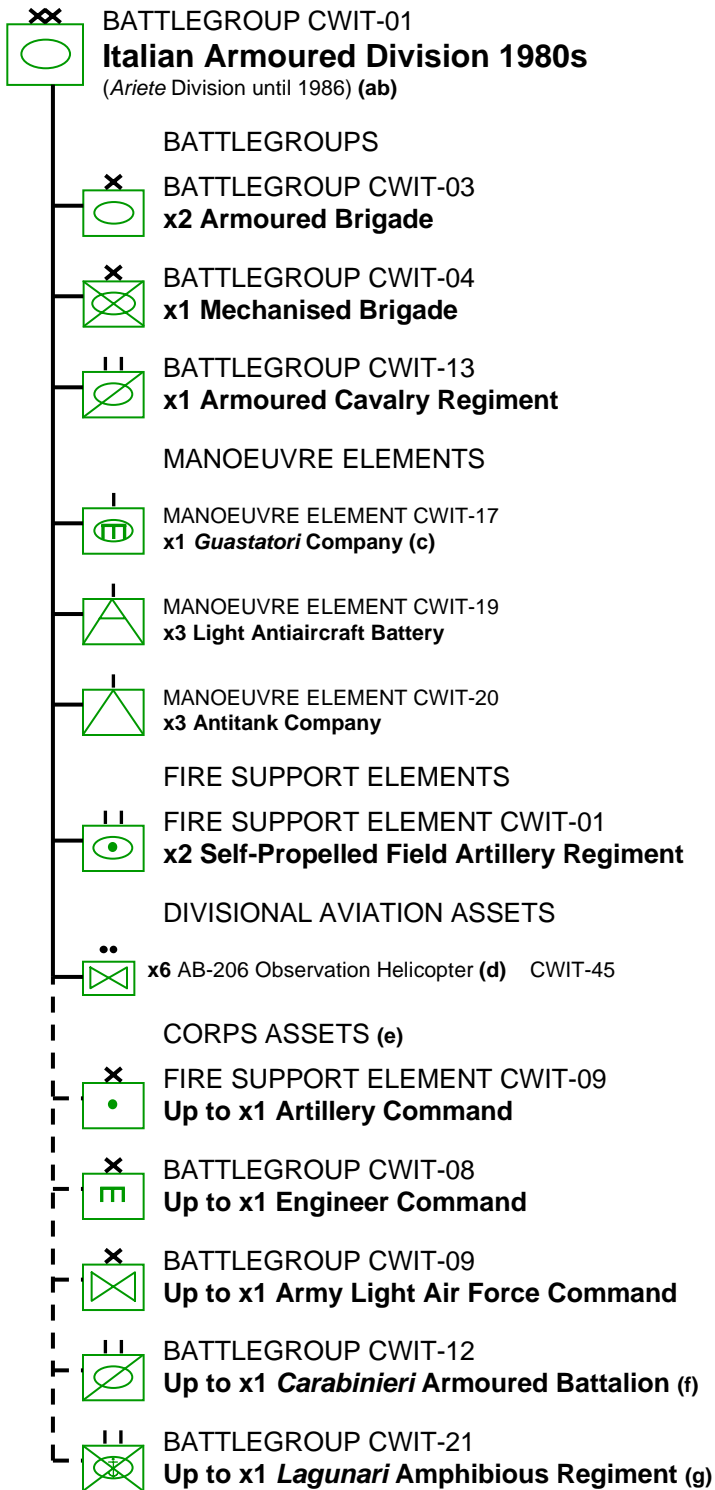


# Italian 1980s TO&Es v1.1



(a) In 1981 the Italian Army had **x4** standing Corps (II, III, IV & V), **x1** Armoured Division, **x3** Mechanised Divisions, **x2** Independent Mechanised Brigades, **x4** Independent Motorised Brigades, **x5** *Alpini* Brigades, and **x1** Airborne Brigade. However, in 1986 the divisions (along with II Corps) were disbanded, with the Independent Brigade now becoming the basic formation of manoeuvre, with each reporting directly to a Corps HQ (many other NATO armies have since adopted a similar organisational structure). Following reorganisation, the Italian Army had **x3** standing Corps (III, IV & V), **x4** Armoured Brigades, **x11** Mechanised Brigades, **x5** Motorised Brigades, **x5** Alpine Brigades and **x1** Airborne Brigade.

(b) The *Ariete* Armoured Division, as Italy's only Armoured Division, formed part of V Corps, which was the main armoured reserve formation, stationed on the North Italian Plain.

(c) *Genio Guastatori* are armoured assault pioneers.

(d) May replace **x3** AB-206 Observation Helicopters with:  
 AB-205 Utility Helicopter CWIT-47  
 Note that when the divisions were disbanded in 1986, the divisional helicopter squadrons were absorbed into the Corps Army Light Air Force Command.

(e) Each Corps had the three 'Commands' shown here, though the composition of each varied, depending on the Corps' standing role. For example, V Corps, as the main armoured reserve, contained much larger quantities of assault pioneers, helicopters and heavy artillery than the defensively-rolled III Corps & IV Corps. The seven Territorial Corps (I, V, VII, VIII, X, XI & Sardinia) varied wildly in terms of available assets and generally had much less available to them than the three standing Corps.

(f) The *Carabinieri* is Italy's 100,000-strong, standing paramilitary force of nine large brigades, organised into three divisions. Standing somewhere between the Police and the Army, its role is to reinforce either the Military or the Civil Power as the situation demands. In wartime its main role would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.

(g) The *Lagunari* are the Italian Army's own Marine Corps: Equipped with LVTP-7 amphibious armoured vehicles and other armoured vehicles, their role is to protect the right flank of V Corps in the lagoon areas of Venice and Grado.

(h) Note that in most cases, the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-02

# Italian Mechanised Division 1980s

(*Centaurio*, *Mantova* and *Folgore* Divisions until 1986) (ab)

## BATTLEGROUPS



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-03

**x1 Armoured Brigade**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-04

**x2 Mechanised Brigade**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-13

**x1 Armoured Cavalry Regiment**

## MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS



MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-17

**x1 *Guastatori* Company (c)**



MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-19

**x3 Light Antiaircraft Battery**



MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-20

**x3 Antitank Company**

## FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENTS



FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-01

**x2 Self-Propelled Field Artillery Regiment**

## DIVISIONAL AVIATION ASSETS



**x6 AB-206 Observation Helicopter (d)** CWIT-45

## CORPS ASSETS (e)



FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-09

**Up to x1 Artillery Command**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-08

**Up to x1 Engineer Command**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-09

**Up to x1 Army Light Air Force Command**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-12

**Up to x1 *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalion (f)**



BATTLEGROUP CWIT-21

**Up to x1 *Lagunari* Amphibious Regiment (g)**

(a) In 1981 the Italian Army had **x4** standing Corps (II, III, IV & V), **x1** Armoured Division, **x3** Mechanised Divisions, **x2** Independent Mechanised Brigades, **x4** Independent Motorised Brigades, **x5** *Alpini* Brigades, and **x1** Airborne Brigade. However, in 1986 the divisions (along with II Corps) were disbanded, with the Independent Brigade now becoming the basic formation of manoeuvre, with each reporting directly to a Corps HQ (many other NATO armies have since adopted a similar organisational structure). Following reorganisation, the Italian Army had **x3** standing Corps (III, IV & V), **x4** Armoured Brigades, **x11** Mechanised Brigades, **x5** Motorised Brigades, **x5** Alpine Brigades and **x1** Airborne Brigade.

(b) The *Centaurio* Mechanised Division was assigned to II Corps, while the *Mantova* and *Folgore* Mechanised Divisions belonged to V Corps. (N.B. do not confuse the *Folgore* Mechanised Division with the *Folgore* Airborne Brigade – or for that matter, the *Folgore* antitank weapon!).

(c) *Genio Guastatori* are armoured assault pioneers.

(d) May replace **x3** AB-206 Observation Helicopters with:  
AB-205 Utility Helicopter CWIT-47  
Note that when the divisions were disbanded in 1986, the divisional helicopter squadrons were absorbed into the Corps Army Light Air Force Command.





(e) Each Corps had the three support 'Commands' shown here, though the composition of each varied, depending on the Corps' standing role. For example, II Corps & V Corps, as the main reserves, contained much larger quantities of assault pioneers, helicopters and heavy artillery than the defensively-rolled III Corps & IV Corps. The seven corps-sized Territorial Commands (I, V, VII, VIII, X, XI & Sardinia) varied wildly in terms of available assets and generally had much less available to them than the three standing Corps.

(f) The *Carabinieri* is Italy's 100,000-strong, standing paramilitary force of nine large brigades, organised into three divisions. Standing somewhere between the Police and the Army, its role is to reinforce either the Military or the Civil Power as the situation demands. In wartime its main role would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.



(g) The *Lagunari* are the Italian Army's own Marine Corps: Equipped with LVTP-7 amphibious armoured vehicles and other armoured vehicles, their role is to protect the right flank of V Corps in the lagoon areas of Venice and Grado.

(h) Note that in most cases the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.



**BATTLEGROUP CWIT-03**  
**Italian Armoured Brigade 1980s (a)**

	Command x1 Commander	CWIT-27
	Transport x1 M577 Armoured Command Vehicle	CWIT-14
	Forward Air Controller/Recce x3 Forward Observer	CWIT-32
	Transport/Recce x3 M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier	CWIT-10

**BATTLEGROUPS**

	<b>BATTLEGROUP CWIT-10</b> x2 to x3 Tank Regiment (b)
	<b>BATTLEGROUP CWIT-14</b> x1 Mechanised Infantry Regiment (c)
	<b>BATTLEGROUP CWIT-13</b> Up to x1 Armoured Recce Regiment (d)






**MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS**

	MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-17 x1 <i>Guastatori</i> Company (c)
	MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-20 x1 Antitank Company (e)

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENTS**

	FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT FSE CWIT-01 x1 Self-Propelled Field Artillery Regiment
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**CORPS ASSETS (f)**

	FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-09 Up to x1 Artillery Command
	BATTLEGROUP CWIT-08 Up to x1 Engineer Command
	BATTLEGROUP CWIT-09 Up to x1 Army Light Air Force Command
	BATTLEGROUP CWIT-12 Up to x1 <i>Carabinieri</i> Armoured Battalion (g)
	BATTLEGROUP CWIT-21 Up to x1 <i>Lagunari</i> Amphibious Regiment (h)

(a) In the early 1980s x2 Armoured Brigades were assigned to the *Ariete* Armoured Division, while x1 Armoured Brigade was assigned to each of the three Mechanised Divisions. In 1986, all Italian divisions were disbanded and the brigades were all made independent. The five Armoured Brigades were designated *Centauro*, *Mameli*, *Ariete*, *Pozzuolo di Friuli & Puglie*. *Centauro* Brigade was stationed with III Corps in the northwest. *Mameli*, *Ariete* and *Pozzuolo di Friuli* were all assigned to V Corps on the North Italian Plain. *Puglie* was a reserve brigade, assigned to X Territorial Command in the south – the plan was for this brigade to be rapidly formed from training units in the event of war.

(b) Armoured Brigades typically had x2 Tank Regiments, but the *Ariete* Brigade had three regiments after the 1986 reorganisations. This third regiment would probably not have been present prior to 1986.

(c) Note that some Mechanised ‘Infantry’ Regiments held historical cavalry regimental titles (e.g. the *Genova Cavalleria* which was the Mechanised Regiment assigned to *Pozzuolo di Friuli* Armoured Brigade). This cavalry title was merely historical and does not indicate that they were reconnaissance troops or armour.

(d) An Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment was not normally part of an Armoured Brigade and this would definitely not have been present prior to the 1986 reorganisation (each division had one Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment that would be allocated as required). However, the *Mameli* Armoured Brigade had such a regiment after 1986.

(e) The *Guastatori* and Antitank Companies were not organic to the Armoured Brigade prior to the 1986 reorganisations. They would have been allocated from Division as required (see BGs CWIT-01 and CWIT-02).





(f) Each Corps had the three ‘Commands’ shown here, though the composition of each varied, depending on the Corps’ standing role. For example, II Corps & V Corps, as the main reserves, contained much larger quantities of assault pioneers, helicopters and heavy artillery than the defensively-rolled III Corps & IV Corps. The seven corps-sized Territorial Commands (I, V, VII, VII, X, XI & Sardinia) varied wildly in terms of available assets and generally had much less available to them than the three standing Corps.

(g) The *Carabinieri* is Italy’s 100,000-strong, standing paramilitary force of nine large brigades, organised into three divisions. Standing somewhere between the Police and the Army, its role is to reinforce either the Military or the Civil Power as the situation demands. In wartime its main role would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.

(h) The *Lagunari* are the Italian Army’s own Marine Corps: Equipped with LVTP-7 amphibious armoured vehicles and other armoured vehicles, their role is to protect the right flank of V Corps in the lagoon areas of Venice and Grado.

(i) Note that in most cases the Italian Army uses the term ‘Regiment’ to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.



 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-04**  
**Italian Mechanised Brigade 1980s (a)**

-  Command  
**x1 Commander** CWIT-27
-  Transport  
**x1 M577 Armoured Command Vehicle** CWIT-14
-  Forward Air Controller/Recce  
**x4 Forward Observer** CWIT-32
-  Transport/Recce  
**x4 M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier** CWIT-10

**BATTLEGROUPS**

-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-10**  
**x1 or x2 Tank Regiment (b)**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-14**  
**x3 Mechanised Infantry Regiment (c)**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-13**  
**Up to x1 Armoured Recce Regiment (d)**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-23**  
**Up to x1 Infantry Training Battalion (e)**






**MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS**

-  **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-17**  
**x1 *Guastatori* Company (f)**
-  **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-20**  
**x1 Antitank Company (f)**

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENTS**

-  **FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT FSE CWIT-03**  
**x1 Field Artillery Regiment (g)**

**CORPS ASSETS (h)**

-  **FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-09**  
**Up to x1 Artillery Command**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-08**  
**Up to x1 Engineer Command**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-09**  
**Up to x1 Army Light Air Force Command**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-12**  
**Up to x1 *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalion (i)**
-  **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-21**  
**Up to x1 *Lagunari* Amphibious Regiment (j)**

(a) There were **x9** Mechanised Brigades until the 1986 reorganisations: **x2** Mechanised Brigades were assigned to each of the three Mechanised Divisions, while **x1** Brigade was assigned to the *Ariete* Armoured Division and **x2** Brigades were independent. In 1986, all Italian divisions were disbanded and the brigades were all made independent, with two new Mechanised Brigades being raised. The **x11** Mechanised Brigades were then assigned as follows: *Goito*, *Legnano*, *Brescia* and *Trieste* Mechanised Brigades were stationed with III Corps in the northwest. *Garibaldi*, *Mantova*, *Vittorio Veneto* and *Gorizia* Mechanised Brigades were assigned to V Corps on the North Italian Plain. *Granatieri di Sardegna* and *Lazio* (Reserve) Mechanised Brigades were assigned to VIII Territorial Command in Rome. *Pinerolo* Mechanised Brigade was assigned to X Territorial Command in Naples. It was intended that the *Lazio* Brigade should be rapidly formed in wartime from training units.

(b) Mechanised Brigades typically had **x1** Tank Regiments, but the *Vittorio Veneto* Brigade had two regiments after the 1986 reorganisations.

(c) Note that some Mechanised 'Infantry' Regiments held historical cavalry regimental titles (e.g. the *Genova Cavalleria* which was the Mechanised Regiment assigned to *Pozzuolo di Friuli* Armoured Brigade). This title was merely historical and does not indicate that they were reconnaissance troops or armour.

(d) An Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment was not normally part of a Mechanised Brigade and this would definitely not have been present prior to the 1986 reorganisation (each division had one Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment that would be allocated as required). However, the *Mantova* Mechanised Brigade had such a regiment after 1986.

(e) *Granatieri di Sardegna*, *Lazio* and *Pinerolo* Mechanised Brigades each had an attached Infantry Training Battalion. These were manned by first-year conscripts, but in wartime they would take to the field with the brigade.

(f) The *Guastatori* and Antitank Companies were not organic to the Mechanised Brigade prior to the 1986 reorganisations. They would have been allocated from Division as required (see BGs CWIT-01 and CWIT-02).

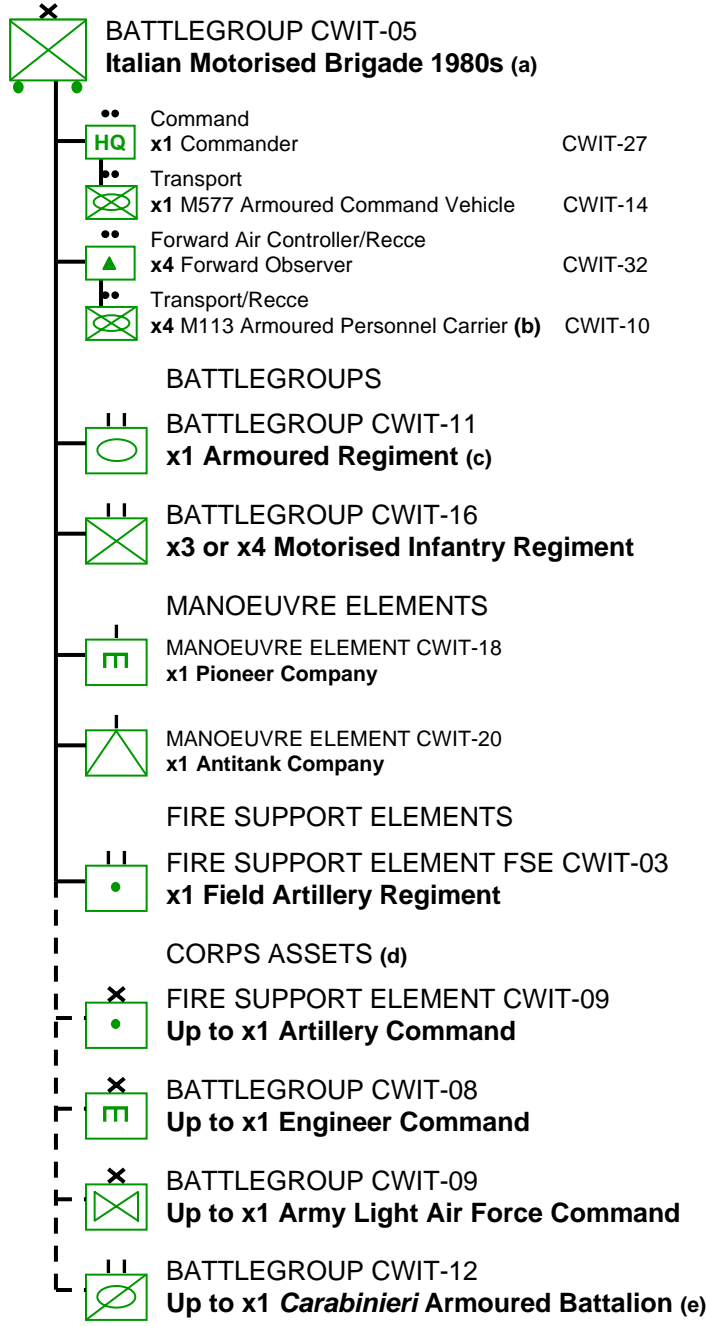
(g) From mid-1980s in *Goito*, *Garibaldi*, *Mantova*, *Vittorio Veneto* and *Gorizia* Mechanised Brigades, may replace the Field Artillery Regiment with a **Self-Propelled Field Artillery Regiment** (FSE CWIT-01).

(h) Each Corps had the three 'Commands' shown here, though the composition of each varied, depending on the Corps' standing role. For example, II Corps & V Corps, as the main reserves, contained much larger quantities of assault pioneers, helicopters and heavy artillery than the defensively-rolled III Corps & IV Corps. The seven corps-sized Territorial Commands (I, V, VII, VII, X, XI & Sardinia) varied wildly in terms of available assets and generally had much less available to them than the three standing Corps.

(i) The *Carabinieri's* main role in wartime would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.

(j) The *Lagunari* are the Italian Army's own Marine Corps: Equipped with LVTP-7 amphibious armoured vehicles and other armoured vehicles, their role is to protect the right flank of V Corps in the lagoon areas of Venice and Grado.

(j) Note that in most cases, the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.



(a) There were x4 Mechanised Brigades until the 1986 reorganisations – *Cremona* Motorised Brigade was assigned to II Corps, while *Friuli*, *Acqui* and *Aosta* Motorised Brigades were assigned to III Corps. In 1986, x2 new Motorised Brigades were created. From 1986 the six Motorised Brigades were assigned as follows: *Cremona* Motorised Brigade was stationed with III Corps. *Piemonte* (Reserve) Motorised Brigade had a dual Alpine role and was assigned to I Territorial Command at Turin. *Friuli* Motorised Brigade was assigned to VII Territorial command at Florence. *Acqui* Motorised Brigade was assigned to VIII Territorial Command in Rome. *Aosta* Motorised Brigade was assigned to XI Territorial Command at Palermo. *Sassari* Mechanised Brigade was assigned to Sardinia Territorial Command. It was intended that the *Piemonte* Brigade would be rapidly formed in wartime from training units.

(b) May replace FAC's M113 APC with:  
AR-59/AR-76 'Campagnola' (no MG) CWIT-24





(c) Armoured Regiments are part-armoured, part-mechanised battalions. They have two squadrons/companies of tanks and one squadron/company of mechanised infantry, plus heavy support weapons. Terminology for MEs (company or squadron, platoon or troop) was either cavalry or infantry-oriented, depending on the historical title of the unit – some were infantry regiments while some were cavalry regiments, even though it made no organisational or tactical difference.

(d) Each Corps had the three 'Commands' shown here, though the composition of each varied, depending on the Corps' standing role. For example, II Corps & V Corps, as the main reserves, contained much larger quantities of assault pioneers, helicopters and heavy artillery than the defensively-roled III Corps & IV Corps. The seven corps-sized Territorial Commands (I, V, VII, X, XI & Sardinia) varied wildly in terms of available assets and generally had much less available to them than the three standing Corps, though they often had large numbers of independent Infantry Regiments and Infantry Training Battalions, as well as the odd Mechanised Infantry Regiment. Some formations also had Defence Battalions, that were assigned to hold permanent fortifications within the formation's area of responsibility. These Defence Battalions could be anywhere from x2 to x16 Companies strong.

(e) The *Carabinieri's* main role in wartime would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.

(f) Note that in most cases, the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-06**  
**Italian Alpine Brigade 1980s (a)**

-  **Command**  
**x1 Commander** CWIT-27
-  **Transport**  
**x1 M577 Armoured Command Vehicle** CWIT-14
-  **Forward Air Controller/Recce**  
**x4 Forward Observer** CWIT-32
-  **Transport/Recce**  
**x4 AR-59/76 'Campagnola' (no MG)** CWIT-24

**BATTLEGROUPS**

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-17**  
**x3 or x4 Alpine Infantry Regiment (b)**

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS**


 **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-18**  
**x1 Pioneer Company**

 **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-20**  
**x1 Antitank Company**

 **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-21**  
**x1 Light SAM Battery (i)**

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENTS**

 **FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT FSE CWIT-05**  
**x1 Alpine Artillery Regiment**

 **FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT FSE CWIT-04**  
**x1 Field Artillery Battery (j)**

**BRIGADE AVIATION ASSETS**

 **x2 AB-205 Utility Helicopter (c)** CWIT-47

**CORPS ASSETS (d)**

 **FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-10**  
**Up to x1 Artillery Command**

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-08**  
**Up to x1 Engineer Command**

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-09**  
**Up to x1 Army Light Air Force Command**

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-11**  
**Up to x1 Armoured Regiment (e)**

 **BATTLEGROUP CWIT-12**  
**Up to x1 *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalion (f)**

 **MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-**  
**Up to x1 Parachute Infantry Company (g)**

(a) There were **x5** *Alpini* Brigades in the Italian Army (*Cadore, Julia, Orobica, Taurinense* and *Tridentina*). These brigades all came under command of IV (*Alpini*) Corps. Part of the *Taurinense* Brigade would be detached to the *Cuneense* Detachment, assigned to ACE Mobile Force.

(b) Some brigades also included Defence Battalions, which were units formed to hold fixed fortifications within the Brigade's peacetime area of responsibility. The battalions associated with IV Corps usually comprised some **x12** to **x16** companies each!

(c) Following the 1986 reorganisation, the *Alpini* Brigade Helicopter Squadrons were removed and grouped under the IV Corps' Army Light Air Force Command.

(d) This is the full list of IV Corps assets, which would be shared among the five *Alpini* Brigades.

(e) Armoured Regiments are part-armoured, part-mechanised battalions. They have two squadrons/companies of tanks and one squadron/company of mechanised infantry, plus heavy support weapons. Terminology for MEs (company or squadron, platoon or troop) was either cavalry or infantry-oriented, depending on the historical title of the unit – some were infantry regiments while some were cavalry regiments, even though it made no organisational or tactical difference.

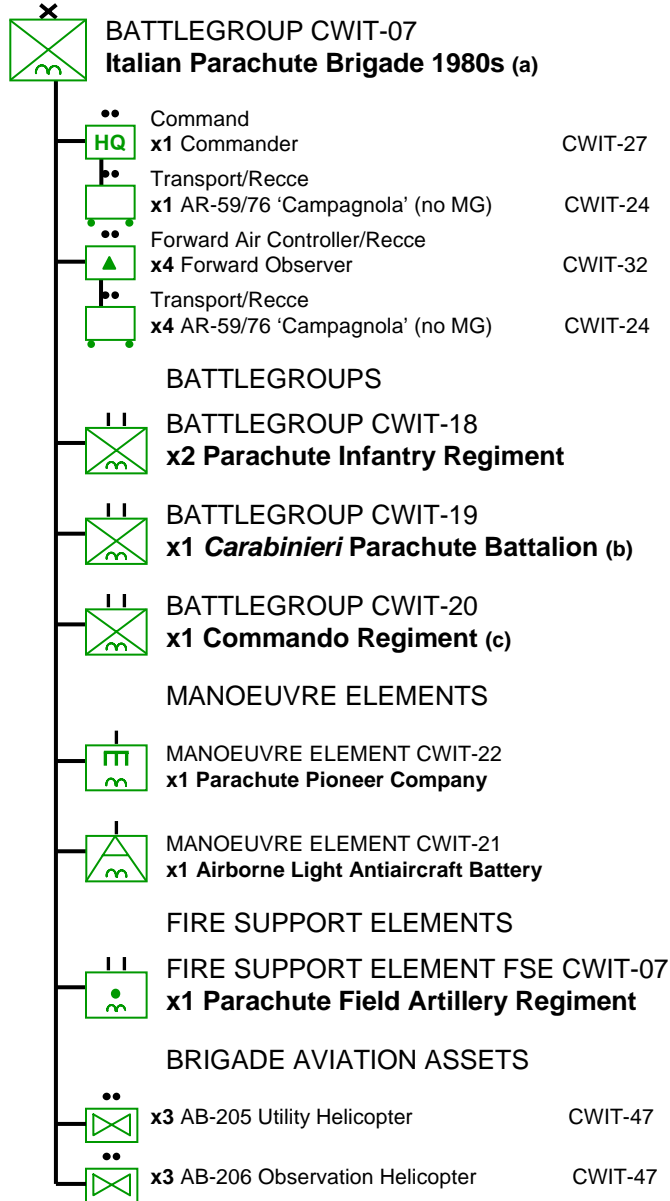
(f) The *Carabinieri's* main role in wartime would have been to provide rear-area security, though two *Carabinieri* Armoured Battalions and thirteen *Carabinieri* Mobile Battalions (BG CWIT-15) would have taken a rather more active combat role.

(g) The IV (*Alpini*) Corps uniquely had an independent Parachute Company, which was formed from *Alpini* soldiers.

(h) Note that in most cases, the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.

(i) The Light SAM Battery is only available from the mid-1980s and the introduction of Stinger. The battery actually forms part of the Mountain Artillery Regiment.

(j) During the early 1980s, the Mountain Artillery Regiments possess a single battery of 155mm howitzers, as shown here. However, this was battery expanded during the 1980s to a full regiment of 155mm howitzers. So from the mid-1980s, delete the Field Artillery Battery and add **x1** Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-03).



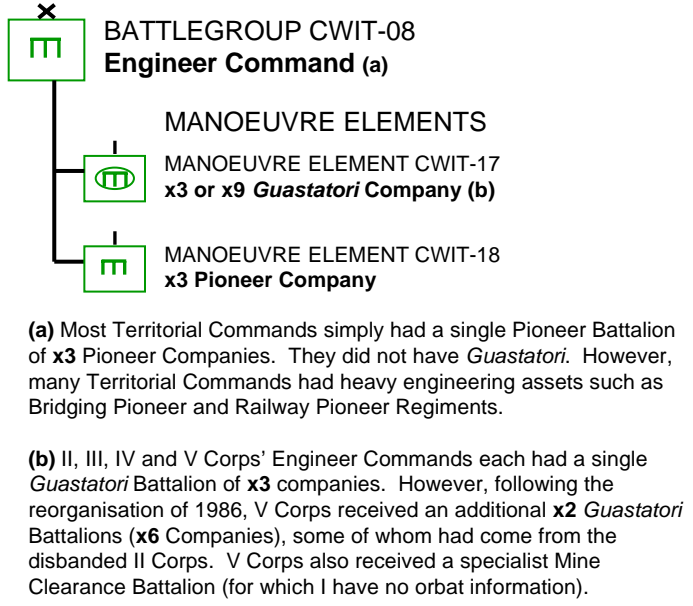
**(a)** The *Folgore* Parachute Brigade was Italy's only airborne formation. The only other parachute unit on the Italian order of battle was the independent *Alpini* Parachute Company. In the early 1980s, the *Folgore* Parachute Brigade formed part of III Corps at Milan. However, following the 1986 reorganisation, the brigade was transferred to VII Territorial Command at Florence. Elements of the *Folgore* Parachute Brigade were dedicated to the *Cuneense* Detachment, which would be assigned to ACE Mobile Force.

**(b)** The *Carabinieri* Parachute Battalion was a multi-role, rapidly-deployed paramilitary police unit, which could double as a parachute infantry regiment in wartime. It was also equipped with trucks and AFVs which gave it added flexibility in its role.

**(c)** The Commando Regiment *Col Moschin* was lightly-equipped, being a light reconnaissance/special forces-type unit.

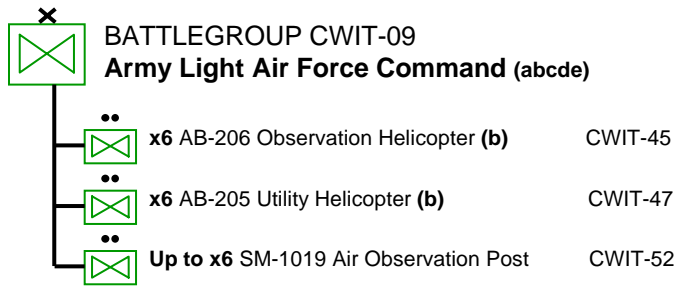
**(d)** I have not listed Corps support elements here, as the *Folgore* Parachute Brigade would draw support from whichever Corps it was deployed with (which might include NATO Allied formations).

**(e)** Note that in most cases, the Italian Army uses the term 'Regiment' to mean a battalion-sized combat unit.



**(a)** Most Territorial Commands simply had a single Pioneer Battalion of **x3** Pioneer Companies. They did not have *Guastatori*. However, many Territorial Commands had heavy engineering assets such as Bridging Pioneer and Railway Pioneer Regiments.

**(b)** II, III, IV and V Corps' Engineer Commands each had a single *Guastatori* Battalion of **x3** companies. However, following the reorganisation of 1986, V Corps received an additional **x2** *Guastatori* Battalions (**x6** Companies), some of whom had come from the disbanded II Corps. V Corps also received a specialist Mine Clearance Battalion (for which I have no orbat information).



**(a)** Most of the Corps followed the organisation shown here, with a Scout Helicopter Squadron and a Utility Helicopter Squadron, possibly with the addition of an AOP Flight. However, V Corps had an additional Utility Helicopter Squadron of **x6** AB-205 (possibly fitted out as gunships). In the late 1980s, V Corps replaced **x3** AB-205s with:

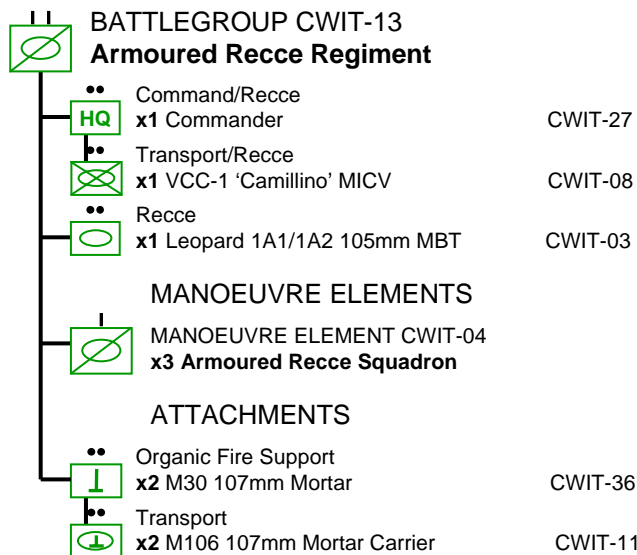
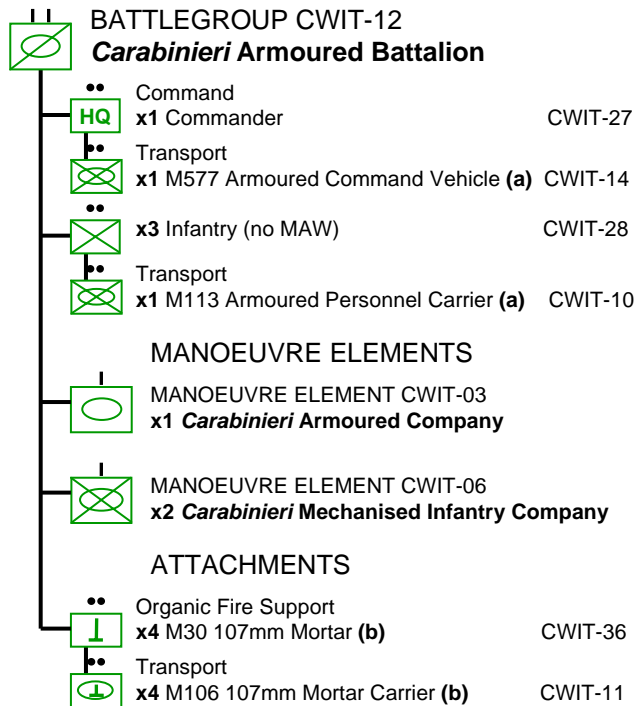
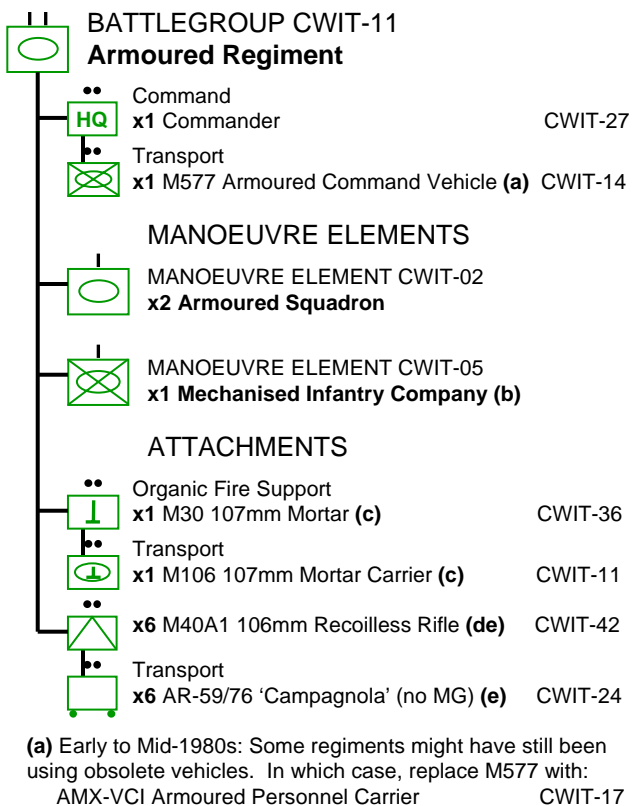
- A-109A Observation/Attack Helicopter CWIT-46
- AB-212 Utility Helicopter CWIT-48

**(b)** The Territorial Commands generally only had a single, mixed squadron each – delete **x3** AB-205 & **x3** AB-206. However, two of the Territorial Command squadrons replaced their AB-205s with more modern types in the late 1980s:

- A-109A Observation/Attack Helicopter CWIT-46
  - AB-212 Utility Helicopter CWIT-48
- (c)** Once all the helicopters directly attached to Army formations are taken into consideration, there were still significant numbers of helicopters held in reserve (these figures are for 1989):
- x11** AB-47 Observation Helicopter CWIT-44
  - x30** (minimum) AB-206 Observation Helicopter CWIT-45
  - x20** (minimum) AB-205 Utility Helicopter CWIT-46
  - x3** AB-212 Utility Helicopter CWIT-48
  - x6** AB-412 Utility Helicopter CWIT-49
  - x20** CH-47 Chinook Heavy Transport Helicopter CWIT-50
  - x6** A-129 'Mangusta' Attack Helicopter CWIT-51

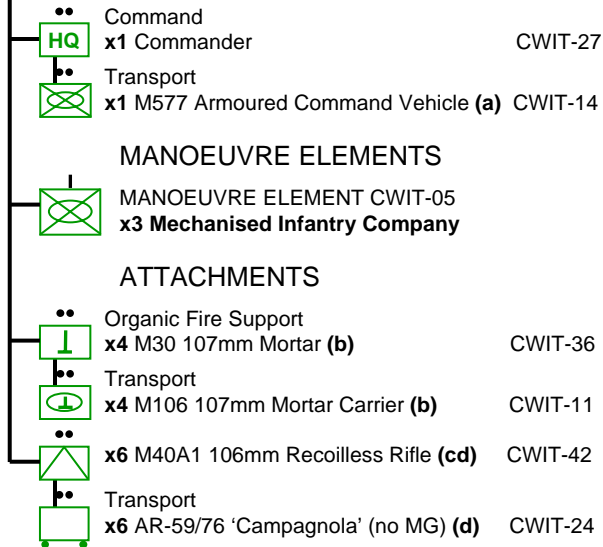
**(d)** Note that the *Carabinieri* also operated their own fleet of helicopters which came under military command. They had the following inventory in 1989:

- x11** AB-47 Observation Helicopter CWIT-44
- x11** AB-206 Observation Helicopter CWIT-45
- x1** A-109A Observation/Attack Helicopter CWIT-46
- x2** AB-205 Utility Helicopter CWIT-47





## BATTLEGROUP CWIT-14 Mechanised Infantry Regiment



(a) Early to Mid-1980s: Some regiments might have still been using obsolete vehicles. In which case, replace M577 with:  
 AMX-VCI Armoured Personnel Carrier CWIT-17

(b) Late 1980s: May replace 107mm Mortar and M106 Carrier in a few units with:

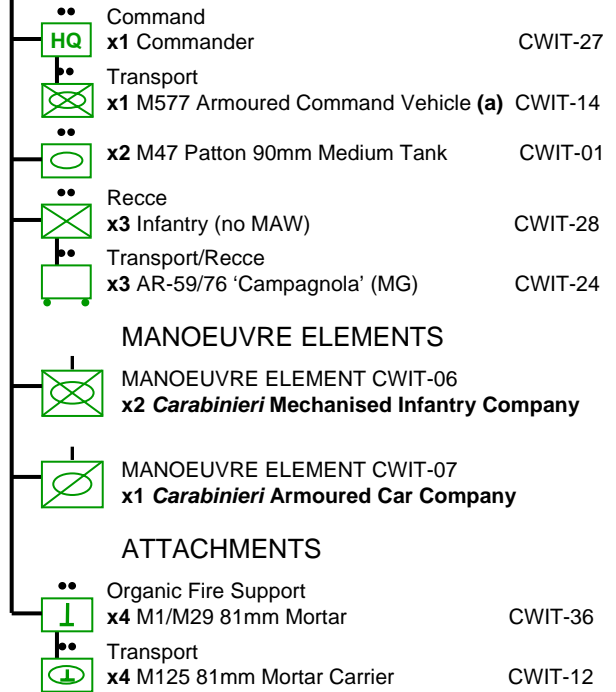
**x1 Brandt 120mm Mortar** CWIT-37  
**x1 M106A1 120mm Mortar Carrier** CWIT-15

(c) Mid-1980s: Delete **x3** of the **x6 M40 106mm Recoilless Rifles** and add:

**x6 Milan ATGM Team (d)** CWIT-39  
**x3 AR-59/76 Campagnola (d)** CWIT-24

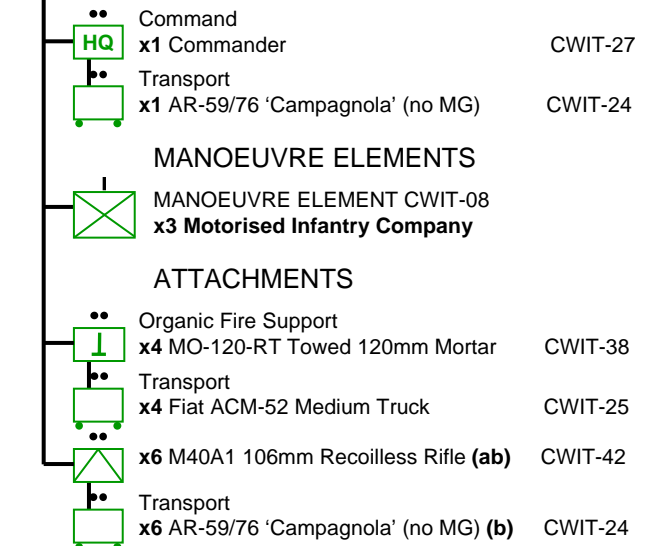
(d) 106mm recoilless rifles or Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.

## BATTLEGROUP CWIT-15 Carabinieri Mobile Battalion



(a) Early to Mid-1980s: Some units might have still been using obsolete vehicles. In which case, replace M577 with:  
 AMX-VCI Armoured Personnel Carrier CWIT-17

## BATTLEGROUP CWIT-16 Motorised Infantry Regiment

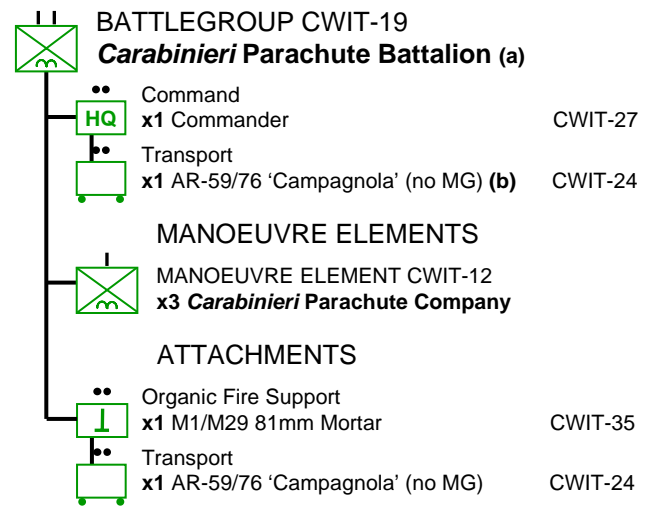
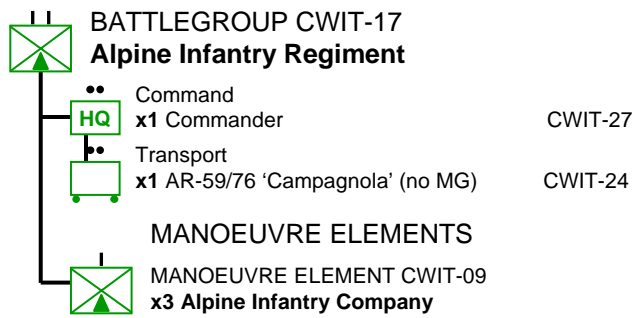


(a) From Mid-1980s: May replace M40 106mm Recoilless Rifles with:

**Milan ATGM Team (b)** CWIT-39

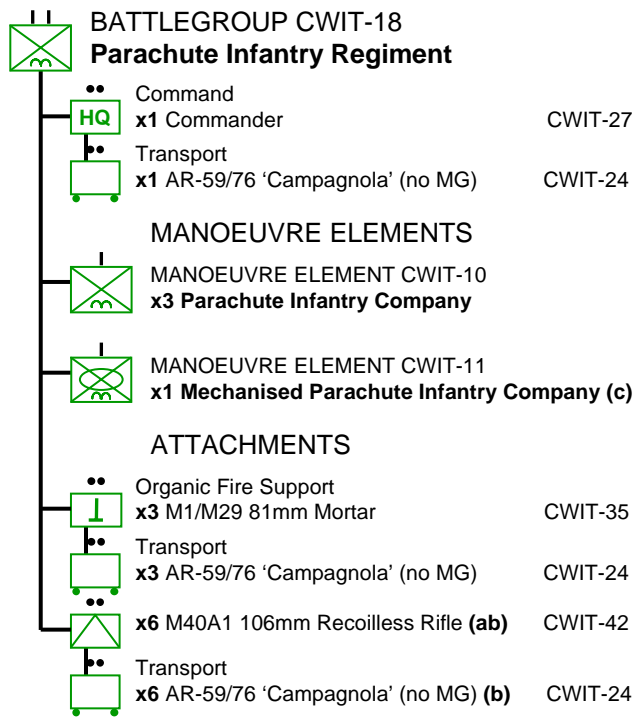
Unlike the Mechanised Infantry Regiments, the Motorised Infantry do not appear to have retained some 106mm Recoilless Rifles for fire support.

(b) 106mm recoilless rifles or Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.



(a) The *Carabinieri* Parachute Battalion was a multi-role, rapidly-deployed paramilitary police unit, which could double as a parachute infantry regiment in wartime. It was also equipped with trucks and AFVs which gave it added flexibility in its role.

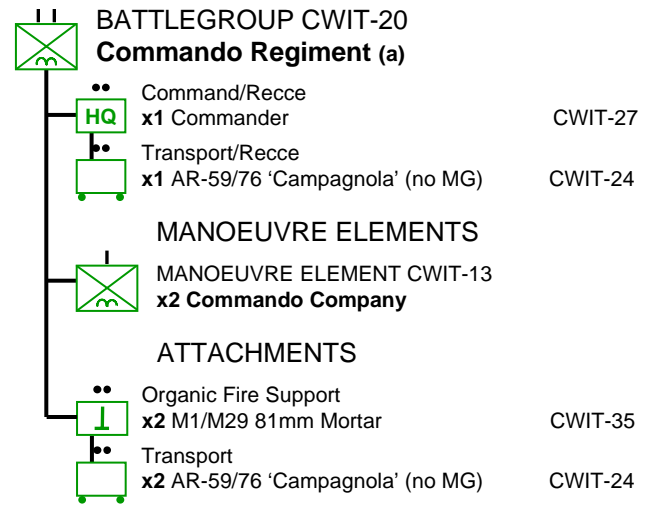
(b) Late 1980s: May replace AR-59/76 with: VCC-1 'Camillino' MICV CWIT-08



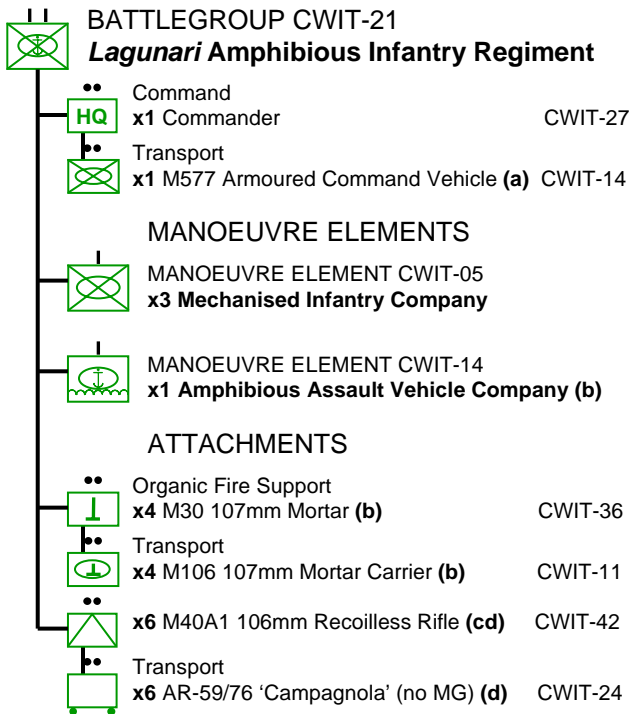
(a) Early 1980s: Replace M40 106mm Recoilless Rifles with: x4 Milan ATGM Team (b) CWIT-39

(b) 106mm recoilless rifles or Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.

(c) The men of the Mechanised Para Company are parachute trained, so may operate in a conventional paratroop role, as well as their designated mechanised-airmobile role.



(a) The Commando Regiment *Col Moschin* was lightly-equipped, being a light reconnaissance/special forces-type unit.

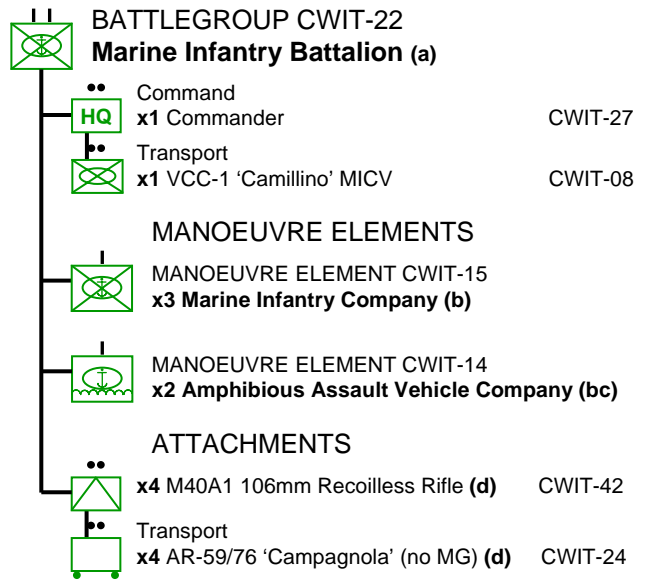


**(a)** Late-1980s: Replace M577 with:  
 VCC-2 Mechanised Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-09

**(b)** The Amphibious Assault Vehicle Company exists to provide the *Lagunari* (and any other units who need their help) with amphibious transportation.

**(c)** Mid-1980s: Replace the M40 106mm Recoilless Rifles with:  
**x6 Milan ATGM Team (d)** CWIT-39

**(d)** 106mm recoilless rifles or Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.

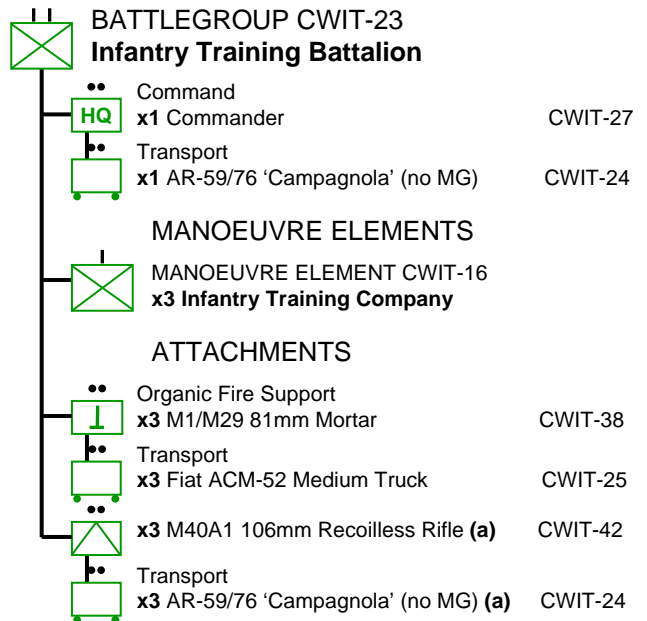


**(a)** The *San Marco* Marine Infantry Battalion is a mechanised, amphibious assault unit, controlled by the Italian Navy (unlike the *Lagunari*, who are controlled by the Army).

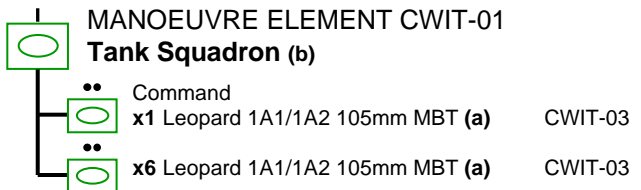
**(b)** Two of the Marine Infantry Companies have VCC-1 'Camillino' Mechanised Infantry Combat Vehicles. The third company has one of the two Amphibious Assault Vehicle Companies permanently assigned to it.

**(c)** The Amphibious Assault Vehicle Companies exist to provide the Marines with amphibious transportation.

**(d)** 106mm recoilless rifles may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.



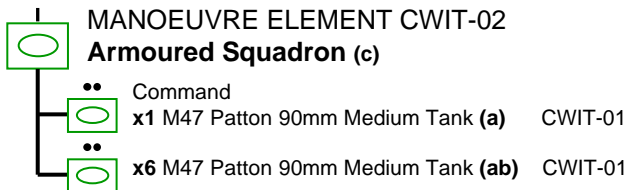
**(a)** 106mm recoilless rifles may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.



(a) Replace all tanks in the *Ariete* Armoured Division (or after the 1986 reorganisation: the *Mameli*, *Ariete* and *Garibaldi* Brigades) with:

M60A1 105mm Medium Tank CWIT-02

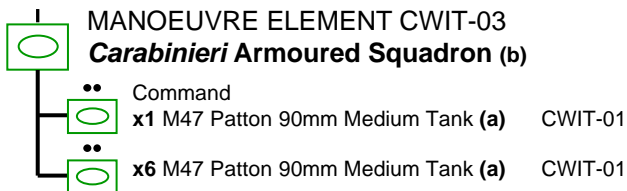
(b) The Squadron may alternatively be deployed as three troop-sized Manoeuvre Elements, each of x2 tanks. Designate one tank in each Troop ME as the Troop Commander.



(a) Mid-1980s: Replace all M47 Patton tanks with: Leopard 1A1/1A2 105mm Main Battle Tank (b) CWIT-03

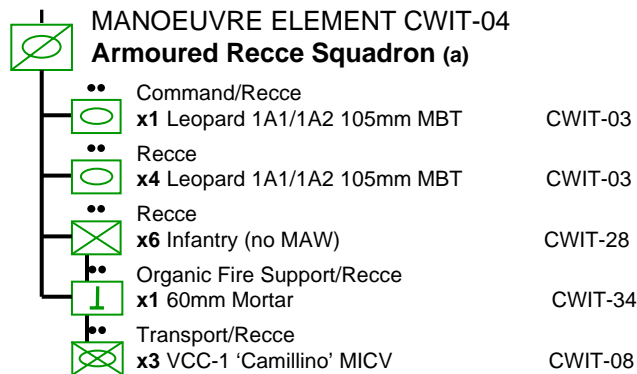
(b) When the Armoured Regiment converts to Leopard tanks, the squadron strength must be reduced by x1 tank.

(c) The Squadron may alternatively be deployed as three troop-sized Manoeuvre Elements, each of x2 tanks. Designate one tank in each Troop ME as the Troop Commander.

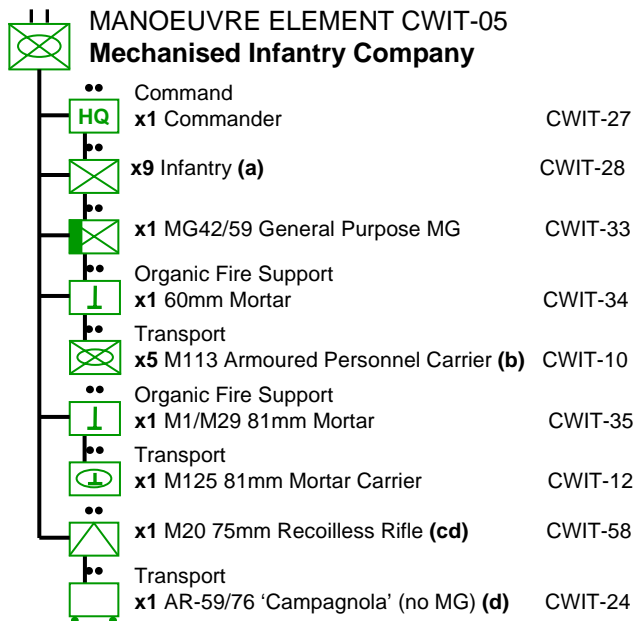


(a) In 1989: One *Carabinieri* Armoured Regiment Replace all M47 Patton tanks with:

Leopard 1A1/1A2 105mm Main Battle Tank CWIT-03



(a) The Squadron may alternatively be deployed as four troop-sized Manoeuvre Elements, each of x2 tanks or x3 Infantry and x1 VCC-1. Designate one tank or infantry unit in each Troop ME as the Troop Commander.

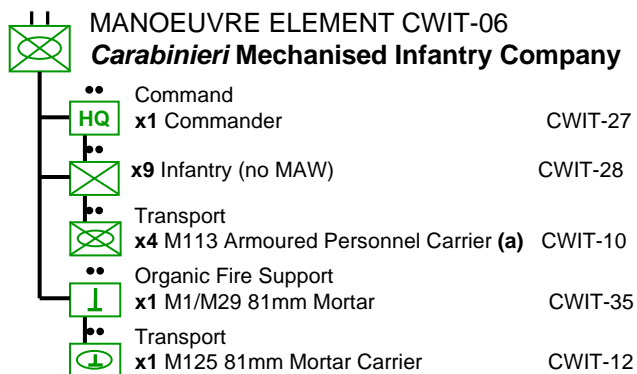


(a) Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip x1 Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

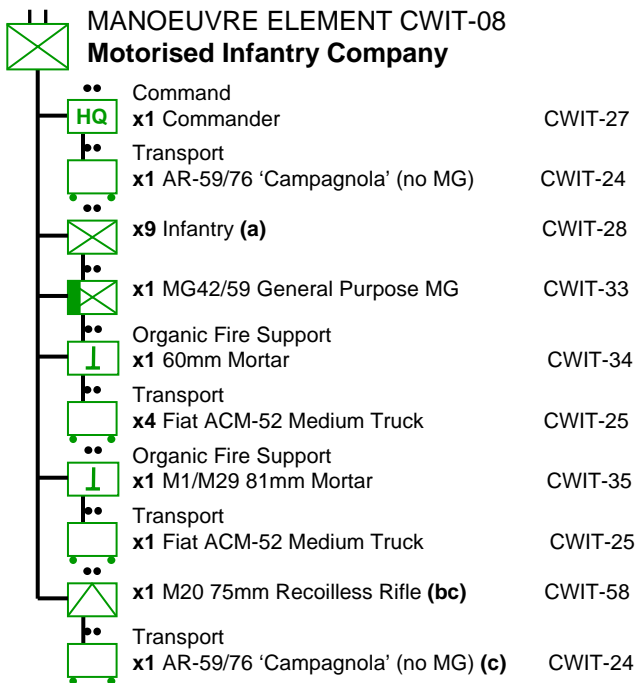
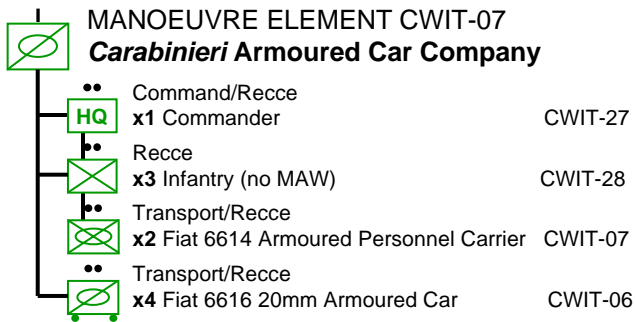
(b) May replace M113 APCs with:  
VCC-1 'Camillino' Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-08  
VCC-2 Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-09

(c) May replace M20 75mm Recoilless Rifle with: M40A1 106mm Recoilless Rifle (d) CWIT-59  
From mid-1980s: Replace all Recoilless Rifles with: Milan ATGM Team (d) CWIT-39

(d) Recoilless Rifles and Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.



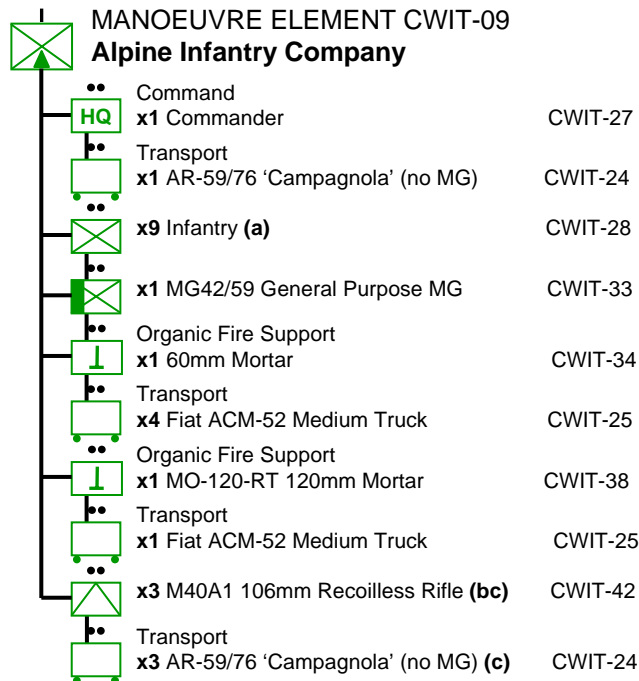
(a) Late 1980s: The *Carabinieri* 13th Armoured Battalion, attached to V Corps was issued with modern vehicles. May therefore replace M113 APCs with: VCC-2 Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-09



**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** May replace M20 75mm Recoilless Rifle with:  
M40A1 106mm Recoilless Rifle **(c)** CWIT-42  
From mid-1980s: May replace all Recoilless Rifles with:  
Milan ATGM Team **(c)** CWIT-39

**(c)** Recoilless Rifles and Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.



**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** From mid-1980s: Replace all Recoilless Rifles with:  
Milan ATGM Team **(c)** CWIT-39

**(c)** Recoilless Rifles and Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.

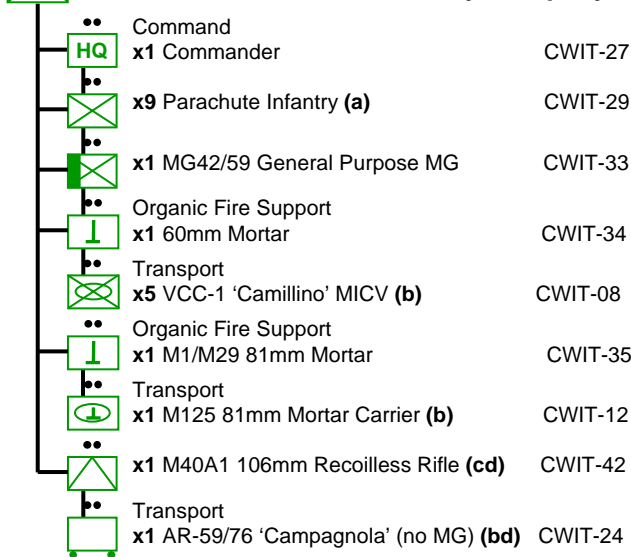


**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** Early 1980s: Replace Recoilless Rifle with:  
Milan ATGM Team **(c)** CWIT-39

**(c)** Late 1980s: Increase to **x3** Milan ATGM Team.

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-11**  
**Mechanised Parachute Infantry Company**



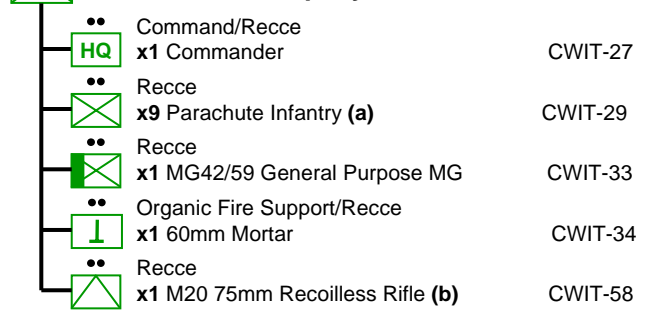
**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** May discard transport if the mission is 'pure' light airborne.

**(c)** Early 1980s: Replace Recoilless Rifle with:  
 Milan ATGM Team (d) CWIT-39

**(d)** Recoilless Rifles and Milan ATGMs may be fired from AR-59/76 jeeps when mounted.

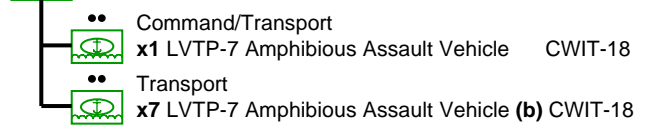
**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-13**  
**Commando Company**



**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** Early 1980s: Replace Recoilless Rifle with:  
 Milan ATGM Team CWIT-39

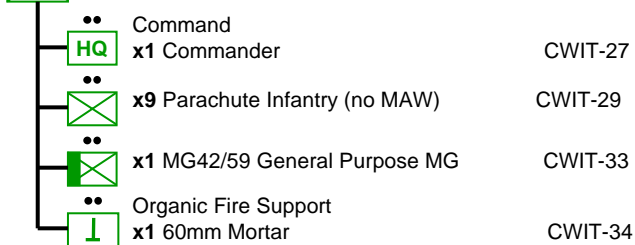
**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-14**  
**Amphibious Assault Vehicle Company (a)**



**(a)** This ME may be used to transport infantry MEs (typically Navy Marines or Army *Lagunari*). The company may be split into smaller detachment MEs – designate one vehicle in each detachment ME as the Detachment Commander.

**(b)** Marine Amphibious Assault Vehicle Companies were slightly smaller – delete **x2** LVTP-7.

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-12**  
**Carabinieri Parachute Infantry Company (a)**



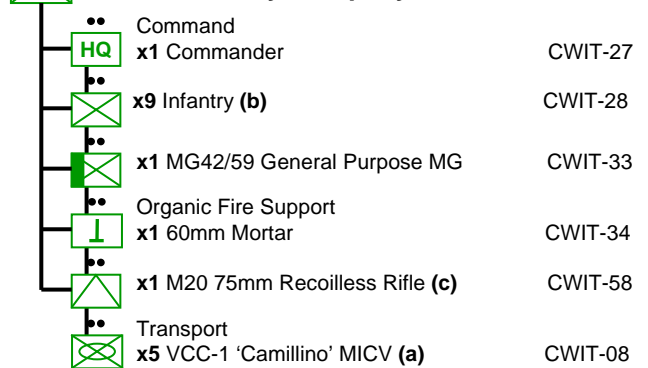
**(a)** May add softskin or armoured transport, depending on the mission:

**x4** Fiat ACM-52 Medium Truck CWIT-25

Alternative:

**x4** VCC-1 'Camillino' Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-08

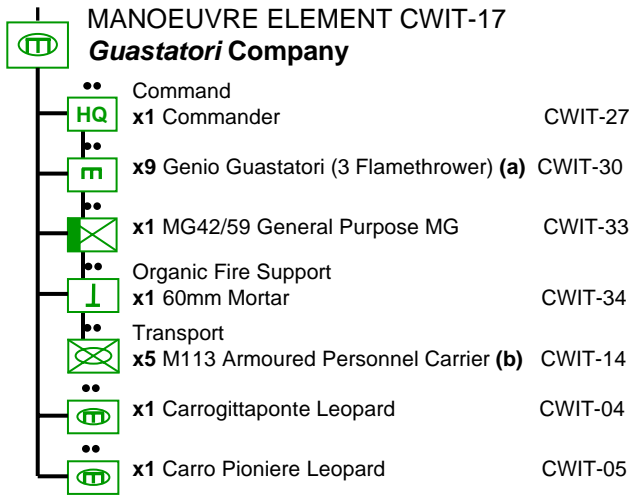
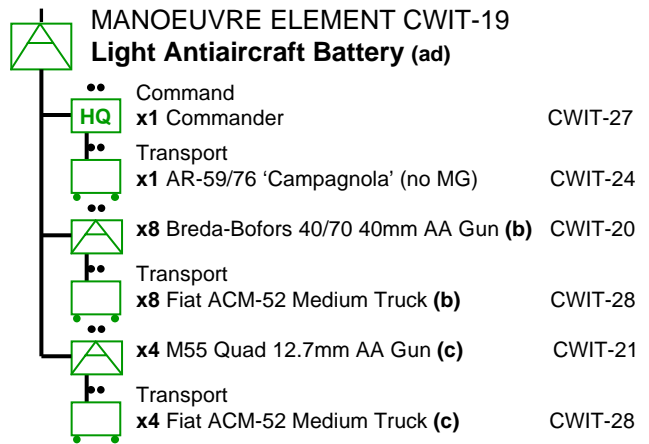
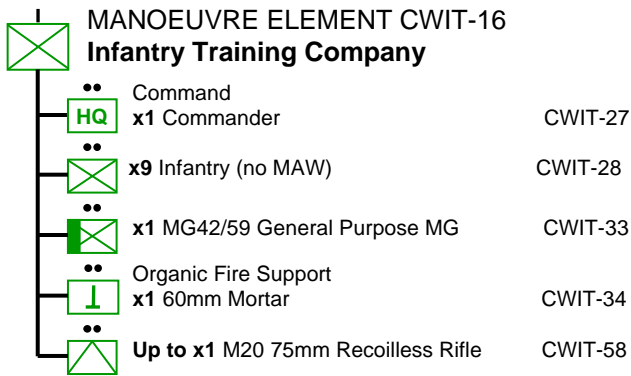
**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT CWIT-15**  
**Marine Infantry Company (a)**



**(a)** Only two companies in the battalion had VCC-1. The third company would utilise the battalion's LVTP-7 Amphibious Assault Vehicles (see ME CWIT-14). Of course, all three companies could use LVTP-7s, depending on the situation.

**(b)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** Infantry unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(c)** Early 1980s: Replace Recoilless Rifle with:  
 Milan ATGM Team CWIT-39



**(a)** Until 1986, each division had a dedicated Light Antiaircraft Group of **x3** Batteries (see BGs CWIT-01 & CWIT-02). Following the 1986 reorganisation, most antiaircraft assets were grouped centrally under the Army Antiaircraft Artillery Command at Padua. This command comprised 4th & 5th SAM Regiments (**x8** SAM Batteries each) and 121st Light AA Regiment (**x9** Batteries). There were also three independent Light AA Battalions, each with **x3** Light AA Batteries.

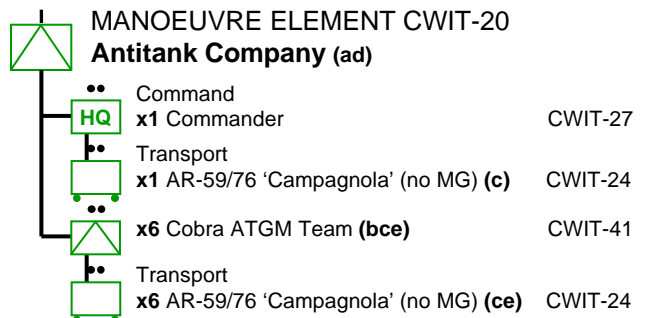
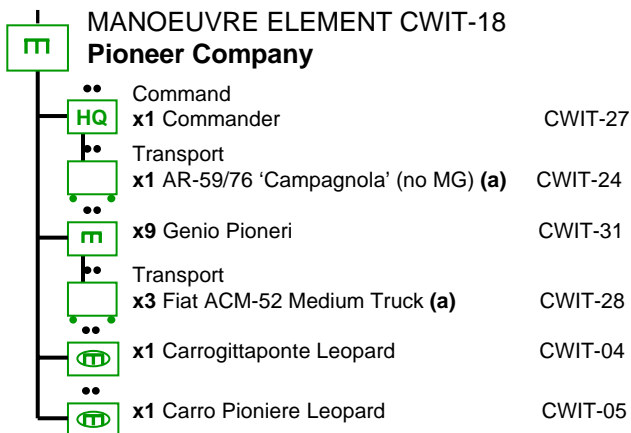
**(b)** Mid-1980s: Replace **x4** Breda-Bofors 40/70 40mm AA Guns and associated transport with:  
**x12** Stinger SAM Team CWIT-43  
**x12** AR-59/76 'Campagnola' (no MG) CWIT-24

**(c)** Late 1980s: May replace all M55 Quad 12.7mm AA Guns and associated transport in some units with:  
M113A1 SIDAM Quad 25mm Antiaircraft Vehicle CWIT-16

**(d)** The Battery may be split up and allocated as direct unit attachments to other MEs.

**(a)** Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip **x1** *Guastatori* unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.

**(b)** May replace M113 APCs in some units with:  
VCC-1 'Camillino' Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-08  
VCC-2 Infantry Combat Vehicle CWIT-09



**(a)** The Antitank Company may be split up as individual unit attachments to other MEs.

**(b)** From early 1980s: Replace Cobra ATGM Teams with:  
M220 TOW ATGM Team **(ce)** CWIT-40

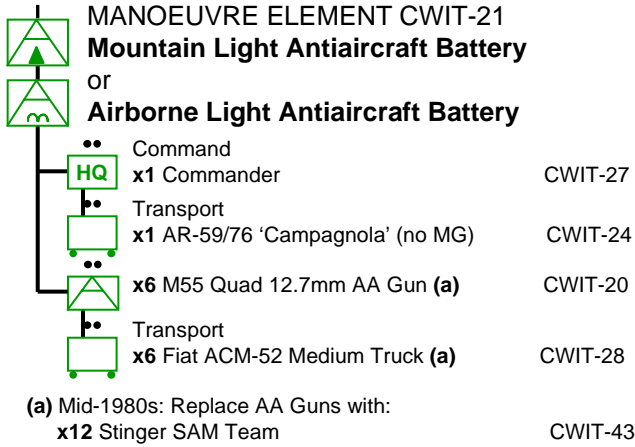
**(c)** From early 1980s: In Armoured and Mechanised formations, replace all transport with:  
**x1** M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier CWIT-14  
**x6** VTC M150 TOW ATGM Carrier **(e)** CWIT-13

**(d)** In Antitank Companies belonging to Alpine Brigades, add the following units:  
**x6** M40A1 106mm Recoilless Rifle **(e)** CWIT-42  
**x6** AR-59/76 'Campagnola' (no MG) **(e)** CWIT-24

**(e)** ATGMs and recoilless rifles may be fired from their transport vehicles when mounted.

**(a)** May replace softskin transport in Armoured or Mechanised formations with:  
M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier CWIT-14

## Italian Air Support



### Ground-Attack Aircraft

x2 Squadrons, each with x9 G-91R/1 'Gina' CWIT-54  
 x2 Squadrons, each with x9 G-91Y 'Gina Yankee' CWIT-55  
 x3 Squadrons, each with x12 Tornado MRCA CWIT-56  
 x1 Squadron, with x12 MB-339A CWIT-57

### Training/Light Attack Aircraft

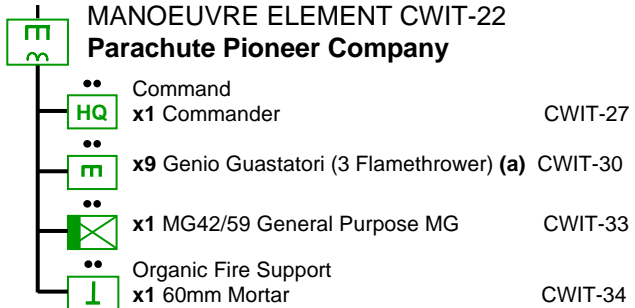
x3 Squadrons, each with x12 MB-326 & MB-339A CWIT-57

### Tactical Reconnaissance/Strike Aircraft

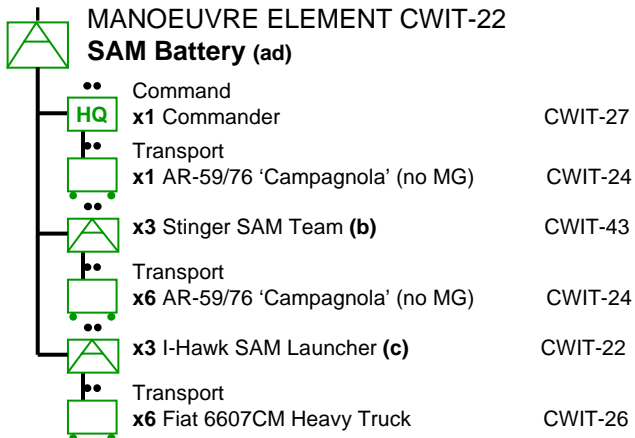
x2 Squadrons, each with x7 RF-104G Starfighter CWIT-53

### Fighter Aircraft

x9 Squadrons, each with x9 F-104S Starfighter CWIT-53



(a) Italian infantry had no MAW until the (delayed) introduction of the Folgore 80mm Antitank Rocket Launcher. May therefore equip x1 *Guastatori* unit in the Company with Folgore from the mid-1980s onward.



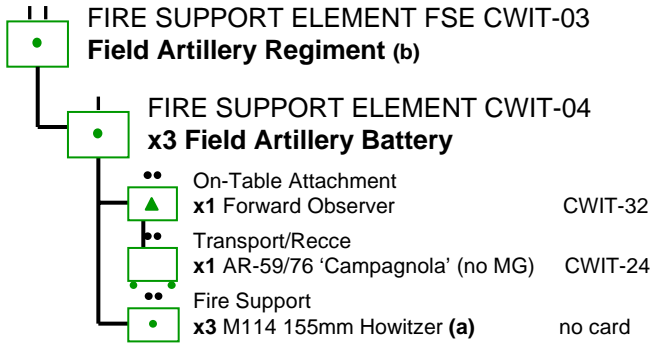
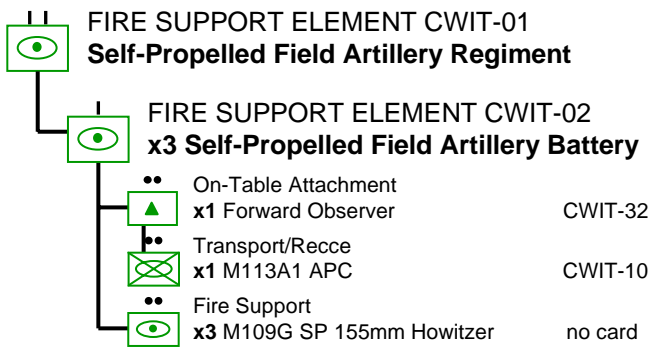
(a) Following the 1986 reorganisation, almost all antiaircraft assets were grouped centrally under the Army Antiaircraft Artillery Command at Padua. This command comprised 4th & 5th SAM Regiments (x8 SAM Batteries each) and 121st Light AA Regiment (x9 Batteries). The Italian Air Force also had x20 SAM batteries (equipped with Nike-Hercules SAMs), though these were in fixed sites, defending key locations.

(b) Stingers are only available from mid-1980s.

(c) Late 1980s: May replace I-Hawk in some units with:  
 Spada SAM Launcher CWIT-23

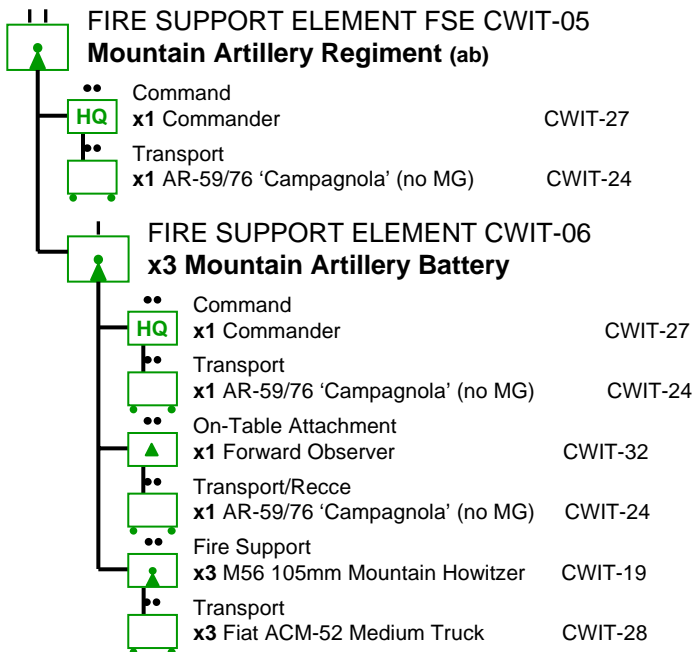
(d) The Battery may be split up and allocated as direct unit attachments to other MEs.





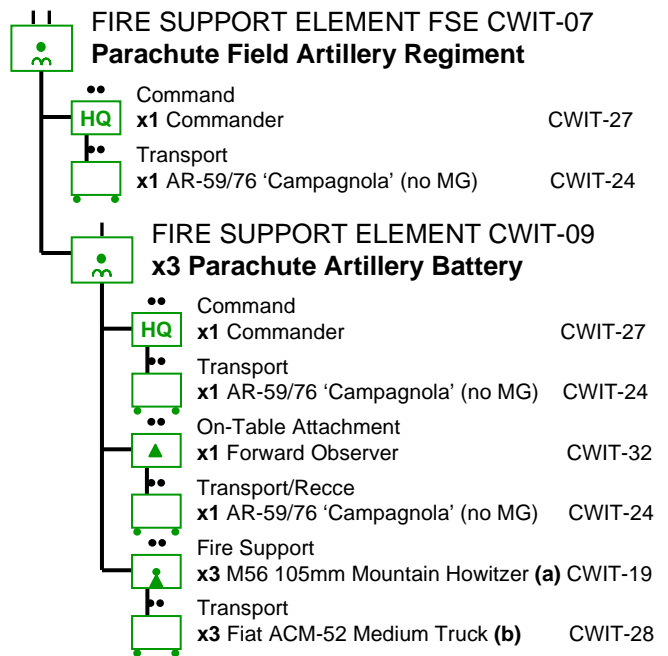
(a) May replace M114 155mm Howitzer in some units with:  
FH-70 155mm Howitzer no card

(b) Note that Field Artillery Regiments belonging to Alpine Brigades are officially classed as 'Mountain Artillery', even though they are equipped exactly the same as regular Field Artillery.



(a) The Mountain Artillery Regiment also had an organic Light AA Battery, but I have listed this as a Manoeuvre Element in the Brigade TO&E.

(b) During the early 1980s, Mountain Artillery Regiments also contained a single battery of 155mm howitzers, organised the same as a Field Artillery Battery (FSE CWIT-04). However, I have listed these separately in the Alpine Brigade BG (BG CWIT-06).



(a) The 185th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment had both howitzers and mortars, so the equipment could be tailored to the mission. May therefore replace M56 105mm Howitzers with:  
MO-120-RT 120mm Mortar CWIT-38

(b) May replace Fiat ACM-52 trucks with:  
AR-59/76 'Campagnola' (no MG) CWIT-24

### **x** FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT CWIT-09 **Artillery Command**

N.B. Each Italian Corps had a totally different organisation for its constituent Artillery Command, so it is probably quicker easier to describe them in text format:

#### **II Corps Artillery Command**

x7 Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-03)  
x2 Long-Range Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-10)  
x1 Heavy Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-12)

With the disbandment of II Corps in 1986, most of these assets passed to V Corps (see below).

#### **III Corps Artillery Command**

x3 Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-03)  
Two of the above were re-equipped with FH-70 155mm howitzers at some point. In 1986 two more regiments were added:  
x2 SP Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-01)

#### **IV (Alpini) Corps Artillery Command**

x3 Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-03)  
In 1986 this was reduced to x2 regts, but a 155mm Field Regiment was added to each *Alpini* Brigade at this time. The two remaining regiments were re-equipped with FH-70 155mm howitzers.

#### **V Corps Artillery Command**

x2 Heavy Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-12)  
x1 SP Heavy Artillery Regiment (203) (FSE CWIT-14)  
x1 SP Heavy Artillery Regiment (175) (FSE CWIT-16)  
In 1986, x1 Heavy Artillery Regiment and x1 SP Heavy Artillery Regiment (175mm) were disbanded, but the following regiments were inherited from the disbanded II Corps Artillery Command:  
x5 Field Artillery Regiment (FSE CWIT-03)  
Four of these regiments had now been re-equipped with FH-70.

Note that V Corps also held Italy's Lance SSM Brigade.



## Italian Card List & Model Availability

(Annotations 'QRF' = QRF Models, 'SOG' = Skytrex/Old Glory, 'PP', = Peter Pig, 'QG' = Quality Castings/Old Glory 15s, 'FoW' = Flames of War)

<b>CWIT-01</b> – M47 Patton 90mm Medium Tank	QRF
<b>CWIT-02</b> – M60A1 105mm Medium Tank	QRF, SOG, PP
<b>CWIT-03</b> – Leopard 1A1/1A2 105mm Main Battle Tank	
<b>CWIT-04</b> – Carro Pioniere Leopard (Biber) AVLB	
<b>CWIT-05</b> – Carro Pioniere Leopard (Dachs) Combat Engineer Vehicle	QRF
<b>CWIT-06</b> – Autoblindo Fiat 6616 20mm Armoured Car	
<b>CWIT-07</b> – Autoblindo Fiat 6614 Armoured Personnel Carrier	
<b>CWIT-08</b> – VCC-1 'Camillino' Mechanised Infantry Combat Vehicle	
<b>CWIT-09</b> – VCC-2 Mechanised Infantry Combat Vehicle	
<b>CWIT-10</b> – VTC M113A1 Armoured Personnel Carrier	QRF, SOG, PP
<b>CWIT-11</b> – VTC M106 107mm Mortar Carrier	QRF
<b>CWIT-12</b> – VTC M125 81mm Mortar Carrier	QRF
<b>CWIT-13</b> – VTC M150 TOW ATGM Carrier	QRF, SOG
<b>CWIT-14</b> – VPC M577 Armoured Command Vehicle	QRF, SOG, PP
<b>CWIT-15</b> – VTC M106A1 120mm Mortar Carrier	QRF
<b>CWIT-16</b> – M113A1 SIDAM Quad 25mm Antiaircraft Vehicle	
<b>CWIT-17</b> – AMX-VCI Armoured Personnel Carrier	QRF
<b>CWIT-18</b> – LVTP-7 Amphibious Assault Vehicle	QRF
<b>CWIT-19</b> – M56 105/14 105mm Mountain Howitzer	QRF
<b>CWIT-20</b> – Breda-Bofors 40/70 40mm Antiaircraft Gun	QRF, SOG, FoW
<b>CWIT-21</b> – M55 Quad .50 Cal Antiaircraft Gun	
<b>CWIT-22</b> – I-Hawk SAM Launcher	QC
<b>CWIT-23</b> – Spada SAM Launcher	
<b>CWIT-24</b> – Fiat AR-59/AR-76 Light Utility Vehicle	
<b>CWIT-25</b> – Fiat ACM-52 Medium Truck	
<b>CWIT-26</b> – Fiat 6607CM Heavy Truck	
<b>CWIT-27</b> – Commander	
<b>CWIT-28</b> – Infantry (BM59 Rifle, M12 SMG, MG42/59 & Folgore 80mm MAW)	
<b>CWIT-29</b> – Paratroops (BM59 Rifle, M12 SMG, MG42/59 & Folgore 80mm MAW)	
<b>CWIT-30</b> – Genio Guastatori (BM59 Rifle, M12 SMG, MG42/59, T148/B Flamethrower & Folgore 80mm MAW)	
<b>CWIT-31</b> – Pioneers (BM59 Rifle, M12 SMG & MG42/59)	
<b>CWIT-32</b> – Forward Observer	
<b>CWIT-33</b> – MG42/59 Light Machine Gun	
<b>CWIT-34</b> – M19 60mm Mortar	
<b>CWIT-35</b> – M1/M29 81mm Mortar	
<b>CWIT-36</b> – M30 107mm Mortar	
<b>CWIT-37</b> – Brandt 120mm Mortar	
<b>CWIT-38</b> – MO-120-RT Towed 120mm Mortar	
<b>CWIT-39</b> – Milan ATGM Team	QRF
<b>CWIT-40</b> – M220 TOW ATGM Team	QRF
<b>CWIT-41</b> – Cobra ATGM Team	
<b>CWIT-42</b> – M40A1 106mm Recoilless Rifle	QRF, PP
<b>CWIT-43</b> – Stinger SAM Team	
<b>CWIT-44</b> – AB-47 (OH-13H Sioux) Light Observation Helicopter	
<b>CWIT-45</b> – AB-206 (OH-58 Kiowa) Light Observation Helicopter	Pocket Pak
<b>CWIT-46</b> – A-109A Observation/Light Attack Helicopter	Italeri
<b>CWIT-47</b> – AB-205 (UH-1D/H Iroquois) Utility Helicopter	QRF, FoW, Revell, Dinky, Heller
<b>CWIT-48</b> – AB-212 (UH-1N Iroquois) Utility Helicopter	Italeri
<b>CWIT-49</b> – AB-412 (CH-146 Griffon) Transport Helicopter	Italeri
<b>CWIT-50</b> – CH-47 Chinook Heavy Transport Helicopter	
<b>CWIT-51</b> – A-129 'Mangusta' Attack Helicopter	Italeri
<b>CWIT-52</b> – SM-1019 Air Observation Post	
<b>CWIT-53</b> – F-104G/S Starfighter Fighter-Bomber	Tamiya, Italeri, Heller
<b>CWIT-54</b> – G-91R/1 'Gina' Light Ground-Attack Aircraft	
<b>CWIT-55</b> – G-91Y 'Gina Yankee' Light Ground-Attack Aircraft	
<b>CWIT-56</b> – Tornado MRCA All-Weather Interdiction/Strike Aircraft	Italeri, Revell
<b>CWIT-57</b> – MB-339A Light Ground-Attack Aircraft	Italeri
<b>CWIT-58</b> – M20 75mm Recoilless Rifle	QRF, PP