

**Detailed Organization**  
**American Light Tank Battalion**  
**15 September 1943**  
**Table of Organization 17-17**

Company Headquarters:

Headquarters Section:

- 1 Captain (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
- 1 Sergeant (communications chief) (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
- 1 Sergeant (tank cmdr) (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
- 1 Corporal (liaison) (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
- 7/9 Privates\*\*\*
  - 1 Bugler (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
  - 2 Tank Drivers (2 .45 cal M3A1 submachine guns & 2 light tanks)
  - 2 Bow Gunners (2 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
  - 2 Tank Gunners (2 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
  - 2 Radio Operators/Bow Gunners\*\*\* (2 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

Administrative, Mess & Supply Section:

- 1 1st Sergeant (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 1 Staff Sergeant (mess) (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 1 Staff Sergeant (supply) (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 1 Corporal (company clerk) (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 12 Privates
  - 2 Cook (2 .30 cal M1 carbines)
  - 1 Cook's Helper (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
  - 1 Light Truck Driver (1 .30 cal M1 carbine
    - 1 2½-ton kitchen truck, 1 .50 cal HB flexible HMG & 1 1-ton trailer)
  - 8 Basics (8 .30 cal M1 carbines)

Maintenance Section:

- 1 1st/2nd Lieutenant (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 1 Technical Sergeant (motor) (1 .30 cal M1 carbine)
- 8 Privates
  - 5 Tank Mechanics (3 .30 cal M1 carbines, 2 .45 cal M3A1 submachine guns, 1 T5 light tank recovery vehicle with 81mm mortar, 1 .30 cal LMG & 1 .50 cal HB flexible HMG & 1 M3A1 halftrack with 1 .50 cal HB flexible HMG & 2 2.36" rocket launchers)
  - 2 Bow Gunner/Radio Operators (2 .30 cal M1 carbines)
  - 1 Radio Operator/Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun & 1 ¼-ton truck)

3 Tank Platoons, each with:

Tank #1

- 1 1st/2nd Lieutenant (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
- 3 Privates
  - 1 Tank Driver (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun & 1 light tank)
  - 1 Bow Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)
  - 1 Tank Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

Tank #2

- 1 Sergeant (tank cmdr)

3 Privates

1 Tank Driver (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun &  
1 light tank)

1 Bow Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

1 Tank Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

Tank #3

same as #2

Tank #4

1 Staff Sergeant (platoon leader) (1.45 cal M3A1  
submachine gun)

3 Privates

1 Tank Driver (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun &  
1 light tank)

1 Bow Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

1 Tank Gunner (1 .45 cal M3A1 submachine gun)

Tank #5

same as #2

Notes:

\*\*\* Authorized only in reconnaissance squadron.

Total Equipment:

24 .30 cal M1 carbines, 1 M3A1 halftrack without armament, 1 .30 cal LMG, 3 .50 cal HB flexible HMGs, 73 .45 cal M3A1 submachine guns, 2 2.36" rocket launchers, 1 81mm mortar, 17 light tanks, 1 1-ton trailer, 2 ¼-ton trucks, 1 2½-ton kitchen truck & 1 T5 tank recovery vehicle without armament.

Change #1 - 25 October 1943

Deleted .30 cal LMG, 81mm mortar & T5 recovery vehicle.

Maintenance section added 1 light tank, 1 2.36" rocket launcher, & 1 .50 cal HB flexible HMG, deleted 2 radio/bow gunners & added 1 radio repairman.

Change #2 - insignificant

Change #3 - 21 June 1944

Administrative, Mess & Supply Section:

Reduced from 12 to 9 privates (now 5 basics with carbines)

Maintenance Section:

All but 3 submachine guns replaced with .30 cal M1 carbines

Now 2 2.36" rocket launchers.

Add 1 light tank recovery vehicle with 1 81mm mortar &

1 .50 cal HB flexible HMG & 1 .30 cal LMG.

Source: US TO&E Documentation obtained at US Army Historical Center, Carlisle Barracks, PA

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