

Red Army Rifle Battalion (Reduced Strength)

Shtat reference 04/601

Dated 29th July 1941

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Composed of;

Battalion Headquarters	3 Officers, 2 men
Communication Platoon	(1 Officer, 26 men)
Medical Platoon	(1 Officer, 6 men)
Supply Platoon	(1 Officer, 22 men)
Machine Gun Company	5 Officers, 87 men
Company Headquarters	(2 Officers, 3 men)
Three Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 28 men) - (four heavy machine guns)
Three Rifle Companies, each	5 Officers, 157 men
Company Headquarters	(2 Officers, 5 men)
Medical Squad	(5 men)
One Rifle Platoon	(1 Officer, 51 men) - (one 50-mm mortar)
One Rifle Platoon	(1 Officer, 50 men) - (one 50-mm mortar)
One Rifle Platoon	(1 Officer, 46 men)
Mortar Platoon	(1 Officer, 14 men) - (two 82-mm mortars)
Total strength	655 all ranks (27 Officers and 628 men)

Each Company Headquarters includes 1 Political Officer as second-in-command

Summary Table, Red Army Rifle Battalion, July 1941 (Reduced Strength)

Detail	Battalion Headquarters	Communication Platoon	Medical Platoon	Supply Platoon	82-mm Mortar Platoon	Three Rifle Companies (each)			Total, Rifle Company	Machine Gun Company		Total, Machine Gun Company	Total, Rifle Battalion
						Company HQ & Medical	Two Rifle Platoons (each)	One Rifle Platoon		Company HQ	Three Platoons, (each)		
i). Personnel													
Command ranks	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	4	23
Political ranks	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	4
Junior command ranks	1	4	1	3	2	3	6	5	20	2	4	14	85
Other ranks	1	22	5	19	12	7	44	41	137	1	24	73	543
Total, all ranks	5	27	7	23	15	12	51	47	162	5	29	92	655
ii). Transport													
Riding horses	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Draught horses	0	2	2	20	2	0	0	0	1	0	4	12	41
Carts (one-horse)	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
Wagons (two-horse)	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	15
Field kitchens	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bicycles	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
iii). Weapons													
Pistols	3	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	7	2	5	17	47
Rifles	2	26	1	19	12	5	41	38	126	3	20	63	501
Sniper rifles	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	8	0	0	0	24
Submachine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	0	18
Light machine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	0	18
Heavy machine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	12	12
50-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	6
82-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Notes

1st Rifle Platoon of each Rifle Company includes one extra man with rifle and one horse and wagon, which are shown in the overall Company figures.

Battalion Headquarters (3 Officers, 2 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battalion commander	K-IV	1	Pistol	1
			Riding horse	1
Senior adjutant	K-III	1	Pistol	1
Adjutant	K-I	1	Pistol	1
Chemical warfare instructor	MK-2	1	Rifle	1
Groom	p-c	1	Rifle	1
			Riding horse	1
Total, all ranks		5		

Communication Platoon (1 Officer, 26 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	K-I	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Wagon driver	p-H	2	Rifle	2
			Cart	2
			Draught horse	2
				2
Telephone Exchange				
Head of Station	MK-2	1	Rifle	1
Senior telephonist	p-c	1	Rifle	1
Senior telephonist/visual signaller	p-c	3	Rifle	3
Radio Squad				
Section commander	MK-1	1	Carbine	1
Radio operator	p-c	1	Carbine	1
Two Telephone Squads				
Section commander	MK-1	2	Rifle	2
Senior telephonist/visual signaller	p-c	4	Rifle	4
Telephonist/visual signaller	p-c	11	Rifle	11
Total, all ranks		27		

Medical Platoon (1 Medical Service Officer, 6 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Senior medical orderly	M-II	1	Pistol	1
Sanitary instructor	MM-3	1		
Stretcher-bearer	p-H	4		
Wagon driver	p-H	1	Rifle	1
			Medical wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Total, all ranks		7		

Supply Platoon (1 Officer, 22 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Platoon commander	K-I	1	Pistol	1
Ammunition				
Section commander	MK-1	1	Rifle	1
Equipment & ammunition handler	p-c	4	Rifle	4
Senior wagon driver	p-H	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Wagon driver	p-H	3	Rifle	3
			Wagon	3
			Draught horse	6
Administration				
Section commander	MK-1	1	Rifle	1
Senior cook	Ma-2	1		
Cook	p-H	4	Rifle	2
Blacksmith	p-H	1	Rifle	1
Senior wagon driver	p-H	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Wagon driver	p-H	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Wagon driver	p-H	4	Rifle	4
			Kitchen	4
			Draught horse	8
Total, all ranks		23		

Three Rifle Companies (5 Officers, 157 men), each

Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 1 Political Officer, 5 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	K-III	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander for political affairs	N-III	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	MK-3	1	Rifle*	1
Company clerk	Ma-2	1	Rifle	1
Observer/sniper	p-c	2	Rifle	2
Messenger	p-c	1	Rifle*	1
Total, all ranks		7	*authorised an SVT-40 rifle	

1st Rifle Platoon (1 Officer, 51 men) and:

2nd Rifle Platoon (1 Officer, 50 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	K-I	1	Pistol	1
Assistant platoon commander	MK-2	1	Rifle*	1
Messenger	p-c	1	Rifle*	1
<i>Mortar Squad</i>				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Carbine	1
Mortar number	p-c	1	Pistol	1
			50-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	p-c	2	Carbine	2
Wagon driver	p-c	(1)	Rifle	(1)
			Wagon	(1)
			Draught horse	(1)
<i>Two Squads, each</i>				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Rifle*	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Submachine gun	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1		
Rifleman	p-c	8	Rifle*	8
<i>Two Squads, each</i>				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Rifle*	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Light machine gun	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Rifle*	1
Rifleman	p-c	8	Rifle*	8
Total, all ranks		...	*authorised an SVT-40 rifle	
1st Platoon		52		
2nd Platoon		51		

3rd Rifle Platoon (1 Officer, 46 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	K-I	1	Pistol	1
Assistant platoon commander	MK-2	1	Rifle*	1
Messenger	p-c	1	Rifle*	1
Two Squads, each				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Rifle*	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Submachine gun	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1		
Rifleman	p-c	8	Rifle*	8
Two Squads, each				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Rifle*	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Light machine gun	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Rifle*	1
Rifleman	p-c	8	Rifle*	8
Total, all ranks		47	*authorised an SVT-40 rifle	

Medical Squad (5 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Sanitary instructor	MM-3	1		
Medical orderly	p-H	4	Rifle	2
Total, all ranks		5		

Notes

1. Wagon driver, horse and wagon only present in first Platoon of each Rifle Company.
2. Two of the riflemen in each Rifle Platoon are armed with sniper rifles.
3. Each Rifle Platoon has two submachine guns and there is no indication given in the table as to which men were equipped with them. Shown in the above as being in the two Squads without light machine guns for clarity.
4. The total number of rifles (all types) for the Battalion does indicate that nine men in each Rifle Company had no individual weapon. Allowing for the three men in the Medical Squad confirmed as unarmed that would leave two men per Rifle Platoon with no individual weapon. They are shown in the above as the assistant to the light machine gunner in the two Squads per Rifle Platoon with no light machine gun.

Machine Gun Company (5 Officers, 87 men)

Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 1 Political Officer, 3 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	K-III	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander for political affairs	N-III	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	MK-3	1	Rifle	1
Company clerk	Ma-2	1	Rifle	1
Scout	p-c	1	Rifle	1
Total, all ranks		5		

Three Machine Gun Platoons, each (1 Officer, 28 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Platoon commander	K-I	1	Pistol	1
2 Machine gunner/wagon driver*			Wagon	2
			Draught horse	4
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Rifle	1
Gunner	p-c	1	Pistol	1
			Heavy machine gun	1
Machine gunner	p-c	1	Pistol	1
Machine gunner*	p-c	4	Rifle	4
Total, all ranks		29		

*Two men from the total four Machine Gun Squads also act as drivers for the two wagons

Mortar Platoon (1 Officer, 14 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	K-l	1	Pistol	1
<i>First Squad</i>				
Assistant platoon commander*	MK-2	1	Carbine	1
Gunner	p-c	1	Pistol	1
			82-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	p-c	4	Carbine	4
Wagon driver	p-c	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
<i>Second Squad</i>				
Squad commander	MK-1	1	Carbine	1
Gunner	p-c	1	Pistol	1
			82-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	p-c	4	Carbine	4
Wagon driver	p-c	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
*also Squad commander	Total, all ranks			15