

I/239/2

Notified in A.C.Ia, 7th April 1943

Effective date 12 March, 1943

AIR LANDING BATTALION

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

This establishment supersedes W.E. No. I/239/1

(i) Personnel

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Support company							Four rifle companies (each)			A.A. and A.Tk. company			Total, airlanding battalion	
		Company headquarters	No. 1 signal platoon	No. 2 mortar platoon	No. 3 reconnaissance platoon	No. 4 pioneer platoon	No. 5 transport platoon	No. 6 administrative platoon	Total, support company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, rifle company	Company headquarters	Two 6 gun hispano platoons (each)		Two 6-pdr plsttroons (each)
Lieutenant colonel	1															1
Major (2nd-in-command)	1															1
Majors		1						1	1		1	1			1	6
Captains					1		1	2	1		1	1			1	7
Adjutant (captain)	1															1
Subalterns	2		1	1	4	1		7		1	4		1	1	4	29
Quartermaster							1	1								1
Total, officers	5	1	1	1	5	1	1	11	2	1	6	2	1	1	6	46
Regimental serjeant-major	1															1
Regimental quartermaster-serjeant							1	1								1
Company serjeant-majors		1						1	1		1	1			1	6
Total, warrant officers	1	1					1	2	1		1	1			1	8
Company quartermaster-serjeants		1						1	1		1	1			1	6
Intelligence serjeant	1															1
Orderly room clerk (serjeant)	1															1
Provost serjeant	1															1
Pioneer serjeant						1		1								1
Transport serjeants							1	1			1				1	2
Technical storeman							1	1								1
Serjeants			1	1	1			3	1	1	5		1	1	4	27
Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	7	2	1	6	2	1	1	6	40
Corporals (includes 17 lance-serjeants)			5	4	3	1	3	16	3	3	15		6	4	20	96
Privates (includes 75 lance-corporals)	22	3	30	19	26	12	16	32	138	21	19	97	6	19	22	636
Total, rank and file	22	3	35	23	29	13	19*	32	154	24	22	112	6	25	26	732
Total, other ranks	26	5	36	24	30	14	21	33	163	27	23	119	9	26	27	780

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Support company							Four rifle companies (each)			A.A. and A. Tk. company			Total, airdlanding battalion		
		Company headquarters	No. 1 signal platoon	No. 2 mortar platoon	No. 3 reconnaissance platoon	No. 4 pioneer platoon	No. 5 transport platoon	No. 6 administrative platoon	Total, support company	Company headquarters	Four platoons (each)	Total, rifle company	Company headquarters	Two 6 gun hispano platoons (each)		Two 6-pdr plstoons (each)	Total, A.A. and A. Tk. company
Storeman		1					1	2	1		1	1			1	7	
Signallers			26													26	
Stretcher bearers							20	20								20	
Sanitary dutymen							4	4								4	
Water dutyman							1									1	
Total, non-tradesmen	18	2	29	23	29	4	11	29	127	22	22	110	5	25	21	97	682
Total, rank and file	22	3	35	23	29	13	19	32	154	25	22	112	6	25	26	108	732

(iii) Transport

Detail	Bicycles, trade pattetrn	Bicycles, folding	Motor-cycles combination	Motor-cycles heavyweight	Motor-cycles lightweight	Cars, 5-cwt., 4 x 4	Trailers	Handcarts	Cars, 2-seater 4 x 2	Cars, 4-seater, 4 x 2	Trucks, 15-cwt. 4 x 2, G.S.	Lorries, 3-ton 4 x 2, G.S.	Trailer, 2-wheeled water
	Airborne							Base (not included in table of organisation)					
Battalion headquarters	12	18	1	3	6	2	(a)3			1	1		
Support company—													
Headquarters		2		2	2								
No. 1 signal platoon		8		4	1	3	6	3					
No. 2 mortar platoon													
No. 3 reconnaissance platoon		21	4		9	4	8						
No. 4 pioneer platoon		12			1	2	3						
No. 5 transport platoon				3	3	20	(b)41		1		3	3	1

Detail	Bicycles, trade pattetn	Bicycles, folding	Motor-cycles combination	Motor-cycles heavyweight	Motor-cycles lightweight	Cars, 5-cwt., 4 x 4	Trailers	Handcarts	Cars, 2-seater 4 x 2	Cars, 4-seater, 4 x 2	Trucks, 15-cwt. 4 x 2, G.S.	Lorries, 3-ton 4 x 2, G.S.	Trailer, 2-wheeled water	
	Airborne								Base (not included in table of organisation)					
No. 6 administrative platoon		4												
Four rifle companies (each)—	122	4		4		3	6	4						
Company headquarters		4		4		3	6	4						
Four platoons (each)									3					
A.A. and A.Tk. company—														
Headquarters		2		2	7	1	2	2						
Two hispano platoons (each)				9	6	6	6							
Two 6-pdr. platoons (each)		8		2	5	2	2							

(iv) Weapons

Detail	Pistol, .45-inch automatic	Rifles, .303-inch	Rifles, .303-inch (snipers)	Machine carbine 9 mm, Sten	L.M.Gs., .303-inch	Anti-tank rifles, .55-inch	Pistols, signal R.A.F.	Pistols, signal Army	2-inch mortars	3-inch mortars	Guns, 20 mm., hispano	Guns, 6-pdr	Discharger cup
Battalion headquarters	10	16		9	3	1			1				
Support company—													
Headquarters	1	3		2									
No. 1 signal platoon	1			36									
No. 2 mortar platoon	5	18		2	4	1				4			
No. 3 reconnaissance platoon	6	19		11	6		4	1					
No. 4 pioneer platoon	1	12		2									
No. 5 transport platoon	1	23		2	4	2							
No. 6 administrative platoon	2	51											
Four rifle companies (each)—													
Company headquarters	12	15		4	2	1	1			2			

Detail	Pistol, .45-inch automatic	Rifles, .303-inch	Rifles, .303-inch (snipers)	Machine carbine 9 mm, Sten	L.M.Gs., .303-inch	Anti-tank rifles, .55-inch	Pistols, signal R.A.F.	Pistols, signal Army	2-inch mortars	3-inch mortars	Guns, 20 mm., hispano	Guns, 6-pdr	Discharger cup
Four platoons each A.A. and A.Tk. Company_	4	13	2	5	3	1	}}	1	1				
Company headquarters	3	4		6	2		}}						
Two hispano platoons (each)	1	12		14			}}				6		
Two 6-pdr. platoons (each)	5	14		9	4		}}					4	

3 sections (each)—				Bicycles, folding	1-3	Storeman	(R)
Bicycles, folding	1-7	Lance-serjeant (orderly)	(R)			Company serjeant-major	(S)
		6 orderlies	(S)			Company quarter-master-serjeant	(S)
			(5R)				
Motor-cycle combination		Subaltern	(P)	Motor-cycles		Major	(P)
No. 18 set		<i>Driver-operator</i>		heavyweight	1-4	Captain	(P)
L.M.G.		<i>(from No. 1 signal platoon)</i>				2 batmen	(2S)
Motor-cycle		Batman	(S)	Cars, 5-cwt.	1-2	2 drivers, I.C.	(2R)
lightweight				Trailers	1-4	Clerk	(R)
				A.Tk. rifle			
				Pistol, signal			
Bicycles, folding	1-12	Pioneer serjeant	(S)	Car, 5-cwt.	3	Driver-mechanic	(R)
		Bricklayer	(R)	Trailers	5-6		
		6 carpenters and joiners	(6R)				
		3 pioneers	(3R)	<i>Support section—</i>			
		Mason	(R)	Bicycle, folding	4	Serjeant	(R)
		Subaltern	(P)	<i>Maarching personnel—</i>			
Motor-cycle, lightweight						2 nursing orderlies	
Car, 5-cwt.	1	Driver-mechanic	(R)			R.A.M.C.	(2P)
Trailers	1 and 2			<i>Two mortar detachments (each)</i>			
Car, 5-cwt	2	Batman-driver	(S)			Corporal	(R)
Trailer	3					5 mortar detachments	(3P)
						3-inch mortar	(2R)
				<i>Bren detachment—</i>			
						5 L.M.G. numbers	(2P)
Motor-cycles, heavyweight	1-3	3 fitters, M.V. R.E.M.E.	(3R)			(includes 1 corporal)	(3R)
Motor-cycles, lightweight	1-3	Transport officer (captain)	(P)			2 L.M.Gs. (with tripods)	
		Batman	(S)	<i>Signals detachment—</i>		3 signallers (attached No. 1 signals platoon)	
		Transport serjeant	(S)			No. 18 set	
Cars, 5-cwt.	1-20	2 motor mechanics	(2R)				
Trailers	1-41 (a)	5 technical storemen		<i>Four platoons (each)</i>			
4 L.M.Gs.		(includes 1 serjeant and 1 corporal)	(5R)	<i>Marching personnel</i>		Subaltern	(S)
2 A.Tk. rifles		10 drivers, I.C.	(10R)			Sergeant	(R)
		Fitter, M.V. R.E.M.E.	(R)			Batman	(R)
		2 driver-mechanics	(2R)			21 L.M.G. numbers and riflemen	(4P)
						(includes 3 corporals and 2 lance-corporals)	(13R)
						3 L.M.Gs.	(4S)
						A.Tk. rifle	
						Pistol, signal	
						2-inch mortar	
						A.A. AND A.TK. COMPANY	
						<i>Company headquarters</i>	
				Bicycles, folding	1-2	Company quarter-master-serjeant	(R)
						Clerk	(R)
				Motor-cycles, heavyweight		Major	(P)
					1-2	Transport serjeant	(S)
				Motor-cycles, lightweight		Captain	(P)
					1-7	2 batmen	(2S)
						Company serjeant-major	(S)
						Orderly	(R)
						Armourer R.E.M.E.	(S)
						Fitter, general R.E.M.E.	(S)
Bicycles, folding	1-4	4 stretcher bearers	(4R)	Car, 5-cwt.		Driver, I.C.	(P)
<i>Marching personnel—</i>		16 stretcher bearers	(16R)	Trailers	1-2	Storeman	(R)
				2 L.M.Gs.			

FOUR RIFLE COMPANIES (EACH)

Company headquarters

Two 6 guns hispano platoons (each)

Platoon headquarters

Motor-cycles lightweight	Subaltern 1-3 Serjeant Batman	(P) (S) (S)	Motor-cycles lightweight	Subaltern 1-2 Batman	(P) (S)
			Car, 5-cwt	Driver-mechanic	(R)
<i>Six detachments (each)</i>			Trailers	1-2 Serjeant	(R)
Motor-cycle lightweight	Corporal	(S)	Ammunition		
			<i>Four detachments (each)—</i>		
Car, 5-cwt. trailer	Driver, I.C. 2 gun numbers	(S) (2R)	Bicycles, folding	1-2 Numbers 4 and 5 of gun	(R) (S)
Hispano gun Ammunition Stores			Car, 5-cwt. L.M.G. Gun 6-pdr	Numbers 1, 2 and 3 of gun	(P) (R) (S)
	<i>Two 6-pdr platoons (each)</i>			Driver-mechanic	(R)
<i>Platoon headquarters—</i>					
	(a)		Includes one ambulance trailer		
	(b)		Includes one trailer, binned stores		

NOTE

One man in each company will be trained as a boot repairer up to the standard of a shoemaker, group 'C' class III, and will be eligible for the rates of pay of a tradesman, group 'C' class III, only on those days on which he is employed on boot repairing duties.

NOTE ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS

Details left at base—

Orderly room serjeant 1

First reinforcements—

(Organised into three complete rifle platoons—include one platoon on bicycles—three A.A. detachments—half platoon—and two A.Tk. detachments—half platoon of A.A. and A.Tk. company, two 3-inch mortar detachments, one section reconnaissance platoon, detachment signals platoon and general reserve

Major	1
Captain	1
Subalterns	4
Company serjeant-major	1
Company quarters-master-serjeant	1
Serjeants	3
Lance-serjeants	3
Corporals	14
Lance-corporals	12
Privates	95
Nursing orderlies, R.A.M.C.	3
Total, first reinforcements	<hr/> 138
Bicycles, trade pattern	75
Bicycles, folding	10
Motor-cycles (lightweight)	11
Motor-cycles (heavyweight)	4
Cars, 5-cwt., 4 x 4	7
Motor-cycle combination	1
Trailers	14
Handcarts	9
Pistols, .45-inch, automatic	17
Rifles, .303-inch	79
Rifles, No. 4 (telescopic sights)	6
Machine carbines, 9 mm., Sten	31
Pistols, signal, Army	3
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	14
Anti-tank rifles, .55-inch	3

2-inch mortars	3
3-inch mortars	2
Discharger cups	9
Guns, 20 m.m., A.A. and anti-tank	3
Guns, 6-pdr., anti-tank	2