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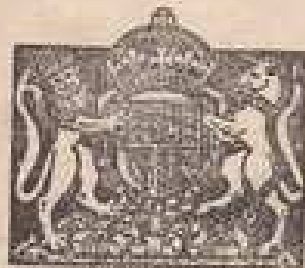
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Notified in
A.G. 14, for the
week ending
20th March,
1940

[NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES]

Field Service Pocket Book

Pamphlet No. 1

1940

GLOSSARY OF MILITARY TERMS AND ORGANIZATION IN THE FIELD

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LONDON

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By Command of the Army Council,

A. J. G. Jones

THE WAR OFFICE,
20th March, 1940.

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

1. THE FIELD SERVICE POCKET BOOK IS INTENDED TO BE A HANDY AND CONCISE REFERENCE FOR THE USE OF OFFICERS ON ACTIVE SERVICE AND AT MANŒUVRES AND ON INSTRUCTIONAL EXERCISES IN CONNECTION WITH OPERATIONS.
2. THE BOOK MUST NOT BE UTILIZED AS A TEXT BOOK FOR THE STUDY OF MILITARY SUBJECTS.
3. THE BOOK CONSISTS OF A SERIES OF PAMPHLETS NUMBERED AND TITLED AS FOLLOWS:
 1. Glossary of military terms and organization in the field.
 2. Orders and intercommunication.
 3. Intelligence—Information and security.
 4. Field engineering.
 5. Billets, camps and bivouacs, camp cooking and water arrangements.
 6. Mechanized movement by road.
 7. Movement by sea, air and rail.
 8. Protection against gas.
 9. Supply and replenishment in the field.
 - 9A. Ammunition code.
 10. Medical services.
 11. Discipline, office work and burial parties.
 12. Miscellaneous tables and data.
 13. Notes for staff officers.

DISTRIBUTION

1. The Field Service Pocket Book is issued on a pool basis, the distribution to the unit being sufficient to permit of an issue down to sergeants.

2. Pamphlets Nos. 9A, 12 and 13 are issued on limited scales which are shown therein.

Cavalry.

Regiments	85
-------------------	----

Royal Armoured Corps.

Regiments and battalions	85
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Artillery.

All regiments (H.Q.)	20
Anti-aircraft batteries	15
Light anti-aircraft survey, flash spotting, and sound ranging batteries	10
All other batteries	25
Fixed defences and fire commands	*

Engineers.

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.. companies	25
Fortress unit	*

Signals.

Corps, armed, div. and div. signals	50
Cavalry divisional signals	35
G.H.Q., L. of C., and army signals H.Q.	10
.. companies	5
Command, N.I.D. sections and colonial station signal companies	11
Anti-aircraft brigade H.Q. and A.A. regiment signals	20
Air formation signals H.Q. and companies	6
Miscellaneous signals sections	4

<i>Infantry.</i>					
All Battalions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	85
<i>R.A.S.C.</i>					
Companies .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10
Companies A.A. divisions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	15
<i>R.A.M.C. and A.D. Corps.*</i>					
All units .. .. .	..	..	..	..	*
<i>R.A.V.C.*</i>					
Sections .. .. .	..	..	..	..	*
<i>R.A.O.C.*</i>					
All units .. .. .	..	..	..	..	*
<i>R.A.P.C.,* A.E.C.,* and C.M.P.*</i>					
<i>O.T.C.</i>					
Senior division .. .. .	..	..	..	25 per cent. establishment	
Junior .. .. .	..	..	..	All officers.	
All training units .. .. .	..	..	..	..	*†

* Copies as required up to a maximum of 1 copy to each officer, warrant officer and sergeant, plus one copy for every company, hospital, section, etc.

† In addition O.C.T.U.s. are entitled to one copy for each cadet under training.

FIELD SERVICE POCKET BOOK PAMPHLET No. 1, 1940

1. Glossary of Military Terms

Air. See generally under Sec. 4, Organization of the Royal Air Force.

Air defence

Combined defence by aircraft and anti-aircraft units. It is sub-divided into:—

- i. *Active.* Measures which are directed against the attacker, e.g. the fire of anti-aircraft guns, search-lights, attack by fighter aircraft.
- ii. *Passive* (see also under P.A.D.). Measures taken to minimize the effect of air attack.

Anti-aircraft defence

Defence by anti-aircraft units only. It does not include defence by aircraft.

Ammunition point (A.P.)

A forward detachment of an ammunition company to facilitate the replacement of ammunition expended. Demands by units and formations are sent to ammunition points, if established, otherwise direct to the division or corps troops ammunition company.

Armoured fighting vehicle

A vehicle, either wheeled or tracked, in which the crew serve the armament with which it is equipped from behind bullet-proof plate, and which is designed to allow of its weapons being fired while it is on the move.

Assembly position

Used generally this term applies to positions where troops assemble for any particular purpose. In certain circumstances it has a more definite significance, i.e.—

(a) *Night operation*.—The point at which the normal march formation will be abandoned and battle formation adopted.

(b) *River crossing*.—A point where the assaulting troops assemble. It should be well away from the water obstacle and protected from ground and air observation.

Barrage

A barrage is a belt or curtain of fire which may be either standing or moving. A moving barrage moves forward in front of attacking troops, thereby ensuring that all ground over which it passes is covered by fire. A standing barrage may be used to protect a flank or the consolidation of an objective.

Bearing

The angle between the north line and a line drawn to any point, measured clockwise. Bearings are said to be *true*, *grid*, or *magnetic* according to the north line from which they are measured.

Billet

Personnel, animals and transport accommodated in civil buildings are said to be billeted. Billets are usually adopted in civilized countries for forces not in close touch with the enemy. They provide concealment from air observation and give the best form of shelter and rest.

Bivouac

A camp without tents or huts, where the troops make their own shelters. Its essential characteristic is readiness for action. Bivouacs enable the most favourable dispositions of troops to be made from the tactical point of view; hut may be injurious to the health in cold and wet weather.

Boat-carrying party

This term is used in connection with river crossings and only applied when *folding boat equipment* is used. It refers to the party that opens, carries and launches the boats and includes the personnel required for crews.

Bound

A movement from one tactical feature or place to another. It may also refer to the actual tactical feature or place reached or to be reached at the end of a movement.

Bridge forming point

See under "Forming-up place."

Bridging party

This term is used in connection with river crossings and only when *Kapok* bridging equipment is used. It refers to the party that assembles, carries, launches and maintains the bridge.

Bulk

Supplies received at supply railhead on a formation section of the daily pack train are in bulk. These supplies are subdivided to meet the requirements of each unit in the formation; this subdividing is known as "breaking bulk." The process of unloading, breaking bulk and reloading on a unit basis is termed "retiling."

Bulk trains may also contain ammunition, engineer stores or other commodities which are not related to daily needs.

Camps

These may consist of *tents* or *huts* or a combination of both.

(a) *Temporary camps*.—These provide accommodation to supplement *billets* or to replace that afforded by *bivouacs*. In forward areas these may consist of *standard huts* of such simple design that troops will be able to erect them with a little engineer assistance.

(b) *Standing camps*.—Standing camps are normally required on lines of communication and at bases for reinforcements, base personnel and accommodation of labour.

Camp commandant

A camp commandant with the necessary assistants is included in the War Establishments of headquarters of certain formations. He is responsible for the local administration of the headquarters as a whole.

Cargo

(a) *Heavy cargo*.—Cargo which requires not more than 40 cu. ft. of space for 20 cwt. Heavy tonnage is calculated on the basis of tons weight, not tons measurement.

(b) *Light cargo*.—Cargo which requires more than 40 cu. ft. of space for 20 cwt. Light tonnage, frequently referred to as measurement tonnage, is calculated on the basis of 40 cu. ft. to the ton measurement.

Casualty clearing station (C.C.S.)

A C.C.S. receives sick and wounded from field ambulances, and direct from troops in the vicinity.

Chemical warfare

The use of chemical substances to cause casualties, to harass or delay the enemy, or to render ground dangerous to occupy. The term includes also the protection of our own troops against such use by the enemy.

Cleansing centre

See Decontamination.

Concentration

The fire of a number of weapons put down on a particular target or locality.

Contamination

The presence of persistent gas in liquid or vapour form on persons, material or ground.

Counter-battery fire

Fire to neutralize or destroy enemy artillery.

Counter-preparation

Fire directed on forming-up places and routes forward to break up an attack that appears imminent.

Covering fire

Neutralizing fire applied to cover the movement of our own troops.

Crawl trench

A shallow trench, 3 ft. 6 in. wide, semi-circular in section and 18 in. deep at the centre. It is used as a first stage to connect up weapon pits and posts across the front, and facilitates the rapid development of an extensive trench system.

Decontamination

The cleansing of contaminated persons, material or ground. A cleansing centre provides facilities for the decontamination of unwounded personnel.

Clothing and vehicle decontamination centres provide facilities for the decontamination of clothing and vehicles.

Defensive fire

Fire directed against troops actually attacking. It is usually put down on a pre-arranged plan.

Defile

The portion of a route which troops can only pass on a narrow front, e.g. a mountain pass, a bridge, an embankment. When passing a defile troops are extremely vulnerable, particularly to air and artillery attack.

Delivery point (D.P.)

The place where R.A.S.C. transport hands over loads to first line transport of a unit. (See also Supply point.)

Density

The general spacing of vehicles on a route is known as "density" and is expressed in "vehicles to the mile" (v.t.m.).

Destructive fire

Fire to destroy enemy defences and material such as guns, dumps or communications.

Echelon (Ech.)

(a) *Organization*.—In this connection the term is used to denote divisions of a particular organization into front and rear parts, e.g. "A" and "B" echelons of first line transport. *D.A.G. 2nd Echelon* refers to the officer in command of the D.A.G.'s office at the base.

(b) *Supplies*.—The term *double echelon* is used to denote the system by which the two echelons of a supply column carry supplies, mails, engineer and ordnance stores, from railhead to delivery points, or supply points, each echelon delivering on alternate days.

(c) *Tactical*.—A tactical formation of posts or units in depth, each to the rear and flank of forward posts or units. This system simplifies the task of mutual support, gives depth to a position and facilitates defence to a flank.

Embussing Point

There are two types of embussing point: one when the whole unit embusses simultaneously; the other when only a comparatively short length of suitable road is available and is used successively by a smaller number of vehicles; troops can be kept under cover and moved up to the "platform" in parties as required.

Equipment (War)

Is the whole of the equipment with which a unit takes the field.

Establishment (War)

The approved constitution of a unit or formation in personnel, animals and vehicles.

Field Transport, R.A.S.C.

Is divided into:—

(a) *Third line transport*.—Consists of ammunition parks and petrol parks which work normally between railhead and refilling points.

(b) *Second line transport*.—Consists of ammunition companies and petrol companies which work normally between refilling points and delivery points. In each petrol company there is a section for the carriage of blankets and reserve clothing.

(c) *Supply columns*.—These columns carry supplies, mails, engineer and ordnance stores and work between railheads and delivery points. Each column is divided into two similar echelons which deliver supplies to units on alternate days.

(d) *Miscellaneous*.—Other units such as troop carrying companies, motor ambulance convoys and reserve M.T. companies.

First line transport

Transport borne on the W.E. of the unit.

Forming-up place

(a) *Night operations*.—This term denotes the position where the troops detailed for the assault will deploy.

(b) *River crossings*.—This term is used to denote places at which folding boat equipment is opened and carrying, rowing and assaulting parties are formed into their final order for the assault, etc. When *Kapek* bridging is used such points are termed *Bridge Forming Points*.

Forward observation officer (F.O.O.)

Is an artillery officer observing from a forward O.P. He must maintain touch with the unit he is supporting and be in communication with his battery or regiment.

Harassing fire

Fire directed to force the enemy to deploy and so lose time; to hamper the movement of reinforcements during battle; and to lower the morale of the enemy by disturbing his rest, or hindering the movement of troops, supplies and ammunition.

Harbour

An area under cover from the air, which is both a position of readiness and a place where maintenance and refilling operations are carried out.

Imprest

An advance of public money for expenditure on the public service, e.g. payment of troops, local purchases, etc.

Liaison officers

Liaison officers constitute a most useful means of inter-communication, especially in forward areas. They should be acquainted with the plans and intentions of the commander whom they serve and thus be in a position to amplify and explain any orders they take to subordinate commanders.

Non-commissioned officers may carry out this duty within units.

Main artery

A concentrated system of communications from rear to front on which are established signal offices and signal centres.

Marshalling yard

Where loaded railway trucks arriving from various depots are formed into pack trains.

Martial law

Implies the suspension of ordinary law and government by military tribunals.

Meeting point (M.P.)

A point where R.A.S.C. transport is met by unit guides and directed to delivery points. (See also Supply Point.)

Meteor report

A report and forecast of weather conditions issued to formations or units to assist them in planning operations, e.g. artillery shoots, smoke screens, gas attacks.

Military Forwarding Service

This service works under movement control and is specially designed for the reception and forwarding of small consignments of equipment, clothing, instruments, gun sights, spare parts of motor vehicles, medical stores, private parcels and comforts. It is also responsible for the safe disposal of the kits of sick, wounded and deceased.

Movement control (M.C.)

The organization of movement control in the field is centred in the D.Q.M.G. The complete co-ordination of all movement is carried out by a section of his staff known as movement control. This is a joint organization composed of officers of the Q.M.G.'s branch and the Transportation Directorate. These work through E.S.Os. at Ports, R.T.Os. at Railheads and M.F.Os. Administration and technical working of the various transportation services is the responsibility of the Director General of Transportation.

Neutralizing fire

Fire to prevent the enemy making effective use of his weapons by forcing him to keep under cover to avoid casualties, preventing observation, disorganizing the system of command or by damaging equipment.

Out of action

This term applies to artillery or small arms that are disabled. It should not be used to refer to guns not in actual occupation of firing positions.

Pack section

That part of the supply train containing the day's needs of a particular formation, consisting not only of supplies (including liquid fuels and lubricants) but also the miscellaneous articles required for the daily maintenance and comfort of the troops, such as engineer, M.T., and ordnance stores, gifts, comforts and mails.

Passive air defence (P.A.D.)

Measures taken to minimize the effect of air attack. Besides the provision of material protection: and warning, medical, fire-fighting and salvage arrangements, measures must include the organization and training necessary to ensure the best use of these facilities in emergency.

Petrol point (P.P.)

A forward detachment of a petrol company or park to facilitate the replacement of petrol and oils to units. It is the point to which demands by units and formations are sent.

Railheads

The points of transfer of loads from railway to distributory means of transport which will normally be mechanical transport: they are also necessary for the detrainment of troops and for medical evacuation.

Re-clothing point

A forward detachment of the petrol company, consisting of one or more lorries from which units may draw reserve clothing to replace any that has become contaminated.

Refilling point

The point where ammunition or petrol loads are transferred from third to second line transport.

Regulating station

A point on the railway L. of C. at which the forward despatch of trains is regulated to ensure their arrival at correct railheads at convenient times. The composition of trains is also adjusted at the regulating station when this is necessary owing to changes in the forward areas while trains are in transit.

Rendezvous

(a) *General*.—An appointed meeting place. A rendezvous should be some well defined place that can easily be found in the dark. It is not necessarily the place to which a whole unit is moved.

(b) *R.A.S.C.*.—A place where third line transport is met by guides and directed to refilling points. As applied to a supply column, the place to which the loaded echelon is moved preparatory to proceeding to meeting points.

Reporting line

A line upon crossing which units moving on a wide front will report. It is for control purposes only and has no tactical significance.

Road blocks

May be designed as either permanent obstacles or temporary obstructions. They must be covered by fire. They may be constructed of carts, trees, trenches, wire, mines or tank traps.

Second line transport

See Field Transport, R.A.S.C.

Signal centre

A special signal office, at a point where means of communication with two or more headquarters may be concentrated, or at a site to which a headquarters may move and establish a signal office.

Signal office

An office established at every headquarters provided with intercommunication personnel to deal with all signal traffic in a co-ordinated and systematic manner.

Sortie

The word "sortie" implies the performance of one task, whatever its nature, by one aircraft. A task involving the despatch of aircraft in formation will entail the expenditure of a number of sorties equal to the number of aircraft comprising the formation.

Speed

The term *speed* as affecting movement, is held to mean the average speed over a route including the time spent in short halts. It is expressed in terms of "miles in the hour" (m.i.h.).

The speedometer speed at which a vehicle must travel over open sections of road to maintain a given average is known as "cruising speed" and is expressed in "miles per hour" (m.p.h.).

Stores

War material other than *supplies* and comprising:—

(a) *Ordinance stores*.—Personal and unit equipment, including armament and small arms, ammunition and explosives; signal stores; A.F.Vs. and all M.T. vehicles other than those belonging to R.A.S.C. units; clothing and necessaries; barrack and camp equipment; and equipment and materials for workshops.

(b) *Engineer stores*.—Material and plant, other than unit equipment, required for engineer work whether carried out by engineers or other arms. The term does not include explosives.

(c) *Transportation stores*.—Items peculiar to this service only.

(d) *R.A.S.C. stores*.—Vehicles of R.A.S.C. units or driven by R.A.S.C. drivers, spare parts, material and plant.

(e) *Medical stores*.

(f) *Stationery stores*.

Supplies

Food, forage, petrol, lubricants for mechanical vehicles, fuel, light, disinfectants and hospital supplies.

Supply point (Sup. P.)

A point, normally fixed by divisional H.Q., to which supply column vehicles will be moved. Units will, as ordered by

their formations, send their own transport to collect supplies from this point or send guides to lead R.A.S.C. vehicles forward to delivery points.

Survey

The determination of the correct relative positions of points on the earth's surface with the object of:-

- (a) compiling a map, or
- (b) computing the bearing and distance from gun to target.

Third line transport

See Field Transport, R.A.S.C.

Transportation service

The service responsible for the operation and control of docks, railways and inland water transport.

Tonnage

(a) *Gross tonnage*.—The figure obtained when the capacity in cubic feet of all closed-in spaces in a ship above the inner bottom is divided by 100. One ton measurement equalling 40 cubic feet and one ton dead weight equalling 20 cwt.

(b) *Net tonnage*.—The gross tonnage less closed-in spaces necessary for the propulsion and navigation of the ship. Net tonnage is therefore a measure of earning capacity.

(c) *Deadweight tonnage*.—The total weight of cargo, bunkers and stores which a ship can carry.

Turn round

The time taken in unloading a ship and preparing her for the return voyage. Where fresh cargo is to be loaded at a port the time for this loading is included in the turn round.

ORGANIZATION IN THE FIELD

2. Establishments of Units

1. Information regarding the war establishments of headquarters of formations, and of units in personnel and animals given in the War Establishment of the unit.

2. Details of war equipment of units, method of carriage and the authority for issue are shown in the following publications:—

- i. Unit equipment in the War Equipment Table of the unit (A.F. G 1098).
- ii. Personal equipment in the War Equipment Table (A.F. G. 1098) of the unit.
- iii. Clothing and necessaries in Regulations for the Clothing of the Army.
- iv. Supplies, forage and fuel in Regulations for Mobilization and Allowance Regulations.
- v. Petrol in Regulations for Mobilization.
- vi. Lubricants in Regulations for Mobilization, and War Equipment Table of the unit (A.F. G 1098).
- vii. Medical equipment in Regulations for the Medical Services of the Army, and Field Service Manual for Army Medical Services.
- viii. Books, forms and stationery in Tables of Regulations, Army Books and Forms and Stationery (A.F. L. 1398).

3. Organization of Units

The organization of units of fighting troops is as follows:—

Cavalry

Cavalry brigade.

Brigade H.Q. (includes signal troop).
Three cavalry regiments.

Cavalry regiment.

Regimental H.Q.
H.Q. squadron—
Squadron H.Q.
Machine gun troop (pack) (4 medium m.gs. or 6 light m.gs.)
Anti-tank rifle troop (4 anti-tank rifles) (pack).
Signal troop (horsed and M.T.) (includes 6 trucks and 7 motor cycles).
Administrative group.
M.T. group.
Three squadrons (each)—
Squadron H.Q.
Four troops (each—one L.M.G. section, three sabre and rifle sections).

Royal Armoured Corps

Heavy armoured brigade.

Brigade H.Q. (includes signal squadron).
Three heavy armoured regiments (or battalions).

Heavy armoured regiment (or battalion).

Regimental H.Q. (2 light cruiser tanks and 2 close support cruiser tanks).

Headquarter squadron—

Squadron H.Q.
Intercommunication troop (12 scout cars).
Administrative troop.

Three squadrons (each)—

Squadron H.Q. (1 light cruiser tank and 2 close support cruiser tanks).

Light half squadron—

Half squadron H.Q. (1 light cruiser tank).
Three troops (each 2 light cruiser tanks).

Heavy half squadron—

Half squadron H.Q. (1 heavy cruiser tank).
Two troops (each 2 heavy cruiser tanks).

Light armoured brigade.

Brigade H.Q. (includes signal squadron).
Three light armoured regiments.

Light armoured regiment.

Regimental H.Q. (4 light cruiser tanks).

Headquarters squadron—

Squadron H.Q.
Intercommunication troop (12 scout cars).
Administrative troop.

Two light tank squadrons (each)—

Squadron H.Q. divided into fighting (3 light tanks) and administrative portions.

Five troops (each of 3 light tanks).

One light cruiser squadron (organized as above with light cruiser tanks).

Army tank brigade.

Brigade H.Q. (includes brigade signals).
Three army tank battalions.

Army tank battalion.

Battalion H.Q.—

No. 1 Group (2 "I" tanks, 4 light tanks, 2 tracked carriers for relief personnel).

No. 2 Group (administrative).

Three companies (each)—

Company H.Q. (1 "I" tank, 1 light tank, 2 tracked carriers for relief personnel).

Five sections (each of 3 "I" tanks).

Attached—

Army tank battalion signal section.

Divisional cavalry regiment.

Regimental H.Q. (4 light tanks and 2 armoured scout carriers)—

H.Q. squadron—

Squadron H.Q.

Motor cycle troop (41 motor cycles).

Administrative troop.

Three Squadrons (each)—

Squadron Q.H. divided into, Fighting (2 light tanks and 2 armoured scout carriers) and Administrative portions.

Two light tank troops (each of 3 light tanks).

Four carrier troops (each of 3 armoured scout carriers).

Attached—

Cavalry regiment signal section.

Cavalry armoured car regiment.

Regimental H.Q.—

No. 1 Group (2 armoured cars and 2 cars).

No. 2 Group (administrative and M.T.).

Three squadrons (each)—

Squadron H.Q. (3 armoured cars and 2 cars).

Three troops (each with 3 armoured cars).

Total—38 armoured cars.

Attached—

Cavalry armoured car regiment signal troop.

Support group, armoured division.

Headquarters.

One regiment R.H.A.

One A.A. and anti-tank regiment R.A.

Two motor battalions.

Royal Artillery

Regiment, R.H.A.

Regimental H.Q.—

Two batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Two troops (each)—

Troop H.Q.

Two sections (each of 2 25-pr. guns).

Field regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.—

Two batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Three troops (each)—

Troop H.Q.

Two sections (each of 2 25-pr. guns).

Medium regiment, R.A. (6-in. howitzer or 80-pr. gun).

Regimental H.Q.—

Two batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Two troops (each)—

Troop H.Q.

Two sections (each of 2 howitzers or guns).

Anti-tank regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.—

Four batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Three troops (each)—

Troop H.Q.

Two sections (each of 2 2-pr. guns).

Light anti-aircraft and anti-tank regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.—

Two light A.A. batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Three troops of four sub-sections (1 gun).

Two anti-tank batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Three troops of two sections (2 guns).

Anti-Aircraft

Anti-aircraft brigade.

Brigade H.Q.

Anti-aircraft regiments,
R.A.Searchlight regiments,
R.A.Light anti-aircraft regi-
ments, R.A.

Allotment depends upon opera-
tional considerations. Brigades
may consist of from two to four
regiments, which may be all gun,
or all searchlight, or mixed.
Light regiments or batteries
may be added as required.

Anti-aircraft brigade

H.Q. signals.

Administrative units.

Anti-aircraft regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.

Three batteries (each).

Battery H.Q.

Four sections (each of 2 guns).

Attached—

Anti-aircraft regiment signal section.

Light anti-aircraft regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.

Three batteries (each).

Battery H.Q.

Three troops of two sections (each of 2 2-pr. guns).

Attached—

Light anti-aircraft regiment signal section.

Searchlight regiment, R.A.

Regimental H.Q.

Four batteries (each)—

Battery H.Q.

Four troops (each).

Six sub-sections (each of one light).

Attached—

Searchlight regiment signal section.

Royal Engineers

Field squadron, R.E.

H.Q.

Three troops each of 4 sections (2 sections armoured,
2 sections unarmoured).*Field company, R.E. (divisional or army).*

H.Q.

Three sections.

Field park company, R.E.

Company H.Q.
Workshop section.
Bridging section.
Field stores section.

Armoured divisional field park troop, R.E.

H.Q.
Workshop section.
Bridging and field stores section.

Note—The organization of the above R.E. units allows for all personnel to be transported in the vehicles of the unit.

Royal Signals*Cavalry divisional signals.*

H.Q.

No. 1 Squadron.

H.Q.

"A" troop wireless.

"D" troop signal office and despatch rider.

No. 2 Squadron.

H.Q.

Three troops, "E," "F," "G" each to work with a R.H.A. regiment.

Three troops, "J," "K," "L" each to work with a cavalry brigade.

Armoured divisional signals.

H.Q.

No. 1 (divisional H.Q.) Squadron.

H.Q.

Advanced divisional H.Q. troop.

Cable troop.

Despatch rider troop.

Rear divisional H.Q. troop.

Technical maintenance troop.

No. 2 (support group) Squadron.

H.Q.

Group H.Q. troop.

Wireless troop.

R.H.A. regiment troop.

Light A.A. and anti-tank regiment troop.

No. 3 (light armoured brigade) Squadron.

H.Q.

Brigade H.Q. troop.

Three armoured regiment troops.

No. 4 (heavy armoured brigade) Squadron.

H.Q.

Brigade H.Q. troop.

Three armoured regiment troops.

Divisional signals.

H.Q.

No. 1 Company—

Company H.Q.

"A" (wireless) section.

"B" (cable) section (three detachments).

"C" (divisional cavalry) section.

"D" (operating) section (includes 26 D.Rs.).

"M" (technical maintenance) section.

No. 2 Company—

Company H.Q.

"E," "F" and "G" (field regiment) sections.

"H" (anti-tank regiment) section.

No. 3 Company—

Company H.Q.

"J," "K" and "L" (infantry brigade) sections.

Army tank brigade signals.

H.Q.—

Brigade H.Q. section.

Three battalion sections.

Infantry*Infantry brigade.*

Brigade H.Q. (includes signal section).

Three infantry battalions.

Infantry brigade anti-tank company.

Infantry battalion.

Battalion H.Q.

H.Q. Company—

Company H.Q.

No. 1 Platoon (signals).

No. 2 Platoon (4 A.A. L.M.Gs.).

No. 3 Platoon (2 3-inch mortars).

No. 4 Platoon (10 Bren carriers).

No. 5 Platoon (pioneers).

No. 6 Platoon (administrative).

Four infantry companies (each).
 Company H.Q.
 Three infantry platoons (each).
 Platoon H.Q. (includes 2 men for 2-inch mortar).
 Three infantry sections.

Infantry brigade anti-tank company.
 H.Q.
 Three platoons (each of 3 guns).

Machine gun battalion.
 Battalion H.Q.
 H.Q. Company—
 Company H.Q.
 No. 1 Platoon (signals).
 No. 2 Platoon (4 A.A. L.M.Gs.).
 No. 3 Platoon (administrative—includes pioneer section).
 Four machine gun companies (each)—
 Company H.Q.
 Three M.G. platoons (each)—
 Platoon H.Q.
 Two M.G. sections (each of 2 machine guns).

Motor battalion.
 Battalion H.Q.
 H.Q. company—
 Company H.Q.
 Signal platoon.
 Administrative and transport platoon.
 Four motor companies (each)—
 Company H.Q.
 One scout platoon of 3 scout sections.
 Three motor platoons of 3 motor sections.

Motor cycle battalion.
 Battalion H.Q.
 H.Q. company—
 Company H.Q.
 Signal platoon.
 Two scout platoons each of H.Q. and 3 sections (each 3 scout cars).
 Administrative and transport platoon.
 Four motor cycle companies (each)—
 Company H.Q.
 Three motor cycle platoons (each of 3 sections).

Pioneer battalion.
 Battalion H.Q.
 H.Q. company—
 No. 1 (signal) platoon.
 No. 2 (A.A.) platoon.
 No. 5 (anti-gas and pioneer) platoon.
 No. 6 (administrative) platoon.
 Four rifle companies (each)—
 Company H.Q.
 Three platoons of 4 sections (one L.M.G. in each platoon.)

Royal Army Service Corps

Cavalry divisional R.A.S.C.
 H.Q.
Cavalry divisional ammunition and petrol company.
 H.Q.
 Ammunition section.
 Petrol and anti-gas reserves section.
 Workshop section.

Cavalry divisional supply column.
 H.Q.
 Two echelons each of four sections.
 Workshop section.

Cavalry divisional ammunition and petrol sub-park.
 H.Q.
 Ammunition section.
 Petrol section.
 Workshop section.

Armoured divisional R.A.S.C.
 H.Q.
Heavy armoured brigade
Light armoured brigade
Support group
Divisional troops } *Companies R.A.S.C.*
 each consisting of:
 H.Q.
 Ammunition section.
 Petrol section.
 Supplies section (in two sub-sections).
 Workshop section.

Armoured divisional ammunition sub-park.

H.Q.

Four sections, serving the companies working with the heavy and light armoured brigades, the support group and divisional troops.

Workshop section.

Armoured divisional petrol sub-park.

H.Q.

Two petrol sections.

Workshop section.

Armoured divisional reserve supply sub-park.

H.Q.

Two supply sections.

Workshop section.

Divisional R.A.S.C.

H.Q.

One divisional ammunition company, R.A.S.C.

One divisional supply column, R.A.S.C.

One divisional petrol company, R.A.S.C.

Divisional ammunition company.

Company H.Q.

Three sections (A, B and C) (each carrying ammunition for one infantry brigade and one third of divisional troops units).

One workshop section (D section).

Divisional supply column.

Column H.Q.

Two echelons, each with four sections carrying supplies, ordnance stores and mails for the units of the division.

(Echelons work direct from railhead to units, bulk being broken on the way up.)

Workshop section (for unit repairs).

Divisional petrol company.

Company H.Q.

Two petrol sections ("A" and "B") (each of section H.Q. and three sub-sections).

One blanket and reserve clothing section (C section)—(section H.Q. and three sub-sections).

One workshop section (section H.Q. and three sub-sections).

(This section is responsible for repairs to unit vehicles and to all other R.A.S.C. vehicles in the division except those in the ammunition company and supply column.)

Army tank brigade company.

Company H.Q.

Ammunition section.

Petrol section.

Supplies section (double echelon).

Workshop section.

Corps troops ammunition company.

Company H.Q.

Sections for each—

Army field regiment.

Medium regiment.

Army tank battalion.

(Includes explosives and A.T. mines.)

Workshop section.

Company carries 2nd line ammunition only. (Third line ammunition is carried in the corps ammunition park.)

Corps ammunition park.

H.Q.

One sub-park for corps troops.

One sub-park for each division.

Each sub-park includes one workshop section. The park carries third line ammunition for all units (divisional and non-divisional) within the corps.

Corps troops supply column.

Column H.Q.

Supplies wing—organized in two echelons, each carrying one day's supplies (excluding petrol and fuel) for all units of corps troops and operating on alternate days from railhead.

Blankets and stores wing—carrying blankets for units of corps troops which do not carry their own in their first line transport, also 30 tons of wire and wiring stores for each division.

Workshop section—for repairs of unit vehicles.

Corps petrol park.

H.Q.

"A" section carrying second line petrol and lubricants for vehicles of non-divisional units of the corps.

"B" section carrying third line petrol and lubricants for vehicles of all units (divisional and non-divisional) within the corps.

"C" section—workshop section for repairs of vehicles of corps petrol park and affiliated units.

"A" and "B" sections carry also anti-gas reserves.

Troop carrying company.

Company H.Q.

Three transport sections, each capable of carrying the marching personnel of one infantry battalion.

Workshop section.

Royal Army Medical Corps

Field ambulance.

H.Q. (provides main dressing station and has eight motor ambulances).

Two companies (each forming an advanced dressing station, including stretcher bearers).

The *cavalry* and *armoured divisional field ambulances* are similarly organized but have four sections, each equipped to form an advanced dressing station. All stretcher bearers are in the H.Q. for distribution as required.

Motor ambulance company.

Consists of a medical wing (R.A.M.C.) and a transport wing (R.A.S.C.) organized as—

H.Q.

Three ambulance sections (each 25 motor ambulances).

One workshop section.

Royal Army Ordnance Corps

Armoured division workshop.

Main shop.

Three light repair sections.

Light aid detachments for permanent attachment to:—

Divisional signals.*

Light armoured regiments.

Heavy armoured regiments.

Regiment, R.H.A.

Light A.A. and A.Tk. regiment.

Motor battalions.

* Serves other divisional units not provided with a L.A.D.

Cavalry division workshop.

Main shop.

Three brigade group sections.

Light aid detachments for permanent attachment to—

Cavalry brigades.

R.H.A. regiments.

Field squadrons.

Army field workshop.

Main shop.

Three recovery sections—

One for divisional artillery.

One for corps troops.

One for remainder of division.

(The composition of recovery sections is elastic and permits reinforcement from the main shop as necessary.)

Light aid detachments for permanent attachment to—

All artillery regiments.

Infantry brigades.

Divisional cavalry regt.

Infantry (M.G.) battalions.

Field park company.

Divisional signals.

The last two light aid detachments also serve units not provided with a light aid detachment.

Army tank brigade workshop.

Workshop.

Three light aid detachments for permanent attachment to battalions.

4. Organization of the Royal Air Force

Preface

1. Those air forces allotted to the army in the field for which the military command is directly responsible are designated the Royal Air Force Component, or more briefly the air component.

2. The air component will normally include army co-operation squadrons and a proportion of bomber, fighter and communication squadrons; kite balloons may also be included.

3. The technical maintenance units with the air force component will be an aircraft depot and a port detachment at the base and air stores parks situated at or close to the railheads in the forward area as required.

4. In addition to the air component there may also be in the field, either within the area of the army's operations or elsewhere, an air striking force of bomber squadrons, which will not normally be under the commander-in-chief of the army in the field.

This force will be under the command of an air officer commanding-in-chief and will be employed in accordance with the general air plan of the Government. On certain occasions and for certain periods this force might be placed at the disposal of the military commander-in-chief for the furtherance of his military plans.

Formations

1. *Wings*.—The smallest formation in the R.A.F. is the wing. Whenever practicable, each wing consists of squadrons carrying out similar duties and designated accordingly, e.g. bomber wing. The number of squadrons in a wing varies according to the circumstances. Normally one army co-operation wing is attached to each army and contains all the army co-operation squadrons allotted to the army. An air intelligence liaison section provided by the army is attached to the headquarters of each bomber wing of the air component.

2. *Groups*.—Two or more wings may be organized in a group, the composition of which is variable. A group may be homogeneous or it may be composed of wings of different categories, e.g. of a bomber wing and a fighter wing.

Units

1. *Squadrons*.—The fighting unit in the R.A.F. is the squadron. Squadrons are designated army co-operation, bomber, fighter, communication, bomber-transport, according to their nature. The squadron consists of a headquarters and a number of flights each of an aircraft strength varying with the different categories.

An army co-operation squadron consists of three flights each of six aircraft; a bomber squadron of the type usually employed in field operations of three flights of six aircraft; a fighter squadron of two flights of six aircraft with a proportion of operational reserves; and a communication squadron of two flights of nine aircraft. The squadrons of the air component are fully mobile and self-contained. One or more flights can be temporarily detached. Unless the detachment is of very short duration, such flights will soon lose efficiency, since workshop, store, signal and photographic sections are organized on a squadron basis and cannot conveniently be divided.

Army co-operation squadrons have an air intelligence liaison section provided by the army.

2. *Kite balloon sections*.—The kite balloon unit is the section, which consists of two balloons. The ground equipment, however, permits only one balloon to be flown at a time, the second balloon being kept in reserve.

General organization of air co-operation

1. *Air intelligence liaison section*.—To ensure that pilots are provided with the necessary detailed instructions to carry out their tasks, and in order that the information obtained by them may be quickly investigated and distributed, an A.I.L. section, consisting of four army officers with the necessary clerical staff, is attached to each army co-operation squadron. Each bomber wing employed on strategic reconnaissance has a similar section of two army officers. The duties of these sections include the annotation of air photographs.

2. *Allotment of aircraft*.—When it is decided that a subordinate commander is to be responsible for the control of

tactical or artillery reconnaissance, or both, decentralization is effected by one of the following means:—

- i. An army co-operation squadron may be placed "under the command" of a formation.
- ii. An army co-operation squadron may be detailed to provide sorties "under the control" of a formation or of an artillery commander. Such sorties may be continuous or a stated number of sorties may be allotted for the purpose.

In i. the formation has complete operational control of the squadron and must issue all the necessary orders and information. The squadron commander and the A.I.L. section are concerned only with the front of that formation and can devote all their attention to serving it. Normally, squadrons so decentralized remain under the higher formation for administrative purposes.

In ii., formations or artillery commanders issue direct to the squadrons detailed to provide the aircraft all the necessary orders for the sorties specified. The formation or artillery staff also keep the A.I.L. section with the squadron informed from time to time of the situation within their reconnaissance area.

3. *Air reconnaissance.*—Air reconnaissance is classified as strategical, tactical and artillery reconnaissance. In addition, photographic reconnaissance may be carried out in connection with any of these categories. Night reconnaissance may be either strategical or tactical.

It is impossible to define exactly where strategical reconnaissance ends and tactical reconnaissance begins. Broadly, the designation of each type of reconnaissance is indicative of the information to be obtained, strategical reconnaissance being concerned with information from rear areas on which a commander can base his general plan of operations, while tactical reconnaissance is concerned with movements and dispositions in the battle area. As a very general guide, tactical reconnaissance may extend up to about 75 miles in advance of our forward troops, and strategical reconnaissance up to the limit of the radius of action of the aircraft employed.

The object of artillery reconnaissance is primarily the location of targets for the artillery and the direction of fire on them.

4. *Photographs, scales of.*—Small (1/14,000 to 1/20,000). Such photographs, while covering a large area, show comparatively little detail. They are of value for obtaining

information of camps, dumps, railway activity, new road and rail construction and, in any but very enclosed country, movements of large bodies of troops.

Medium (1/10,000 to 1/14,000). Show sufficient detail for ordinary intelligence and counter battery purposes.

Large (1/6,000 to 1/10,000). Give great detail. Are of use in deciding between genuine and dummy gun positions, in locating camouflage work, tank minefields, etc.

5. *Royal Air Force staff organization.*

- i. *Air Branch.*—Deals with the employment of units and execution of operations.
- ii. *Personnel Branch.*—Administration, discipline, reinforcement and evacuation.
- iii. *Equipment Branch.*—Supply and maintenance.

6. *Sorties.* See under Glossary.

5. System of Command in the Field

