

United States Parachute Infantry Battalion

Tables of Organization reference 7-36 and 7-37

All dated 17th February 1942

Incorporating -

Change No.1 of 24th February 1944 to 7-36

Change No.2 of 24th February 1944 to 7-37

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Composed of;

Battalion Headquarters	4 Officers
Headquarters Company	7 Officers, 138 men
Headquarters Platoon	(3 Officers, 61 men)
Light Machine Gun Platoon	(2 Officers, 40 men) (eight light machine guns)
81-mm Mortar Platoon	(2 Officers, 37 men) (four 81-mm mortars)
Three Rifle Companies, each	8 Officers, 119 men
Company Headquarters	(2 Officers, 14 men)
Three Platoons, each	(2 Officers, 35 men) (one 60-mm mortar)
Total strength	530 all ranks (35 Officers and 495 men)

Summary Table, United States Parachute Infantry Battalion, February 1944

Detail	HQ & HQ Company							Total, HQ & HQ Company	Three Rifle Companies, each		Total, Rifle Company	Total, Battalion
	Battalion Headquarters	Company HQ	Staff Section	Mess Section	Communication Section	Light Machine Gun Platoon	81-mm Mortar Platoon		Company HQ	Three Rifle Platoons (each)		
i). Personnel												
Officers	4	2	0	0	1	2	2	11	2	2	8	35
Enlisted Men	0	7	7	25	22	40	37	138	14	35	119	495
Total, all ranks	4	9	7	25	23	42	39	149	16	37	127	530
ii). Transport												
...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
iii). Weapons												
Pistols, .45-cal	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Submachine guns, .45-cal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	18
Carbines	2	6	7	0	21	39	32	107	3	6	21	170
Rifles, M1	0	3	0	25	2	3	7	40	13	31	106	358
Light machine guns, M1914A4	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	0	4	12	44
60-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	9
81-mm mortars	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	4
2.36-in antitank rocket launchers	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	9	1	1	4	21

Battalion Headquarters (4 Officers)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Battalion commander	Lieutenant colonel	1	Pistol	1
Executive officer	Major	1	Pistol	1
Operations & Intelligence, S3 & S2	Captain	1	Carbine	1
Adjutant, S-1	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Total, all ranks		4		

Headquarters Company (7 Officers, 138 men)**Headquarters Platoon (3 Officers, 61 men)**

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company Headquarters Section				
Company commander <i>(also Battalion communications officer)</i>	Captain	1	Carbine	1
Battalion mess officer	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
First Sergeant	First Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Orderly	Private or PFC	3	Rifle, M1	3
Basic	Private or PFC	3	Carbine	3
			<i>(unallocated weapons)</i>	
			Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in	3
Staff Section				
Operations	Staff Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Sergeant Major	Staff Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Gas	Corporal	1	Carbine	1
Clerk, Headquarters	Technician, grade 5	1	Carbine	1
Draftsman, topographical	Technician, grade 4	1	Carbine	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	2	Carbine	2
Mess Section				
Mess	Staff Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Mess	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Cook	Technician, grade 4	7	Rifle, M1	7
Cook	Technician, grade 5	6	Rifle, M1	6
Cook's helper	Private or PFC	10	Rifle, M1	10
Communication Section				
Section commander	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Section leader	Staff Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Message center chief	Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Clerk, record	Technician, grade 5	1	Carbine	1
Clerk, record	Private or PFC	1	Rifle, M1	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	4	Carbine	4
Wire chief	Corporal	1	Carbine	1
Lineman, telephone	Private or PFC	2	Carbine	2
Radio and visual	Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Operator, radio	Technician, grade 4	2	Carbine	2
Operator, radio	Technician, grade 5	3	Carbine	3
Operator, radio	Private or PFC	3	Carbine	3
Visual signaler and pigeonier	Technician, grade 5	1	Carbine	1
Visual signaler and pigeonier	Private or PFC	1	Rifle, M1	1
Total, all ranks		64		

Light Machine Gun Platoon (2 Officers, 40 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Assistant Platoon commander	Second Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Platoon Sergeant	Staff Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	2	Carbine	2
Basic	Private or PFC	3	Carbine	3
			<i>(unallocated weapons)</i>	
			Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in	3
Two Sections, each				
Section leader	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Four Squads, each				
Gunner, light machine gun	Corporal	1	Carbine	1
			Light machine gun, .30-cal	1
Gunner, assistant	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
Ammunition bearer	Private or PFC	2	Carbine	2
Total, all ranks		42		

81-mm Mortar Platoon (2 Officers, 37 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Headquarters				
Platoon commander	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Assistant Platoon commander	Second Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Platoon Sergeant	Staff Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Agent and Instrument	Corporal	1	Rifle, M1	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	2	Carbine	2
Basic	Private or PFC	3	Carbine	3
			<i>(unallocated weapons)</i>	
			Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in	3
Two Sections, each				
Section leader	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M	1
Two Squads, each				
Squad leader	Corporal	1	Rifle, M1	1
Gunner	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
			Mortar, 81-mm	1
Gunner, assistant	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
Ammunition bearer	Private or PFC	4	Carbine	4
Total, all ranks		39		

Notes

1. Issue of M7 rifle grenade launchers for use with the M1 rifle not given. Suggest one per man armed with M1 rifle, excluding those in the Mess Section, for a total of 15.
2. Change No.1 of 24th February 1944 added 12 'scooter, motor' under Company Headquarters, presumably as a pool for issue as required. I do not know if this vehicle was actually issued to units, or even produced. It does not feature in subsequent Tables of Organization for Parachute Infantry units.

Three Rifle Companies (8 Officers, 119 men), each

Company Headquarters (2 Officers, 14 men)

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Company commander	Captain	1	Carbine	1
Second in command	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
First Sergeant	First Sergeant	1	Carbine	1
Communication	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Operations (Intelligence)	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	3	Rifle, M1	3
Operator, radio	Private or PFC*	3	Rifle, M1	3
Rifleman	Private or PFC	5	Rifle, M1	5
			<i>(unallocated weapons)</i>	
			Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in	1
			Submachine gun, .45-cal	6
	Total, all ranks	16		

* see notes

Three Rifle Platoons (2 Officers, 35 men), each

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
<i>Headquarters</i>				
Platoon commander	First Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Assistant Platoon commander	Second Lieutenant	1	Carbine	1
Platoon Sergeant	Staff Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Signal, radio and code	Corporal	1	Rifle, M1	1
Operator, radio	Private or PFC*	1	Rifle, M1	1
Messenger	Private or PFC	2	Rifle, M1	2
			<i>(unallocated weapons)</i>	
			Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in	1
			Light machine gun, .30-cal	2
<i>60-mm Mortar Squad</i>				
Squad leader	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Gunner, mortar	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
			Mortar, 60-mm	1
Gunner, mortar, assistant	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
Ammunition bearer	Private or PFC	3	Rifle, M1	3
<i>Two Squads, each</i>				
Squad leader	Sergeant	1	Rifle, M1	1
Squad leader, assistant**	Corporal	1	Rifle, M1	1
Rifleman	Private or PFC	7	Rifle, M1	7
Continued...				

Detail	Rank	No.	Weapon/Vehicle/Other	No.
Gunner, light machine gun	Private or PFC	1	Carbine	1
			Light machine gun, .30-cal	1
Gunner, light machine gun assistant	Private or PFC	1	Rifle, M1	1
Ammunition bearer	Private or PFC	1	Rifle, M1	1
*see notes	Total, all ranks	37		

**also demolition NCO

Notes

1. The two unallocated light machine guns per Rifle Platoon are shown as '2 for optional use as directed' in the Table of Organization.
2. Of the total 6 operators, radio, in each Rifle Company, 2 are Technician, grade 5, rank, 2 are Technician, grade 4, rank, and 2 are Private or PFC.
3. Issue of M7 rifle grenade launchers for use with the M1 rifle is not given. Suggest at least one per Rifle Squad, to replace the previously held M1903 rifles.