

Type: Vehicle, Reconnaissance *Nomenclature: Bantam 1/4-ton 4x4, Model BRC*

Country: USA Date of Introduction: 1940

Physical Data:

Weight empty 2045 lb (928.5 kg)
Weight loaded 2500 lb (1135 kg)
Length (OA) 126 in (3200 mm)
Width (OA) 54 in (1372 mm)
Height 49 in (1245 mm) to top of steering wheel
Ground clr 9.25 in (235 mm) (est)
Wheel base 79.5 in (2019 mm)
Wheel tread unk
Drive 4x2 or 4x4
Armor n/a
NBC protection Individual

Armament:

Main – Cal unk
Elev & traverse n/a
Fire control n/a
Aux wpns Crew side arms

Capacity:

Fuel 15 gal (57 l)
Ammo/Qty unk
Crew/Pass 1/3
Cargo Vol/Wgt 500 lb (227 kg)

Engine:

Type Gasoline
HP at Rev/Min 45 hp (33 kW) @ 3500 rpm

Model BY4112
Mfr Continental
No. of Cyls 4
Location Front
Cooling Liquid

Transmission:

Type Manual
Gear Fwd/Rev 3/1
Model T84
Mfr Warner

Suspension System:

Type Leaf spring
Steering Manual, front axle
Turning radius 20 ft (6.1 m) (est)
No/wheels 4
Tire Size 7.00x16

General Data:

Elec voltage 6V
Radio As fitted by user

Night Vision: as fitted by user

Performance:

Speed/Land 50 mph (80 km/h)
Speed/Water n/a
Range 250 mi (402 km)
Fording depth 18 in (457 mm) (est)
Max grade 65% (est)
Trench unk
Step unk



Remarks: In September 1940 the American Bantam Car Company delivered the prototype of the Bantam Reconnaissance Car to the U.S. Army. This prototype was the first of an eventual 2,675 vehicles in two sets. The first set of 70 machines were known as the BRC-60 (or Mark II) and entered service late in 1940. Although a popular vehicle, full production of a very similar vehicle was awarded to Willys and Ford with the BRC being sidelined as non-standard. In March 1941, the Army ordered a small additional run, most of which were shipped to Russia and Great Britain as part of the Lend-Lease Pro

Above: Two of the BRC-40s while under test. (Photos: Author's collection)

gram. The Russian's weren't disappointed in this arrangement, as they had actually preferred the BRC. Of the 2,675 BRC-40s built (at a unit cost of \$1166), 62 had four-wheel steering (as first requested by the US Cavalry).

Usage: After initial testing by the US Army, nearly all 2675 vehicles (including prototypes) were sent to Russia or Great Britain as Lend-Lease assistance.

Manufacturer: American Bantam Car Company, Butler, PA.