



Battle Group-16 Rifle Regiment 39-41(a)

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT

Command

HQ x1 Commander RU-19

MANEUVER ELEMENTS

M x1 Regt. Sapper Company ME-27

A x1 Antiaircraft Company ME-28

S x1 Scout Cavalry Platoon ME-29

S x1 Scout Platoon ME-30

S x0-1 SMG Company (b) ME-06

BATTLEGROUPS

X x3 Rifle Battalion '39-'41 **BG-17**

ATTACHMENTS

A x3 45mm obr. 37 AT RU-64
Transport

L x3 Limber RU-28

A x3 Antitank Rifle (c) RU-23.1

ORGANIC FIRE SUPPORT

H x2-3 76.2mm Regt. Howitzers (d) RU-12
Transport

L x2-3 Limber RU-28

M x1 Hvy. Mortar Battery (e) **FS-02**

M x3 Mixed Mortar Co. (f) **FS-09**

DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS

X x0-1 Recon. Btn. (1/Div.) (g) **BG-18**

A x1 AT Battery (3/Div.) (h) ME-07a

A x0-1 AA Battery (i) ME-09a

M x1 Eng. Sapper Company (j) ME-11

T x1 Tank Co. (k) ME-??

DIVISIONAL FIRE SUPPORT

H x1 Lt. Howitzer Battalion (2/Div.) (l) **FS-05**

H x0-1 Howitzer Battalion (3/Div.) (m) **FS-06**

M x1 Hvy. Mortar Battery (e) **FS-02**

BG-16 Notes

- a) this covers the Soviet rifle regiment organizations from 1939 until the 6 and 27 December 1941 changes. Where the December changes did not come into effect for a while use this organization for 1942. Divisions raised prior to July 1941 retained the April 1941 organization, those raised after adopted the July 1941 organization (shtat). Both types of division were affected by the October order to form the regimental mortar battalion.
- (b) The 1939 organization called for a Recon Company within the rifle regiment. Its organization is uncertain and the organization is the one shown here dates from the April 1941 organization. The July 1941 organization added the SMG Company in rifle regiments raised post 22 June 1941.
- (c) Antitank rifles were theoretical until after November 1941 because no ammunition was produced prior to this time; many divisions only received them in 1942
- (d) Three 76.2cm howitzers in the 1939 to April 1941 organization, two in the July 1941 organization.
- (e) Added to July 1941 divisions, some becoming motorized by December 1941. At the same time the FS-02 battery was often reduced to 1 model and then deleted [This needs some more research].
- (f) Mortar battalion of three mixed companies formed following October 1941 order from all company and battalion 50mm and 82mm mortar assets. Usually one company would be allocated to each rifle battalion.
- (g) The Reconnaissance Battalion was replaced by a Motorised Recon company ME-31 in the July 1941 organization
- (h) Added under 1939 organization?
- (i) There was a shortage of AA batteries in most rifle divisions
- (j) Engineer assets in the 1939 to April 1941 rifle division consisted of a battalion with one sapper, one technical and one supply company. The July 1941 organization had 3 sapper companies. Flamethrowers were not present being held in a separate divisional motorized flamethrower platoon in the July 1941 organization.
- (k) Rifle divisions in 1939 were authorized a T-26 tank battalion. This was generally deleted in 1940 although a very few divisions retained them (e.g. 4th Rifle Division in the Caucasus).
- (l) Rifle divisions had 2 field artillery battalions in a Field Artillery Regiment.
- (m) Rifle divisions under the 1939 organization had one light (horse drawn) and one medium battalion in a Medium Artillery Regiment, under April 1941 organization this was increased to two light and one medium battalions in a Howitzer battalion which was in theory mechanized throughout. The Howitzer regiment was not present in the July 1941 organization and often disappeared in divisions on earlier shtaty in later 1941.

BG-17->18



(a) Or Staff Car (no card-Use French Staff Car FR-??)

(a) Use for rifle battalions on TOEs (shtaty) from September 1939 to after December 1941 reorganization implemented. December 1941 organizations are not represented by this organization.

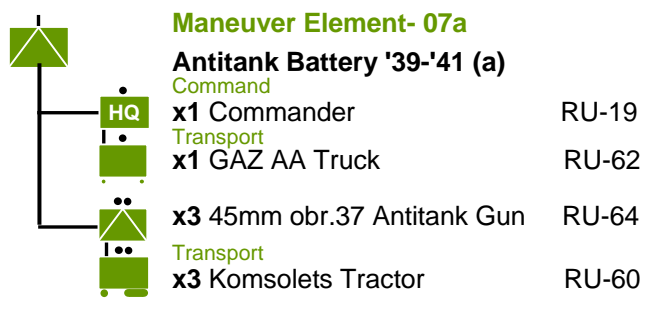
(b) ME-26 is used for pre July 1941 divisions and ME-26a for July 1941.

(c) The 45mm AT gun is present in divisions formed on the 1939 to April 1941 shtaty. Divisions formed on the July 1941 shtat did not have the AT gun. Note that in 1940 the TOE called for AT rifles which were not introduced into service owing to manufacturing delays.

(d) 1939 - 1 mortar, April 1941 - 3 mortars, July 1941 divisions 1 mortar, possibly (Sharp) increasing to 3 in divisions formed post August 1941. Following an October 1941 order all mortars were removed from the battalion on all establishments and formed into separate mortar battalions. See BG-15 and FS-09.

(e) Independent rifle battalions in rifle brigades formed in later 1941 adopted the above establishment with possibly 1 x Scout platoon, 1 x SMG platoon.

EW ME(1)



(a) Applies to rifle companies formed on pre-July 1941 organizations. Note many will be heavily under strength in June 1941 or later.

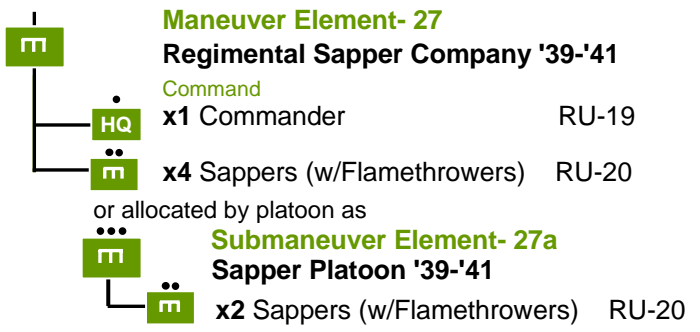
(b) 50mm mortar deleted from October 1941 to concentrate all mortars in regimental mortar units. [Note that mortars were reintroduced to the rifle companies during 1942 (from May to July onwards)].

(c) Applies to rifle companies formed on July/August 1941 organizations. Again many companies will be under strength.

(d) Half of squads in July 1941 shtat did not have LMGs.

(a) Each antiaircraft battalion in the April 1941 organization had 2 batteries of 37mm and one of 76mm. In practice there was a shortage of 37mm guns and the July 1941 organization deleted one gun from one platoon – best represented by the battery being of 1 gun.

(b) 76mm guns had a dedicated tractor instead of a truck (No Card)



(a) under the 1939 organization there was one 12.7mm Antiaircraft Machine Gun and 2 Quad AAMG but it is not thought that there were ever sufficient 12.7mm Antiaircraft Machine Gun to fill this role. The 12.7mm is optional. This element is used best used as attachments. If used as a separate ME, designate one of the MG units as the commander.

EW-ME(2)



Maneuver Element- 29 Scout Cavalry Platoon '39-'41

See Cavalry TO&E



Maneuver Element- 30 Scout Platoon '39-'42

Command/Recon

x1 Scout(a) RU-21

Recon

x3 Scout(a) RU-21

(a) Or Rifle Infantry RU-17



Maneuver Element- 31

Motorized Recon Co. '39-'41 (a)

Command/Recon

x1 Commander RU-19

Recon

x9 Rifle Infantry RU-17

Organic Fire Support

x0-1 50mm Mortar (a) RU-46

Transport

x3 GAZ AA Truck RU-62

(a) deleted in July 1941 organization



Maneuver Element- 32 Armored Car Company

Command

x1 BA-20 RU-P08

x2 BA-20 RU-P08

x1 BA-10 RU-61



Maneuver Element- 33 Light Tank Company

Command

x1 T70 Light Tank (a) RU-59

x6 T38 Light Tank (a) RU-59

Or attach by platoon as



Submaneuver Element- 33a Light Tank Platoon

x2 T38 Light Tank (a) RU-59

(a) may replace with T-37 tankette RU-P06, T-27 tankette RU-P05, T-40 tankette RU-P03 (later 1941 only)



Submaneuver Element- 06b SMG Platoon

x3 SMG RU-18



Fire Support Element FS-09

Mixed Mortar Company

Command

x1 Forward Observer RU-22

On-board Organic Fire Support

x4 82mm Mortar (a) RU-27

x4 50mm Mortar (a) RU-46

(a) there are numerous interpretations/versions of the composition of the mortar companies of the regimental mortar battalion formed under an October 1941 order. Options include 2-3 x 82mm and fewer 50mm.