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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

S-E-C-R-E-T

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REPORT

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COUNTRY **USSR/Austria**

DATE DISTR. **27 Sept. 1955**

SUBJECT **Soviet Army T/O, Weapons, and Equipment**

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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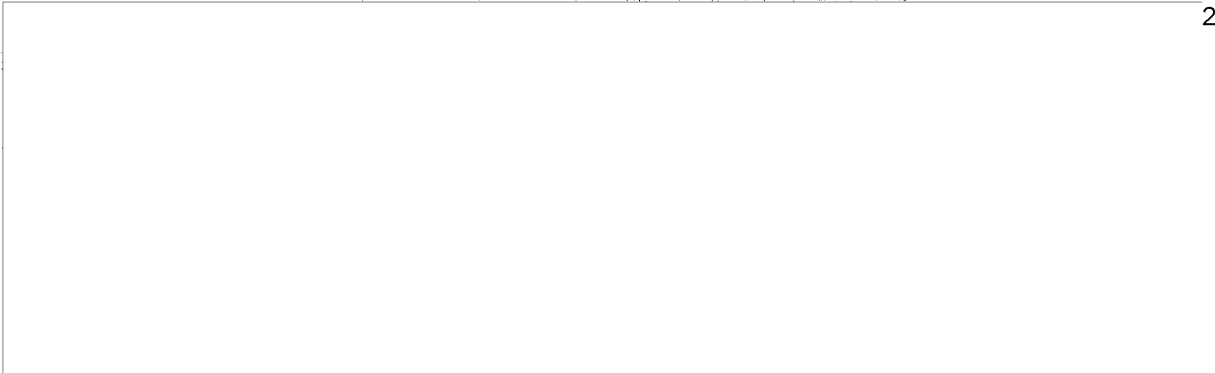
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SOVIET ARMY T/O, WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT

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A. DIVISION-LEVEL T/O&E

[redacted] information on the 95th Gds Rifle Div [redacted] this division consisted of three rifle regiments, a medium tank-SP regiment, a howitzer artillery regiment, a gun artillery regiment, an engineer battalion, a signal battalion, an AAA battalion and allegedly an advance air warning company (VNOS).¹ Except for the last, [redacted] seen these units at the divisional training area in ALLENTSTEIG (4841N-1519E). 25X1

[redacted] other units were also included in the composition of the division [redacted] The only other divisional unit [redacted] was the Divisional Vehicle Repair Shops. 25X1

The only specific information [redacted] on the above named units was as follows: The Gun Artillery Regiment was equipped with 85 mm guns. The medium tank regiment had T-34 tanks and JSU-152 SP guns. The howitzer artillery regiment had 122 mm howitzers. The AAA battalion had 85 mm AA pieces.² 25X1

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B. REGIMENTAL-LEVEL T/O&E

See Annexes A through D for the organizational structure of the regimental units known [redacted] 25X1

1. Alleged Regimental Reorganization in Mid-1954

The most unusual organizational information [redacted] was that there had allegedly been a reorganization [redacted] in the summer of 1954. 25X1

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[redacted] the reorganization took place in the following manner: 25X1

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Up to Jun 54, the 1st and 2d Rifle Bns were on duty somewhere on the US-USSR demarcation line in Austria while the 3d Rifle Bn and the remainder of the regiment were in the permanent regimental caserne area in MAUER OEHLING (4806N-1448E). At this time, the entire regiment was assembled and sent to the ALLENTSTEIG Training Area. Units of a sister regiment, the 287th, relieved the 290th Regt on the demarcation line and provided security for the MAUER OEHLING caserne area while the 290th Regt was absent.

During Jun and Jul 54, [redacted] regiment was kept busy constructing a summer camp in the ALLENTSTEIG area. Unknown portions of the other two rifle regiments of the division and the gun regiment (pushechnyy polk) of the division were also thus occupied. Each was building its own particular summer training area.

Then in Jul-Aug 54 the regiment was suddenly reorganized, simultaneously with the issuance of several new types of regimental weapons. The major changes were as follows:

Instead of three rifle battalions, the regiment now had only two rifle battalions. 3

An alleged 107 mm rocket launcher battery was added to the regimental artillery. 3

[redacted] AA battalion (division) was also formed. [redacted] although this was only approximately a 40-man unit, nevertheless a Lt Col commanded it [redacted] Previously there had been only an AA platoon in the regiment. (See IC 3.)

Various changes were made in the T/O of the rifle battalion. 3 (See Annex C for [redacted] knowledge of the post-reorganization structure of such a battalion.)

[redacted] the Sig Co, was also reorganized, and the company CO read the new organizational structure to the company. 3 In place of three platoons, radio, telegraph, and headquarters, there were only two platoons, although the unit's strength remained the same. (See Annex D for the post-reorganizational structure of the company [redacted])

[redacted] a general reduction in regimental personnel result from the reorganization, but [redacted] could not satisfactorily explain the reduction itself. [redacted] about 50 EM were transferred entirely out of the regiment to unidentified Air Force units. Several Air Force officers allegedly came to the regiment to escort these men from the unit. [redacted] the men and officers of the deactivated rifle battalion were somehow reshuffled within the regiment, and there were even some men who were allegedly transferred to and from the signal company and other companies in the regiment. [redacted] some personnel were transferred into the regiment, to the regimental artillery units, from the artillery units of the division.

[redacted] the other two rifle regiments of [redacted] division were also reorganized in the same manner [redacted] based this assumption on the alleged fact that components of these other two rifle regiments also received the same new weapons, ranging through the new pistols 4 to the 107 mm rocket launchers [redacted] at the ALLENTSTEIG training area during the summer of 1954.

Following the reorganization, [redacted] regiment returned to its permanent caserne area at MAUER OEHLING, in late Aug 54. Each of the two remaining rifle battalions sent one rifle company back to the demarcation line, and one of the rifle battalions sent an additional rifle company to the city of SANKT POELTEN (4812N-1537E), presumably to guard division warehouses.

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2. Regimental Weapons

For the most part, [redacted] able to identify individual and crew-served weapons which were items of issue [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Very many of these were allegedly received in a general issue of new weapons in the summer of 1954. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

a. Guns

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No in Regt</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 85 mm AT Gun (Conventional type) | 6 | Issued in regiment in mid-1954, to regimental AT battery. Apparently it was gradually replacing the 57 mm AT gun since a like number of 57's were shipped out. |
| 57 mm AT Gun, M1943 | 2 | With the regimental AT battery. |
| SU-76 mm SP Gun (Conventional Type) | 7 | Were in regimental SU-76 battery. |
| 37 mm AA Gun M1939 (Conventional Type) | 2 | Were in regimental AA "Divizion" (battalion). |

b. Rocket Launchers

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No in Regt</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 107 mm Rocket Launcher | Unk | Were issued to [redacted] regiment in mid-1954, to an alleged 107 mm battery. 5 25X1 |
| 37 mm RPG Rocket Launcher | Unk | Were located in a RPG squad or platoon (one such unit was in each rifle battalion). 6 |

c. Machine Guns

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No in Regt</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--|-------------------|---|
| ZPU-4 | 2 | Were issued to the regimental AA "Divizion" in mid-1954. |
| ZPU-2 | 8 | Were issued within [redacted] regiment in mid-1954. Four were in the regiment AA "Divizion", two in each rifle battalion AA Platoon. 25X1 |
| 12.7 mm HMG, DShK, M1938 (Conventional Type) | Unk | An unknown number were in each rifle battalion MG Company. |
| Infantry HMG (Nomenclature Unknown)7 | 6 | Three such HMG's were issued to each HMG company of the two rifle battalions in mid-1954. |
| 7.62 mm "Goryunov" HMG, M1943 (Conventional Type) | Unk | Were in each rifle battalion MG Company. Number issued per MG company unknown [redacted] 25X1 |
| 7.62 mm "Company" LMG (Conventional Type) | Unk | An unknown number were in each rifle company and reconnaissance company. 9 |
| 7.62 mm "Kalashnikov" (?) LMG | Unk | Were issued in mid-1954 in unk numbers in the regimental rifle companies and to the Reconnaissance Co. 9 |

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[Redacted]

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d. Mortars

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No in Regt</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 120 mm Mortar M1939 (Conventional Type) | 5 | Were in regimental 120 mm Mortar Battery. |
| 82 mm Mortar, M1937 (Conventional Type) | 12 or 14 | There was no mortar company in the rifle battalion, only one mortar platoon in each of the two rifle battalions. |

e. Individual Weapons

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No in Regt</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--|-------------------|---|
| 7.62 mm Sniper Rifle M1891/30 (Conventional) | Unk | An unknown number were in each rifle company and the reconnaissance company. 9 |
| 7.62 "Kalashnikov" SMG | Unk | Were issued in the regiment in mid-1954 to replace the PPSH SMG M1941. Each unit subordinate to the regiment had an unknown number. |
| 7.62 mm SKS Carbine ¹¹ | Unk | Issued in regiment in mid-1954 to replace the 7.62 mm carbine M1944. Each unit subordinate to the regiment had an unk number. [Redacted] 25X1 [Redacted] there were an equal number of [Redacted] 25X1 carbines and SMG's. |
| Pistol (type unk) | Unk | Was allegedly modelled on the T-33. Regt staff officers carried this weapon. 4 Was issued to replace T-33 in mid-1954. |
| Pistol (type unk) | Unk | Were issued in regiment in mid-1954. Was allegedly modelled after the T-33 but was smaller. Regimental unit CO's, down to platoon CO's, carried this weapon. 4 |

3. Regimental Vehicles

a. Staff and Non-Rifle Battalion Sub-Units

[Redacted] 25X1
 [Redacted] regiment had 150 line vehicles consisting of the GAZ - 63, ZIS - 150, 25X1
 GAZ-51, ZIS - 151, GAZ - 67B types, in the fall of 1954. 11 All the line
 vehicles, which had been almost exclusively [Redacted] Lend-Lease vehicles, had been 25X1
 exchanged for the types designated above. Only a few [Redacted] Lend-Lease vehicles 25X1
 remained, and these were used for supply and rear area duties. All of them
 were 6 x 6 Studebakers. [Redacted] 25X1
 [Redacted] 25X1

| <u>Unit</u> | <u>Type and No of Vehicles</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Signal Co | 2 M72 Motorcycles 4 GAZ-63 | Used for messenger duties. RSBF radio station mounted in one. The remaining vehicles were used for equipment and personnel of the company. |

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| <u>Unit</u> | <u>Type and No of Vehicles</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Regt Hq | 1 GAZ-69 Jeep | For Regimental CO's use. |
| | 1 old Studebaker truck | Used as field CP by Regimental 25X1 Home-made box on truck chassis. |
| | 1 old Studebaker truck | Used for transporting unit colors to field. |
| | 1 old Studebaker truck | For use by regimental C/S and Operations Section while in field. |
| | 1 GAZ-67B Jeep | For use by regimental C/S. |
| | 1 GAZ-67B Jeep | For use by Deputy CO for Technical Matters. |
| | 1 GAZ-67B Jeep | For use by remaining staff officers |
| | 1 GAZ-67B Jeep | For use by Special Section (counter-intelligence) Represent- atives. |
| | 1 GAZ-67B Jeep | For use by Chief of Regimental Artillery. |
| Recon Co | 2 BA-67 Armored Cars Unk no of GAZ-63's | |
| Engr Co | Unk no of GAZ-51's GAZ-63's (probably 3) | |
| SP-76 Btry | 1 or 2 GAZ-3 1 M72 Motorcycle | For equipment and ammunition hauling. |
| 120 mm Mortar Btry | 4 or 5 GAZ-63 | For prime movers. |
| AT Btry | 8 GAZ-63 | For prime movers of 85 mm and 57mm AT pieces. |
| 107 mm RL Btry | 4 GAZ-63 and GAZ 51 | For hauling unit rocket launchers 5 |
| AAA "Divizion" 3 | 10 GAZ-63, ZIS-150, GAZ-51 | All GAZ-63's were used as prime movers of ZPU-4's, ZPU-2's and 37 mm AA pieces. The remainder of these vehicles were used to transport personnel and equipment of this unit. |
| Transport Co | About 30 vehicles, mostly GAZ-51's and ZIS-5's. | |
| Housekeeping Platoon | 1 ZIS-5 | Hauled bread from ULMERFELD. Other vehicles were assigned from transport company as needed when regiment went to the field. About 10 vehicles were assigned to this platoon from the transport company, for hauling field kitchens, food, and equipment. This platoon also had two horses and cars for in- ternal hauling jobs around the regimental area. |

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| <u>Unit</u> | <u>Type and No of Vehicles</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Chemical Platoon | 2 GAZ-type | For transporting equipment of platoon |
| Hq Co Service Platoon | 1 GAZ-51 | For hauling equipment of platoon; Note all drivers for the vehicles of the regt come from this platoon. |
| Regt School | | Had no organic transportation. Obtained it from Transportation Co as needed. |
| Music Platoon | 1 GAZ-51 | For transporting platoon personnel. |
| Med Section | 1 unk type ambulance 2 Studebakers | For transporting equipment and personnel of section. |
| POL Section | 2 ZIS-151 fuel tank carriers (1500-1700 liter estimated capacity) | Serviced entire regiment with POL products. |

b. Two Rifle Battalions

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
each such battalion headquarters had a ZIS-5 truck which served as a CP in the field. Each battalion CO, battalion C/S and battalion special section officer had a jeep. [redacted] each CO in the battalion had two or three ZIS-150 or ZIS-151 vehicles organic to it. Other GAZ-63's were drawn from the transport company as needed. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] each battalion Machine Gun Company had about five trucks, the AA platoon two trucks, the housekeeping platoon an unknown number and the signal platoon one GAZ-63. 25X1

c. Mobile Repair Vehicles

There were two mobile repair shops. These were home-made cargo boxes on Studebaker trucks. One was used by the Art Repair Shop (Art Masterskaya), the other by the Automobile Repair Shop (Auto Masterskaya).

d. Other Miscellaneous Vehicle Data

[redacted] that the Telephone Platoon, Signal Company, was supposed to be assigned two tracked Armored personnel carriers. In late 1954, the CO sent two men to ALLENTSTEIG, to the division drivers school, allegedly for training on these carriers. 25X1

In May 1955, [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] the SP-76 battery would receive 8 unidentified tanks 25X1
sometime in 1955. [redacted] 25X1

C. SIGNAL EQUIPMENT

1. Signal Platoon, Rifle Battalion Equipment

25X1

The signal platoon of each rifle battalion had the following equipment:

Three RBM-1 Radios
One R106 Radio for each company and battalion headquarters. 12
About 29 km field wire PTF-7.
Unknown number of field phones TA1-43 type.
One K-10 switchboard.

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25X1

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There could have been other signal equipment in the rifle battalions,

there were 25X1

no more radios.

2. Regimental Signal Company Equipment

| <u>No</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|
| 6 | RBM-1 Radio | One RBM-1 was in constant use of the regimental VNOS post and one at regimental communications center. The latter maintained constant contact with units on the demarcation line. The remaining RBM-1 sets were for field use only, as follows: one each went to the reconnaissance Co, the regimental CO, the regimental C/S, and the Deputy CO for Rear Services. |
| 1 | R105 Radio 12 | Not used. Kept in storeroom. |
| 4 | R106 Radio 12 | Kept in storeroom. During field problems, these radios and operators were attached from the signal co to the SP-76 btry. no radios were mounted in SP's. |
| 3 | K-10 Switchboard | Were for field use only. One was an improved version of the K-10 type. The regiment used a permanent type German switchboard while in permanent camp. |
| 1 | RSEF Radio | Was mounted on a GAZ-63 truck. It maintained constant radio contact with the division and other regiments of the division. |
| 100 km | PTF-7 and KPD-2 Telephone Cable | |
| 20 | TAL-43 Field Telephones | TAL-43 Field Telephones |
| 2 | Telegraph units with keys. | One was used for training. The other kept constant contact with Div Hq. When the unit was in permanent quarters, they were kept at Regimental Communications Center. |

3. Regimental Artillery Unit Signal Equipment

_____ distinguished between signal equipment held at regimental head quarters level, that held at battalion level and that held by the various regimental artillery units. _____ quite positive concerning the accuracy of _____ figures on signal company property, which represented all the signal equipment at regimental level. _____ much less certain of the signal equipment possessed by the two regimental infantry battalions. Concerning means of communication within the regimental artillery units, _____ was even more uncertain. _____ these units had their own internal communications set-up and equipment _____ the regimental artillery chief not the regimental communications officer, supervised internal regimental artillery communications. _____ information on equipment had its use there as follows:

The chief of regimental artillery had an R-105 or R-106 radio plus a RBM-1 set mounted on his jeep. _____

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[Redacted]

The 85 mm AT Btry had a R-105 radio organic to it; [Redacted]

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The 107 mm Rocket Launcher Btry had no radios. [Redacted]
this unit would be attached to the rifle units and therefore would need no
radios. [Redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

The AA Btry (Divizion) had no radios. All of its communications were
by telephone. [Redacted]

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Annexes:

- A. Actual Composition of the 290th Gds Rifle Regt, 95th Gds Rifle Div
- B. Actual Composition of the Hq and Special Staff, 290th Gds Rifle Regt, 95th Gds Rifle Div
- C. Actual Composition of Rifle Battalion's 290th Gds Rifle Regt
- D. Actual Composition of the Signal Company, 290th Gds Rifle Regt

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Comment 3: The organization and equipment given [Redacted] varies distinctly from that held locally for the Soviet rifle regiment and its subordinate units. 25X1

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Comment 7: This was apparently the PKP (pekhotno-krupno kaliberniy pulemyet) infantry HMG. It had the same receiver and body as the ZPU. [Redacted]

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Comment 8: [redacted], this was apparently the
new "Degtyarev" LMG [redacted]

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Comment 12: This radio set is not locally held to be of
standard Soviet issue.

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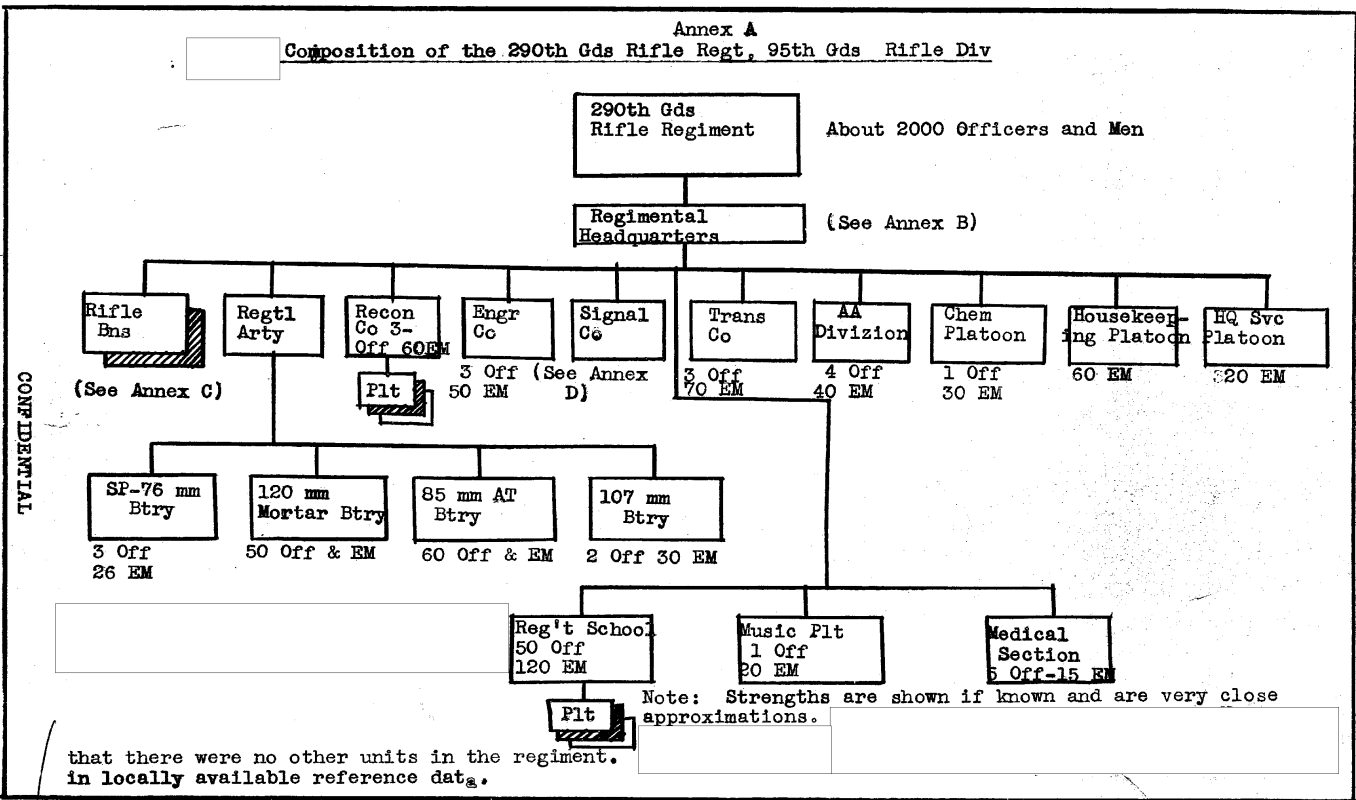
Comment 13: Locally available information indicates that such
an artillery battery does exist at rifle battalion
level.

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Annex A
Composition of the 290th Gds Rifle Regt, 95th Gds Rifle Div



that there were no other units in the regiment.
in locally available reference data.

Note: Strengths are shown if known and are very close approximations.

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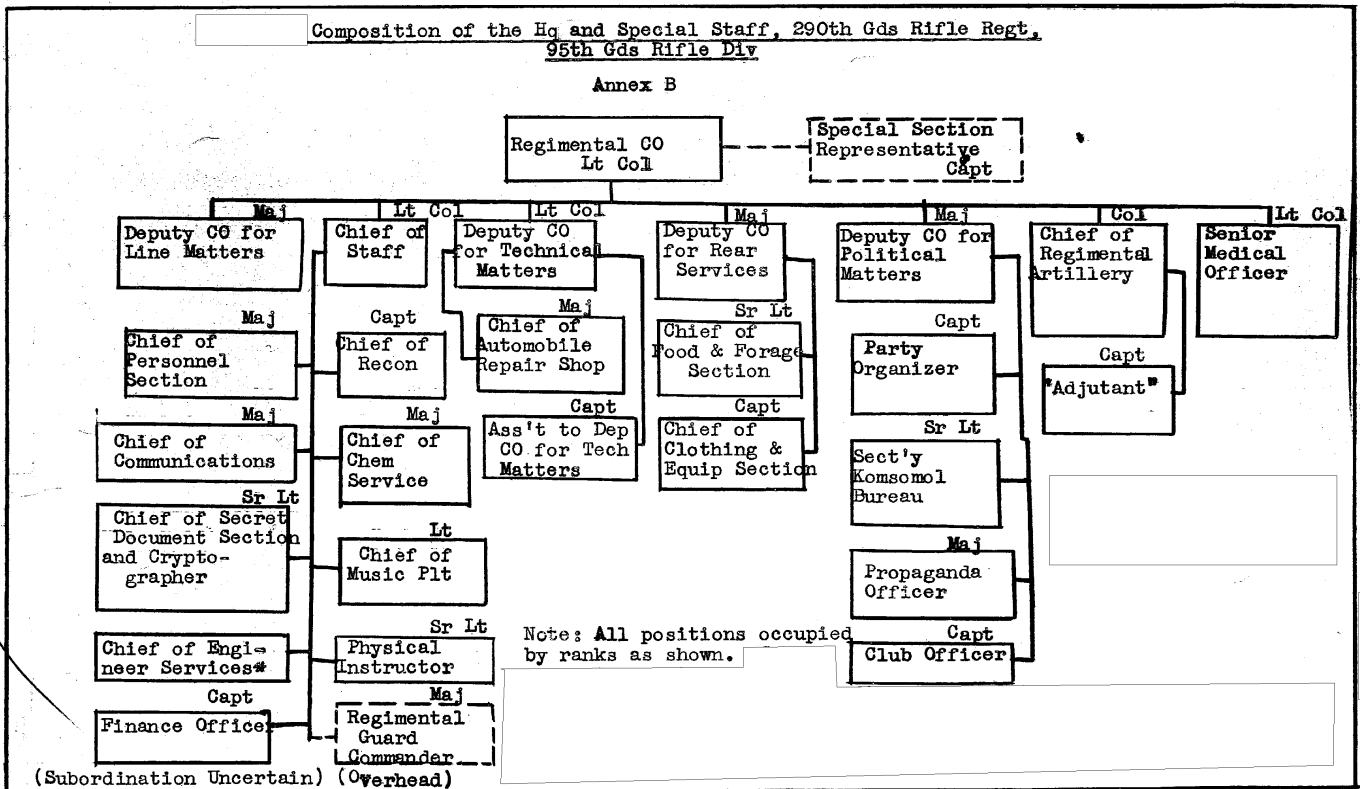
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Composition of the Hq and Special Staff, 290th Gds Rifle Regt.,
95th Gds Rifle Div

Annex B



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Annex B

Composition of the Hq and Special Staff, 290th Gds Rifle Regt,

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95th Gds Rifle Div

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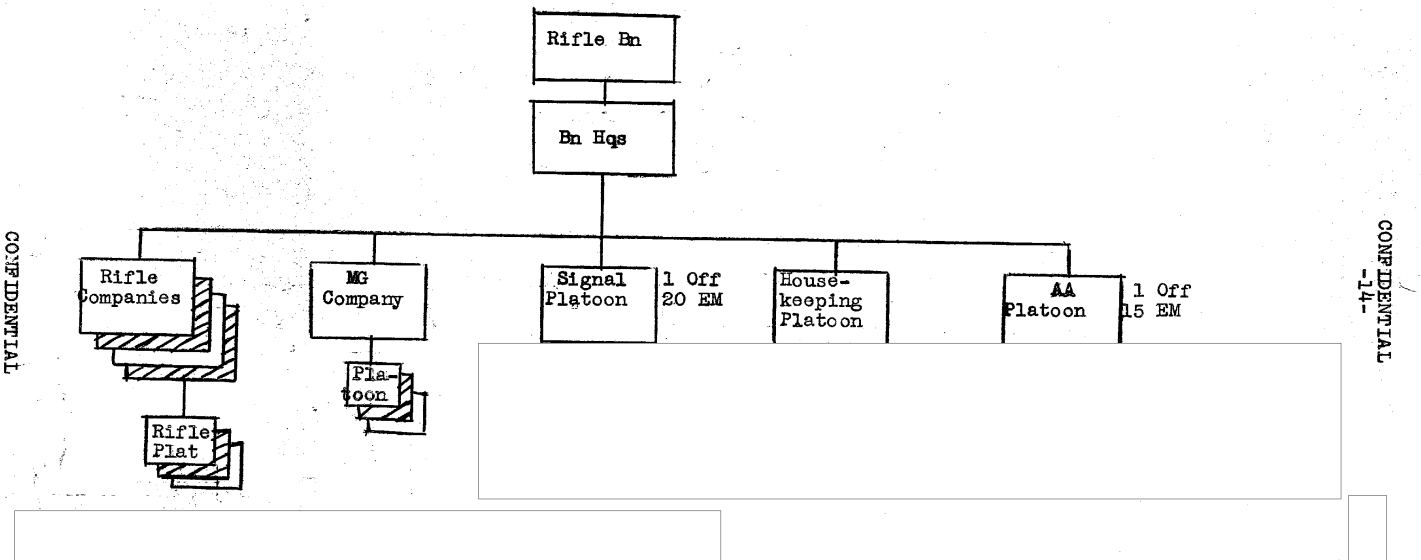
1. [redacted] all line units were subordinate to the Deputy CO for Line matters. 25X1
2. [redacted] all the regimental separate companies and platoons were also subordinate to the Chief of Staff. Operational control of certain companies was through the special staff. Thus, the Chief of Reconnaissance had operational control of the Reconnaissance Company, the Chief of Chemical Services of the Chemical Platoon, the Chief of Engr Services of the Engr Co and the Chief of Signal Services of the Signal Co. [redacted] the regimental school was also subordinate to the C/S. 25X1
3. The Dep CO for Tech Services had operational control of the Transport Co and the POL dump. as well as of the Automobile Shop.
4. The Dep CO for Rear Services had operational control of the Regimental Housekeeping Plat and of all the sections operated by it. These included the billeting section, two regimental stores (a PX and a food store), a pigsty, a tailor shop, a shoe shop, a bakery, a kitchen, a stable (with two horses), a bath or shower point, the ration storeroom and the individual clothing and equipment storeroom. The latter two points were controlled through the Chief of the Food and Forage Section and the Chief of the Clothing and Equipment Section. 25X1
5. [redacted] the Chief of Regimental Artillery was also subordinate to the Divisional Chief of Artillery. The assistant to the Chief of Regimental Artillery was known as the "Adjutant" of Artillery. (The term "Adjutant" is misleading, however, [redacted]) 25X1
6. The Senior Medical Officer was more or less a staff officer. [redacted] he was a "professor" and did not actually practice medicine. He was responsible for the operation of the regimental medical section and the dispensary which was operated by the section. He was also responsible for all medical personnel in the rifle battalions. At the medical section was the Regimental Doctor, a Sr Lt, a dentist, a Lt; and two doctors, both Lt's. There were about 15 EM in the Medical Section in addition to these officers. 25X1

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Composition of Rifle Battalions, 290th Gds Rifle Regt

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Annex C



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Annex C

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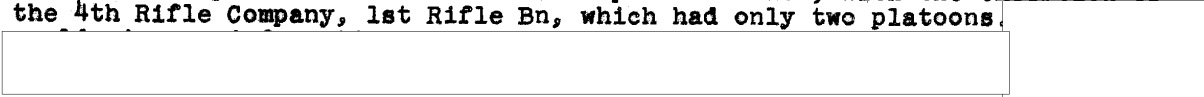


Composition of Rifle Battalions, 290th Gds Rifle Regiment

LEGEND:

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1. The Rifle Companies were numbered the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th.
2. After Aug 54, each battalion sent one company to the demarcation line. The 1st Rifle Bn sent the 3d Rifle Co and the 2d Rifle Bn sent the 4th Rifle Co. In addition, the 1st Rifle Bn sent the 4th Rifle Co to ST POELTEN, to guard division warehouses.
3. [redacted] there was no "battalion artillery".¹³ He was positive that there were no 57 mm AT pieces or any other type of artillery in the rifle battalion. 25X1
4. Listed below are other pertinent items concerning T/O and E. ¹⁴ 25X1
 - a. [redacted] there was no mortar company in each rifle battalion. [redacted] there was only 1 platoon of mortars in each battalion, in one of the battalion rifle companies [redacted] This platoon had six or seven 82 mm mortars. 25X1
 - b. There were no crew-served rocket launchers or AT pieces in the battalions. The only AT weapon in the rifle battalions was the one-man Rocket Launcher [redacted] referred to as the RPG. ⁶ [redacted] there was one RPG platoon or squad consisting of an unknown number of pieces. Again, he did not know in which particular rifle company this platoon or squad was located. 25X1
5. [redacted] the following specific information on rifle battalion units:
Rifle companies consisted of three platoons each, with the exception of the 4th Rifle Company, 1st Rifle Bn, which had only two platoons.



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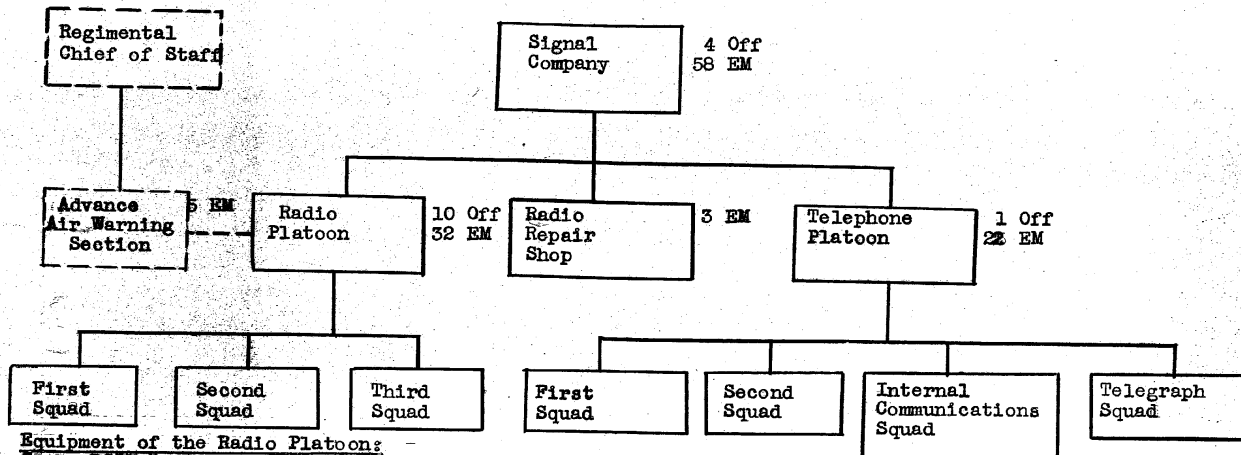
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Composition of the Signal Company, 290th Gds Rifle Regiment

Annex D



Equipment of the Radio Platoons:
 One - RSEF Radio, mounted in GAZ-63 truck
 Five - REM-1 Radios
 Four - R106 Radios
 One - R106 Radio
 One - GAZ-63 cargo truck
 Two - M72 Motorcycles (messengers)
 One - Unknown type generator (for RSEF)

Equipment of the Telegraph Platoon:
 Two - GAZ-63 Cargo trucks
 20 - Telephones TA1-43
 Three - K-10 Switchboards
 100 KM - telephone wire
 Two - Telegraph units w/key

Note: See Annex for additional information

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Annex D

Composition of the Signal Company, 290th Gds Rifle Regiment

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LEGEND:

1. The Co Hq consisted of a CO (a captain), a Deputy CO for Political Affairs (a Sr Lt), and the company First Sergeant (a sergeant).

2. The advance air warning section consisted of five men. It was operationally controlled by the regimental chief of staff and also by a Maj (fnu) PARASHUTINSKIY, who was the chief of air warning posts for the division. This section was located on the top floor of the signal company billets. It had one RBM-1 radio.

3. The 1st Squad, radio platoon, was responsible for the operation of the RSBF radio. The squad consisted of a section leader, two radio operators, a driver, and a generator operator.

4. The remaining two squads of the radio platoon provided radio operators with radios as needed for use by regimental headquarters while the regiment was in the field. While the regiment was at its permanent quarters, these two squads provided radio operators to man one RBM-1 that was always in operation in the regimental communications center. The remaining personnel trained in radio matters.

5. The radio repair shop was responsible for the repair of all signal equipment of the regiment. The section manning this shop consisted of a section leader (a sergeant), a telephone repairman (a private), and a radio repairman (a private). This section had no vehicle. It moved with the radio platoon when the unit went to the field.

the section had only hand tools.

6. The telephone platoon had, as a "platoon headquarters", the platoon CO (a Sr Lt), an assistant platoon CO (a SR Sgt) who was also the squad leader of the internal communications squad, and two drivers (both pvts). One of them was a part-time supply assistant to the company first sergeant.

a. The 1st Squad consisted of a sergeant (squad leader) and five privates. This squad was responsible for establishing and maintaining telephone contact between the first rifle battalion and the regimental switchboard while in the field. When in permanent quarters, this section was occupied with general company training.

b. The 2d Squad consisted of one Jr Sgt (squad leader) and three privates. It was responsible for establishing and maintaining contact between the 2d rifle battalion and the regimental switchboard while in the field. It was occupied with general company training when in permanent quarters.

c. The Internal Communication Squad consisted of a Sr Sgt (squad leader) who was also assistant platoon commander, two privates (linemen), two privates (switchboard operators), one private (senior lineman with additional duty as NCO in charge of the company signal supply room). The mission of this squad was to operate the switchboards and to establish and maintain telephone communications in the regimental headquarters, both in the field and in permanent quarters.

d. The telegraph squad consisted of a Sgt (squad leader), a private (senior telegrapher) and two privates (telegraphers). This squad never went to the field. Its mission was the operation of the telegraph unit in the Regimental Communication Center.

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