



## “The Czech Fury”

1945-2015 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour

February 2015 BULLETIN

Dear All,

Time for a February Update! Okay, so it's March, and it's a bit late, but that's life! :o)

Things are progressing rather nicely with the planning for the trip. Everyone is working away in the background to make this trip work, especially Martin and Mirek who seem to be working with the highest levels of Government downwards!

So help them out by making payments on time, getting paperwork in, and generally being helpful and keeping in contact – don't wait for people to contact you if you haven't heard anything – keep in touch with your Country Co-ordinators!

So here's some updates for you from this (okay, last) month:

**1) The Route** – nothing to report here, all is still as notified last month: Volary (Start) – Kvilda – Vimperk – Kašperské Hory – Sušice – Horažďovice – Nepomuk – Plzeň (Finish)

**2) Vehicles** – as always, things change, vehicles have to pull out, etc, etc, but the current vehicle list for the whole trip length is as follows :

- 1 x M4 Sherman tank (plus others joining for Pilsen)
- 1 x M24 Chaffee
- 2 x M5 Stuart (plus 2 more being confirmed)
- 6 x M8 Armored car (plus 2 more in reserve)
- 6 x Half Tracks (plus potential of 2 more if we need them)
- 22 x jeeps
- 2 x Harleys
- 6 X GMCs including Field Kitchen

**3) Blank-Firing Gun Hire** – if you haven't sent your *Personal Weapons Form* in by now, you're probably too late. However, email [mirek.seifert@4tharmored.cz](mailto:mirek.seifert@4tharmored.cz) and plead with him if you've still got one to send in!!!!

**Remember** – if you haven't sent in forms for a Deact/Dummy/Firer/Hired weapon, **YOU ARE NOT TO BRING IT** – if you disobey this, then you'll find yourself having to sort yourself out with the Czech Police!!!!



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**4) Travel.**

People are starting to decide now in the UK which option they’re going for.

**France/Belgium/NL/Germany/LUX participants need to confirm their transport arrangements ASAP through Laurent Olivier and Robert Zeithamer.**

Remember, the travel options are:

- People can travel with the low-loaders/curtainiders. This will be free obviously, in return for travelling with the vehicles to watch over them. Probably need to go over on the UK-France ferry as a foot passenger. *\*\*Being chosen by a few people.\*\**
- There is a coach from the U.K. at a cost of £60 which will take 19 hours each way to and from the finish point in Pilsen. *\*\*SO FAR NO-ONE IS USING THIS OPTION.\*\**
- There is the option to fly from Stansted to Munich with Easy Jet for £93 or so. This takes 2 hours each way. Most of the Americans are flying into Munich and transport will be arranged by coach to and from Munich to the event. This leads to the issue of taking kit and if you choose to fly there will be a centralised "kit dump" where your duffle bags will be loaded into the vehicles which will be transported in convoy with a ground party accompanying them direct to and from home to Czech and back. *\*\*Being chosen by quite a few from the UK, with other option also being flying into Prague.\*\**
- A minibus/coach can be hired to transport people to/from Czech. The cost of this depends on numbers of course. *\*\*Not requested by anyone at this point.\*\**
- People can go in their own vehicles and share the costs between those in the vehicle. *\*\*This option is being taken by some from the UK, Germany, Belgium.\*\**

**5) Payments.** Remember, the payment schedule is as follows:

Initial Deposit (non-refundable in all circumstances) to be paid ASAP	1375 CZK / 50 Euros
Payment #2 to be paid by end of December 2014	2750 CZK / 100 Euros
Payment #3 to be paid by end of January 2015	2750 CZK / 100 Euros
Payment #4 to be paid by end of February 2015	2750 CZK / 100 Euros
Payment #5 to be paid by end of March 2015	2750 CZK / 100 Euros

Please keep to this schedule with the remainder of the payments (although you can also pay in full at any point). **You should have paid the Initial Deposit and Payments #2 & #3 by now.** NOTE that paying in CZK is currently the CHEAPEST option by far – the exchange rates are working in your favour here right now, with strong Dollars and Sterling.

**Currently the trip cost of 12375 CZK works out to an excellent £340 / \$515!!!!**



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It should also be mentioned that fuel has fallen in price, which if it stays low will make the actual fuel spend during the trip lower too.

If you have any problems with the payments (or haven't received the info email on making payments (sent to you after you send your **Entry Form** in), please let your Country Co-ordinator know straight away – there's always something that can be done, you've just got to let us know.

Please remember that the **12375 CZK / 450 Euros** does not cover your personal transport arrangements to Czech.

**5) Recruitment.** As always, we can still take more people on – let your Country Co-ordinator know of anyone thinking about going.

REMEMBER – IF POTENTIAL RECRUITS CANNOT ATTEND FOR ALL OF THIS EVENT, THEY MAY STILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND. Due to the nature of the travel to and from Czech, for people who have arranged this in advance and can make their way to meet the column wherever it is on that day, PART PARTICIPATION IS POSSIBLE.

### **6) Parade in Pilsen on 3<sup>rd</sup> of May**

Okay, a new one for you – we have another Parade to do (on foot) in Pilsen in the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. Approximately 2km, marching (and singing) all the way.

All participants to be dressed in their 16<sup>th</sup> Armd Ike Jackets (see the Uniform Regs).

Singing – we'll be sharing with trip attendees the lyrics of usual cadences – if you have any you want to use, send them in to [powerhousehq@live.co.uk](mailto:powerhousehq@live.co.uk) please. It would obviously be preferable if we all know the cadences in advance so everyone is singing instead of "dry mouthing" the words!

### **7) Campsite sports activities**

Yep, you read that right.

Apparently there is really great place for football and baseball games there, so please bring baseball bats, gloves, baseballs and pigskin footballs (US “Rugby” pointy-type, that is, not the proper ROUND football).



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**That’s all for now!**

Any questions, contact the following people:

- Your Country Co-ordinator for Entry Forms, Vehicle Forms, Personal Weapons Forms, payments, etc,
- Gavin Copeman for transportation of WWII vehicles from the UK,
- Martin Dusek for transportation of WWII vehicles from mainland Europe,
- Jon Heyworth for ideas, suggestions and general enthusiasm!!

You can always use the email [powerhousehq@live.co.uk](mailto:powerhousehq@live.co.uk) to get in contact over anything, and the “Czech 2015” page on Facebook is open for questions to the Czech organising team.

### **Country Co-ordinators**

USA & Canada : Tom Bowers [tsgm1a1@aol.com](mailto:tsgm1a1@aol.com)

France & BENELUX : Laurent Olivier [oli\\_wla\\_1942@yahoo.fr](mailto:oli_wla_1942@yahoo.fr)

UK & Ireland : Glen Mallen [powerhousehq@live.co.uk](mailto:powerhousehq@live.co.uk)

DE, AT, CH : Robert Zeithamer [zeithamer@gmx.de](mailto:zeithamer@gmx.de)

CZ, RU, N, PL + rest of Europe : Mirek Seifert [mirek.seifert@4tharmored.cz](mailto:mirek.seifert@4tharmored.cz)

Vehicles : Martin Dusek [martin.dusek@4tharmored.cz](mailto:martin.dusek@4tharmored.cz)