

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

DATE DISTR. 25 Apr 52  
50X1

COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)  
SUBJECT Soviet T/O & E, Weapons and Equipment

NO. OF PAGES 9

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 4  
(LISTED BELOW) (A), (B), (C) + (D)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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INTELLOFAX 25

1. [redacted] T/O&E of the Second Gds Mecz Army [redacted] the 2d L Arty Brig and the 9th Gds Tk Div are subordinate to it. [redacted] following detailed information concerning the T/O of these two units.

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2d L Arty Brig

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2. [redacted]  
[redacted] The actual strength was at peacetime figures in some units, but in others the strength was only 80% of the peacetime T/O. The 2d Brig had an estimated actual strength of 1500 officers and EM, while the peacetime T/O called for approximately 1800. [redacted] it was planned to build up the strength of the brigade to its full peacetime T/O. It must be borne in mind that the 2d L Arty Brig was not activated until November 1950 and has since been building up to its present strength. My information is based on personal knowledge.

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3. The brigade is composed of headquarters and a headquarters company, 90th Rkt Launcher Regt, 96th Light Arty Regt, 590th Light Arty Regt, 94th Light Arty Regt, and a service unit. The brigade headquarters is composed of the commanding officer (colonel), political officers, other staff officers and clerical workers. The T/O&E of the headquarters company is unknown to me. The T/O&E of the 90th Rkt Launcher Regt is also unknown [redacted]

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[redacted] the regiment was equipped with 15 of the launchers. The T/O&E of the 96th Light Arty Regt is identical to that of the 590th Light Arty Regt. The T/O of the 94th Light Arty Regt is identical to that of the 590th; however, their T/E differs. The 94th is equipped with 100 mm guns and tracked prime movers.

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#### 590th L Arty Regt

4. This regiment is composed of a regimental headquarters, two battalions, a headquarters company, a company of drivers, and an administrative platoon. The headquarters has a commanding officer (lieutenant colonel), executive officer (zamestitel po stroyevoi chastii-lieutenant colonel), political officer (lieutenant colonel), food supply officer (lieutenant), finance officer (lieutenant) club officer (lieutenant) and other officers whose ranks and functions

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[redacted] It also has a sergeant major (master sergeant) and an unknown number of NCOs and privates serving as clerk-typists. The headquarters company has two or three officers, approximately 10 or 15 radio, telephone and reconnaissance men, and one or two drivers. The company of drivers consists of one officer and 40 chauffeurs who form a drivers pool but who actually pull guard duty. The administrative platoon comprises an unknown number of soldiers who are assigned as supply clerks, shoe repair men, tailors, etc.

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[redacted] the actual strength of the regiment to be 50 officers, 300 NCOs and privates.

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[redacted] it is planned to bring the regiment up to full peacetime T/O with members of the class of 1932.

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#### Battalion

5. A battalion is composed of a headquarters, headquarters platoon and three batteries. The battalion headquarters has a commanding officer (major), chief of staff (major), executive officer (major), transportation officer (lieutenant), and a first sergeant. There are other officers in headquarters.

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[redacted] The headquarters platoon of the battalion is composed of one or two officers and an unknown number of radio men, telephone men, reconnaissance soldiers, and drivers. My battery was up to peacetime strength because it was a training unit; however, the other two batteries had only about 80% of their authorized peacetime strength.

#### Battery

6. A battery consists of five officers, ten NCOs and 34 privates. The battery headquarters is composed of the commanding officer (captain), political officer (lieutenant), 1st sgt (Starshina), and an NCO clerk-typist. The headquarters platoon is composed of the commanding officer (lieutenant), four radio men (two NCOs and two privates), four telephone men (one NCO and three privates), and two reconnaissance men (one NCO and one private). The two platoons each have a strength of one officer, two NCOs and 14 privates.

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Platoon

7. A platoon consists of one officer, two NCOs, and 14 privates.

Squad

8. A squad consists of one NCO and seven privates: one NCO weapons commander, one driver, and the gun crew members (gunner, loader, fuse setter, and three ammunition carriers.)

9th Gds Tk Div, [See Enclosure B]

9.

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The 9th Gds Tk Div was composed of the following units:

Headquarters  
 A 37-mm AAA regiment  
 33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt  
 65th Gds HT-SP Regt  
 47th Gds Tk Regt  
 50th Gds Tk Regt  
 17th Gds Tk Regt  
 A 122-mm mortar regiment  
 495th Sep How Bn  
 NCO Artillery School  
 A rocket launcher battalion  
 A signal battalion  
 QM units (artillery repair shops, medical and services units)  
 An engineer battalion

10. Of these units, [redacted] only on the 65th Gds HT-SP Regt and the 495th Sep How Bn.

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65th Gds HT-SP Regt

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11.

[redacted] it was composed of headquarters, three tank battalions, a motorized rifle battalion and service units. [redacted] the regiment was equipped with 50 JS-1, JS-2 and T-34/85 tanks.

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Motorized Rifle Battalion (Motorizyrovannyi Batalion Automachikov)

12. The motorized rifle battalion was composed of headquarters, headquarters platoon, a mortar company, an AT company and two motorized rifle companies. It consisted of approximately 300 officers and men.

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[redacted] Headquarters consisted of the commanding officer (lieutenant colonel), executive officer (major), political officer (major) and other staff officers [redacted] It further consisted of a master sergeant and two clerk-typists. The headquarters platoon was made up of radio and telephone men and reconnaissance and driving personnel.

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[redacted] it has two platoons of two squads each. One NCO and five privates form each squad, which is equipped with one mortar. The two motorized rifle companies (Desanty-tank riding infantry soldiers) each had a headquarters and two platoons. The headquarters personnel consisted of the commanding officer, political officer, first sergeant, and a clerk-typist. Each platoon was divided into two squads of one NCO and 10 privates. The approximate strength of a rifle company is 75 officers and EM, but [redacted] of these figures. 50X1

#### AT Battery

13. An AT battery is composed of headquarters, two platoons, and a headquarters service section. It consists of five officers, seven NCOs and 19 EM. The headquarters has the commanding officer (senior lieutenant or captain), political officer (lieutenant), first sergeant (Starshina), and an NCO or private clerk-typist. The headquarters service section is composed of the commanding officer (lieutenant), two radio men who may both be privates, or one NCO and one private, and two telephone men who may both be privates, or one NCO and one private.

#### AT Platoon

14. A platoon is composed of two squads, and a lieutenant is the commanding officer.

#### AT Squad

15. A squad consists of one NCO and four privates: one NCO weapons commander, one gunner, one loader, one ammunition carrier, and a driver. This gun crew served a 57-mm AT gun M-1943 towed by a 3-ton Studebaker prime mover.

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#### 495th Sep How Bn

16.

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[redacted] the [redacted] table of organization on the 495th Sep How Bn. The battalion consisted of headquarters, a headquarters platoon, and three batteries. Headquarters consisted of the commanding officer (lieutenant colonel), executive officer (major), chief of staff (major), political officer (major), chief of rear services (major), technical officer (captain), food and clothing officer (senior lieutenant), finance officer (lieutenant), a master sergeant, and two privates utilized as clerk-typists. 50X1

#### How Battery

17. The howitzer battery consisted of headquarters, headquarters platoon and two howitzer platoons. Headquarters was formed of the commanding officer (who was either a



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captain or major). The political officer (lieutenant), first sergeant, and a clerk-typist private. Headquarters platoon consisted of one officer and 18 EM (radio and telephone men and reconnaissance and service personnel). The peacetime T/O for the battery was five officers, eight NCOs and 44 privates.

Platoon

- 18. Each platoon is divided into two squads. The peacetime T/O and actual strength of each platoon is one officer, two NCOs and 14 privates.

Squad

- 19. A squad consists of one NCO and seven privates. The NCO weapons commander is armed with a pistol, and the seven crew members are each armed with a carbine. The crew members were a gunner, loader, observer, vertical control operator, two ammunition carriers, and a driver. Each squad is equipped with one 122-mm howitzer towed by a 3-ton Studebaker prime mover. Other equipment was a litter, three shovels, three crowbars, two pickaxes and two axes. These figures represent the peacetime and the actual T/O.

9th Gds Tk Div NCO Artillery School

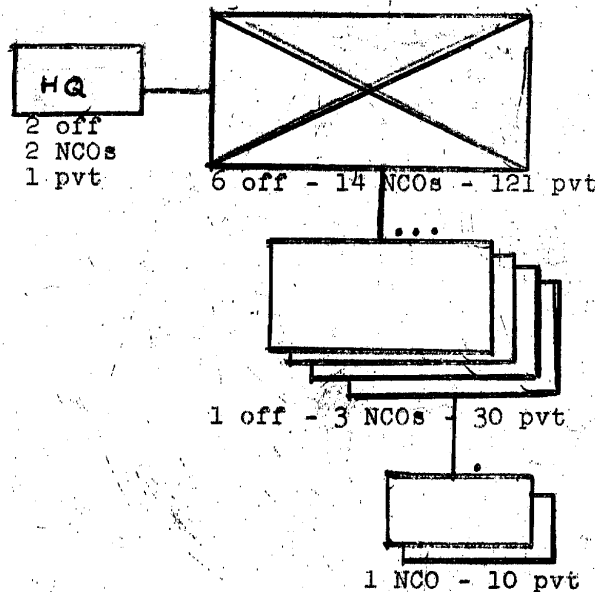
- 20. This school is directly subordinated to the 9th Gds Tk Div; however, it is attached to the 495th Sep How Bn for administration. The students are formed into three platoons of 25 students each. Each platoon has a faculty of one officer and one NCO who are actually assigned personnel of the 495th Sep How Bn. The school did not have howitzers on its T/E.

6th Rifle Regt, 2d Rifle Div, Moscow Military District

21.



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2d L Arty Brig /See Enclosure C/

22. The 2d L Arty Brig has a peacetime T/E down to, and including, squad level. All officers and NCO weapons commanders were armed with TT pistols. All the other enlisted men were equipped with 7.62-mm Mossin-Nagant Model 1944 carbines (without bayonet) [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] Every officer and soldier was furnished with a gas mask. There is one PPSH 7.62-mm SMG model 1941 on hand for each enlisted man, but they are issued only to those men mounting guard, or if there is a shortage of carbines. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] in the event of an emergency, each enlisted man was to be issued a PPSH SMG in place of his carbine. 50X1

23. The batteries within the brigade are each equipped with four 76-mm Model 1942 guns, towed by 3-ton Studebaker prime movers. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1  
 Each battery also was equipped with an unknown number of field telephones (TAI-43) and two radio receiver-transmitters. According to the radio men, these receiver-transmitters were of a secret 1950 model. They were approximately 15 x 15 x 10 inches in size and were equipped with a telephone and a Morse code key. One of them was assigned to the battery CO, who communicated with higher headquarters and his battery observer, who was equipped with the other one. [redacted] the range of the equipment but was told that it was about 10 km. 50X1

9th Gds Tk Div /See Enclosure (p)7

24. All officers, NCO weapons commanders, and some privates assigned as drivers, were armed with TT pistols. All other enlisted men were armed with 7.62-mm carbines. Kept in stock were 7.62-mm PPSH SMGs, but these were issued only to men going on guard duty. All soldiers were issued gas masks, but no one was issued a bayonet or knife. The AT Squad served a 57-mm AT gun M-1943 towed by a 3-ton Studebaker prime mover. In addition each squad was equipped with two shovels, two crowbars, one pickaxe, one or two axes and a litter.

25. [redacted]

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[redacted] 50X1

25. [redacted] 50X1  
 tank soldiers that the JS-2 tank was very unpopular because the seating arrangement was uncomfortable; the turret did not rotate easily, and the escape hatch was of no value since the crew could not escape if the tank was hit. The soldiers said, however, that the armor protection of the JS-2 tanks was excellent. The tank soldiers preferred the T-34 tank especially because of the escape hatch. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] the Soviets have a new, secret tank, either T-54 or Z-54, which is supposed to be equipped with special optical sights and a gyro-stabilized gun. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] this new tank attains a speed of 80 km an hour. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1

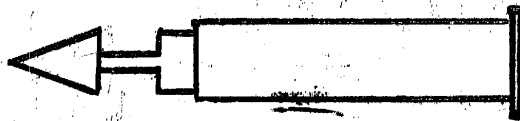
27. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] All tanks (T-34, JS-1, JS-2, JS-3) were changed to Diesel engines after the war. 50X1

28. [redacted] a T-34 carries about 50 or 60 shells; and a JS-2 carries about 35 shells, which are incendiary, fragmentation, and armor-piercing. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1  
 There is a drill on abandoning the tank through the escape hatch. The escape is accomplished in five seconds but no other details are known [redacted] armored vehicles have a special demolition mechanism for destroying abandoned tanks or self-propelled vehicles but cannot give any details on it. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1

29. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1  
 The 57-mm AT gun is always towed by a 3-ton Studebaker prime mover. On trips to the firing range, which is more than 10 km distance, the gun is carried on a railroad flatcar.

30. As of 1944, the Soviets used an AT shell which was called "Podkalibernyi Snaryad." This shell, inside a soft-nosed casing, has a core made of tungsten and will pierce armor 20 cm thick with a direct hit at 300 to 500 m. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] it has a velocity of 1270 m per second and that it easily destroyed the German Tiger tanks. [redacted] 50X1  
 [redacted] 50X1

Sketch of a Podkalibernyi Snaryad 50X1



- 50X1
31. In offensive warfare, the Soviet 57-mm AT guns moved up with the infantry. In defense they are on the front line of defense and are placed only to cover the terrain passable by tanks. They are supposed to fire directly on visible targets only at a range of 200 to 500 m. All guns and ammunition which I handled were in perfect condition. The machine guns, submachine guns, carbines and pistols which [redacted] were free of dirt, short rounds and defective cartridges. 50X1
32. The average soldier's training in marksmanship consists of firing about 30 rounds with a carbine or PPSH SMG. Officers and NCOs are better trained. [redacted] about 150 rounds with various weapons. [redacted] 50X1  
57-mm AT shells. During basic training Soviet soldiers receive bayonet training for one or two hours daily. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] The fixed bayonet on late model carbines is no hindrance.
33. The Tokarev 40 is no longer being used. The only small arms weapon [redacted] is the Mossin-Nagant M-1944 carbine. 50X1
34. Indirect fire (defilade) is used very little, and all light artillery personnel are being trained in direct fire principles. [redacted] of how the Soviets employ their machine guns on final protective lines. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] machine guns are used for direct fire only. According to instructions [redacted] 50X1  
blanket fire is used under conditions of poor visibility, [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1
35. The average Soviet infantry rifle soldier in combat carries a load weighing 30 kg: an SMG, two 72-round drums, ammunition, rations for three days, gas mask, and mess gear. The Soviet infantry and supporting artillery move together. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] the troops' clothing included felt boots (valenki), fur coats, fur lined gloves and caps. [redacted] a special salve which was used on the feet to prevent trench foot in winter warfare, [redacted] 50X1
36. [redacted] 50X1

#### Unit Supply and Maintenance

37. The pistols, carbines and PPSH SMGs were in first class condition, and were checked daily by NCOs, as were the uniforms of the soldiers. Tanks, guns, and trucks, likewise in good condition, were also checked daily by NCOs. On each Saturday the battery CO checked all equipment and weapons. [redacted] in spring and fall, inspection teams from GOFG check the combat readiness of all weapons and equipment. 50X1
38. Most EM are issued a carbine, but a PPSH is kept in stock so that each EM can exchange his carbine for it in case of emergency. At present, the PPSH is issued only if there is a shortage of carbines. Soldiers going on guard duty are issued a PPSH. The carbines, PPSH SMGs and TT pistols of the NCOs are not retained by the individual NCOs but are kept in the weapons room and are issued for training, guard duty, etc.



39. EM repair their own clothes and must wear them until they are replaced. Clothing issue and replacement time for clothing of the Soviet EM is as follows:

- 1 blouse - issued for six months, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 pr trousers - issued for six months, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 overcoat - issued for two years, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 pr shoes - issued for eight months, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 winter cap - issued for one winter, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 summer cap - issued for one summer, then exchanged for a new one
- 1 leather (Sam Browne) belt - one issue only
- 1 canvas belt - one issue only
- 1 pr footwraps - issued for six months
- 1 set summer underclothing - issued for one summer
- 1 set winter underclothing - issued for one winter
- 1 towel - issued for six months
- 2 ammunition pouches, mess gear and a knapsack are issued only once

EM are also issued the following company property:

- 2 bed sheets
- 1 pillow case
- 1 straw-filled pillow
- 1 straw-filled mattress

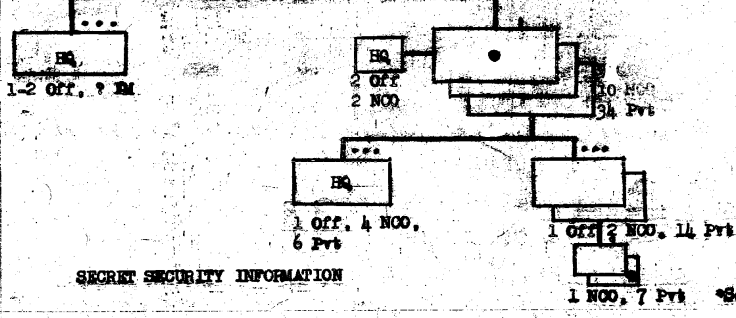
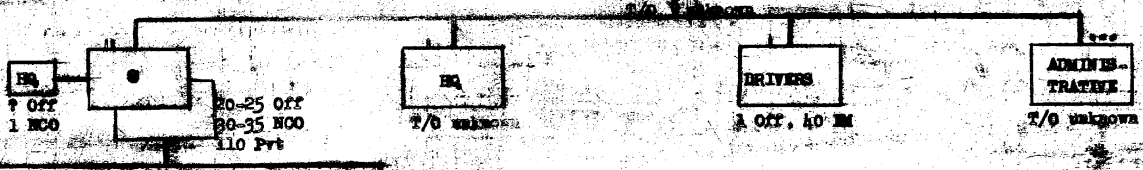
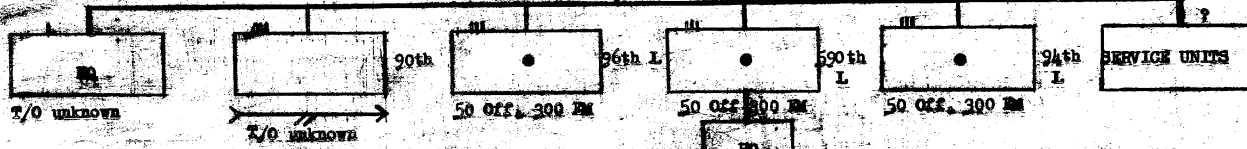
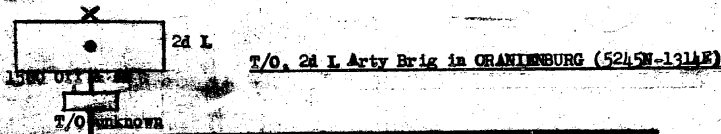
40. The food in the Soviet Army was sufficient, and better than at home in the USSR. Breakfast usually was grits porridge with tea; dinner was soup, meat or fish, vegetables and tea; supper was grits soup, vegetables (without meat or fish) and tea. The bread ration was 800 grams daily in winter and 700 grams daily in summer.
41. The Studebaker prime movers for the 57-mm AT guns, 76-mm guns, and 12-mm howitzers are stored on blocks under roofed open buildings both in winter and in summer. In summer the radiators are filled with water; in winter each driver has a can of water next to his bunk, so that he can fill the vehicle radiator quickly in case of emergency. In an emergency the drivers knock the blocks from under the trucks and can have them ready for use in a few minutes. The oil, gas and batteries of the stored vehicles are checked daily by NCOs and once each week by the battery CO.
42. A regiment is ready to move within one-half hour in an emergency, and a division is ready to move within one and one-half hours. If these units take a longer time to move in case of emergency, the respective commander could be court-martialed and shot.

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Enclosures: (A) Peacetime T/O Chart, 2d L Arty Brig in Oranienburg (5245N-1314E)  
 (B) Peacetime T/O&E, 9th Gds Tk Div in Neustrelitz (5322N-1304E)  
 (C) Peacetime T/E Chart, 2d L Arty Brig  
 (D) Peacetime T/E Chart, 65th HT-SP Regt and 795th Sep How Bn

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SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION



SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

ENCLOSURE (A) SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

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Peacetime T/E 2d L Arty Brig

	T/E Pistols	7.62-mm Carbines	7.62-mm SMG's	76-mm guns	102-mm guns	M-19 (?) rocket launchers	9-Ton Straddle Carrier	Tracked prime mover	TOTAL	Remarks
90th Rocket Launcher Regt	?	?	?	/	/	15*	/	/	?	Believed to have same T/E as the 590th Regt.
96th L Arty Regt	80	270	270	24	/	/	24	/	668	
590th L Arty Regt	80	270	270	24	/	/	24	/	668	Believed to have same number pistols, carbines, & SMG's as 96th & 590th
94th L Arty Regt	80	270	270	/	24	/	/	24	668	
Service Units	?	?	?	/	/	/	?	/	?	
<b>TOTAL</b>	400	1100	1100	48	24	15*	78	24	?	
<u>590th L Arty Regt</u>										
Regt1 Hq	10	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	10	
1st Bn	35	135	135	12	/	/	12	/	329	
2d Bn	35	135	135	12	/	/	12	/	329	
<b>TOTAL</b>	80	270	270	24	/	/	24	/	668	
Bn Hq	5	15	15	/	/	/	/	/	35	
1st Btry	10	40	40	4	/	/	4	/	98	
2d Btry	10	40	40	4	/	/	4	/	98	
3d Btry	10	40	40	4	/	/	4	/	98	
<b>TOTAL</b>	35	135	135	12	/	/	12	/	329	
Btry Hq	4	12	12	/	/	/	/	/	28	
1st Plat	3	14	14	2	/	/	2	/	35	
2d Plat	3	14	14	2	/	/	2	/	35	
<b>TOTAL</b>	10	40	40	4	/	/	4	/	98	
Plat Leader	1	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1	
1st Sqd	1	7	7	1	/	/	1	/	17	*Approximation ?Excludes the 96th & 590th /None in unit
2d Sqd	1	7	7	1	/	/	1	/	17	
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	14	14	2	/	/	2	/	35	



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