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COMPARISON TEST OF
RIFLE, 5.56-MM, M16A1
FINAL REPORT
BY
ERIC KEELE
JANUARY 1972

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SUBJECT: Comparison Test Report of Rifle, 5.56-MM, M16A1, TECOM Project
No. S-WE-600-016-015

Commanding General
US Army Weapons Command
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Rock Island, Illinois 61201

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this test was to evaluate the performance of M16A1 rifles to detect any deterioration of product quality during production. Testing was conducted at Aberdeen Proving Ground by the Materiel Testing Directorate from 28 October to 30 November 1971. Sixteen rifles were inspected for compliance with the military specification for the M16A1 rifle. Six of the rifles were fired for accuracy and nine for reliability. Two of the rifles fired for reliability failed to meet requirements, one because of excessive failures to feed from the magazine and a second because of a broken firing-pin-retaining pin. The part failure and the occurrence of excessive malfunctioning were classified as shortcomings. It was concluded that with the exception of the two rifles which failed the reliability test, all rifles met inspection, accuracy, and reliability requirements. It was also concluded that the quality of the extractor springs in the rifles in this test was superior to the quality of those used in the rifles in the last comparison test.

FOREWORD

The Quality Assurance Branch, US Army Weapons Command, was responsible for preparing the test plan. The Materiel Testing Directorate was responsible for conducting the test and preparing the final test report.

Acknowledgement is made to Mr. Walter Eller for his technical assistance in the conduct of the various phases of this test.

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ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND 21005

TECOM PROJECT NO. 8-WE-600-016-015

FINAL REPORT ON COMPARISON TEST OF
RIFLE, 5.56-MM, M16A1

28 OCTOBER TO 30 NOVEMBER 1971

SECTION 1. SUMMARY

1.1 BACKGROUND

Production samples of items are subjected to comparison tests in accordance with a continuing program under the jurisdiction of WECOM to assure the quality of production items. The tests reported herein were conducted to evaluate the quality of a sample of production M16A1 rifles.

The authority for the test is shown as Reference 1.

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF MATERIEL

The M16A1 rifle is a lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated weapon capable of either semiautomatic or automatic fire. The rifle employs a 20-round magazine and fires 5.56-mm ball (M193) and tracer (M196) cartridges. More detailed information is contained in TM 9-1005-249-12 (Reference 2). Right and left side views of the M16A1 rifle are shown in Figure 1.2-1.

Applicable serial numbers are shown in Table 2.2-I.

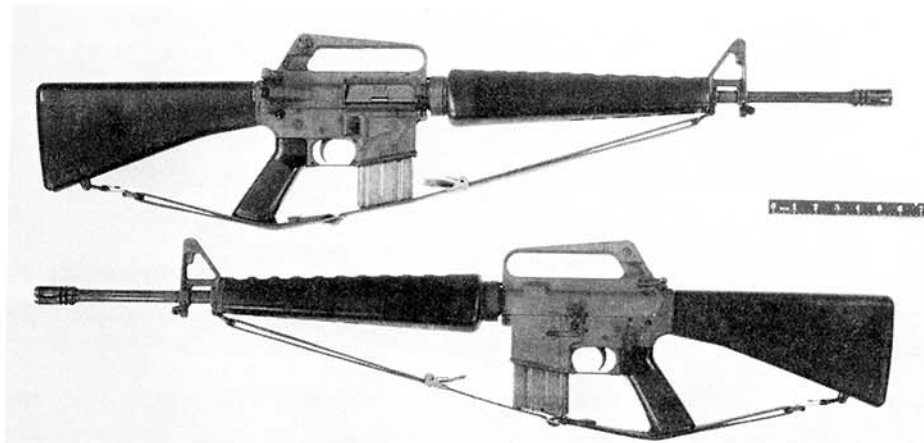


Figure 1.2-1: Right and Left Side Views of an M16A1 Rifle.

1.3 TEST OBJECTIVES

- a. To detect any degradation of product quality during production.
- b. To assure that the rifles conform to the technical requirements of the military specifications for the M16A1 rifle.
- c. To provide data to AMSWE-QA for an independent reliability, maintainability, and availability assessment per AR 705-50.

1.4 SCOPE

Testing was conducted by the Materiel Testing Directorate at APG during the period from 28 October to 30 November 1971. The rifles were inspected and fired for accuracy and endurance. In accordance with the test plan (Reference 5), function and maintenance data were recorded throughout the test for use by WECOM in performance of a reliability - maintainability assessment. The data are contained in Table III of Appendix I. Statistical analysis was not used for evaluation of the performance of the M16A1 rifle because no criteria were provided which required this type of evaluation.

1.5 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

1.5.1 Subtest Findings

1.5.1.1 Inspection. There was no damage to the packing and crating or to the weapons and accessories. The 16 rifles received were clean and the markings were legible. The rifles met the inspection requirements and standards of the military specification for the M16A1 rifle (Reference 4).

1.5.1.2 Accuracy Test. The dispersion data from the accuracy targets show the performance of the six rifles fired for accuracy to be well within the permitted 4.8-inch extreme-spread limit. Also, with the sights adjusted within the allowable limits, the projectile impacts were all within the specified rectangular outline.

1.5.1.3 Endurance Test. Nine rifles were fired 6000 rounds each. Four broken extractor springs, one broken ejector spring, and one broken firing-pin-retaining pin occurred. With the exception of the firing-pin-retaining pin, the number of failures of the other components were within the permitted quantities stated in the military specification. Failure of a firing-pin-retaining pin is not permitted prior to 6000 rounds.

Nineteen failures to feed from the magazine occurred with one rifle. The military specification establishes an allowable number of four with a single rifle or nine with four rifles combined. The number of malfunctions with eight of the nine rifles was within the permitted limit.

During the last comparison test none of the rifles from the same producer as the rifles in this test failed to meet requirements because of excessive malfunctions, however, three of the seven rifles tested failed because of broken extractor springs. A total of 12 broken extractor springs occurred with the seven rifles, of which five of the springs failed before 2000 rounds of firing (2000-round minimum life prescribed).

1.5.2 Deficiencies and Shortcomings

1.5.2.1 Deficiencies. None.

1.5.2.2 Shortcomings. One rifle fired for endurance exceeded the permitted number of failures to feed from the magazine in a 6000-round test and a broken firing-pin-retaining pin occurred in another rifle at 3301 rounds (6000-round minimum life prescribed).

1.6 CONCLUSIONS

It was concluded that:

- a. With the exception of two rifles which failed to meet reliability requirements, all the rifles tested met the inspection, accuracy, and reliability requirements of the military specification for the M16A1 rifle (para 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4).
- b. The quality of the extractor springs in these rifles was superior to those used in the rifles in the last comparison test (para 2.4).
- c. On an over-all basis the quality and performance of the rifles in this test were equal to those in the last comparison test (para 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4).

1.7 RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

SECTION 2. DETAILS OF TEST

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 General

All subtests were conducted in accordance with the test plan (Reference 5) which was prepared by WECOM.

Sixteen M16A1 rifles were received for test. To aid in programming in the various subtests the rifles were designated individually No. 1 through 16. Rifle serial numbers are identified with these designations outlined in Table 2.2-I. The subtests to which the rifles were subjected are outlined in Table 2.1-I.

Table 2.1-I. Subtests to Which the Individual Rifles Were Subjected

<u>Subtest No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Rifle No.</u>
2.2	Inspection	All
2.3	Accuracy	3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 15
2.4	Endurance	1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 16
-	Spare rifle	14

2.1.2 Maintenance

With the exception of initial inspection, during which the rifles were disassembled, inspected, and maintained following the instructions in TM 9-1005-249-34 (Reference 3), maintenance throughout the subtests was performed per TM 9-1005-249-12 (Reference 2). The rifles were lubricated with MIL-L-46000A (LSA) semifluid lubricating oil during the accuracy and endurance tests.

2.1.3 Malfunction Data

The abbreviations used in this report to identify malfunctions are listed in Appendix VI. All malfunctions were identified by round number on the rifle and round number within a magazine. The failure of the bolt to remain to the rear malfunction always occurred after round 20 from the magazine. All other malfunctions are counted as occurring on whatever round number was being fired at the time of the malfunction.

2.2 INSPECTION TEST

2.2.1 Objectives

- a. To determine that the test items and support materiel had been received in proper condition for test and were free from damage.
- b. To inspect and to measure certain physical characteristics, and to test fire each rifle.

2.2.2 Criteria

- a. The test items shall be adequately and clearly marked and undamaged (para 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 of Reference 5).
- b. Trigger-pull force shall be 5.5 to 8.5 pounds and free of creep (para 3.3.7 of Reference 4).
- c. Headspace shall be 1.4646 to 1.4706 inches (para 3.3.5 of Reference 4).
- d. Firing-pin indent from inertia force shall not exceed 0.008 inch and shall not be less than 0.020 inch as a result of normal hammer fall. The indent shall not be off center more than one-half the diameter of the firing-pin point (para 3.3.6 of Reference 4).
- e. Firing-pin protrusion shall be 0.028 to 0.036 inch (para 3.3.4.2 of Reference 4).
- f. The average cyclic rate of fire for a 20-round continuous burst shall be 700 to 900 spm (para 3.3.9 of Reference 4).
- g. The rifles shall meet the examination requirements of paragraph 4.6.2.2.2 of Reference 4.

2.2.3 Method

A thorough disassembly, inspection, and maintenance operation (per TM 9-1005-249-34) was performed on each rifle and physical characteristics were obtained as follows:

- a. Trigger pull was determined by averaging five dry-firing trials as measured by a hand-held spring scale.
- b. Headspace was determined by employing a graduated set of headspace gages (1.4646 to 1.4706 inch) to determine the longest gage which could be accepted in the rifle chamber with the bolt closed and locked. Also, the headspace was checked with the gage provided by AMSWE-QA.

- c. Firing-pin protrusion was measured with a dial-indicator gage.
- d. Bore measurements were obtained with the use of an air gage.
- e. Firing-pin indent was measured employing copper-compression cylinders and a holding fixture inserted in the rifle chamber. The firing-pin indent test was conducted in two trials, first by measuring the depth of indent as a result of normal hammer fall against the firing pin, and then by measuring indent caused by inertia motion of the firing pin when the bolt carrier was freely released from the bolt catch position.
- f. The rifle bolts were subjected to a magnetic-particle inspection for cracks, seams, or other discontinuities.

Each rifle was then fired 40 rounds (20 rounds in 3- to 5-round bursts immediately followed by a continuous 20-round burst) from a benchrest position. The cyclic rate of fire for each rifle was recorded during the continuous 20-round burst.

At the conclusion of firing the endurance test, the rifles were again inspected and headspace, firing-pin protrusion, trigger pull, firing-pin indent, and barrel bores were measured. After-test measurements were not recorded on the rifles fired in the accuracy test; these rifles were fired very few rounds (approximately 100).

2.2.4 Results

The rifles were packaged two per fiberboard carton; within the cartons they were individually contained in a sealed bag, type MIL-B-131E, classes 1 and 2. There was no damage to the packing, the crating, or the rifles and accessories. The items received with each rifle were seven magazines and one each of the following items: cleaning rod, chamber brush, bore brush, sling, plastic 5-ounce bottle, general-purpose cleaning brush, small-arms accessories case, and a maintenance manual (DA Pam 750-30). The rifles and accessories were clean and the markings were legible.

The trigger-pull, headspace, firing-pin protrusion, and indent measurements, as well as cyclic rates of fire recorded on the rifles during inspection, are all given in Table 2.2-I.

Table 2.2-I. Physical Measurements
Measurements^a

AFG No.	Mfr Serial No.	Trigger Pull, lb		Headspace, in.		Firing-Pin Protrusion, in.		Firing-Pin Indent, in.				Cyclic Rate of Fire, spm
		Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Inertia Before	Inertia After	Hammer Fall Before	Hammer Fall After	
1	4573468	7.4	7.9	1.4646	1.4646	0.033	0.033	0.005	0.005	0.023	0.024	831
2	4573626	7.2	7.6	1.4656	1.4656	.032	.033	.004	.005	.023	.023	853
3	4574806	6.8	-	1.4656	-	.033	-	.005	-	.023	-	851
4	4574883	7.1	-	1.4646	-	.033	-	.005	-	.023	-	883
5	4577777	7.2	-	1.4646	-	.032	-	.005	-	.023	-	840
6	4578490	7.6	7.1	1.4656	1.4656	.033	.034	.005	.006	.022	.023	883
7	4578608	7.6	8.6	1.4646	1.4656	.033	.034	.005	.004	.022	.023	827
8	4578674	7.3	7.0	1.4656	1.4656	.032	.032	.004	.003	.023	.023	783
9	4579219	7.5	b	1.4646	b	.034	b	.005	b	.023	b	804
10	4580933	7.3	-	1.4646	-	.033	-	.006	-	.024	-	842
11	4582168	7.9	-	1.4646	-	.033	-	.005	-	.023	-	887
12	4582634	7.8	7.6	1.4656	1.4666	.033	.034	.005	.004	.024	.023	853
13	4583112	7.8	7.2	1.4646	1.4656	.033	.033	.005	.003	.023	.021	844
14	4585111	7.7	-	1.4646	-	.033	-	.005	-	.024	-	863
15	4585226	7.3	-	1.4656	-	.033	-	.005	-	.023	-	831
16	4585542	7.4	7.4	1.4666	1.4666	.032	.033	.005	.004	.024	.024	877

^aThe measurements are designated as before or after test, except for cyclic rate of fire, which was recorded during the firing of the second 20-round magazine (rounds 21 through 40) on all rifles. No after-test measurements were recorded on the rifles fired for accuracy.

^bExcessive FF/BOB type malfunctions occurred with this rifle. Per request of AMSWE-QA the rifle was shipped to WECOM for determination of compliance with drawing requirements; after-test measurements were not recorded.

2.2.5 Analysis

All rifles met the criteria requirements as outlined in paragraph 2.2.2.

2.3 ACCURACY TEST

2.3.1 Objective

The objective was to determine the accuracy and dispersion characteristics of the test rifles.

2.3.2 Criteria

- a. The extreme spread of a 10-shot group shall not exceed 4.8 inches at a range of 100 yards (para 3.3.10 of Reference 4).
- b. All impacts of each 10-shot group at 100 yards shall be within the rectangular outline of the targeting and accuracy diagram (17.6 inches vertical by 11.6 inches horizontal) as specified in Figure 1 of Reference 4.
- c. Sight adjustments may be made in order to place the 10-shot group within the rectangular outline cited above but the sight adjustments shall not exceed the following (para 3.3.10 of Reference 4):
 - 1) The front sight shall be no higher than flush, nor below flush by more than 0.030 inch.
 - 2) The rear sight shall be within two clicks right or left of mechanical zero.

2.3.3 Method

Six rifles were fired employing M193 ammunition which was quality-certified to group within a mean radius of 1.2 to 1.4 inches at 200 yards as measured in accordance with MIL-C-9963.

Prior to the first record target, three sighting shots were fired with the sights centrally located (rear sight at mechanical zero, front sight at a point 0.015 inch below flush position). The sights were then adjusted, if necessary, within the limits cited in paragraph 2.3.2c. This setting of the sights was used throughout the remainder of the accuracy test.

Five 10-shot targets were then fired semiautomatically with each rifle from a benchrest position in a closed range. All targets were fired by a rifleman holding a current NRA Master classification. The targets were fired no faster than 10 to 30 spm; the rifles were cooled to ambient range temperature between each set of five targets.

2.3.4 Results

The target data are summarized in Table 2.3-I. The individual target data are contained in Table I of Appendix I.

Table 2.3-I. Summary of Accuracy Firings^a

Rifle No.	CI from AP ^b , in.		Extreme Spread, in.	Mean Radius, in.	No. of Rds Outside Rectangular Outline	No. of Fliers ^c
	H	V				
3	+0.8	-3.5	2.9	0.9	0	0
4	+0.6	+3.3	2.2	0.8	0	0
5	+1.0	+2.7	2.7	0.8	0	0
10	+1.9	-0.4	2.7	0.8	0	0
11	-2.0	-2.7	3.1	1.0	0	0
15	-0.9	-1.9	3.5	1.1	0	0

Range: 100 yards.

Ammunition: Cartridge, ball, 5.56-mm, M193, lot TW-1-145.

Condition: Benchrest.

^aThe target measurements are in inches and the data are the average of five 10-round targets for each rifle.

^bCenter of impact from aiming point; the aiming point was at the 6 o'clock position on an 8-inch black bull's-eye which was located midway vertically and horizontally within a rectangular outline measuring 17.6 inches vertically by 11.6 inches horizontally.

^cA flier is defined as a shot hole which is a greater distance from the nearest shot hole than the extreme spread of the other nine holes.

At the completion of the accuracy test each of the six rifles had been fired approximately 100 rounds and two BEC type malfunctions had been experienced. Both malfunctions occurred while firing a 20-round burst for the recording of the cyclic rate during the initial inspection. No similar malfunctions occurred with the nine rifles fired for endurance.

2.3.5 Analysis

The dispersion data show the performance of all six rifles to be well within the 4.8-inch extreme-spread limit permitted in MIL-R-45587 (Reference 4). Also, with the sights adjusted within the limits cited in paragraph 2.3.2c., the projectile impacts were all within the specified rectangular outline.

2.4 ENDURANCE TEST (6000-ROUND)

2.4.1 Objective

The objective was to determine the reliability and durability of the test weapons.

2.4.2 Criteria

- a. The cyclic rate of fire for each rifle shall be within 700 to 940 spm as measured at the beginning of the test and at 1000-round intervals thereafter (para 3.3.12 of Reference 4).
- b. The reliability and durability of the test weapons during 6000 rounds of firing shall not exceed the limits cited in Table I of Reference 4. (The reliability and durability standard has been extracted from MIL-R-45587 and is contained in Table II of Appendix I.)

2.4.3 Method

Seven rifles were each fired 6000 rounds of M193 ball ammunition. For round-count purposes, the 40 rounds fired for functioning and cyclic rate during the initial inspection were included in the 6000-round total for the test. With the exception of the first cycle, which consisted of 60 rounds, to maintain 100-round increments on the rifles the rifles were fired in 100-round cycles and were air-cooled after each cycle. All firing was accomplished from a benchrest position. The 100-round cycles were fired as follows:

- a. Twenty rounds in bursts of approximately five rounds each.
- b. Twenty rounds in a single continuous burst (record cyclic rate).
- c. Twenty rounds semiautomatically.
- d. Twenty rounds in bursts of approximately five rounds each.
- e. Twenty rounds semiautomatically.

Maintenance (per TM 9-1005-249-12) was performed following each 1000 rounds of firing. The rifle bolts were magnetic-particle inspected initially (subtest 2.2) and after 6000 rounds. An inspection, which included trigger pull, firing-pin protrusion, firing-pin indent, head-space, and barrel-bore measurements, was conducted initially and at the conclusion of the test.

Fifteen magazines were used with each rifle. The magazines were numbered consecutively 1 through 15 and were employed in rotation throughout the test.

2.4.4 Results

The endurance test was initially fired with seven rifles, however, due to the failure of one of the rifles to meet reliability requirements because of excessive failures to feed from the magazine, two additional rifles were fired 6000 rounds per request of AMSWE-QA.

The reliability and durability data are summarized from the performance data contained in Appendix I and are presented in Table 2.4-I. The cyclic-rate-of-fire data recorded throughout the test are summarized for each 1000-round cycle and are presented in Table 2.4-II. One lot of ball M193 ammunition, TW-1-145, was fired throughout the test.

Table 2.4-I. Summary of Endurance and Reliability Data

Rifle No.	Malfunctions				Total Rifle Malfunctions	Defective, Damaged or Broken Parts ^a
	FF/BOB	FBL	FJ	FBR		
1			1		1	Two extractor springs (3000 each); one firing-pin-retaining pin (3301) ^b
2					0	
6					0	
^c 7					0	One extractor spring (5000); one ejector spring (6000)
8		1		1	^d 2	One extractor spring (6000)
9	19				^e 19	
12				1	1	
^c 13					0	
16					0	

^aThe numbers appearing in parenthesis indicate the life of the broken part in rounds fired.

^bOne leg broke from the firing-pin-retaining pin and lodged between the bolt carrier and upper receiver, thus preventing full recoil travel and causing a failure to eject.

^cRifles 7 and 13 were the two rifles fired for additional endurance and reliability data.

^dThe screws that assemble the key to the bolt carrier were loose during the 3000-round scheduled maintenance period. The screws were tightened and restaked.

^eThis rifle failed to meet reliability requirements because of an excessive number of FF/BOB type malfunctions.

Table 2.4-II. Summary of Cyclic-Rate-of-Fire
Data during Endurance Test

Rifle No.	Remarks	Cyclic Rate of Fire, spm					
		1000-Round Cycle No.					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Max	831	865	875	875	906	902
	Min	756	822	823	844	838	869
	Ex var	75	43	52	31	68	33
	Avg	787	837	843	860	859	884
2	Max	879	921	937	928	937	915
	Min	809	861	867	877	838	865
	Ex var	70	60	70	51	99	50
	Avg	843	877	887	890	886	886
6	Max	883	926	904	917	921	908
	Min	822	859	861	863	857	883
	Ex var	61	67	43	54	64	25
	Avg	846	874	876	877	876	894
7	Max	879	895	921	895	915	904
	Min	827	887	885	847	861	859
	Ex var	52	08	36	48	54	45
	Avg	856	891	894	875	884	878
8	Max	829	851	879	924	921	919
	Min	764	808	822	869	867	877
	Ex var	65	43	57	55	54	42
	Avg	797	830	844	887	883	887
9	Max	857	924	889	908	921	897
	Min	752	845	827	829	853	838
	Ex var	105	79	62	79	68	59
	Avg	802	875	854	856	875	862
12	Max	853	912	933	937	924	910
	Min	762	844	851	861	859	879
	Ex var	91	68	82	76	65	31
	Avg	805	863	878	885	876	892

Table 2.4-II (Cont'd)

Rifle No.	Remarks	Cyclic Rate of Fire, spm					
		1000-Round Cycle No.					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
13	Max	893	883	926	908	912	897
	Min	844	859	871	834	831	825
	Ex var	49	24	55	74	81	72
	Avg	864	872	883	869	850	851
16	Max	906	910	930	926	933	933
	Min	842	867	887	895	883	900
	Ex var	64	43	43	31	50	33
	Avg	866	892	902	907	901	911

The before- and after-test measurements on trigger pull, headspace, firing-pin protrusion, and firing-pin indent are given in Table 2.2-I (subtest 2.2). The before- and after-test barrel-bore measurements are contained in the APG library file copy of this report. Magnetic-particle inspection of the bolts before test showed patterns on the bolts from two of the nine rifles which indicated some sort of discontinuities. The phosphate coating was not removed for further investigation. The magnetic-particle patterns on the two bolts were as follows:

a. Bolt for Rifle No. 4582634 (APG 12).

- 1) A 1/16-inch pattern extended rearward from the top edge of the hole for the ejector retaining pin.
- 2) A 1/32-inch pattern was present in the right fillet of the extractor slot. The pattern extended onto the face of the bolt 1/64 inch.
- 3) A 1/32-inch pattern was present in the left fillet of the extractor slot beginning at the forward edge and extending rearward.

b. Bolt for Rifle No. 4578490 (APG 6). A 3/64-inch pattern was present in the fillet at the rear end of the extractor slot. It appeared to extend into the cam pin hole.

After completion of the endurance test the bolts in the rifles were again subjected to magnetic-particle inspection. The inspection showed small magnetic patterns on all bolts across the rear fillet of the lug adjacent to the right side of the extractor slot. Three of the bolts showed small patterns in the fillet of the extractor slot. The after-test

inspection showed the patterns disclosed on two of the bolts (rifles 6 and 12) prior to test had not enlarged. The occurrence of the discontinuities in the bolts was judged to be very minor in nature. Because no problems were experienced and no unsafe conditions resulted the discontinuities were not classified as a shortcoming.

2.4.5 Analysis

The military specification for the M16A1 rifle (MIL-R-45587) establishes an allowable number of malfunctions and parts breakage for a 6000-round endurance test. This reliability and durability standard has been extracted and is contained in Table II of Appendix I. The performance of the nine M16A1 rifles were assessed against these requirements and the assessment is given in Table 2.4-III.

Table 2.4-III. Rifle Performance Data Assessed against Military Specification Requirements

APG No.	MIL-R-45587 Requirement		Reason for Failure
	Met	Failed	
1		X	A broken firing-pin-retaining pin occurred ^a .
2	X		
6	X		
7	X		
8	X		
9		X	Nineteen failure-to-feed type malfunctions from the magazine occurred ^b .
12	X		
13	X		
16	X		

^aOne leg broke from the firing-pin-retaining pin and caused a failure to eject. This was readily clearable and did not put the rifle out of operation nor cause an unsafe condition. The component is considered critical and failure prior to 6000 rounds is not permitted.

^bA total of four failures to feed from the magazine with a single rifle or nine with four rifles combined is allowed.

The cause of the FF/BOB malfunctions with rifle No. 9 was not determined. This type of malfunction occurred during both semiautomatic and automatic fire with various magazines, however, occurrence was predominantly on the eighteenth and nineteenth rounds from the magazine. Preliminary measurements on the bolt and receiver disclosed no discrepancies relative to drawing requirements. The interchange of component parts from a second rifle indicated that the cause of the malfunctions was probably attributable to a build-up of tolerances in the lower receiver of the

rifle. Per request of AMSWE-QA, the rifle and magazines were shipped to WECOM for physical measurements and investigation.

During the last comparison test (Reference 6) none of the rifles produced by Colt's Firearms failed to meet requirements because of excessive failure-to-feed type malfunctions, however, three of seven rifles tested failed because of broken extractor springs. A total of 12 broken extractor springs occurred with the seven rifles, of which five of the springs broke before 2000 rounds of firing.

During this comparison test four broken extractor springs occurred in testing nine rifles; the earliest failure occurred at 3000 rounds, thus demonstrating a definite superiority over the extractor springs used in the rifles in the previous comparison test.

SECTION 3. APPENDICES

APPENDIX I - TEST DATA

Index for Target Data

1. The target number identifies the rifle number and the target number, e.g.:

3-1 = Rifle No. 3 and target No. 1.

2. The target data were recorded relative to the aiming point (the six o'clock position on the bull's-eye).

Table I-I. Target Data, inches

TGT NO.	EVD	MVD	VSD	EHD	MHD	HSD	ES	MR	CI	
									H	V
3-1	2.6	0.6	0.8	1.7	0.5	0.6	3.0	0.9	0.6	-3.9
3-2	1.4	0.3	0.5	1.9	0.4	0.6	2.1	0.6	0.9	-3.8
3-3	4.2	0.9	1.2	3.0	0.7	1.0	4.2	1.3	1.5	-3.3
3-4	2.3	0.6	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.6	2.7	0.8	0.6	-3.4
3-5	2.2	0.6	0.7	1.7	0.4	0.6	2.7	0.7	0.4	-3.1
Mean	2.5	0.6	0.8	2.1	0.5	0.7	2.9	0.9	0.8	-3.5
4-1	2.7	0.7	0.9	2.1	0.5	0.7	2.7	1.0	0.5	3.6
4-2	1.6	0.5	0.6	1.9	0.5	0.7	2.1	0.8	0.8	2.8
4-3	1.8	0.6	0.7	1.5	0.3	0.4	1.8	0.7	0.8	2.5
4-4	2.4	0.6	0.7	1.3	0.3	0.4	2.4	0.8	0.7	4.3
4-5	1.7	0.3	0.5	1.4	0.3	0.4	1.7	0.6	0.2	3.2
Mean	2.0	0.5	0.7	1.6	0.4	0.5	2.2	0.8	0.6	3.3
5-1	2.1	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.3	0.4	2.1	0.7	0.4	3.6
5-2	1.9	0.5	0.6	2.3	0.6	0.7	2.3	0.8	0.7	3.3
5-3	3.4	0.9	1.0	2.0	0.3	0.5	3.4	1.0	1.2	2.4
5-4	2.2	0.4	0.6	2.3	0.4	0.7	2.6	0.7	1.2	2.0
5-5	2.2	0.6	0.7	2.6	0.6	0.8	3.3	0.8	1.5	2.4
Mean	2.4	0.6	0.7	2.0	0.4	0.6	2.7	0.8	1.0	2.7
10-1	2.2	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.3	0.3	2.2	0.8	1.7	0.1
10-2	2.9	0.6	0.8	2.5	0.5	0.7	3.1	0.8	2.2	-0.9
10-3	2.9	0.8	1.0	1.3	0.5	0.5	3.0	1.0	1.9	-0.8
10-4	2.5	0.5	0.7	1.9	0.5	0.6	2.5	0.8	2.2	0.0
10-5	2.4	0.6	0.8	1.7	0.4	0.5	2.6	0.8	1.5	-0.5
Mean	2.6	0.6	0.8	1.7	0.4	0.5	2.7	0.8	1.9	-0.4
11-1	3.5	0.8	1.1	2.7	0.7	0.9	3.6	1.3	-2.4	-2.4
11-2	2.2	0.6	0.7	2.1	0.7	0.8	2.6	0.9	-1.6	-2.3
11-3	2.8	0.6	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.7	3.0	0.8	-2.6	-3.1
11-4	1.7	0.4	0.5	1.9	0.5	0.6	2.2	0.7	-1.5	-3.1
11-5	4.1	0.8	1.2	1.3	0.5	0.5	4.1	1.0	-1.8	-2.6
Mean	2.9	0.6	0.9	2.0	0.6	0.7	3.1	1.0	-2.0	-2.7
15-1	3.1	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.3	0.4	3.1	0.8	0.0	-1.9
15-2	3.6	0.9	1.1	2.8	0.6	0.8	3.7	1.1	-0.6	-1.8
15-3	4.4	1.3	1.6	1.5	0.5	0.6	4.6	1.4	-0.9	-1.2
15-4	3.4	0.9	1.1	2.3	0.7	0.9	3.5	1.3	-1.3	-2.3
15-5	1.8	0.5	0.6	2.7	0.6	0.8	2.7	0.9	-1.9	-2.3
Mean	3.3	0.9	1.1	2.1	0.5	0.7	3.5	1.1	-0.9	-1.9

Table I-II. Malfunctions and Unserviceable Parts
Permitted in 6000-Round Endurance Test
(Extracted from Reference 4)

Malfunctions ¹	Single Rifle	Four Rifles
Failure of bolt to lock ²	2	4
Failure to fire	2	4
Failure to feed (from magazine)	4	9
Failure to eject	2	4
Failure to chamber	3	7
Failure to extract	1	2
Bolt fails/hold rear	3	8
All other malfunctions ⁴	0	0
Total - above malfunctions combined	9	22

Unserviceable Parts ¹	Minimum Life ⁵ Rounds	Four Rifles ⁶ Combined
Magazine assembly	250	2
Ejector spring	3,000	2
Extractor spring	2,000	4
Other parts (see note 3)	3,000	1
Total unserviceable parts - above unserviceable parts combined		4

¹When malfunctions are traceable to particular parts it is permissible to replace such parts and record them as unserviceable, subject to the limitations of Table I. When verified by the Government representative that previously recorded malfunctions are attributable to an unserviceable part, such malfunctions shall not be counted against the rifle being tested, provided that they occurred not more than 200 rounds prior to replacement of the unserviceable part. These 200 rounds shall have been fired with the unserviceable part. However, such malfunctions shall remain recorded and properly identified. Malfunctions attributable solely to ammunition defects shall not be counted against the rifle; however, such malfunctions shall be recorded. (All malfunctions, which are not counted against the rifle (i.e., attributable to an unserviceable part, Government furnished equipment, ammunition, etc.) shall be verified by Government Representative that the malfunction was caused by a defective condition of an unserviceable part, Government furnished equipment, ammunition, etc.) See Appendix III for definitions of malfunctions, unserviceable parts, etc.

Table I-II (Cont'd)

²In the event of any failure of bolt to lock malfunction, the forward assist assembly shall be operated (M16A1 only). Failure of the forward assist assembly to remain engaged with the bolt carrier assembly during manual attempt to lock bolt shall be considered an additional malfunction in the category of "other malfunctions".

³Other parts shall be limited to trigger spring, disconnect spring, hammer spring, extractor pin and extractor.

⁴Other malfunctions include, but are not limited to: occurrence of doubling (two shots fired with a single trigger pull) during semi-automatic firing; failure to immediately stop firing when the trigger is released (uncontrolled fire) during burst firing; and failure of forward bolt assist assembly to remain engaged with bolt carrier assembly during manual attempt to lock the bolt, etc.

⁵Minimum life rounds is defined as the minimum service life of an individual part, whether it is the original part or a replacement part, expressed in the number of weapon rounds fired with the part assembled in the weapon. For example, an extractor spring failing prior to firing 2000 rounds on a new rifle, has not met the minimum life rounds. The failure shall be recorded and shall be cause for test failure.

⁶The allowable number of unserviceable parts shown for 4 rifles combined applies only to parts failing after the minimum life rounds have been fired on the weapon. For example, ejector springs failing at 3500 rounds on one rifle and at 4100 rounds on a second weapon fall within the allowable limits of 2 on 4 rifles combined; however, failure of an ejector spring on a third rifle after firing 3000 rounds, exceeds the allowance and shall be cause for test failure.

Table I-III. Reliability and Maintenance Data

NAME		Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level					Mfg No. Code	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	
Ammunition: M193 ball, lot TW-1-145 (all rifles and all subtests)											
Rifle: Serial No. 4573468 (APG-1)											
Subtest: Initial Inspection											
S	DS	1.00	1.00	0							
				21 to 40	831	1-2					
				121 to 140	756	1-7					
				221 to 240	788	1-12					
				321 to 340	762	1-2					
				421 to 440	806	1-7					
				521 to 540	770	1-12					
				621 to 640	827	1-2					
				721 to 740	762	1-7					
				821 to 840	778	1-12					
				921 to 940	791	1-2					
S	C	0.83	0.83	1000							
				1021 to 1040	865	1-7					
				1121 to 1140	840	1-12					

MAINT.		Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICED BY		REMARKS
File No	Rate						Mag. No.	Mag. Code No.	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	
1221 to 1240	829					1-2							
1321 to 1340	822					1-7							
1421 to 1440	838					1-12							
1521 to 1540	840					1-2							
1621 to 1640	844					1-7							
1721 to 1740	831					1-12							
1821 to 1840	823					1-2							
1921 to 1940	834					1-7							
2000													
2081 to 2040	875					1-12							
2121 to 2140	851					1-2							
2221 to 2240	831					1-7							
2321 to 2340	829					1-12							
2421 to 2440	823					1-2							
2521 to 2540	844					1-7							
2621 to 2640	838					1-12							
2721 to 2740	847					1-2							
S	C			0.75	0.75								

MAINT.		Active Maint. Time	Maint. Man Hrs	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level				Rifle Rd No	Mag. No. Code	Mag. No. of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	
				2881 to 2840	1-7						
				2921 to 2940	1-12						
S	0	0.83	0.83	3000	1-2				Extractor Spring	3000	Broken
				3021 to 3040	1-7						
				3121 to 3141	1-12						
				3221 to 3240	1-1				Firing pin retaining pin	3301	One leg broken
P	0	0.16	0.16	3301	1-2		Burst	FJ	I		
				3321 to 3340	1-7						
				3421 to 3440	1-12						
				3521 to 3540	1-2						
				3621 to 3640	1-7						
				3721 to 3740	1-12						
				3821 to 3840	1-7						
				3921 to 3940	1-12						
				4000	1-2						
				4081 to 4040	1-7						
				4121 to 4140	1-12						
				4221 to 4240	1-7						
S	C	0.75	0.75		1-2						

MAINT.		Active Maint. Time	Rifle RA No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICED PARTS			REMARKS
Time	Level				Maint. Man Hrs	Mag. No.	Mag. Code	No. of Fire	Type	Class	
			4321 to 4340	849			1-7				
			4421 to 4440	859			1-12				
			4521 to 4540	847			1-2				
			4621 to 4640	840			1-7				
			4721 to 4740	853			1-12				
			4821 to 4840	859			1-2				
			4921 to 4940	865			1-7				
S	C	0.72	5000								
			5081 to 5040	902			1-12				
			5121 to 5140	887			1-2				
			5221 to 5240	879			1-7				
			5321 to 5340	873			1-12				
			5421 to 5440	902			1-2				
			5521 to 5540	877			1-7				
			5621 to 5640	883			1-12				
			5721 to 5740	885			1-2				
			5821 to 5840	883			1-7				
			5921 to 5940	869			1-12				
S	0+DS	0.92	6000						Extractor Spring	6000	Broken

End of Test

MIME.		Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICED PARTS			REMARKS		
							Mag. No.	Mag. Code No of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name at Replac	Mag. on Part				
						1521 to 1540	877									
						1540	871									
						1621 to 1640	861									
						1721 to 1740	877									
						1821 to 1840	885									
						1921 to 1940	937									
S	C		0.67	0.67		2000	887									
						2021 to 2040	867									
						2121 to 2140	881									
						2221 to 2240	883									
						2321 to 2340	875									
						2421 to 2440	879									
						2521 to 2540	893									
						2621 to 2640	869									
						2721 to 2740	895									
						2821 to 2840	928									
						2921 to 2940	879									
S	C		0.73	0.73		3000	877									
						3021 to 3040										
						3121 to 3140										
						3221 to 3240										

TYPE		Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (spm)	Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mag. No. of Fire	Type	Class	UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
											Part Name	Part Name	
					887	2-2							
					877	2-7							
					881	2-12							
					904	2-2							
					889	2-7							
					885	2-12							
					893	2-2							
S	C		0.70	0.70	937	2-7							
					897	2-12							
					883	2-2							
					838	2-7							
					883	2-12							
					879	2-2							
					874	2-7							
					887	2-12							
					887	2-2							
					887	2-7							
S	C		0.67	0.67	887	2-7							

TIME		Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle RD No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICABLES FOUND		REMARKS
Time	Level					Mag. No.	Mag. Code	No. of Fire	Type	Class	
Rifle: Serial No 457849D (APG Co)											
Subtest: Initial Inspection											
S	DS	1.15	1.15	0							
				21 to 40	883						
				121 to 140	844						
				221 to 240	853						
				321 to 340	822						
				421 to 440	857						
				521 to 540	827						
				621 to 640	859						
				721 to 740	832						
				821 to 840	857						
				921 to 940	829						
				1021 to 1040	926						
				1121 to 1140	879						
				1221 to 1240	867						
S	C	0.67	0.67								

MAG. No.		Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICIABLE PARTS		REMARKS	
Type	Level			Maint. Man Hrs	Rifle RG No	Mag. No. Code	Mag. Mode	Type	Class		Part Name
			873	1321 to 1340	6-7						
			869	1421 to 1440	6-12						
			863	1521 to 1540	6-2						
			859	1621 to 1640	6-7						
			867	1721 to 1740	6-12						
			867	1821 to 1840	6-2						
			869	1921 to 1940	6-7						
S	C	0.77	904	2021 to 2040	6-12						
			881	2121 to 2140	6-2						
			873	2221 to 2240	6-7						
			861	2321 to 2340	6-12						
			873	2421 to 2440	6-2						
			869	2521 to 2540	6-7						
			869	2621 to 2640	6-12						
			877	2721 to 2740	6-2						
			867	2821 to 2840	6-7						

UNIT		Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Part No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS							
								Mag. Code No.	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name at Replac		AM on Part						
S	C			0.70	0.70	2921 to 2940	887													
						3000 to 3021 to	917													
						3040 to 3121 to	885													
						3140 to 3221 to	873													
						3240 to 3321 to	879													
						3340 to 3421 to	867													
						3440 to 3521 to	867													
						3540 to 3621 to	871													
						3640 to 3721 to	863													
						3740 to 3821 to	873													
						3840 to 3921 to	879													
						3940 to 4000														
						4021 to 4040	921													
						4121 to 4140	881													
						4221 to 4240	869													
4321 to 4340	857																			
4421 to 4440	867																			
S	C			0.73	0.73															

MACHINE		Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MAGNUMS			USERVICABLE PARTS			REMARKS
Type	Level					Maint. Man Hrs	Mag. No. Code	Mag. Mode	Type	Class	Part Name at Replac	
				4521 to 4540	867	6-2						
				4621 to 4640	863	6-7						
				4721 to 4740	873	6-12						
				4821 to 4840	875	6-2						
				4921 to 4940	889	6-7						
S	C	0.68	0.68	5000	908	6-12						
				5021 to 5040	891	6-2						
				5121 to 5140	887	6-7						
				5221 to 5240	883	6-12						
				5321 to 5340	900	6-2						
				5421 to 5440	897	6-7						
				5521 to 5540	877	6-12						
				5621 to 5640	904	6-2						
				5721 to 5740	902	6-7						
				5821 to 5840	887	6-12						
				5921 to 5940								
S	OTDS	0.95	0.95	6000								
			End of	Test								

MAINT.		Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICABLE PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level					Mag. No.	Mag. Code No.	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	
Rifle	Serial No	4578608	APG-7)								
Subtest	Initial Inspection										
S	DS	1.13	1.13	0	827	7-2					
				21 to 40							
				181 to 140	829	7-7					
				221 to 240	838	7-12					
				321 to 340	857	7-2					
				421 to 440	842	7-7					
				521 to 540	873	7-12					
				621 to 640	867	7-2					
				721 to 740	869	7-7					
				821 to 840	879	7-12					
				921 to 940	877	7-2					
S	C	0.53	0.53	1000	895	7-7					
				1021 to 1040							
				1121 to 1140	895	7-12					
				1221 to 1240	883	7-2					
				1321 to 1340	889	7-7					

MAINT.		MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICIBLE PARTS		REMARKS			
Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	Mag. No. of Fire	Mag. Mode		Type	Class	Part Name
				1421 to	889	7-12					
				1440	891	7-2					
				1521 to	889	7-7					
				1540	897	7-12					
				1621 to	893	7-2					
				1640	887	7-7					
				1721 to							
				1740							
				1821 to							
				1840							
				1921 to							
				1940							
S	C	0.50	0.50	2000							
				2021 to	921	7-12					
				2040	887	7-2					
				2121 to							
				2140							
				2221 to	879	7-7					
				2240	885	7-12					
				2321 to							
				2340	900	7-2					
				2421 to	893	7-7					
				2440	887	7-12					
				2521 to							
				2540							
				2621 to							
				2640							
				2721 to	889	7-2					
				2740	895	7-7					
				2821 to							
				2840							
				2921 to	877	7-12					
				2940							
S	C	0.55	0.55	3000							
				3021 to							
				3040							

TIME	Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICABLE PARTS			REMARKS		
							Mag No.	Mag. Code	Mode	Type	Class	Part Name		Qty on Part	
					3021 to 3040	895									
					3121 to 3140	887									
					3221 to 3240	881									
					3321 to 3340	863									
					3421 to 3440	885									
					3521 to 3540	879									
					3621 to 3640	881									
					3721 to 3740	867									
					3821 to 3840	867									
					3921 to 3940	847									
					4000										
					4021 to 4040	915									
					4121 to 4140	906									
					4221 to 4240	891									
					4321 to 4340	887									
					4421 to 4440	879									
					4521 to 4540	887									
					4621 to 4640	877									
					4721 to 4740	873									

S C 0.53 0.53

MAINT.		Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICIBLE PARTS		REMARKS
								Mag. Code	Mag. Mode	Type	Class	Part Name at Replac	
						4891 to 4840	865	7-2					
						4991 to 4240	861	7-7					
						5000	904	7-12					
						5021 to 5040							
						5121 to 5140	897	7-2					
						5221 to 5240	875	7-7					
						5321 to 5340	873	7-12					
						5421 to 5440	883	7-2					
						5521 to 5540	859	7-7					
						5621 to 5640	873	7-12					
						5721 to 5740	873	7-2					
						5821 to 5840	865	7-7					
						5921 to 5940	873	7-12					
S	0	0.50	0.50			6000					Extractor Spring	5000	Broken
S	0+DS	0.77	0.77	End of Test							Ejector Spring	6000	Broken

TIME		Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MAINTENANCE			DISASSEMBLY PARTS			REMARKS	
Type	Serial No.						Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mag. No. of Tire	Type	Class	Part Name		Mag. Code
	Rifle: Serial No. 4578674													
	Subst: Initial Inspection													
S	DS 1.02	1.02	1.02	0		783								
					21 to 40		8-2							
					121 to 140	764								
					221 to 240	829								
					321 to 340	772								
					421 to 440	818								
					521 to 540	801								
					621 to 640	829								
					721 to 740	788								
					821 to 840	809								
					921 to 940	776								
					1000									
					1021 to 1040	851								
					1121 to 1140	845								
					1221 to 1240	861								
					1321 to 1340	842								
S	C		0.73	0.73										

Type	Travel	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Id No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	FUNCTIONS				SERVICES		REMARKS
						Mag No.	Mag. Code	Kode	Type	Class	Part Name	
				3021 to	924	8-2						
				3072	891	8-7						
				3121 to	875	8-12						
				3140	869	8-2						
				3221 to	885	8-7						
				3242	887	8-12						
				3321 to	881	8-2						
				3340	889	8-7						
				3421 to	877	8-12						
				3440	895	8-2						
				3521 to	921	8-7						
				3540	906	8-12						
				3621 to	869	8-2						
				3640	871	8-7						
				3721 to	879	8-12						
				3740	867	8-2						
				3821 to	867	8-7						
				3840	908	8-5	Semi	FBR	I			
				3921 to		8-12						
				3940								
S	C	0.62	0.62	4000								
				4021 to								
				4040								
				4121 to								
				4140								
				4221 to								
				4240								
				4321 to								
				4340								
				4421 to								
				4440								
				4521 to								
				4540								
				4621 to								
				4640								
				4700								
				4721 to								
				4740								CH

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UT-SERVICE B/LW PARTS		REMARKS	
						Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mode of Fire	Type	Class		Part Name or Replac
				4821 to 4840	867							
S	C	0.65	0.65	4921 to 5000	879							
				5021 to 5040	919							
				5121 to 5140	881							
				5221 to 5240	877							
				5321 to 5340	881							
				5421 to 5440	883							
				5521 to 5540	893							
				5621 to 5640	883							
				5721 to 5740	893							
				5821 to 5840	895							
				5921 to 5940	883							
S	OTDS	0.88	0.88	6000	Test						Extractor Spring	6000 Broken
				End of								

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MAGAZINES				RELOADING			UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
						Mag. No.	Mag. No. of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	Mag. on Part				
				3001 to 3040	908	9-2									
				3121 to 3140	865	9-7									
				3221 to 3240	834	9-12									
				3321 to 3340	842	9-2									
				3421 to 3440	859	9-7									
				3521 to 3540	853	9-12									
				3621 to 3640	867	9-2									
				3721 to 3740	829	9-7									
				3821 to 3840	847	9-12									
				3879		9-14		Burst	FF/BOB I						CH
				3921 to 3940	857	9-2	19								
S	C	0.65	0.65	4000											
				4021 to 4040	921	9-7									
				4121 to 4140	904	9-12									
				4159		9-13	19	Semi	FF/BOB I						CH
				4221 to 4240	671	9-2									
				4321 to 4340	857	9-7									
				4421 to 4440	863	9-12									
				4539		9-2	19	Auto	FF/BOB I						CH

MAINT.		Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level				Maint. Man Hrs	Mfg. No. Code	Mag. No.	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	
			4521 to 4539	879	19	9-2	Auto	FF/BOB	I		CH
			44639			9-7					
			4621 to 4640	861		9-7					
			4721 to 4740	871		9-12					
			4821 to 4840	867		9-2					
			4921 to 4940	853		9-7					
			5000								
S	C4DS	0.68	5021 to 5040	895		9-12					
			5121 to 5140	897		9-2					
			5221 to 5240	865		9-7					
			5321 to 5340	859		9-12					
			5421 to 5440	851		9-2					
			5462		2	9-4	Burst	FF/BOB	I		CH
			5521 to 5540	861		9-7					
			5621 to 5640	845		9-12					

S C4DS 0.68 0.68
 At this time the original bolt catch, spring, plunger and roll pin were reassembled in rifle No 4579219C APG-9 and the upper receiver from rifle No. 4585111 (APG-14) was assembled.

MAINT.		MAINT.			Active		Cyclic		MALFUNCTIONS				UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level	Man Hrs	Time	Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Rate (spm)	Mag. No.	Mag. No. Code	Mag. Code	Type	Class	Part Name	Part Name	REMARKS	
S	0+DS	0.90	0.90	End of	5721 to 5740 5821 to 5840 5921 to 5940 6000 End of	857 838 857 Test		9-2 9-7 9-12							
Rifle	Serial No. 4580933				CAPG -10)										
Subtest:	Initial Inspection														
S	DS	1.20	1.20	0	39 40 to 59	842		19	10-2	Auto	BEC	I		CH	
Subtest:	Accuracy				112										
S	0	0.83	0.83	End of										Tgts 10-1 thru 10-5	
Rifle	Serial NO. 4582168				CAPG -11)										
Subtest:	Initial Inspection														
S	DS	1.25	1.25	0	21 to 40	887			11-2						
Subtest:	Accuracy														
S	0	0.73	0.73	93										Tgts 11-1 thru 11-5	
Subtest:	Accuracy				End of										

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Mile Rd No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	Mfg. No.	MALFUNCTIONS			DISPOSITION		REMARKS	
							Code of Tire	Type	Class	Part Name	Part No		
S	C	0.68	0.68	1431 to 1440	857		12-12						
				1511 to 1540	865		12-2						
				1621 to 1640	859		12-7						
				1721 to 1740	863		12-12						
				1831 to 1840	863		12-2						
				1921 to 1940	875		12-7						
				2030	933		12-12						
				2081 to 2090	863		12-2						
				2171 to 2180	851		12-7						
				2281 to 2340	867		12-12						
				2421 to 2440	863		12-2						
				2531 to 2540	883		12-7						
				2621 to 2640	879		12-12						
				2721 to 2740	879		12-2						
				2821 to 2840	879		12-7						
2921 to 2940	879		12-12										
3000													
3060													
S	C	0.63	0.63			20	12-3	Semi	FBR	I		CH	

Type	Level	Maint. Can Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Mile Rd No	Cyclic Rate (per)	Mag. Code	MANUFACTURERS			DISERVICE REF PARTS		REMARKS
							Mag. Code of Type	Code of Type	Type	Class	Part Name or Replac	
				3021 to 3070	937	12-2						
				3071 to 3140	897	12-7						
				3141 to 3240	881	12-12						
				3241 to 3320	883	12-2						
				3321 to 3440	879	12-7						
				3441 to 3540	887	12-12						
				3541 to 3640	877	12-2						
				3641 to 3740	879	12-7						
				3741 to 3840	861	12-12						
				3841 to 3940	865	12-2						
				3941 to 4040	924	12-7						
				4041 to 4140	887	12-12						
				4141 to 4240	859	12-2						
				4241 to 4340	867	12-7						
				4341 to 4440	869	12-12						
				4441 to 4540	877	12-2						
				4541 to 4640	869	12-7						
				4641 to 4740	865	12-12						
				4741 to 4840								

S C 0.67 0.67

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MANUFACTURERS				UTS-SERVICE MIL. PARTS		REMARKS
						Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mag. No. of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	
				4821 to 4840	873			12-2				
				4921 to 4940	863			12-7				
				5021 to 5040	910			12-12				
				5121 to 5140	889			12-2				
				5221 to 5240	887			12-7				
				5321 to 5340	885			12-12				
				5421 to 5440	879			12-2				
				5521 to 5540	889			12-7				
				5621 to 5640	897			12-12				
				5721 to 5740	897			12-2				
				5821 to 5840	897			12-7				
				5921 to 5940	889			12-12				
S	C	0.50	0.50	6000								
S	O+DS	0.97	0.97	6000								
			End of Test									

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	Rifle No	Mag. No.	MANFUNCTIONS			OPERATIONAL PARTS		REMARKS
							Mag. Code/No.	Mode	Type	Class	Part Name	
RS	Serv. Mx	4583	112 CAPG -13)									
S	DS	1.12	1.12	0	0							
				81 to 40	844							
				101 to 140	859							
				221 to 240	847							
				321 to 340	847							
				421 to 440	859							
				521 to 540	871							
				621 to 640	879							
				721 to 740	871							
				821 to 840	893							
				921 to 940	873							
S	C	0.52	0.52	1000								
				1021 to 1040	879							
				1121 to 1140	867							
				1221 to 1240	883							
				1321 to 1340	879							

Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MAINTENANCE FUNCTIONS		OPERATION		REMARKS
					Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Type	Class	
					Mag. No.	Code of Line	Part Issue	Mag. Code	
				869	1421 to 1440	13-12			
				869	1521 to 1540	13-2			
				873	1621 to 1640	13-7			
				859	1721 to 1740	13-12			
				869	1821 to 1840	13-2			
				871	1921 to 1940	13-7			
S	C	0.57	0.57	926	2021 to 2040	13-12			
				879	2121 to 2140	13-2			
				873	2221 to 2240	13-7			
				879	2321 to 2340	13-12			
				879	2421 to 2440	13-2			
				875	2521 to 2540	13-7			
				879	2621 to 2640	13-12			
				875	2721 to 2740	13-2			
				897	2821 to 2840	13-7			
S	C	0.57	0.57	871	2921 to 2940	13-12			
					3000				

Type	Level	Maint. Int. Pnt. Time	Active Point. Time	Mile		Cyclic Rate (unit)	FUNCTIONS			SERVICE LIFE PARTS		REMARKS
				From	To		Mile No.	Mode of Life	Type	Class	Part Name	
				3221 to	3270	908	13-2					
				3270 to	3310	900	13-7					
				3310 to	3350	879	13-12					
				3350 to	3421 to	867	13-2					
				3421 to	3440	867	13-7					
				3440 to	3521 to	863	13-12					
				3521 to	3540	865	13-2					
				3540 to	3621 to	863	13-7					
				3621 to	3640	847	13-12					
				3640 to	3721 to	834	13-2					
				3721 to	3740	912	13-7					
				3740 to	3821 to	889	13-12					
				3821 to	3840	847	13-2					
				3840 to	3921 to	844	13-7					
				3921 to	3940	831	13-12					
				3940 to	4021 to	832	13-2					
				4021 to	4040	836	13-7					
				4040 to	4121 to	834	13-12					
S	C	0.52	0.52	4121 to	4140							
				4140 to	4221 to							
				4221 to	4240							
				4240 to	4321 to							
				4321 to	4340							
				4340 to	4421 to							
				4421 to	4440							
				4440 to	4521 to							
				4521 to	4540							
				4540 to	4621 to							
				4621 to	4640							
				4640 to	4721 to							
				4721 to	4740							

M.I.P.T.		Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Id No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MANUFACTURER'S			UTS SERVICE BLD PARTS		REMARKS
Type	Level					Fig No.	Fig Code	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	
				4821 to 4840	832	13-2					
				4921 to 4940	838	13-7					
S	C	0.52	0.52	5000 to 5021 to 5040	897	13-12					
				5121 to 5140	863	13-2					
				5221 to 5240	859	13-7					
				5321 to 5340	857	13-12					
				5421 to 5440	847	13-2					
				5521 to 5540	844	13-7					
				5621 to 5640	834	13-12					
				5721 to 5740	840	13-2					
				5821 to 5840	840	13-7					
				5921 to 5940	825	13-12					
S	OTDS	0.75	0.75	6000							
				End of Test							

Date	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	FUNCTIONS			DISERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS
						Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mag. Mode	Class	Part Name	
			4585542	(APG-14)							
			1.22	0	877	16-2					
			1.22	2170	842	16-7					
			1.22	40	867	16-12					
			1.22	12170	845	16-2					
			1.22	240	869	16-7					
			1.22	32170	855	16-12					
			1.22	340	906	16-2					
			1.22	42170	847	16-7					
			1.22	440	887	16-12					
			1.22	52170	867	16-2					
			1.22	540	910	16-7					
			1.22	62170	893	16-12					
			1.22	640	895	16-2					
			1.22	72170	887	16-7					
			1.22	740	877	16-12					
			1.22	82170	910	16-2					
			1.22	840	910	16-7					
			1.22	92170	893	16-12					
			1.22	940	895	16-2					
			1.22	102170	887	16-7					
			1.22	1040	910	16-12					
			1.22	112170	893	16-2					
			1.22	1140	895	16-7					
			1.22	122170	887	16-12					
			1.22	1240	910	16-2					
			1.22	132170	893	16-7					
			1.22	1340	895	16-12					

MAINT.		Type	Level	Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle No	Cyclic Rate (spm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICABLE PARTS			REMARKS
								Mag. No.	Mag. Code	Mag. No. of Time	Type	Class	Part Name at Replac	
						1421 to 1440	902							
						1521 to 1540	897							
						1621 to 1640	895							
						1721 to 1740	867							
						1821 to 1840	881							
						1921 to 1940	897							
S	C		0.70	0.70		2000								
						2021 to 2040	930							
						2121 to 2140	902							
						2221 to 2240	897							
						2321 to 2340	897							
						2421 to 2440	897							
						2521 to 2540	902							
						2621 to 2640	897							
						2721 to 2740	906							
						2821 to 2840	887							
						2921 to 2940	912							
S	C		0.68	0.68		3000								

Type	MAINT.		Active Maint. Time	Rifle Rd No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			UNSERVICEABLE PARTS		REMARKS	
	Level	Man Hrs				Mag. No. (Mag. No.)	Mag. Code No	Mode of Fire	Type	Class		Part Name
				3021 to 3040	926							
				3121 to 3140	908							
				3221 to 3240	908							
				3321 to 3340	915							
				3421 to 3440	900							
				3521 to 3540	902							
				3621 to 3640	900							
				3721 to 3740	910							
				3821 to 3840	895							
				3921 to 3940	902							
				4000								
				4021 to 4040	933							
				4121 to 4140	921							
				4221 to 4240	887							
				4321 to 4340	902							
				4421 to 4440	889							
				4521 to 4540	893							
				4621 to 4640	883							
				4721 to 4740	900							
S	C	0.57	0.57									

MAINT.		Active Maint. Man Hrs	Active Maint. Time	Rifle Ad No	Cyclic Rate (rpm)	MALFUNCTIONS			SERVICE BLE PARTS			REMARKS
Type	Level					Mag. Code	Mode of Fire	Type	Class	Part Name	Qty on Part	
				4821 to 4840	902	16-2						
				4921 to 4940	902	16-7						
S	C	0.60	0.60	5000 to 5021 to 5040	933	16-12						
				5121 to 5140	910	16-2						
				5221 to 5240	906	16-7						
				5321 to 5340	900	16-12						
				5421 to 5440	904	16-2						
				5521 to 5540	919	16-7						
				5621 to 5640	910	16-12						
				5721 to 5740	906	16-2						
				5821 to 5840	919	16-7						
				5921 to 5940	902	16-12						
S	0+DS	0.97	0.97	6000	Test							
				End of								

APPENDIX II - TEST FINDINGS

Not used.

APPENDIX III - DEFICIENCIES AND SHORTCOMINGS

1. Deficiencies

None.

2. Shortcomings

<u>Shortcoming</u>	<u>Suggested Corrective Action</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2.1 One of the nine rifles fired 6000 rounds for reliability failed to meet the malfunction requirements of the military specification (Reference 4) because of an excessive number of failures to feed from the magazine (para 1.5.2.2).		None.
2.2 One of the nine rifles fired 6000 rounds for reliability experienced a broken firing-pin-retaining pin. In accordance with the military specification (Reference 4), breakage of this part is not permitted in the firing of 6000 rounds (para 1.5.2.2).		None.

3. Corrected Deficiencies and Shortcomings

None.

APPENDIX IV - MAINTENANCE EVALUATION

Not used.

APPENDIX V - REFERENCES

1. Letter, TECOM, AMSTE-BC, Test Directive for Customer Test/Support Directive. TECOM Project/Test No. 8-WE-600-016-015, Comparison Test of Rifle, 5.56-MM M16A1, 25 August 1971.
2. TM 9-1005-249-12, Operator and Organizational Manual for the M16 and M16A1 Rifles, August 1968.
3. TM 9-1005-249-34, Direct and General Support Maintenance Manual for the M16 and M16A1 Rifles, August 1968.
4. Military Specification MIL-R-45587 for Rifles, 5.56-MM, M16 and M16A1, 15 December 1969.
5. Test Plan, Comparison for Rifle, 5.56-MM, M16A1, US Army Weapons Command, AMSWE-QAS, 3 August 1971.
6. Keele, Eric, Final Report on Comparison Test of Rifle, 5.56-MM, M16A1. TECOM Project No. 8-WE-600-016-012. Aberdeen Proving Ground. Report No. APG-MT-3883, July 1971. (Distribution Controlled by US Army Weapons Command, ATTN: AMSWE-QA.)

APPENDIX VI - ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. Malfunction Abbreviations and Definitions. These include:
 - a. BEC. Bolt catch engaged and stopped the bolt or the bolt carrier during firing instead of after the last round in the magazine was fired.
 - b. FFM. A feeding malfunction which occurs during firing with the rifle bolt positioned behind the base of the cartridge and the round has not been stripped from the magazine. The abbreviation may be followed with a number which indicates the round in the magazine (i.e., FFM-1 is a failure to feed of the first round from the magazine).
 - c. FF/BOB. A feeding malfunction which occurs during firing when the bolt has overridden the base of the cartridge in the magazine and fails to strip the round from the magazine.
 - d. FBL. Failure of the bolt to lock, brass not visible.
 - e. FBR. Failure of the bolt to be engaged and held open in a rearward position by the bolt catch after the last round in the magazine is fired.
 - f. FJ. Failure of a fired case to be completely ejected from the rifle. Usually, this malfunction is indicative of a broken extractor spring.
2. Malfunction Clearing Actions. In most instances in the recording of firing-performance data in the various subtests as well as Appendix I, the clearing action that was required to overcome malfunctions was recorded. The abbreviations which were used to identify the action are as follows:
 - a. BA. The use of the bolt assist device cleared the stoppage.
 - b. CH. Only the charging handle was used to clear the stoppage.
 - c. M. It was necessary to remove the magazine in order to clear the stoppage; the abbreviation CH/M is listed, indicating that the charging handle had to be held to the rear with one hand while the magazine was removed with the other.
3. Malfunction Classifications. These include:
 - a. Class I. Immediately clearable (clearable by gunner through operation of charging handle, removal of magazine or manually removing round without aid of tools or equipment).

- b. Class II. Clearable by gunner with available equipment (basic issue items).
 - c. Class III. Not clearable by gunner.
4. Maintenance Designations. These include:
- a. Type:
 - 1) P, preventative.
 - 2) S, scheduled.
 - 3) U, unscheduled.
 - b. Level Performing Action:
 - 1) C, operator or crew.
 - 2) O, organizational maintenance.
 - 3) DS, direct support.
5. Definitions. These include:
- a. Active Maintenance Time. This is the increment of the time during which the maintenance action is actually being performed (i.e., excluding all inactive downtime such as supply, administrative, and stand-by). This is stated in multiples of calendar hours or the elapsed maintenance times, i.e., not to be confused with maintenance man-hours.
 - b. Maintenance Man-Hours. Maintenance man-hours include that amount of time accumulated by all personnel performing the maintenance task. Two men work on an item simultaneously for 2 hours, one stops at this point and the second continues on the item for an additional 3 hours. This indicates that the active maintenance time is 5 hours and the maintenance man-hours are 7.
 - c. Malfunction. A malfunction is a faulty action of the ammunition, weapon, or support equipment. Malfunctions are of two types; those that cause unintended interruptions of firing and those that do not.
 - d. Shortcoming. An imperfection or malfunction occurring during the life cycle of equipment, which should be reported and which must be corrected to increase efficiency and to render the equipment completely serviceable. It will not cause an immediate breakdown, jeopardize safe operation, or materially reduce the

usability of the materiel or end product. If occurring during test phases, the shortcoming should be corrected if it can be done without unduly complicating the item or inducing another undesirable characteristic such as increased cost, weight, etc.

- e. Unserviceable Part. A part that causes malfunctioning of the rifle or impairs the safety of the user.

6. General Abbreviations:

- a. Auto, the rifle was fired a 20-round burst.
- b. Burst, the rifle was fired in 3- to 5-round bursts.
- c. CI, center of impact with respect to aiming point.
- d. Ex var, extreme variation.
- e. H, horizontal.
- f. Semi, the rifle was fired semiautomatically.
- g. Spm, shots per minute.
- h. V, vertical.

APPENDIX VII - DISTRIBUTION LIST

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13. ABSTRACT
The purpose of this test was to evaluate the performance of M16A1 rifles to detect any deterioration of product quality during production. Testing was conducted at Aberdeen Proving Ground by the Materiel Testing Directorate from 28 October to 30 November 1971. Sixteen rifles were inspected for compliance with the military specification for the M16A1 rifle. Six of the rifles were fired for accuracy and nine for reliability. Two of the rifles fired for reliability failed to meet requirements, one because of excessive failures to feed from the magazine and a second because of a broken firing-pin-retaining pin. The part failure and the occurrence of excessive malfunctioning were classified as shortcomings. It was concluded that with the exception of the two rifles which failed the reliability test, all rifles met inspection, accuracy, and reliability requirements. It was also concluded that the quality of the extractor springs in the rifles in this test was superior to the quality of those used in the rifles in the last comparison test.

14. KEY WORDS	LINK A		LINK B		LINK C	
	ROLE	WT	ROLE	WT	ROLE	WT
Rifle, 5.56-mm M16A1 Accuracy, 5.56-mm rifle Endurance (6000-rounds), M16A1 rifle Failures to feed, M16A1 rifle						