# Ejercito Popular Republicano (EPR) Columns

# x1 Commander (a)

**Battle Group-01** Paramilitary Column 1936

**HEADQUARTERS** 

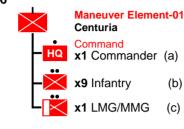
Command

Transport

x1 Car/Truck

x6 Centuria

MANEUVER ELEMENTS

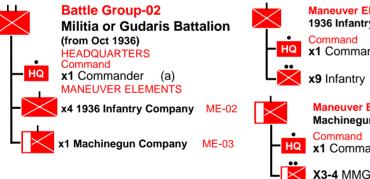


With the formation of the Ejercito Popular Republicano (EPR or People's Republican Army) in 1936, the various militias, paramilitary groups and regular army units were banded together in 'Columns' with varying degrees of success. The official 'Column' organization is listed to the left. The availability of MGs and mortars is an open question. Early in the war, the Soviet shipments had not arrived and all infantry was probably rifle armed with the MGs, if any, massed into a single MG stand.

The MGs available in the early war period were most likely pre-war Spanish Army Hotchkiss or Lewis guns.

Artillery and anti-tank support would be allocated from higher level formations.

It should be noted that Spanish Civil War organizations were far from standard, especially when fielding militia. Feel free to modify the orders of battle. Also, you can add in some of the earlier armored cars such as the SCWR-P01 and Russian FAI (RU-P10) or BA-6 (RU-P06)



SCWG-P01

**ME-01** 

### **Maneuver Element-02** 1936 Infantry Company Command x1 Commander (a) x9 Infantry (b) Maneuver Element-03 Machinegun Company Command x1 Commander (a)

(c,d)

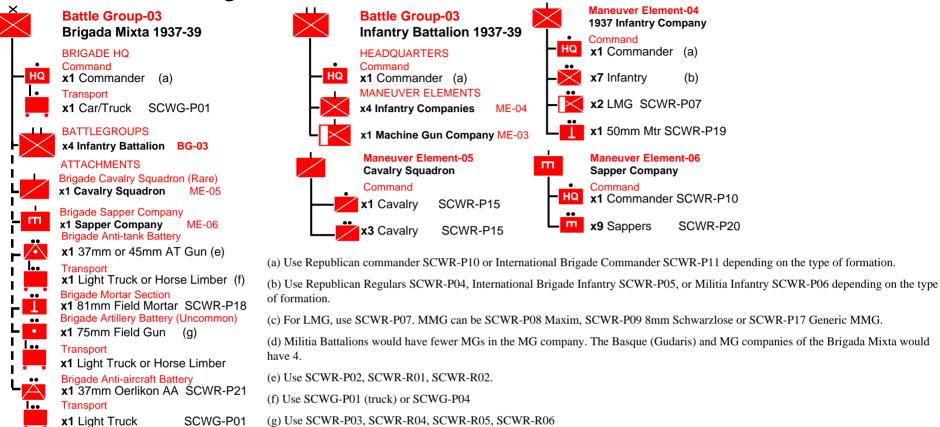
(a) Use Republican commander SCWR-P10 or International Brigade Commander SCWR-P11 depending on the type of formation.

(b) Use Republican Regulars SCWR-P04, International Brigade Infantry SCWR-P05, or Militia Infantry SCWR-P06 depending on the type of formation.

(c) For LMG, use SCWR-P07. MMG can be SCWR-P08 Maxim, SCWR-P09 8mm Schwarzlose or SCWR-P17 Generic MMG.

(d) Militia Battalions would have fewer MGs in the MG company. The Basque (Gudaris) and MG companies of the Brigada Mixta would have 4.

## Brigada Mixta



By the winter of 1936, it was decided that the column system wasn't working and the classic company/battalion/brigade/division model was adopted, including Soviet-Model 'Mixed Brigades', which was widely used by the International Brigades.

Divisions would supply additional artillery, antitank, cavalry, armor and possibly anti-aircraft support.

The International Brigades varied in strength from 3 to 7 Battalions each.

In terminology there were three 'Sections' to a Company and 3 'Platoons' to a section, so the 'Platoon' corresponds in size to a BF stand.

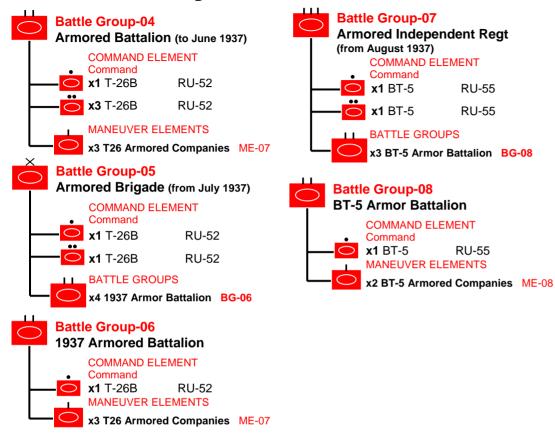
There were three Sections to a Company and three Platoons to a Section. Hence an infantry section = 1x Platoon. However, the size of a platoon corresponds to a BF unit.

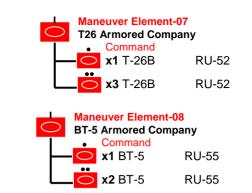
The MMGs of the Mixed Brigade would mostly be Soviet-supplied Maxims, with some Hotchkiss and M1895 Colt-Brownings.

Each platoon could include several SMGs and as many as 3 Soviet Degtyarev LMGs, which would rate them roughly the same as British infantry in firepower.

Source -'A Guerilla's Diary' by F.P. Lopes of the recce ('Death') platoon of the 15th International Brigade, Information from Juan Carlos Cebriàn.

# **Republican** Armor





RU-55

RU-55

**RU-55**