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MACHINE GUN BATTALION,

MIDDLE EAST

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

79/W.E./8555 (S.D.3)

(i) PERSONNEL

| Detail | Battalion headquarters | Three companies in trucks (each) | | | One company in carriers | | | Total, machine gun battalion, Middle East |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|
| | | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, each company | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, company | |
| Lieutenant-colonel | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Second-in-command (major) | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Majors or captains (includes two majors) | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 4 |
| Adjutant (captain) | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Liaison officer (captain) | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Captains | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 4 |
| Quarter-master | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Intelligence officer | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Signal officer | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Transport officer | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Total, officers | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 28 |
| Regimental serjeant-major | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Regiment quarter-master-serjeant | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Company serjeant-majors | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 5 |
| Total, warrant officers | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 7 |
| Company quarter-master-serjeants | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 5 |
| Serjeants | .. | .. | 3 | 9 | .. | 3 | 9 | 36 |
| Serjeants – | | | | | | | | |
| Orderly room clerk | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Intelligence duties | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Medical duties | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Pioneer duties | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Provost duties | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Signal duties | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Transport N.C.O. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Storeman, technical | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants | 9 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 49 |
| Corporals (includes 10 lance-serjeants) | 6 | 2 | 3 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 11 | 50 |
| Privates (includes 41 lance-corporals) | 60 | 23 | 34 | 125 | 25 | 37 | 136 | 571 |
| Total, rank and file | 66 | 25 | 37 | 136 | 27 | 40 | 127 | 621 |
| Total, other ranks | 78 | 27 | 40 | 147 | 29 | 43 | 158 | 677 |

| Total, all ranks | 86 | 29 | 41 | 152 | 31 | 44 | 163 | 705 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Attached – | | | | | | | | |
| R.A.S.C. – Batman-driver (for chaplain) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| R.A.O.C. – Shoemaker (corporal) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| R.E.M.E. – | | | | | | | | |
| Armourers (staff-serjeants or serjeants) | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Electrician (vehicle and plant) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Fitter (serjeant) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Vehicle mechanics | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 | 5 |
| R.A.M.C. – Medical officer | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| R.A.Ch.D. – Chaplain | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| A.C.C. – Cooks for – | | | | | | | | |
| Officers' mess | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Other ranks' mess – | | | | | | | | |
| Corporals | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 |
| Privates | 2 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | 1 | 3 | 14 |
| Total, attached | 12 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 33 |
| Total, machine gun battalion, Middle East (including attached) | 98 | 31 | 42 | 157 | 34 | 45 | 169 | 738 |

(ii) DISTRIBUTION OF RANK AND FILE BY TRADES AND DUTIES

| Detail | Battalion headquarters | Three companies in trucks (each) | | | One company in carriers | | | Total, machine gun battalion, Middle East |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|
| | | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, each company | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, company | |
| Tradesmen – | | | | | | | | |
| Carpenters and joiners (includes on corporal) | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Clerks, general duties (includes one in battalion headquarters for M.T. duties) | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Driver-mechanics | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 23 |
| Equipment repairer | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Storemen, technical | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 6 |
| Vehicle mechanics | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 |
| Total, tradesmen | 15 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 42 |
| Non-tradesmen – | | | | | | | | |
| Batmen | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Batmen-drivers | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 28 |
| Butchery dutymen | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Corporals | ... | ... | 2 | 6 | ... | 2 | 6 | 24 |
| Drivers, I.C. for duty as – | | | | | | | | |
| Drivers of vehicles | 11 | 9 | 5 | 24 | 9 | 7 | 30 | 113 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Orderlies | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Intelligence duties (corporals) | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 |
| Machine gun numbers | ... | ... | 20 | 60 | ... | 20 | 60 | 240 |
| Medical officer's orderly (lance-corporal) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| M.T. dutymen (corporals) | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 |
| Officers' mess servant | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Orderlies | 2 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 50 |
| P.I.A.T. detachments | ... | ... | 2 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 26 |
| Postal dutyman (lance- corporal) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Rangetakers | ... | ... | 2 | 6 | ... | 2 | 6 | 24 |
| Ration corporal | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Regimental police | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Sanitary dutymen or water dutymen | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 |
| Stretcher bearers (includes one corporal) | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Signallers (includes one corporal on battalion headquarters) | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 34 |
| Storemen | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | 9 |
| Total, non-tradesmen | 51 | 22 | 36 | 130 | 24 | 38 | 138 | 579 |
| Total, rank and file | 66 | 25 | 37 | 136 | 27 | 40 | 147 | 621 |

(iii) TRANSPORT

| Detail | Battalion headquarters | Three companies in trucks (each) | | | One company in carriers | | | Total, machine gun battalion, Middle East |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|
| | | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, each company | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, company | |
| Motor-cycles, solo | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Cars – | | | | | | | | |
| 5-cwt., 4 x 4 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 41 |
| 4-seater, 4 x 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Trucks, 15-cwt., 4 x 2 – | | | | | | | | |
| G.S. | 6 | 3 | 5 | 18 | 2 | .. | 2 | 62 |
| Fitted for wireless | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Water | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 5 |
| Trucks, 15-cwt. 4 x 4, personnel | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 6 |
| Lorries, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S. | 7 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 30 |
| Carriers, universal | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 7 | 22 | 22 |

(iv) WEAPONS

| Detail | Battalion | Three companies in trucks (each) | One company in carriers | Total, |
|--------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
|--------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|

| | | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, each company | Company headquarters | Three platoons (each) | Total, company | |
|--------------------|-----|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----|
| L.M.Gs., .303-inch | 6 | 2 | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | 14 |
| M.M.Gs., .303-inch | ... | ... | 4 | 12 | ... | 4 | 12 | 48 |
| Ps.I.A.T. | 7 | ... | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 19 |
| Pistols, signal | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 24 |

NOTE

Three men per company will be trained in stretcher bearer duties.

NOTE ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Details left at base – | | |
| <i>Orderly room serjeant</i> | | 1 |
| First reinforcements – | | |
| Captains | | 1 |
| Subalterns | | 5 |
| | Total, officers | <u>6</u> |
| Company quarter-master-serjeant | | 1 |
| Serjeants | | 2 |
| Corporals | | 3 |
| Lance-corporals | | 7 |
| Privates | | 57 |
| | Total, other ranks | <u>70</u> |
| | Total, first reinforcements | <u>76</u> |

1000 3/44 W.O.P. 16977 (6½)