

AN ARMY TANK BATTALION

Consisting of –
 Battalion headquarters
 Headquarters squadron of –
 Headquarters
 Intercommunication troop
 Administrative troop
 Three squadrons each of –
 Headquarters
 Fighting portion
 Administrative portion
 Five troops

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

(i) Summary_of ranks

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarters squadron				Three squadrons (each)					Total, army tank battalion
		Headquarters	Intercommunication troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarters squadron	Headquarters			Five troop (each)	Total, squadron	
						Fighting portion	Administrative portion	Total, headquarters			
Lieutenant-colonel	1										1
Major (second-in-command)	1										1
Majors		1			1	1	1		1		4
Captain (adjutant)	1										1
Captain (quartermaster)				1	1						1
Captains		1		1	2	1	1		1		5
Lieutenant (technical officer)				1	1						1
Lieutenant (intelligence officer)	1										1
Lieutenants			1		1	1	1	1	1	6	19
Total, officers	4	2	1	3	6	3	3	1	8		34
Regimental sergeant-major	1										1
Regimental quartermaster-sergeant				1	1						1
Squadron sergeant-majors		1			1	1			1		4
Mechanist quartermaster-sergeant				1	1						1
Quartermaster-sergeant (technical)				1	1						1
Total, warrant officers	1	1		3	4	1	1		1		8
Squadron quartermaster-sergeants				1	1		1	1		1	4
Mechanist sergeants							1	1		1	3
Provost sergeant				1	1						1
Signal sergeant				1	1						1
Transport sergeant				1	1						1
Sergeant clerks				(a)2	2						2
Sergeant cook				1	1						1
Sergeant, officers' mess				1	1						1
Sergeant, technical storeman				1	1						1
Sergeants	2		1	1	2	1	2	3	1	8	28

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarters squadron				Three squadrons (each)					Total, army tank battalion
		Headquarters	Intercommunication troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarters squadron	Headquarters			Five troop (each)	Total, squadron	
						Fighting portion	Administrative portion	Total, headquarters			
Total, staff-sergeants and sergeants	2		1	10	11	1	4	5	1	10	43
Corporals	3		1	7	8	1	6	7	2	17	62
Troopers	6	1	2	58	61	3	49	52	5	77	298
Drivers, M.T.	3	2	13	15	30	3	16	19	3	34	135
Total, rank and file	12	3	16	80	99	7	71	73	10	128	495
Total, other ranks	15	4	17	93	114	9	75	84	11	139	546
Total, all ranks	19	6	18	96	120	12	75	87	12	147	(b)580
<u>Attached –</u>											
A.A.M.C. –											
Captain				1	1						1
Corporal				1	1						1
A.A.O.C. –											
Armourer (staff-serjeant)				1	1						1
Armourer (corporal)				1	1						1
Postal services –											
Corporal				1	1						1
Total, all ranks including attached	19	6	18	101	125	12	75	87	12	147	585
(ii) Distribution of rank and file by trades and duties											
<u>Trade group I</u>											
Electricians				1	1		1	1		1	4
Fitters				(c)1	1		(c)4	4		4	13
<u>Trade group II</u>											
Carpenter and joiner				1	1						1
Cooks				(c)3	3		(c)3	3		3	12
Driver-operators	3			4	4	3	(c)16	19	3	34	109
Intelligence duties	(c)1						1	1		1	4
Mechanics, M.V.				(c)2	2		4	4		4	14
<u>Trade group III</u>											
Butcher				1	1						1
Clerks		1		(c)6	7		2	2		2	13
Driver-mechanics	(c)4		2	(c)5	7		(c)11	11	3	26	89
Equipment repairer				1	1						1
Technical storemen				(c)3	3		(c)1	1		1	6
<u>Non specialists</u>											
Batmen				12	12		8	8		8	36
General dutymen for messes				3	3						3
Motor cyclist orderlies				(d)17	17						17
Sanitary dutymen				2	2		1	1		1	5
Storemen				2	2		1	1		1	5
Water dutymen				1	1		1	1		1	4
Drivers, M.T.	(c)4	2	(c)14	15	31	(c)4	(c)17	21	4	41	158
Total, rank and file	12	3	16	80	99	7	71	78	10	128	495
(iii) Transport											
Motor cycles				19	19						19

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarters squadron				Three squadrons (each)					Total, army tank battalion
		Headquarters	Intercommunication troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarters squadron	Headquarters			Five troop (each)	Total, squadron	
						Fighting portion	Administrative portion	Total, headquarters			
Cars, D.S.	1										1
Trucks, 15-cwt., –											
G.S.				3	3						3
Office unit				1	1						1
Personnel				2	2		2	2		2	8
Wireless		2			2						2
Trucks, 3-ton –											
G.S.				8	8		6	6		6	26
Stores				1	1		1	1		1	4
Water				1	1		1	1		1	4
Scout cars			9		9						9
Carriers, T.C.P.				2	2		3	3		3	11
Carriers, T.C.P., slave battery	1						1	1		1	4
Tanks, close support 'I'						2		2		2	6
Tanks 'I'	4					1		1	3	16	52
Total vehicle (excluding motor cycles)	6	2	9	18	29	3	14	17	3	32	131

(iv) Organization

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Car, D.S.		Corporal, driver, M.T. Driver, M.T. Spare seats	
Carrier, T.C.P., slave battery		Driver-mechanic Driver, M.T.	
Tank, 'I'	1	Lieutenant-colonel Sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Tank, 'I'	2	Major (second-in-command) Regimental sergeant-major Corporal, driver-mechanic <i>Signalman, Aust. Corps of Signals</i>	
Tank, 'I'	3	Captain (adjutant) Sergeant Driver-operator Driver, M.T.	
Tank, 'I'	4	Intelligence officer Intelligence corporal Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
<i>Total</i>		<i>Weapons</i>	
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Pistols</i>	11
<i>Officer</i>	1	<i>Rifles</i>	4
<i>Other ranks</i>	17	<i>Sub-machine guns</i>	4

HEADQUARTER SQUADRON

Squadron headquarters

Truck, 15-cwt., wireless		Major	
		Squadron sergeant-major	
		Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 15-cwt., wireless		Captain	
		Driver, M.T.	
		Clerk	
		<i>Signalman, Aust Corps of Signals</i>	
<i>Total</i>			
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Weapons</i>	
<i>Officers</i>	2	<i>Pistols</i>	3
<i>Other ranks</i>	4	<i>Rifles</i>	3
		Intercommunication troop	
Scout car	1	Lieutenant	
		Driver-mechanic	
		L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds	
Scout car	1	Sergeant	
		Driver-mechanic	
		L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds	
Scout car	1	Corporal, driver, M.T.	
		Driver, M.T.	
		L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds	
Scout cars	4 to 9 (each)	2 drivers, M.T.	
		L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds	
<i>Total</i>			
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Weapons</i>	
<i>Officer</i>	1	<i>Pistols</i>	9
<i>Other ranks</i>	17	<i>Rifles</i>	9
		<i>L.M.Gs.</i>	9
		Administrative troop	
Motor cycle	1	Provost sergeant	
Motor cycle	2	Corporal, motor cyclist-orderly	
Motor-cycles	3 to 18 (each)	Motor cyclist-orderly	
Motor-cycle	19	Captain (squadron second-in-command)	
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	1	Quartermaster	
		Corporal, driver-mechanic	
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	2	Lieutenant (technical officer)	
		Mechanist quartermaster-sergeant	
		Corporal mechanic, M.V.	
		Batman	
		Driver-mechanic	
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	3	Transport sergeant	
		3 batmen	
		Driver-mechanic	
		L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds	
		A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds	
Truck, 15-cwt., office		Signal sergeant	
		Sergeant clerk	
		Corporal clerk	
		Driver, M.T.	
		Office equipment	
Truck, 15-cwt., personnel	1	Sergeant, officers' mess cook	
		General dutyman officers' mess	
		Driver, M.T.	
		Officers' mess equipment	
Truck, 15-cwt., personnel	2	Butcher	
		2 general dutymen officers' mess	
		Driver, M.T.	
		Officers' mess and baggage and rations	

Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	1 Medical officer Corporal, A.A.M.C. Batman Driver, M.T. Medical stores
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	2 Regimental quartermaster-sergeant Quartermaster-sergeant (technical) 4 clerks 4 batmen Technical storeman Driver-mechanic L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	3 Sergeant cook Corporal cook Cook Driver, M.T. Cooking sets
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	4 2 drivers, M.T. Petrol
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	5 Sergeant technical storeman Technical storeman Sanitary dutyman Driver-mechanic Reserve M.T. stores
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	6 Squadron quartermaster-sergeant Storeman Clerk 3 batmen Driver, M.T. Ammunition
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	7 Staff-sergeant armourer, A.A.O.C. Corporal armourer, A.A.O.C. Carpenter and joiner Sanitary dutyman Driver, M.T. L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	8 Sergeant storeman Corporal postal services Equipment repairer Storeman Driver, M.T. Baggage and blankets L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk rifle and 200 rounds
Truck 3-ton, stores	Corporal fitter Corporal technical storeman Mechanic, M.V. Electrician Driver, M.T. Stores and fitters tools L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds
Truck, 3-ton, water	Water dutyman Driver, M.T.
Carrier, T.C.P.	Driver, M.T. 4 driver-operators (relief) Driver, M.T. relief)
Carrier, T.C.P. (for use of medical officer in battle)	Driver, M.T.

Left at the base		Sergeant clerk	
<i>Total</i>			
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Weapons</i>	
<i>Officers</i>	4	<i>Pistols</i>	40
<i>Other ranks</i>	96	<i>Rifles</i>	59
		<i>L.M.Gs.</i>	5
		<i>A.Tk. rifles</i>	5

THREE SQUADRONS EACH

Squadron headquarters

Fighting portion

Tank, close support "I"	1	Major Sergeant Driver-operator Driver, M.T.	
Tank, close support "I"	2	Captain (second-in-command) Squadron sergeant-major Driver-operator Driver, M.T.	
Tank, "I"		Lieutenant Corporal driver, M.T. Driver-operator Driver, M.T.	

<i>Total</i>		<i>Weapons</i>	
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Pistols</i>	9
<i>Officers</i>	3	<i>Sub-machine guns</i>	3
<i>Other ranks</i>	9		

Administrative portion

Truck, 15-cwt., personnel	1	Squadron quartermaster-sergeant Corporal, driver, M.T. Batman	
Truck, 15-cwt., personnel	1	3 batmen Driver, M.T. Officers' mess equipment L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	1	Corporal fitter Sanitary dutyman Batman Driver, M.T. Ammunition	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	2	Electrician Mechanic, M.V. Driver, M.T. Petrol L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds A.Tk. rifle and 200 rounds	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	3	2 drivers, M.T. Petrol	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	4	Sergeant Driver, M.T. Reliefs for tanks – Corporal driver-operator 11 driver-operators Corporal driver-mechanic 2 driver-mechanics 2 drivers, M.T.	

Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	5	Storeman 2 clerks 2 batmen Trooper, intelligence duties Driver, M.T Baggage and blankets		
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	6	Corporal cook 2 cooks Batman Driver, M.T. Cooking sets and rations		
Truck, 3-ton, stores		Mechanist sergeant Corporal technical storeman 2 fitters 3 mechanics, M.V. Driver, M.T. Stores and fitter's tools		
Truck, 3-ton, water		Water dutyman Driver, M.T.		
Carrier, T.C.P.	1	Fitter Driver-mechanic Relief for tanks 2 driver-operators 2 driver-mechanics Ammunition		
Carrier, T.C.P.	2	Driver-mechanic Relief for tanks 2 driver-operators 2 driver-mechanics Ammunition		
Carrier, T.C.P.	3	Sergeant Driver-mechanic Relief for tanks 2 driver-mechanics Driver, M.T.		
Carrier, T.C.P. slave battery		Driver-mechanic Driver, M.T.		
<i>Total</i>				
<i>Personnel</i>				
<i>Other ranks</i>	75			
		<i>Weapons</i>		
		<i>Pistols</i>		37
		<i>Rifles</i>		38
		<i>L.M.Gs.</i>		2
		<i>A.Tk. rifles</i>		2
		Five troops (each)		
Tank "I"	1	Lieutenant Driver-operator Corporal driver-mechanic Driver, M.T.		
Tank "I"	2	Sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic Driver, M.T.		
Tank "I"	3	Corporal driver, M.T. Driver-operator Driver-mechanic Driver, M.T.		
<i>Total</i>				
<i>Personnel</i>				
<i>Officer</i>	1			9
<i>Other ranks</i>	11			3
		<i>Weapons</i>		
		<i>Pistols</i>		
		<i>Sub-machine guns</i>		

(v) Table of weapons and ammunition

Detail	Number	Ammunition – rounds		
		On man or with gun	Reserve	Total
Pistols, .455-inch	336	12	2,016	6,048
Rifles, .303-inch	189	50	10,000	19,450
Sub-machine guns	58	200	23,200	34,800
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	11	1,000	5,500	16,500
A.Tk. rifles, .55-inch	11	200	440	2,640
Scout cars				
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	9	700	5,000	11,300

- (a) One will be attached to L. of C. Area Records Office, The N.C.O. selected for this appointment may be unfit for general service
- (b) At least 1 officer, 2 N.C.Os., and 12 men will be trained in anti-gas duties and decontamination work. Two men per squadron will be trained in first aid and 1 man to repair boots as a part time employment
- (c) Includes, or is , a corporal

NOTES ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS AND ATTACHED

Details left at base –

<i>Sergeant clerk</i>	1
<i>First reinforcements –</i>	
Lieutenants	6
Warrant officer class II	1
Sergeants	4
Rank and file (including 4 corporals)	51
Includes	
Fitters (trade group I)	2
Cooks (trade group II)	2
Driver-operators (trade group II)	12
Mechanics, M.V. (trade group II)	2
Driver-mechanics (trade group III)	9
Drivers, M.T.	17
Total	<u>62</u>

Attached –

Signal Section – See W.E. of Armoured Divisional Signals in Vol. I

Light Aid Detachment – See W.E. of Light Aid Detachment, Type B in Vol. I