



AUSTRALIA



Background: Aboriginal settlers arrived on the continent from Southeast Asia about 40,000 years before the first Europeans began exploration in the 17th century. No formal territorial claims were made until 1770, when Capt. James COOK took possession in the name of Great Britain. Six colonies were created in the late 18th and 19th centuries; they federated and became the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. The new country took advantage of its natural resources to rapidly develop agricultural and manufacturing industries and to make a major contribution to the British effort in World Wars I and II. In recent decades, Australia has transformed itself into an internationally competitive, advanced market economy. It boasted one of the OECD's fastest growing economies during the 1990s, a performance due in large part to economic reforms adopted in the 1980s. Long-term concerns include pollution, particularly depletion of the ozone layer, and management and conservation of coastal areas, especially the Great Barrier Reef.

Geography Australia.

Location: Oceania, continent between the Indian Ocean and the South Pacific Ocean. Area: total: 7,686,850 sq. km. Area - comparative: slightly smaller than the US contiguous 48 states. Land boundaries: 0 km. Coastline: 25,760 km. Climate: generally arid to semiarid; temperate in south and east; tropical in north. Terrain: mostly low plateau with deserts; fertile plain in southeast. Natural resources: bauxite, coal, iron ore, copper, tin, gold, silver, uranium, nickel, tungsten, mineral sands, lead, zinc, diamonds, natural gas, petroleum. Natural hazards: cyclones along the coast; severe droughts; forest fires. Environment - current issues: soil erosion from overgrazing, industrial development, urbanization, and poor farming practices; soil salinity rising due to the use of poor quality water; desertification. Geography - note: world's smallest continent but sixth-largest country; population concentrated along the eastern and southeastern coasts. (CIA World Factbook 2006)

1915 Car, Armd, 4x2. Daimler.



Above: Daimler Armored Car as delivered in 1915, only one Daimler was delivered.

produced in Australia, circa 1915. A bare chassis was supplied to the Vulcan Iron Works which applied the armored body. The Daimler car was designed by Lt. E.H. James. *Usage:* Australian Army in the Middle East. After a short period of service the car was withdrawn as being too heavy. *Manufacturer:* Daimler chassis, armor from Vulcan Iron Works.

VehicleData: *Armament:* (1) .30 cal. Colt machine gun. Elevation, Manual. Traverse, 360degrees. Crew/Passengers, 3-4. *Engine:* Type, Gasoline. HP, 50 hp. Mfr, Daimler. Location, Forward. Cooling, Liquid. *Transmission:* Type, Manual. *Suspension System:* Type, Leaf spring. Steering, front pair. No of wheels, 4. Drive, 4x2.

Remarks: One of two hand built armored cars

1915 Car, Armd, 4x2. Mercedes.

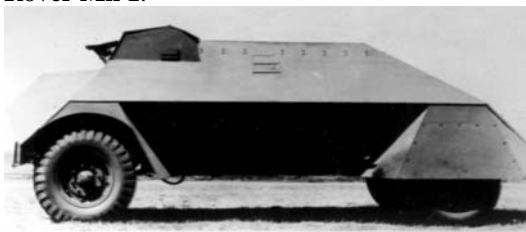


Remarks: One of two hand built armored cars produced in Australia on donated car chassis circa 1915. The bare chassis was supplied to the Vulcan Iron Works which applied the armored body. The Mercedes had a full rotating turret and was at armed with a .30 caliber Colt machine gun. *Usage:* Australian Army in the Middle East. *Manufacturer:* Mercedes/Vulcan Iron Works.

Vehicle Data: *Armament:* (1) .30 cal. Colt machine gun. Elevation, Manual. Traverse, 360degrees. Crew/Passengers, 3-4. *Engine:* Type, Gasoline. HP, 60 hp. Mfr, Mercedes. Location, Forward. Cooling, Liquid. *Transmission:* Type, Manual. *Suspension System:* Type, Leaf spring. Steering, front pair. No of wheels, 4. Drive, 4x2.

1935 Car, Armd, 4x2. Car, Armored, Ford, Australian Pattern, Mark I (LP-1).

1941 Car, Armd, 4x4. Light Armd Car (Aust) Rover Mk 1.



Remarks: The Rover was an emergency design developed in 1941 and pushed into production in 1942. Ford Motor Company of Australia produced the chassis and running gear, while Ruskin Motor Bodies Pty Ltd fabricated the armored body. A total of 40 long wheelbase Mark Is were completed before production was switched to the shorter Mark II version. Used for training and home defense, none of the Rover series saw action outside of Australia and all were withdrawn from service by 1945.

Vehicle Data: *Weight:* Loaded, 12,000 lbs (5448 kg). Length, 241 in (6121 mm). Width, 91 in (2311 mm). Height, 84 in (2134 mm). Wheel

Base, 158 in (4013 mm). Drive, 4x4. Armor, .35 to .63 in (9 to 16 mm). *Armament:* (1) .303 MMG and (1) .303 LMG. Model, (1) Vickers and (1) BREN. Elevation, manual. Traverse, manual. *Capacity:* Fuel, 30 gals (114 liters) gasoline. Crew/Passengers, 2/3. *Engine:* Ford gasoline V8 producing 95 hp. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. *Transmission:* Type, manual w/2-spd trans. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1. *Suspension System:* Type, leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50x20. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 45 mph (72 km/h). *Usage:* Only used by the Australian Army for training and home defense. *Manufacturer:* Ford Motor Co., Australia.

1942 Car, Armd, 4x4, Light Armd Car (Aust) Rover Mk 2.



Remarks: The second version of the Australian Light Armoured Car, Rover. The Mark 2 was shortened by some 24 inches (610 mm) but this didn't actually change the internal volume of the fighting compartment. An open topped vehicle; the Rover had a surprising amount of internal room for the crew and their gear. Ventilation, particularly while firing the weapons was a problem common to nearly all of the armored cars of that period. The Ford Motor Company of Australia (chassis and running gear) produced the Mark 2, along with Ruskin Motor Bodies Pty Ltd and the Victoria Railway workshops fabricating the armored body. A little over 170 Mark 2s were completed, the last being delivered in 1943. Used for training and home defense, none of the Rover series saw action outside of Australia and all were withdrawn from service by 1945.

Vehicle Data: *Weight:* Loaded, 11,000 lbs (4994 kg). Length, 222 in (5639 mm). Width, 91 in (2311 mm). Height, 84 in (2134 mm). Wheel Base, 134 in (3404 mm). Drive, 4x4. Armor, .35 to .63 in (9 to 16 mm). *Armament:* (1) .303 MMG and (1) .303 LMG. Model, (1) Vickers and (1) BREN. Elevation, manual. Traverse, manual. *Capacity:* Fuel, 30 gals (114 liters)

gasoline. Crew/Passengers, 2/3. *Engine:* Ford, gasoline V8 producing 95 hp. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. *Transmission:* Type, manual w/2-spd trnsf. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1. *Suspension System:* Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50x20. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 45 mph (72 km/h). *Usage:* Only used by the Australian Army for training and home defense. *Manufacturer:* Ford Motor Co., Australia.

1942 Veh, Cmd. Vehicle, Armoured, Command (Aust).



Remarks: 6x6 command vehicle based on the Truck 3-ton, 6x6, Ford/Marmon-Herrington. Double doors and spare tire at the rear. Limited production run, used only by Australia.

Vehicle Data: Wheel Base, 156 in (3962 mm). Drive, 6x6. *Capacity:* Fuel, gasoline. *Engine:* Ford. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. *Transmission:* Ford, manual w/2-spd trnsf. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1. *Suspension System:* Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 6. *Usage:* Australian Army during WWII. *Manufacturer:* Ford/Marmon-Herrington (chassis and running gear).

1942 Veh, Recce. Car, Scout, (Aust) Dingo.



Remarks: Designed in Australia, production of the Dingo began in 1942 by the Ford Motor Company with a total of 245 vehicles completed (and accepted). Standard Ford and Marmon-Herrington components were used along with

locally fabricated armor plate. The vehicle held a crew of two with a .303 BREN mounted as the vehicle primary weapon. Due to the weight of the vehicle its cross-country performance left much to be desired, particularly in the reconnaissance role. As new vehicles arrived from Canada and Great Britain, the Dingo was finally withdrawn from service in 1945.

Vehicle Data: *Weight:* Empty, 9,900 lbs (4495 kg). Length, 180 in (4572 mm). Width, 82 in (2083 mm). Height, 73 in (1854 mm). Wheel Base, 110 in (2794 mm). Drive, 4x4. Armor, .39 to 1.2 in (10 to 30 mm). *Armament:* (1) .303 BREN. Elevation & Traverse, manual. *Capacity:* Fuel, 52.5 gals (199 liters) gasoline. Crew/Passengers, 2. *Engine:* Ford gasoline V8 producing 85 (later 95) hp. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. *Transmission:* Manual w/2-spd trnsf. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1. *Suspension System:* Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50x18. *General Data:* Com, (1) British No 19 Wireless. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 50 mph (80 km/h). *Usage:* Only used by Australian Army for training and home defense, 245 cars were completed. *Manufacturer:* Ford Motor Company (chassis and running gear), Victorian Railways Workshops (body).

1943 Car, Armd, Heavy (Aust), 4x4, Rhino.



Above: Prototype Australian Rhino. (Photo: Author's collection).

Remarks: Used the same General Motors of Canada (CMP) chassis as the Canadian, Fox, 4x4 armored car. Between one and four pilot vehicles were completed, but no series production was started.

Vehicle Data: Wheel Base, 101 in (2565 mm). Length, 181 in (4598 mm). Width, 90 in (2286 mm). Height, 100 in (2540 mm). Armor .43 - 1.18 in (11 - 30 mm). NBC Protection, No. *Armament:* (1) 40mm (2-Pdr) cannon and (1) .303 machine gun. Elevation, Manual. Traverse, 360 degree. *Capacity:* Crew/Passengers, 4. *Engine:*

Type, Gasoline. HP, 106 hp @ 3000 rpm. Engine Model, 270. Mfr, GMC. No of Cyls, 6. Location, Rear. Cooling, Liquid. *Transmission:* Type, Manual. No of speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1 w/2-speed transfer. Mfr, GMC. *Suspension System:* Type, Leaf spring. Steering, front pair. No of total wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50 x 20 in. *Performance:* Drive, 4x4. *Usage:* Australian Army, tests only. *Manufacturer:* General Motors Holden Ltd.

1943 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Rhino chassis.



Above: Prototype Rhino APC. (Author's collection)

Remarks: Based on the same chassis as the Rhino 4x4 Armored Car. Access to the vehicle was through the open crew compartment. A frame and canvas top was supplied to help keep out inclement weather.

Vehicle Data: Length, 181 in. (4597 mm). Width, 90 in (2286 mm). Wheel Base, 101 in (2565 mm). Wheel Tread, 79 in (2007 mm). Armor, (est) .43 in (11 mm). *Engine:* Type, In-line. HP, 97 hp @ 3000 rpm. Model, 270. Mfr, GMC. No. of Cyls, 6. Location, Rear. Cooling, Liquid. *Transmission:* Type, Manual. No of Speeds Fwd/Rev, 4/1 w/2-spd trnsf. Mfr, GMC. *Suspension System:* Type, Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, Front pair. No of wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50x20. *Usage:* Only one Rhino APC was completed in 1943. *Manufacturer:* General Motors Holden Ltd. Australia.

1944 Veh, Cmd, Car, Armd, O.P. (Aust)

1950 Car, Armd, 4x4. T17E1 Staghound.



Above: T17E1 Staghound shown post-WWII in Australia. (Photo: Author's Collection)

Remarks: Staghounds were supplied to Australia as part of the Lend Lease Program for the United Kingdom. Staghounds remained in service until the early '60s (see US for vehicle details).

1956 Veh, Recce. Ferret.



Remarks: Ferret Mk 2 (see UK for vehicle details).

1960 Carr, Wpn, LR Series 2A w/106mm (LR) Gun-Buggy

1960 Truck, Utility, 1/4-Ton, 4x4, w/106mm RR, M38A1C.



Above: M38A1C as used by the Australian Army. (Photo: Author's collection)

Remarks: (see US for vehicle details).

1962 Carr, Wpns, FV1620 Hornet, 4x4 (Australia)

1966 Veh, Util, VW/Australia designed Com & Recce

1985 Veh, Recce, SASR Long Range Patrol Veh

1985 Veh, Recce, Toyota Land Cruiser (ODP)

1994 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Shorts (BAe) Foxhound

1996 Car, Recce Raceco/ADI Flyer (4x4)

1996 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. ANI Taipan

Remarks: South African design.

1996 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. BAe Foxhound

1996 Veh, Attack, Light, ASLAV 25 (Piranha chassis) (8x8)

1996 Veh, Attack, Light. ASLAV Driver Trainer (8x8)

1996 Veh, Attack, Light, ASLAV -Fitter (8x8)

1996 Veh, Attack, Light, ASLAV Recovery

1998 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Timoney/ADI Bushmaster

2003 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. ASLAV Type 1.
21 vehicles delivered from GM Canada in 2003.

2003 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. ASLAV Type 2.
46 vehicles delivered from GM Canada in 2003.