

*Type: Vehicle, Reconnaissance Nomenclature: South African Reconnaissance Car, Mk 2
(Marmon-Herrington Armored Car Mk II)*

Country: South Africa Date of Introduction: 1941

Physical Data:

Weight:

Empty 13200 lb (5993 kg)
Loaded
Length (OA) 192 in (4877 mm)
Width (OA) 78 in (1981 mm)
Height (OA) 93 in (2362 mm)
Ground Clearance
Wheel Base 134 in (3404 mm)
Wheel Tread 60 in (1524 mm)
Drive 4x4
Armor24 to .47 in
(6 to 12 mm)
NBC Protection n/a

Armament:

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

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 w/2-spd trnsf
Model
Mfr
.....

Suspension System:

Type Leaf spring
Wheels Steerable ... Front pair
Turning Radius
No of total wheels .. 4
Tire Size 9.75x18 self sealing

General Data:

Elec Voltage 6 Volt
Radio as fitted by user
Cargo Volume n/a

Night Vision Devices: n/a

Performance:

Speed/Land 50 mph (80.5 km/h)
Speed/Water n/a
Range 200 mi (322 km)
Fording Depth
Max Grade
Trench Crossing
Step



Remarks: The SA Recce Car Mk 2 actually covered two slightly different vehicles, the MFF (Mobile Field Force) most of which were used by South African units and the ME (Middle East) mostly used by British and Commonwealth units and to a limited extent exported to friendly countries in Asia. The main difference was in armament and fitting of weapons. The ME had an additional fixture on the front of the turret, which could hold a Boys anti-tank rifle and a .303 BREN. The Vickers ball mounting on the hull was also replaced with a port that would accept a BREN. The MFF had the Vickers .303 as main armament. Along with the Mk 3,

Above: South African Reconnaissance Car, Mark 2, serial U-26887 taken in Pretoria, South Africa on 8 Sept 1941. (Photos: Author's collection)

the Mk 2 is the most common South African vehicle seen in photos of the North African campaigns. 549 MFF and 338 ME Mk 2s were completed for a total of 887. As the vehicles became obsolete and new vehicles appeared, several chassis were converted to carry heavier weapons, captured from the Germans and Italians.

Usage: Used by South African and Commonwealth Forces.

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