

TOPIC Hungarian Rifle Division in Veszprem 25X1

INTELLIFAX 25

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REMARKS 25X1

General.

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1. The headquarters of the rifle division [ ] was located in Veszprem (P 48/D 78) until 17 May 1951. The true designation of the division was not known. (1) In October 1950, the headquarters of the division moved into the installations of the former Danuvia armaments factory which had been enlarged by two new buildings and were located about 4.5 km south of Veszprem in the woods on the west side of the road to Foclsocoers (P 48/D 77). The intelligence section of the division headquarters was located in a private villa at 4 József Atilla Street in Veszprem. The division was subordinate to an army corps in Székesfehérvár (1 48/200).

Organization.

2. [ ] 3 rifle regiments, 1 artillery regiment, 1 tank battalion, 1 engineer battalion, 1 signal battalion, 1 AT artillery battalion, 1 AAA battalion and 1 reconnaissance company were subordinate to the division. (2)
3. [ ] [ ]  
[ ] The headquarters was organized into the operations staff and the supply staff. The operations staff consisted of the commander, the adjutant, the political officer, the chief-of-staff, the counter intelligence officer, the artillery commander with another officer and an ordnance officer, the engineer staff officer, the signal officer with a radio officer and a signal equipment officer, an officer for chemical warfare, the division armorer artificer, an athletic officer and clerical personnel. The artillery commander, the engineer commander, the signal commander and the tank commander, who was not yet appointed, were also collectively called commanders of the arms or in Hungarian "fegyvernemi parancsnokok".

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4. The tactical group included: the political section, it was subordinate directly to the political officer of the division and consisted of 1 officer and 6 detached officers; the operational section had a chief who was subordinate directly to the chief-of-staff and simultaneously served as deputy chief-of-staff, 2 assigned officers and 1 officer in charge of maps; the training section had a chief and a number of assigned officers; the counter-intelligence section had the designation "E-osztaly", the letter E standing for "elhárító" meaning counter-intelligence, was subordinate directly to the counter-intelligence officer of the division and had a chief and 11 officers who had to be Party members and had a regular army officer's identification card in a cover name and an AWI identification card in true name, and other personnel; the personnel section with a chief, 2 assigned officers with NCOs and civilian personnel; the personnel section for NCOs and EI with 1 officer as chief and 1 NCO; the classified material section with an officer as chief, 2 NCOs and 2 typists; an office, which was referred to as an auxiliary office and was staffed with 1 NCO as chief and clerks to handle all non classified correspondence; the deciphering section with 2 officers; the radio section with a female NCO as leader and 2 other female NCOs; the teletype office with 4 female NCOs; a switchboard with male telephone operators; the headquarters platoon with an officer as platoon leader, 3 groups each of 8 soldiers each armed with one light machine gun, and 5 drivers who were called commanding officer's drivers; the artillery headquarters platoon with only a platoon leader, a signal officer, a master sergeant and drivers being known, which was equipped with an R/7 radio set mounted on a weapons carrier; the editing office of the division newspaper with a print office which had military and civilian personnel and edited the Voeröcs Csillag (Red Star) weekly which discussed events pertaining to the division, carried propaganda articles and was not to be passed on to the civilian population; and the division band with a bandmaster and about 30 musicians. (3)
5. The supply group was staffed with the commanding officer who had a driver and a clerk and consisted of the organizational and planning section, the chief of which was simultaneously deputy to the supply officer; the ration supply section with a chief, 1 administrative NCO, 4 cooks, an undetermined number of clerks and civilian employees, including one in charge of the officers' club; the clothing section with a chief, 1 person in charge of the clothing room and auxiliary personnel; the finance section with one chief, 1 audit officer and 1 assigned NCO; the motor transport section with one chief, 1 fuel officer, 1 administrator of the fuel depot, and technical personnel of a motor repair shop, including civilian employees; the transportation company which was organized into 2 motorized groups, each with 7 or 8 trucks, a horse-drawn column of between 10 and 12 horse-drawn vehicles and a forge; the medical section having a chief to which the medical company with a physician as company commander, 4 medical NCOs and about 30 medical personnel were subordinate; and the veterinary section which included 2 veterinary officers. There also was a division hospital which was being activated in May 1951. (3)
6. The three rifle regiments of the division were located in the former NCO school in Jutas (P 48/D 68), north of Veszprém. The installations had been enlarged, and construction work was still in progress in the spring of 1951. [redacted] a Soviet unit had long been stationed in this barracks installation. Two rifle regiments [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] The artillery regiment was stationed in the barracks installation of the rifle regiments. [redacted] motorized 76-mm guns with this unit. (1) The tank battalion was located in a barracks installation on the northeast edge of Polgárdi (P 48/E 08) on the northwest side of the road to Szekesfehérvár. [redacted] four tanks and three SP guns [redacted] later identified on photographs as T-34/35s and SU-76s. (2) The engineer battalion was also referred to as a technical battalion was located in the barracks

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installation in Komárom (P 48/Y 75). The AT battalion was in a barracks installation in Veszprém and was equipped with 76-mm-guns; [ ] no more than between 6 and 8 guns of this type. The AAA battalion in Veszprém was being activated in early May 1951. Guns were available at that date. The reconnaissance company was located in the Danuvia armaments factory. It had a total strength of between 40 and 50 soldiers armed with submachine guns. The unit had 10 weapon carriers and two Csepel trucks. The signal battalion was also stationed in the Danuvia factory. [ ] a light and a heavy telephone company and a radio company. The battalion was equipped with a GAZ sedan as motor vehicle of the commanding officer, 4 or 5 weapon carriers, 2 weapon carriers as radio cars, 1 radio car of Bába type and 2 radio cars of GEC type and 4 GEC trucks.

7. In the spring of 1951, the division commander said in a conversation with the chief-of-staff that this division was the best in the corps. He expressed hopes that the division hitherto organized on the "B" pattern would be reorganized into a division of "A" pattern. [ ]

[ ] a unit of "A" pattern was fully equipped for an emergency with regard to personnel, armament and equipment.

Officers.

3. Officers of the division headquarters included:

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<u>Rank and Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Lt Col Ferenc Páncs	Commanding officer of the division
Capt László Papp	Political officer
Sr Lt Varga (fnu)	Chief of the political section
Sr Lt Selenci (fnu)	)
Lt Pintér (fnu)	) Assistants of
Lt Jászka (fnu)	) Sr Lt Varga
Lt Mészai (fnu)	) (fnu)
Jr Lt Szabó (fnu)	)
Capt Lajos Pócs	Chief-of-Staff
Sr Lt Ferenc Papp	Chief of the operational section
Lt Tóth (fnu)	) Assistants of
Lt Tajti (fnu)	) the operational
	) section
Maj Péterfalvy (fnu)	Chief of the training section

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25X1 7. In the spring of 1951, the division commander said in a conversation with the chief-of-staff that this division was the best in the corps. He expressed hopes that the division hitherto organized on the "B" pattern would be reorganized into a division of "A" pattern. a unit of "A" pattern was fully equipped for an emergency with regard to personnel, armament and equipment.

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Sr Lt Varga (fnu)	Chief of the political section
Sr Lt Selmei (fnu)	)
Lt Pintor (fnu)	) Assistants of
Lt Jaszka (fnu)	) Sr Lt Varga
Lt Herai (fnu)	) (fnu)
Jr Lt Szabó (fnu)	)
Capt Lajos Pejes	Chief-of-Staff
Sr Lt Ferenc Papp	Chief of the operational section
Lt Tóth (fnu)	) Assistants of
Lt Tajti (fnu)	) the operational
Maj Péterfalvy (fnu)	) section
	Chief of the training section

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<u>Rank and Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Sr Lt Oetvoes (fnu)	Chief of the counter-intelligence section.	
Sr Lt Gyura (fnu)	) Assistants of ) Sr Lt Oetvoes ) (fnu) )	
Lt Szekely (fnu)		
Jr Lt Steiner (fnu)		
Maj Paar (fnu)	Artillery commander	
Capt Varga (fnu)	Engineer officer	
Sr Lt Horvath (fnu)	Signal officer	
Jr Lt Szili (fnu)	Signal equipment officer	
Sr Lt Cipszer (fnu)	Chief of the personnel section	
Lt Karoly Feher	Officer in charge of classified material	
Jr Lt Miklos Molnar	Chief of the division headquarters platoon	
Jr Lt Laszlo Dreier	Encoding officer	
Lt Lajos Petoofi	Sport officer	
Sr Lt Csengyel (fnu)	Editor of the division newspaper	25X1
Capt Laszlo Koronc	Supply commander	
Capt Meszaros (fnu)	Chief of the planning and organizational section	
Jr Lt Nandor Kiss	Chief of the clothing section	
Sr Lt Toth (fnu)	Chief of the ration supply section	
Maj Balog (fnu)	Chief of the finance section	
Lt Barta (fnu)	Audit officer of the division	
Jr Lt Balaton (fnu)	Audit officer of the division	
Jr Lt Istvan Farago	Motor transport officer	
Jr Lt Jozsef Garai	Chief of the motor transport company	
Sr Lt (Med) Dr Tibi (fnu)	Chief of the medical section	
Sr Lt (Med) Dr Irre Vladar	Chief of the medical company	

9. Officers of troop units of the division included: Major Rudolf (fnu), commanding officer of the rifle regiment [redacted] regular officer with the old Hungarian army, Major Moll (fnu), commanding officer of a rifle regiment, about [redacted] who was transferred in May 1951; Captain Kovacs (fnu), commander of a rifle regiment, [redacted] Senior Lieutenant Nagy (fnu), commanding officer of the signal battalion, Senior Lieutenant Sitko (fnu), commanding officer of the AT battalion, [redacted] Junior Lieutenant Kuerti (fnu), commanding officer of the reconnaissance company.

Date Pertaining to Personnel.

10. In late October 1950, the division was filled up with recruits. About 400 recruits of the 1929 and 1930 classes from the Heves, Borsod and Nograd komitatus were inducted into the signal battalion. About 150 reservists, including numerous acting corporals and sergeants who had served with the old Hungarian army and came from all regions of the country were inducted into the signal battalion in January 1951. The soldiers retained the ranks they had with the old Hungarian army. In late March 1951, between 1,000 and 1,500 soldiers of the 1924 through 1928 classes were assigned to the rifle regiments and the artillery regiment for retraining. The old personnel of the division headquarters were in a depressed mood as they were waiting for their discharge. AWOL was a frequent occurrence. Most of these soldiers went home because they were denied furlough.

Armament and Equipment.

11. Small arms and light machine guns of M-48 type were in use with the division headquarters. Pistols had the inscription Magyar fegyver es gepgyar (Hungarian Armaments and Machine Factory) on the left side. A small number of pistols had the inscription Gepgyar Budapest (Budapest Machine Factory). The other small arms had the same inscriptions as the pistols and showed the emblem of the Hungarian republic. The rifles were completely new and had leather rifle slings instead of the linen slings in use with Soviet rifles. The carbines had a folding bayonet which could not be removed.
12. [redacted] Pobjeda sedan [redacted] for the division commander, Pobjeda sedan [redacted] for the political officer, Pobjeda sedan [redacted] for the counterintelligence officer, cross-country Skoda Sedan [redacted] for the chief-of-staff, GAZ sedan [redacted] for the artillery commander, GAZ sedan [redacted] for the supply commander, GAZ sedan [redacted] detached to the cartographic institute in Budapest, GAZ sedan [redacted] GAZ sedan [redacted] used by the counterintelligence section. Weapons carriers [redacted] used for transportation; GAZ sedan [redacted] for the commanding officer of the signal battalion and 2 ambulances of Ford type [redacted]

Training.

13. The training of recruits in the division started in early November 1950. A three-day practice march was conducted in the Bakony Mts in the spring of 1951. The summer practices began in April 1951. The division headquarters moved to a summer camp near Pénzeskut (P 48/D 59). A rifle regiment moved into quarters in Band (P 48/D 68). The engineer battalion moved to a summer camp near the Kisbocák (P 48/Y 26) community. In early February 1951, the division headquarters, the regimental headquarters and the signal battalion conducted a command-post exercise in the area around Szekszard (Y 5/D 66). The exercise was directed by the chief-of-staff of the division and was inspected by Major General Hazi (fnu).

Following this command-post exercise the same parts of the division took part in a five-day command-post exercise of the corps in the Nagykanizsa area (Y 4/A 26). This exercise which was directed by Major General Hazi (fnu) involved all the division headquarters and the signal battalion. Major General Hazi (fnu) was accompanied by a Soviet officer. The division commanders, the chiefs of the headquarters and the political officers of the corps had to go through three days of training every month with the corps headquarters in Szekesfehervar. [redacted] courses of instruction conducted by the division during the period from October 1950 to mid-May 1951 included a two-month driver training course for between 50 and 60 students, an NCO course in Varpalota (P 48/D 59) and a course of several weeks for clerical NCOs at the corps headquarters in Szekesfehervar.

#### Miscellaneous.

14. The monthly payment without allowances were 60 forints for a private, 66 forints for a private first class, 72 forints for a corporal, 78 forints for a staff corporal, 132 forints for a sergeant. This payment was considerably increased by extras which, for example, brought the payment of a sergeant of the political section to 900 forints. The daily ration allowance was 6 forints. Food was good and ample. Sergeants and officers had dinner in one messhall and paid 7.20 forints per day. Their food was better but less ample than that issued to the troops. Clothing was good, additional winter clothing was issued only to drivers who drove open vehicles. Most of the officers, NCOs and EM of the division headquarters wore green service color. A number of the soldiers wore the service color of their branch of service.

#### Comments.

- (1) An infantry regiment [redacted] was in Camp Lokut (P 48/D 69) for training in the spring of 1951, was subordinate to a division headquarters in Veszprem. [redacted] The information confirms the division headquarters in Veszprem.
- (2) This information confirms and supplements previous information on the organization of an infantry division and also confirms the mixed composition of the independent tank battalion which consists of tanks and SP guns.
- (3) This detailed information helps to form picture of the organization and strength of a Hungarian division headquarters.
- (4) [redacted] The information confirms that [redacted] was occupied by infantry and artillery units.

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Annex



Danuvia Armament Factory, about 4.5 km south of Veszprem.

Legend:

- 1 One-story building, guardhouse.
- 2 One-story building, containing rooms for the officer and the sergeant on duty and visitors.
- 3 One-story temporary building.
- 4 Two-story building, containing rooms for the political officer on the first floor and quartering the commanding officer of the division and the operations section on the second floor.
- 5 One-story building containing the mess hall.
- 6 Low brick structure, not used.
- 7 One-story assembly shop, about 20 meters high and 100 meters long, partitioned by walls into four sections, housing the headquarters platoon, personnel of the reconnaissance company and part of the signal battalion.
- 7a Two-story building housing the chief-of-staff, the artillery commander, the subsidiary office, the finance section and the supply detachment on the second floor.
- 8 Two-story building containing a lecture room, library and dispensary, on the first floor, the training section, the personnel section, the teletype section, the signal commander and the section for restricted material on the second floor.
- 9 One-story garage for six motor vehicles.
- 10 Small brick building, housing the switchboard.
- 11 One-story building, housing the transformers.
- 12 One-story building, not used.
- 13 and
- 13a Very large shop used as garage for about 80 trucks, occupied by about 40 trucks.
- 14 One-story building housing the headquarters of the signal battalion, orderly room of the reconnaissance company and office of armorer artificer.
- 15 One-story building quartering personnel.
- 16 One-story building quartering personnel of the signal battalion.
- 17 Stables.
- 18 Stables.
- 19 One-story building quartering personnel.
- 20 One-story building housing a motor repair shop.
- 21 One-story building housing a motor repair shop.

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Annex

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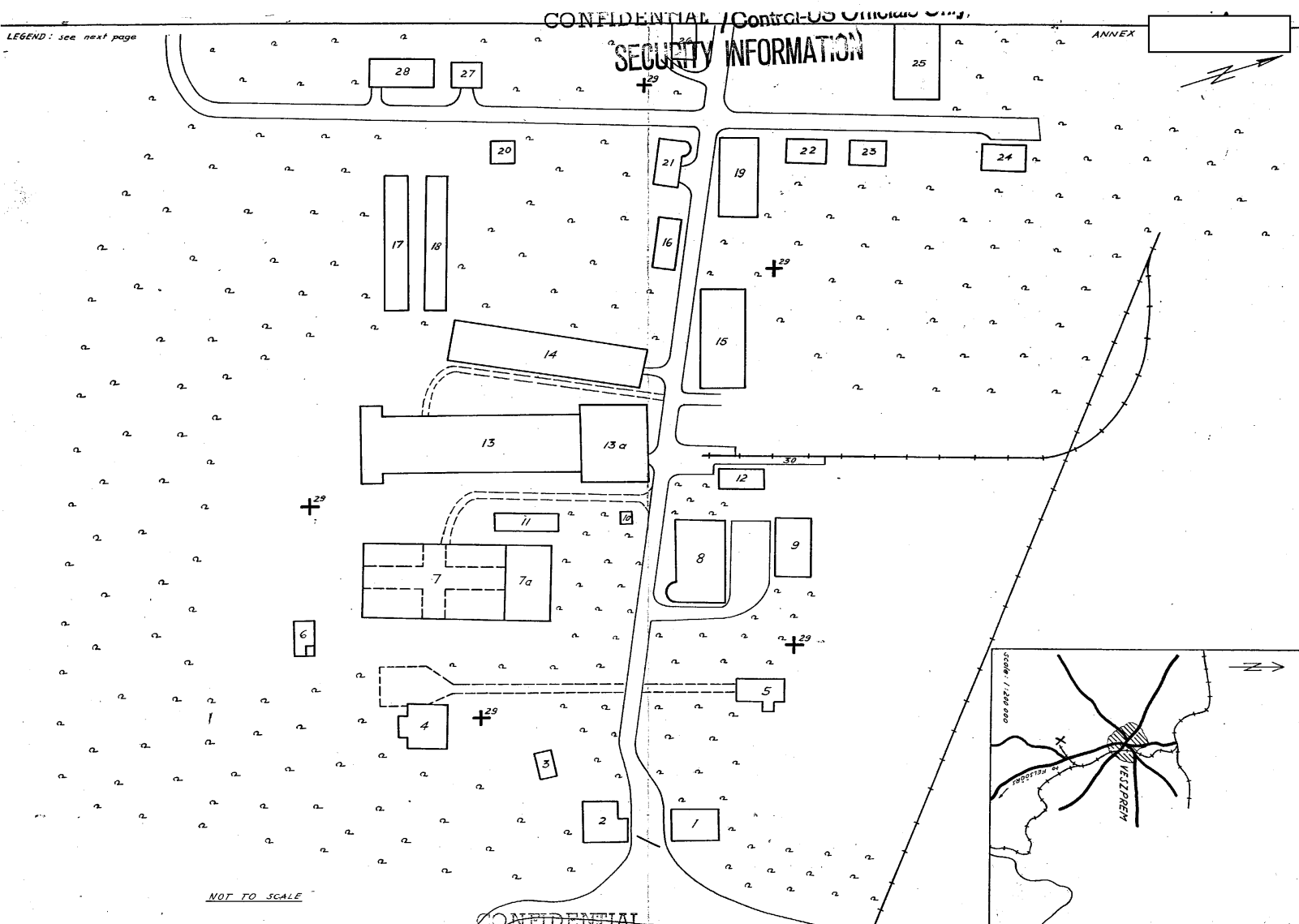
- 22 One-story building housing an instruction room.
- 23 One-story building housing a printing office.
- 24 One-story building housing a fuel depot.
- 25 One-story building housing personnel.
- 26 One-story building housing the ration supply depot of the division.
- 27 and
- 28 One-story buildings, housing depots of the division.
- 29 Entrances to air raid shelters.
- 30 Concrete loading ramp, about 100 meters long.

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<sup>2</sup> SECURITY <sup>26</sup> INFORMATION

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LEGEND: see next page



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