

JORDAN



Flag Description: three equal horizontal bands of black (top), representing the Abbassid Caliphate, white, representing the Ummayyad Caliphate, and green, representing the Fatimid Caliphate; a red isosceles triangle on the hoist side, representing the Great Arab Revolt of 1916, and bearing a small white seven-pointed star symbolizing the seven verses of the opening Sura (Al-Fatiha) of the Holy Koran; the seven points on the star represent faith in One God, humanity, national spirit, humility, social justice, virtue, and aspirations; design is based on the Arab Revolt flag of World War I.



Background Jordan: For most of its history since independence from British administration in 1946, Jordan was ruled by King Hussein (1953-99). A pragmatic ruler, he successfully navigated competing pressures from the major powers (US, USSR and UK), various Arab states, Israel, and a large internal Palestinian population, despite several wars and coup attempts. In 1989 he reinstated parliamentary elections and gradual political liberalization; in 1994 he signed a peace treaty with Israel. King Abdallah II, the son of King Hussein, assumed the throne following his father's death in February 1999. Since then, he has consolidated his power and undertaken an aggressive economic reform program.

Jordan acceded to the World Trade Organization in 2000, and began to participate in the European Free Trade Association in 2001. After a two-year delay, parliamentary and municipal elections took place in the summer of 2003. The prime minister, appointed in 2005, said the government would focus on political reforms, improving conditions for the poor, and fighting corruption.

Geography: Location: Middle East, northwest of Saudi Arabia. Area: total: 92,300 sq. km. Area - comparative: slightly smaller than Indiana. Land boundaries: total: 1,635 km, border countries: Iraq 181 km, Israel 238 km, Saudi Arabia 744 km, Syria 375 km, West Bank 97 km. Coastline: 26 km. Climate: mostly arid desert; rainy season in west (November to April). Terrain: mostly desert plateau in east, highland area in west; Great Rift Valley separates East and West Banks of the Jordan River. Natural resources: phosphates, potash, and shale oil. Natural hazards: droughts; periodic earthquakes. Environment - current issues: limited natural fresh water resources; deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion; desertification. Geography - note: strategic location at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba and as the Arab country that shares the longest border with Israel and the occupied West Bank. (CIA World Factbook 2006)

1941 Car, Armd, 4x2. Car, Armd, 4x2. Imp, Ford.

1960 Car, Armd, 4x4. Marmon-Herrington Armored Car, Mark 4F (6-Pdr).



Remarks: Although it was a proven vehicle, by the late 1960s, the 40mm (2-pdr) main armament was no longer a viable weapon. In order to add an anti-tank and anti-bunker capability to its reconnaissance units, the Arab Legion (Royal Jordanian Army) managed to squeeze a 6-pdr field gun into the modified turret of a Mark 4F. The Mark 4F was essentially a front wheel drive vehicle, with the drive normally transmitted through the front axle only, with the driver able to engage the rear wheels as well for four wheel drive. It appears that at least two were modified. **Vehicle Data:** Weight empty (est), 13,500 lbs (6129 kg). Length (est), 252 in (6400 mm). Width, 84 in (2134 mm). Height, 90 in (2286 mm). Ground Clearance, 11 in (279 mm). Wheel base, 114 in (2896 mm). Wheel tread, 69 in

(1753 mm). Drive, selective 4x2 or 4x4. Armor, .24-.47 in (6-12 mm). *Armament:* (1) 6-pdr cannon. Elevation & traverse, manual. Fire Control, optical. Aux wpn, (1) .30 cal LMG. *Capacity:* Fuel, 40 gal (151 liters) gasoline. Crew, 3. *Engine:* Water-cooled Ford V8 producing 95 hp. Location, Rear. *Transmission:* Manual with 4-fwd and 1-rev gear tied to a 2-speed transfer case. *Suspension System:* Leaf spring. Wheels Steerable, front axle. No of wheels, 4. Tire Size, 10.50x20 run flat. *General Data:* Electrical, 6 Volt. Radio, Wireless Set No. 19 w/intercom. *Performance:* Speed (est), 52 mph (84 km/h). Range (est), 360 mi (579 km). *Usage:* The 6-pdr Marmon-Herrington Mk 4F was only used by Jordan. *Manufacturer:* Modified in Jordanian Army ordnance shops.

1960 Truck, Utility, 1/4-Ton, 4x4, M38A1.

1960 Truck, Utility, 1/4-Ton, 4x4, M38A1C.



Above: M38A1C with 106mm RR during the 1967 War. (Photo: Author's collection)

Remarks: (see US for vehicle details).

1970 Car, Armd, 6x6. Saladin.



Above: Saladins in Amman, circa 1970. (Photo: Author's collection)

Remarks: Saladins had been acquired from Great Britain for the Royal Jordanian Army (see UK for vehicle details).

1970 Veh, Recce. Alvis Ferret.

Remarks: In 2006, the Jordanian company KADDB rebuilt at least 50 Ferret reconnaissance vehicles that had been held in stock with the Jordanian Army. Besides a general upgrade, the original gasoline engine was replaced with an Iveco four-cylinder diesel EN83 providing 146 hp (108 kW).

198X Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. Engesa EE-11 Urutu. 82 carriers delivered from Brazil (see Brazil for vehicle details).

2001 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Al-Jawad AB2.

2001 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. BTR-94.

Fifty transferred to Iraq as military assistance in 2004. Vehicles had originally come from the Ukraine. These vehicles were later transferred yet again, this time to Iraq in 2003 (see Ukraine for vehicle details).

2003 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. MICV Ratel.



Above: Jordanian Ratels sporting new digital camouflage as of 2006.

Remarks: 120 refurbished ICV 20mm Ratels were delivered to Jordan from South Africa in 2003 with an additional 220 by 2004 (see South Africa for vehicle details).

2004 Veh, Recce. Al-Tha'Alb (Fox).



Above: Al-Tha'alb without the hood mounted ladder.
(Photo: KADDB)

Remarks: The Al-Tha'lab (Fox) Long Range Patrol Vehicle (LRPV) was conceived as a cost-effective vehicle for Internal Security, Reconnaissance and Border Patrol Forces. The Al-tha'lab was a collaborative effort of Jankel from the UK and the King Abdullah II Design & Development Bureau (KADDB) (Jordan). Operational roles envisioned for the vehicle include: reconnaissance (the primary mission), fire support and raids, urban operations using the built-in ladder kit and as a field ambulance able to support up to two stretchers while still keeping a good cross-county performance. In addition full roll-bar protection for the crew and vehicle are available as an option. Antenna mounts and power take-offs are supplied, but the user has to install their own radios. To assist with repairs, the automotive and mechanical components are standard Toyota and the basic design. LRPV is provided with a battlefield repair kit and tools as part of its standard OVM.

Vehicle Data: Weight empty, 5,733 lbs (2600 kg). Loaded, 8,600 lbs (3900 kg). Length, 220.5 in (5600 mm). Width, 74.5 in (1895 mm). Height, 75 in (1905 mm). Grd Clearance (est), 9 in (229 mm). Wheel base (est), 106 in (2692 mm). Wheel tread (est), 70 in (1778 mm). Drive, full-time 4x4. NBC protection, individual. **Armament:** As fitted by user. **Capacity:** Fuel (est), 80 gals (303 L) of diesel. Crew, 4. **Engine:** (1) Diesel or Turbo charged diesel producing 127 hp (94 kW) @ 3400 rpm or 154 hp (118 kW) @ 3400 rpm with turbo engine. No. of Cyls, 6. Location, front. Cooling, liquid. **Transmission:** Manual with 5-forward and 1-reverse gear. **Suspension System:** Coil front - leaf rear. Wheels steerable, front pair. No of wheels, 4. **General Data:** Elec system, 12V. Cargo Vol/Weight, 2,867 lbs (1300 kg). **Performance:** Speed (est), 62 mph (100 km/h). Range, 932 mi (1500 km). Fording depth, 21 in (540 mm). Max grade (est), 60 %. Step (est), 12 in (305 mm). **Usage:** The Al-Tha'lab is in use with the Jordanian Army, which ordered 200 vehicles to be delivered by

the middle of 2006. **Manufacturer:** Jordan Light Vehicle Manufacturing LLC (Jordan), King Abdullah II Design and Development Bureau (Jordan) and Jankel Armouring Ltd (UK).

2004 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. Ratel IFV with 23mm turret.



Above: 23mm armed Jordanian Ratel ICV.
(Photo: KADDB)

Remarks: During 2004 the Jordanian company KADDB modified an unknown number of South African Ratel ICVs with a turret mounting a pair of Ukrainian made 23mm automatic cannon, significantly upgrading the fire power of the vehicle.

2005 Veh, Recce. Desert Iris.



Above: Desert Iris with .50 cal (12.7mm) HMG.
(Photo: KADDB)

Remarks: The Desert Iris was developed to meet a requirement from the Jordanian Army for a cost effective reconnaissance vehicle with good range and carrying capability. Using a modular system, a range of payloads can be fitted in the rear of the vehicle to mount machine guns, 40mm grenade launcher, anti-tank missiles, or even surface to surface rocket launchers. Crew of the Desert Iris is normally four (two at the front and two in the rear). The chassis and body are one piece, with the mechanicals being attached separately. Engine, suspension, brakes and drive train are all Toyota components.

Vehicle Data: *Weight:* Empty, 3,634 lbs (1650 kg). Loaded, 4,736 lbs (2150 kg). *Length,* 167 in (4250 mm). *Width,* 75 in (1900 mm). *Height,* 69 in (1750 mm). *Ground Clearance,* 14 in (350 mm). *Wheel base,* 109 in (2770 mm). *Wheel tread,* 62 in (1570 mm). *Drive,* 4x4. *Armament:* (1) .50 cal (12.7mm) HMG or 7.62mm LMG or anti-tank TOW. *Elevation & traverse,* manual. *Capacity:* Fuel, diesel. *Crew/ Passengers,* 2/2. *Engine:* Toyota 2.8 liter 4-cyl diesel producing 100 hp @ 4000 rpm. *Location,* front. *Cooling,* liquid. *Transmission:* Toyota, manual with 2-spd transfer case. *Speeds Fwd/Rev,* 5/1. *Suspension System:* Coil spring. *Wheels Steerable,* front pair. *Turning Radius,* 26 ft (8 m). *No of wheels,* 4. *Tire Size,* 265/75xR16. *Performance:* *Speed,* 74 mph (120 km/h). *Range,* 373 mi (600 km). *Max grade,* 60%. *Usage:* In use with Jordanian Army. *Manufacturer:* Jordan Specialised Vehicle Manufacturing LLC, part of King Abdullah II Design and Development Bureau, Amman, Jordan.

2005 Veh, Recce. KADDB Stallion.



Above: KADDB Stallion Reconnaissance Vehicle.
(Photo: KADDB)

Remarks: In 2005 KADDB started a project for a major refit of existing Alvis Ferret chassis on hand as excess in Jordan. The new vehicle used the chassis, running gear and the armored rear of the vehicle, combined with a new armored cabin including armored glass which allows for a crew of four, instead of two; and the fitting of a remote control weapons station able to mount either light machine guns such as a 5.56/7.62mm or a heavy machine gun in the .50 caliber/12.7mm range. As of 2007 the vehicle was still in development.