

About Danish infantry 1932-1941, Skytskompagniet, From 1

Introduction

After the Army Act of 1932 (the 1932 scheme) the guard company was in practice a mortar company (commander with command group and 3 platoons of 2 mortar groups and 1 ammunition platoon), which was subordinate to the individual infantry regiment, while the heavy companies of the infantry battalions were a machine gun company (commander with command group and 4 platoons of 4 machine gun groups and 1 ammunition platoon).

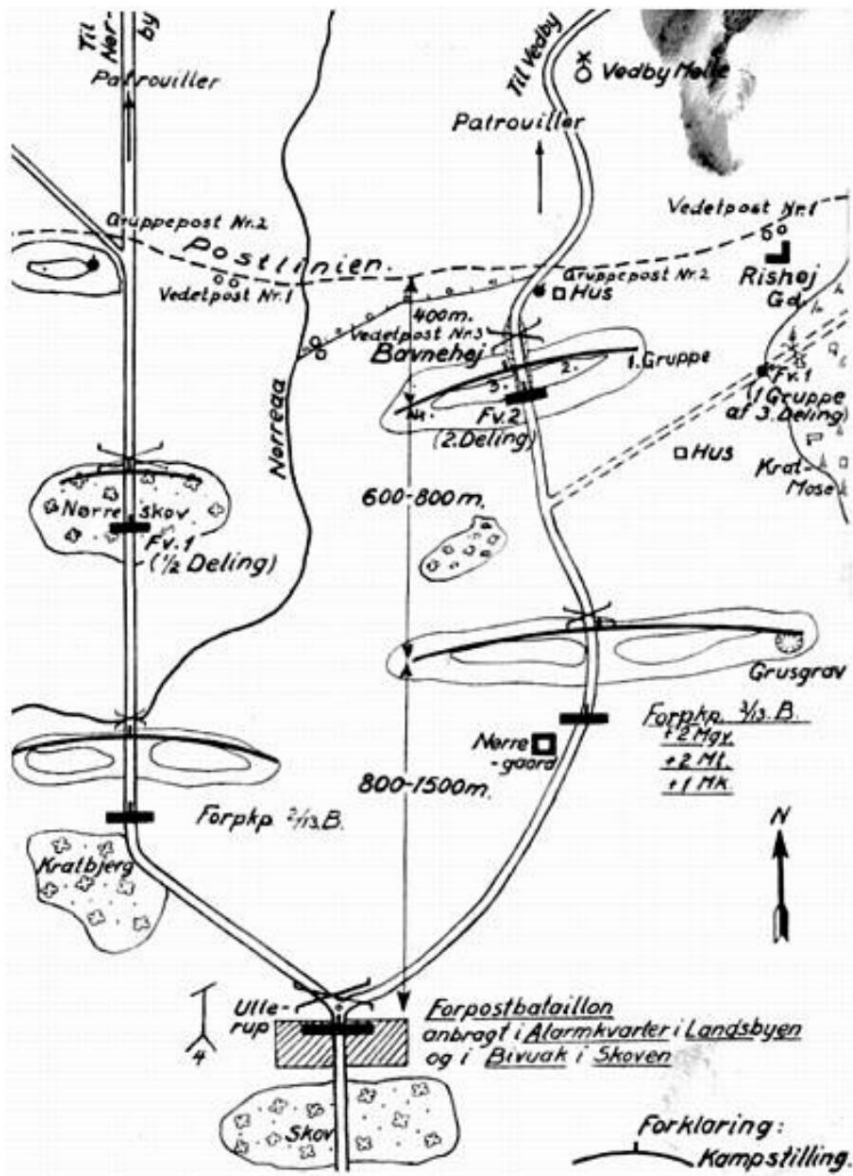
With the Army Act of 1937 (the 1937 scheme), the battalions' machine gun companies are transformed into sniper companies, while at regimental level a gun company with 37 mm infantry guns is created (commander with command group and 3 platoons of 3 gun groups).

Shooting company

The guard company consists - according to the 1937 scheme - of:

- Commander with command group 2
- machine gun platoons of 4 machine guns (*See part 2*) 2 mortar
- platoons of 3 mortars (*See part 3*) 1 machine gun platoon of 4 20
- mm machine guns (*See part 4*) _____

The company's total strength is approx. 300 men.



Principle sketch - A battalion deployed as an outpost battalion. From Source 7.

Tactical use

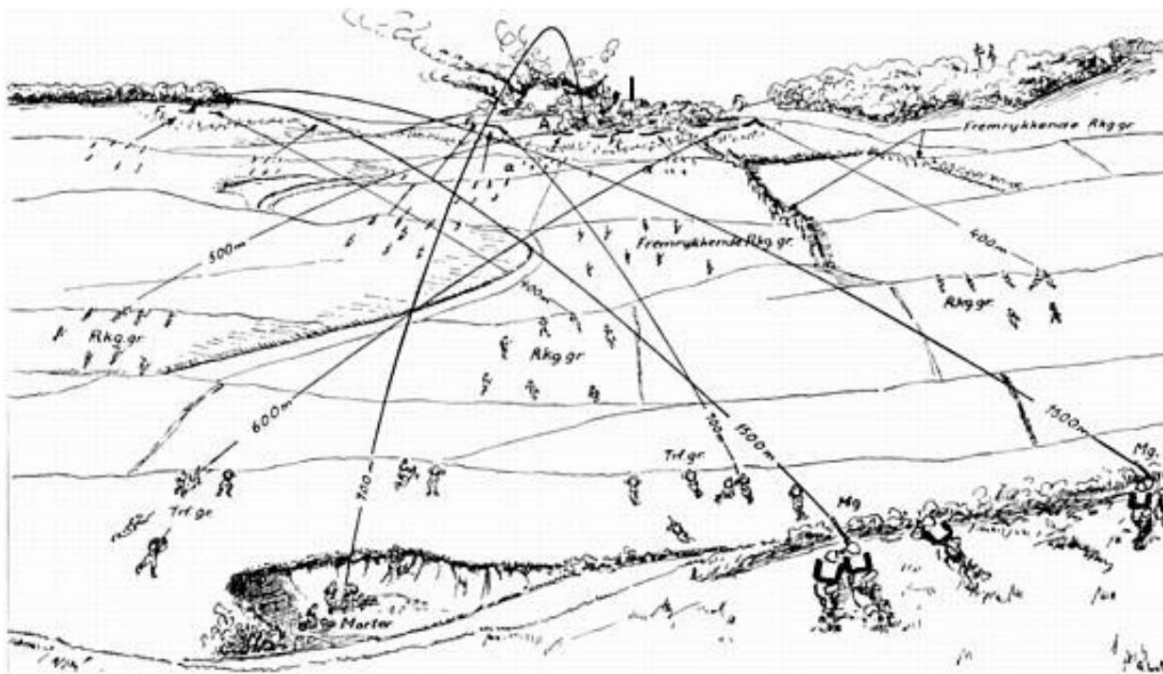
The firing company is tasked with providing the battalion with a supplement of long-range, accurate and particularly effective fire, so that the battalion is able to single-handedly attack and defeat an opponent.

The company rarely works together as a company, but as a rule is partially allocated to other companies, while the rest is used directly under the battalion commander.

The sketch shows that 2 machine guns, 2 mortars and 1 machine gun have been delivered from the battalion's guard company in support of 3. Kompagni/13. Battalion.

West of Ullerup, the battalion has set up one of its four tripod platoons (a platoon of 4 tripod guns at each recoil unit company) as air defense.

(The stain in the upper right - soil - is a sign of use from one of the book's previous owners.)



Principle sketch - Mortars and machine guns support the battalion's attack.
From Source 5.

The command group

Currently available sources do not provide the exact framing of the command group according to the 1937 scheme, but based on the following information from Source 2, an impression of the possibilities is obtained:

Machinery Company Command Group (1932 Scheme)

- 1 driver,
- 3 reserve horn blowers, 1
- telephone team, 9 ordinance
- officers, of which 3 are on bicycles

Skytskompagniets command group (1932 order)

- 1 driver
- 1 second-in-command 3
- reserve horn blowers 12
- orderlies, of which 6 are on bicycles

Sources 3 and 4, which contain overviews of each man's equipment, provide additional information that, according to the 1937 scheme, the following functions are included in the command group:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● reserve horn blower ● driver for telephone team ● telephone operators (No. 1 ● to 4) ordinance (on foot, bicycle and horse) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● motorcycle driver ● Motor Ordinance ● motor vehicle driver ● driver of vehicles |
|--|--|

train

The artillery company's gunnery company's ammunition platoon

**ammunition sharing
(1932 scheme)**

(1932 scheme)

- 1 driver
- 1
second in command

2 groups on

- 1 driver,
- 8 suppliers, 1
- carriage man,
- 1 horse-drawn
- carriage, 1 carriage train
with 1 stage and 3
carriages, 4 horse-drawn
- carriages, 4 spare
- horses, 1 driver
-
- 1 spare gunsmith 1
- caretaker

- 1 ammunition wagon
(training wagon)

- 1 driver

3 groups on

- 1 driver
- 4 suppliers 1
- cartman 1
- horse-drawn carriage

- 1 grenade cartridge

The sources refer to the organization of the 1932 protection company as provisional and that various trials are carried out; perhaps the above is therefore only an example.

With the 1937 system, the guard company's reserve ammunition is now transported by Ammunitionsdeling II at the battalion's staff company:

Ammunition Division II (1937 scheme) (all horse-drawn coaches)

- Ammunition wagon I
- Ammunition wagon II
- Ammunition wagon III

- 4 cartridge cases with 8 mm ammunition 2
- grenade cases with 81 mm ammunition 4
- cartridge cases with 20 mm ammunition



Train wagon M.1909. From Source 3.

For pictures of the vessel material see Parts 2, 3 and 4.

Additional ammunition for, among other things, the guard company can be found - on light trucks - at the regiment's ammunition column.

The guard company tree (1937 scheme) (all wagons are light trucks)

- Kitchen wagon I (mortar strength and machine gun division)
- Kitchen Car II (Command Division and Machine Gun Force)

On the kitchen trolleys there are:

- The required number of cooking boxes with today's dinner
- Kitchen props
- Bread and dry food for the company for 1 day
- Oats for 1 day

- Baggage Car I (Commando Group and Machine Gun Force)
- Baggage Car II (Machine Gun Division)
- Luggage Cart III (Mortar Strength)

On the luggage trolleys there are:

- The company's archive, map and quarter mark
- The crew's luggage racks
- The trunks of the commanders
- Shoemaker's tool
- Tailor's tool
- Spare equipment for one person
- Polishing and cleaning agents



The machine gun division's tank material loaded onto trucks. From Source 5.

Likewise, it is suggested by the functions of the command group that the guard company had motorcycles - possibly a sidecar motorcycle for the commander and/or second-in-command and one or more solo motorcycles for the motor orderlies.

Transport by motor vehicle

If there is a need to advance the protection company quickly and/or over longer distances, both personnel and material can be advanced on trucks.



Horse transport. From Source 5.

The cart horses are also transported on trucks.

The trucks must be assumed to come from transport elements of the regiment or division.

Sources

1. *Denmark's Army, Volumes I and II* under the editorship of Captain Hector Boeck, Captain SE Johnstad-Møller and Captain Lieutenant CV Hjalf, Society for publishing cultural writings, Copenhagen 1934-1935.
2. *Memory book for use in the field, during exercises and war games* by HH Jørgensen, N. Olaf Møllers Forlag, Copenhagen 1936.

3. *Textbook for Infantry Corporal Schools - Equipment and Train*, Ministry of War, Copenhagen 1941.
4. *Field equipment for Individuals*, Ministry of War, Copenhagen 1936, with correction sheets up to august 1941.
5. *The Defense Book* by Colonel T. Andersen, Gyldendal, Copenhagen 1941.
6. *Textbook for the Privates of the Army, Part 1*, Temporary edition, Copenhagen 1946.
7. *Textbook for Infantry Corporal Schools - Field Service*, Ministry of War, Copenhagen 1940.

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