

Red Army Rifle Battalion

Shtat reference 04/551

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Composed of;

Battalion Headquarters	4 Officers
Communication Platoon	(1 Officer, 9 men)
Medical Platoon	(1 Officer, 4 men)
Supply Platoon	(1 Officer, 11 men)
Three Rifle Companies, each	7 Officers, 136 men
Company Headquarters	(3 Officers, 2 men)
Medical Squad	(5 men)
Mortar Platoon	(1 Officer, 6 men) - (two 50-mm mortars)
Machine Gun Squad	(6 men) - (one heavy machine gun)
Three Rifle Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 39 men)
Machine Gun Company	6 Officers, 52 men
Company Headquarters	(3 Officers, 1 man)
Three Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 17 men) - (three heavy machine guns)
Anti-tank Rifle Platoon	(1 Officer, 22 men) - (nine anti-tank rifles)
Mortar Company	6 Officers, 55 men
Company Headquarters	(3 Officers, 1 man)
Three Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 18 men) - (three 82-mm mortars)
45-mm Gun Platoon	(1 Officer, 16 men) - (two 45-mm guns)
Total strength	619 all ranks (42 Officers and 577 men)

Battalion Headquarters and each Company Headquarters includes 1 Political Officer

Summary Table, Red Army Rifle Battalion, December 1942

Detail	Battalion Headquarters	Communication Platoon	Medical Platoon	Supply Platoon	45-mm Gun Platoon	Anti-tank Rifle Platoon	Three Rifle Companies (each)				Total, Rifle Company	Machine Gun Company		Total, Machine Gun Company	Mortar Company		Total, Mortar Company	Total, Rifle Battalion
							Company HQ & Medical	50-mm Mortar Platoon	Machine Gun Squad	Three Rifle Platoons (each)		Company HQ	Three Platoons, (each)		Company HQ	Three Platoons, (each)		
i). Personnel																		
Command ranks	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	6	2	1	5	2	1	5	36
Political ranks	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	6
Junior command ranks	0	2	1	2	6	6	3	4	2	11	42	1	6	19	1	6	19	181
Other ranks	0	7	3	9	10	16	4	2	4	28	94	0	11	33	0	12	36	396
Total, all ranks	4	10	5	12	17	23	10	7	6	40	143	4	18	58	4	19	61	619
ii). Transport																		
Draught horses	0	1	1	14	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	9	0	3	9	39
Artillery horses	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Carts (one-horse)	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	3	9	17
Wagons (two-horse)	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	8
Field kitchens	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Bicycles	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
iii). Weapons																		
Pistols	4	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	7	3	1	6	3	1	6	42
Rifles	0	9	3	9	12	13	5	6	5	27	97	1	14	43	1	15	46	426
Sniper rifles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Submachine guns	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
Light machine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
Heavy machine guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	9	0	0	0	12
50-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
82-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	9
Anti-tank rifles	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
45-mm guns	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Battalion Headquarters (3 Officers, 1 Political Officer)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battalion commander	Major	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Battalion commander for political affairs		1	Pistol	1
Deputy Battalion commander	Major or Captain	1	Pistol	1
Senior adjutant	Captain	1	Pistol	1
Total, all ranks		4		

Communication Platoon (1 Officer, 9 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
			Bicycle	1
Wagon driver	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Cart	1
			Draught horse	1
Telephone Exchange				
Head of Station	Senior Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Senior telephonist	Lance-corporal	1	Rifle	1
Telephonist	Private	1	Rifle	1
Telephone Squad				
Section commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Senior telephonist	Lance-corporal	1	Rifle	1
Telephonist	Private	3	Rifle	3
Total, all ranks		10		

Medical Platoon (1 Medical Service Officer, 4 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Platoon commander	Senior Medic	1	Pistol	1
Sanitary instructor	Senior Sergeant (Medical)	1	Carbine	1
Medical orderly	Private	2	Carbine	1
Wagon driver	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Medical wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
Total, all ranks		5		

Supply Platoon (1 Officer, 11 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<i>Ammunition</i>				
Section commander	Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Senior wagon driver	Lance-corporal	1	Carbine	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Wagon driver	Private	3	Carbine	3
			Wagon	3
			Draught horse	6
<i>Administration</i>				
Senior cook	Senior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Cook	Private	2		
Senior wagon driver	Lance-corporal	1	Carbine	1
			Kitchen	1
			Draught horse	2
Wagon driver	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Kitchen	1
			Draught horse	2
Blacksmith (also wagon driver)	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Kitchen	1
			Draught horse	2
Total, all ranks		12		

Three Rifle Companies (7 Officers, 136 men), each

Company Headquarters (2 Officers, 1 Political Officer, 2 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander for political affairs		1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander	Senior Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Rifle*	1
Company clerk	Administrative Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Total, all ranks		5	*authorised an SVT-40 rifle	

Medical Squad (5 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Sanitary instructor	Senior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Medical orderly	Private	4	Carbine	2
Total, all ranks		5		

Mortar Platoon (1 Officer, 6 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Two Squads, each				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
			50-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	Private	1	Rifle	1
Total, all ranks		7		

Machine Gun Squad (6 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Machine gunner	Private	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Heavy machine gun	1
Gunner	Lance-corporal	1	Rifle	1
Machine gunner	Private	2	Rifle	2
Total, all ranks		6		

Three Rifle Platoons, each (1 Officer, 39 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Assistant platoon commander	Senior Sergeant	1	Rifle*	1
Sniper	Lance-corporal	2	Rifle	2
<i>Two Squads, each</i>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle*	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	2	Light machine gun	2
Machine gunner	Private	2	Rifle*	2
Rifleman	Private	3	Rifle*	3
Rifleman	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Two Squads, each</i>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle*	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Light machine gun	1
Machine gunner	Private	1	Rifle*	1
Rifleman	Private	5	Rifle*	5
Rifleman	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
Total, all ranks		40	*authorised an SVT-40 rifle	

Comments

Some other drafts of the Rifle Company tables show the following variations from the above;

1. The gunners for the two 50-mm mortars without rifles.
2. The commander of the 50-mm Mortar Platoon as a *Starshina* rather than an officer.
3. All five members of the Medical Squad armed with carbines.

Machine Gun Company (6 Officers, 52 men)

Company Headquarters (2 Officers, 1 Political Officer, 1 man)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander for political affairs		1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander	Senior Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Carbine	1
Total, all ranks		4		

Three Machine Gun Platoons, each (1 Officer, 17 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Machine gunner	Private	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Machine gunner	Private	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
Three Squads, each				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Heavy machine gun	1
Gunner	Lance-corporal	1	Rifle	1
Machine gunner	Private	2	Rifle	2
Total, all ranks		18		

Anti-tank Rifle Platoon (1 Officer, 22 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Wagon driver	Private	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	2
Three Squads, each				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Anti-tank rifle	1
Number	Private	1	Rifle	1
Gunner	Lance-corporal	2	Anti-tank rifle	2
Number	Private	2	Rifle	2
Total, all ranks		23		

Mortar Company (6 Officers, 55 men)

Company Headquarters (2 Officers, 1 Political Officer, 1 man)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander for political affairs		1	Pistol	1
Deputy Company commander	Senior Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Carbine	1
Total, all ranks		4		

Three Mortar Platoons, each (1 Officer, 18 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Three Squads, each				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Rifle	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	82-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	Private	3	Rifle	3
Wagon driver	Private	1	Rifle	1
			Wagon	1
			Draught horse	1
Total, all ranks		19		

45-mm Gun Platoon (1 Officer, 16 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Two Squads, each				
Squad commander	Senior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Sergeant	1		
Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Number	Private	3	Carbine	3
Driver	Private	2	Carbine	2
			45-mm gun	1
			Caisson (ammunition)	1
			Artillery horse	4
Total, all ranks		17		