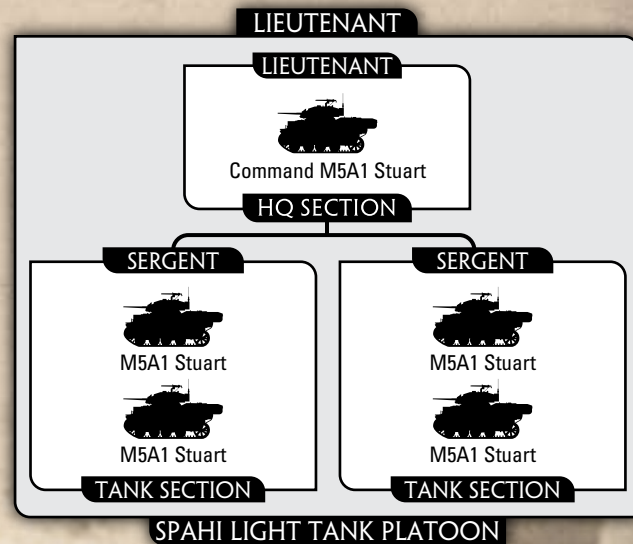
WEAPONS PLATOONS

SPAHI LIGHT TANK PLATOON

PLATOON

5 M5A1 Stuarts	260 points
4 M5A1 Stuarts	210 points
3 M5A1 Stuarts	155 points

Each French Infantry Division contains these light tanks to provide support. The French armoured crews are brave and aggressive, even if their guns are weak.





DIVISIONAL SUPPORT



MOTIVATION AND SKILL

The divisions of the FEC are full of experienced soldiers who have seen hard battles in Africa and Syria. Now their goal is in sight, the liberation of France, they fight with grim determination to defeat the Germans in Italy. FEC Divisional Support Units are rated as **Confident Veteran**, unless noted otherwise.

DIVISIONAL SUPPORT	
RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
CONFIDENT	TRAINED
FEARLESS	VETERAN

TANK DESTROYER PLATOON

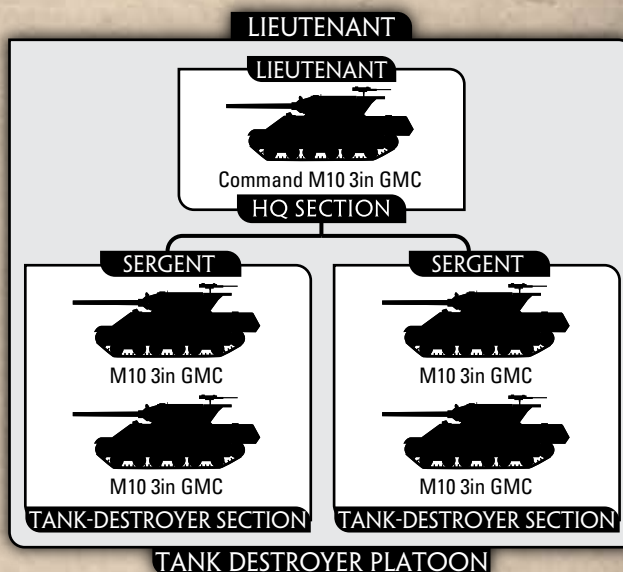
PLATOON

5 M10 3in GMC	370 points
4 M10 3in GMC	295 points
3 M10 3in GMC	220 points

A Tank Destroyer Platoon **does not** uses the US Tank Destroyer special rules.

The two M10 3in GMC armed regiments serving with the French army in Italy used a unique heavy organisation of five tank-destroyer per platoon, these were the *7e Chasseur d'Afrique* (7th African Light Cavalry) and *8e Chasseur d'Afrique* (8th African Light Cavalry). However, they didn't include the security section of the American tank-destroyer.

These are the heaviest anti-tank weapons in the French Divisions. They are held in independent squadrons and are carefully allocated to the sector where the enemy armoured



TANK DESTROYER PLATOON

threat is greatest. Their crews are dedicated; they will stop any panzers.

US TANK PLATOON

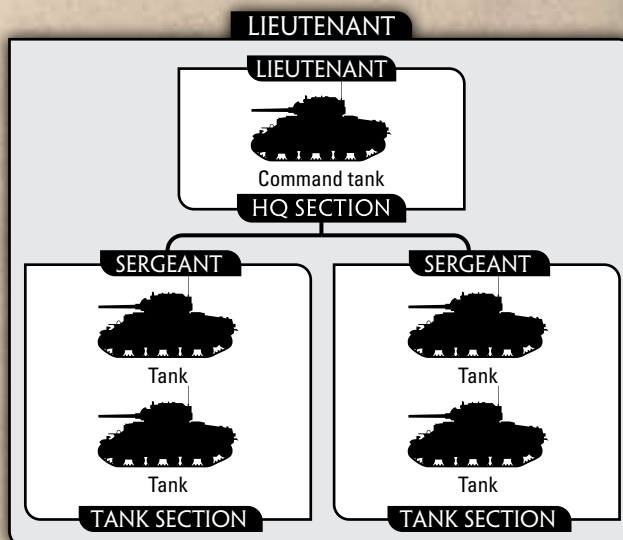
PLATOON

5 M4 or M4A1 Sherman	415 points
4 M4 or M4A1 Sherman	335 points
3 M4 or M4A1 Sherman	250 points

On 9 January 1944 the US 755th Tank Battalion was assigned to the US Fifth Army and attached to the French Expeditionary Corps (FEC). The battalion supported French infantry units in the breaking of the German Winter Line near Cassino. For its support of French forces during the Rome-Arno Campaign the 755th Battalion received two awards of the French *Croix de Guerre* (Cross of War, for mentions in dispatches).

The 755th Tank Battalion had been fighting in Italy since late 1943. US Tank Platoons are rated **Confident Veteran**.

US TANK PLATOON	
RELUCTANT	CONSCRIPT
CONFIDENT	TRAINED
FEARLESS	VETERAN



US TANK PLATOON

US Tank Platoons are US Platoons and follow the US special rules on pages 236 to 240 of the rulebook and count as an Allied Platoon (page 70 of the rulebook).



FIELD ARTILLERY BATTERY

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

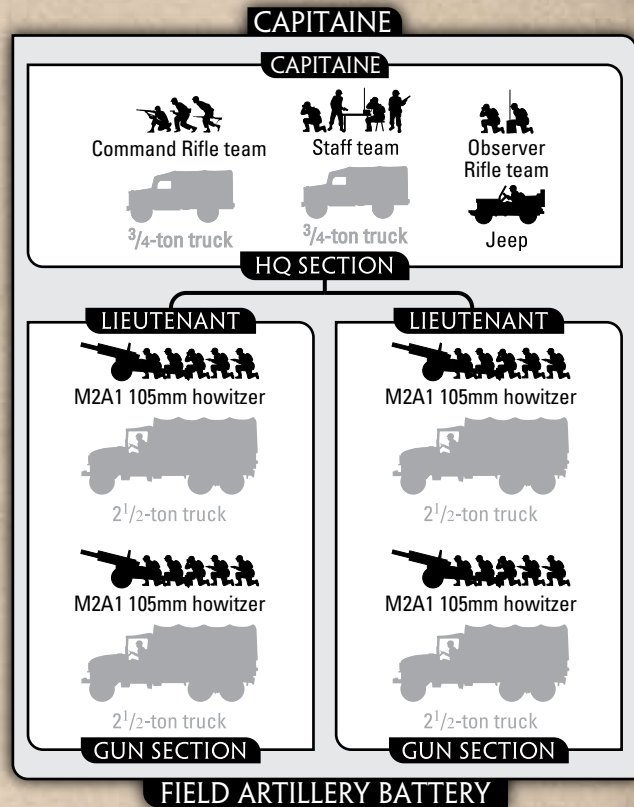
4 M2A1 105mm gun	185 points
2 M2A1 105mm gun	105 points

OPTION

- Add ¾-ton trucks and 2½-ton trucks for +5 points for the platoon.

At last the French artillery is equipped with a modern gun, the Ami's 105mm howitzer is good enough to be a French gun! French artillery officers have been the world's best since the days of Napoleon, and now we will give the boche a pounding.

Field Artillery Batteries may not be placed from Ambush within 16"/40cm of enemy teams.



FIELD ARTILLERY BATTERY (155MM)

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

4 M1 155mm howitzers	275 points
2 M1 155mm howitzers	145 points

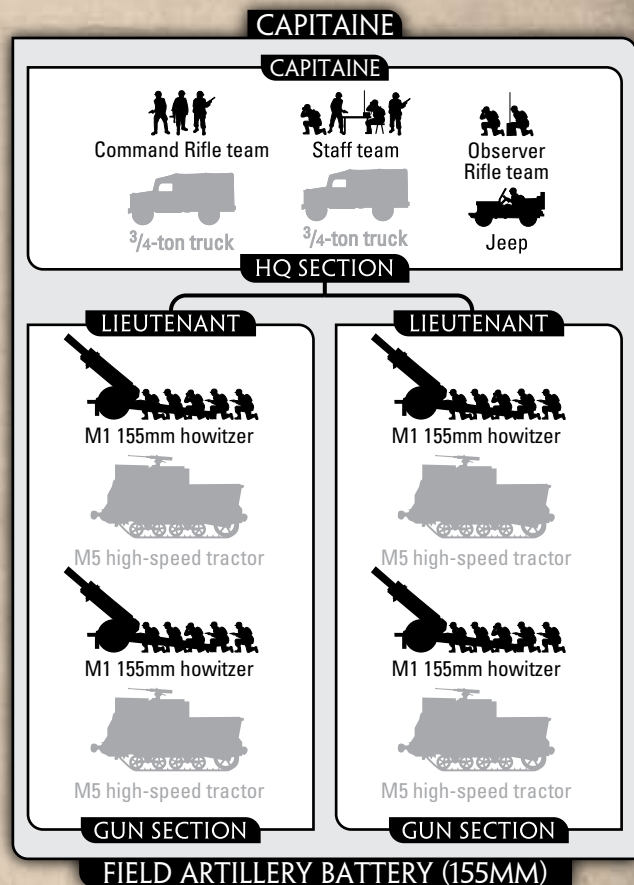
OPTION

- Add ¾-ton trucks and M5 high-speed tractors at +5 points for the battery.

You may not field a Field Artillery Battery (155mm) equipped with M1 155mm howitzers unless you are also fielding a Field Artillery Battery with at least as many M2A1 105mm howitzers.

The divisional artillery includes an artillery regiment organized in three battalions set-up like the Americans, therefore there is three battalions of 105mm howitzers and a fourth battalion is equipped with 155mm howitzers.

The reserve artillery were also armed with a number of 155mm guns and howitzers, including those supplied by the Americans and older French models recaptured in Italy. For example, the 1st Battery of the *Groupe de Canoniers Marins* (Gunners Sailors Group) was equipped with 155mm GPF (long range Fillieux) guns. These are French guns that the Italians had taken between 1940 and 1943, and recaptured after the landing of the Allied forces in Italy.



Field Artillery Batteries (155mm) may not be placed from Ambush within 16"/40cm of enemy teams.



ENGINEER COMBAT PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with Weapons Squad and

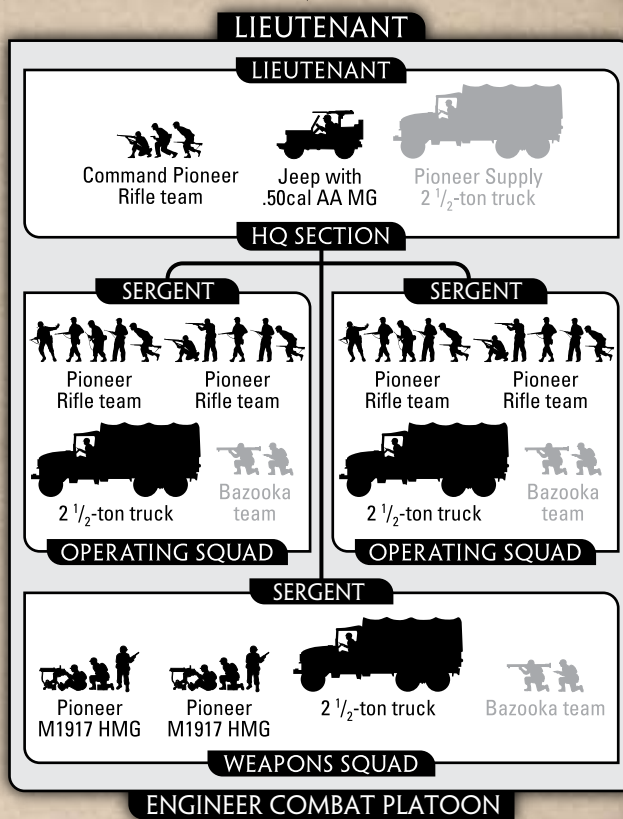
2 Operating Squads	185 points
1 Operating Squad	140 points
No Operating Squads	90 points

OPTIONS

- Add Bazooka teams for +20 points per team.
- Add Pioneer 2½-ton Supply truck for +25 points.

These units have the same courage and skill as the pioneer units and are even better equipped. They are heavily employed working to break the Gustav Line.

You may replace all Pioneer HMG teams with Pioneer Rifle teams at the start of the game before deployment.



ENGINEER COMBAT PLATOON



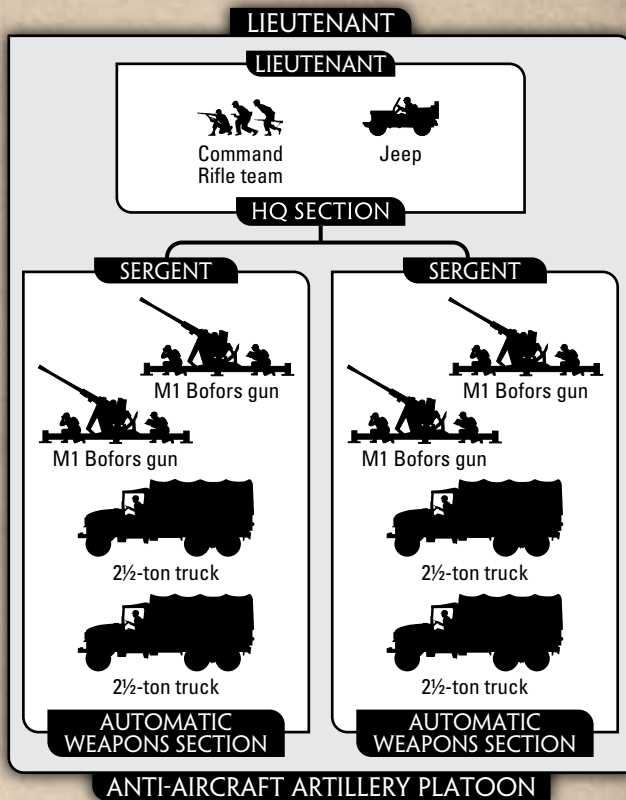
ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY PLATOON

PLATOON

HQ Section with:

- 2 Automatic Weapons Sections 125 points
- 1 Automatic Weapons Section 65 points

The Amis have not given us any AA half-tracks, but these Bofors are good guns, and if the boche planes will not show themselves they are useful against ground targets too.



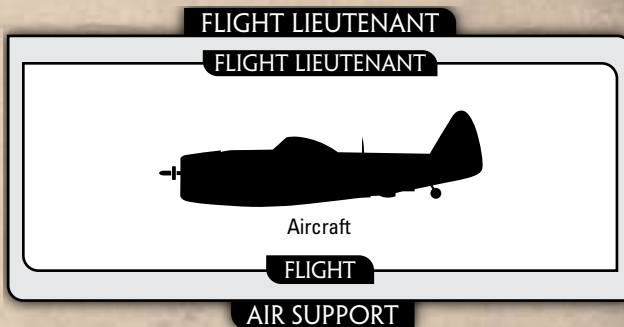
AIR SUPPORT

PRIORITY AIR SUPPORT

- P-47 Thunderbolt 190 points
- P-40 Warhawk 160 points

LIMITED AIR SUPPORT

- P-47 Thunderbolt 150 points
- P-40 Warhawk 130 points

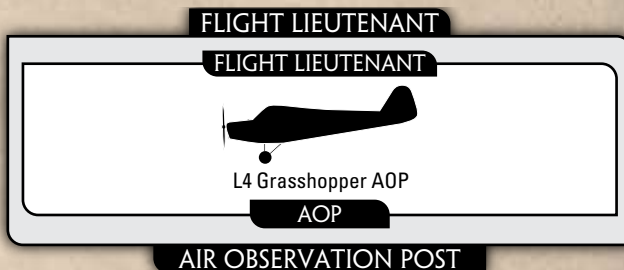


AIR OBSERVATION POST

AOP

- L4 Grasshopper AOP 40 points

Air Observation Posts follow the rules for Air Observation Posts found on pages 139 and 239 of the rulebook.





FRENCH ARSENAL



TANK TEAMS

Name Weapon	Mobility Range	Front ROF	Armour			Equipment and Notes
			Side Anti-tank	Top Firepower		
TANKS						
M5A1 Stuart M6 37mm gun	Light Tank 24"/160cm	4 2	2 7	1 4+	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, AA MG. Stabiliser.	
M4 or M4A1 Sherman M3 75mm gun	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	6 2	4 10	1 3+	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, .50 cal AA MG. Smoke, Stabiliser.	

SUPPORT WEAPONS

M8 Scott HMC M1A1 75mm howitzer Firing bombardments	Light Tank 16"/40cm 64"/160cm	3 2 -	2 6 3	0 3+ 6	.50 cal AA MG. Smoke.
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TANK DESTROYERS

M10 3in GMC M7 3in gun	Standard Tank 32"/80cm	4 2	2 12	0 3+	.50 cal AA MG. Slow traverse.
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RECONNAISSANCE

M3A1 armored car	Jeep	1	0	0	.50 cal AA MG, two AA MG, Recce.
M20 scout car	Jeep	1	0	0	.50 cal AA MG, Recce.
Recon Jeep	Jeep	-	-	-	AA MG, Recce.
.50 cal Recon Jeep	Jeep	-	-	-	.50 cal AA MG, Recce.
Mortar Jeep M2 60mm Mortar Firing Bombardments	Jeep 24"/160cm 32"/80cm	- 2 -	- 1 1	- 3+ 6	Recce. Hull mounted, Portee, Minimum range 8"/20cm.

VEHICLE MACHINE-GUNS

Vehicle MG	16"/40cm	3	2	6	ROF 1 if other weapons fire.
.50 cal Vehicle MG	16"/40cm	3	4	5+	ROF 1 if other weapons fire.

TRANSPORT TEAMS

Vehicle	Mobility	Front	Armour			Equipment and Notes
			Side	Top		
TRUCKS						
Jeep	Jeep	-	-	-	Optional Passenger-fired AA MG or .50 cal AA MG.	
Dodge ¾-ton, ½-ton or GMC 2½-ton truck	Wheeled	-	-	-		
TRACTORS						
M5 High-speed tractor	Standard Tank	-	-	-	.50 cal AA MG.	
ARMoured PERSONNEL CARRIERS						
M2 or M3 half-track	Half-tracked	1	0	0	Optional Passenger-fired AA MG or .50 cal AA MG.	



INFANTRY TEAMS

Team	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
Carbine team	8"/20cm	1	1	6	
Rifle team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	
Bazooka team	8"/20cm	1	10	5+	Tank assault 4.
Staff team	16"/40cm	1	2	6	Moves as a Heavy Gun team.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

Pioneer teams are rated as Tank Assault 3.

GUN TEAMS

Weapon	Mobility	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
M2 .50 cal MG	Man-packed	16"/40cm	3	4	5+	
M1919 LMG team	Man-packed	16"/40cm	5	2	6	ROF 2 when pinned down or moving.
M1917 HMG team	Man-packed	24"/60cm	6	2	6	ROF 3 when pinned down or moving.
M2 60mm mortar	Man-packed	24"/60cm	2	1	3+	Minimum range 8"/20cm.
Firing bombardments		32"/80cm	-	1	6	
M1 81mm mortar	Man-packed	24"/60cm	2	2	3+	Minimum range 8"/20cm, Smoke.
Firing bombardments		40"/100cm	-	2	6	Smoke bombardment.
M1 Bofors gun	Immobile	24"/60cm	4	6	4+	Anti-aircraft, Turntable.
M3 37mm gun	Light	24"/60cm	3	7	4+	Gun shield.
M1 57mm gun	Medium	24"/60cm	3	10	4+	Gun shield.
M1A1 75mm pack howitzer	Light	16"/40cm	2	6	3+	Smoke.
Firing bombardments		64"/160cm	-	3	6+	Smoke bombardment.
M2A1 105mm howitzer	Immobile	24"/60cm	1	9	2+	Breakthrough gun, Gun shield, Smoke.
Firing bombardments		72"/180cm	-	4	4+	Smoke bombardment.
M1 155mm howitzer	Immobile	24"/60cm	1	10	1+	Bunker buster, Gun shield, Smoke.
Firing bombardments		88"/220cm	-	5	2+	Smoke bombardment.

AIRCRAFT

Aircraft	Weapon	To Hit	Anti-tank	Firepower	Notes
P-47 Thunderbolt	MG	2+	6	5+	
	Bombs	4+	5	1+	
P-40 Warhawk	MG	2+	6	5+	
	Bombs	4+	5	2+	

