

Type: Vehicle, Reconnaissance Nomenclature: Car, Light, Reconnaissance, GM, Mk I (Otter I)

Country: Canada Date of Introduction: 1942

Physical Data:

Weight Empty 9700 lb (4404 kg)
 Weight Loaded 10961 lb (4976 kg)
 Length (OA) 177 in (4496 mm)
 Width (OA) 85 in (2159 mm)
 Height (OA) 96 in (2438 mm)
 Ground Clearance 8.75 in (222 mm)
 Wheel Base 101.5 in (2578 mm)
 Wheel Tread 71 in (1803 mm)
 Drive 4x4
 Armor Front .47 in (12 mm). Sides .24-.32 in (6-8 mm). Rear .24, .32 & .39 in. (6, 10 & 12 mm). Top .47 in (12 mm). Engine .24-.32 in (6-10 mm). Hull .32 in (10 mm)
 NBC Protection Individual

Armament:

Main – Cal (1) BREN .303 cal LMG, (1) .55 cal. BOYS AT rifle
 Elevation & traverse Power
 Fire Control Optical
 Aux wpn – Cal Crew sidearms

Capacity:

Fuel Gas, 32 (US) gals (121 liters)
 Ammo/Qty unk
 Crew/Passengers 3
 Cargo Vol/Weight 1648 lb (748 kg)

Engine:

Type Gas
 HP @ Rev/Min 104 hp (77 kW) @ 3000 rpm
 Model 270
 Mfr GM
 No. of Cyls 6
 Location Front
 Cooling Liquid

Transmission:

Type Manual
 Speeds Fwd/Rev 4/1
 Model unk
 Mfr GM

Suspension System:

Type Leafspring
 Wheels Steerable Front axle
 Turning Radius Left 47 ft 11 in (14.6 m), right 49 ft (15 m)
 No of wheels 4
 Tire Size 9.00x16

General Data:

Elec Voltage 12V
 Radio No. 19 W/T

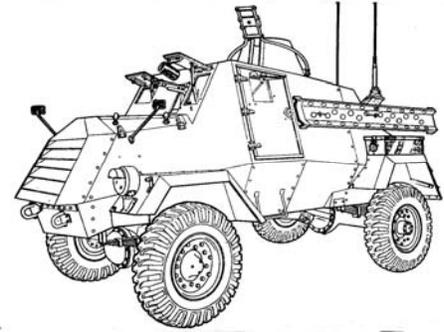
Night Vision Devices: n/a

Performance:

Speed/Land 45 mph (72.5 km/h)
 Speed/Water n/a

Range 260 mi (418 km)
 Forging Depth 24 in (610 mm)
 Max Grade 46 %
 Trench Crossing Sand channels
 Step unk

Remarks: The Canadian Otter Mk I was developed as an alternative to the British Humber Light Reconnaissance Car, Mk III. A closed 4x4 vehicle, the Otter carried a crew of three in an armored compartment mounted on a front engine chassis designed by General Motors for road and cross county operations. During operations the driver and vehicle commander usually occupied the front seats (driver on the right, commander on the left while facing forward) with the gunner in a small open topped turret which could be manually traversed through a full 360 degrees, while the weapon itself was fitted in a spring loaded combination AA or ground mount. An armored truck was also made from the same basic design.



Usage: 1761 Otter I Mark I were produced. Used by Great Britain, Canada, Aden, Belgium, France, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Netherlands, South Vietnam, and Syria. (Vehicle sometimes operated without turret).

Manufacturer: General Motors of Canada, Ltd., (Hull) Hamilton Bridge Company.

Below, Otter Mk I in NW Europe with a full load of kit. (Photo: Author's collection)

