

(Notified in G.R.Os. dated 11th June, 1943)

**A TANK BATTALION**

Consisting of –

- Battalion headquarters
- Headquarter squadron of –
  - Squadron headquarters
  - Intercommunication troop
  - Administrative troop
- Three squadrons, each of –
  - Squadron headquarters
  - Five troops

**WAR ESTABLISHMENT***(i) Summary of ranks*

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter squadron				Three squadrons (each)			Total, tank battalion
		Squadron headquarters	Intercommunication Troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarter squadron	Squadron headquarters	Five troops (each)	Total, squadron	
Lieutenant-colonel	1								1
Majors	1	1			1	1		1	5
Captain (adjutant)	1								1
Captain (quartermaster)				1	1				1
Captain (transport officer)				1	1				1
Captain (liaison officer)		1			1				1
Captains				1	1	1		1	4
Lieutenants (intelligence officer)	1								1
Lieutenant (signal officer)			1		1				1
Lieutenants						1	1	6	18
Total, officers	4	2	1	3	6	3	1	8	34
Regimental sergeant-major	1								1
Regimental quartermaster-sergeant				1	1				1
Squadron sergeant-majors		1			1	1		1	4
Quartermaster-sergeant (technical)				1	1				1
Total, warrant officers	1	1		2	3	1		1	7
Squadron quartermaster-sergeants				1	1	1		1	4
Orderly room sergeants				(a)2	2				2
Intelligence sergeant	1								1
Provost sergeant				1	1				1
Sergeant tailor				1	1				1
Sergeant technical storeman				1	1				1
Signal sergeant				1	1				1
Transport sergeants				1	1	1		1	4
Sergeants	2		1	1	2	3	1	8	28
Total, staff-sergeants and sergeants	3		1	9	10	5	1	10	43
Corporals	1	1	3	4	8	5	2	15	54
Troopers	8	2	30	52	84	59	8	99	389

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter squadron				Three squadrons (each)			Total, tank battalion
		Squadron headquarters	Intercommunication Troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarter squadron	Squadron headquarters	Five troops (each)	Total, squadron	
Total, rank and file	9	3	33	56	92	64	10	114	443
Total, other ranks	13	4	34	67	105	70	11	125	493
Total, all ranks	17	6	35	70	111	73	12	133	(b)527
<i>Attached –</i>									
A.A.M.C. –									
Captain				1	1				1
Sergeant (hygiene inspector)				1	1				1
Sergeant				1	1				1
Corporals						1		1	3
A.A.O.C. –									
Corporal shoemaker				1	1				1
A.E.M.E. –									
W.O. II (armament artificer, fitter, A.F.V.)				1	1				1
Sergeants –									
Fitters, A.F.V.						1		1	3
Armourer				1	1				1
Corporals –									
Armourer				1	1				1
Fitters				1	1	1		1	4
Mechanic, M.V.				1	1				1
Craftsmen –									
Electricians (trade group I)				1	1	1		1	4
Fitters (trade group I)						3		3	9
Fitters, gun (trade group I)				1	1	1		1	4
Mechanics, M.V. (trade group II)				1	1	4		4	13
A.A.C.C. –									
W.O. II (caterer)				1	1				1
Sergeants				1	1	1		1	4
Corporals				1	1	1		1	4
Privates (trade group II)				2	2	2		2	8
A.A.P.C. –									
Sergeant				1	1				1
Postal services –									
Corporal				1	1				1
Total, all ranks, including attached)	17	6	35	89	130	89	12	149	594
<i>(ii) Distribution of rank and file by trades and duties</i>									
<i>Trade group II</i>									
Carpenter and joiner				1	1				1
Driver-operators	3		(c)9	3	12	(d)15	3	30	105
Gunner-operators						6	3	21	63
Intelligence duties						(d)1		1	3
<i>Trade group III</i>									
Butcher				1	1				1
Clerks		(d)1		(d)5	6	(d)2		2	12

Detail	Battalion headquarters	Headquarter squadron				Three squadrons (each)			Total, tank battalion
		Squadron headquarters	Intercommunication Troop	Administrative troop	Total, headquarter squadron	Squadron headquarters	Five troops (each)	Total, squadron	
Driver-mechanics	(d)5		7	5	12	(d)15	(d)3	30	107
Equipment repairer				1	1				1
Tailor				(d)1	1				1
Technical storeman				(d)3	3	(d)1		1	6
<i>Non-specialists</i>									
Corporals							1	5	15
Batmen				12	12	8		8	36
Drivers, M.T.	1	2		(d)16	18	13		13	58
General dutymen				3	3				3
Hygiene dutymen				2	2	1		1	5
Motor cyclist orderlies			(d)17		17				17
Storemen				2	2	1		1	5
Water dutymen				1	1	1		1	4
Total, rank and file	9	3	33	56	92	64	10	114	443
(iii) <i>Transport</i>									
Motor cycles			17	1	18				18
Car. DS	1								1
Trucks, ¼-ton				2	2	1		1	5
Trucks, 15-cwt. –									
A.A.L.M.G.				1	1	1		1	4
G.S.				3	3	2		2	9
Wireless		2		1	3				3
Trucks, 3-ton –									
A.A.L.M.G.				4	4	1		1	7
G.S.				5	5	8		8	29
Office, unit				1	1				1
Stores, unbinned				1	1	1		1	4
Water				1	1	1		1	4
Carriers, tracked, starting and charging	1					1		1	4
Scout cars			9		9				9
Tank, close support, I						2		2	6
Tanks, I	4					1	3	16	52
Trailers, mobile cooker				1	1	1		1	4
Total, vehicles (excluding motor cycles and trailers)	6	2	9	19	30	19	3	34	138

(iv) *Organization*

*Note* – This organization may be varied, within the number of ranks, tradesmen and vehicles provided, according to tactical or administrative requirements

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Car, DS

*Lieutenant-colonel*

Driver, M.T.

Carrier, tracked, starting and charging

Driver-mechanic

Tank, I	1	Lieutenant-colonel Sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Tank, I	2	Major Regimental sergeant-major Corporal driver-mechanic <i>Signalman, Aust Corps of Signals</i>	
Tank, I	3	Adjutant Sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Tank, I	4	Intelligence officer Intelligence sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
<i>Total –</i>			
<i>Personnel –</i>		<i>Weapons –</i>	
<i>Officer</i>	4	<i>Pistols</i>	12
<i>Other ranks</i>	13	<i>Rifle</i>	1
		<i>Sub machine guns</i>	4

#### HEADQUARTER SQUADRON

##### *Squadron headquarters*

Truck, 15-cwt., wireless	1	Major Squadron sergeant-major Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 15-cwt., wireless	2	Liaison officer Corporal clerk Driver, M.T. <i>Signalman, Aust. Corps of Signals</i>	
<i>Total –</i>			
<i>Personnel –</i>		<i>Weapons –</i>	
<i>Officers</i>	2	<i>Pistols</i>	2
<i>Other ranks</i>	4	<i>Rifles</i>	4

##### *Intercommunication troop*

Motor cycle	1	Corporal motor cyclist orderly	
Motor cycles	2 - 17 (each)	Motor cyclist orderly	
Scout car	1	Signal officer Driver-operator	
Scout car	2	Sergeant Driver-operator	
Scout cars	3 and 4 (each)	Corporal driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Scout cars	5 - 9 (each)	Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
<i>Total –</i>			
<i>Personnel –</i>		<i>Weapons –</i>	
<i>Officer</i>	1	<i>Pistols</i>	26
<i>Other ranks</i>	34	<i>Sub machine guns</i>	9

##### *Administrative troop*

Motor cycle		Provost sergeant	
Truck, ¼-ton	1	Captain Driver, M.T.	
Truck, ¼-ton	2	Captain A.A.M.C. Driver, M.T.	

Truck, 15-cwt., A.A.L.M.G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport sergeant</li> <li>3 batmen</li> <li>Driver-mechanic</li> <li>L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds</li> <li>Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds</li> </ul>
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Transport officer</li> <li>Armament artificer, fitter, A.F.V.</li> <li>Corporal mechanic, M.V.</li> <li>Batman</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> </ul>
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Sergeant tailor</li> <li>Corporal tailor</li> <li>General dutyman</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> </ul>
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Butcher</li> <li>Cook</li> <li>2 general dutyman</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> </ul>
Truck, 15-cwt., wireless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quartermaster</li> <li>Driver-operator</li> <li>Corporal clerk</li> <li>Batman</li> <li>Corporal driver, M.T.</li> </ul>
Truck, 3-ton, A.A.L.M.G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Regimental quartermaster-sergeant</li> <li>Quartermaster-sergeant (technical)</li> <li>2 clerks</li> <li>2 batmen</li> <li>Technical storeman</li> <li>Driver-mechanic</li> <li>L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds</li> <li>Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds</li> </ul>
Truck, 3-ton, A.A.L.M.G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Sergeant technical storeman</li> <li>Technical storeman</li> <li>Fitter, gun</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> <li>Relief for battalion headquarters tanks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Driver-operator</li> <li>Driver-mechanic</li> </ul> </li> <li>L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds</li> <li>Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds</li> </ul>
Truck, 3-ton, A.A.L.M.G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Sergeant armourer</li> <li>Corporal armourer</li> <li>Corporal shoemaker</li> <li>Carpenter and joiner</li> <li>Hygiene dutyman</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> <li>L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds</li> <li>Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds</li> </ul>
Truck, 3-ton, A.A.L.M.G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 Sergeant</li> <li>Corporal, postal services</li> <li>Equipment repairer</li> <li>Storeman</li> <li>Driver, M.T.</li> <li>L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds</li> <li>Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds</li> </ul>
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Sergeant A.A.M.C.</li> <li>Hygiene inspector</li> <li>Batman</li> <li>Hygiene dutyman</li> <li>Driver-mechanic</li> </ul>

Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	2	Caterer Sergeant cook Corporal cook Cook Driver, M.T. Reliefs for battalion headquarters tanks Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	3	Squadron quartermaster-sergeant Storeman Clerk 2 batmen Driver, M.T.	
Trucks, 3-ton, G.S.	4 and 5 (each)	Batman Driver, M.T. Petrol	
Truck, 3-ton, office		Signal sergeant Orderly room sergeant Clerk Sergeant, A.A.P.C. Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton, stores, unbinned		Corporal technical storeman Corporal fitter Mechanic, M.V. Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton water		Water dutyman Driver, M.T.	
Left at base		Orderly room sergeant	
<i>Total –</i>			
<i>Personnel –</i>		<i>Weapons –</i>	
<i>Officers</i>	4	<i>Pistols</i>	12
<i>Other ranks</i>	85	<i>Rifles</i>	75
		<i>L.M.Gs.</i>	5
		<i>Tk. A. rifles</i>	5
THREE SQUADRONS (EACH)			
<i>Squadron headquarters</i>			
Fighting			
Tank, close support, I	1	Major Sergeant Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Tank, close support, I	2	Captain Squadron sergeant-major Driver-operator Driver-mechanic	
Tank, I		Lieutenant Driver-operator Corporal intelligence duties Driver-mechanic	
Administrative			
Truck, ¼-ton		Squadron quartermaster-sergeant Driver-operator	
Truck, 15-cwt., A.A.L.M.G.		Corporal A.A.M.C. 3 batmen Driver, M.T. L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds	
Truck, 15-cwt., G.S.	1	Major Batman Driver, M.T.	

Truck, 151-cwt., G.S.	2	Transport sergeant Fitter, gun Batman Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton, A.A.L.M.G.		Hygiene dutyman Corporal fitter Mechanic, M.V. Driver, M.T. L.M.G. and 1,000 rounds Tk. A. rifle and 200 rounds	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	1	Sergeant Fitter Relief for squadron tanks – 5 driver-operators 3 gunner-operators 5 driver-mechanics Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	2	Corporal clerk Clerk Reliefs for squadron tanks Corporal driver-mechanic Gunner-operator Driver-operator Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	3 and 4 (each)	Batman Driver, M.T. Petrol	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	5	Batman Driver, M.T. Reserve ammunition	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	6	Sergeant Driver, M.T. Reliefs for squadron tanks – Corporal driver-operator 4 driver-operators 2 gunner-operators 4 driver-mechanics	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	7	Storeman Driver, M.T. Reserve ammunition	
Truck, 3-ton, G.S.	8	Sergeant cook Corporal cook 2 cooks Driver-mechanic	
Truck, 3-ton, stores, unbinned		Sergeant fitter, A.F.V. Corporal technical storeman 2 fitters 3 mechanics, M.V. Driver, M.T.	
Truck, 3-ton, water		Water dutyman Driver, M.T.	
Carrier, tracked, starting and charging		Electrician Driver-mechanic	
<i>Total –</i>			
<i>Personnel –</i>			
<i>Officers</i>	3		
<i>Other ranks</i>	86		
		<i>Weapons –</i>	
		<i>Pistols</i>	38
		<i>Rifles</i>	47
		<i>Sub machine guns</i>	3
		<i>L.M.Gs.</i>	2
		<i>Tk. A. rifles</i>	2
		<i>Five troops (each)</i>	

Tank, I	1	Lieutenant Driver-operator Gunner-operator Corporal driver-mechanic
Tank, I	2	Sergeant Driver-operator Gunner-operator Driver-mechanic
Tank, I	3	Corporal Driver-operator Gunner-operator Driver-mechanic

Total –

Personnel –

Officer

1

Other ranks

11

Weapons –

Pistols

9

Sub machine guns

3

(v) Table of weapons and ammunition

Detail	Number	Ammunition - rounds		
		On man or with gun	Reserve	Total
Pistols, .38-inch	301	12	1,806	5,418
Rifles, .303-inch	161	50	16,000	24,050
Rifles, .303-inch for attached personnel	60	20		1,200
Sub machine guns	67	200	26,800	40,200
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	11	1,000	5,500	16,500
Tk. A. rifles, .55-inch	11	200	440	2,640
Scout cars (9)				
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	9	1,000	4,500	13,500
Pistols, signal	9	12	54	162
Grenades, hand, No. 36M		6	27	81
Tanks, close support, I (6)				
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	6	600	1,800	5,400
Besas, 7.92-mm	6	2,925	8,772	26,322
3-inch howitzers	6	52	156	468
Pistols, signal	6	12	36	108
Dischargers, smoke, generator, 4-inch	12	5	30	72
Grenades, hand, No. 36M		12	36	108
Tanks, I (52)				
L.M.Gs., .303-inch	52	600	15,600	46,800
Besas, 7.92-mm	52	2,925	76,024	228,124
2-pr. guns	52	93	2,444	7,280
Pistols, signal	52	12	312	936
Dischargers, smoke, generator, 4-inch	104	5	260	780
Grenades, hand, No. 36M		12	312	936

- One will be attached to L. of C. Area Records Office. The N.C.O. selected for this appointment may be provided from personnel classified medically fit class B.
- At least one officer, 2 N.C.Os. and 12 men will be trained in gas duties and decontamination work. Two men in each squadron will be trained to repair boots as a part time employment.
- Includes 2 corporals
- Includes or is a corporal



NOTES ON FIRST REINFORCEMENTS AND ATTACHED

*Details left at base –*

<i>Orderly room sergeant</i> (attached to L. of C. Records Office)	1
First reinforcements –	
Lieutenants	5
Sergeants	5
Rank and file (including 5 corporals)	45
(includes –	
Driver-operators (trade group II)	10
Gunner-operators (trade group II)	6
Clerk (trade group III)	1
Driver-mechanics (trade group III)	10
Drivers, M.T.	6)
Total	<u>55</u>

*Attached –*

*Signals Section, Aust. Corps of Signals – see W.E. of Tank Brigade Signals in Vol. I*

*Light Aid Detachment, A.E.M.E. – see W.E. of Light Aid Detachments, A.E.M.E. in Vol. I*