

## **GERMANY**

### **THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (1949 - 1989)**

#### **"A POST-MORTEM"**

"...(T)he creation of the armed forces of the GDR was the expression of a progressive military policy in harmony with the interests of the entire German nation, whereas the militaristic policy of setting up a West German army of revenge was reactionary and anti-national in character."

These words were spoken during a communist party conference in the "German Democratic Republic" (GDR), in June 1952. They laid down the first ideological basis for the creation of the East German Army. The history, organization, and equipment of this large and powerful force has not been given its own chapter in these pages because it is my considered opinion that the extant information available on the East German Army is principally a tissue of lies, based on a firm foundation of lies. The spurious nature of this state's history is clearly illustrated by the date given for the foundation of its army. For forty-five years, otherwise diligent historians have generally accepted that the East German "Nationale Volksarmee" (NVA) was founded on January 18th, 1956.

This "official" date is important because it has been offered as evidence that the formation of a military establishment in East Germany was a spontaneous and natural reaction to the founding of the West German "Bundeswehr" on November 11, 1955. A cursory examination of easily verifiable facts tells a completely different story. By 1953, the GDR "Ministry of Defense" had seven divisions at its disposal; organized, trained, and ready for action, in what was officially labeled the "Kasernierte Volkspolizei" (KVP). The loyalty of these units to their Soviet masters proved disappointingly weak during the "riots" which took place in various East German cities that same year. These riots were really an uprising over crippling war-reparations payments. And, like the Hungarian uprising in the fifties and the Czech uprising in the sixties, these were expressions of desperation and had no real chance of success. Large numbers of KVP troops were brought in, but refused to fire on their fellow countrymen, forcing a callout of Soviet occupation troops to restore order. This disciplinary failure resulted in a "purge" in which 12,000 KVP officials and soldiers were arrested. Many were executed and thousands were imprisoned. The ruinous reparations payments came to an end in 1954, and by 1955, a "New" KVP, under much closer Soviet supervision, held its first multi-division maneuvers, three months before it was founded, and one month before the very first "Bundeswehr" soldier was sworn in. Thus, the mold was set for GDR-Soviet relations over the next thirty-four years.

To truly understand the nature of the GDR and its relations with the Soviet Union, it is necessary to see them from a point of view common to a considerably earlier era. The Soviet "Bloc" was run in much the same way as an eighteenth-century European colonial empire. The GDR filled the role, more completely than any other European state in post-medieval history, of a colony within this empire. Its resources were exploited for the benefit of the "Mother" country. Its land provided valuable foodstuffs and a military buffer against any foreign invasion of her. Its economy provided a convenient dumping ground for her manufactured goods, for which it paid in "hard" Western currency. In short, the GDR filled the role of any eighteenth century African or Asian colony of the Dutch, French, or British Empires. Lastly, it was the job of the East Germans to provide obedient manpower for the express purposes of the Soviet Union, whatever they might be.

To perpetuate this relationship, the Soviet Union saddled the GDR with an occupation force larger than that in any other "Warsaw Pact" state. The cost of operating this occupation force was a crippling financial burden on the GDR for more than a generation. This was only part a deliberate Soviet program aimed at bleeding the GDR of every drop of its economic life-blood. In fact, a critical issue facing the EEU after the collapse of the "Berlin Wall" was its concern over what effect the grafting of this used-up economic cadaver would be on the West German "body politic".

The first result of this modern "Anschluss" was an astronomical drain on the financial stability of prosperous West Germany. During the first seven years after reunification, this drain was to exceed DM 700 billion. One of the primary agents of this financial debacle was the West German government itself. In its euphoria over reunification, it had been rash enough to exchange all of East Germany's "East" Marks for "West" Marks at a one-to-one exchange rate, when a rate of four-to-one would have been generous. The exchange was barely complete before it was discovered that the GDR's unpaid debt came to a staggering figure of more than DM 400 billion (West). This shortsighted act very nearly became one of national economic suicide!

Militarily, the East German "Peoples Army" served as a convenient place to send obsolescent Soviet weapons and equipment, for which the Germans were required to pay in either "hard" currency or scarce commodities, and its training and tactics reflected contemporary Soviet doctrine without deviation. NVA tables of organization and equipment may therefore be viewed as "carbon copies" of contemporary Soviet examples as well, equipped to somewhat less than state-of-the-art standards. Unification meant that this huge arsenal was now the property of a state that neither needed nor wanted it. Long standing poverty in the GDR combined with endemic bureaucratic incompetence and outright theft meant that much of this arsenal was useless anyway.

In summation, the German Democratic Republic was ruled by the most colorless cabal of sycophantic "toadies" since Marshall Petain erected the collaborationist "Vichy" regime on the prostrate corpse of 1940 France. It failed from the very beginning to provide for the economic welfare of its people and failed to represent either their cultural or political aspirations. In fact, the sole reason for its existence was the prosperity and ongoing survival of the Soviet Union. It failed to accomplish even this.

### **THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

In 1945 the victorious Allies divided the Third Reich and its capital, Berlin, into four zones of occupation. Inflexibility on the part of the Soviet Union concerning the reunification of these zones led the United States, Britain, and France to consolidate their areas of occupation into the "Federal Republic of Germany" (FRG) in 1949. The former German capital, Berlin, remained administratively divided into Soviet and Western sectors even though the city lay within the territory of East Germany. From the very beginning, the United States actively promoted the economic recovery of West Germany in order for that nation to serve as a bulwark against further expansion of the Soviet empire into western Europe. The most difficult aspect of the NATO effort to rearm Germany was the deep distrust of its neighbors. Josef Strauss, an early member of the Bundestag, articulated the problem with perfect clarity and succinctness. "The Bundeswehr is supposed to be strong enough to hold back the Russians but not so strong as to frighten the Belgians." Sir John Hackett provided an answer to the problem. "The real value of NATO is that it provides a means whereby West German defense requirements can be met in a system not dominated by the Germans."

West Germany's economic recovery proved miraculously swift and was complemented by the emergence of a stable parliamentary democracy. In 1955 the Federal Republic of Germany became a sovereign state and a full member of the "North Atlantic Treaty Organization" (NATO), but it had no army. At the moment of its founding in November 1955, the German Army (Bundeswehr) had no facilities of any kind, no armaments industry, no logistics system, and no training schools. It had nothing, as a matter of fact, except an embryonic staff, and ability. By the end of 1956, in spite of public hostility, 265,000 West Germans volunteered to satisfy an intake requirement of 70,000. The great majority of these were Wehrmacht veterans. It was an understandable matter of serious concern that those associated with certain groups be excluded from the Bundeswehr. Committees were established to screen out undesirables. These included "SS" colonels and generals, "SS" camp guards, Gestapo, wanted felons, communists or their supporters, and members of the reactionary veterans group "Stahlhelm".

At this time, when bad decisions or muddled judgement could have led to certain disaster, Germany was blessed with the services of a man of great personal integrity, intelligence, and considerable courage; former General der Panzertruppe Frido von Senger und Etterlin. This man had a superb record as a tank general during the war, as well as a reputation for outspoken anti-Nazism and Christian chivalry. He demanded as high a moral standard for those under him as he did for himself. When he died in 1963, a colleague described him in these words, "...He was never reticent about his opinions and gave them to the committee unembellished...it was one of the reasons he was not exactly adored by everybody on the Board." Von Senger was an obstinate "Junker" of an earlier era, whose values reflected a living military tradition almost extinguished by the horrors of the twentieth century and the ravages of the Nazi regime. He was the moral bedrock upon which the Bundeswehr was founded.

Germany's first post-war chancellor, Conrad Adenauer, had promised NATO that Germany would field twelve divisions by 1959. This task proved impossible, but eight were operating by the end of that year. By 1965, all twelve had been raised, which was an enormous accomplishment. The original proposition had been to equip all twelve as Panzer divisions, the better to survive a "nuclear" battlefield, but the U.S. suggested that this be modified to provide for a more balanced force consistent with overall NATO requirements. Therefore, the first seven divisions consisted of two Panzer, three infantry, one mountain, and one airborne type. Between 1958 and 1965 the Bundeswehr made changes in its organization (some drastic) until it achieved the structure it was to maintain throughout the remainder of the "Cold War". The infantry divisions became mechanized divisions (Panzer Grenadier) and when the twelfth division arrived, the Bundeswehr contained three Panzer and seven Panzer Grenadier divisions as well as the original mountain (Gebirgs) and Airborne (Luftlande) divisions.

Equipping this army was another proposition entirely. WWII had wiped out the German arms industry and Germany's allies would have to shoulder the burden of supplying it with arms and equipment until such time as its own industries could be rebuilt. By 1961, U.S. Military assistance alone came to \$900 Million. Filling the manpower requirements of the Bundeswehr proved difficult as well. The first flush of Wehrmacht veterans was followed by a generation to whom war and the military were anathema. The expression "ohne mich!" (without me) became common and even the wearing of a uniform in public was an invitation to abuse. The government was forced to resort to conscription in 1956. This resulted in strong political resistance, but it solved the manpower problem.

In 1967, West Germany decided to seek détente with the Communist Bloc and exchanged ambassadors with the Soviet Union. Willy Brandt, the current German chancellor, signed treaties with Poland and the Soviet Union in 1970, confirming existing frontiers and pledging the renunciation of force as a means of achieving political ends. In 1973, the FRG was admitted to the United Nations in a compromise that required the GDR to be admitted as well.

By the 1970's, the Bundeswehr was in its second decade, and was forced to deal with the "radical-chic" socialism, iconoclastic cynicism, and strong anti-military sentiments characteristic of that period. In spite of this, it emerged as one of the most sophisticated and well armed in all of Europe. Conscription had solved the basic manpower problem, but modern warfare was no longer about "mass". It was now about the intelligent application of firepower. The key to success in any truly "High Tech" military establishment was now the ability to retain quality NCO's and junior officers to provide small unit leaders and technical specialists.

At the same time, the German economy was growing at such a rate that there emerged a critical shortage of competent "middle" managers possessing precisely the same sort of talents characteristic of competent military leaders. Industry, however, is not hamstrung by the financial restrictions forced upon military institutions. Increased demand was met by increased wages and benefits that the army could not match. In addition, the birth rate in Germany fell dramatically in the same period to the point where, by the mid-1980's, it had fallen below the replacement rate. Germany's population was shrinking! The Bundeswehr reacted by increasing the term of conscript service to three years. This solved the shortage of "privates" but not that of NCO's. It required the collapse of the Soviet Union, the end of the "Cold War", and reunification to create the necessary paradigm shift in German military requirements and priorities to make this problem moot.

An extraordinary chain of events was set in motion in the Soviet Union in 1985, with the advent of "Perestroika" (restructuring) and the rise to power of Mikhail Gorbachev. Political upheavals swept Eastern Europe and Soviet influence in East Germany rapidly waned. The East German people overthrew the communist regime in late 1989 in a bloodless revolution. A strong desire for unification among both East and West Germans soon became evident and was confirmed by general elections. Germany opened negotiations with NATO on this subject soon afterward. These culminated in formal reunification on October 3rd, 1990. The now united German government combined its efforts with those of private industry in a major modernization program, attempting to improve eastern Germany's hopelessly out of date industrial plant and raise its standard of living. Since reunification, this program, and the process of absorbing the former GDR armed forces has been the first priority for the unified Federal Republic, but German military resolve has held firm and its dedication to shouldering the responsibilities of international peacekeeping has not flagged.

The Bundeswehr became an active NATO "peacekeeper" in October 1995 when Germany decided to deploy combat troops outside its own territory for the first time since WWII by participating in the "IFOR" mission to Croatia. It also gave limited support to the intervention in Bosnia in December of that year. In this operation, thirteen hundred of the personnel formed part of the "Franco-German" brigade based in Rajlovac in the southern suburbs of Sarajevo. These, combined with other German troops, including a field hospital, brought the German commitment in Bosnia to 2,300 by mid-2001.

In March 1997, in Tirania (Albania), a dismounted German panzergrenadier platoon in five CH-53G Helicopters extracted one hundred twenty endangered civilians in a bold and delicate rescue operation. This was followed in June 1999 by 5,500 Germans joining other NATO contingents as part of "KFOR" operating in Kosovo. The German contingent was primarily composed of the "12th Armored Brigade", which included a "Leopard 2" battalion, armored infantry, recon, and light infantry units. This force was centered on the town

of Prizren. As the operation progressed, the Germans took command of the Multi-National Brigade which included Austrian, Dutch, Russian, and Turkish contingents. Germany is rapidly becoming a premier military presence in the new Europe.

### FOREIGN WEAPONS

120mm Brandt Mortar - FR; 81mm M27, 90mm M67 RcR, 155mm M114A1, 155mm M44, 155mm M109, 175mm M107, 203mm M110, M41 Walker, M42 Duster, M47, M48A2, "Redeye" SAM - US

### TABLES OF ORGANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT

#### WERMACHT PANZER DIVISION: 1946

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 25, Class: Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Motorized Company:	3xTL1 Infantry(A)/Truck, 1xTL1 Infantry Support(A)/Truck, 1x8cm GrW34 Mortar(1)/Truck
Motorized Support Company:	1x75mm PAK40/Truck, 1x120mm GrW42 Mortar(2)/Truck, 1xSdKfz7/37mm Flak
Grenadier Company:	3xTL1 Infantry(A)/SdKfz251, 1xSdKfz/9, 1xSdKfz251/2(1), 1xTL1 Infantry Support(A)/SdKfz251
Armored Support Company:	1xSdKfz251/22, 1xSdKfz251/9, 1xSdKfz251/21, 1xTL1 Engineer Infantry(A)/SdKfz251
Panzer Company:	4xTank
Motorized Battalion:	1xTL1 Infantry(A) HQ/Truck, 3xMotorized Company, 1xMotorized Support Company
Grenadier Battalion:	1xTL1 Infantry(A) HQ/SdKfz251, 3xGrenadier Company, 1xArmored Support Company
Panzer Battalion:	1xTank(HQ), 4xPanzer Company, 1xTank[R], 1xFlakPanzer
Artillery Battalion:	2x105mm "Wespe"(3), 1x150mm "Hummel"(3)

Motorized Regiment:	1xTL1 Infantry(A) HQ/Truck, 2xMotorized Battalion, 1xslG33/Pz38t "Bison", 1xKubelwagon[R]
Panzer Brigade:	1xTL1 Infantry(A) GHQ/SdKfz251, 1xPanzer Battalion, 1xGrenadier Battalion
Available Support Units:	(One or more of these units, or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.)
Engineer Company:	3xTL1 Engineer Infantry/SdKfz251, 1xSdKfz251/2(2)
Recon Company:	6xSdKfz 140
Recon Company:	4xSdKfz 234/1, 1xSdKfz 234/4
Anti-Tank Company:	3x75mm PAK 40/Truck
Heavy Panzer Company:	3xPz V "Panther II" or Pz VIB "Tiger II" or 1x"Maus" or 1xE-100
Flak Company:	2x88mm Flak 36/SdKfz 7, 2xFlakpanzer

**Notes:** 1) Available "Tanks" include: StuG IIIG, Pz IVG, Pz V "Panther", Pz V "Panther II", JagdPanther V, and JPz 38t "Hetzer".  
2) Available "FlakPanzers" include FlakPanther "Coelion", "Wirblewind", and "Kugelblitz".  
3) The "planned" 1946 Panzer Division consisted of 1xPanzer Brigade, 1xGrenadier Regiment, and 1xArtillery Battalion.  
4) This division was included in these pages by popular demand for use in hypothetical "fantasy" scenarios.

#### PANZER AND PANZER GRENADIER DIVISIONS: 1958+

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 70, Class: Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Motorized Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(B)/Truck, 1xTL2 Infantry Support/Truck
Motorized Support Company:	1x81mm M27 Mortar(3)/Truck, 1x90mm M67 RcR/Jeep
Panzer Grenadier Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(B)/SPz-12
Anti-Tank Company:	3xJagdpanzer Kanone
Panzer Company:	4xM47 or M48A2
Motorized Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(B) HQ/Truck, 4xMotorized Company, 1xMotorized Support Company
Panzer Grenadier Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(B) HQ/SPz-12, 4xPanzer Grenadier Company, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xSPz-52(3)
Panzer Battalion:	1xM47(HQ), 4xPanzer Company
Artillery Battalion:	3x155mm M114A1(3)/M4 Tractor
Artillery Battalion(SP):	3x155mm M44(3)

Motorized Brigade(Pz. Gren. Div):	1xTL2 Infantry(B) GHQ/SPz-12, 1xMotorized Battalion, 2xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 1xPanzer Battalion, 1xArtillery Battalion
Motorized Brigade(Pz. Div):	1xTL2 Infantry(B) GHQ/SPz-12, 1xMotorized Battalion, 1xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 1xPanzer Battalion, 1xArtillery Battalion
Panzer Brigade:	1xTL2 Infantry(B) GHQ/SPz-12, 1xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 2xPanzer Battalion, 1xArtillery Battalion(SP)
Available Support Units:	(One or more of these units, or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.)
Engineer Company:	3xTL2 Engineer Infantry/SPz-12
Recon Company:	4xM41[R] or SPz-10[R]
Anti-Aircraft Company:	3xM42 "Duster"
2xArtillery Battalion:	3x155mm M1 "Long Tom"(3)/M4 Tractor

**Notes:** 1) The Panzer Division consisted of 2xPanzer Brigade and 1xMotorized Brigade.  
2) The Panzer Grenadier Division consisted of 1xPanzer Brigade and 2xMotorized Brigade.  
3) Technological development was rapid during this period, with new weapons replacing old ones regularly. You may replace any weapons in the table above with newer types as these become available.

#### PANZER BRIGADE: 1970+

**Generation: III, Air Superiority Rating: 70, Class: Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Panzer Grenadier Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(A)/SPz-12 or M113
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Anti-Tank Company:	3xRaketenpanzer/SS11
Panzer Company:	4xLeopard-1
Recon Company[R]:	2xSPz-11, 2xLeopard-1
Recon Support Company[R]:	2xLeopard-1, 2xTL2 Infantry(R)/SPz-12, 2xTL2 Engineer Infantry/M113, 1xSPz-51(3)
Panzer Grenadier Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(A) HQ/M577, 4xPanzer Grenadier Company, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xSPz-52(3)
Panzer Battalion:	1xLeopard-1(HQ), 4xPanzer Company
Recon Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(A) HQ/SPz-12, 2xRecon Company, 1xRecon Support Company
Artillery Battalion:	3x155mm M109(3)
Panzer Brigade:	1xTL2 Infantry(B) GHQ/SPz-12, 1xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 2xPanzer Battalion, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xArtillery Battalion, 1xM48A2/Dozer, 1xSPz-11[R]

Available Support Units: (One or more of these units, or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.)

Engineer Company:	3xTL2 Engineer Infantry/M113
Anti-Tank Company:	2xRaketenpanzer, 3xJagdpanzer Kanone
Reinforcement Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(B)/Truck
Anti-Aircraft Company:	3xM42 Duster
Heavy Artillery Battalion:	2x175mm M107(3), 1x203mm M110(3)
Rocket Launcher Battery:	2x110mm LARS(8)
Scout Helicopter Company:	3xAlouette II

**Notes:**

- 1) The Panzer Division consisted of 3xPanzer Brigade and 1xRecon Battalion.
- 2) Any Battalion Headquarters stand may contain an attached "Redeye" team.
- 3) Some Panzer battalions may be equipped with M48A2 tanks.
- 4) The Panzer Brigade also appears in the Panzer Grenadier Division below.
- 5) Technological development was rapid during this period, with new weapons replacing old ones regularly. You may replace any weapons in the table above with newer types as these become available.

#### **PANZER GRENADIER BRIGADE: 1970+**

**Generation: III, Air Superiority Rating: 70, Class: Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Panzer Grenadier Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(A)/SPz-12 or M113
Panzer Company:	4xM48A2
Recon Company[R]:	2xSPz-11, 2xM48A2
Recon Support Company[R]:	2xM48A2, 2xTL2 Infantry(R)/SPz-12, 2xTL2 Engineer Infantry/SPz-12, 1xSPz-51(3)
Anti-Tank Company:	2xRaketenpanzer, 3xJagdpanzer Kanone
Panzer Grenadier Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(A) HQ/M577, 3xPanzer Grenadier Company, 1xSPz-52(3)
Panzer Battalion:	1xM48A2(HQ), 4xPanzer Company
Recon Battalion:	1xTL2 Infantry(A) HQ/SPz-12, 2xRecon Company, 1xRecon Support Company
Artillery Battalion:	3x155mm M109(3)

Panzer Grenadier Brigade: 1xTL2 Infantry(B) GHQ/M577, 1xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 2xPanzer Battalion, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xArtillery Battalion, 1xM48A2/Dozer, 1xSPz-11[R]

Available Support Units: (One or more of these units, or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.)

Engineer Company:	3xTL2 Engineer Infantry/M113
Reinforcement Company:	3xTL2 Infantry(B)/Truck
Anti-Aircraft Company:	3xM42 Duster
Heavy Artillery Battalion:	2x175mm M107(3), 1x203mm M110(3)
Rocket Launcher Battery:	2x110mm LARS(8)

**Notes:**

- 1) The Panzer Grenadier Division consisted of 2xPanzer Grenadier Brigade, 1xRecon Battalion and 1x"Panzer Brigade".
- 2) Any Battalion Headquarters stand may contain an attached "Redeye" team.
- 3) Recon battalions may be equipped with M41 tanks before 1971.
- 4) Technological development was rapid during this period, with new weapons replacing old ones regularly. You may replace any weapons in the table above with newer types as these become available.

#### **PANZER AND PANZER GRENADIER BRIGADES: 1995**

**Generation: IV, Air Superiority Rating: 80, Class: Professionals, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Panzer Grenadier Company:	4xTL4 Infantry(A)/Marder-1A3
Panzer Company:	3xLeopard-1, Leopard-1A3 or Leopard-2
Engineer Company:	2xTL4 Engineer Infantry/TPz Fuchs, 1x"Leopard" AVLB, 1xLeopard AEV
Anti-Tank Company:	3xJaguar/HOT or Jaguar/TOW
Recon Company[R]:	2xSpahpanzer Luchs, 1xLeopard-2
Panzer Grenadier Battalion:	1xMarder-1A3 (GHQ), 4xPanzer Grenadier Company, 5x120mm[SP] Brandt Mortar(1)
Panzer Battalion:	1xLeopard-1A3 (GHQ), 4xPanzer Company
Artillery Battalion:	3x155mm M109A2(4) or PzHbz-2000(4)

Pz or PzGren Brigade: 1xTL4 Infantry(B) GHQ/M577, 2xPanzer Grenadier Battalion, 2xPanzer Battalion, 1xRecon Company, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xArtillery Battalion, 1xEngineer Company

- Notes:**
- 1) There are 19 Panzer Grenadier and Panzer Brigades. They all have 2xPanzer and 2xPanzer Grenadier Battalions.
  - 2) Of the above brigades, only 9 are fully active at any time. The rest are a mix of active and reserve units.
  - 3) Brigades equipped with the older "Leopard 1" tanks are generally based in the former "East" Germany.
  - 4) The PzHbz2000 became available in 2001.
  - 5) You may group the 120mm[SP] "Brandt" mortars into two or three-section stands if you wish.

### 37TH JAGER BRIGADE: 1995

**Generation: IV, Air Superiority Rating: 80, Class: Professionals, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

"Alpine" Company:	3xTL4 Infantry(A)
"Alpine" Support Company:	5xMak 1/120mm "Tampella" Mortar(1), 2xMak 1/Tow II, 2xMak 1/"Wiesel"
"Airborne" Company:	3xTL4 Infantry(A)[R]
"Jager" Company:	3xTL4 Infantry(A)/TPz Fuchs
Engineer Company:	3xTL4 Engineer Infantry/TPz Fuchs
Anti-Tank Company:	2xMak 1/Tow II, 1xMak 1/"Wiesel"
Recon Company[R]:	2xSpahpanzer Luchs, 1xLeopard-2

  

"Alpine" Battalion:	1xTL4 Infantry(A) (GHQ), 3x"Alpine" Company, 5x120mm[SP] "Brandt" Mortar(1), 1xTL4 Infantry(R)/"Ski Troops"
"Airborne" Battalion:	1xTL4 Infantry(A) (GHQ), 4x"Airborne" Company
"Jager" Battalion:	1xTL4 Infantry(A) (GHQ)/TPz Fuchs, 4x"Jager" Company, 1x120mm[SP] "Brandt" Mortar(5)
Anti-Tank Battalion:	4xAnti-Tank Company
Artillery Battalion:	3x155mm FH70(4)/Truck

  

"Jager" Brigade: 1xTL4 Infantry(B) GHQ/TPz Fuchs, 1x"Alpine" Battalion, 1x"Airborne" Battalion, 1xRecon Company, 1xAnti-Tank Company, 1xArtillery Battalion, 1xEngineer Company

- Notes:**
- 1) This Brigade is a "Rapid Reaction" unit and as such may be provided with truck or helicopter transport as needed.
  - 2) You may group the 120mm[SP] "Brandt" mortars into two or three-section stands if you wish.

### TACTICAL NOTES

As stated above, the 1946 Panzer Division was included by popular demand. But, it also illustrates many of the lessons learned by the both the Wehrmacht and the Allies during WWII. For one thing, it is roughly half the size of a U.S. Armored division and deficient in both artillery and recon elements. Therefore, it is incapable of sustained offensive action. You will also note that the ratio of tank to infantry battalions is about one to four. This makes this an "infantry" rather than an "armored" formation in spite of its name. Its usefulness in a major offensive would be limited, but its structure is sound for local counter-attacks as part of an overall defensive posture. The Panzer brigade is equipped to take and secure the objective, while the Motorized brigade can be moved up to hold onto the ground gained. In retrograde operations, the Panzer Brigade can screen a withdrawal by the Motorized Brigade and pass rapidly back through friendly lines to safety. When designing scenarios for this "Division", you should keep its structure and mission in mind. "Hasty Assaults" and "Delaying Actions" are those best suited for this formation's attributes.

The same is true for the divisions of the early Bundeswehr between 1955 and 1970. The Panzergrenadier Division had a ratio of four tank to seven infantry battalions. It is therefore designed primarily to hold ground, but is perfectly capable of conducting local counterattacks and thus can never be counted out by the enemy. The Panzer division is structured more like a U.S. Division with a balanced ratio of five tank to four infantry battalions. There were never very many of them, and their mission was clearly stated as that of a "mobile reserve" to be used at the decisive moment when the long-awaited Soviet offensive began to lose momentum and falter.

The whole structure and mission of the Bundeswehr at this time was built around this single-minded operational and tactical philosophy. A conventional war in Europe would begin with a massive "Warsaw Pact" offensive. This offensive would be met with fierce resistance by every weapon in the West German arsenal. The offensive would be sapped of momentum and ultimately halted by this resistance. This halt would then be followed by an all-out counteroffensive, which would drive it back to its starting point. Your scenarios should reflect this philosophy.

The Bundeswehr of the 1970's and 1980's reflected growing confidence on the part of both Germany and its allies. The defense of the "Vaterland" was now seen as more mobile and flexible in nature. NATO planners began to see the rigidity of Soviet offensive doctrine and believed they could use this rigidity against them. In addition, the Soviets showed an almost total lack of "defensive" planning. This too, argued for a flexible NATO response integrating defensive and offensive tactics with NATO's considerable airpower. Especially a new factor; the "Attack" helicopter.

The recent German "Peacekeeping" missions have shown the need for even greater flexibility, and their 1990's TO&E's reflect this. Note that each battalion has its own "GHQ", allowing it to act in complete independence. Any encounter between "Third World" forces and this army will be inherently out of balance and the mix of forces in any scenario should illustrate this imbalance.

The Bundeswehr has always been a well-trained and equipped force. Its cohesion has generally been high and its weapons close to "state of the art". Players who enjoy refighting battles on the WWII "Eastern Front" will recognize familiar situations and can use the same tactics with the Bundeswehr as they do with the Wehrmacht. The "Hasty" defense, the "Delaying Action", the "Meeting Engagement", and the "Prepared Assault" can be used to provide many hours of exciting entertainment.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The primary task of the German armed forces remains that of defending the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany, its airspace, and coastal waters. The accomplishment of this task will continue to be dependent on the mobilization of conscripted reservists and interaction with the nation's allies. However, changes in the security environment and the changing role of the

Bundeswehr in the post "Cold War" era, have caused a major organizational restructuring. The "New" Bundeswehr distinguishes between three categories of forces.

1) The "Standing Reaction Forces" are those elements employed for conflict prevention and crisis management within an alliance framework. They are to be deployed as part of international peace missions. As "Standing Forces", they are ready for immediate action, providing protection during mobilization of the main defense forces in a national emergency. They may be augmented with units provided by the overall support structure when the need arises.

2) The "Main Defense Forces" are mobilization-dependent, and comprise all the forces that can be employed for the defense of Germany and its allies. They are to be kept at graduated levels of readiness and must be "augmentable". That is, they must be capable of making the preparations necessary for national and alliance defense within specific time limits. Although partly composed of active duty personnel, the vast majority of these forces are made up of part-time reservists of all ranks. Selected units from this force, especially logistic and medical units, may be tasked with supporting the "Standing Reaction Forces".

3) The "Support Structure" of the overall armed forces is required to exercise command and control, handle training and service support, perform tasks connected with civil-military cooperation, and provide logistic, communications, and medical services to the combat forces of Germany and those of her allies which may be stationed in Germany. As above, individual units may be called upon to support "Reaction Force" missions.

Pursuant to this restructuring, In June 2000, Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping began to transform the Bundeswehr from a "Cold War" conscript force organized to stop Soviet tanks, to a flexible, mobile force of professionals, capable of participating in international missions for NATO, the EEU, and the UN. By the end of 2002, the number of conscripts will be reduced by over forty percent to 75,000. This figure has caused some confusion, however. Since the term of service is only nine months, Germany is required to induct 100,000 conscripts each year to maintain this level of manning. The remaining 150,000 "professional" personnel will be ready for fighting missions on short notice. Of course, all these changes are dependent on receiving the necessary funding which is currently (as of July 2002) anything but certain. Recent military budget cuts may delay completion of this program.

A large proportion of German armored vehicle types were introduced during the 1970's. These include the "Leopard 2", the "Marder", and the "Gepard". The fact is, many of these vehicles are reaching the end of their serviceable lives and over the next fifteen years will have to be replaced. However, recent budget constraints have led to the cancellation of many new weapons programs. This had led to a general re-examination of priorities when it comes to plans for future procurements.

The "Leopard 2" is likely to remain Germany's "Main Battle Tank" for at least the next twenty years, with improvements in armament, armor, and electronics along the line. The first "Leopard 2A6" were delivered in April 2001 and existing "Leopard 2A4" and A5's will be upgraded to this standard over the next several years. Plans for developing the "Schutzenpanzer 3", a vehicle that was to replace both the aging Marders and Gepards, was canceled in 1992, and nothing further has been heard concerning this vehicle.

The Spahpanzer "Luchs" has not been upgraded in fifteen years, and it is not likely to happen in the future. However, the "Luchs" is being replaced by a new light vehicle, the "Fennek", which is considerably smaller and lighter. There is also the "Weisel", a very light and flexible little weapons carrier that first appeared in 1990. It has been equipped with various weapons including a 20mm cannon, a 120mm Mortar, TOW, and Stinger launchers. It has also been produced in command and transport versions. It has been issued to paratroop, Jager, and Alpine units and has proven popular and effective.

The PanzerHaubitze 2000 has been replacing Germany's aging force of FH-70's and various versions of the U.S. M109. But, complete replacement has thus far proved impossible to achieve. For now, the life of existing M109A2's and A5's will be prolonged as long as possible. These and existing "LARS" and "MLRS" multiple rocket launchers, will continue to soldier on with improvements, mostly in the missiles themselves, being made whenever possible.

#### **PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

German "KFOR" and "IFOR" TO&E's are included in the chapter covering UN "Peacekeeping" forces elsewhere in this book.

#### **NATO CONTINGENTS STATIONED IN GERMANY**

Headquarters Allied Land Forces Central Europe	<b>HQ LANDCENT</b>
Headquarters Allied Rapid Reaction Corps	<b>HQ ARRC</b>
Headquarters Allied Land Forces Jutland and Schleswig-Holstein	<b>HQ LANDJUT</b>
Headquarters Allied Air Forces Central Europe	<b>HQ AIRCENT</b>
Headquarters Multi-National Division Central	<b>MND/C</b>
Headquarters Allied Command Europe Mobile Force	<b>AMF</b>
Headquarters U.S. Air Force Europe:	<b>USAFE</b>

Belgium:	1xMechanized Brigade
France:	1xArmored Battle Group (2,500 pers.)
Netherlands:	1xLight Brigade
United Kingdom:	1xCorps HQ (ARRC), 1xArmored Division
United States of America:	1xCorps HQ, 1xArmored Division, 1xMechanized Division, 1xTactical Fighter Group, 1xAirlift Wing

#### **2002 GERMAN ARSENAL**

Vehicles:	1,775x"Leopard 2" and "Leopard 2A5", 1,346x"Leopard 1", 409xSPz "Luchs", 462xTPz "Fuchs", 130x"Wiesel", 2,121x"Marder", 105xM113, 56xAPCV-2 "Dingo"
AT Weapons:	136x"Jaguar"/TOW, 210x"Wiesel"/TOW, 1,875x"Milan", 354x"TOW"
Artillery:	144x105mm M101, 19x105mm "Mountain Guns", 192x155mm FH-70 (towed), 570x155mm M109, 100+PzH 2000, 394x120mm Mortar, 154x"MLRS", 80x"LARS"
Anti-Aircraft:	1,760x20mm, 200x40mm, 338x35mm "Gepard", 143x"Roland 2", 36xI-HAWK
Combat Aircraft:	358x"Tornado", 173xF4E/F, 23xMiG 29, 71x"Alpha Jet", 86xUH1-D,
Small Arms:	9mm (Uzi, H&K MP5, H&K MP53) Submachineguns, 5.56mm (H&K G36), 7.62mm (G3SG1, Mauser SP66 ) rifles, 7.62mm (MG3, H&K MG36), 40mm (Granatpistole, HK79) Grenade Launchers, 84mm "Carl Gustaf" ATGL's

- Notes:
- 1) The "Leopard 1" has been withdrawn from service.
  - 2) 350x"Leopard 2" have been upgrade to "Leopard 2A5" and are currently going on to become "Leopard 2A6".
  - 3) By 2006 all "Leopard" will be upgraded to "Leopard 2A6" standards.
  - 4) 202x"Fennek" are on order to replace the SPz "Luchs".
  - 5) 180xEurofighters are to replace all existing MiG 29's, F4's, and 40x"Tornados".
  - 6) Withdrawn MiG 29's will be transferred to Poland in 2004.

#### **POINTS OF CONTACT**

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