

## Chinese Tank Divisions Mid 50's to 2012

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### Divisional Deployment

Details on this are somewhat sketchy however unusually it appears that the division deploys two tank regiments in the first echelon and one in the second. On of the battalions in the second echelon may remain uncommitted as a reserve

When advancing in fluid situations regiments will deploy a reinforced “forward detachment” formed around a tank battalion leading their remaining forces. In a more deliberate attack the regiment will fight with two battalions in the first echelon and one in the second, with perhaps a company in reserve

It appears that mech inf battalions are attached to tank regiments, companies may them be further allocated to tank battalions, though this is unclear

In general the forward detachments and first echelon units are heavily reinforced with divisional and regimental assets and the expense of 2<sup>nd</sup> echelon and reserve formations. Artillery, even attached artillery from higher formations is pushed down to support the leading battalions, certainly until the 90's this was done on a per battery basis with little effort to mass fires except in deliberate assaults. During the 90's Chinese fire control became increasingly sophisticated and digitised allowing greater flexibility and massing of fires

### Tank Division late 50's & 1960's

#### DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Gaz-69

#### 2-3 Tank Regiments (50's)

##### RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Gaz-67 Jeep

##### HQ Company

- 1 Infantry Stand
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 2 Trucks

##### 1 Recce Platoon

- Recce PT-76 / Type 60

##### 1 Tank Company

- 1 Command T-34/85
- 1 T-34
- 1 JS-2 (attached)

##### 1 Tank Company

- 1 Command T-34/85
- 1 T-34
- 1 SU-100 (attached)

##### 2 Tank Companies

- 1 Command T-34/85
- 1 T-34

##### 1 Artillery Company

- 1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Truck towed ZiS-3 – RHQ call 1-5

**OR** (mid 60's)

**RHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Gaz-69 Jeep

**HQ Company**

1 Infantry Stand

1 Engineer Stand

2 Trucks

**1 Recce Platoon**

1 Recce PT-76, Type 60 or Type 63

**3 Tank Battalions**

1 Command Type59 or T-34/85

4 Type 59 or T-34/85

**1 Mechanised Infantry Regiment**

**RHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Gaz-69 Jeep

**3 Mechanised Battalions**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 55

**3 Mechanised Companies**

1 Command Infantry Stand (Type 51 57mm RCL)

1 Infantry Stand

1 MMG Stand (*attached*)

3 Type 55

**1 Support Company**

1 Type 53 82mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-5*

1 Type 52 75mm RCL Stand

2 Gaz-69

**1 Regimental “Special Duty” Company (Recce)**

2 Recce Infantry Stands

2 Type 56

**0-1 Tank Company (50's)**

1 Command T-34/85

1 T-34/85

**0-1 Tank battalion (mid 60's)**

1 Command Type59 or T-34/85

4 Type 59 or T-34/85

**1 Mortar Battery**

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Type 56 120mm Mortar Stand – *RHQ call 1-5*

2 Trucks

**1 AT Battery**

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Truck

1 Truck Towed Type 56 85mm AT gun

**1 AA Battery**

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Truck

1 Truck towed Type 55 37mm AA

**1 Artillery Regiment**

**RHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 GaZ-69

**3 Howitzer Battalions**

1 Command Infantry Stand (staff)

3 122mm Type 54 Howitzers – *see below for calling*

4 Trucks

**1 Engineer Battalion**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Gaz-69

**3 Engineer Companies**

1 Command Engineer Stand

2 Engineer Stands

3 Trucks

**1 AA Battalion**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Gaz-69

**AAMGs**

3 Type 56/58 14.5mm AA Gun

3 Trucks

**Cannon**

3 Type 65 twin 37mm or Type 59 57mm AA Gun

3 Trucks

**Notes**

- 1) Sources are sparse on the early Chinese armoured divisions, so many of the details are estimated
- 2) There were initially 2 tanks regiments climbing to three in the mid 60's
- 3) The Type 59's arrived in the early top mid 60's
- 4) With the early regiments one artillery battalion is attached to each tank rest and to the mech regt – RHQ can call all three guns on a 1-5. When the unit expands to three tank regts the guns are attached to the tank regts

**Tank Division 1970's**

**DHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 62 or 77

**3 Tank Regiments**

**RHQ**

1 Command Type 59

**HQ Company**

1 Engineer Stand

1 NBC Stand

1 Infantry Stand

3 Trucks

**3 Tank Battalions**

**BHQ**

1 Command Type 59

**3 Companies**

2 Type 59

**1 Recce Platoon**

1 Recce Type 63

1 Recce M/C Infantry Stand

**1 Mechanised Regiment**

**RHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 62 or 77

**HQ Company**

1 NBC Stand

1 Truck

## **2 Mechanised Battalions**

### **BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 62 or 77

### **3 Mechanised Companies**

1 Command Infantry Stand (Type 56 75mm RCL)

1 Infantry Stand

2 Type 63 or 77

### **1 Support Company**

1 Type 67 82mm Mortar Stand –*any cmd call 1-5*

1 BJ-212 mounted Type 65 82mm RCL Stand

1 Trucks

### **1 Motorised Battalion**

As above but Trucks replace APC

### **1 Regimental Mortar Company**

1 Type 67 82mm Mortar Stand – *attach to one mech battalion where any cmd call 1-5*

1 Truck

### **1 Regimental AT Company**

2 Type 65 82mm RCL Stands

2 Trucks

### **OR**

2 BJ-212 carrying Type 75 105mm RCL

### **1 Regimental “Special Duty” Company (Recce)**

2 Recce Infantry Stands

2 Type 63 or 77

### **1 Regimental AAMG Company**

1 AAHMG Stand

1 Truck

## **1 Artillery Regiment**

### **RHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 BJ-212 Jeep

### **1 Mortar Battalion**

1 Command Infantry Stand

2 Type 64 120mm Mortar Stands – *attach each to different tank battalion where any cmd call 1-5*

3 Trucks

### **1 Howitzer Battalion**

1 Command Infantry Stand

3 122mm Type 54 Howitzers – *attach each to different tank battalion where any cmd call 1-5*

4 Trucks

### **OR**

1 Command Infantry Stand (staff)

1 Type 63

3 Type 70 SP 122mm – *general support, any RHQ or DHQ call 1-5*

### **1 AT Battalion**

1 Command Infantry Stand

4 76mm Type 54, 85mm Type 56 or 100mm Type 59/73 AT Gun

5 Trucks

## **1 Engineer Battalion**

### **BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 BJ-212 Jeep

### **3 Engineer Companies**

1 Command Engineer Stand

2 Engineer Stands

3 Trucks

## **1 AA Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BJ-212 Jeep

**AAMGs**

- 3 Type 56/58 14.5mm AA Gun
- 3 Trucks

**Cannon**

- 3 Type 65 twin 37mm or Type 59 57mm AA Gun
- 3 Trucks

**1 Recce Company**

- 2 Recce Type 63

**1 NBC Company**

- 1 Command NBC Stand
- 1 NBC Stand
- 2 Trucks

**Notes**

- 1) ALL command stands are considered joint
- 2) The units of the mechanised regiments do not have integral APC's & Trucks. There are 11 APC's and 11 Trucks in a transport company. The allocation above is educated guesswork, so feel free to juggle the transport assets around.
- 3) The Type 73 100mm did not enter service until the mid 70's
- 4) The Type 69 RPG entered service in 1972, before this date the infantry used the Type 56.

**Tank Division 1980's****DHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV

**3 Tank Regiments****RHQ**

- 1 Command MBT

**HQ Company**

- 1 ARV
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 NBC Stand
- 2 Trucks

**3 Tank Battalions**

- 1 Command MBT
- 4 MBT

**1 Recce Company**

- 2 Recce Infantry Stand
- 2 Type 63 or 77
- 1 Recce M/C Infantry Stand

**1 Mechanised Infantry Regiment****RHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV

**HQ Company**

- 1 NBC Stand
- 1 Truck

**3 Mechanised Battalions****BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 63 or 77

**3 Companies**

- 1 Command Infantry Stands (Type 65 RCL)
- 1 Infantry Stands
- 2 Type 63 or 77

**Support Company**

- 1 Type 67/84 82mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-6*
- 1 BJ-212 mounted Type 78 82mm RCL Stand
- 1 Truck

**1 Regimental Mortar Company**

- 1 Type 67/84 82mm Mortar Stand – *BHQ or RHQ call 1-6*
- 1 Truck

**1 Regimental AT Company**

- 2 BJ-212
- 2 HJ-73 ATGW Stand

**OR**

- 2 BJ-212 carrying Type 75 105mm RCL

**1 AAMG Company**

- 1 AAHMG Stand
- 1 Truck

**1 Artillery Regiment**

**RHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BJ-212 Jeep

**1 Mortar Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Type 64 or 86 120mm Mortar Stands – *attach each to different tank battalion where any cmd call 1-6*
- 3 Trucks

**1 Howitzer Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 3 122mm Type 54 or 85 Howitzers – *attach each to different tank battalion where any cmd call 1-6*
- 4 Trucks

**OR**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV
- 3 Type 70 or 85 SP 122mm – *each to different tank battalion where any cmd call 1-5*

**1 AT Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 4 76mm Type 54, 85mm Type 55 or 100mm Type 59/73 AT Gun
- 5 Trucks

**OR**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 BJ-212
- 4 BJ-212 HJ8 ATGW

**OR**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 BJ-212
- 4 HJ-73 Stands
- 4 BJ-212

**1 Engineer Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BJ-212 Jeep

**3 Engineer Companies**

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 Trucks

**1 AA Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand

1 BJ-212 Jeep

**AAMGs**

3 Type 56/58 14.5mm AA Gun

3 Trucks

**Cannon**

3 37mm or 57mm AA Gun

3 Trucks

**1 Recce Battalion**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 63 or 77

**1 Tank Company**

1 Command Type 63 Light Tank

1 Type 63 Light Tank

**1 Mechanised Company**

2 Recce Infantry Stands

2 Type 63 or 77

**1 Guard Company**

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Infantry Stand

1 Medium Truck

**1 NBC Company**

1 Command NBC Stand

1 NBC stand

2 Trucks

**Notes**

- 1) At the start of the 80's the following tanks were available: Type 59 and Type 59-I (with Laser Ranging). The Type 69, and Type 69I may have been in service, the in service dates for this tank are unclear. The Type 69III (aka Type 79) was available in the early 80's. The Type 59I became available c1984.
- 2) The HJ-8 became available in 1985, the 100mm Type 86 became available in 1986.
- 3) In the late 80's the 120mm mortar battalion was replaced by a Type 83 152mm SP Battalion and an MRL battalion was added. The artillery regiment at the end of the 80's would have been similar to that of the 90's tank division below.

**Tank Division 1990's**

**DHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 Type 81 ACV

**3 Tank Regiments**

**RHQ**

1 Command MBT

**HQ Company**

1 Type 84 ARV

1 Engineer Stand

1 NBC Stand

2 Trucks

**3 Tank Battalions**

**BHQ**

1 Command MBT

**3 Companies**

1 Command MBT

1 MBT

**1 Recce Company**

- 2 Recce Infantry Stand
- 2 Type 63 or 85
- 1 Recce M/C Infantry Stand

**1 Mechanised Infantry Regiment**

**RHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV

**HQ Company**

- 1 NBC Stand
- 1 Trucks

**3 Mechanised Battalions**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Type 63 or 85

**3 Companies**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (Type 65 RCL)
- 1 Infantry Stands
- 2 Type 63 or 85

**Support Company**

- 1 Type 84 82mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-7*
- 1 Type 63 or 85
- 1 HJ-73 ATGW Stand
- 1 BJ-212

**OR**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Type 86

**3 Companies**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (Type 65 RCL)
- 1 Infantry Stands
- 2 Type 86

**Support Company**

- 1 Type 84 82mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-7*
- 1 Type 63 or 85

**1 Artillery Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BJ-212 Car

**1 Mortar Company**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Type 86 120mm Mortar Stand – *attach to one mech battalion each where any cmd call 1-7*
- 3 Trucks

**1 Howitzer Company**

- 1 Type 54 or 85 122mm – *BHQ or RHQ call 1-7*
- 1 Truck

**1 MRL Company**

- 1 Type 63/70/82/85 130mm MRL – *BHQ or RHQ call 1-7*

**1 AT Company**

- 2 BJ-212 carrying Type 75 105mm RCL

**1 AT Company**

- 2 BJ-212 HJ8 ATGW

**OR**

- 2 HJ-73 Stands
- 2 BJ-212

**1 Artillery Regiment**

**RHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV

**1 Howitzer Battalion**



- 1 Type 81 ACV
- 1 Command Infantry Stand (Staff)
- 3 Type 83 152mm SP – *general support any RHQ & DHQ can call all guns 1-5*

**1 Howitzer Battalion**

- 1 Type 81 ACV
- 1 Command Infantry Stand (Staff)
- 3 Type 70/85/89 SP 122mm – *attached one each to each battalion in tank regt. HQ in battalion may call "their" gun on a 1-7, all 3 guns on a 1-5*

**1 MRL Battalion**

- 1 Type 81 ACV (Staff)
- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 3 Type 89 122mm MRL (Staff) – *general support any RHQ & DHQ can call all MRL 1-5*

**1 AT Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 BJ-212
- 5 HJ-73 stands
- 5 BJ-212 HJ73

**OR**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 BJ-212
- 5 BJ-212 HJ8

**1 AA Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Van
- 4 Truck Towed Type 90 35mm AA

**OR**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Van
- 4 Truck towed Type 74 Twin 37mm AA

**1 Recce Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 63 or 85

**1 Tank Company**

- 1 Command Type 63 (ZTS 63)
- 1 Type 63 (ZTS 63)

**OR**

- 1 Command MBT
- 1 MBT

**1 Mechanised Company**

- 2 Recce Infantry Stands
- 2 Type 63 or 85

**1 Guard Company**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Infantry Stand
- 1 Medium Truck

**1 NBC Company**

- 1 Command NBC Stand
- 1 NBC stand
- 2 Trucks

**Notes**

- 1) The Type 96 (aka Type 88C) was introduced in 1997. The Type 88B was upgraded with TI in 2000
- 2) The Type 65 and 75 RCL were both being replaced by the PF 98 105mm at the end of the decade. The in the late 1990's the PF 89 replaces the Type 69 RPG.
- 3) The recce company started to replace Type 63 with MBT a some, as yet unclear, time in the 90's
- 4) The BJ-2020 started replacing the BJ-212.

- 5) The artillery regiment is the “best possible”. Divisions with older tanks had towed artillery with older MRLS

### Armoured Division 2000's

#### DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 99 ACV

#### 3 Tank Regiments

##### RHQ

- 1 Command MBT

##### HQ Company

- 1 Type 84 ARV
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 Truck

##### 1 Recce Company

- 1 Recce Type 93 (ZZC01) carrying ASN 15 UAV

##### OR

- 2 Type 63 or 89
- 2 Recce Infantry Stands

#### 3 Tank Battalions

##### BHQ

- 1 Command MBT

##### 0-1 HQ Company *(not always present)*

- 1 Type 95/04 SPAAG - *attached*

##### 3 Companies

- 1 Command MBT
- 1 MBT

#### 1 Mechanised Battalion

##### BHQ

- 1 Command Stand

##### 0-1 HQ Company *(not always present)*

- 1 Type 95/04 SPAAG - *attached*

##### 3 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (PF-98 RCL)
- 1 Infantry Stand
- 6 Type 63, 89 or 86A

##### Weapons Company

- 1 Type 84 82mm or Type 89 100mm Mortar Stand
- 1 PF-98 RCL stand
- 1 Type 87 Auto GL stand
- 2 Type 63 or 89 APC

#### 1 Howitzer Battalion

- 1 Command Type 81 or 04 ACV

- 3 Type 89 SP 122mm – *one assigned to each tank bttn. Any HQ in bttn call 1-7, call all three guns 1-5*

#### 1 Artillery Regiment

##### RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 or 04 ACV

##### 1 Heavy Howitzer Battalion

- 1 Command Type 81 or 04 ACV (staff)

- 3 Type 83 152mm SP – *general support any RHQ & DHQ can call all MRL 1-5*

##### 1 Light Howitzer Battalion

- 1 Command Type 81 or 04 ACV (staff)

- 3 Type 89 122mm SP - *one assigned to each tank bttn in reinforced reg. Any HQ in bttn call 1-7, call all three guns 1-5*

##### 1 MRL Battalion

- 1 Command Type 81 or 04 ACV (staff)

- 3 Type 90 122mm MRL – *general support any RHQ & DHQ can call all MRL 1-5*

**1 AT Battalion**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 BJ-2020
- 5 BJ-2020 + HJ8

**OR**

- 1 Command Type 89 (ZDF)
- 4 Type 89 (ZDF)

**OR**

- 1 Command Type 02B
- 4 Type 02B

**1 AA Regiment**

**RHQ**

- 1 Command Truck mounted EW Radar

**3 AA Battalions**

- 1 Command Truck mounted EW Radar
- 2 Truck towed Type 90/99 Twin 35mm AA

**OR 1 AA Battalion**

- 1 Command Van
- 3 Truck towed Type 74 Twin 37mm AA

**1 Engineer Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BJ-2020

**3 Engineer Companies**

- 1 Command Engineer Stands
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 Trucks

**1 Recce Battalion**

**BHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Type 81 ACV

**1 Tank Company**

- 1 Command MBT
- 1 MBT

**1 Armoured Company**

- 2 Recce Infantry Stands
- 2 Type 63 or 89 APC

**0-1 Technical Recce Company**

- 1 Command Type 93 (ZZC02) with LLP 33 GSR
- 1 Recce Type 93 (ZZC01) carrying ASN 15 UAV

**1 NBC Company**

- 2 NBC Stands
- 2 Trucks

**Notes**

1) As of 2003 the following armoured divisions were in service

**1ZS<sup>1</sup>** – Tienjing. All regiments have Type 59B. APC is unknown. Has another battalion of Type 83 in lieu of the 122mm.

**2ZS** - Xuzhou/Jiangsu. Not much known beyond the fact that it has one regiment of Type 88B and two of Type 59.

**3ZS** - Siping/Liaoning. One regiment of Type 79, two regiments of Type 59B or D. All APC are Type 86A. The AA regiment may still be towed, equipment unknown.

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<sup>1</sup> This is the standard Chinese abbreviation for an armoured division. Z indicated armoured, S indicates division

**4ZS** – Beijing. One regiment has Type 98, the other two Type 88B. All APCs are Type 86A. The AT battalion has 5 Type 89 120mm SPG.

**6ZS** – Beijing. All regiments have Type 88B MBT. All MICVs are Type 86 with Type 89 in the weapons companies

**8ZS** – Weifang. All regiment have Type 79 MBT and Type 63 APC. There is some evidence to suggest that the division has acquired a battalion of Type 98.

**10ZS** – Suzhou. This is a specialist unit as much of its equipment is amphibious. One regiment is equipped with Type 88B MBT and Type 86A APC; one is equipped with Type 63A amphibious tanks and Type 63C APC and one is equipped with Type 63 amphibious tanks and Type-77II APCs. There is some evidence to suggest that the Type 99 amphibious tank started to enter service with the division.

**11ZS** - Xinyang/Henan. All tanks are Type 59I, APCs are Type 86A. The Type 59 are being replaced with Type 88C (aka Type 96)

**12ZS** - Jiuquan/Gansu. One regiment of Type 88A and two of Type 59.

- 2) The first Type 98 battalion entered service in late 2001.
- 3) The Type 88 SPAAG was in service in very limited numbers, one stand served in 6ZS
- 4) In the mechanised battalion's weapons company the GL and RCL travel in the same APC
- 5) The artillery regiment is the "best possible". Divisions with older tanks had towed artillery with older MRLS
- 6) Starting in 2009 the divisions were progressively broken up in to an armoured and mechanised brigade apiece, in 2012 only 6ZS survived. It may be that it will not be broken in to brigades. It received Type 05 155mm SP's to replace the older 152's in 2012
- 7) In 2009 before they were mostly disbanded the division were equipped with the following MBTs

Div	Regt	MBT	Regt	MBT	Regt	MBT
<b>1ZS</b>	1ZT <sup>2</sup>	Type 59B	2ZT	Type 59B	3ZT	Type 59B
<b>2ZS</b>	5ZT	Type 96	6ZT	Type 59D	7ZT	Type 96A
<b>3ZS</b>	9ZT	Type 99	10ZT	Type 59B	12ZT	Type 59
<b>4ZS</b>	13ZT	Type 59	14ZT	Type 59	15ZT	Type 59
<b>6ZS</b>	21ZT	Type 88B	22ZT	Type 88B	24ZT	Type 88B
<b>8ZS</b>	29ZT	Type 79	30ZT	Type 79	31ZT	Type 79
<b>10ZS</b>	37ZT	Type 96A	38ZT	Type 59D	39ZT	Type 96A
<b>11ZS</b>	42ZT	Type 59	43ZT	Type 59	44ZT	Type 59
<b>12ZS</b>	45ZT	Type 59	46ZT	Type 59	47ZT	Type 96A

### Armoured Brigade 2010's

#### Brigade HQ

1 Command Stand

1 ACV

#### 4 Tank Battalions

##### BHQ

1 Command MBT

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<sup>2</sup> This is the standard Chinese abbreviation for an armoured regiment. Z indicated armoured, T indicates regiment

**0-1 HQ Company** (*not always present*)

1 Type 95/04 SPAAG - *attached*

**3 Companies**

1 Command MBT

1 MBT

**1-2 Mechanised Battalions**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

**0-1 HQ Company** (*not always present*)

1 Type 95/04 SPAAG - *attached*

**3 Companies**

1 Command Infantry Stand (PF-98 RCL)

1 Infantry Stand

6 APC/MICV

**Weapons Company**

1 Type 89 100mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-7*

1 PF-89 RCL stand

1 Type 87 Auto GL stand

2 APC

**OR**

1 Type 05A (PLZ 05A) 120mm Mortar – *any cmd call 1-7*

1 PF-98 RCL stand

1 Type 87 Auto GL stand

1 Type 08 (ZDS 08)

**1 Howitzer Battalion**

1 Command ArCV

3 Type 89 or Type 07A SP 122mm – *assigned one each to a tank btn. Any cmd within btn call 1-7. call at three guns 1-5*

**1 Engineer/NBC Battalion**

**BHQ**

1 Command Stand

1 BJ-2020 or EQ2050

**1 Engineer Company**

1 Command Engineer Stand

2 Engineer Stands

3 Trucks

**1 NBC Company**

1 Command NBC Stand

1 NBC Stand

2 Trucks

**1 Technical Recce Company**

1 Command Type 93 (ZZC02) with LLP 33 GSR

1 Recce Type 93 (ZZC01) carrying ASN 15 UAV

**Notes**

- 1) Although all brigades are planned to have a second Mech Battalion many have been slow to receive them
- 2) The Engineer/NBC battalion's structure is little more than guesswork
- 3) The equipment can run through the whole gamut of the PLA tank inventory MBT: Type 59A, Type 59D, Type 79, Type 88B, Type 96, Type 96A or Type 99. APC/MICV: Type 63, 86, 89, 04, 08 (both APC & MICV). ACV (ZZZ): Type 81, 89 or 08. ArCV (ZZZ) Type 63, 81 or 08. Some mech inf battalions will still be organised as those in the armoured division list; those with older APC's
- 4) Armoured brigades in 2012 were equipped as follows. Unless otherwise noted SP 122mm are Type 89.

**2ZU<sup>3</sup>**: MBT: Type 96, APC Type 89

**3ZU**: MBT: Type 99, MICV Type 04, supports Type 89 (ZSD)

**4ZU**: MBT: Type 59A, APC: Type 63. Has no SPAAG but an AA bttn with Type 74 twin 37mm (see division list above)

**8ZU**: MBT: Type 79, APC: Type 63

**9ZU**: Light Tank: Type 62, APC Type 63

**10ZU**: MBT: Type 96A, MICV: Type 86

**11ZU**: MBT: Type 59, APC: Type 63

**12ZU**: MBT: Type 96A. APC Type 63 (?), SPG: Type 07A

**13ZU**: MBT: Type 99, MICV: Type 86

**15ZU**: Light Tank: Type 62, APC Type 63

**16ZU**: Light Tank: Type 62, APC Type 63

**17ZU**: MBT: Type 59D, MICV: Type 86D

**18ZU**: MBT: Type 59D, MICV: Type 86D, supports Type 89 (ZSD). Has no SPAAG but an AA bttn with Type 74 twin 37mm (see division list above)

**27ZU**: MBT: Type 96A, MICV: Type 04, supports Type 89 (ZSD)

#### **Refs:**

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DIA Handbook of Chinese Forces 1984

[www.sinodefence.com](http://www.sinodefence.com)

[www.china-defence.com](http://www.china-defence.com)

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<sup>3</sup> This is the standard Chinese abbreviation for an armoured brigade. Z indicated armoured, U indicates brigade