

**German Army
Authorized Strength
Bicycle Rifle Company
Fortress Infantry Battalion
1 August 1944**

Staff

1 Company Commander (officer)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
1 Hauptfeldwebel (Sergeant Major)
 1 pistol & 1 bicycle
1 Company Troop Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
1 Equipment NCO
 1 rifle & 1 bicycle
1 Medical NCO
 1 pistol & 1 bicycle
1 Bicycle Messenger
 1 rifle & 1 bicycle
1 Sharpshooter NCO (not assigned originally)
 1 rifle & 1 bicycle
5 Sharpshooters (originally 6)
 5 rifles & 5 bicycles
2 Radio Operators
 2 rifles, 2 bicycles & 2 radios
4 Bicycle Repairmen (and Messengers)
 4 rifles & 4 bicycles

1st Platoon:

1 Platoon Commander (officer)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
2 Messengers
 2 rifles & 2 bicycles
1 Corpsman
 1 pistol & 1 bicycle

1st & 2nd Groups:

2 Group Leaders (NCOs)
 2 submachine guns & 2 bicycles
16 Riflemen & Machine Gunners
 12 rifles, 2 pistols, 2 submachine guns, 2 light
 machine guns & 16 bicycles

3rd Group:

1 Group Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
5 riflemen & machine gunners
 3 rifles, 1 pistol, 1 submachine gun, 1 light machine gun,
 & 5 bicycles
3 Riflemen with grenade launchers
 3 rifles & 3 bicycles

2nd Platoon:

Same as 1st, but officer replaced by NCO

3rd (Submachine gun) Platoon

1 Platoon Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
2 Messengers
 2 submachine guns & 2 bicycles

1 Corpsman
 1 pistol & 1 bicycle
1st & 2nd (Submachine Gun) Groups:
 2 Group Leaders (NCO)
 2 submachine guns & 2 bicycles
 16 Riflemen
 16 submachine guns & 16 bicycles
3rd Group:
 1 Group Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
 5 Riflemen & Machine Gunners
 4 submachine guns, 1 pistol, & 1 light machine gun
 3 Riflemen with grenade launchers
 3 rifles & 3 bicycles
4th (Heavy Machine Gun) Group:
 2 Gun Captain (NCO)
 2 submachine guns & 2 bicycles
 2 Machine Gunners
 2 pistols, 2 heavy machine guns & 2 bicycles
 8 Machine Gun Riflemen
 6 rifles, 2 pistols, & 8 bicycles
4th (Anti-Tank) Platoon
 1 Platoon Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
 1 Messenger
 1 rifle & 1 bicycle
1st Group:
 1 Group Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun & 1 bicycle
 6 Riflemen
 6 pistols, 6 R 54 Panzerbüschen & 6 bicycles
 6 Munition Handlers
 6 rifles & 6 bicycles
2nd Group:
 same as 1st Group
3rd Group:
 same as 1st Group

<u>Totals:</u>	Warrant			
	Officers	Officers	NCOs	Soldiers
Troop Command	1	-	5	12
1st Platoon	1	-	3	27
2nd Platoon	-	-	4	27
3rd Platoon	-	-	4	27
Heavy Machine Gun Group	-	-	2	10
Anti-Tank Platoon	-	-	4	37
Total Rifle Co	2	-	21	136
Total Bicycle Co	2	-	21	141

To convert the Fortress Rifle Company to a Fortress Bicycle Rifle Company the following was added:

To Heavy Machine Gun Group:

1 Horse Leader for Jf8 Infantry Cart
 1 rifle, 1 horse, 1 Jf8 Infantry Cart
1 Jf8 Infantry Cart, hand drawn

To 4th (Anti-Tank) Platoon:

3 Horse Leaders for Jf8 Infantry Cart
 3 rifle, 3 horse, 3 Jf8 Infantry Cart
3 Jf8 Infantry Carts, hand drawn

Records of Headquarters, German Army High Command, National Archives Microcopy No. T-78, Roll 391, American Historical Association Committee for the Study of War Documents, Washington, DC., 1960

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