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Reorganization of the Regiment and Activation of Units.

1. The Hungarian light AAA regiment [] which was quartered in the Matyas Barracks at 81, Robert Károly Street, Budapest XIII, up to 9 November 1950, was reorganized at that time. The unit was separated into seven groups in the barracks yard. One group was left with the regiment. The second group formed the cadre for the light AAA regiment in Vfa (Q 48/II 65) [] in Abony (Q 48/O 28). The third group formed the cadre for a light AAA regiment Headquarters in Budapest []. The fifth group was transferred to the 38th AAA Div. The sixth group provided training personnel for a medium AAA regiment located in Toerley Castle in Budafok. The seventh group, which consisted of radio and telephone operators, was assigned to a medium AAA regiment located in Dunaföldvár (Y 6/W 35). (1) 25X1
2. The soldiers remaining with the regiment moved into an installation on the western perimeter of the city of Komárom (P 48/Y 75). [] In October 1950, the regiment, whose T/O had not been changed, was brought up to strength with recruits. In late September 1951, [] the regiment in the summer camp near Diósjenő (Q 48/II 57). The camp was located directly southwest of the town. It included a permanent building which was utilized as a kitchen. Permanent ammunition magazines also existed there. [] the regiment in Komárom was a cadre unit which provided personnel for activated units at the end of every training year. (1) 25X1
3. At the Artillery(Command) of the Ministry of National Defense source frequently observed soldiers of the regiment from Komárom. [] the mail of the regiment was taken directly to the Artillery (Command) of the Ministry of National Defense by a courier. Prior to the movement of the regiment to Komárom, soldiers of the unit were frequently ordered to report to the tank division headquarters in Esztergom (Q 48/Z 27). (1) 25X1
4. The regiment, which was equipped with light 37-mm AA guns, was organized into the regimental headquarters, the headquarters battery and the 1st and 2d Bn. The regimental headquarters had 10 to 20 officers and approximately more than 100 NCOs and EM. A number of the EM were detached to the motor transport platoon prior to its movement to Komárom. 25X1

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of the headquarters battery for quarters and administrative support. The headquarters battery consisted of the battery headquarters, radio platoon, telephone platoon, reconnaissance platoon and the motor transport platoon. The 1st and 2d Bns consisted of the battalion headquarters, signal platoon range-finder platoon and four AAA batteries. Each battery consisted of the battery headquarters, the radio squad and three sections. Each section included the section leader, a seven-man gun crew and one light 37-mm AA gun. At that time, each battery had one officer and about 35 EM. (2)

5. Up to August 1950, Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Komjáthy (fnu) was the regimental commander. In August 1950, he was suddenly discharged and later observed working as a common laborer. In November 1951, the commander of the 1st Battalion, Lieutenant Pál Szabó was the commanding officer of the regiment in Komárom, and held the rank of senior lieutenant. After the fall of 1951, the commander of the headquarters company, Lieutenant Endre Solt, was in the Ministry of National Defense. In early November 1951, the political officer of the regiment, Lieutenant Darnyi (fnu), was assigned to the political section of the 38th AAA Div. Senior Lieutenant Verocsei (fnu), head of the personnel section, was an administrative officer in the headquarters of the 38th AAA Div in November 1951. Lieutenant Petter (fnu), head of the supply section, remained with the regiment in Komárom.
6. In May 1950, members of the 1923 to 1928 classes, who had previously been deferred from induction, were inducted and assigned to the regiment. A small contingent of the regiment consisted of volunteers of the 1930 to 1932 classes. (3) In the late summer of 1950, the quality of food, which had been good earlier, deteriorated. Very little fat was distributed. The clothing was excellent. It was possible to exchange unserviceable garments at any time.
7. The weapons used at the regiment included Soviet model M-48 7.62-mm rifles, submachine guns, pistols and light AA guns. All rifles had been used and were manufactured between 1927 and 1945. The parts of the rifles were mixed. Almost no soldier had a rifle whose number was identical with that of the bolt mechanism. The submachine guns, which had magazine drums, were also Soviet made. They were used weapons, too. Pistols were issued to the officers and NCOs who did officers' duty. The light 37-mm AA guns were towed by three-axle ZIS trucks. Each gun crew included a gun leader, an elevation setter, an azimuth setter, an operator for the firing data regulator (lőelémállító), a gun loader, a feeder and two ammunition bearers. (4)
8. The regiment was sent to a summer camp near Diosgye. In 1950, an NCO school, the BEM artillery officers' school and AAA Unit [] were located there. 25X1 During a firing practice at tow targets the rudder assembly of the towing aircraft was damaged. The aircraft was flying at an altitude of about 1,200 meters. The tow target was approximately 1,000 meters from the rear of the plane. The results of the firings were rated poor. In October 1950, components of the regiment were detached to a tank brigade which had 20 to 25 tanks for AA defense. The brigade participated in maneuvers of a tank corps in the area north and west of the Lake of Balaton. [] these maneuvers were directed by Soviet Air Force Colonel Meresiev (fnu). During the war, this officer had lost both of his legs below the knees; however, he continued to fly. He walked with a cane and did not use crutches. During these maneuvers, the simulated enemy forces were represented by personnel of the infantry officer candidate school from Pécs (Y 5/B 22). After the end of the maneuvers, the regiment returned to its installation in Budapest by motor vehicle. Three radio squads were marched to Kiskunhalas (Y 6/N 70) to take part in another maneuver. These radio squads were detached to an infantry regiment which consisted of four battalions. The regiment did not have sufficient radio operators. Three radio squads of the air force were also detached to the regiment. At the climax of the maneuver an infantry corps was ordered to launch an attack on

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the enemy from the Kiskunhalas - Szeged (Y 7/T 17) line in a southwestern direction in order to force the aggressor beyond the border of the country. The attacking infantry regiment, to which the radio operators of the AAA unit were attached, was supported by a tank brigade of about 20 tanks and four of five SP guns. The T-34 tanks were towed to their assembly area. The SP guns were similar to Soviet model SU-76, but had tapering gun barrels without muzzle brakes and without visible recoil or counterrecoil mechanism. During the six-day maneuver no Soviet units were observed. However, six or seven Soviet officers were observed in the company of Colonel General Parkas (fnu).^{*} After the termination of the maneuver, the infantry regiment held a problem in river crossing on the Danube about 200 meters south of the railroad and vehicular bridge near Baja (Y 6/S 28). The regiment was ferried over in four pontoon waves by engineers. Each pontoon carried seven engineers and 16 to 18 infantrymen. During the problem, contact between the individual waves was broken and re-established only after great difficulties. According to officers, tanks, which allegedly reached the western bank of the Danube about 2 km too far to the south, were ferried after the infantry regiment. The entire problem was observed by high ranking Hungarian officers and civilians from the railroad and vehicular bridge near Baja. The first wave to cross the Danube included Polish, Czech and Rumanian officers. (5)

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Comments.

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- (1) [] it is inferred that an AAA division was activated in the fall of 1950. It is fairly definitely believed that this unit is the 38th AAA Div [] in Budapest. The four regiments subordinate to this division are believed to be located at Vac, Szekesfehervar, Dunafoldvar and Abony-Szolnok. The light AAA Regt [] which moved from Budapest to Komárom after the activation of the units, appears to be a cadre unit, which may be directly controlled by the Artillery Command of the Ministry of National Defense.
- (2) No battalion headquarters as those found in the light AAA Regt [] belong to Soviet AAA regiments. The number of eight batteries mentioned in the report is twice the number of batteries of a Soviet AAA regiment. The tactical organization of a battery into three sections each equipped with three guns appears to serve training purposes. Normally, a light AAA battery includes three two gun sections. If a battery is normally equipped with six guns, the number of men indicated in the present report (one officer and 35 men) would be increased by about 24 men thus making a total of approximately 60 soldiers. [] the authorized strength of a Soviet light AAA battery is 68 men. The regimental headquarters includes about 20 officers and 100 FM and approximates the size of the headquarters of the 38th AAA Div. If the strength figures are correct, it may be inferred that the light AAA Regt [] is utilized from special missions not undertaken by a standard AAA regiment.
- (3) Other reports indicated that members of older classes, subject to the draft but originally deferred from induction, were inducted for a short period of active service in 1950 and 1951.
- (4) Gun crews numbering one NCO and seven FM were mentioned in Soviet documents.
- (5) Southwest Hungary, which is the area between the lake of Balaton, the Danube and the Theiss Rivers, is preferred as a maneuver area. All maneuvers proceed in the direction of the Yugoslav border. []

* [] Comment. Col. Gen. Mihaly Parkas, Minister of Defense.

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