

Type: Vehicle, Reconnaissance *Nomenclature: South African Reconnaissance Car Mk 3*

Country: South Africa Date of Introduction: 1941

Physical Data:
Weight Empty 11760 lb (5339 kg)
Weight Loaded 12500 lb (5675 kg)
Length (OA) 209 in (5309 mm)
Width (OA) 90.5 in (2299 mm)
Height (OA) 98.5 in (2502 mm)
Ground Clearance 11 in (279 mm)
Wheel Base 117.5 in (2985 mm)
Wheel Tread 60 in (1524 mm)
Drive 4x4
Armor .24 to .47 in
(6 to 12 mm)
NBC Protection Individual

Armament:
Main – Cal (1) .55 cal Boys AT
And (1) .303 LMG
Model Vickers or BREN
Elevation Manual
Traverse Manual 360°
Fire Control Optical
Aux wpn – Cal (1) .303 BREN

Capacity:
Fuel 40 gals (151 liters)
gasoline

Ammo/Qty unk
Crew 3

Engine:
Type Ford
HP at Rev/Min 95 hp
Model V8
Mfr Ford Motor Co.
No. of Cyls 8
Location Front
Cooling Liquid

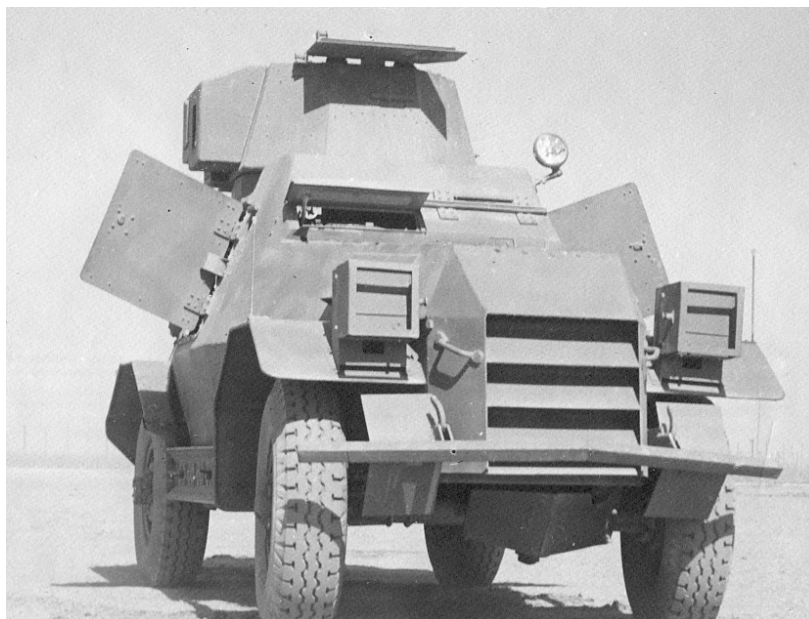
Transmission:
Type Manual
Speeds Fwd/Rev 4/1 w/2-spd trnsf
Mode unk
Mfr unk

Suspension System:
Type Leaf spring
Steering Front axle
Turning Radius unk
No of wheels. 4
Tire Size 9.75x18 self sealing

General Data:
Elec Voltage 6 Volt
Radio as fitted by user

Performance:
Speed/Land 55 mph (88.5 km/h)
Speed/Water n/a
Range 200 mi (322 km)
Fording Depth (est) 18 in (457 mm)
Max Grade unk.
Trench Crossing unk
Step (est) 14 in (356 mm)
Manufacturer: South African Railway
and ISCOR (South African Steel Works).

Remarks: Initial planning for the Mark 3 started in late 1940, with quantity production of the Mark 3 beginning in May 1941 and ending in August 1942. By the time



production ended, 1,780 Mark 3 MFF and 798 Mark 3 ME and a further 52 vehicles converted to up-gunned cars to supply the Light Aid Detachments in North Africa. Besides improved mechanicals, attention was paid to improving crew comfort. The general thickness of the armor plate remained at .24 inch (6mm) with all forward facing areas at a full .47 inch (12mm) of protection. While early Mark 3s had an access door on each side of the crew compartment and the spare tire mounted on the rear slope, later Versions had the tire to

Top: Mark 3 MFF early. Above: Mark 3 MFF late as delivered to British in Malaya. (Photos: Author's collection)

the left rear of the vehicle and added a single door at the rear.

Usage: Used by British and South African forces, as well as British West Africa (60 Mk 3 MFF), Dutch East Indies (49 Mk 3 MFF), Free French in Central Africa (10 Mk 3 MFF) Free French in North Africa (48 Mk 3 ME), India (255 Mk 3 MFF), Malaya (175 Mk 3 MFF), Mozambique (6 Mk 3 MFF), and Rhodesia (24 Mk 3 ME).