

# FINLAND 1941-2

#### Jalkaväki Platoon

**Platoon Force Rating** 

Regular: +1

Command Dice: 5

# **PLATOON HEADQUARTERS**

Vanrikki, Senior Leader, with pistol or SMG

Kersantti, Senior Leader, with rifle

# **SQUADS ONE TO FOUR**

Alikersantti, Junior Leader, with rifle

# **RIFLE SQUAD**

DP-28 LMG

Two crew

One man with SMG

Five riflemen

#### Jääkäri Platoon

**Platoon Force Rating** 

Elite: +4

Command Dice: 6

# **PLATOON HEADQUARTERS**

Vanrikki, Senior Leader, with pistol or SMG

Kersantti, Senior Leader, with rifle

# **SQUADS ONE TO FOUR**

Alikersantti, Junior Leader, with rifle

# **RIFLE SQUAD**

Two men with SMGs

Six riflemen

# **SUPPORT LIST**

# **LIST ONE**

Satchel Charge

One Molotov Cocktail per Squad

**Medical Orderly** 

Engineer Mine Clearance Team, 3 men

Engineer Wire Cutting Team, 3 men

Engineer Demolition Team, 3 men

Minefield

**Barbed Wire** 

Runner

Entrenchments for one Squad

Additional SMG to allocate as desired

Two captured SVT-38 semi-automatic rifles

#### **LIST TWO**

14 pst kiv/37 (Boys) or 20 pst kiv/39 (L-39) AT rifle *Team*, 2 men

AT defence Team, 3 men

Captured DP-28 LMG (Jääkäri platoon only)

Pre-Game Barrage

Roadblock

T-20 Komsomolets with LMG and Junior Leader

T-37 or T-38 with *Junior Leader* 

BA-20 with Junior Leader

## LIST THREE

25 PstK/37 25mm AT gun with 5 crew and *Junior Leader* 

Maxim M/32 33 MMG with 5 crew

50 Krh/39 mortar Team, 3 men

Engineer Flamethrower Team, 3 men

Sniper Team

T-26 m1932 with Junior Leader

# **LIST FOUR**

37 PstK 36 (Bofors) 37mm AT gun with 5 crew and *Junior Leader* 

37 PstK 40 (PaK 36) AT gun with 5 crew and *Junior Leader* 

45 PstK/32 (M1932) AT gun with 5 crew and *Junior Leader* 

76 RK/27 (M1927) infantry gun with 5 crew and *Junior Leader* 

Regular Rifle Squad with Junior Leader

BA-6 or BA-10 Armoured Car with Junior Leader

T-26 with *Junior Leader* 

BT-5 or BT-7 with Junior Leader

# **LIST FIVE**

Forward Observer *Team* with 81mm mortar battery off-table

KhT-130 or KhT-133 with Junior Leader

T-28 with Junior Leader

#### **LIST SEVEN**

T-28E with Junior Leader (1942 only)

T-34 m1941 or m1942 with Junior Leader

## **LIST EIGHT**

KV-1E or KV-1 m1942 with Junior Leader (1942 only)

Most of the support options on the list will be selfexplanatory and their qualities covered by the National Arsenal Table.

# **SATCHEL CHARGE & MOLOTOV COCKTAILS**

The satchel charge is shown on Table Seven, Hand-Held Anti-Tank Weapons as are Molotov cocktails which are listed there as Petrol Bombs. Unless issued to a specific Anti-Tank Team or Section, the satchel charge may be used once by any Section on the table when commanded by the Senior Leader commanding the platoon who is, we assume, carrying it with him up to that point.

How the charge works is detailed in Section 9.3.4, Tank Hunters.

#### **CAPTURED WEAPONS**

Small arms available on the Support list must all be issued to specific Squads which must find the manpower to crew them. The DP-28 LMG needs two crewmen and may be given only once to each Squad.

#### **RUNNER**

Runners operate like an Adjutant, they are not represented on the table, but are used to call men forward to deploy onto the table. However, every time a runner is used to deploy troops roll a d6: a result of 1 or 2 means that the runner has successfully deployed the unit onto the table but has then either been diverted or killed and cannot be used again. There is no limit on the number of runners a Platoon can have.

#### ANTI-TANK DEFENCE TEAM

These small ad-hoc "bomber" units were used all over the front and the number of men and weaponry varied but the idea was the same. An AT Defence Team of three men is armed with one SMG, two rifles and a blinding device which is counted as a smoke grenade. They also have one Satchel Charge and two Molotov Cocktails.

## FINNISH NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

# SYÖKSYEN ETEENPÄIN!

Finnish infantry was trained to close with the enemy when under fire with series of un-synchronised surges. As the section gave supporting fire the individual soldiers would surge forward zig-zagging from cover to cover one or two at a time making it harder for the enemy to pick off targets. In a land covered with forest this was an effective tactic.

When a Leader is attached to Finnish Squad or Team and uses two Command Initiatives he may order his men to surge forward. The Squad or Team will fire with half the dice, move 1D6 inches and assume a Tactical stance, in that order.

# RYNNÄKKÖÖN!

The Finnish Army adopted the attack orientated doctrine very early (much influenced by the pre-war German tactics) and the infantry attack was to close within assault range of the enemy and then, by using suppressive fire and grenades, sections would charge in to enemy positions where SMG's, grenades and brute force would win the day.

To reflect this, when a Leader attached to a Team or Squad uses two Command Initiatives, he may lead a charge against any enemy within 12" preceded by a hail of grenades. Roll 1D6, subtracting 1 if the enemy is in light cover, 2 if in hard cover. On a roll of 1 or 2, one hand grenade has hit the target unit; on 3 or 4, two grenades hit; on 5 or 6, three grenades hit the target. Roll for the effect of these and the Team or Squad may then move with up to 3D6 to try to initiate Close Combat.

#### **THE FINNISH ARSENAL TABLE**

The Arsenal Table below covers a range of Finnish support options for the first two years of the Continuation War (1941-2).

# **HISTORICAL NOTES**

During the Continuation War, captured T-26 tanks were the most numerous armoured vehicle in the Finnish army. The Finns used many different models of that tank, and even rearmed the flame-throwing and twin turreted variants with 45mm guns. The profile below can be used to represent any T-26 with the 45mm gun, as well as the T-26E, i.e. the Vickers 6 Ton

rearmed with the Soviet gun.

Other tank models were much less numerous, with the KV-1 and T-28E being extreme cases. The Finns used only two KV-1s: one model 1940 with applique armour and one model 1942. As for the T-28E, only one Soviet-modified vehicle was captured, though in 1942 all Finnish T-28s were up-armoured in a similar manner.

Most of the Finnish support options were available in June 1941, when the Continuation War started. The exceptions are: T-34s (available from October 1941), KV-1s (spring 1942) and T-28Es (summer 1942).

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FINNISH ARSENAL TABLE  ARMOURED VEHICLES					
VEHICLE	ARMOUR	A.P.	H.E.	SPEED	NOTES
T-20 Komsomolets	2	-	MG	Average	No turret, Small, Low profile
T-37 or T-38	2	-	MG	Average	Low profile, Amphibious
T-26 m1931	3	-	MGs	Average	Two MG Turrets
T-26 (45mm gun variants)	3	5	4	Average	Co-ax MG
BT-5 or BT-7	3	5	4	Fast	Co-ax MG
KhT-130 or KhT-133	3	-	Flame	Average	Co-ax MG
T-28	4	5	5	Average	Three turrets, two with MGs, one main gun and rear MG
T-28E	7	5	5	Slow	Three turrets, two with MGs, one main gun and rear MG
T-34 m1941 or m1942	7	7	5	Fast	Hull and co-ax MGs
KV-1E or KV-1 m1942	10	7	5	Slow	Heavy Armour, Hull, co-ax and rear turret MGs
	SC	OUT & AF	RMOURED	CARS	
BA-20	2	-	MG	Wheeled	Small, Low profile
BA-6 or BA-10	3	5	4	Wheeled	Hull and co-ax MGs, Small, Low Profile
	AN	TI TANK &	INFANTRY	GUNS	
ANTI TANK WEAPON		A.P.			H.E.
14 pst kiv/37 (Boys) AT rifle		3			1
20 pst kiv/39 (L-39) AT rifle		3			1
25 PstK/37 AT gun		3			2
37 PstK 36 (Bofors) AT gun		5			3
37 PstK 40 (PaK 36) AT gun		5			3
45 PstK/32 (M1932) AT gun		5			4
76 RK/27 (M1927) Infantry gun		4			6

#### **CREDITS & REFERENCES**

National characteristics and unit rules (Satchel charge & Molotov cocktails, Captured weapons, Runner, Anti-tank defence team) copied or based on the rules from the Finnish Army List for the Winter War: http://toofatlardies.co.uk/blog/?p=1813

Platoon compositions and support weapons list based on the information found on Jaeger Platoon website: http://www.jaegerplatoon.net/

Characteristics of support weapons and armoured vehicles taken from the Chain of Command Consolidated Arsenal: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1iVO3\_AyHeoy87eZQfrl0QN-ZL1e7uvsQSjndzCBokuE/

# **FURTHER READING**

Andreas Lärka's website on Finnish armoured vehicles: http://www.andreaslarka.net/