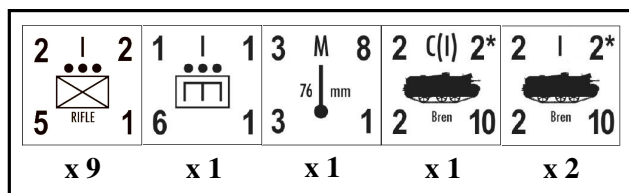


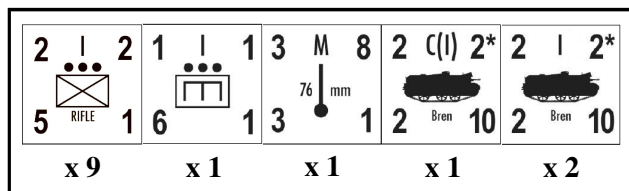
Polish Independent Carpathian Rifle Brigade

November 17, 1941

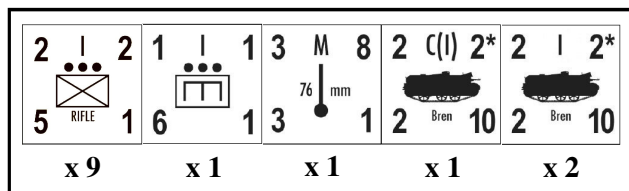
I
Carpathian
Rifle
Battalion



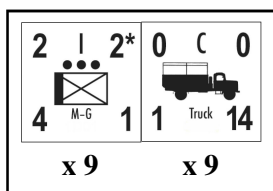
II
Carpathian
Rifle
Battalion



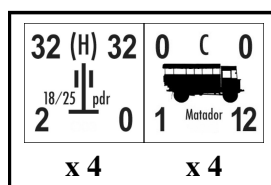
III
Carpathian
Rifle
Battalion



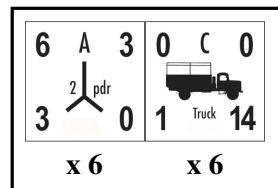
Carpathian
Machine
Gun
Battalion



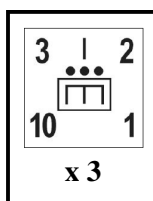
Carpathian
Field
Artillery
Regiment



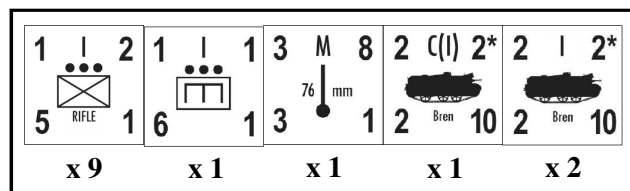
Carpathian
Anti-Tank
Regiment



Engineer
Company



11th
Czech Infantry
Battalion
(attached)



Poorly
trained

The brigade was also supposed to include a cavalry recon regiment but they had neither horses nor vehicles. The men were probably merged into the rifle battalions.

The Carpathian brigade was originally formed in April, 1940 in French Syria and was composed of Poles exiled from their country after its fall. The brigade was organized and trained as a French mountain brigade. After the fall of France, the soldiers of the brigade were kicked out of what was now Vichy French territory and fled to British Palestine, where they joined the British. There the brigade was equipped with British weapons and trained and organized as a British motorized infantry brigade. As Poland was still technically at peace with Italy, they could not be moved to the North African front yet to fight the Italians and mostly performed garrison duty in Alexandria and other places. They were finally moved to the front for a month and then to Tobruk, arriving there in August of 1941 to become part of the garrison. The brigade took part in the breakout from Tobruk as part of Operation Crusader and continued to fight the Axis forces as the Allies chased Rommel back to his starting point.