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A MACHINE GUN BATTALION IN A LIGHT DIVISION

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

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

Amdt. No.		
Date	4th Aug '44	
Officers	35	
O.Rs.	700	
Total	735	
M.Cs.	--	--
Vehicles	94	137
Trailers	94	95

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

(i) Personnel

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, a machine gun battalion in a light division
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four heavy mortar platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three M.M.G. platoons (each)	Total, M.M.G. company	
Officer commanding (lieutenant-colonel)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Second-in-command (major)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Majors	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	4
Adjutant (captain)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Captains	..	1	1	..	2	1	1	5	1	..	1	10
Subalterns	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	5	..	1	3	16
Quarter-master	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total, officers	4	1	1	2	4	3	2	11	2	1	5	34

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	...	...	7
Company quarter-master-serjeants	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	5
Clerk	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Medical serjeant	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pioneer serjeant	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Provost serjeant	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Storeman (technical)	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Transport serjeant	...	...	...	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 18 lance-serjeants)	3	...	2	1	3	6	7	34	3	4	15	85
Privates (includes 37 lance-corporals)	14	2	16	18	36	20	39	176	19	26	97	517
Total, rank and file	17	2	18	19	39	26	46	270	22	30	112	602
Total, other ranks	22	4	19	23	46	29	49	225	24	33	123	662
Total, all ranks	26	5	20	25	50	32	51	236	26	34	128	696
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
Electrician (vehicle and plant)	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vehicle mechanics	...	...	...	2	2	2	...	2	2	...	2	10
A.C.C. – Cooks for –												
Officers' mess	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	5
Other ranks' mess –												
Corporals	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	4
Privates	...	...	...	2	2	4	...	4	3	...	3	15
Total, attached	1	...	...	9	9	8	...	8	7	...	7	39
Total, a machine gun battalion in a light division	27	5	20	34	59	40	51	244	33	34	135	735

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

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, a machine gun battalion in a light division
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four heavy mortar platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three M.M.G. platoons (each)	Total, M.M.G. company	
Tradesmen –												
Clerks (includes 1 corporal)	2	1	...	3	4	1	...	1	1	...	1	10
Carpenters and joiners	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Driver-mechanics	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	1	3	15
Driver-operators (includes 10 corporals)	2	...	2	...	2	4	7	32	4	2	10	66
Equipment repairer	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Storemen (technical) (includes 2 corporals)	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	5
Total, tradesmen	4	1	2	9	12	6	8	38	6	3	15	99
Non-tradesmen –												
Ammunition numbers	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	18	1	...	1	21
Batmen	5	1	1	2	4	3	2	11	2	1	5	35
Drivers, I.C.	2	...	1	3	4	2	4	18	1	3	10	54
Intelligence corporals	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	4
Medical officer's orderly (lance-corporal)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
M.M.G. numbers (includes 36 corporals)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	60	180
Mortarmen (includes 16 corporals)	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	96	...	...	...	96
Motor position officers' assistants (corporals)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	4
Observation post assistants (corporals)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	4
Orderlies	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	12	3	1	6	30
Postman	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rangetakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	18
Regimental police	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Signallers (includes 2 corporals)	...	...	14	...	14	2	...	2	2	...	2	22
Storemen (includes 1 corporal)	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	1	1	...	1	6
Stretcher bearers (includes 1 corporal in headquarters)	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	4	...	4	18
Sanitary dutymen	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Transport corporals	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	4
Total, non-tradesmen	13	1	16	10	27	20	38	172	16	27	97	503
Total, rank and file	17	2	18	19	39	26	46	210	22	30	112	602

(iii) TRANSPORT (a)

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, a machine gun battalion in a light division
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four heavy mortar platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three M.M.G. platoons (each)	Total, M.M.G. company	
Normal –												
Cars, 5-cwt., 4 x 4	3	..	2	3	5	4	7	32	3	5	18	94
Trailers –												
10-cwt., 2-wheeled, G.S.	3	..	2	2	4	3	7	31	2	5	18	89
2-wheeled, light-weight, water, 100-gallons	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5
Alternative –												
Cars, 5-cwt., 4 x 4	3	1	2	3	6	4	7	32	3	5	18	95
Lorries, 3-ton, 4 x 4, G.S.	2	..	1	4	5	5	3	17	3	1	6	42
Trailers –												
10-cwt., 2-wheeled, G.S.	3	1	2	2	5	3	7	31	2	5	17	90
2-wheeled, light-weight, water, 100-gallons	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	5

(iv) WEAPONS

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Heavy mortar company			Three machine gun companies (each)			Total, a machine gun battalion in a light division
		Company headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Company headquarters	Four heavy mortar platoons (each)	Total, heavy mortar company	Company headquarters	Three M.M.G. platoons (each)	Total, M.M.G. company	
M.M.Gs., .303-inch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	12	36
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	1	..	..	3	3	1	2	9	1	2	7	34
Mortars, 4.2-inch (b)	..	..	..	..	..	..	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.

NORMAL BATTALION HEADQUARTERS		ALTERNATIVE BATTALION HEADQUARTERS	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Officer commanding Batman 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Officer commanding Batman 2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) "I" section stores and battalion office	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) "I" section stores and battalion office	Intelligence officer (subaltern) Clerk Intelligence sergeant Batman (trained as Driver, I.C.)
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (fitted with stretcher gear) (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Medical stores	Medical officer, R.A.M.C. Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Medical officer, R.A.M.C. Medical officer's orderly Batman (trained as Driver, I.C.)
MARCHING Second-in-command Adjutant Intelligence officer (subaltern) Regimental serjeant-major Serjeant clerk Provost serjeant Medical serjeant Intelligence serjeant 2 clerks 4 batmen Medical officer's orderly 3 regimental police Corporal stretcher bearer Stretcher bearer		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Battalion office and stores	Second-in-command Adjutant Regimental serjeant-major Serjeant clerk Clerk 2 batmen Driver, I.C.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 Medical stores	Medical serjeant Provost serjeant 3 regimental police Corporal stretcher bearer Stretcher bearer Driver, I.C.
HEADQUARTER COMPANY		HEADQUARTER COMPANY	
Company headquarters		Company headquarters	
MARCHING Captain Company serjeant-major Clerk Batman (Company quarter-master-serjeant carried in transport of administrative platoon.)		5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Captain Company serjeant-major Clerk Batman (trained as driver, I.C.) (Company quarter-master-serjeant carried in transport of administrative platoon.)

Signal platoon		Signal platoon	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	2 signallers 2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Signals line equipment	2 Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Signal officer (captain) Signal serjeant Signaller Batman (trained as Driver, I.C.)
MARCHING		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. Line equipment and stores	11 signallers Driver, I.C.
Signal officer (captain) Batman Signal serjeant 14 signallers			
Administrative platoon		Administrative platoon	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Quarter-master Clerk Batman Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Quarter-master Regimental quarter-master-serjeant Clerk Batman (trained as Driver, I.C.)
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws water trailer) Cooking equipment Rations and water	<i>Company quarter-master-serjeant (from company headquarters)</i> Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws water trailer) Rations and water	<i>Company quarter-master-serjeant (from company headquarters)</i> Driver, I.C.
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.T. stores	Serjeant vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E. Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Transport officer Transport serjeant Serjeant vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E. Batman (trained as Driver, I.C.)
MARCHING		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Cooking equipment and stores	Corporal storeman Clerk 3 cooks, A.C.C. Postman Storeman (trained as driver, I.C.)
Transport officer Regimental quarter-master-serjeant Pioneer serjeant Transport serjeant Serjeant storeman (technical) 2 clerks (includes 1 for M.T. duties) 4 carpenters and joiners Equipment repairer Storeman (technical) Batman Postman Corporal storeman 2 sanitary dutyman Corporal shoemaker, R.A.O.C. 2 armourers, R.E.M.E.		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 M.T. and technical stores	Serjeant storeman (technical) Storeman (technical) Electrician (vehicle and plant), R.E.M.E. 2 armourers, R.E.M.E. Vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 3 Pioneers' tools	Pioneer serjeant 4 carpenters and joiners 2 sanitary dutymen Driver, I.C.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 4	Clerk (for M.T. duties)

Vehicle mechanic, R.E.M.E. Electrician (vehicle and plant), R.E.M.E. 3 cooks, A.C.C.		Petrol	Corporal shoemaker, R.A.O.C. Equipment repairer Driver, I.C.
NORMAL HEAVY MORTAR COMPANY		ALTERNATIVE HEAVY MORTAR COMPANY	
Company headquarters		Company headquarters	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Major Batman Corporal driver-operator Driver-operator	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Major Batman Corporal driver-operator Driver-operator
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Signal officer Batman 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Signal officer Batman 2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Signal stores	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Captain Batman Intelligence corporal Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws water trailer) Cooking equipment Rations and water	Company quarter-master-serjeant Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws water trailer) Rations and water	Company quarter-master-serjeant Driver, I.C.
MARCHING Captain Company serjeant-major Signal serjeant Clerk Storeman (technical) 2 ammunition numbers Batman Intelligence corporal 4 orderlies 2 signallers Storeman 4 stretcher bearers Transport corporal 2 vehicle mechanics, R.E.M.E. Corporal cook, A.C.C. 3 cooks, A.C.C.		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Company stores Ammunition	Company serjeant-major Clerk Ammunition number Orderly Storeman (trained as driver, I.C.)
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 Signal stores Technical stores	Signal serjeant 2 signallers Storeman (technical) 2 vehicle mechanics, R.E.M.E.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 3 Cooking equipment	Corporal cook, A.C.C. 5 cooks, A.C.C. Driver, I.C.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 4 Ammunition	Ammunition number 2 stretcher bearers Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 5 Petrol	Transport corporal 2 stretcher bearers Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
Four heavy mortar platoons (each)		Four heavy mortar platoons (each)	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Captain Batman	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.)	Captain Batman

No. 42 set	2 driver-operators	No. 42 set	2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Platoon serjeant Mortar position officer's assistant 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Platoon serjeant Mortar position officer's assistant 2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar bombs	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Subaltern Corporal observation post assistant 2 driver-operators
No. 1 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Driver-mechanic	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Ammunition	Driver-operator 2 ammunition numbers Batman Driver, I.C.
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 5 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Driver, I.C.	No. 1 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Corporal mortarman 2 mortarmen Driver-mechanic
No. 2 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 6 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 5 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Corporal mortaman 2 mortarmen Driver, I.C.
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 7 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Driver, I.C.	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 Mortar bombs	Serjeant Ammunition number 6 mortarmen Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
MARCHING		No. 2 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 6-7 (each) (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) Mortar and bombs	Corporal mortarmen 2 mortarmen Driver, I.C.
Subaltern 2 serjeants 4 ammunition numbers Batman 4 corporal mortarmen 20 mortarmen Corporal observation post assistant 2 orderlies 3 driver-operators (with No. 42 man-pack wireless set)		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 3 Mortar bombs	Serjeant Ammunition number 6 mortarmen Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
		ALTERNATIVE	
NORMAL		THREE M.M.G. COMPANIES (EACH)	
THREE M.M.G. COMPANIES (EACH)		THREE M.M.G. COMPANIES (EACH)	
Headquarters		Headquarters	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Major Batman 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Major Batman 2 driver-operators
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Company serjeant-major Orderly 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Company serjeant-major Orderly 2 driver-operators

5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws water) Cooking equipment Rations and water	Company quarter-master-serjeant Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws water trailer) Rations and water	Company quarter-master-serjeant Driver, I.C.
MARCHING		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 1 Company stores Ammunition	Captain Batman Clerk 2 signallers Intelligence corporal Orderly Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
Captain Clerk Storeman (technical) Ammunition number Batman Intelligence corporal 2 orderlies 2 signallers Storeman 4 stretcher bearers Transport corporal 2 vehicle mechanics, R.E.M.E. Corporal cook, A.C.C. 4 cooks, A.C.C.		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 2 Technical stores Ammunition	Transport corporal Storeman (technical) Ammunition number 2 stretcher bearers 2 vehicle mechanics, R.E.M.E.
		3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. 3 Cooking equipment	Corporal cook, A.C.C. 4 cooks, A.C.C. 2 stretcher bearers Storeman (trained as driver, I.C.)
		Three M.M.G. platoons (each)	
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Subaltern Batman 2 driver-operators	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 1 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) No. 42 set	Subaltern Batman 2 driver-operators
No. 1 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Driver-mechanic	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S.	Platoon serjeant 2 serjeants 10 M.M.G. numbers Orderly (trained as driver, I.C.)
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Driver, I.C.	No. 1 section – 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 2 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Corporal M.M.G. number M.M.G. number Range-taker Driver-mechanic
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 3 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Corporal M.M.G. number 2 M.M.G. numbers Driver-mechanic
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 5 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Driver, I.C.	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 4 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Corporal M.M.G. number M.M.G. number Range-taker Driver-mechanic
MARCHING		5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 5 (draws trailers, 10-cwt.) M.M.G. and ammunition	Corporal M.M.G. number 2 M.M.G. numbers Driver-mechanic
3 serjeants 4 corporal M.M.G. numbers			

16 M.M.G. numbers Orderly 2 range-takers		
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- (a) Transport should be regarded as a pool, which may be adapted, within the number of vehicles provided, according to operational requirements.
(b) 16 3-inch mortars will be held in the theatre reserve as an alternative weapon.

NOTES

1. Personnel will be specially trained as follows:

Drivers of cars, 5-cwt., drawing water trailer	In water duties.
Drivers of petrol lorries	As petrol storemen.
Batmen	} As drivers, I.C.
Intelligence personnel	
Medical officer's orderly	
Orderlies	
Regimental police	
Storemen	

2. One officer and 12 men will be trained in anti-gas duties and decontamination work. One man in each company will be trained in sanitary duties.
3. 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 tradesmen, group "C", class III, only on those days on which they are employed in that trade.
4. 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 employed at that trade.

NOTES ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS AND ATTACHED

Details left at base –	
<i>Orderly room serjeant</i>	1
First reinforcements –	
Captain	1
Subalterns	6
Serjeants	2
Clerk	1
Driver-mechanics	2
Driver-operators	10
Driver, I.C.	5
M.M.G. numbers	26
Mortarmen	12
Rangetakers	2
Signallers	3
Stretcher bearers	2
Storemen (technical)	1

} (includes 3 corporals and 6 lance-corporals) {

2000 8/44 W.O.P. 18729 (6½)