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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany

DATE DISTR. 28 June 1955

SUBJECT Soviet T/O&E, Weapons and Equipment

NO. OF PAGES 18

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THE 25TH TANK DIVISION

1. The organizational chart on page 12 shows actual organization of the 25th Tank Division.

There is an organizational chart of the 459th Mortar Regiment on page 13.

the Motorized Rifle Regiment contained about 2,000 officers and EM. Each tank regiment plus the Motorized Rifle Regiment had a band platoon, (Muz-Vzvod) of unknown size. Other sub-units of the division had no such platoon.

Medium Tank Regiments

2. each medium tank regiment had two and possibly three T-34 tank battalions. the tank training battalion of the division was attached to one of these medium tank regiments, specifically to the 162d Medium Tank Regiment.

there was an administration or

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50X1 service company (rota upravleniya) in the 175th Medium Tank Regiment
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Motorized Rifle Regiment

3. This regiment had two, and possibly three motorized rifle battalions and one 120-mm mortar battalion. there was an administrative or service company, a regimental school, and a radio-repair shop in this regiment. the troop carriers of the regiment were mainly ZIS-150 trucks. There were very few American lend-lease vehicles in the regiment.

4. Starting in 1952 25th Tank Division, this regiment had gradually turned in the bulk of their US Lend-Lease vehicles. In the 120-mm Mortar Battalion, ZIS-150 trucks were used as prime movers.

the total strength of the 20th Motorized Rifle Regiment was about 2,000 EM and officers. This regiment was nicknamed Kitay (China) because it had such a large number of personnel in comparison to his own regiment's strength.

Heavy Tank SP Regiment

5. the tanks were of the KV or JS-type. the tanks of this regiment were of the JS-2 type and that the SP guns were of the JSU-122 mm type.

AA Regiment

6. This regiment had two types of AA pieces. one of them identified as the 37-mm AA Gun, M-1939. The other was a larger caliber gun. This regiment had ZIS-151 trucks for prime movers.

Reconnaissance Battalion

7. This battalion had an unknown number of M-72 motorcycles and armored vehicles.

10th Howitzer Battalion

8. this battalion had two and possibly three batteries, each battery having four 122-mm howitzers. It also had a fire direction platoon, called the (vzvod upravleniya).

Rocket Launcher Battalion

9. this battalion had approximately 12 M-13, 132-mm rocket launchers mounted on Studebaker trucks.

Signal Battalion

10. this battalion had two companies, one of which was a training company. The Battalion school instructed students

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of the division in the operation of the RSB, RBM, and RBM-1 radios. The repair shop of the signal battalion had one radio repairman, one telephone repairman, and one officer radio technician. This was the entire strength of the shop. See sketch on page 118 for information on the 10-RK-26 tank radio used by this battalion.

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Motor Transport Battalion (Avto Batalon)

11. This battalion had an unknown number of GAZ-67s, ZIS-151s, lend-lease Studebakers, Fords, and Jeeps. Over 50 percent of the vehicles were of the lend-lease type.

Division Artillery Repair Shops (Divizionnyye Artilleriyskiye Remontnyye Masterskiye - DARM)

12. This organization was estimated to have about 20 to 25 men. Its shops were capable of repairing the 122-mm howitzers, AT guns of the 20th Motorized Regiment, and mortars of the division, but they did not handle repairs to tanks or other vehicles.

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_____ this unit made repairs to small arms also.

THE 459th MORTAR REGIMENT

13. On page 14 is a chart illustrating the staff and command channels of this regiment. On page 13 is a chart giving the organization of the regiment and its subordinate units. Following is the regiment T/O _____

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a. Mortar Battalions

- 1) Headquarters - each mortar battalion headquarters consisted of the following personnel:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Maj or Lt Col	Bn CO
Capt or Maj	Chief of staff
Lt or Sr Lt	Chief of communications
Sr Lt	Reconnaissance officer (Ofitser Razvedchik)
Pfc up to Sr Sgt	Medical NCO
Pfc up to Sgt	Chemical NCO
Pvt up to M/Sgt	Clerk

- 2) Battalion Fire Direction Platoon (Vzvod Upravleniya) - Each mortar battalion had one of these platoons. Although known as a "platoon", its size was actually somewhat smaller. This platoon was the responsibility of the battalion chief of communications and consisted of the following components:

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- (a) The Radio Section had three radio operators, the senior of whom was the radio chief. Usually one of the radio operators was training in the regimental school. This section had the following radio equipment: one RB radio; one A-7-B radio; one A-7-A or A-7-B radio which served as a reserve radio for the entire battalion.
- (b) The Telephone Section had from three to four telephone operators. Usually one of these was undergoing a course in the regimental school's telephone platoon. This section had the following signal equipment: one K-10 switchboard; one reserve captured German switchboard; seven telephones including US types EE-8A, unknown German types, and TAI-43 types.
- (c) The Observer and Survey Group (Razvedchiki i Topografiya) consisted of five EM, two of whom were surveyors and three observers. The observers had an unknown type of aiming circle, six-power binoculars, a BST-type telescope, an unknown type of "periscope" with only one tube, compasses, and an unknown type of tripod mount for the "periscope" and telescope.
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 50X1 surveyors had unknown types of survey drawing equipment,
 50X1 a drawing board, 20-meter measuring tape, compasses, a "periscope", only one tube and several aiming poles.

b. Mortar Batteries

- 1) Batteries - each mortar battery had the following personnel in its headquarters:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Capt or Maj	Battery CO
Lt or Capt	Zampolit
Jr Lt up to Sr Lt	Two line officers
Pfc up to M/Sgt	First sergeant

- 2) Sections - each mortar section of a battery consisted of the following personnel:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Jr Sgt up to Sr Sgt	Section commander
Pfc up to Sgt	Gunner
Pvt to Pfc	Loader
Privates	Two ammunition handlers
Pvt up to Sr Sgt	Driver mechanic

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- 3) Battery Fire Direction Group - each battery CO had a small individual group as his "Battery Fire Direction Group". This consisted of the following personnel:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 or 2 radio operators	If there were two, then one would be undergoing training in the 459th Regimental School's radio platoon while the other was on duty.
1 or 2 observers	If there were two observers, one would be attending an observer's course in the 10th Howitzer Battalion school. (Observers and surveyors were regularly trained there.)
2 or 3 telephone operators	If there were more than two operators, the third man would be attending the regimental school referred to earlier.
1 (?) surveyor	[redacted] there was one surveyor in each battery.

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The Battery Fire Direction Group had the following equipment: one radio, either an A-7-A or A-7-B type; one unknown type of aiming circle and one unknown type of "periscope" with only one tube; one BST type of telescope; an unknown number of 6-power binoculars; two or three telephones of type EE-8A, or a captured German type

c. Regimental Fire Direction Platoon (Vzvod Upravleniya)

- 1) In addition to providing a fire direction center, this platoon also serviced the regimental headquarters with administrative personnel and could be more appropriately be designated "Regimental Headquarters Support Platoon". The platoon consisted of the following personnel:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Lt	Platoon commander
4 to 5 EM	Clerks
3 to 4 EM	Surveyor
3 to 4 EM	Observers
3 EM	Radio operators
3 EM	Drivers

- 2) The signal equipment of this platoon consisted of the following units:

One radio, of RBM-1 type.

Two radios, of RBM type.

One switchboard of K-10 type.

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One captured German switchboard.

20 telephones, mostly of the EE-8A type. The rest were captured German telephones and the TAI-43 type.

d. The Regimental School, 459th Mortar Regiment

- 1) Cadre Personnel-- there was no regular enlisted cadre with the training platoons. About 12 to 15 graduates of each new graduated class remained to act as cadre personnel until the next class had graduated. Permanent regimental school personnel consisted of the following:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Maj	School commandant
Capt up to Lt Col	Zampolit
Lt or Sr Lt (If there were two 120-mm firing platoons, then there were five officers.)	4 to 5 Platoon leaders
Sgt up to M/Sgt	First sergeant
Sgt up to Sr Sgt	Chemical NCO
Jr Sgt up to Sr Sgt	Driver-mechanic
Pvt to Pfc	Shoe repair man

- 2) Students - students selected to attend the radio and telephone course conducted by the 459th Regiment came from the AA Regiment, the 10th Howitzer Battalion, the Rocket-Launcher Battalion, the 459th Mortar Regiment, all of which were from the 25th Tank Division. Students selected to attend the rocket-launcher course came from the Rocket-Launcher Battalion only. Students selected to attend the 120-mm mortar course came from the 459th Mortar Regiment and the Mortar Battalion of the 20th Motorized Regiment.
- 3) Training Equipment - the school had four RBM type radios. When the regiment participated in tactical exercises, normally two of these radios were loaned out, one to each mortar battalion headquarters. However, all four radios could be loaned out as needed. Otherwise these radios remained at the school as training aids for the radio platoon. From two to three 120-mm mortars were also used for training. This number varied because there was sometimes one and sometimes two mortar platoons in the school. The school had one M13, 132-mm rocket-launcher mounted on a Studebaker truck which was used for training personnel of the Rocket-Launcher Platoon. About eight telephones, mostly of a captured German type, and one or two EE-8A type telephones were used. The school also had one K-10-type switchboard for training personnel of the Telephone Platoon. In addition to the above equipment, there were approximately 30 to 32 training telegraph keys for training radio operators. There was a conglomeration of various training aids for the various platoons of the school. In addition to the above training aids [redacted] only such training aids as were used by the radio platoon of the school such as a slide projector, radio mockups, and various placards showing such

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subjects as wiring diagrams, principles of electricity, and cross-section views of radios. Some of the placards were home-made, while others were received through regular signal supply channels.

- e. Artillery Supply and Repair Platoon - see the organizational chart on page 15 for [redacted] the organization of this platoon. He had no further information other than that shown in this chart.
- f. Auto Repair Platoon - the Auto Repair Platoon supplied the regiment with POL products and repaired regimental vehicles. This platoon was equipped with power drills, lathes and work benches. It was capable of doing second and third-echelon maintenance work. The platoon consisted of the following personnel;

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Sr Lt (subordinate to the Regimental chief of Auto Services, a staff officer)	Platoon commander
Sgt to Sr Sgt	Asst platoon commander
Pvts or Pfc	Repair crew (Remontnaya brigada) One electrician and 5 to 6 mechanics
Jr Sgt - Sr Sgt	POL dispenser

- g. Medical Section - this section was responsible for a dispensary of about 14 beds. It consisted of the following personnel:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>
Maj	Senior doctor
Lt	Feldsher
Sgt up to Sr Sgt	Medical NCO
Privates	2 to 3 medical corpsmen

- h. Housekeeping Platoon - see organizational chart on page 16 for source's knowledge of the organization of this platoon.

- i. Special Section Representative - this representative was a lieutenant (nu), but his subordination was unknown. [redacted] that he was subordinate to the regimental CO since they were always together whether in garrison or in the field. This lieutenant wore the same type uniform and shoulder boards as the line officers of the regiment but he sometimes wore the armored double-breasted service coat. He was called by the men Osobnyak, from the term Osobyy Otdel (Special Section).

TRANSPORTATION OF THE 459TH MORTAR REGIMENT

4. a. 1st Mortar Battalion - this unit had the following organic transportation:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Headquarters	1	Ford or Studebaker truck	Serviced entire headquarters

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<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1st Mortar Battery	6 - 7	GAZ-51	Changed over during spring of 1952 from lend-lease vehicles. The same truck was both a prime mover and ammunition carrier for 120-mm mortars and a personnel carrier for the crew.
2d Mortar Battery	6 - 7	GAZ-51	Same as above
3d Mortar Battery	6 - 7	GAZ-51	Same as above

- b. 2d Mortar Battalion- this battalion had the same vehicles as the 1st Mortar Battalion.
- c. Regimental School - this school had the following organic transportation:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	1	Studebaker truck	132-mm rocket-launcher M-13.
	2 - 3	Ford or Studebaker trucks	Served as prime movers for the 120-mm mortar platoons.

- d. Housekeeping Platoon - this platoon had the following vehicles assigned to it:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	5 - 6	Ford and Studebaker trucks	Used by the Clothing and Equipment Supply Section (OVS), the Food and Forage Supply Section (PFS) and the Billeting Section (KECH). The PFS Section also had 5-6 field kitchens of World War II type and also 2 truck-drawn trailers.

- e. Auto Repair Platoon - this platoon had the following vehicles assigned to it:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	1	Studebaker	Mobile repair truck (Letuchka) mounted on a Studebaker chassis.
	1	ZIS-5	None
	1	Studebaker truck	None

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- f. Artillery Supply and Repair Platoon - this platoon had the following vehicles assigned to it:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	6 - 7	Studebaker trucks	For transportation of both mortar and small arms ammunition for the regiment. When needed, one truck was detailed to carry equipment of the Radio Repair Section and chemical supplies.
	1	ZIS-151	Mobile repair truck for 120-mm mortars and small arms.

- g. Regiment Medical Section - this section had the following one vehicle assigned to it:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	1	GAZ- $\frac{1}{2}$ ton ambulance	None

- h. Fire-Direction Platoon and Regiment Headquarters - this platoon had the following four vehicles assigned to it:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	3	GAZ-51 and Studebaker	The jeep was used by the regimental CO. The remaining vehicles were for the use of the regimental staff and the Fire-Direction Platoon. The Regimental CO also used one of the GAZ-51 vehicles as his CP whenever the unit went to the field.

OTHER EQUIPMENT AND WEAPONS

Trailers

15. The Housekeeping Platoon, 459th Mortar Regiment had two truck-drawn trailers which were at the disposal of both the Food and Forage Supply Section and the Clothing and Equipment Supply Section. The trailers were two-axle, with a cargo box approximately 2x2 meters.

Engineer Equipment

16. Other than some shovels, there was no engineer equipment in the 459th Mortar Regiment.

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Signal Equipment

17. The types of radios mounted on T-34 tanks were 10-RK, the 10-RK-26, 10-RT and 9-RS. Most of the tanks mounted either the 10-RK or the 10-RK-26 radio. The 10-RT radios were new and their issue had been limited to battalion and regimental commanders of tank regiments. The 9-RS type was almost totally obsolete, having been replaced by the 10-RK and the 10-RK-26. See paragraph 13 a (2) for information on types of radios and other signal equipment and the T/E assignment within the 459th Mortar Regiment.

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[redacted] See sketch on page 18 for [redacted] description of the 10-RK-26 radio.

18. [redacted] the signal battalion of the division had about four RSB-F radios (Radio Stantsiya Samoletno - Bombardirovochnaya ?) and about five to six RAF (Radio Stantsiya Armiyskaya Frontovaya). The battalion had an unknown number of the regimental and lower level radios, excluding tank radios.

Armament

19. Each battery of the 459th Mortar Regiment had six or seven 120-mm mortars, depending on whether the battery had six or seven sections. [redacted] there were a total of 38 pieces in the firing batteries plus an additional two or three mortars in the regimental school.

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20. There were six or seven 7.62-mm LMGs. of the DPM or DP type in the regiment. [redacted] There was no other armament in the regiment with the exception of individual arms. The latter consisted of the TT pistol, the M 1895 Nagant revolver, the PPSH automatic and the 7.62-mm M 1944 carbine. Officers were armed with TT pistols and mortar gunners with the Nagant revolvers. Most first sergeants and rear service personnel were armed with the PPSH automatic. The majority of personnel were armed with the 7.62-mm carbine.

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21. During summer camp 1953, source heard that there would soon be a new carbine, a new automatic pistol, and a new pistol that would all use the same type of new ammunition. This was all hearsay and there was nothing to back up these statements. He also heard from the chief of Artillery Supply and Repair that there would soon be new weapons that used new ammunition and that this round would be smaller than the standard 7.62-mm round. According to further rumors these new weapons already had been issued in the USSR.

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[redacted] in April 1954, no new weapons appeared in the 459th Mortar Regiment.

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23.

[redacted]

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NEW T-54 TANK AT BASIC TRAINING UNIT

4. While [redacted] in Novoborisov (N 54-13, [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] saw a new type of tank 50X1
[redacted] referred to as the T-54. [redacted] had been taken to 50X1
the gun park for the purpose of receiving training in "general 50X1
weapons nomenclature familiarization" with the training regiment's 50X1
equipment, and there a T-54 tank was shown to the trainees. A 50X1
major gave a short lecture on this tank, limiting his information to 50X1
its general characteristics only. The major stated that the tank
mounted a 100-mm gun, had thicker armor than the T-34, was heavier
than the T-34, and had an internal fire-extinguishing system that
could operate automatically four or five times in succession. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] the gun had a muzzle-brake and that it had a lower 50X1
silhouette and was wider than the T-34. [redacted] the interior 50X1
of the tank was white. [redacted] the crew consisted of three 50X1
to four men. The tank was said to mount a 10-RT radio and to use
the conventional intercomm system.
5. The major also told the trainees that the gun had a "flotation"
(playayushohyy) system which permitted the gun to stay on the target
and fire while the tank was in motion. The instructor stated that
this was a new feature that was not present on the T-34 tank. 50X1
6. [redacted] there were placards in the unit political day rooms 50X1
on which were shown certain sketches and information on this tank, 50X1
comparing it with the conventional T-34. This information and the 50X1
sketches were very general and merely pointed out some physical
characteristics of the T-54 tank [redacted] 50X1

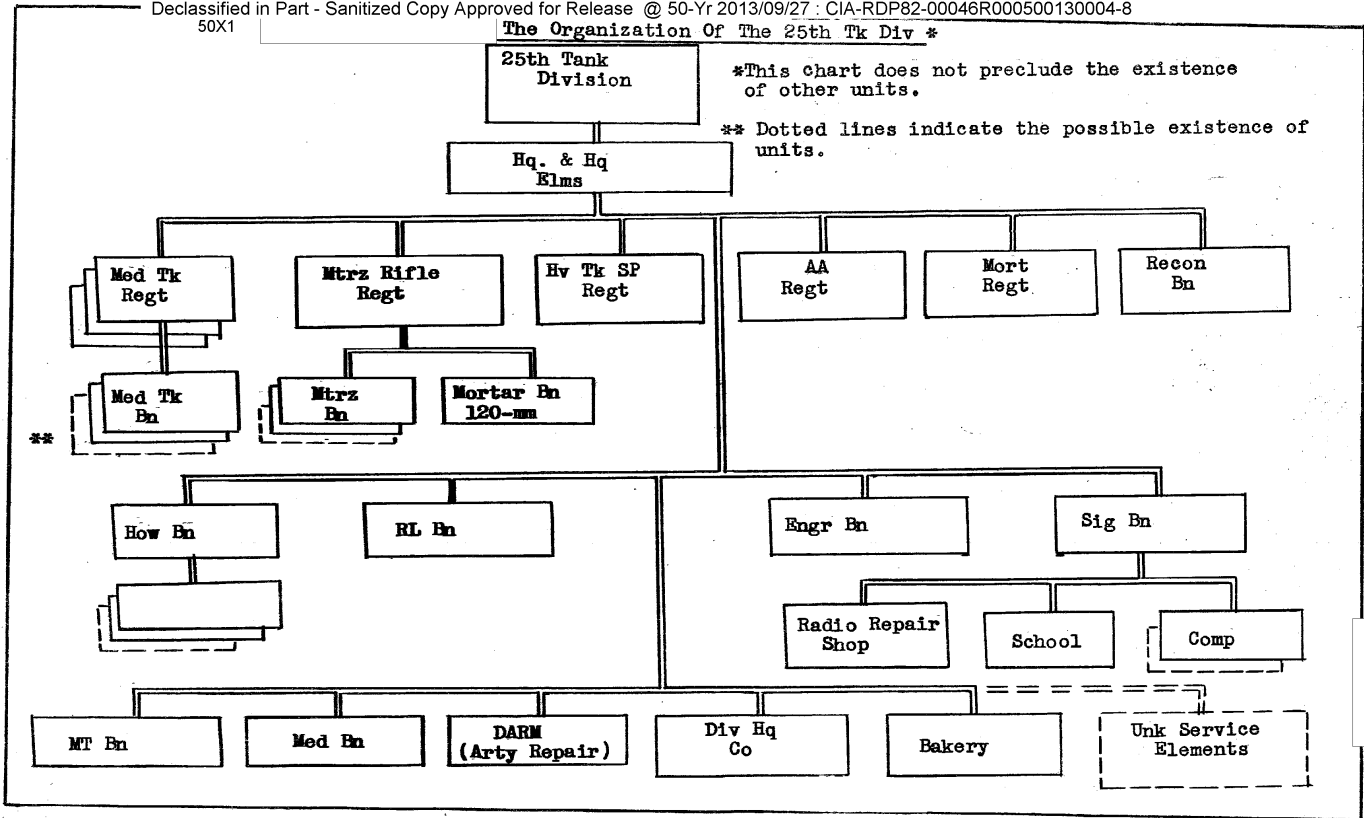
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The Organization Of The 25th Tk Div *

*This chart does not preclude the existence of other units.

** Dotted lines indicate the possible existence of units.

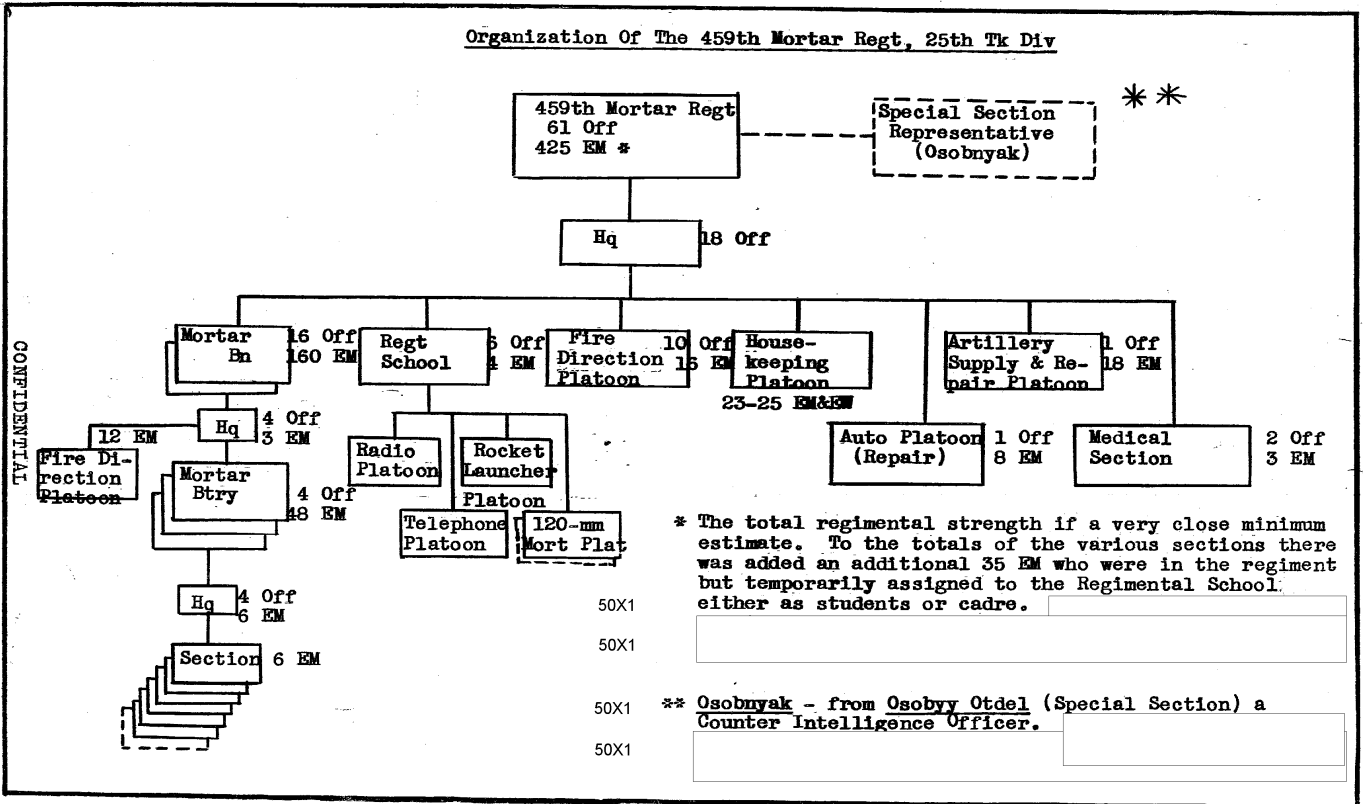


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Organization Of The 459th Mortar Regt, 25th Tk Div



* The total regimental strength if a very close minimum estimate. To the totals of the various sections there was added an additional 35 EM who were in the regiment but temporarily assigned to the Regimental School, either as students or cadre.

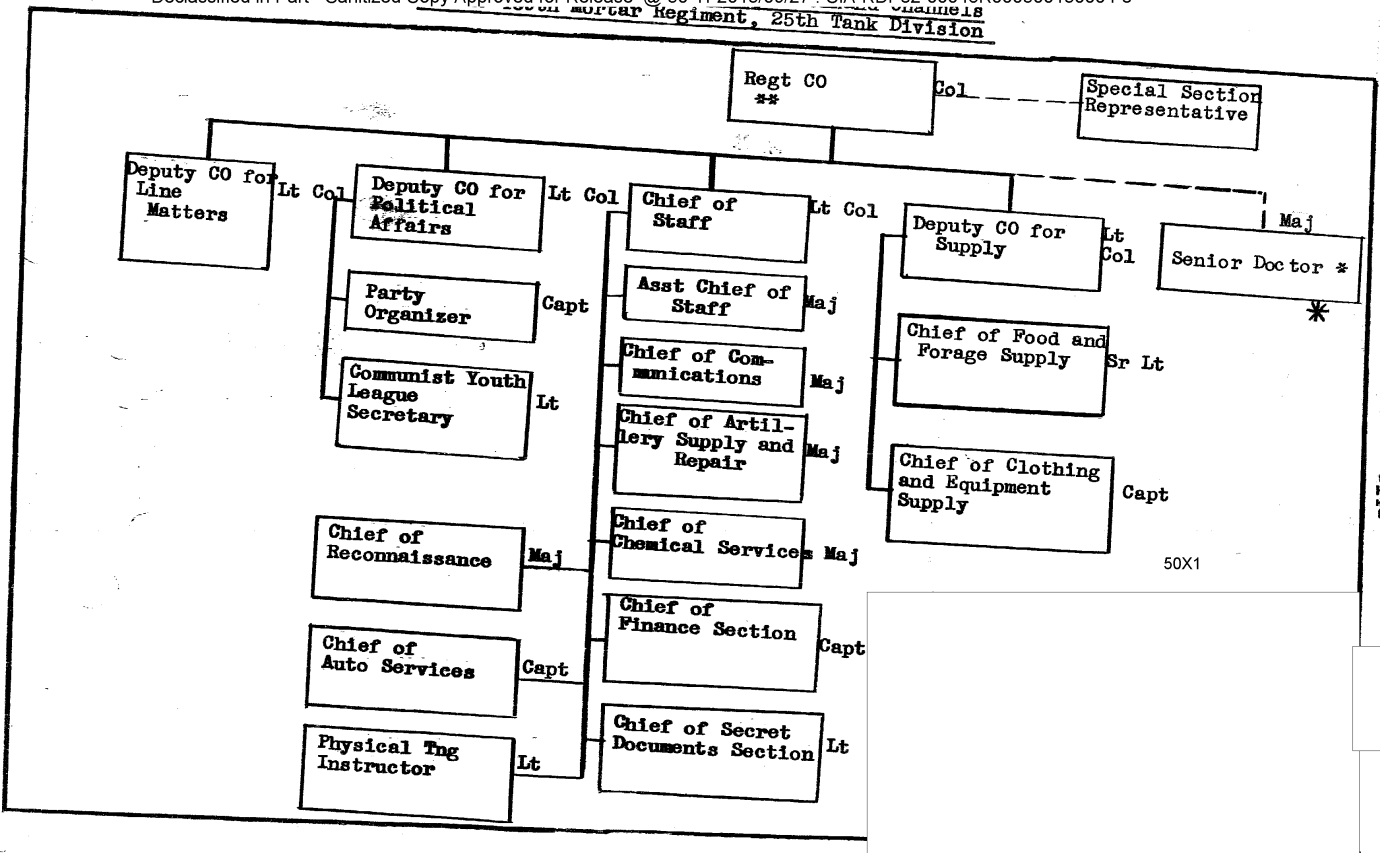
** Osobnyak - from Osobny Otdel (Special Section) a Counter Intelligence Officer.

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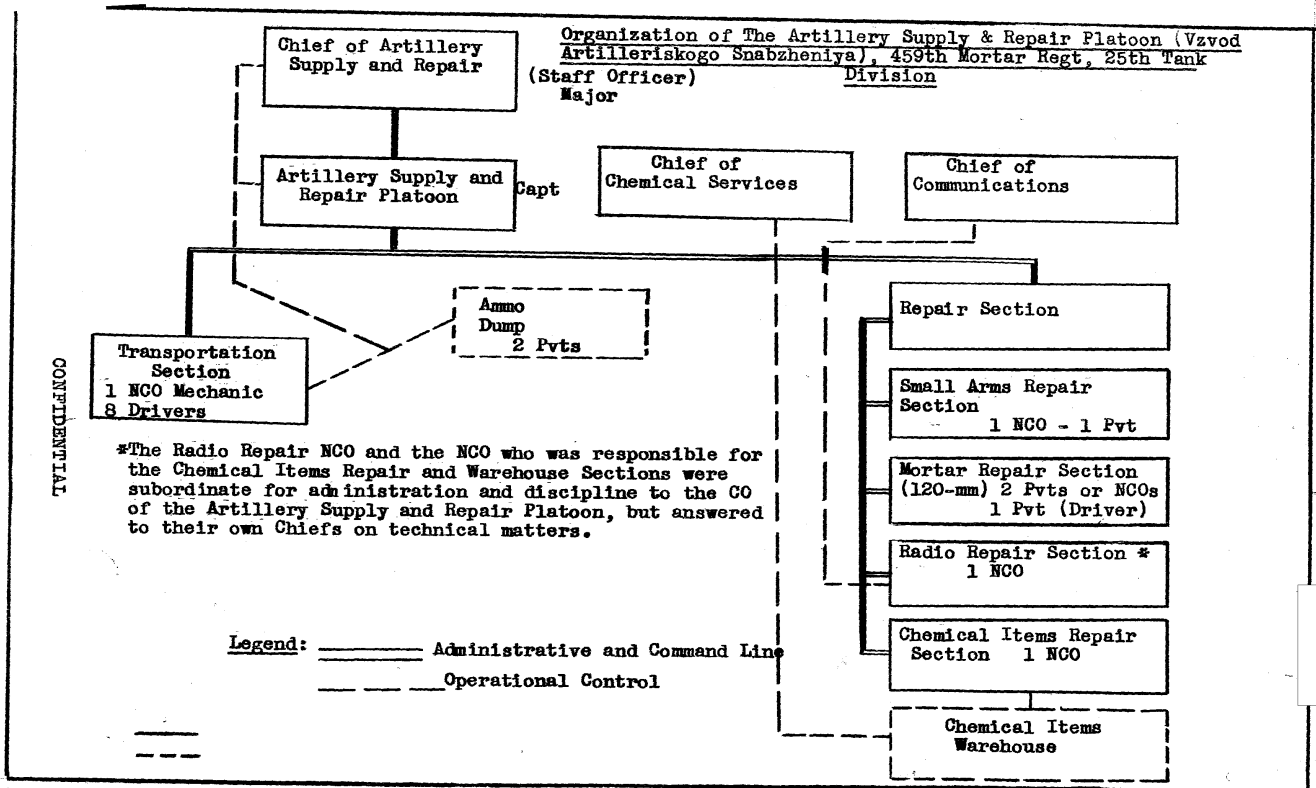
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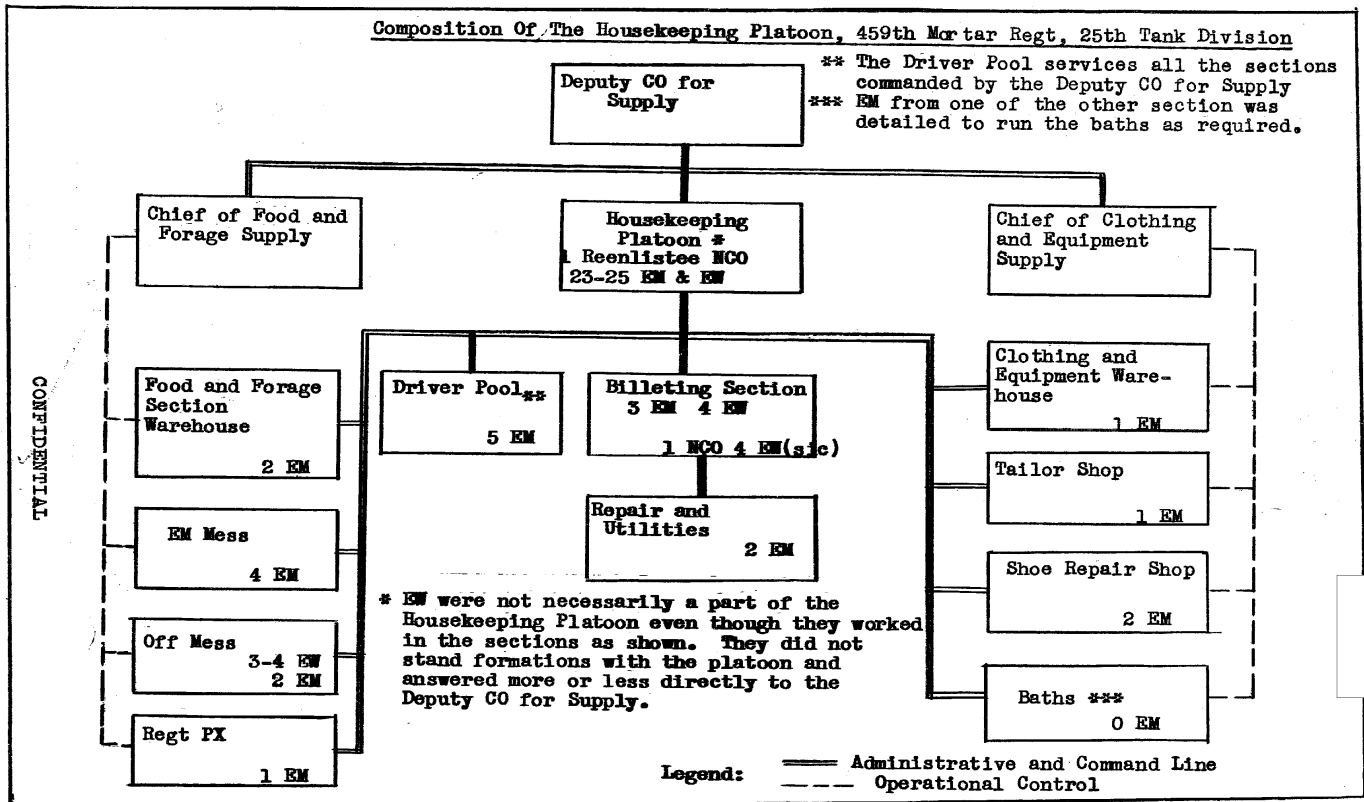
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Legend to Sketch Of The 10-RK-26
Tank Radio (see sketch page).
 (Not to Scale)

OUTSIDE VIEW

1. Helmet with microphone
 2. Cases for crystals. There were 15 or 16 crystals, each numbered for a fixed wave length.
 3. Connecting cables.
 4. Band selector. Bands were designated by a red, yellow, or black mark, with the red mark being the shortest wave.
 5. Variometers
 6. Neon lamp (glows bright red when set properly toned).
 7. Crystal nests, (one possible for the microphone)
- The sender portion of the set had some knobs which source could not recall.

WIRING DIAGRAMReceiver

1. High frequency amplifier - tube type 6 ZH 7
2. Frequency converter - tube type 6 A 8
- 3 & 4. Intermediate frequency amplifiers - tube type 6 ZH 7
5. Demodulator - tube believed to be 6 G 7
6. Low frequency amplifier - tube type 6 F 6
7. Master oscillator - tube type 6 A 8

Power Pack

8. Two commutators - one was 200 volt and it was switched on for receiving. The other was 400 or more volts and together with the 200 volt commutator was used for transmitting.

Sender

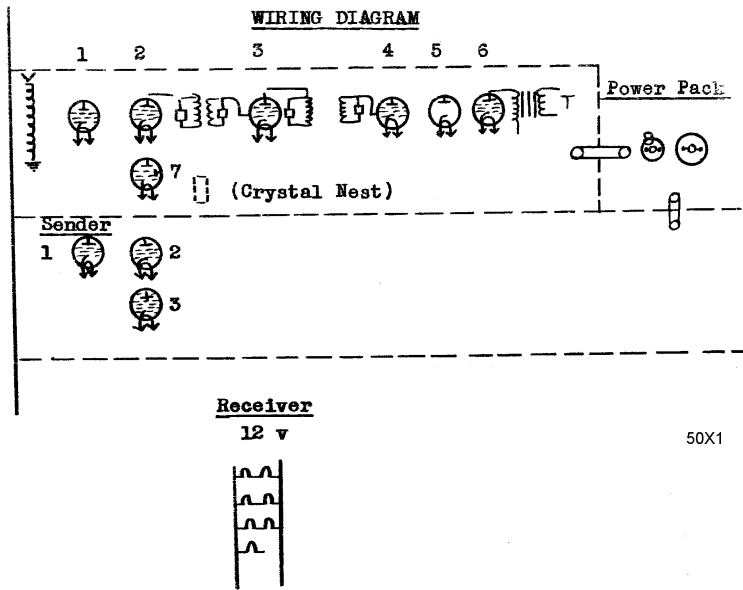
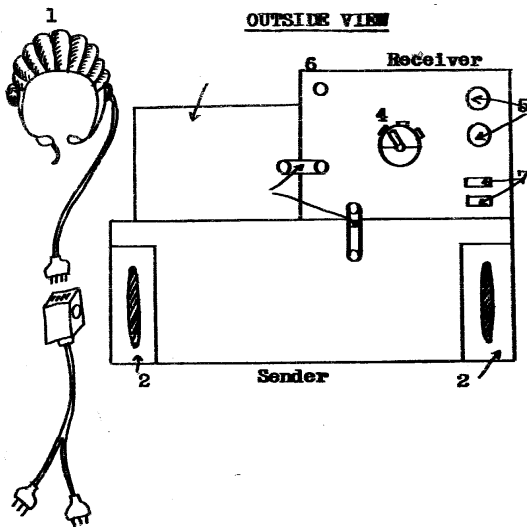
1. Power amplifier - tube type 6 P 3
2. Preamplifier - tube type 6 P 3
3. Unknown - tube type 6 A 8

Note: The 10-RK-26 radio required a 24-volt system. Its estimated voice range was 18 kilometers. A four-sectioned antenna about five meters long was used for transmitting and receiving.

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Sketch of The 10-RK-26 Tank Radio
(Not to Scale)



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