# Medium Tank Battalion

## United States, 1944

![Medium Tank](image)

## How to use this Table of Organization and Equipment File

### Unit Listings:

1. The 1944 US Medium Tank Battalion is headed with a grey title bar and a box that details a total personnel and equipment muster.
2. Each battalion unit is listed with a grey title bar and boxed.
3. Each unit component is boxed.
4. A component box is placed within the unit box it is subordinate to, and is connected by wire diagram in its position in the chain of command, from top to bottom and left to right.

### Example:

The Assault Gun Platoon is located in the Battalion HQ Company. A Gun Section, however, gets its orders directly from the Platoon HQ. The section box is therefore placed in the platoon box beneath the HQ box and connected to it by line.

### Weapon Distribution:

1. (p), armed with a pistol.
2. (c), armed with a carbine.
3. (smg), armed with a submachine gun.
4. (BAR), armed with a Browning Automatic Rifle.
5. (grenadier), armed with a rifle and rifle grenade launcher.
6. No designation means the soldier is armed with rifle.
7. Bazookas were not specifically assigned to individual personnel, (there was no bazooka gunner MOS). Bazooka men were chosen by the unit commander.
8. Weapons mounted on a vehicle (i.e. AA machine guns) are so designated.
9. Weapons carried on a vehicle (i.e. bazookas), and intended for dismounted use, are so designated.

### Personnel and Equipment:

1. Ranks are headed in bold type.
2. The number of personnel, and their Military Occupational Specialties (MOS,) within that rank are listed in plain type.
3. Some personnel have multiple MOSs.

#### PFC/PRIVATE

One Messenger, jeep driver (smg)

This PFC/PRIVATE messenger is also a jeep driver.

4. Vehicles types are listed as follows:

#### VEHICLE

One 2 1/2-ton truck

=field kitchen

This truck is a purpose-built field kitchen, or pulling a kitchen trailer.
BATTALION HEADQUARTERS, OF THE HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION

Headquarters Section

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL**
One Battalion commander (p)

**MAJOR**
One Executive officer (p)
One Operations & training (battalion S-3) (p)

**CAPTAIN**
One Communications (c)
One Intelligence (battalion S-2) (c)

**FIRST LIEUTENANT**
One Battalion adjutant (bn. S-1) (c)

**MASTER SERGEANT**
One Battalion sergeant major (c)

**TECHNICAL SERGEANT**
One Communications chief (c)
One Operations (c)

**SERGEANT**
One Supply (battalion S-4) (c)

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One Topographic draftsmen (c)
Five Radio operators (c)
One Messenger (c)
One jeep driver (smg)
Two Halftrack drivers (smg)
Three Jeep drivers (smg)

**VEHICLES**
Two Halftracks
Four Jeeps

**ARTILLERY OBSERVATION** (Attached as needed, not organic)
One Liaison, section leader (smg)
Two Tank drivers (smg)
Two Cannoniers (smg)
Two Halftrack drivers (smg)
Nine M3 submachine guns

**VEHICLES**
Two Medium tanks

**COMPANY COMPANY, OF THE HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION**

**HEADQUARTERS SECTION**

**CAPTAIN**
One Company commander (c)
One Jeep

**SPECIALIST**
One Communications (c)

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One 30 cal. machine gun, mounted on halftrack
Two M3 submachine guns

**VEHICLES**
One Motor transport, section commander (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Motor (c)
One Radio repairman (c)
One Amorer (c)
One 1-ton trailer

**FIRST SERGEANT**
One Company first sergeant (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Mess (c)
One Supply (c)

**CORPORAL**
One Company clerk (c)

**WEAPONS**
One 50 cal. machine gun, mounted on halftrack

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One 30 cal. machine gun, mounted on halftrack
Two M3 submachine guns

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack

**ADMINISTRATIVE, MESS, AND SUPPLY SECTION**

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
Four Cooks (c), two officers mess
One Cook's helper (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Truck driver (smg)
Six Basic privates (c)

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack

**WEAPONS**
One 21/2-ton truck

**RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON**

**LIEUTENANT**
One Reconnaissance Platoon commander (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Reconnaissance Platoon sergeant (c)

**SERGEANT**
Two Reconnaissance scouts

**CORPORAL**
Two Reconnaissance scouts

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One Reconnaissance scouts
One Messenger
One jeep driver (smg)
One Halftrack driver (smg)
Four Jeep drivers (smg)

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack
Five Jeeps

**WEAPONS**
One 50 cal. machine gun, mounted on halftrack
Six M3 submachine guns
Twelve M1 rifles
Three M1 carbines
One 236-inch bazooka, carried on halftrack

**ASSAULT GUN PLATOON**

**LIEUTENANT**
One Platoon commander (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Platoon sergeant (c)

**SERGEANT**
One Gunner (smg)

**CORPORAL**
One Section chief (smg)

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One Cannonier (smg)
One Tank driver (smg)
One Halftrack driver (smg)

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack

**WEAPONS**
One 81 mm howitzer

**AMMUNITION SECTION**

**SERGEANT**
One Section chief (c)

**CORPORAL**
One Gunner (smg)

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
Three Ammo handlers (c)

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack

**WEAPONS**
One 81 mm mortar

**MORTAR PLATOON**

**LIEUTENANT**
One Platoon commander (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
One Platoon sergeant (c)

**SERGEANT**
One Mortar gunner (c)

**CORPORAL**
One Squad leader (c)

**PEOPLE/PRIVATE**
One 81 mm mortar

**VEHICLES**
One Halftrack carrier

**WEAPONS**
One 81 mm mortar

**VEHICLES**
One 236-inch bazooka, carried on halftrack
COMPANY HEADQUARTERS OF THE MEDIUM TANK COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION

Headquarters Section

CAPTAIN
One Company commander (c)

SERGEANT
One Communications chief (smg)
Two Company commanders (smg)

CORPORAL
Three Gunners (smg)
One Liaison agent (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Bugler,
jeep driver (smg)
Three Tank drivers (smg)
Three Cannoneers (smg)

PFC/PRIVATE (CONT)
Three bow machine gunners,
radio operators (smg)

VEHICLES
Two Medium tanks
One Medium tank,
105mm howitzer
One Jeep

WEAPONS
Sixteen M3 submachine guns
Two M1 carbines

Maintenance Section

FIRST LIEUTENANT
One Motor transport,
section commander (c)

VEHICLES
One Tank recovery vehicle
One Halftrack
One Jeep

TECHNICAL SERGEANT
One Motor (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Ammunition (c)
One Artillery mechanic (c)
Two Tank mechanics (c)
Three Tank mechanics,
two recovery vehicle drivers (smg)
One jeep driver (smg)
One Radio repairman (c)

WEAPONS
One .50 cal. machine gun,
mounted on halftrack
Three M3 submachine guns
Seven M1 carbines
One 2.36-inch bazooka,
carrried on tank recovery vehicle

Administrative, Mess, and Supply Section

FIRST SERGEANT
One Company First Sergeant (c)

STAFF SERGEANT
One Mess (c)
One Supply (c)

CORPORAL
One Company clerk (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
Two Cooks (c)
One Cook's helper (c)
One Truck driver (smg)
Six Basic privates (c)

VEHICLES
One 2 1/2-ton truck
One 14-ton trailer

WEAPONS
One M3 submachine gun
Thirteen M1 carbines
One 2.36-inch bazooka,
carried on truck

THREE MEDIUM TANK Platoons of the Medium Tank Company, Medium Tank Battalion; each

Tank No. 1

LIEUTENANT
One Platoon commander (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Tank driver (smg)
One Cannoneer (smg)

CORPORAL
One Gunner (smg)
One Bow machine gunner,
radio operator (smg)

VEHICLE
One Medium tank

WEAPONS
One M1 carbine
Four M3 submachine guns

Tank No. 2

SERGEANT
One Tank commander (smg)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Tank driver (smg)
One Cannoneer (smg)

CORPORAL
One Gunner (smg)
One Bow machine gunner,
radio operator (smg)

VEHICLE
One Medium tank

WEAPONS
Five M3 submachine guns

Tank No. 3

SERGEANT
One Tank commander (smg)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Tank driver (smg)
One Cannoneer (smg)

CORPORAL
One Gunner (smg)
One Bow machine gunner,
radio operator (smg)

VEHICLE
One Medium tank

WEAPONS
Five M3 submachine guns

Tank No. 4

STAFF SERGEANT
One Platoon sgt. (smg)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Tank driver (smg)
One Cannoneer (smg)

CORPORAL
One Gunner (smg)
One Bow machine gunner,
radio operator (smg)

VEHICLE
One Medium tank

WEAPONS
Five M3 submachine guns

COMPANY HEADQUARTERS OF THE LIGHT TANK COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION

Headquarters Section

CAPTAIN
One Company commander (c)

SERGEANT
One Communications chief (smg)
One Tank commander (smg)

CORPORAL
One Liaison (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
One Bugler,
jeep driver (smg)
Two Tank drivers (smg)
Two Tank gunners (smg)
Two Bow machine gunners,
radio operators (smg)

VEHICLES
Two Light tanks
One Jeep

WEAPONS
Nine M3 submachine guns
Two M1 carbines

Maintenance Section

SECOND LIEUTENANT
One Motor transport,
section commander (c)

VEHICLES
One Tank recovery vehicle
One Halftrack
One Jeep

TECHNICAL SERGEANT
One Motor (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
Two Ammunition (c)
Three Tank mechanics (c)
Two Tank mechanics,
one halftrack driver (smg)
one tank recovery vehicle driver (smg)
One Radio repairman,
jeep driver (smg)

WEAPONS
One .50 cal. machine gun,
mounted on halftrack
Three M3 submachine guns
Seven M1 carbines
Two 2.36-inch bazookas,
carried on halftrack
one carried on tank recovery vehicle

Administrative, Mess, and Supply Section

FIRST SERGEANT
One Company First Sergeant (c)

STAFF SERGEANT
One Mess (c)
One Supply (c)

CORPORAL
One Company clerk,
jeep driver (c)

PFC/PRIVATE
Two Cooks (c)
One Cook's helper (c)
One Truck driver (c)
Five Basic privates (c)

VEHICLES
One 2 1/2-ton truck
One 14-ton trailer

WEAPONS
One M3 submachine gun
Twelve M1 carbines

VEHICLES
One 2.36-inch bazooka,
carried on tank recovery vehicle

VEHICLES
One 50 cal. machine gun,
mouted on tank

WEAPONS
One M3 submachine gun

VEHICLES
One 2.36-inch bazooka,
carried on tank recovery vehicle
### THREE LIGHT TANK PLATOONS OF THE LIGHT TANK COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION

**Tank No. 1**
- **SECOND LIEUTENANT**
  - One Platoon commander (c)
- **PFC/PRIVATE**
  - One Tank commander (c)
  - One Bow machine gunner, radio operator (smg)
- **VEHICLE**
  - One Light tank
- **WEAPONS**
  - One M1 carbine
  - Three M3 SMGs

**Tank No. 2**
- **SERGEANT**
  - One Tank commander (c)
- **PFC/PRIVATE**
  - One Tank commander (c)
  - One Bow machine gunner, radio operator (smg)
- **VEHICLE**
  - One Light tank
- **WEAPONS**
  - One M1 carbine
  - Four M3 SMGs

**Tank No. 3**
- **SERGEANT**
  - One Tank commander (c)
- **PFC/PRIVATE**
  - One Tank commander (c)
  - One Bow machine gunner, radio operator (smg)
- **VEHICLE**
  - One Light tank
- **WEAPONS**
  - Four M3 SMGs

### SERVICE COMPANY, MEDIUM TANK BATTALION

#### COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

**CAPTAIN**
- One Company commander (asst. battalion S-4) (c)
- One Bugler, WIC driver (smg)
- Two Radio operators (c)
- One Communications chief (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
- One Motor transport (c)
- One Chief mechanic (c)
- One Sugar, radio operator (smg)
- Two Radio operators (c)

**PFC/PRIVATE**
- One Bow machine gunner, radio operator (smg)
- One Chief mechanic (c)
- One Sugar, radio operator (smg)
- Two Radio operators (c)

**VEHICLES**
- One 2 1/2-ton truck
- Six Basic privates (c)
- One Radio repairman (c)

**ADMINISTRATIVE, MESS, AND SUPPLY SECTION**

**FIRST SERGEANT**
- One Company First Sergeant (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
- One Mess (c)
- One Supply (c)

**CORPORAL**
- One Company clerk (c)

**PFC/PRIVATE**
- One Cook's helper (c)
- One Truck driver (smg)
- Six Basic privates (c)

**VEHICLES**
- One 2 1/2-ton truck
- One 1-ton trailer

**WEAPONS**
- One .30 cal. machine gun, mounted on truck
- One M3 machine gun, mounted on truck
- One M3 submachine gun, mounted on truck
- One M1 carbine

### BATTALION SUPPLY & TRANSPORTATION PLATOON

**CAPTAIN**
- One Motor transport, platoon commander (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
- One Chief mechanic (c)

**PFC/PRIVATE**
- One Chief mechanic (c)

**VEHICLES**
- One Tank recovery vehicles
- Two 2 1/2-ton trucks

**WEAPONS**
- One 2 1/2-ton truck
- One 1-ton trailer
- Two Towing operators (smg)
- Seven M3 submachine guns
- One Jeep

### BATTALION MAINTENANCE PLATOON

**CAPTAIN**
- One Motor transport, company commander (bn. motor transport) (c)

**STAFF SERGEANT**
- One Chief mechanic (c)

**SERGEANT**
- One Company First Sergeant (c)

**PFC/PRIVATE**
- One Amorner, jeep driver (smg)
- One Artillery mechanic (c)
- Four Automotive mechanics (c)
- Three Automotive mechanics, one half-track driver (smg)
- Two tanks (smg)
- Ten Tank mechanics (c)
- Two Tank mechanics (c)
- Two recovery vehicle drivers (smg)

**VEHICLES**
- One 2 1/2-ton truck
- One 1-ton trailer

**WEAPONS**
- One .50 cal. machine gun, mounted on truck
- One 2 1/2-ton truck
- One 1-ton trailer

### ATTACHED MEDICAL DETACHMENT (attached to battalion headquarters)

**CAPTAIN OR FIRST LIEUTENANT**
- Two Medical Corps

**STAFF SERGEANT**
- One Medical

**PFC/PRIVATE**
- Seven Medical-surgical technicians, four jeep drivers

**PFC/PRIVATE (CONT)**
- One Ambulance driver
- One Weapons carrier
- Seven Medical-surgical technicians, four jeep drivers

**VEHICLES**
- One 3/4-ton ambulance
- One Ambulance
- One Weapons carrier
- One Jeep
UNITED STATES MEDIUM TANK BATTALION (1944)

Vehicles, armored and tracked:
- 53 Medium tanks
- 6 Medium tanks, 105mm
- 17 Light tanks

Vehicles, soft and towed:
- 39 2 1/2-ton trucks
- 17 Ammunition trailers
- 1 3/4-ton ambulance
- 13 Halftracks
- 3 Halftrack carriers, 81mm mortar
- 6 Tank recovery vehicles

Weapons:
- 20 .50 caliber machine guns
- 12 .30 caliber machine guns
- 437 M3 submachine guns
- 20 M1 rifles
- 3 .45 cal. pistols
- 35 2.36-inch bazookas

Personnel:
- 42 Officers
- 678 Enlisted men
**GHQ Pack US15**

Medium Tank, M4A3, Sherman

**Dimensions:**
- Length/hull: 19 ft 4 in
- Height: 9 ft 2 in
- Width: 7 ft 7 in
- Weight: 66,500 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 26 mph
- Range: 145 miles

**Armament:**
- 75mm gun, two .30 caliber MGs, one .50 cal MG

**Notes:**
The various Sherman types differed in the following manner: M4 had a welded hull, the M4A1 a cast hull. The M4A4 & M4A6 featured an extended hull and suspension. Later vehicles had sand shields, the wider M4A1 gun mount, and appliqué armor.

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**GHQ Pack US14**

Medium Tank, M4A4, 105mm Howitzer

**Dimensions:**
- Length/hull: 19 ft 4 in
- Height: 9 ft 2 in
- Width: 8 ft 7 in
- Weight: 66,500 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 26 mph
- Range: 145 miles

**Armament:**
- One 105mm howitzer and two .30 cal MGs

**Notes:**
For infantry close support the US Army initially fielded self-propelled 75mm howitzers. For better crew protection and the punch of a bigger gun, the army adopted a 105mm howitzer in a M4 turret. Production of howitzer Sherman variants exceeded 5,000 vehicles.

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**GHQ Pack US28**

Light Tank, M5A1, Stuart

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 14 ft 2 in
- Height: 7 ft 7 in
- Width: 7 ft 4 in
- Weight: 33,387 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 30 mph
- Range: 70 miles

**Armament:**
- 37mm gun, two .30 caliber MGs, one .30 cal AA MG

**Notes:**
By 1942, most World War II combatants had abandoned their light tank formations. The US Army, however, retained its light tank companies. The Stuart made this possible. It was an excellent light tank with a good 37mm main gun and superior armor protection. The design was mechanically sound and very reliable.

The M5, driven by twin Cadillac engines, was adopted during February 1942. (The M5 designation was used to avoid confusion with the M4 Sherman.) Minor armor modifications resulted in the M5A1, which replaced the M5 early in 1943.

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**GHQ Pack US51**

Halftrack, M3/M3A1, Personnel Carrier

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 20 ft 3 in
- Height: 8 ft 10 in
- Width: 6 ft 6 in
- Weight: 28,500 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 40 mph
- Range: 175 miles

**Armament:**
- One AA machine gun

**Notes:**
The M3 and M3A1 seated ten infantrymen in each compartment and three in the cab. The M2, M3/M3A1, and all variants featured an unditching roller or winch on the front end.

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**GHQ Pack US30**

M31, Armored Recovery Vehicle

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 26 ft 5 in
- Height: 9 ft 9 in
- Width: 8 ft 4 in
- Weight: 60,000 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 25 mph
- Range: 110 miles

**Armament:**
- Crawler tracks and secondary armament

**Notes:**
As heavier tanks entered service, the need for heavier wrecker became evident. During 1942 the US Army purchased the obsolescent M3 Grant/Lei tank for this role. The hull was modified to accommodate a crane arm and winch. All armament was stripped except for a hull-mounted machine gun. Numerous stowage boxes were also added for tools and supplies.

Over 800 M31s were built.

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**GHQ Pack US39**

Truck, 3/4-ton, 4x4, Weapons Carrier

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 13 ft 11 in
- Height: 6 ft 10 in
- Width: 6 ft 7 in
- Weight: 5,400 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 54 mph
- Range: 240 miles

**Armament:**
- None

**Notes:**
Introduced during 1942, the Dodge 3/4-ton 4x4 range of vehicles was known as Weapons Carriers, Big Jeeps, or “Jeeps.” It was slightly wider than the jeep and thus carried a reinforced suspension. Despite larger tires, for superior flotation, the weapons carrier presented a lower silhouette than the jeep.

Originally intended to transport the heavy weapons of rifle companies, the weapons carrier proved so successful its role was expanded to light cargo and general purpose truck.

The jeep came in many variants, principal of which were the WC51 weapons carrier, the WC50 command and recon vehicles, and the WC64 ambulance.

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**GHQ Pack US7 and US37**

Truck, 2 1/2-ton, 6x6

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 22 ft 5 in
- Height: 9 ft 11 in
- Width: 8 ft 0 in
- Weight: 18,424 lbs (loaded: 20,320 lbs)

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 40 mph
- Range: 165 miles

**Armament:**
- One AA machine gun

**Notes:**
In 1938 the US Army issued a series of new truck design requirements. Truck specifications were divided into four categories: 1 1/2-ton, 2 1/2-ton, 4-ton, and 6-ton.

By June 1940 the US Army approved the GMC-designed “GMC 2 1/2-ton.” Early versions of this vehicle were shipped to Great Britain via Land Lease.

By 1943 the steel cab was dropped in favor of a soft top canvas body. This was done as a cost-saving consideration for shipboard transport, when the trucks were partially disassembled, palletized, and stacked. Remaining hard cabs, including over 100,000 Studubakers, were shipped Land Lease to Russia.

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**GHQ Pack US11 and US58**

Truck, 1/2-ton, Utility, 4x4, Jeep

**Dimensions:**
- Length: 11 ft 0 in
- Height: 3 ft 9 in
- Width: 5 ft 2 in
- Weight: 2,750 lbs

**Performance:**
- Max Speed: 65 mph
- Range: 302 miles

**Armament:**
- A wide range of weaponry depending on variant

**Notes:**
During June 1940, the US Army drafted requirements for a "go anywhere" light command and reconnaissance car. A lengthy evaluation process produced the contract was awarded to Willys-Overland of Toledo, Ohio. Several months into the contract it became apparent that Willys was unable to match production demands. Manufacturing during the war was thus jointly shared between Willys and Ford. A total of 639,245 jeeps were built.

The jeep served in every theater of operations, in scores of field modifications and standardized variants. Via Land Lease, it found its way into every Allied army. A military classic; the jeep more than any other vehicle symbolized the American military of World War II.