

**Organization of a French
Independent Company of Char B 1 bis,
9 May 1940 (proposed)**

This company was to be established on 15 May.

Command

1 Captain (company commander)

Command Section

1 Signals NCO (Signals Section Commander)

1 motorcycle

1 Intelligence NCO

1 Paymaster (NCO)

1 Telephone Section Corporal/Chief Corporal¹

5 Telephone Operator Troopers (Chasseurs is the word used
in the document)

1 Company Commander's Tank

1 NCO

2 Corporals

4 Chasseurs²

(this includes a NCO mechanic & tank commander,
2 radio operators, one of which was a corporal,
4 mechanics, one of which was a corporal master
mechanic & 2 brevet mechanics.)

1 Char B 1 bis tank

1 All-terrain liaison vehicle (6 wheels)

1 Liaison vehicle with four seats

1 Camionette (T.2 for transport of personnel)

1 Camionette (T.5 for radio material)

2 Motorcycles with sidecars

1 Corporal

9 Drivers/Motorcyclist chasseurs (troopers)

Combat Section

1 Combat Section

3 1st or 2nd Lieutenants (1 is section commander)

1 Attached NCO

3 Mechanic Pilot NCOs (tank commanders)

3 Tanks

3 Radio Telegraphers (Corporaux/Corporaux chef,
2 could be NCOs)

3 Assistant Drivers (Corporaux/Corporaux chefs)

9 Mechanics (Chasseurs)

4 Drivers & Motorcyclists (Chasseurs)

¹ This is a translation of "Caporal/Caporal chef." The document groups these two ranks together throughout, so for simplicity sake, henceforth you will see only the English word "Corporal." It should be understood to be both ranks.

² The word for a simple soldier in the tanks is, apparently, "Chasseur," which traditionally was a light infantryman or, if called a "chasseur a cheval" a light horseman. The word "chasseur" will be used throughout, not soldier or trooper.

- b1 Supply Tractor (without fuel tank, but with fuel trailer.)
 - 1 Camionette to transport personnel and equipment
 - 1 Motorcycle
- 2 Combat Sections
 - 6 1st or 2nd Lieutenants (1 is section commander)
 - 2 Attached NCO
 - 6 Mechanic Pilot NCOs (tank commanders)
 - 6 Tanks
 - 6 Radio Telegraphers (Corporaux/Corporaux chef, 4 could be NCOs)
 - 6 Assistant Drivers (Corporaux/Corporaux chefs)
- 18 Mechanics (Chasseurs)
 - 8 Drivers & Motorcyclists (Chasseurs)
 - 2 Motorcycles
 - 2 Supply Tractors (without fuel tank, but with fuel trailer.)
 - 2 Camionettes to transport personnel and equipment

Supply Section

- 1 Section Commander (1st or 2nd Lieutenant)
- 1 Motorcyclist (chasseur)
 - 1 motorcycle

1st Group

- 1 Group Leader (1st or 2nd Lieutenant)
- 1 NCO

Supply Section

- 1 Materials NCO
 - 1 Motorcycle
- 6 Supply Corporals
- 6 Supply Chasseurs
 - 6 Supply Tractors

Tank Recovery Section

- 1 NCO
- 3 Corporals
 - 3 Motorcycles with sidecars
- 3 Chasseurs
- 1 Electrician (Chasseur)
 - 1 solo motorcycle

Shop Section:

- 2 NCOs
- 2 Corporals
- 34 Chasseurs (18 drivers, 2 radio repair, 14 artisans)
- 2 Two Trucks (Tracteurs de depannage)
- 1 Liaison Vehicle, all terrain
- 3 Camionettes
- 6 Various Camionettes
- 6 Shop Camionettes
- 1 Encoding (Crypto) Trailer
- 1 All terrain solo motorcycle
- 2 Motorcycles with side cars
- 1 Solo motorcycle

2nd Group:

- 1 Group commander & secretary (NCO)
- 1 Mess Corporal
- 3 Cooks (chasseurs)
- 1 Tailor (chasseur)
- 1 Cobbler (chasseur)
- 9 Drivers
 - 1 Camionette and Ambulance
 - 5 Tank (fuel) Trucks (camionette à citerne)
 - 1 Kitchen Truck
 - 1 Generator Truck

Source:

Letter No. 6.067 1/F.T., Grand Headquarters, signed by Major General Doumenc the Commanding Officer of Ground Forces, to the Minister of National Defense and of War, General Staff of the Army (Cabinet), dated 9 May 1940. SHAT Carton 27N24

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