

*Type: Vehicle, Reconnaissance Nomenclature: South African Reconnaissance Car, Mk 1
(Marmon-Herrington Armored Car, Mk I)
Country: South Africa Date of Introduction: 1940*

Physical Data:

Weight:

Empty (est) 12,500 lb (5675 kg)
Loaded

Length (OA) 192 in (4877 mm)
Width (OA) 78 in (1981 mm)
Height (OA) 93 in (2362 mm)
Ground Clearance .. 10 in (254 mm)
Wheel Base 134 in (3404 mm)
Wheel Tread 58 in (1473 mm)
Front, 57 in (1448 mm) Rear

Drive 4x2
Armor24 to .47 in
(6 to 12 mm)
NBC Protection n/a

Armament:

Main – Cal (2) .303 LMG
Model Vickers
Elevation Manual
Traverse Manual 360°
Fire Control Optical
Aux wpn – Cal Crew sidearms

Capacity:

Fuel 46 gals
(174 liters) gasoline
Ammo/Qty
Crew 4

Engine:

Type Gasoline
HP at Rev/Min 85 hp
Model V8
Mfr Ford
No. of Cyls 8
Location Front
Cooling Liquid

Transmission:

Type Manual
Speeds Fwd/Rev 4/1
Model
Mfr

Suspension System:

Type Leaf spring
Wheels Steerable ... Front pair
Turning Radius
No of total wheels .. 4
Tire Size

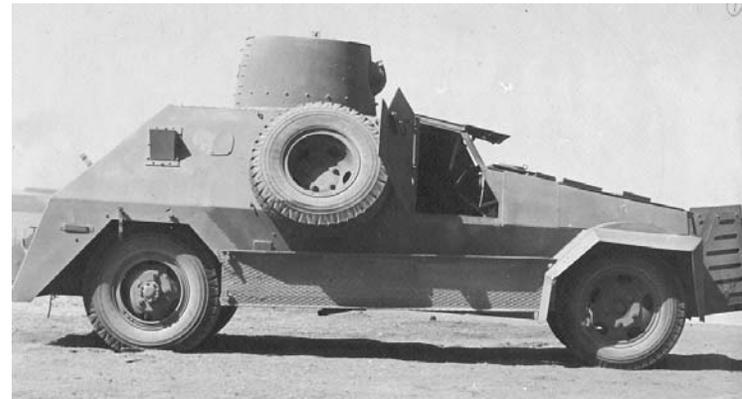
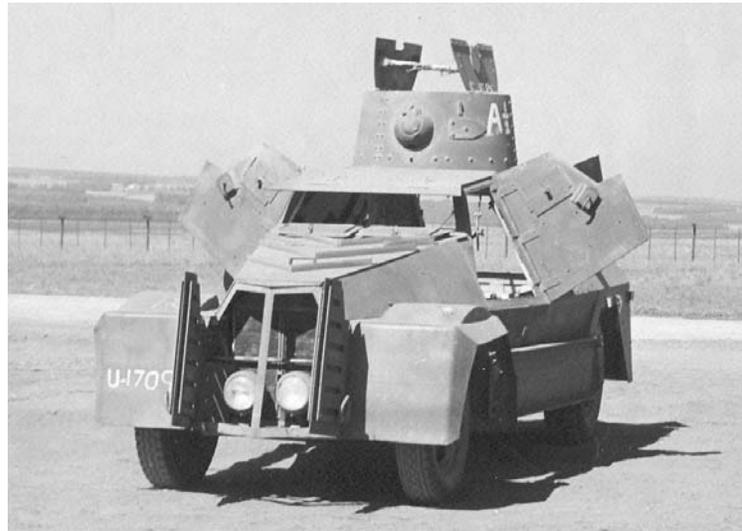
General Data:

Elec Voltage 6 Volt
Radio as fitted by user
Cargo Volume

Night Vision Devices: n/a

Performance:

Speed/Land 45 mph (72 km/h)
Speed/Water n/a
Range 200 mi (322 km)
Fording Depth (est) .. 18 in (457 mm)
Max Grade
Trench Crossing
Step (est) 10 in (254 mm)



Remarks: The first of the South African Reconnaissance Cars was introduced in 1940 and was based on a standard Ford of Canada V8 3-ton truck chassis. A two wheel drive vehicle, only 113 Mark 1s were completed, the later part of the construction run having a welded hull rather than riveted. The Mark 1 was only used by South Africa and then only for training and internal security. Even though an improved version, the Mark 2 was ready for production, a lack of parts meant that assembly of the Mark 1 continued until November of 1940.

Usage: Only operational with South African forces, sample cars to Britain.

Above: South African Reconnaissance Car, Mark 1, serial U-1709 taken in Pretoria, South Africa on 8 September 1941. (Photos: Author's collection)

Manufacturer: South African Railway and ISCOR (South African Steel Works).