Notes on the format used for the Organizational Tables

The format of the Red Army штат, or *Shtat* (State) appears to have remained largely unaltered, at least between 1941 and 1945. The files available for download in this series are derived from copies of the original documentation but are not reproduced in identical form.

A Soviet *Shtat* table contained the following information;

Personnel - the total number of personnel authorised and their role in the unit. Also detailed was their rank and pay rate.

Horses - the total number of horses allotted, split between riding horses, draught horses and artillery horses, the latter used specifically to tow guns.

Weapons - all personal and support weapons were listed. There was no distinction between semi-automatic pistols and revolvers, or particular types of submachine gun, such as PPSh and PPD. Rifles were divided into four categories, each identified by letter;

a - (semi) automatic rifles
b - bolt action rifles
c - sniper rifles
kp - carbines

Carbine referred originally to the M1938 or the later M1944, both of which were shortened versions of the M1891/30.

Transport - horse-drawn transport was effectively divided into carts (one-horse) or wagons (two-horse). There was no motor transport authorised for the standard Rifle Battalion at any time during the war.

Unlike their Allied or Axis contemporaries, *Shtat* tables did not give a summary of either weapons or transport by unit and subunit. The front page of the Rifle Regiment *Shtat* would give an overall figure for weapons by type and wagons or motor vehicles, but there was no subtotal provided for the Rifle Battalions or Regimental Companies. Early issues of *Shtat* included an extensive equipment section, detailing ammunition and communications gear among other items. This information was subsequently removed into a separate document, and I have not seen the ones that would have likely been issued for the December 1942 tables.

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