

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 plstoons (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 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) | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | 9 | 4 | 8 | | | | | | |
| No. 3 reconnaissance platoon | | 21 | 4 | | 9 | | | | | | | | |
| 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, | | | | | | 2 nursing orderlies | |
| lightweight | | | | | | R.A.M.C. | (2P) |
| Car, 5-cwt. | 1 | Driver-mechanic | (R) | <i>Two mortar detachments (each)</i> | | | |
| Trailers | 1 and 2 | | | | | Corporal | (R) |
| Car, 5-cwt | 2 | Batman-driver | (S) | | | 5 mortar detachments | (3P) |
| Trailer | 3 | | | | | 3-inch mortar | (2R) |
| | | | | <i>Bren detachment—</i> | | | |
| | | | | | | 5 L.M.G. numbers | (2P) |
| | | | | | | (includes 1 corporal) | (3R) |
| | | | | | | 2 L.M.Gs. (with tripods) | |
| | | | | <i>Signals detachment—</i> | | 3 signallers (attached No. 1 | |
| | | | | | | signals platoon) | |
| | | | | | | No. 18 set | |
| | | | | | | <i>Four platoons (each)</i> | |
| | | | | <i>Marching personnel</i> | | Subaltern | (S) |
| | | | | | | Sergeant | (R) |
| | | | | | | Batman | (R) |
| | | | | | | 21 L.M.G. numbers and | (4P) |
| | | | | | | riflemen | (13R) |
| | | | | | | (includes 3 corporals and | (4S) |
| | | | | | | 2 lance-corporals) | |
| | | | | | | 3 L.M.Gs. | |
| | | | | | | 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, | | Major | (P) |
| | | | | heavyweight | 1-2 | Transport serjeant | (S) |
| | | | | Motor-cycles, | | Captain | (P) |
| | | | | lightweight | 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 |