

A PARACHUTE BATTALION

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

(i) Personnel

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company							3 rifle companies (each)					Total, parachute battalion
		Company headquarters	Intelligence section	Signal platoon	2 mortar platoons (each)	Anti-tank and anti-aircraft platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarters company	Company headquarters	3 rifle platoons (each)			Total, rifle company (each)	
										Platoon headquarters	3 rifle sections (each)	Total rifle platoon (each)		
Lieutenant-colonel	1													1
Second-in-command (major)	1													1
Company commanders (majors)		1					1	1					1	4
Adjutant (captain)	1													1
Captains	1					1	1	1					1	4
Subalterns (non-jumper in administrative platoon)	1		1	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	3		16
Quarter-master (non-jumper)						1	1							1
Total, officers	4	1	1	1	1	3	9	2	1		1	5		28
Regimental serjeant-major	1													1
Regimental quarter-master-serjeant						1	1							1
Company serjeant majors		1					1	1					1	4
Total, warrant officers	1	1				1	2	1					1	6
Company quarter-master-serjeants		1					1	1					1	4
Orderly room clerk (non-jumper)	1													1
Intelligence serjeant			1				1							1
Signal serjeant				2			1							1
Storeman (technical) (non-jumper)						1	1							1
Transport serjeant (non-jumper)						1	1							1

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										Platoon headquarters	3 rifle sections (each)	Total rifle platoon (each)		
Provost serjeant	1													1
Parachute packer (serjeant)						1	1							1
Serjeants				3	1		7		1	1	4	12		43
Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants	2	1	1	2	3	1	3	14	1	1	1	4	13	55
Corporals (includes 10 lance-serjeants)	1			1	6	4	1	18			1	3	9	46
Privates (includes 39 lance-corporals)	16	4	7	24	31	34	35	166	7	2	8	26	85	437
Total, rank and file	17	4	7	25	37	38	36	184	7	2	9	29	94	483
Total, other ranks	20	6	8	27	40	39	40	200	9	3	10	33	108	544
Total, all ranks	24	7	9	28	41	40	43	209	11	4	10	34	113	572
<i>Attached—</i>														
R.A.M.C.—														
Medical officer	1													1
Serjeant	1													1
Corporals		1						1	1				1	4
Nursing orderlies	1	3						3	3				3	13
R.E.M.E.—														
Armourer (serjeant)							1	1						1
Vehicle mechanics (includes 1 serjeant)(non-jumpers)							2	2						2
R.A.O.C.—														
Shoemakers (includes 1 corporal) (non-jumpers)							3	3						3
A.C.C.—														
Cooks for—														
Officers' mess							2	2						2

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										Platoon headquarters	3 rifle sections (each)	Total rifle platoon (each)		
Other ranks mess (includes 1 serjeant and 2 corporals)							11	11						11
A.P.T.C.—														
Instructors							3	3						3
Total, attached	3	4					22	26	4				4	41
Total, a parachute battalion, (including attached)	27	11	9	28	41	40	65	235	15	4	10	34	117	613
<i>(ii) Distribution of rank and file by trades and duties</i>														
Tradesmen (includes 2 lance-corporals)														
Equipment repairer (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Clerks (includes 1 coporal in headquarters)	3	2					(a)4	6	1				1	12
Storemen (technical) (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Carpenters and joiners (non-jumper)							2	2						2
Blacksmith (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Driver-mechanic (non-jumper)							2	2						2
Total, tradesmen	3	2					11	13	1				1	19
<i>Non-tradesmen—</i>														
Butchery dutyman (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Batman (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Postman (lance-corporal) (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Storeman (non-jumper)		1					1	2	1				1	5
Sanitary dutymen (non-jumper)							3	3						3
Water dutyman (trained as driver, I.C.) (non-jumper)							1	1						1
Anti-tank personnel						30		30						30

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										Platoon headquarters	3 rifle sections (each)	Total rifle platoon (each)		
Batmen (b)	6	1		1	1	1	2	7	2	1		1	5	28
Drivers, I.C. (includes 1 corporal)							11	11						11
Intelligence personnel			7					7						7
L.M.G. numbers and riflemen						7		7			9	27	81	250
Mortarmen					34			68						68
Motor-cyclists	2													2
Orderlies					1			2	3	1		1	6	20
Parachute packers							4	4						4
Regimental police	6													6
Range-takers					1			2						2
Signallers (includes 1 corporal)				24				24						24
Total, non-tradesmen	14	2	7	25	37	38	25	171	6	2	9	29	93	464
Total, rank and file	17	4	7	25	37	38	36	184	7	2	9	29	94	483
(iii) Transport														
Bicycles, folding (airborne)	1			10	1			12	1				1	16
Bicycles (f)							16	16						16
Motor-cycles, solo														
125-cc (c)	4				1	4	3	11	1				1	18
350-cc	2													2
Cars—2-seater, 4 x 2	1													1
4-seater, 4 x 2	1													1
5-cwt., 4 x 4	1													1
Truck, 15-cwt., 4 x 2—G.S.		1					1	1					1	4
water							1	1						1
Lorries, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S.							8	8						8

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(iv) Weapons														
Rifles, .303-inch— No. 4, snipers No. 4, Mk. I. (pool reserve)			8				8			1	3	9	35	
Machine carbines, 9-mm., Sten (pool for parachutists)						300	300						300	
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	1				2		2		1	3	9	30		
L.M.Gs., .303-inch (pool reserve)								1		1	3	9		
M.M.Gs., .303-inch				(d)			(d)					(d)		
P.I.A.T					10		10					10		
P.I.A.T. (battalion pool) (e)						9	9					9		
Mortars— 2-inch (airborne)	1								1	3	9	28		
3-inch				4			8					8		
Pistols, signal, 1-inch	2		2				2	2	1		1	5	19	

- (a) Includes 3 non-jumpers.
(b) Includes 2 trained as drivers, I.C.
(c) If motor-cycles, solo, 125-cc, complete with dropping cradles, are not available, motor-cycles, folding will be held in lieu.
(d) Four M.M.Gs. for one platoon only, as an alternative armament to four 3-inch mortars.
(e) For issue to rifle platoons as required.
(f) For training purposes in lieu of bicycles . folding, airborne.

NOTES

1. Non-jumpers may be of medical category A.2, A.3, A.4 or A.5.
2. All personnel may be parachutists and , if qualified , will be eligible for parachute pay.

NOTE ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS

Details left at base—	
Orderly room serjeant	1
First reinforcements—	
(First reinforcements organized into signal detachment, 2 3-inch mortar detachments, 2 anti-tank detachments and 2 rifle platoons.	
Captain	1
Subalterns	6
Staff-serjeant	1
Serjeants	3
Corporals	5
Lance-corporals	10
Privates	90
Nursing orderlies R.A.M.C.	3
Rifles, .303-inch, No. 4. Mk.I. T (snipers)	6
Machine carbines, 9-mm., Sten (pool)	116
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	7
M.M.Gs., .303-inch	1
P.I.A.T.	3
Mortars, 2-inch, airborne	6
3-inch	1
Pistols, signal. 1-inch	3