

75 mm L/30 anti-aircraft gun M.1914/16

Introduction

This article should be seen as a supplement to the mention of the "Lomholt cannon" in my article About Copenhagen's air defense in the interwar period.

The following color photographs were taken by the undersigned at the Varde Artillery Museum, during a visit in February 2003. Minsandten about the museum did not have a copy on display.

Data

75 mm Steel cannon M.1914, mounted in pivot mount M.1916.

Constructed by NE Lomholt as a fast-firing cannon for the Danish coastal fortifications. In 1916, the pivot gun was introduced, allowing high-elevation firing against airplanes and other targets. A total of 22 pieces. was provided with this affutage.



Main data:

Caliber length: 30

Lateral freedom.: 360°

Vertical freedom: 0 - 90°

Muzzle velocity: 575 m/sec.

Foundry: Army Technical Corps.

In order to make room for side and elevation receivers as well as tempering device, which M.1914/16 was later equipped with, the shield had to be turned, which gave the cannon a slightly strange appearance.

A tour around the museum's pamphlet





Along with the cannon is an anti-aircraft corrector M.1938 System Vickers Armstrong Ltd.

The corrector was a mechanical calculator that calculated the gun's elevation, lateral position and the tempering of the shell. The information was transmitted electrically to the cannon's receivers.

The M.1938 was an improved version of the M.1932, which had no charging mechanism and therefore no tempering scale (Source 1).



Crew at 75 mm fast-firing cannon M.1914 in Luftværnsaffutage

M.1916 at Søfortet Trekroner, approx. 1925.

The crew carries Steel Helmet M.1923 and Gas Mask M.1926 in a bag over the shoulder.

The image is also reproduced in Source 1, from which I have scanned it.

Supplementary image material

As previously mentioned, pictures of the "Lomholt cannon" are not common, so the excitement was all the greater when a photostat at the museum showed such a picture.

Comment: The

picture shows the pamphlet in an earlier version than the museum's. The shield has not yet been turned - it is clearly seen that

the curvature faces the crew and not forward.

It also appears from the positions of the crew that the benches, etc., which are on the exhibited version, have not been fitted either.

Sources

1. Artillery in Denmark edited by Marian Plough, Varde Artillerimuseum, 2001, ISBN 87-89834-39-9.

Per Finsted