



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY WEAPONS COMMAND
ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61201

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25-7

IN REPLY REFER TO
AMSWE-QA

6 February 1969

SUBJECT: M16A1 Rifle Initial Production and Comparison Test Meeting at
USATECOM on 9 Jan 69

Commanding General
U. S. Army Test and Evaluation Command
ATTN: AMSTE-BC, Col C. J. Molloy Jr.
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005

1. Inclosed hereto are minutes of subject meeting.
2. In accordance with discussion and actions cited by representatives of respective Commands, it is assumed that actions cited in the minutes will be initiated in a prompt manner.
3. Conclusions cited in minutes are a reflection of the understanding of all personnel in attendance.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
as

C. A. MacLeod
C. A. MacLEOD
Chairman, M16A1 Rifle Task Group
Quality Assurance Directorate

CF: w/incl
CG, U. S. Army Test & Evaluation Command
ATTN: AMSTE-BC, Mr. Crider
CO, Aberdeen Proving Ground

ATTN: STEAP-MT-TI, Mr. Doilney
Mr. Michelson
Mr. Hankins
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Miller
Mr. Hendricks
Mr. Staley

CO, Rock Island Arsenal
ATTN: SWERI-QAT, Mr. Betts
Mr. Spears

MINUTES OF MEETING - 9 January 1969

M16A1 RIFLE (INITIAL PRODUCTION TEST AND COMPARISON TEST)

1. Purpose. To discuss and review activities relating to the conduct of the M16A1 Rifle Initial Production Test, Comparison Test, and the Initial Production Test of the 30-Round Magazine.

2. Personnel in Attendance.

Mr. C. Grider	AMSTE--BC
Mr. S. Doilney	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. I. Michelson	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. A. R. Hankins	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. A. Wilson	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. F. Miller	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. O. E. Hendricks	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. L. E. Staley	STEAP-MT-TI
Mr. W. Betts	SWERI--QAT
Mr. D. Spears	SWERI--QAT
Mr. C. Pelcharsky	AMCPM--RS

3. Discussions. The agenda provided by AMSWE--QA letter dated 12 December 1968 to USATECOM was covered in detail with the following areas being of prime importance:

a. A work schedule to be employed by Aberdeen Proving Ground is to be based on a 12-hour day, 5-day week with testing starting 15 January 1969.

b. USATECOM reconfirmed release dates of 45 days for CONUS, 90 days for SEA and 120 days for completion to include test report.

c. Test report was discussed regarding classification, and it was decided that if a coding system was used, classification was unnecessary.

d. The possibility of contractor personnel witnessing the test was discussed, and it was agreed, that if possible, contractors should be discouraged, but if they request to witness the test, all three contractors should be scheduled to arrive at the same time for one or two days.

e. Aberdeen Proving Ground stated that four test sites would be operating concurrently which will include the 30-Round Magazine Test.

f. USATECOM's recommendations for change of the M16 Test Plans, both Initial Production and Comparison Test, were discussed with the following results:

(1) Targeting and accuracy testing would be changed from the first three weapons to the last seven weapons of each producer.

(2) Low Temperature Test would be changed in two areas; that is, the 600 round maintenance interval would be changed to the 1,000 round maintenance interval, and the rifle chamber conditions cited in TECOM proposal would be included.

(3) Dynamic Dust Test would be fired with the first three weapons of each producer.

(4) The Endurance Test would be conducted with the M3 Bipod attached for the first 2,000 rounds in accordance with SAPD. The 2,001 through 3,000 rounds would be fired with the M7 Bayonet attached in accordance with SAPD. The attitude firing would be fired from the 3,001 round through the 4,400 round. Balance of Endurance testing for 4,401 rounds through 10,000 rounds would be fired in accordance with the SAPD. The Accuracy, Velocity and Yaw requirements would be conducted on the first 50 rounds of each 2,000 round group; that is, the first 50 rounds after maintenance has been accomplished.

g. Question was raised regarding combat loading as to whether the first round fired should be a ball or tracer round. It was agreed that the first round would be a ball round; that is, four ball rounds would be fired prior to the first tracer round.

h. Aberdeen Proving Ground stated that ammunition for subject test was presently available on post in sufficient quantities.

i. Equipment Performance Reports (EPRs) were reviewed regarding the information to be placed on each form and the time frame by which EPRs are to be forwarded (72 hours), and the providing of photographs and sketches to accompany each EPR.

j. Test plans were reviewed for individual requirements with resulting agreement among everyone present that the plans were adequate for determining suitability for issue of the M16A1 Rifle. In addition, no further requirement was placed on USAWECOM for supplying additional equipment.

k. Twenty-Round Control Magazines for individual test in the 30-Round Magazine Initial Production Test were discussed, and agreement was delayed pending review by the Project Manager's office.

4. Conclusions.

a. Question regarding producers witnessing testing at Aberdeen Proving Ground will be resolved between the Project Manager and AMSWE-QA.

b. Headspace gages requested by Aberdeen Proving Ground in .001 increments will be checked for availability by USAWECOM. This information will be relayed to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

c. Test results from the three producers (coded) will be included in one final report with the exception of the 30-Round Magazine Initial Production Test which will be separate. Distribution of final report will be conducted by AMSWE-QA with the exception of the USATECOM distribution list which will be forwarded to AMSWE-QA by AMSTE-BC.

d. Mr. Allen Wilson, STEAP-MT-TI, will be the coordinator on Equipment Performance Reports and final test reports.

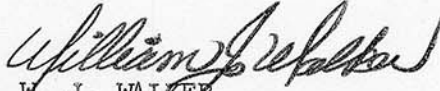
e. Hydra-matic Initial Production Test weapons and repair parts along with monthly endurance weapons are at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

f. It was agreed by all representatives present that AMSWE-QA would be the focal point for all test information.

g. AMSWE-QA would update the Initial Production Test and Comparison Test Plans of the M16A1 Rifle to conform with requirements of para 3f.

h. Project Manager's office and AMSWE-QA would inform Aberdeen Proving Ground on use of 20-Round Control Magazines in the 30-Round Initial Production Test.

i. It was determined that representatives in attendance were of common agreement on all aspects of the test program as a result of this meeting.



W. J. WALKER
Member, M16A1 Rifle Task Group
U. S. Army Weapons Command