

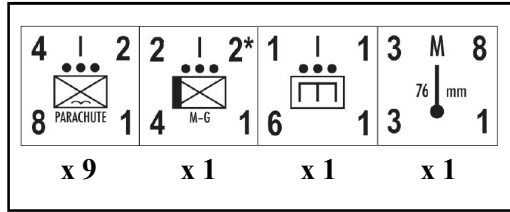


Polish 1st Airborne Brigade

September, 1944

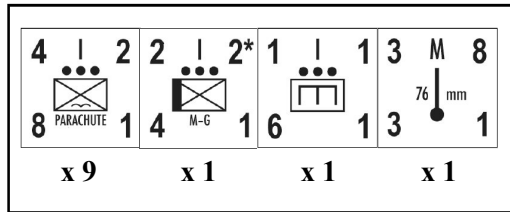
1st
Parachute
Brigade

1st
Parachute
Battalion



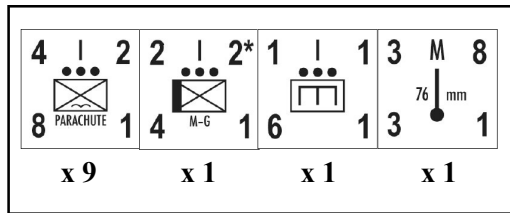
Due to communication problems, this battalion (and part of 3rd Battalion) were not dropped east of Driel on day 5 with the others. Instead, they were dropped on day 7 at Grave (in the 82nd Airborne landing zone).

2nd
Parachute
Battalion



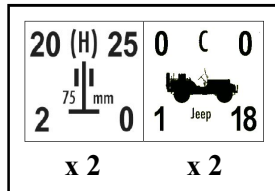
Arrived by parachute east of Driel on day 5.

3rd
Parachute
Battalion



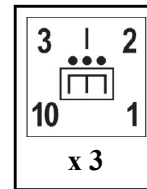
Most of this battalion arrived by parachute east of Driel on day 5.

Airlanding
Light
Artillery
Regiment



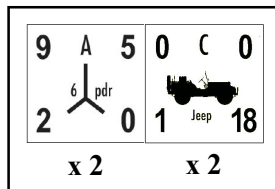
Left behind in England due to a lack of gliders.

Parachute
Engineer
Company



Arrived by parachute east of Driel on day 5.

Airlanding
Anti-Tank
Battery



Deployed by glider into the British landing zone north of the river on day 2. Fought at Oosterbeek with the British.

Most of the brigade was scheduled to be dropped on day 3, but weather conditions prevented the impatient Poles from arriving until day 5. The original plan was to parachute them in just southwest of the bridge at Arnhem on the south side of the river in an area not considered for the 1st Airborne landings as it was unsuited to glider landings. By the time they were finally able to be deployed, control of the bridge was a lost cause and they were instead dropped further west, just across the river from the 1st Airborne pocket at Oosterbeek, in hopes of being able to support the beleaguered Brits. After capturing nearby Driel, a few Poles were sent across the river in small boats to reinforce the British Airborne forces there, but it was a matter of too little, too late. The Poles were also hard pressed by German attacks from the east and suffered greatly from not having their anti-tank battery and their artillery. After the evacuation of the 1st Airborne, the hard luck Poles were forced to travel by foot back to Nijmegen as no transport was provided for them.