

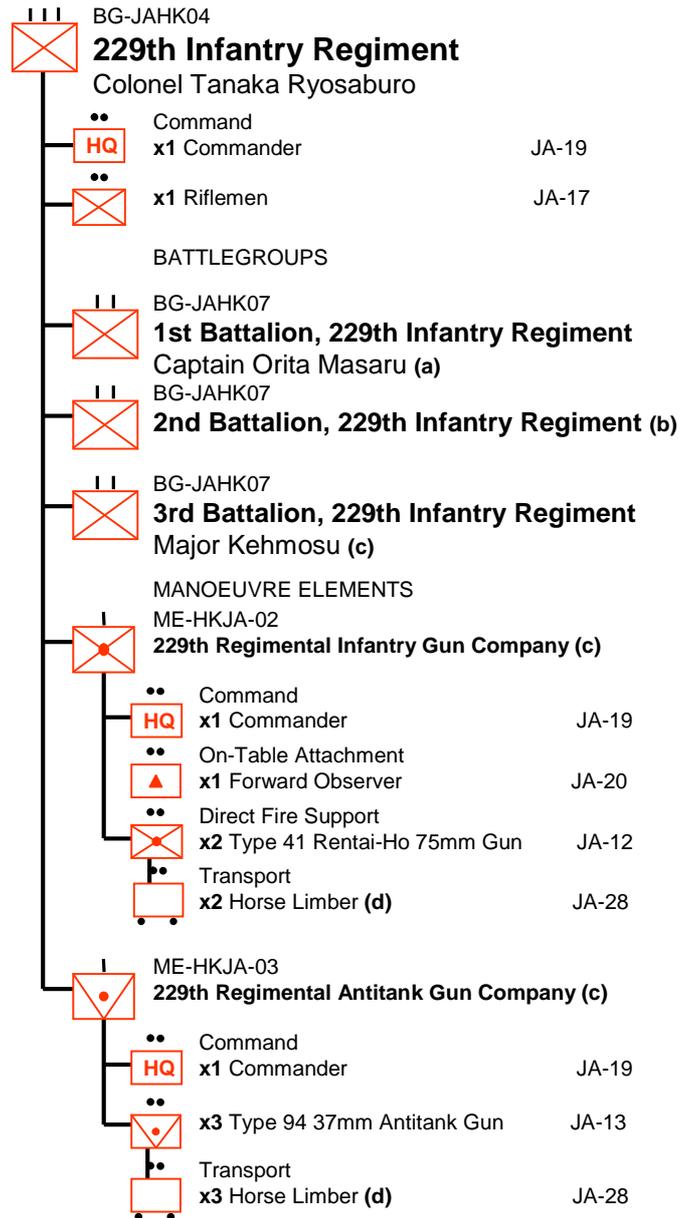
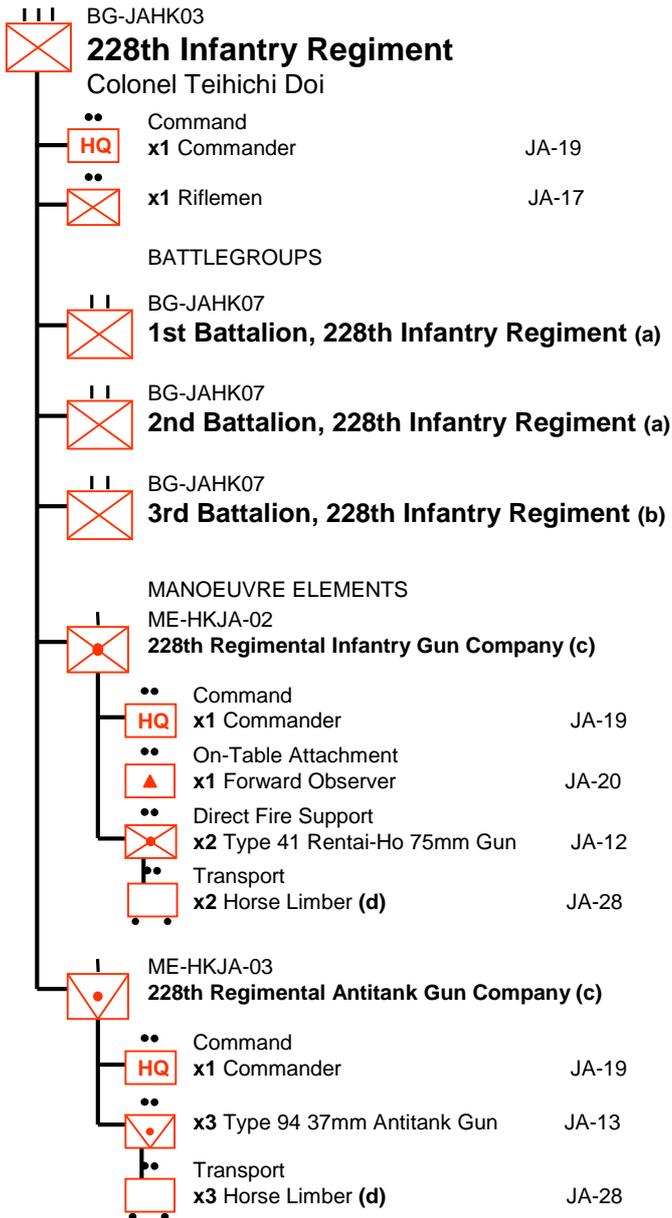
(a) 38th Division was a Standard Type B Division, geared towards light (mountain) mobility, with a heavily augmented artillery component. It had trained extensively in night operations for the two months leading up to the assault on Hong Kong and this was to prove invaluable in the initial assault on the Shing Mun Redoubt, which was the cornerstone of the Gin Drinkers' Line and which was taken completely by surprise. All elements of 38th Division and its attached elements are classed as 'Veteran', except for the Tankette Company, which is classed as 'Experienced'.

(b) 66th Regiment was detached from 51st Division to occupy Kowloon and the Hong Kong Mainland, while the three Infantry Regiments of 38th Division assaulted Hong Kong Island. 51st Division was a Standard Type A Division (i.e. Strengthened), meaning that the 66th Regiment was considerably stronger than the 228th, 229th or 230th Regiments.

(c) Sources are very confused as to exactly how many guns and mortars were supporting 38th Division. Certainly some guns appear to have been counted twice in some sources (for example, the 38th Mountain Artillery being numbered among 1st Artillery Command as well as 38th Division's guns). This is therefore my best guess.

(d) Tankettes were first reported engaged by Commonwealth forces on 20th December. I have been unable to discover exactly what type of tanks were used by this company, though Japanese, British and Canadian sources all report them as 'tankettes', which tends to rule out anything as large as the Type 95 Ha-Go Light Tank. May therefore replace all tankettes in the company with:

Type 97 Te-Ke Tankette JA-02



(a) The 1st and 2nd Battalions landed at Braemar Point in the first assault.

(b) The 3rd Battalion landed with the reserve waves.

(c) The Regimental Infantry Gun and Antitank Companies may alternatively be split up as individual attachments to the Regiment's infantry battalions.

(d) May replace limbers with:
Pack Mule

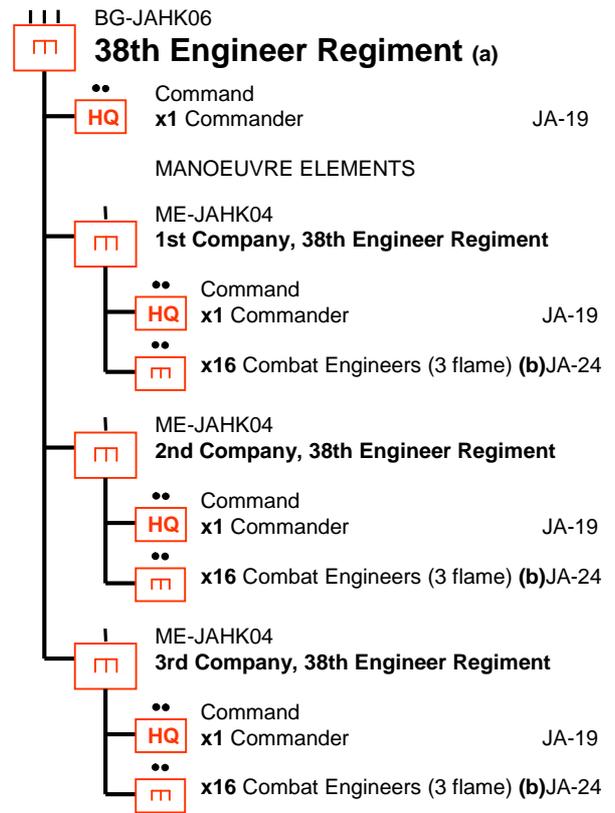
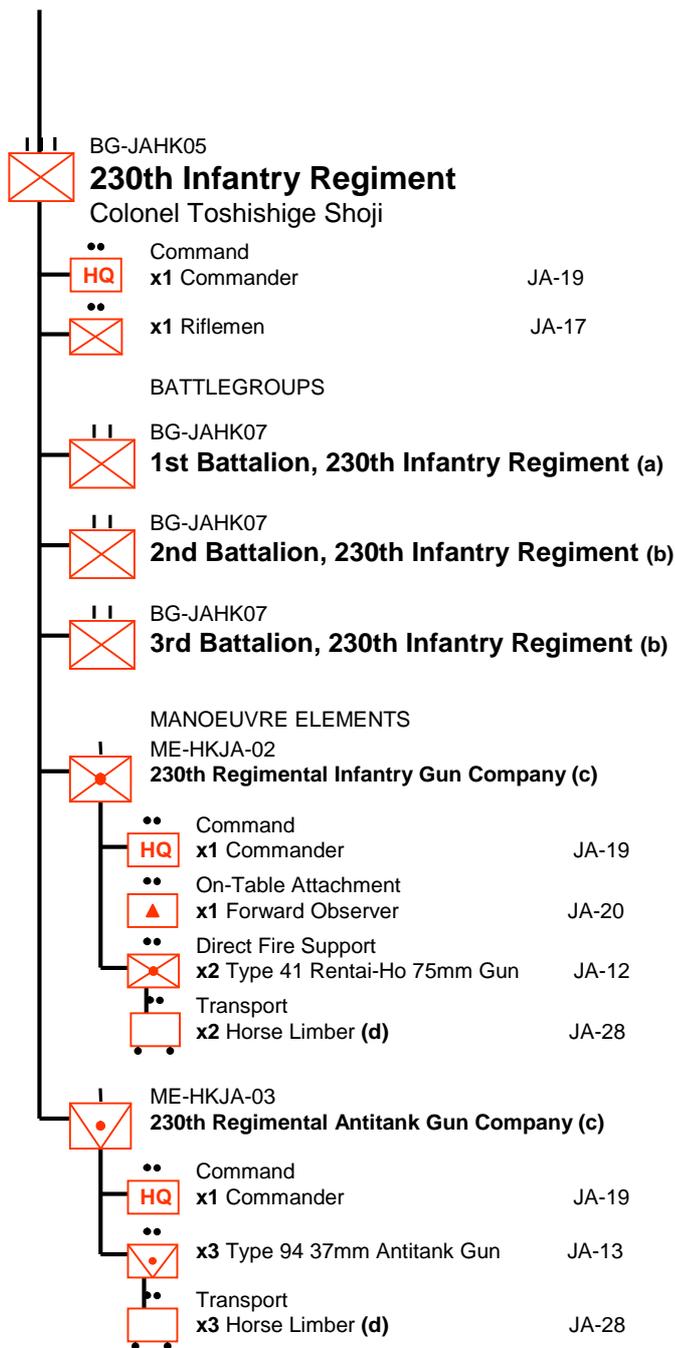
(a) The 1st Battalion landed with the reserve waves.

(b) The 2nd Battalion landed at Shau Ki Wan in the first assault.

(c) The 3rd Battalion landed at Aldrich Bay in the first assault.

(d) The Regimental Infantry Gun and Antitank Companies may alternatively be split up as individual attachments to the Regiment's infantry battalions.

(e) May replace limbers with:
Pack Mule

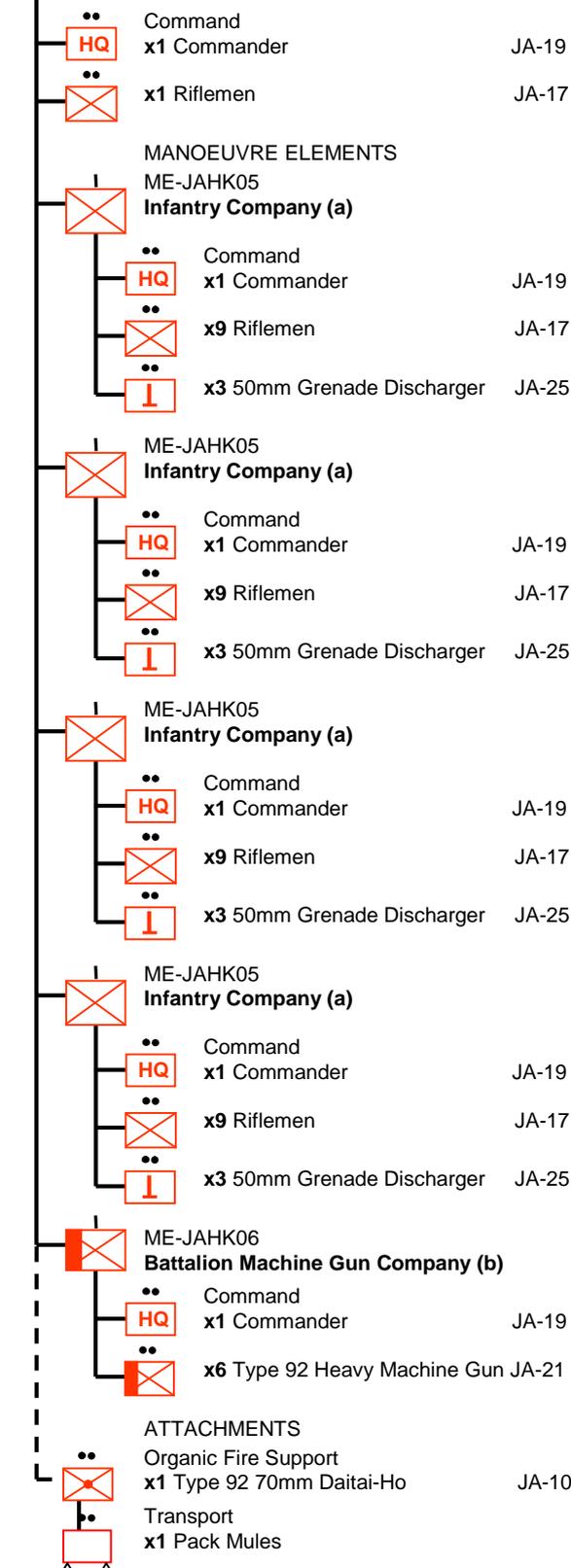


(a) Although nominally a 'regiment', Japanese Engineer Regiments were actually battalion-sized formations. I have no information regarding their employment at Hong Kong. Engineer companies might therefore be allocated to each Infantry Regiment in the division. However, the Japanese quite often used their Engineer Regiments as a fourth combat regiment in the division, by attaching companies from the Infantry Regiments, rather than the other way around. Thus the Engineer Regiment was often used as a divisional reserve or assault formation rather than as a pure engineering asset.

(b) I have found no reports of the use of flamethrowers by the Japanese in British or Canadian accounts. I would therefore suspect that flamethrowers were not used by 38th Division, as the use of flamethrowers tended to get reported.

- (a) The 1st Battalion landed with the reserve waves.
- (b) The 2nd and 3rd Battalions landed at North Point during the first assault.
- (c) The Regimental Infantry Gun and Antitank Companies may alternatively be split up as individual attachments to the Regiment's infantry battalions.
- (d) May replace limbers with:
Pack Mule

BG-JAHK-07
Infantry Battalion (Standard Type B)



(a) The Infantry Companies were numbered sequentially throughout the regiment in much the same manner as German companies. Therefore 1st Battalion had companies 1-4, 2nd Battalion had companies 5-8 and 3rd Battalion had companies 9-12. The MG Companies were not numbered, but were simply referred to as '2nd Battalion MG Company, 230th Regiment' or similar.

(b) The MG Company was often split between the infantry companies, with typical practice being to allocate one section per company, retaining two sections under the direct control of the company commander.

BG-JAHK08
Independent Antitank Battalion

