

The Experimental Brigade

		Brigade HQ and signal section Brigadier H.M. Wilson DSO		
Company	1st DLI	2nd Royal Warwickshire Regiment	2nd Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry	1st South Staffordshire Regiment
Role	Experimental MG Battalion	Rifle Battalion	Rifle Battalion	Rifle Battalion
CO				
Complement/WE	25 officers 666 Other Ranks	26 officers 705 Other Ranks	26 officers 705 Other Ranks	26 officers 705 Other Ranks
Companies	Battalion HQ HQ Company 3 MG Companies Anti-Tank company	HQ Company Mortar Pltn – 4 x 3” mortars AA Pltn - 4 x Bren on tripods 4 Rifle Companies	HQ Company Mortar Pltn – 4 x 3” mortars AA Pltn - 4 x Bren on tripods 4 Rifle Companies	HQ Company Mortar Pltn – 4 x 3” mortars AA Pltn - 4 x Bren on tripods 4 Rifle Companies
Sub units	See detailed TOE below	Each coy 4 platoons	Each coy 4 platoons	Each coy 4 platoons
Per section/patrol		Each Pltn 3 sections max 7 men, 1 Cpl or I/Cpl and 6 rifles, 1 ZGB	Each Pltn 3 sections max 7 men, 1 Cpl or I/Cpl and 6 rifles, 1 ZGB	Each Pltn 3 sections max 7 men, 1 Cpl or I/Cpl and 6 rifles, 1 ZGB
Company equipment		All MGs in Rifle Battalions are ZGB, not Lewis Gun		
Notes				
Comments				

1935 Organisation for the Experimental Brigade (6th Infantry Brigade)

**1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry
Experimental Machine Gun Battalion
1935 Organisation**

			Battalion HQ		
Company	Headquarters Company	A Company	B Company	C Company	S Company
Role	Headquarters Coy	MG Coy	MG Coy	MG Coy	Anti-Tank Coy
Platoons	1 Platoon - Signallers, AA MG section, stretcher bearers 2 Platoon - transport detail, administrative detail	HQ 3 MG platoons	HQ 3 MG platoons	HQ 3 MG platoons	HQ 4 AT platoons
Sub units		Each of 2 sections each of 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl, 1 Rangetaker, 1 Orderly, 10 gun numbers	Each of 2 sections each of 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl, 1 Rangetaker, 1 Orderly, 10 gun numbers	Each of 2 sections each of 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl, 1 Rangetaker, 1 Orderly, 10 gun numbers	Each of 4 gun detachments
Per section		each of 2 subsections each of 1 MG team	each of 2 subsections each of 1 MG team	each of 2 subsections each of 1 MG team	Corporal, driver, 3 gunners, AT gun, all carried on one motor vehicle
Coy complement	7 officers 133 ORs	4 officers 139 ORs	4 officers 139 ORs	4 officers 139 ORs	6 officers 116 ORs
Company equipment		12 MGs	12 MGs	12 MGs	16 AT guns
Comments	1 four seater car – Austin 7 or Austin Tourer?				Guns poss. 20mm Oerlikons or Vickers .5” MG
Battalion MT	1 x 4 seater car (Battalion HQ); 33 x two seater Austin cars (Austin 7 Tourers) - chiefly for officers; M/Cs – signallers and AT coy; 49 Tractors and Trailers (guns, MGs and ammunition); 16 x lorries (cooks, greatcoats, petrol, fitters); 4 x 12 cwt vans (one per Anti-tank Platoon for distribution of rations. To drive and maintain these vehicles and allow for a working reserve of trained drivers requires an establishment of 120 motor drivers in the unit.				

1935 Organisation 1st DLI Experimental MG Battalion

**1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry
Experimental Machine Gun Battalion
1936 Organisation**

	Battalion HQ			
Company	A Company	B Company	C Company	S Company
Role	Anti-Tank Company	MG Company	Scout Company	MG Company
OC	Capt. R J Appleby MBE	Capt. C R Battiscombe	Maj J E S Percy MC	Maj E Dryden MC
Platoons	3 platoons	4 platoons	3 platoons	4 platoons
Sub units	Each of 2 sections	Each of 2 sections	Each of 3 patrols	Each of 2 sections
Per section/patrol	2 guns and sergeant on m/c	2 MGs on armoured carriers	2 scout cars w Bren. MC for command and control	2 MGs on armoured carriers
Platoon HQ		MG on OC's armoured carrier Hotchkiss "token" as AT rifle	Hotchkiss "token" as AT rifle	MG on OC's armoured carrier Hotchkiss "token" as AT rifle
Company complement				
Company equipment	A more powerful gun is envisaged (?2 pdr First built 1936)	20 MGs (Vickers) 20 armoured carriers Photos on VW show utility tractors named Barty, Bingo, Bonzo, Bunty etc	18 Scout Cars 9 M/C "Austins are token scout cars" – Austin 7s?	20 MGs (Vickers) 20 armoured carriers
Notes	"Unfortunately very little of the new equipment will be available and there will be a good deal of improvisation and use of "token" transport. Hotchkiss guns as token AT rifles (one each per scout and MG platoon)			
Comments	Hillmans – possibly Minx, Hawk/Sixteen and 80 Twenty 70 1934–1935 Hawk 1936–1937 Sixteen 1934–1937 Hillman Minx 1932–197	*Utility tractors and Hillmans will be replaced by Morris trucks. The Morris Truck will be the vehicle in general use"	"Austins are token scout cars" – Austin 7s?	"Carden Loyds are token armoured cars"

1936 Organisation 1st DLI Experimental MG Battalion

Rifle Battalion

		Battalion HQ		
WE 26 Officers 705 Other Ranks				
HQ Company	A Company	B Company	C Company	D Company
HQ Company	Rifle Company	Rifle Company	Rifle Company	Rifle Company
	4 officers 118 other ranks	4 officers 118 other ranks	4 officers 118 other ranks	4 officers 118 other ranks
Mortar Platoon – 4 x 3” mortars AA Platoon – 4 x Bren on tripods	4 platoons	4 platoons	4 platoons	4 platoons
	Each of 3 sections	Each of 3 sections	Each of 3 sections	Each of 3 sections
	Each cpl or l/cpl and 6 rifles	Each cpl or l/cpl and 6 rifles	Each cpl or l/cpl and 6 rifles	Each cpl or l/cpl and 6 rifles
		MG on OC’s armoured carrier Hotchkiss “token” as AT rifle	Hotchkiss “token” as AT rifle	MG on OC’s armoured carrier Hotchkiss “token” as AT rifle
All LMGs are the ZGB (not Lewis Guns). “The Bren was a licensed version of the Czechoslovak ZGB 33 light machine gun which, in turn, was a modified version of the ZB vz. 26, which British Army officials had tested during a firearms service competition in the 1930s” (Wikipedia)				

Rifle Battalions in 6th Infantry Brigade (Experimental Brigade)

From DLI Regimental Journal January 1935