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A MACHINE GUN BATTALION

(Not to be implemented until receipt of instructions from the War Office)

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

Amdt. No.	
Date	11 Feb '44
Officers	36
O.Rs.	699
Total	735
M.Cs.	52
Vehicles	186
Trailers	24

79/W.E./8465 (S.D.3)

(i) Personnel

Detail	Headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, machine gun battalion
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, machine gun company	
Officer commanding (lieutenant-colonel)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Second-in-command (major)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Majors	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	4
Adjutant (captain)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Captains (technical officer in headquarters)	1	1	1	..	2	1	..	1	1	..	1	7
Subalterns	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	9	..	1	3	20
Quarter-master	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total, officers	5	1	1	2	4	3	2	11	2	1	5	35

Regimental serjeant-major	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Regimental quarter-master-serjeant	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Company serjeant-majors	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Total, warrant officers	1	1	..	1	2	1	..	1	1	..	1	7
Company quarter-master-serjeants	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Orderly room clerk	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Provost serjeant	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pioneer serjeant	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Transport serjeant	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Serjeant (medical section)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Serjeant (for technical stores)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Serjeants	1	..	1	..	1	1	3	13	..	3	9	42
Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants	4	1	1	3	5	2	3	14	1	3	10	53
Corporals (includes 19 lance-serjeants)	2	..	2	1	3	5	7	33	5	4	17	89
Privates (includes 27 lance-corporals)	16	3	22	30	55	35	26	139	23	26	101	513
Total, rank and file	18	3	24	31	58	40	33	172	28	30	118	602
Total, other ranks	23	5	25	35	65	43	36	187	30	33	129	662
Total, all ranks	28	6	26	37	69	46	38	198	32	34	134	697
Attached-												
R.A.M.C. – Medical officer	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
R.A.O.C. – Shoemaker (corporal)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
R.E.M.E. -												
Armourers (staff-serjeants or serjeants)	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Vehicle mechanics	..	..	..	3	3	2	..	2	1	..	1	8
Electrician	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
A.C.C. – Cooks for –												
Officers' mess	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Other ranks' mess –												
Corporals	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Privates	..	..	..	2	2	4	..	4	3	..	3	15
Total, attached	1	..	..	11	11	8	..	8	6	..	6	38
Total, machine gun battalion	29	6	26	48	80	54	37	206	38	34	140	735

(ii) Distribution of rank and file by trades and duties

Detail	Head	Headquarter company	Heavy mortar company	Three machine gun companies (each)	Total,
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		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, machine gun company	
Tradesmen –												
Bricklayer	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Clerks	2	1	..	3	4	1	..	1	1	..	1	10
Carpenters and joiners	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Equipment repairer	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Driver-mechanics	..	..	4	1	5	2	5	22	..	7	21	90
Driver-operators	(a) 2	..	4	..	4	(a) 6	6	30	(a) 4	2	10	66
Storemen (technical)	..	..	..	1	1	(a) 2	..	2	(a) 2	..	2	9
Vehicle mechanics (includes 1 corporal and 1 lance-corporal)	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Total, tradesmen	4	1	8	11	20	12	11	56	8	9	15	185
Non-tradesmen –												
Ammunition numbers	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	1	..	1	7
Batmen	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	9	..	1	3	19
Batmen-drivers	4	1	1	2	4	2	..	2	2	..	2	16
Drivers, I.C.	3	1	2	12	15	(a) 8	..	8	5	1	8	50
Intelligence personnel	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	4
Medical officer's orderly (lance-corporal)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
M.M.G. numbers (includes 36 corporals)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	48	144
Mortarmen (includes 16 corporals)	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	64	..	..	..	64
Motor position officers' assistants (corporals)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	4
Motor-cycle orderlies (includes 1 corporal in signal platoon)	..	..	6	..	6	4	2	12	3	1	6	36
Observation post assistants (corporals)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	4
Pioneer	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Postman (lance-corporal)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Range-takers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	18
Regimental police	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Signallers (including 1 corporal in signal platoon)	..	..	7	..	7	2	..	2	2	..	2	15
Storemen	..	..	..	2	2	1	..	1	1	..	1	6
Stretcher bearers (includes 1 corporal in headquarters)	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	4	..	4	18
Sanitary dutymen	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Transport corporals	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	4

Total, non-tradesmen	14	2	16	20	38	28	22	116	20	21	83	417
Total, rank and file	18	3	24	31	58	40	33	172	28	30	118	602

(iii) TRANSPORT

Detail	Headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, machine gun battalion
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, machine gun company	
Motor-cycles, solo	5	..	7	1	8	6	3	18	4	1	7	52
Cars –												
4-seater, 4 x 4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5-cwt., 4 x 4	2	1	1	1	3	1	..	1	1	..	1	9
Trucks, 15-cwt., 4 x 2 –												
G.S.	4	1	4	2	7	4	..	4	2	1	5	30
Personnel	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	4
Fitted for wireless	..	..	2	..	2	2	..	2	2	..	2	10
Water	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Lorries, 3-ton –												
4 x 2, office	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
4 x 4, G.S.	..	..	..	11	11	5	..	5	2	..	2	22
Carriers –												
Universal	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	8	..	(b) 8	24	80
Loyd	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	24	..	..	..	24
Trailers, 10-cwt., mortar	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	24	..	..	..	24

(iv) WEAPONS

Detail	Head	Headquarter company	Heavy mortar company	Three machine gun companies (each)	Total,
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		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, machine gun company	
M.M.Gs., .303-inch	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	4	12	36
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	1	::	::	3	3	1	2	9	1	1	4	25
P.I.A.T.	1	::	::	3	3	::	1	4	::	1	3	17
Mortars, 4.2-inch	::	::	::	::	::	::	4	16	::	::	::	16

(v) ORGANIZATION

This table is intended merely as a guide to officers commanding units, and may be varied, within the number of ranks, tradesmen and vehicles provided, according to tactical or administrative requirements.

HEADQUARTERS	
Motor-cycle, solo 1	Provost serjeant
Motor-cycles, solo 2-4 (each)	Regimental police
Motor-cycle, solo 5	Intelligence serjeant
4-seater car, 4 x 4	Lieutenant-colonel Adjutant Batman Batman-driver
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1	Major (second-in-command) Batman-driver
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 No. 22 set	(Seat for commanding officer) Corporal driver-operator Driver-operator
15-cwt truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 1 Intelligence stores P.I.A.T.	Subaltern (intelligence officer) Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 2	Medical officer Medical officer's orderly Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 3 Medical stores	Serjeant (medical section) 2 stretcher bearers Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 4	Captain (technical officer)

Traffic signs	Batman-driver
3-ton lorry, 4 x 2, office L.M.G.	Regimental serjeant-major Serjeant orderly room clerk 2 clerks Driver, I.C.
HEADQUARTER COMPANY	
Company headquarters	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4	Captain Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	Company serjeant-major Clerk Driver, I.C. (Company quarter-master-serjeant will be carried in the transport of administrative platoon.)
Signal platoon	
Motor-cycle, solo 1	Signal serjeant
Motor-cycles, solo 2-7 (each)	Orderly
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4	Captain Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 1 12 telephones, D Mk. V Switchboard, U.C.10	Corporal signaller 3 signallers Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 2 Signal stores	3 signallers Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S 3-4 (each) Charging set 1200-watt	2 driver-mechanics
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, fitted for wireless 1-2 (each) No. 22 set	2 driver-operators
Administrative platoon	
Motor-cycle, solo	Transport serjeant
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4	Subaltern (M.T. officer) Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 1	Quarter-master 2 clerks Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 2 L.M.G.	2 armourers, R.E.M.E. Corporal shoemaker, R.A.O.C. Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, water	Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Petrol	Storeman Driver, I.C.

3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2-4 (each) Petrol	Vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E. Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 5 Q.M. stores P.I.A.T.	Regimental quarter-master-serjeant Postman Equipment repairer Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 6 Q.M. stores P.I.A.T.	Pioneer serjeant 3 carpenters and joiners Bricklayer Pioneer Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 7 Cooking sets Rations and water tins L.M.G.	Corporal cook, A.C.C. 3 cooks, A.C.C. Driver, I.C. <i>Company quarter-master-serjeant (from headquarters, headquarter company)</i>
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 8 M.T. stores and tools P.I.A.T.	Serjeant (for technical stores) Storeman (technical) Clerk (for M.T. duties) Vehicle mechanic Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 9 M.T. stores and tools L.M.G.	Electrician, R.E.M.E. Driver-mechanic
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 10 Reserve ammunition	2 sanitary dutymen Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 11 Rations	Storeman Driver, I.C.
HEAVY MORTAR COMPANY	
Company headquarters	
Motor-cycles, solo 1-4	Orderly
Motor-cycle, solo 5	Transport corporal
Motor-cycle, solo 6	Signal serjeant
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 1 M.T. stores	Corporal storeman (technical) Storeman (technical) Vehicle mechanic 2 vehicle mechanics, R.E.M.E. Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 2 Signal stores	Subaltern (signal officer) 2 signallers Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 3	2 driver-mechanics

Signal stores Charging set, 1200-watt	
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 4	4 stretcher bearers Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, personnel L.M.G.	Captain Company serjeant-major Intelligence dutyman Clerk Batman Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, fitted for wireless 1 No. 22 set	Corporal driver-operator Driver-operator
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, fitted for wireless 2 No. 22 set	3 driver-operators
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, water	Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Mortar bombs	Storeman Ammunition number Corporal driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2-4 (each) Mortar bombs	Ammunition number Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 5	Company quarter-master-serjeant Corporal cook, A.C.C. 5 cooks, A.C.C. Driver, I.C.
Four platoons (each)	
Motor-cycle, solo 1	Serjeant
Motor-cycles, solo 2-3 (each)	Orderly
Carrier, universal 1 No. 18 set No. 22 set	Subaltern Corporal observation post assistant 2 driver-operators
Carrier, universal 2 No. 22 set P.I.A.T.	Subaltern Corporal motor position officer's assistant 2 driver-operators
No. 1 section –	
Carrier, Loyd 1 No. 22 set Telephone loud speaker, No. 2 20 bombs L.M.G. (Draws trailer, mortar, containing 44 bombs)	Serjeant Corporal driver-operator Driver-operator Batman
Carriers, Loyd 2-3 (each)	Corporal mortarman

22 bombs (Draws trailer, mortar, containing mortar 4.2-inch, and 24 bombs)	3 mortar-men Driver-mechanic
No. 2 section –	
Carrier, Loyd 4 48 bombs L.M.G. (Draws trailer, mortar, containing 44 bombs)	Serjeant Batman Driver-mechanic
Carriers, Loyd 5-6 (each) 22 bombs (Draws trailer, mortar, containing 4.2-inch mortar and 24 bombs)	Corporal mortarman 3 mortar-men Driver-mechanic
THREE MACHINE GUN COMPANIES (EACH)	
Company headquarters	
Motor-cycles, solo 1-3 (each)	Orderly
Motor-cycle, solo 4	Transport corporal
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4	Major Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 1 M.T. stores	Corporal storeman (technical) Storeman (technical) Vehicle mechanic Vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E. Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. 2 Signal stores	4 stretcher bearers 2 signallers Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, personnel L.M.G.	Captain Company serjeant-major Intelligence dutyman Clerk Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, fitted for wireless 1-2 (each) No. 22 set	2 driver-operators
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, water	Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Cooking sets Rations Water in tins	Company quarter-master-serjeant Corporal cook, A.C.C. 4 cooks, A.C.C. Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 Ammunition	Storeman Ammunition number Driver, I.C.

Three platoons (each)	
Headquarters –	
Motor-cycle, solo	Orderly
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. L.M.G.	4 M.M.G. numbers Driver, I.C.
Carrier, universal 1 No. 18 set No. 22 set	Subaltern 2 driver-operators
Carrier, universal 2 Ammunition and stores P.I.A.T.	Serjeant Batman Driver-mechanic
Two sections (each) –	
Carrier, universal 1 Ammunition and equipment	Serjeant Range-taker Driver-mechanic
Carrier, universal 2-3 (each) Ammunition M.M.G.	Corporal M.M.G. number 2 M.M.G. numbers Driver-mechanic

(a) Includes 1 corporal

(b) To be fitted for carrying M.M.Gs.

NOTES

1. Drivers of water trucks and cooks' lorries will be trained in water duties.
2. One man in each company will be trained up to the standard of shoemaker, group "C", class III, and will be eligible to draw the rates of pay of a tradesman, group "C", class III, only on those days on which he is employed at that trade.
3. At least one officer and 12 men will be trained in decontamination duties.
4. One man in each company will be trained in sanitary duties.
5. The drivers of petrol lorries will be trained as petrol storemen.
6. One man in each company will be trained by the unit armourer, R.E.M.E., and when qualified may be classified as probationer armourers and be eligible to draw the appropriate tradesmen's rates of pay, only on those days on which they are so employed.

NOTES ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS AND ATTACHED

Details left at base –

Orderly room serjeant 1

First reinforcements –

Captain 1

Subalterns	..	..	..	..	6
Serjeants	..	..	..	..	2
Corporals	..	..	..	..	3
Lance-corporals	..	..	..	..	6
Privates ..	..	..	..	..	54

(Total rank and file will include the following –

Tradesmen –

Driver-operators	..	..	..	10
Driver-mechanics	..	..	..	7

Non-tradesmen –

Drivers, I.C.	..	..	..	6
M.M.G. numbers	..	..	..	26
Mortarmen	..	..	..	12
Rangetakers	..	..	..	2)

Attached – L.A.D., Type “B” (non-armoured), see W.E. in Volume II.

5000 3/44 W.O.P. 16814 (6½)