

United States Parachute Infantry Battalion

Tables of Organization reference 7-36 and 7-37

All dated 1st August 1944

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Composed of;

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Battalion Headquarters | 5 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer |
| Headquarters Company | 7 Officers, 180 men |
| Company Headquarters | (4 Officers, 15 men) |
| Headquarters Platoon | (77 men) |
| Light Machine Gun Platoon | (1 Officer, 46 men) (eight light machine guns) |
| 81-mm Mortar Platoon | (2 Officers, 42 men) (four 81-mm mortars) |
| Three Rifle Companies, each | 5 Officers, 125 men |
| Company Headquarters | (2 Officers, 20 men) |
| Three Platoons, each | (1 Officer, 35 men) (one 60-mm mortar) |
| Total strength | 583 all ranks (27 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer and 555 men) |

Summary Table, United States Parachute Infantry Battalion, August 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 | Supply Section | Communication Section | Light Machine Gun Platoon | 81-mm Mortar Platoon | | Company HQ | Three Rifle Platoons (each) | | |
| i). Personnel | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Officers | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 27 |
| Warrant officers | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Enlisted Men | 0 | 15 | 15 | 22 | 13 | 27 | 46 | 42 | 180 | 20 | 35 | 125 | 555 |
| Total, all ranks | 6 | 19 | 15 | 22 | 13 | 27 | 47 | 44 | 193 | 22 | 36 | 130 | 583 |
| ii). Transport | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handcart, utility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| iii). Weapons | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pistols, .45-cal | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Submachine guns, .45-cal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 18 |
| Carbines | 4 | 8 | 6 | 22 | 13 | 23 | 45 | 42 | 163 | 7 | 14 | 49 | 310 |
| Rifles, M1 | 0 | 11 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 28 | 15 | 22 | 81 | 271 |
| Rifles, M1C (sniper) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| Light machine guns, M1914A4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 44 |
| 60-mm mortars | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| 81-mm mortars | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| M7 rifle grenade launchers | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 28 | - | - | 12 | 64 |
| 2.36-in antitank rocket launchers | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 21 |

Battalion Headquarters (6 Officers)

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|-----|
| Battalion commander | Lieutenant colonel | 1 | Pistol | 1 |
| Executive | Major | 1 | Pistol | 1 |
| Operations and training; S-3 | Captain | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Intelligence; S-2 | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Supply; S-4 | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Adjutant and S-1 | Warrant officer | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Total, all ranks | | 6 | | |

Headquarters Company (7 Officers, 180 men)**Company Headquarters (4 Officers, 15 men)**

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|---|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| Communication <i>(also commands Company)</i> | Captain | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Executive (Company) | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Communications | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Mess | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| | | | <i>(unallocated weapons)</i> | |
| | | | Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in | 3 |
| First Sergeant | First Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Supply | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Clerk, Company | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Armorer-artificer | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Bugler | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Orderly | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Basic | Private or PFC | 9 | Rifle, M1 | 9 |
| Total, all ranks | | 19 | | |

Headquarters Platoon (77 men)

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|--|---------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| <i>Battalion Headquarters Section</i> | | | | |
| Sergeant Major | Technical Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Intelligence | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Operations | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Supply | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Gas | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Clerk, Headquarters | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Continued... | | | | |

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----|
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Scout, observer, intelligence | Private or PFC | 8 | Rifle, M1 | 8 |
| <i>Mess Section</i> | | | | |
| Mess | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Mess, assistant | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Cook | Technician, grade 4 | 7 | Carbine | 7 |
| Cook | Technician, grade 5 | 6 | Carbine | 6 |
| Cook's helper | Private or PFC | 7 | Carbine | 7 |
| <i>Supply Section</i> | | | | |
| Ammunition | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Ammunition handler | Private or PFC | 12 | Carbine | 12 |
| <i>Communication Section</i> | | | | |
| Communication chief | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Message center chief | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Clerk, code | Technician, grade 4 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Clerk, code | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 4 | Rifle, M1 | 4 |
| Wire | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Lineman, telephone & telegraph | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Lineman, telephone & telegraph | Private or PFC | 3 | Carbine | 3 |
| Operator, telephone switchboard | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Radio | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Operator, radio | Technician, grade 4 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Operator, radio | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Operator, radio telephone | Private or PFC | 8 | Carbine | 8 |
| Repairman, radio | Technician, grade 4 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Signaler, visual and pigeonier | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| | | | <i>(for Communication Section)</i> | |
| | | | Handcart, utility | 4 |
| Total, all ranks | | 77 | | |

Light Machine Gun Platoon (1 Officer, 46 men)

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| Headquarters | | | | |
| Platoon commander | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Platoon Sergeant | Technical Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Instrument | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 2 | Rifle, M1 | 2 |
| | | | <i>(unallocated weapons)</i> | |
| | | | Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in | 3 |
| Two Sections, each | | | | |
| Section leader | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Four Squads, each | | | | |
| Squad leader | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Gunner, machine gun | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| | | | Light machine gun, .30-cal | 1 |
| Gunner, machine gun, assistant | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Ammunition bearer | Private or PFC | 2 | Carbine | 2 |
| Total, all ranks | | 47 | | |

81-mm Mortar Platoon (2 Officers, 42 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 | Technical Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Instrument | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 2 | Rifle, M1 | 2 |
| | | | <i>(unallocated weapons)</i> | |
| | | | Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in | 3 |
| Two Sections, each | | | | |
| Section leader | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Two Squads, each | | | | |
| Squad leader | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Gunner, mortar | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| | | | Mortar, 81-mm | 1 |
| Gunner, mortar, assistant | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Ammunition bearer | Private or PFC | 6 | Carbine | 6 |
| | | | Handcart, utility | 1 |
| Total, all ranks | | 44 | | |

Three Rifle Companies (5 Officers, 125 men), each

Company Headquarters (2 Officers, 20 men)

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| Company commander | Captain | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Executive | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| First Sergeant | First Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Supply | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Communication | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Clerk, Company | Corporal | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Armorer-artificer | Technician, grade 5 | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Bugler | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 2 | Rifle, M1 | 2 |
| Operator, radio telephone | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Basic | Private or PFC | 11 | Rifle, M1 | 11 |
| | | | <i>(unallocated weapons)</i> | |
| | | | Submachine gun, .45-cal | 6 |
| | | | Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in | 1 |
| Total, all ranks | | 22 | | |

Three Rifle Platoons (1 Officer, 35 men), each

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Headquarters</i> | | | | |
| Platoon commander | First Lieutenant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Platoon Sergeant | Technical Sergeant | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Platoon guide | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Operator, radio | Private or PFC | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Messenger | Private or PFC | 2 | Rifle, M1 | 2 |
| | | | <i>(unallocated weapons)</i> | |
| | | | Rifle, M1C | 1 |
| | | | Launcher, rocket, AT, 2.36-in | 1 |
| <i>60-mm Mortar Squad</i> | | | | |
| Squad leader | Sergeant | 1 | Carbine | 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 | Carbine | 3 |
| <i>Continued...</i> | | | | |

| Detail | Rank | No. | Weapon/Vehicle/Other | No. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Two Squads, each</i> | | | | |
| Squad leader | Staff Sergeant | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Squad leader, assistant* | Sergeant | 1 | Rifle, M1 | 1 |
| Rifleman | Private or PFC | 7 | Rifle, M1 | 7 |
| Gunner, machine gun | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| | | | Light machine gun, .30-cal | 1 |
| | | | Light machine gun, .30-cal** | 1 |
| Gunner, machine gun, assistant | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| Ammunition bearer | Private or PFC | 1 | Carbine | 1 |
| *also demolition NCO | Total, all ranks | 36 | **see notes | |

Notes

1. Headquarters Company is authorised 28 M7 grenade launchers, which allows for one per Rifle, M1, in the Company.
2. Each Rifle Company is authorised 12 M7 grenade launchers. Their allocation is not stated, but might reasonably be considered as two per rifle Squad.
3. Regarding the two light machine guns in each Rifle Squad, these are noted as 'one for optional use as directed' in the Table of Organization.