

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 corporal 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			8				8			1	3	9	35	
No. 4, Mk. I. (pool reserve)						54	54						54	
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