

RECORD SHEETS: PROTOTYPES

CATALYST GAME LABS

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Record Sheets: Prototypes*! As a companion volume to *Tactical Operations*, this book is for players who have moved beyond the standard rulebooks for *BattleTech*. Nevertheless, this product is designed to be quick and easy to use and will have you tossing dice in no time.

To use this product, players should have Tactical Operations.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Having graduated from *Total Warfare* and perhaps having picked up *Technical Readout: Prototypes*, you might be wondering why you need this book. While a blank 'Mech record sheet is included in the *Introductory Box Set* for players who wish to design their own 'Mechs, the Technical Readout and Record Sheets series of products opens a wide door to cool, fun designs that can bring additional tactics and enjoyment to any gaming table.

Record Sheets: Prototypes widens the options available to players, with an eye toward ease of use that is the hallmark of *BattleTech* products. Players need only photocopy any design they wish to play and can immediately start marching across the battlefield.

Rules Addendum and Scenarios

A complete *Rules Addendum* follows this introduction before the start of the record sheets. It includes ready-to-play scenarios as well as Design Quirks and construction rules for Ultra ProtoMechs, both of which allow players to use the record sheets in this volume.

Where are the other variants found in Technical Readout: Prototypes?

Players who want pre-printed record sheets for any variants mentioned in the *Technical Readout* can purchase the *Record Sheet: Prototypes Unabridged* PDF—as well as many other *BattleTech* products—at www.battlecorps.com/catalog.

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RATES HODGUDAU

The following advanced rules allow players to use the units presented in *Technical Readout: Prototypes* in their games—a sneak preview of all that *Strategic Operations: The Advanced Solar System Conquest Rules* (SO) has to offer. These rules have been modified as appropriate to ensure they are completely playable with the rules and scenarios in this book (for example, any design guirks not assigned to a



unit in Technical Readout: Prototypes are not included here).

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BattleTech story and sourcebook fiction is filled with descriptions of various designs whose unique quirks affect their abilities—from the Javelin and its off center of gravity that makes it prone to falling at high speeds, to the Catapult and its faulty jump jets that can break and increase its heat during battle, to the Behemoth DropShip that requires two docking collars and so on. There are also illustrations of 'Mechs that often fall far outside the norm, such as the Stalker that plainly doesn't have arms, or the Jenner that has obvious difficulty torso twisting and so on.

However, game design and balance cannot be dictated by fiction or illustrations. Therefore, while such fiction is fun and believable and the wide variety of illustrations provides a wonderful diversity, not seeing such unique quirks play out on the field of battle—particularly when real-world vehicles provide so many existing quirks—lessens the connection between the universe and the game board.

Design quirks are a set of optional rules that allow players to bring the individuality of illustrations and story and sourcebook fiction not to mention the uniqueness that can result from an endless series of field patches by a resourceful tech—to the gaming table.

Numerical Values: As these quirks are already assigned to each unit via *Technical Readout: Prototypes*, these rules do not include the numerical values for each quirk. For such values (so players can assign these quirks to their own designs), see the full Design Quirk rules in *Strategic Operations*.

POSITIVE DESIGN QUIRKS

The following positive design quirks each contain a rule that enhances how the design performs during a game, whether during movement or combat, a heat-related advantage and so on. When a quirk is applied to weapons grouped into a bay, all weapons receive the quirk.

Accurate Weapon

Being of exceptional design, a weapon or bay is more accurate than normal, and so all to-hit target numbers for that weapon or bay receive a -1 modifier.

Anti-Aircraft Targeting

Some BattleMechs like the *Rifleman* have an advanced targeting system that can accurately target flying units: VTOLs, WiGEs, conventional and aerospace fighters, Fixed-Wing Support Vehicles, DropShips and units performing a combat drop (see p. 22, *SO*). All attacks against such units while airborne (not grounded) receive a –2 target number modifier. This bonus is only available when the unit itself is on the ground.

Atmospheric Flyer

An aerospace unit with this quirk is exceptionally stable and maneuverable when operating in atmosphere. All control rolls receive a –1 target number modifier while in atmosphere.

Combat Computer

The unit possesses an advanced combat computer like that installed in the *Stalker*. The computer can aid the MechWarrior or pilot in managing heat levels, and each turn the unit will generate 4 points of heat less than normal (but never less than zero).

Easy to Maintain

Some units, such as the *Thorn*, are easier than others to maintain and repair. All repair or replacement rolls made for a unit with this quirk receive a - 1 target number modifier.

Easy to Pilot

Training units such as the *Chameleon* and *Crockett* are designed to be easier for a rookie MechWarrior or pilot to operate. A MechWarrior or pilot with a Piloting Skill of more than 3 will receive a –1 target number modifier for Piloting Skill rolls they have to make as a result of damage or underlying terrain. More skilled MechWarriors receive no benefit.

Extended Torso Twist

Unlike most 'Mechs, one with this quirk can turn its torso much further. When torso twisting, the 'Mech can change its facing by one or two hexsides.

Fast Reload

BattleMechs like the *Hatchetman* and *Enforcer* use large removable ammunition magazines that allow them to reload much faster than normal. Units with this quirk can reload in half the normal time.

Hyper-Extending Actuators

The arm actuators of 'Mechs like the *Quickdraw* can bend much further than normal. Even if it has lower arm and/or hand actuators, it can still flip arms to fire all arm-mounted weapons into its rear arc.

Improved Cooling Jacket

One weapon's design incorporates a highly effective cooling jacket. When fired, this weapon generates 1 point less heat than normal (but never less than 1 point overall). More than one weapon or bay can have this positive quirk, but the cost for each must be paid.

PROJOWECH KATER HEDEVEN

The following rules expand upon the ProtoMech game play (see p. 184, *TW*), and construction rules (see p. 80, *TM*). They allow players to field designs on the record sheets found in this volume, as well as build their own custom Ultra ProtoMechs.

These rules originally appeared in *The Wars of Reaving* sourcebook. Any player who does not understand any of the fictional content below is encouraged to read that sourcebook.

NEW EQUIPMENT

ELECTRIC DISCHARGE PROTOMECH ARMOR (EDP)

R&D Start Date: 3066 (Clan Fire Mandrill)

Prototype Design and Production: Circa 3071 (Society/Clan Fire Mandrill)

ProtoMech pilots are taught to engage their enemies in close proximity, and often resort to physically attacking their opponents. While such behavior could occasionally cause serious damage, more frequently it was deemed a waste of assets. Scientist Glenneth of Clan Fire Mandrill sought to find a means by which this waste was mitigated, drawing inspiration from the taser weapon deployed by the Word of Blake. Drawing power from the ProtoMech's fusion engine into a compound capacitor sewn through the unit's armor, the system succeeds in shielding the carrying unit from adverse effects. Rather than an offensive weapon, Glenneth used a system of short spikes on the armor itself as the delivery mechanism. While marginally successful, the system did not see widespread use until combined with the Society's feral ProtoMech pilots.

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ELECTRIC DISCHARGE PROTOMECH ARMOR (EDP)

Rules Level: Experimental

Available to: PM

Tech Base (Ratings): Clan (F/X-X-F)

Game Rules: Whenever a ProtoMech with active EDP armor successfully executes a Frenzy attack (see p.187, *TW*), consult the BattleMech Taser Effects Table (see p. 346, *TO*) using the BattleMech Taser type columns. Apply a –2 penalty to the 2D6 roll used to determine the EDP armor's effects. Resolve the effects using all normal BattleMech Taser rules, as found on pp. 346-347, *TO*.

Whenever a ProtoMech with active EDP armor successfully executes a Frenzy attack against conventional infantry, add +1 damage to the base damage value of the Frenzy attack for that ProtoMech. If the infantry unit is cybernetically enhanced, add +2 damage to the base damage value of the Frenzy attack for that ProtoMech.

The capacitor of the EDP armor needs 6 turns to recharge, during which time none of the ProtoMech's weapons that require heat sinks will function. These 6 turns need not be consecutive, and the ProtoMech's player can elect in every End Phase to not charge the EDP armor in the following turn. Each turn that the EDP armor is charged must be marked on the ProtoMech's record sheet.

Whenever the Torso Location of a ProtoMech with EDP armor suffers 1 or more Critical Damage following a check on the Determine Critical Hits table, immediately assign 5 points of damage to that location subsequent to the resolution of that Critical Damage as a result of the capacitors in that location discharging violently.

EXTENDED JUMP JET SYSTEM (XJJ)

R&D Start Date: 3067 (Clan Snow Raven)

Prototype Design and Production: Circa 3071 (Society/Clan Snow Raven)

Clan Cloud Cobra's Sylph battle armor impressed Clan Snow Raven with its sustained VTOL capability. The Ravens sought to use the technology as a springboard to provide similar capabilities for their ProtoMech and BattleMech programs. While they have yet to successfully replicate that capability, the Clan's scientists have created jump jets for ProtoMechs that are significantly more efficient and powerful. Shortly after the Snow Ravens deployed working prototypes, the Ravens' Society cell siphoned the project for proliferation among its own ProtoMech efforts.

CONSTRUCTION

EDP Armor: Reduce the Maximum Number of Items in the Torso Location by 1. Each point of EDP armor weighs 75 kilograms.

Extended Jump Jet system: Glider ProtoMechs cannot use Extended Jump Jets. Extended Jump Jet systems weigh twice as much as the standard ProtoMech Jump Jet weights (100 kilograms per Jump MP for ProtoMechs under 6 tons, 200 kilograms per Jump MP for Protos 6 to 9 tons in total mass, 300 kilograms per Jump MP for ProtoMechs over 9 tons in total mass). Unlike standard jump jets, ProtoMechs may mount as many XJJs as they have Running MP.

SCOUMRIOS

This section contains two ready-to-play scenarios. After the name of each scenario, a parenthetical phrase defines what type it is as described under *Mission Types* (see p. 35, *Inner Sphere at a Glance, Introductory Box Set*).

Map Substitution: Unlike previous Record Sheet books, the scenarios in this book are more complex and use a wide range of maps from difference sources. If players do not have access to those maps, simply use what maps you have available, creating counters to represent appropriate terrain to roughly match the maps displayed in the scenario, or turn a mapsheet over to its blank side and draw a map matching those displayed for the scenario. (Note: Small PDFs of all *BattleTech* playing maps are available for free at www. classicbattletech.com to help players see all the details on each map.)

SCONFILLO ONO: UNDERLIFITER BASKET WEAVING COBJECTIVE RAIDJ

Weber: "I've got contact. Multiple bogeys. Range 1500 meters and closing!"

Schmidt: "Calm down, Weber. We knew the Dracs would be knocking on our door."

Weber: "Sir."

Schmidt: "What are we up against?"

Weber: "Warbook tags them as a pair of *Hatamato-Chi* with two Hiryos in support."

Schmidt: "Copy that. Get back underwater. We don't stand a chance against them in the open, but if they come down here we'll have them dead to rights."

Weber: "Wilco."

Schmidt: "All units, defensive formation. You are weapons hot, repeat, weapons hot. Let them come to us. Schulze, Peters, harassing fire while they close. See if you can't soften them up a bit and then get out of the way."

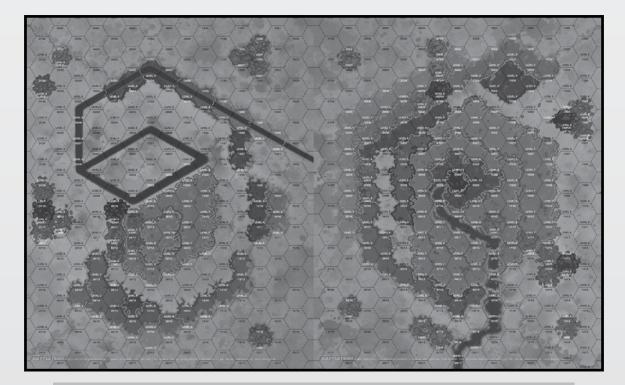
SITUATION

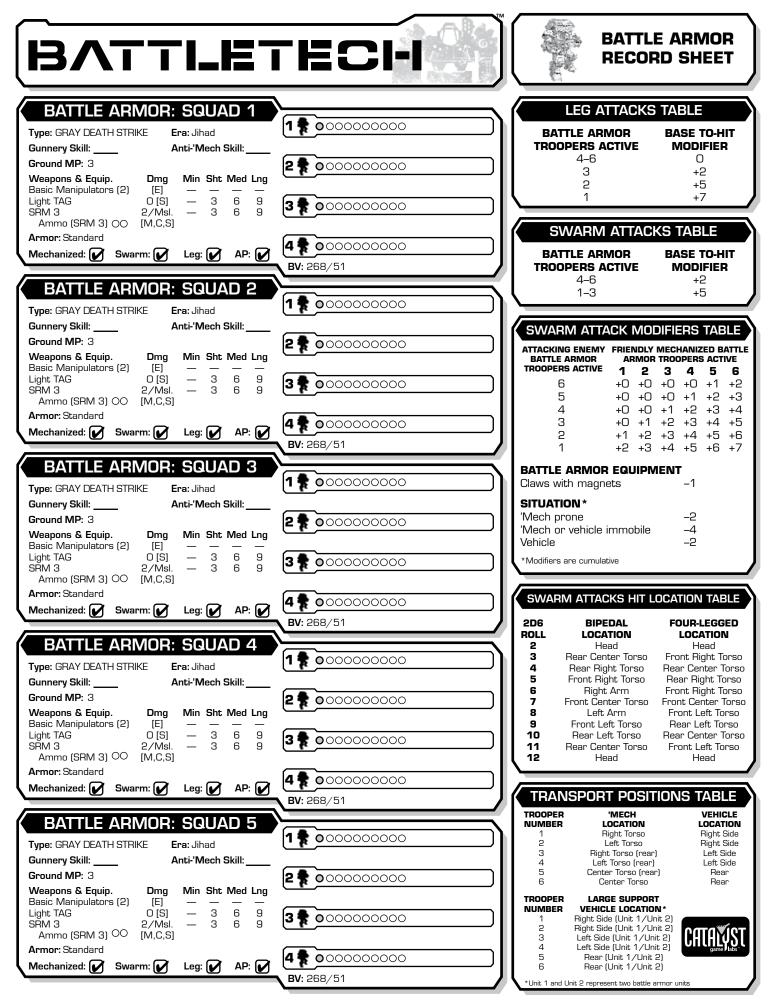
1220 Hours Yarbo Lake, Apostica Lyran Commonwealth 12 May 3090

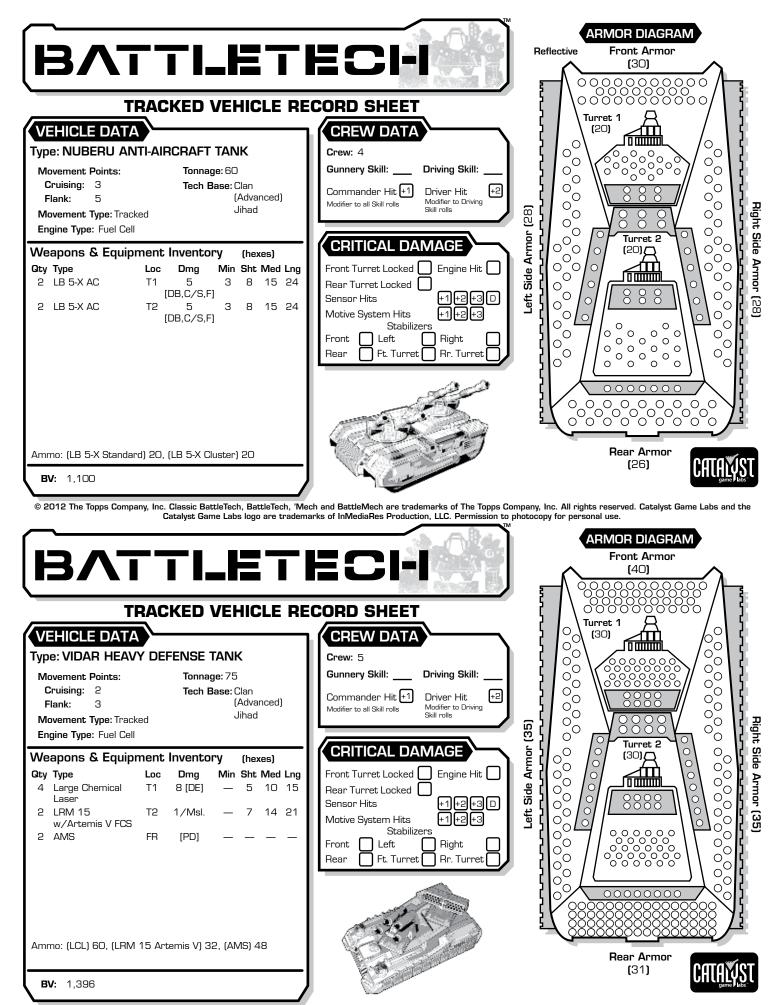
Border skirmishes between the Lyran Commonwealth and the Draconis Combine have come to a head on Apostica. Combine forces are closing in on an underwater Lyran research station. The Combine's ISF believes that the Lyrans are using the facility to reverse engineer captured Blakist improved jump jet technology to develop an improved UMU. The Lyran station must be captured or destroyed.

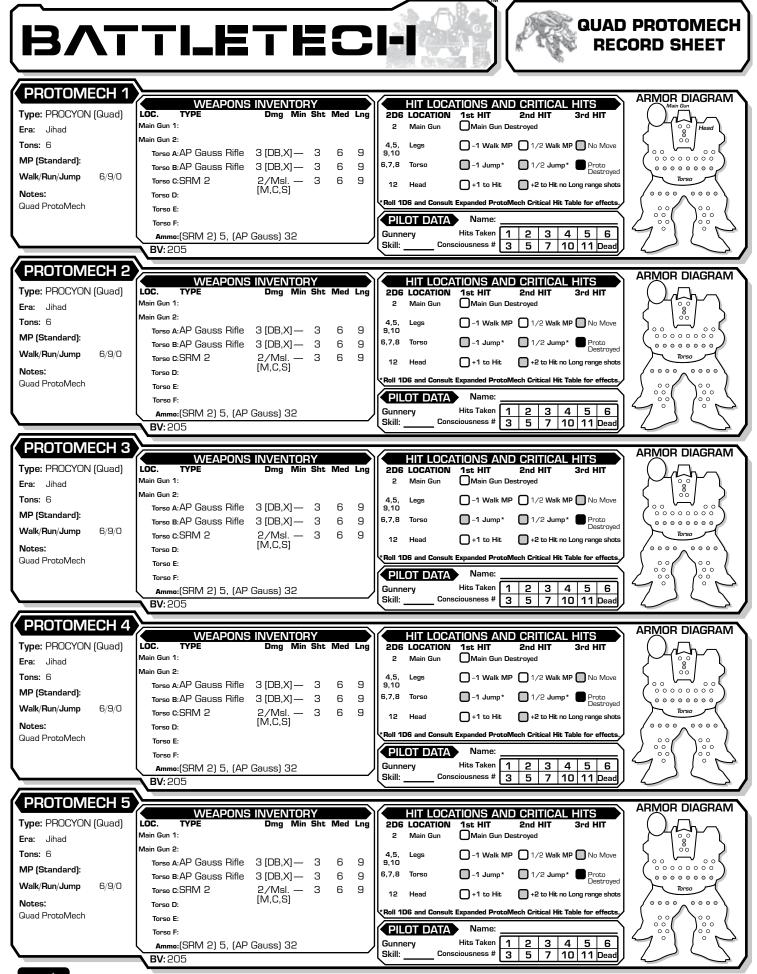
GAME SETUP

Lay out the mapsheets as shown below (see *Map Substitution*, above, if players do not have access to these maps).

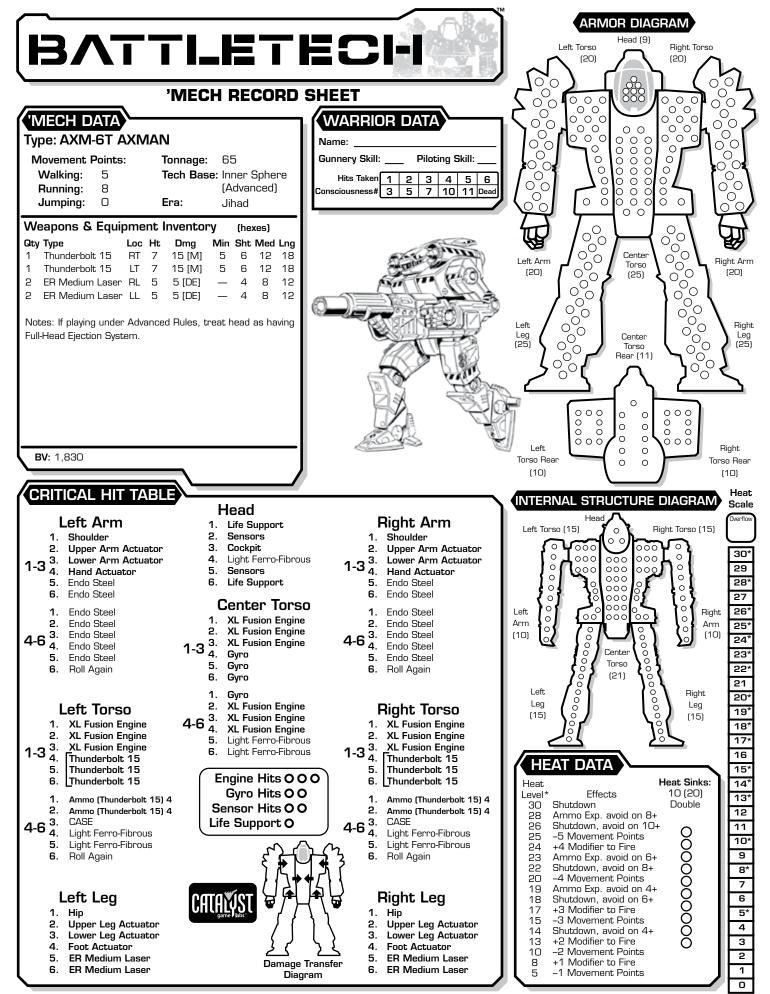








CATALYST



BATTLET	
Light Autocannon Weapon (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Gty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 1 LRM 20 6 1/Msl. 6 7 14 21 [M,C,S]	Armor: BV: 86 8 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <td< th=""></td<>
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ER Medium Laser Weapon (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Qty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 1 ER Medium Laser 5 5 (DE) — 4 8 12	Armor: B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
Heavy Flamer Weapon (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Qty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 3 Heavy Flamer 5 4 — 2 3 4 [DE,H,AI]	Armor: BV: 51 16 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <t< td=""></t<>
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LRM Weapon (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Qty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 3 LRM 5 2 1/Msl. 6 6 14 21	Armor: BV: 138 Standard 000000000000000000000000000000000000
MML Weapons (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Qty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 1 MML 7 1 [M.C,S] — — — — — — — — 1 — 1 MML 7 1 [M.C,S] — — — — 1 — 1	Armor: BV: 107 16 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <
Streak SRM Weapon (6.5 tons) Weapons & Equipment Inventory (hexes) Qty Type Ht Dmg Min Sht Med Lng 1 Streak SRM 6 4 2/Msl. — 3 6 9 [M,C,S]	Armor: BV: 132 16 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <
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