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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The organization of a Bulgarian infantry regiment as shown below, represent the regiment on a war footing and not on a peacetime basis, which is often very much reduced. A Bulgarian regiment on a peacetime basis often lacks entirely several of the elements listed below. The commissioned personnel strength also shows great differences in time of peace, which vary with the importance of the position held by the regiment and the availability of reserves.

25X1

2. The Bulgarian infantry regiment on a war footing is composed as follows:

25X1

a. Three infantry battalions;

b. One reconnaissance company (scouts);

c. One battery reconnaissance cars;

d. One battery light artillery;

25X1

e. One battery heavy mortars;

f. One antitank battery;

g. One supply company;

h. One signal company;

i. One medical platoon; and

j. One band.

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3. The Bulgarian infantry battalion on a war footing is composed as follows:

   a. Three assault companies, strength 120 men each; each company includes three platoons of three sections; each section is equipped with one light machine gun, one Shpagin submachine gun, and Vintovka rifles; in the field, each company is supported by a platoon of heavy machine guns which is responsible to the company commander;

   b. One heavy machine gun company; in garrison, this is an autonomous unit, its commander being directly subordinate to the battalion commander and its platoons being independent of the commanders of the assault companies; in action, however, it is dispersed and each of the battalion's assault companies has a supporting platoon; the heavy machine gun company, strength 80 men, is divided into three platoons of three sections each; each section is equipped with one Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun;

   c. One light mortar company, strength 80 men, divided into three platoons of three sections each; each section is equipped with one 82 mm. mortar;

   d. One antitank company, strength 80 men, divided into four platoons; two platoons are equipped with antitank cannons, and two platoons are equipped with antitank rifles of an unspecified type; and

   e. A signal platoon, strength 20 men, serves the entire battalion; no data on the equipment of this platoon is available.

4. The reconnaissance company (scouts) consists of 50-60 men. They are lightly armed, with automatic rifles and hand grenades.

5. The battery of small reconnaissance cars is composed of 60 men. Each vehicle carries 10 men and is equipped with one heavy machine gun, one antiaircraft machine gun, and a 75 mm. gun. The cars have no tops, are armored only along the sides, and operate on caterpillar tracks. The speed of these cars is not known.

6. The light artillery battery of the infantry regiment, strength 60-80 men, is equipped with five 75 mm. field guns. Its mission is to clear away obstacles to the infantry which have not already been removed by the heavy guns.

7. The heavy mortar company, strength 60 men, is equipped with four 120-180 mm. heavy mortars.

8. The antitank battery, strength 75-80 men, is equipped with six antitank guns of an unspecified type.

9. The supply company, strength 120 or more men, supplies the entire regiment. It is equipped with 150-160 carts and the same number of horses. Apparently, horse-drawn transport is being used entirely for this purpose.

10. The signal company, strength 60 or more men, is divided into three platoons. A 20-man platoon is standard in this organization.

11. The medical platoon has one to three medical officers, who are doctors in medicine, and approximately 20 others. In action, command of this platoon is removed from the regimental commander and passed to others, presumably higher medical ranks.

12. The regimental band is composed of 40-60 men.

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