

Notified in A.C.Is. 29th November, 1944
Effective date, 12th November, 1944

AN INFANTRY BATTALION

Consisting of:—

- Battalion headquarters
- Headquarters company of—
 - Headquarters
 - Signal platoon and
 - Administrative platoon
- Support company of—
 - Headquarters
 - 3-inch mortar platoon (6 mortars)
 - Carrier platoon (13 carriers)
 - A.Tk. platoon (6 6-pdr guns) and
 - Assault platoon
- Four rifle companies, each of—
 - Headquarters and
 - Three platoons (each of 3 sections)

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

This establishment supersedes W.E. No. II/233/2 being a rewrite incorporating amendments 1 - 9 inclusive.

(i) PERSONNEL

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Support company						Four rifle companies (each)			Total, an infantry battalion
		Headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Headquarters	3-inch mortar platoon	Carrier platoon	A.-Tk. platoon	Assault pioneer platoon	Total, support company	Headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, rifle company	
Officer commanding (lieutenant-colonel)	1														1
Second-in-command (major)	1														1
Majors											1			1	4
Adjutant (captain)	1														1
Platoon commander (captain)						1				1					1
Captains		1			1	1		1	1	3	1		1	1	8
Subalterns	1		1	1	2			1	1	3		1	3		18
Quarter-master				1	1										1
Total, officers	4	1	1	2	4	1	1	2	2	7	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		6
Total, warrant officers	1	1		1	2	1				1	1		1		8
Company quarter-master-serjeants		1			1	1				1	1		1		6
Intelligence serjeant	1														1
Clerk, setjeant	1														1
Provost serjeant	1														1
Pioneer serjeant									1	1					1
Medical serjeant	1														1
Sniper serjeant	1														1
Transport serjeant				1	1										1
Technical storeman-serjeant				1	1										1
Serjeants			1		1		4	5	4	13		1	3		26
Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants	5	1	1	2	4	1	4	5	4	13	1	1	4		40
Corporals (including 13 lance-serjeants)	3		3	2	5		5	9	6	22	1	3	10		70
Privates (includes 66 lance-corporals)	44	3	31	28	62	5	32	46	41	142	9	32	105		668
Total, rank and file	47	3	34	30	67	5	37	55	47	164	10	35	115		738

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter company				Support company						Four rifle companies (each)			Total, an infantry battalion
		Headquarters	Signal platoon	Administrative platoon	Total, headquarter company	Headquarters	3-inch mortar platoon	Carrier platoon	A-Tk. platoon	Assault pioneer platoon	Total. support company	Headquarters	Three platoons (each)	Total, rifle company	
(iv) WEAPONS															
L.M.Gs. .303-inch	1			3	3			13	6		19	1	3	10	63
Mortars—															
2-inch							4	6		10	1	1	4	16	
3-inch						6				6				6	
Ps.I.A.T.		1	3	4		3	4			7	3		3	23	
Pistols, signal	2					7	6	6	2	21	1	1	4	39	
Guns, 6-pr., anti-tank								6		6				6	

(v) ORGANIZATION

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

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS				
Bicycles	1-6	6 intelligence personnel	5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 (draws 10-cwt. trailer)	Signaller-orderly (acts as driver, I.C.)
Motor-cycle	1	Intelligence serjeant	15-cwt. truck, 4 x 4, personnel	2 corporal signallers 2 signallers
Motor-cycle	2	Provost serjeant		Storeman
Motor-cycles	3-5	3 regimental police		Driver, I.C.
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4		Second-in-command Batman-driver		<i>Administrative platoon</i>
4-seater car		Officer commanding Adjutant Batman Driver, I.C.	Motor-cycle Motor-cycle 5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 (draws 10-cwt. trailer)	1 Transport officer 2 Transport serjeant Quarter-master Clerk (for Q.M.) Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Intelligence officer	15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S. (draws 10-cwt. trailer)	Sanitary duty man Driver, I.C.
Intelligence equipment		Regimental serjeant-major Batman-driver	Reserve ammunition	
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	2	Medical serjeant Driver, I.C. 2 stretcher bearers	15-cwt. truck, water, 200 gallons	Sanitary dutyman Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 4, personnel (fitted with side tents)		Medical officer Medical officer's orderly- driver	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. P.I.A.T. and ammunition Reserve ammunition	1 2 sanitary dutymen Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, office		Serjeant clerk 2 clerks Batman Driver, I.C.	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. P.I.A.T. and ammunition Reserve ammunition	2 Equipment repairer Shoemaker, R.A.O.C. Driver, I.C.
Carrier, universal (seat for officer commanding)		Driver-mechanic	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. L.M.G. Headquarter and officers' mess cooks Cooking equipment	3 <i>Company quarter-master serjeant (from headquarters company headquarters)</i> 3 cooks, A.C.C. Batman Driver, I.C.
L.M.G. and ammunition				
Marching—		Serjeant, sniper 7 snipers 18 stretcher bearers		
HEADQUARTER COMPANY				
<i>Headquarters</i>				
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.		Captain Company serjeant-major Clerk Storeman Batman-driver	3-ton lorries, 4 x 4, G.S.	5-8 <i>Company quarter-master- serjeant (from rifle company headquarters)</i> 3 cooks, A.C.C. Driver, I.C.
(1 company quarter-master-serjeant carried in transport of administrative platoon)				
<i>Signal platoon</i>				
Headquarters—			3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, winch L.M.G. M.T. stores P.I.A.T. and ammunition	Serjeant technical storeman 2 technical storemen Serjeant vehicle mechanic R.E.M.E. Vehicle mechanic R.E.M.E. Vehicle mechanic (acts as driver, I.C.)
Motor-cycle	1	Signal serjeant		
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Subaltern		
P.I.A.T.		Batman-driver		
Wireless section—				
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	2	Corporal signaller 3 signallers Driver, I.C.	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. Petrol	9 Clerk (M.T. duties) Vehicle mechanic Driver, I.C.
Marching		15 signallers	3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. L.M.G.	10 Regimental quarter-master- serjeant Serjeant armourer, R.E.M.E. Postman Storeman (for Q.M.) Driver, I.C.
Signal office and line section—			Q.M. stores	
Bicycles	1-3	3 signaller-orderlies		
Motor-cycles	2-4	3 signaller-orderlies		

3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. (draws water trailer) Rations	11	Butchery dutyman Cook, A.C.C. Driver, I.C.
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S. Anti-gas stores	12	Driver, I.C. (acts as storeman i/c anti-gas stores)

SUPPORT COMPANY

Headquarters

5-cwt. car, 4 x 4		Captain Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, personnel		Company serjeant-major Clerk Orderly Storeman

(1 company quarter-master-serjeant carried in transport of administrative platoon)

3-in. mortar platoon

Motor-cycle	1	Serjeant
Motor-cycles	2-3	2 orderlies
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Corporal mortarman
P.I.A.T. and ammunition		Batman-driver
3-inch mortar bombs		
15-cwt. trucks, 4 x 2, G.S. (each)	2-3	Mortarman Driver, I.C.
P.I.A.T. and ammunition		
3-inch mortar bombs		
Carrier	1	Captain Vehicle mechanic Rangetaker Driver-mechanic
Carriers	2, 4 and 6 (each)	Serjeant 3 mortarman
3-in. mortar and bombs		Driver mechanic
Carriers	3, 5 and 7 (each)	Corporal mortarman 3 mortarman
3-in mortar and bombs		Driver-mechanic

Carrier platoon

Headquarters—		
Motor-cycle	1	Serjeant
Motor-cycles	2-3	2 orderlies
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Subaltern
Ammunition, blankets and greatcoats		Storeman Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	2	Vehicle mechanic R.E.M.E.
Stores		Driver, I.C.
Carrier		Captain
L.M.G.		Batman Driver-mechanic
Four sections (each)		
Motor-cycle	1	Orderly
Carrier	1	Serjeant
L.M.G.		2 privates
P.I.A.T.		Driver-mechanic
No. 2 cooker		
Carriers	2-3 (each)	Corporal 2 privates
No. 2 cooker (carrier No. 2 carries a 2-in mortar)		Driver-mechanic

A.-Tk. platoon

Headquarters—		
Motor-cycle	1	Subaltern
Motor-cycle	2	Orderly
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Serjeant
6-pdr. ammunition		Storeman Batman-driver
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	2	Vehicle mechanic R.E.M.E.
6-pdr. ammunition		Fitter, R.E.M.E.
Fitters' stores		Batman-driver
Carrier, universal		Captain Driver-mechanic
Three sections (each)—		
Motor-cycle		Orderly
No. 2 detachment—		
Carrier Loyd	1	Serjeant
6-pdr gun and ammunition		3 gun numbers
2-inch mortar		Driver-mechanic
Carrier Loyd	2	Corporal
L.M.G.		Driver-mechanic
Side shields		
No. 2 cooker		
No. 2 detachment—		
Carrier Loyd	3	Corporal
6-pdr gun and ammunition		3 gun numbers
2-inch mortar		Driver-mechanic
Carrier Loyd	4	Gun number
L.M.G.		Driver-mechanic
Side shields		
No. 2 cooker		

Assault pioneer platoon

Headquarters—		
5-cwt. car 4 x 4 (draws 10-cwt. trailer)		Subaltern 2 pioneers Batman-driver
Two assault sections (each)		
5-cwt. car, 4 x 4 (draws 10-cwt trailer)		Corporal 2 pioneers
Tools and explosives		Driver, I.C.
Pioneer section—		
3-ton lorry, 4 x 4, G.S.		Serjeant
Tools and stores		6 carpenters and joiners Bricklayer Mason Driver, I.C.

EACH RIFLE COMPANY

Headquarters

Bicycle	1	Orderly
Bicycles	2-3	2 batmen
5-cwt. truck, 4 x 4		Major Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	1	Storeman Driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	2	Company serjeant-major Corporal driver, I.C.
15-cwt. truck, 4 x 2, G.S.	3	Clerk Driver, I.C.

(Trucks 1–3 carry between them the stores, tools and greatcoats of the whole company)	Marching	Subaltern
Carrier	Driver-mechanic	Serjeant
L.M.G.	Mortar sub-section	Batman
3 Ps.I.A.T.	Marching	Lance-serjeant mortarman
2-inch mortar (for signalling)		2 mortarmen (with 2-inch mortar)
Marching	Captain	
(Company quarter-master-serjeant is carried in transport of administrative troop)	Three sections (each)—	
	Marching	Corporal
		Lance-corporal
Headquarters—		8 privates (with L.M.G.)
Bicycle	Orderly	

NOTES

1. Scottish and Irish battalions (except Royal Ulster Rifles, but including London Irish Rifles) will be allowed the following additional personnel:—

Serjeant	1
Pipers	2

Battalions of Foot Guards will be allowed the following additional personnel:—

Drill serjeants (warrant officers, class II)

2. The undermentioned personnel will be trained as shown below:—

Pioneer platoon	Anti-gas duties and decontamination work
Drivers of lorries carrying water tins and driver of truck, 15-cwt., 4 x 2 water	Water duties
Driver of petrol lorry	Petrol storeman
Drivers of trucks in signal platoon	Signallers
2 drivers in administrative platoon	
1 driver in each rifle company	Equipment repairers

3. Storemen in support company headquarters and in rifle companies will be trained in armourers duties by the armourer, R.E.M.E. and when qualified, may be classified as probationary armourers and be eligible to draw the appropriate tradesmen's rate of pay, only on those days on which they are so employed.

4. One man in each company will be trained after mobilization, to repair boots as a part time employment under the supervision of the shoemaker, R.A.O.C. When qualified they may be classified as shoemakers, group, :C:, not higher than class III and be eligible to draw the appropriate tradesmen's rate of pay, only on those days on which they are so employed.

5. When the battalion forms part of an armoured division the following amendments will be made to this establishment:—

Under “(ii) Distribution of rank and file by trades and duties.” “Signal platoon.”

Delete

Drivers, I.C.	2
Signaller-orderlies	3
Signallers	13

Add

Driver-operators	18
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“Rifle company headquarters (each)” *add* Driver, I.C. 1

Under “(iii) Transport” *delete*

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Support company headquarters	Each rifle company headquarters
Bicycles	6		1
Truck, 15-cwt., 4 x 2, personnel		1	
Carrier, universal	1		

Add

Motor-cycles, solo	6		1
Trucks, 15-cwt., 4 x 4, personnel		1	1
Scout car	1		

6. When the battalion forms part of a mountain division, a car, 5-cwt., 4 x 4 will be issued in lieu of the carrier, universal in battalion headquarters.

NOTE ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS

Details left at base—

<i>Orderly room serjeant</i>	1
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First reinforcements—

Captain	1
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Subalterns	6
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Warrant officer class II	1
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Company quarter-master-serjeants	2
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Serjeants	4
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Corporals	7
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Lance-corporals	13
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Privates	<u>130</u>
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Total, first reinforcements	<u>164</u>
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The total rank and file will include the following—

Tradesmen

Carpenter and joiner	1
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Clerk	1
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Driver-mechanics	8
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Non-tradesmen

Anti-tank gun numbers	6
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Assault pioneers	2
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Drivers, I.C.	7
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3-inch mortarmen	5
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Signallers	8
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Sniper	1
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Stretcher-bearers	2
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Attached—

A.C.C.—Cooks	3
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