

## Red Army Motor Submachine Gun Battalion

*Shtat* reference 010/502

Dated ? November 1943

**Partial reconstruction based on amended version from August 1944**

A [www.bayonetstrength.uk](http://www.bayonetstrength.uk) PDF

Composed of;

<b>Battalion Headquarters</b>	<b>13 Officers, 8 men</b>
<b>Two SMG Companies, each</b>	<b>5 Officers, 96 men</b>
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 5 men)
Machine Gun Platoon	(1 Officer, 10 men) - (two heavy machine guns)
Three SMG Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 27 men)
<b>Desant Company</b>	<b>(4 Officers, 91 men)</b>
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 1 man)
Three SMG Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 30 men)
<b>Anti-tank Rifle Company</b>	<b>(4 Officers, 49 men)</b>
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 1 man)
Three Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 16 men) - (nine anti-tank rifles)
<b>Anti-tank Battery</b>	<b>(4 Officers, 40 men)</b>
Battery Headquarters	(2 Officers, 12 men)
Two Gun Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 14 men) - (two 57-mm or 76-mm guns)
<b>Mortar Company</b>	<b>3 Officers, 39 men</b>
Company Headquarters	(1 Officer, 5 men)
Two Platoons, each	(1 Officer, 17 men) - (three 82-mm mortars)
<b>Service Platoon</b>	<b>2 Officers, 43 men</b>
<b>Medical Detachment</b>	<b>1 Officer, 4 men</b>
<b>Total strength</b>	<b>507 all ranks (41 Officers and 466 men)</b>

Total for Officers includes 3 Political Officers and 7 Officers from specialist branches

Summary Table, Red Army Motor Submachine Gun Battalion, November 1943

Detail	Battalion Headquarters	Two SMG Companies (each)			Total, SMG Company	Desant Company		Total, Desant Company	Total, Anti-tank Rifle Company	Total, Anti-tank Battery	Total, Mortar Company	Total, Service Platoon & Medical	Total, Motor SMG Battalion
		Company HQ	Machine Gun Platoon	Three SMG Platoons (each)		Company HQ	Three SMG Platoons (each)						
<b>i). Personnel</b>													
Command ranks	10	1	1	1	5	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	<b>38</b>
Political ranks	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
Junior command ranks	3	2	4	6	24	1	3	10	22	16	13	18	<b>130</b>
Other ranks	5	3	6	21	72	0	27	81	27	24	26	29	<b>336</b>
Total, all ranks	21	6	11	28	101	2	31	95	53	44	42	50	<b>507</b>
<b>ii). Transport</b>													
Motor car (Jeep)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>1</b>
1.5-ton trucks	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	18	<b>25</b>
2.5-ton trucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	<b>5</b>
3-ton trucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	<b>4</b>
Workshop truck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>1</b>
Ambulance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>1</b>
Kitchen trailers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	<b>3</b>
Motorcycle & sidecar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>iii). Weapons</b>													
Pistols	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	<b>7</b>
Rifles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	25	12	<b>71</b>
Submachine guns	18	5	9	25	89	2	31	95	35	2	11	5	<b>344</b>
Light machine guns	0	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>18</b>
Heavy machine guns	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
82-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	<b>6</b>
57-mm/76-mm anti-tank guns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	<b>4</b>
Anti-tank rifles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	<b>18</b>

**Battalion Headquarters (6 Officers, 3 Political Officers, 4 Service Officers and 8 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Command</b>				
Battalion commander	Major	1	Submachine gun	1
Deputy Battalion commander (for Political Affairs)	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
Deputy Battalion commander	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
Assistant Battalion commander (for Technical Duties)	Engineer-Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
Assistant Battalion commander (for Administrative Duties)	Captain (Quartermaster Service)	1	Submachine gun	1
Senior Adjutant	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
Adjutant	Senior Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Chief of Communication	Senior Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Chief of Chemical Services	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Clerk, Finances	Lieutenant (Quartermaster Service)	1	Submachine gun	1
Senior Clerk	Administrative Sergeant	1		
<b>Party Political Apparatus</b>				
Party Organiser	<i>By special provision</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Komsomol</i>	<i>By special provision</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Technical and Ammunition</b>				
Head of Combat Supply	Senior Technical Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Clerk	Private	1		
<b>Headquarters Squad</b>				
Squad commander (Chief radio operator)	Senior Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Senior radio operator	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Radio operator	Lance-corporal	3	Submachine gun	3
Driver	Private	1	1.5-ton truck	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>21</b>		

**Medical Detachment (1 Service Officer, 4 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battalion Doctor	Captain (Medical Service)	1	Pistol	1
Sanitary instructor	Senior Sergeant (Medical)	1		
Medical orderly	Private	2		
Driver	Private	1	Carbine Ambulance	1 1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>5</b>		

**Two Rifle Companies (5 Officers, 96 men), each**

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

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
Messenger	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
Sanitary instructor	Senior Sergeant	1		
Medical orderly	Private	2	Submachine gun	2
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>6</b>		

**Machine Gun Platoon (1 Officer, 10 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Two Squads, each</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Heavy machine gun	1
Machine gunner	Private	3	Submachine gun	3
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>11</b>		

**Three SMG Platoons, each (1 Officer, 27 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Three Squads, each</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Machine gunner (No.1)	Junior Sergeant	1	Light machine gun	1
Machine gunner	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
Submachine gunner	Lance-corporal	6	Submachine gun	6
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>28</b>		

**Desant Company (4 Officers, 91 men)****Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 1 man)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>2</b>		

**Three Submachine Gun Platoons, each (1 Officer, 30 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Three Squads, each</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Submachine gunner	Lance-corporal	9	Submachine gun	9
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>31</b>		

**Anti-tank Rifle Company (4 Officers, 49 men)****Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 1 man)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Senior Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>2</b>		

**Three Anti-tank Rifle Platoons, each (1 Officer, 16 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Assistant Platoon commander	Senior Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Three Squads, each</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Anti-tank rifle	1
Number	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
Gunner	Lance-corporal	1	Anti-tank rifle	1
Number	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>17</b>		

**Anti-tank Battery (4 Officers, 40 men)****Battery Headquarters (1 Officer, 2 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battery commander	Captain	1	Pistol	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
Motorcyclist	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Motorcycle and sidecar	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>3</b>		

**Headquarters Platoon (1 Officer, 10 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<b>Scout Squad</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Senior scout-observer	Lance-corporal	1	Carbine	1
Scout-observer	Private	2	Carbine	2
<b>Communication Squad</b>				
Squad commander (Chief radio operator)	Senior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Radio operator	Lance-corporal	1	Carbine	1
Senior telephonist	Lance-corporal	1	Carbine	1
Telephonist	Private	2	Carbine	2
Driver	Private	1	Carbine	1
			1.5-ton truck	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>11</b>		

**Two Gun Platoons, each (1 Officer, 14 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<b>Two Squads, each</b>				
Gun commander	Senior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Sergeant	1		
Deputy gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Gun number	Private	3	Carbine	3
Driver*	Private	1	Carbine	1
			57-mm or 76-mm gun	1
			3-ton truck	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>15</b>		

\*1 driver is a Junior Sergeant

**Mortar Company (3 Officers, 39 men)****Company Headquarters (1 Officer, 5 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Submachine gun	1
<i>Starshina</i>	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Submachine gun	1
Scout	Private	1	Submachine gun	1
Telephonist	Private	2	Carbine	2
Driver	Private	1	Carbine	1
			1.5-ton truck	1
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>6</b>		

**Two Mortar Platoons, each (1 Officer, 17 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b><i>Headquarters</i></b>				
Platoon commander	Lieutenant	1	Submachine gun	1
Driver	Private	2	Carbine	2
			1.5-ton truck	2
			<i>(crews, weapons, ammunition)</i>	
<b><i>Three Squads, each</i></b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	1	Submachine gun	1
Deputy commander – Gunner	Junior Sergeant	1	82-mm mortar	1
Mortar number	Private	3	Carbine	3
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>18</b>		

**Service Platoon (2 Service Officers, 43 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<b>Headquarters</b>				
Platoon commander	Senior Technical Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
<b>Two Squads (in total)</b>				
Squad commander	Sergeant	3	Submachine gun	3
Senior driver	Junior Sergeant	2	Submachine gun	2
Driver	Private	18	Motor car (Jeep)	1
			1.5-ton truck	18
			<i>(17 for unit personnel, 1 for fuel and spares)</i>	
			2.5-ton truck	2
			<i>(ammunition)</i>	
Deputy Ammunition storeman	Sergeant	1		
Motorcyclist	Private	1	Carbine	1
			Motorcycle & sidecar	1
<b>Repair Squad (machine and weapons)</b>				
Vehicle Technician	Technical Lieutenant	1	Pistol	1
Foreman (Squad commander)	Senior Sergeant <i>(Technical Service)</i>	1	Carbine	1
Electrician	Sergeant <i>(Technical Service)</i>	1		
Master Armourer	Sergeant <i>(Technical Service)</i>	1		
Master Armourer (machine gun)	Sergeant <i>(Technical Service)</i>	2		
Driver-mechanic	Junior Sergeant <i>(Technical Service)</i>	1	Mobile workshop Type "A"	1
			Carbines*	2
<b>Administrative Squad</b>				
Squad commander	<i>Starshina</i>	1	Carbine	1
Deputy storeman	Sergeant	1		
Senior cook	Sergeant <i>(Administrative Service)</i>	3		
Cook	Private	3		
Shoemaker	Private	1		
Driver	Private	3	2.5-ton truck (kitchen)	3
			Kitchen trailer	3
			Carbines*	6
<b>Total, all ranks</b>		<b>45</b>	*holders not specified	



## Comments

The forgoing is based on a document available from the [www.pamyat-naroda.ru](http://www.pamyat-naroda.ru) website;  
<https://pamyat-naroda.ru/documents/>

The original *Shtat* was issued during November 1943 and is not a document I have found or seen a detailed summary of. Even its full date of issue appears to be unknown. There are three summary sources I have seen, which together provide a target figure for the Battalion of 507 all ranks. One of these also offers a further breakdown showing 41 command ranks, 130 junior command ranks and 336 other ranks.

The above linked document would seem to be a local reissue incorporating changes made up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 1944, the most important of these being the deletion of the Anti-tank Rifle Company. Unfortunately, the reissue contains multiple inconsistencies, which is a polite way of saying the figures do not add up. The summary on the first page shows 37 command ranks, 108 junior command ranks and 306 other ranks for 451 all ranks. Counting up all the personnel of the Battalion there is one less NCO than stated. The Repair Squad of the Service Platoon is shown with eight personnel but the figures provided total seven; similarly the total of the Service Platoon is given as 44 while the actual count is 41.

To try and reverse engineer the original November 1943 document, I have assumed that the Anti-tank Rifle Company was 53 all ranks, which is in line with several summaries. Also, I have assumed that when this Company was merged into the Battalion it brought across three of its previous four 1.5-ton trucks, three drivers and the NCO in charge of them, which when added to the Service Platoon gives a total of 45 all ranks.

If anyone does ever happen across an actual copy of the table, I'd appreciate it if you could let me know how my interpretations fare, and also where to find the table of course...