



## NETHERLANDS

**Flag description:** three equal horizontal bands of red (top), white, and blue; similar to the flag of Luxembourg, which uses a lighter blue and is longer; one of the oldest flags in constant use, originating with WILLIAM I, Prince of Orange, in the latter half of the 16th century.



**Background:** The Kingdom of the Netherlands was formed in 1815. In 1830 Belgium seceded and formed a separate kingdom. The Netherlands remained neutral in World War I, but suffered invasion and occupation by Germany in World War II. A modern, industrialized nation, the Netherlands is also a large exporter of agricultural products. The country was a founding member of NATO and the EEC (now the EU), and participated in the introduction of the euro in 1999.

**Geography.** Location: Western Europe, bordering the North Sea, between Belgium and Germany. Area: total: 41,526 sq km. Area - comparative: slightly less than twice the size of New Jersey. Land boundaries: total: 1,027 km. Border countries: Belgium 450 km, Germany 577 km. Coastline: 451 km. Climate: temperate; marine, cool summers and mild winters. Terrain: mostly coastal lowland and reclaimed land, some

hills in the south. Natural resources: natural gas, petroleum, peat, limestone, salt, sand and gravel, arable land. Natural hazards: flooding. Environment - current issues: water pollution in the form of heavy metals, organic compounds, and nutrients such as nitrates and phosphates; air pollution from vehicles and refining activities; acid rain. Geography - note: located at mouths of three major European rivers (Rhine, Maas or Meuse, and Schelde). (CIA World Factbook 2006)

**Military Notes:** This section includes vehicles used by the Dutch in the Netherlands East Indies.

1917 Car, Armd, 4x2. KL-Ehrhardt

1938 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x2. Krupp L2H3.

1920 Car, Armd, 4x2. Siderius-Ehrhardt

1938 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x2. Overvalwagen (NEI).

1936 Car, Armd, 6x4, DAF Pantrado 2

1939 Car, Armd, 6x4, Pantserwagen M39

**1936 Car, Armd, 6x4. Pantserwagen M36.**

1939 Veh, Recce, DAF MC-139 (Amph)



Above: The Dutch Pantserwagen M36 was a Landswerk vehicle acquired from Sweden. (Photo: Author's Collection)

**1940 Car, Armd, 4x2. Ford Improved Armored Car.**



*Above: Improved Ford Armored Car used by the Dutch in the Netherlands East Indies.*

**Remarks:** Evidently only one of these cars was completed.

**1941 Veh, Recce. SA Recce Car 4x4, Mk 3 MFF.**



*Above: SA Reconnaissance Car, Mk 3 (Early) also known as the Marmon-Herrington Armored Car Mk 3 as delivered to the Dutch in the NEI. (Photo: Author's collection).*

**Remarks:** In 1941 South Africa supplied 49 early production Mk 3 Marmon-Herrington's (MFF or Mobile Field Force versions) to the Dutch East Indies prior to the Japanese invasion. Surviving cars were later used by the Japanese and at the end of WWII transferred to Indonesian Separatists prior to the return of the Dutch (see South Africa for vehicle details).

1946 Veh, Recce. Otter 4x4.

**1946 Car, Armd, 4x4, HumFox.**



*Dutch HumFox in service with the KNEI after WW II.*

**Remarks:** Shortly after WW2, when the Dutch were trying to keep control of the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia), the Humber Mk.IV Armoured Car was the backbone of the Royal Netherlands' Army reconnaissance squadrons. When the supply of available Humber Mk.IV's ran out, 39 Canadian built Fox armored cars were acquired from the vehicle dump at Deelen for possible use. During October 1946 Machinefabriek Wilton Fijenoord in Rotterdam fitted a Humber turret to a Fox hull. The firing trials on 7 November 1946 were successful and it was then decided to fit 34 of the Foxes with Humber turrets. The advantage of the Humber's 37 mm main gun was that uniformity in armament was retained, while the Fox's GMC engine was easier to maintain as the RNIA used large numbers of GMC trucks with the same powerplant. The HumFox armored cars were shipped to Indonesia where they were used by the recce squadrons in conjunction with Ford Lynx or Humber Mk.III Reconnaissance Cars.

**1950 Carr, Wpns. Dodge Power Wagon w/20mm cannon.**



*Above: Dodge Power Wagon with 20mm cannon as used by Dutch Marines on New Guinea circa 1955.*

**1950 Veh, Recce. Canadian Lynx Mk II.**



Above: A Lynx reconnaissance vehicle in use with Dutch forces in the Dutch East Indies.

**Remarks:** (See Canada for vehicle details).

**1955 Carr, Wpns. DAF A414 w/20mm cannon.**



Above: DAF A414 used by Dutch Marines on New Guinea circa 1955. (Photo: KM)

**Remarks:** Based on the DAF A414 Truck, 4-ton, 4x4, Cargo first produced in 1953 for the Netherlands Navy (Kon. Marine). The Dutch Marines used the Weapons Carrier version on the island of New Guinea as mobile fire support after WWII. The mounting and twin 20mm cannon had been removed from the deck of a Dutch ship. At least one Dodge Power Wagon (M601) was also converted at the same time with a single 20mm mount.

**Vehicle Data:** Length, 258 in (6550 mm). Width, 87.5 in (2220 mm). Height (est), 118 in (3000 mm). Ground Clr (est), 14 in (356 mm). Wheel Base, 142 in (3600 mm). Drive, 4x4. **Armament:** (2) 20mm cannon in a naval mount. Elevation & traverse, power. Fire Control, optical. **Capacity:** Fuel, gasoline. Crew/Pass (est), 2/4. **Engine:** (1). Type, gasoline. HP at Rev/Min, 91 hp (67 kW). Model, JXE3. Mfr, Hercules. No. of Cyls, 6 in-line. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. **Transmission:** Manual. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1 w/2-spd transfer. **Suspension System:** Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 4. **General Data:** Elec

Voltage, 12V. **Performance:** Speed/Land (est), 50 mph (80 km/h). Range (est), 310 mi (500 km). **Usage:** In use only with the Dutch Marines in the Netherlands East Indies. **Manufacturer:** DAF for the chassis and local shops for the weapon and mount.

1955 Truck, Utility, 1/4-Ton, 4x4, M38A1.  
**Remarks:** (see US for vehicle details).

1955 Veh, Util, Trk, Util, 1/4-T, 4x4, YA-054.

**1959 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. DAF YP-408.**



Above: Dutch YP-408s on exercise in 1979. (Photo: KNIL)

**Remarks:** YP-408s have also been delivered to Portugal (21) circa 1980 and Suriname (8).

1966 Veh, Recce, DAF YP-104, 4x4.

**1970 Veh, Util. VW181 Kurier, 4x2.**



Above: Type 181 with soft-top and brush guards. (Photo: Author's collection)

**Remarks:** An unknown number of VW Type 181 utility vehicles were acquired from West Germany for liaison work (see Germany for vehicle details).

1973 Veh, Util, DAF-66YA, 4x2

**1985 Veh, Utility, Land Rover Series III 88" Lightweight.**



*Above: Dutch Series III 88" Lightweight Land Rover.*

**Remarks:** Dutch Forces acquired their Lightweight Land Rovers circa 1985 with several still in service as of 2007. (See UK for vehicle details)

1994 Veh, Recce, Car, Scout, 4x4, DAF SP.

**1997 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. XA-188 PWI aka Gevechtsvoertuig Voor Vredesmissies (GVV).** The XA-188 is the export version of the XA-185 up-graded for the Netherlands, 90 carriers being ordered in 1997 with 80 being reported in inventory as of 2003. Besides personnel carriers for the Dutch Marines, Ambulance, Command and control and Recovery versions were also included in the order. As of 2007 XA-188s were also being used in Afghanistan in support of NATO missions. (See Finland for vehicle details).

**2001 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. ARTEC Boxer.**



*Above: Pre-production ARTEC Boxer. The Netherlands confirmed their order in 2006 and production vehicles should be in service by 2007.*

*(Photo: Rheinmetall Landsysteme GmbH)*

**Remarks:** In 1998 an agreement was reached between the United Kingdom, Germany and France to develop a tri-national wheeled armored combat vehicle known as the Multi-Role Armored Vehicle (MRAV) Boxer. Within just a year or two, differences in desired outcomes resulted in the French withdrawing from the project. The UK and Germany continued with a less ambitious plan, but in 2002 the UK decided to drop out of the project as well, leaving Germany and the Netherlands (which had joined in 2001) to carry on the project as joint partners. The number of variants was reduced from over a dozen to just six, including an APC, Command Post, Ambulance, Logistics and Field Repair Unit. The Boxer itself consists of two parts, the propulsion module and the interchangeable mission module (see Germany for vehicle details).