



SLOVAKIA



Background: The dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the close of World War I allowed the Slovaks to join the closely related Czechs to form Czechoslovakia. Following the World War II, Czechoslovakia became a Communist nation in Soviet - ruled Eastern Europe. Soviet influence collapsed in 1989 and Czechoslovakia once

more became independent. The Slovaks and the Czechs agreed to separate peacefully on 1 January 1993. Slovakia joined both NATO and the EU in the spring of 2004.

Geography Slovakia. Location: Central Europe, south of Poland. Area: total: 48,845 sq. km. Area - comparative: about twice the size of New Hampshire. Land boundaries: total: 1,524 km. Border countries: Austria 91 km, Czech Republic 215 km, Hungary 677 km, Poland 444 km, Ukraine 97 km. Coastline: 0 km (landlocked). Climate: temperate; cool summers; cold, cloudy, humid winters. Terrain: rugged mountains in the central and northern part and lowlands in the south. Natural resources: brown coal and lignite; small amounts of iron ore, copper and manganese ore; salt; arable land. Environment - current issues: air pollution from metallurgical plants presents human health risks; acid rain damaging forests. Geography - note: landlocked; most of the country is rugged and mountainous; the Tatra Mountains in the north are interspersed with many scenic lakes and valleys. (CIA Factbook 2006)

1964 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. OT-64/SKOT, (see Czechoslovakia for vehicle details).

1993 Carr, Anti-Aircraft, STROP, 8x8, 30mm.

1998 Car, Recce. Aligator, 4x4.



Remarks. Lightly armored 4x4 with room for a crew of up to six. Armored for protection up to 7.62mm AP rounds. Prototype under development in 1998.

2000 Veh, Recce. Aligator 4x4 MCP.



Above: Aligator MCP during delivery to the Slovakian Army in 2005. (Photo top: Slovak MoD)

Remarks: The Aligator Mobile Command Post (MCP) is the baseline vehicle for the Aligator series; with the Observation and Reconnaissance Post (ORP) and Peace Support Operations (PSO) (intended for UN/NATO deployments) and Military Police (MP) variants are also in service with

the Slovakian Army. The Aligator is amphibious (can be driven by wheels, but the optional propeller mount is recommended) air-transportable (by either aircraft or helicopter) and can serve as a personnel transporter with high mobility, or as a radio equipped mobile command post at the tactical level. Protection against antipersonnel mines is increased by double flooring below the crew compartment, while its steel armor protection is body is proof against 7.62mm fire as well as shell fragments and anti-personnel grenades. The crew consists of four, including the driver, with the vehicle commander seated on the right with the remaining two personnel seated at the rear. The rear compartment also has firing ports, a roof hatch and separate door. Depending on the mission, the Aligator can be supplied with radios, surveillance devices and/or weapons, of the user can custom fit to their requirements. Central NBC protection and detection is also available as an option.

Aligator MCP Data: Weight empty, 11,245 lbs (5100 kg). Loaded, 14,774 lbs (6700 kg). Length, 165 in (4200 mm). Width, 87 in (2220 mm). Height, 77 in (1950 mm). Ground Clearance, 15 in (375 mm). Wheel Base, 111 in (2820 mm). Wheel Tread, 76 in (1920 mm). Drive, 4x4. Armor, proof against 7.62mm ball. NBC Protection, as fitted by user. *Armament:* (1) 7.62mm or 12.7mm HMG. Elev & traverse, manual. Fire Control, optical. Aux wpns, crew sidearms. *Capacity:* Fuel, 42 gals (160 Liters) diesel. Crew, 4. *Engine:* (1) Deutz BF 6M 1013 6-cylinder liquid-cooled diesel producing 190 hp (141 kW). Location, front. *Transmission:* Automatic, Renk RECO 606T with 6-forward and 1-reverse gear. *Suspension System:* Type, Individual coil spring. Wheels Steerable, front axle. Turning Radius, 21 ft (6.4 m). No of wheels, 4 w/central tire inflation system. *General Data:* Elec Voltage, 24 V. Radio, as fitted by user. Cargo Vol/Weight, 3,528 lbs (1600 kg). *Night Vision Devices:* As fitted by user. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 62 mi (100 km/h). Speed/Water, varies - drive either by wheels, or optional propeller mount. Range, 410 mi (660 km). Forging Depth, amphibious. Max Grade, 60 %. Trench Crossing, 31.5 in (800 mm). Step, 16 in (400 mm). *Usage:* In service with the Slovakian Army, a total of 100 vehicles in various variants are scheduled to be in service by 2009. *Manufacturer:* Kerametal and Transmisie, Slovak Republic.

2003 Car, Armd, 4x4. Aligator 4x4 MP.



Above: Aligator 4x4 MP of the Slovakian Special Operations Group. (Photo: Slovak MoD)

Remarks: The Aligator 4x4 MP Military and Civil Police Modification has been developed to undertake a wide range of roles such as, internal security, border patrol, protecting high-risk areas, police security tasks, patrol and surveillance and for urban riot control situations. The vehicle can also be specially fitted to meet specific situations, such as the addition of riot shields or scaling ladders. The hull (along with the vehicle internal fire extinguishing and NBC system) provides protection against inflammable substances, smoke, gas or chemicals. The construction of the Aligator also allows for firing of various kinds of small arms including sniper rifles through adjustable ports which are located between the front windshields, on each side of the hull and in the rear door. A single-piece roof hatch provides a good position for observation and firing of weapons and/or launchers of various sorts. The Aligator's favorable driving characteristics, reliable braking, turning radius and relatively small size are extremely useful during urban combat operations or during convoy or VIP escort. *Usage:* In service with the Slovakian Army, a total of 100 vehicles in various variants are scheduled to be in service by 2009. *Manufacturer:* Kerametal and Transmisie, Slovakia. (Except for a vehicle height of 81 inches (2050 mm) and a crew capacity of six instead of four, the basic data for the MP version is the same as the base MCP).

2003 Veh, Recce. Aligator 4x4 PSO.



Above: Aligator Peace Support Operations (PSO) version. (Photo: Kerametal)

Remarks: The Peace Support Operation Modification is a variant of the basic MCP version. The vehicle is especially designed for the needs of units deployed in peace support operations with NATO, the UN or other international security organizations. The Aligator PSO can perform patrol, observation and/or reconnaissance missions, and act as a small armored personnel or cargo carrier. If required the PSO can be fitted with observation ports on both sides, a rotary periscope in the roof, or an externally mounted 7.62mm machine gun. When used as an APC the Aligator can carry a total of six personnel. *Usage:* In service with the Slovakian Army, a total of 100 vehicles in various variants are scheduled to be in service by 2009. *Manufacturer:* Kerametal and Transmisie, Slovak Republic. (See Aligator MCP for data).

2003 Veh, Recce. Aligator 4x4 ORP.



Above: Aligator 4x4 ORP with MOWAG MBK2 turret. (Photo: Kerrametal)

Remarks: The Aligator Observation and Reconnaissance Post (ORP) can be recognized by the small MOWAG MBK2 turret. The vehicle itself uses the same driving system and self-supporting vehicle body as the basic Aligator MCP. The

vehicle carries a crew of three: driver, commander and observer-gunner. The observation turret forms a separate sub-assembly and can be equipped with a day/night all-weather thermal imager. Besides the observation devices, the cupola is also fitted with an externally mounted 7.62-mm machine gun (supplied by the user). Operated from within the vehicle, depending on the choice of optics, firing is possible by day or day/night. 400 rounds of ammunition are carried in ready racks, and a new belt of ammunition can be reloaded from inside the vehicle. Six launcher tubes are mounted to the outside of the cupola for firing 76mm smoke or antipersonnel grenades. Using manual controls, the gun can be aimed and fired from within the vehicle.

Aligator ORP Data: Weight, empty, 11,951 lbs (5420 kg). Loaded, 14,774 lbs (6700 kg). Length, 165 in (4200 mm). Width, 87 in (2220 mm). Height, 101 in (2570 mm). Ground Clearance, 15 in (375 mm). Wheel Base, 111 in (2820 mm). Wheel Tread, 76 in (1920 mm). Drive, 4x4. Armor, proof against 7.62mm ball and shell fragments. NBC Protection, as fitted by user. *Armament:* (1) 7.62mm LMG. Elevation, manual -12° to +20°. Traverse, manual 360°. Fire Control, optical/thermal. Aux wpns, crew sidearms. *Capacity:* Fuel, 42 gals (160 Liters) diesel. *Ammo/Qty,* 7.62mm (400 rds). *Crew,* 3. *Engine:* (1) Deutz BF 6M 1013 water-cooled 6-cylinder diesel producing 190 hp (141 kW). Location, front. *Transmission:* Renk RECO 606T automatic with 6-forward and 1-reverse gear. *Suspension System:* Individual coil spring. Wheels Steerable, front axle. Turning Radius, 21 ft (6.4 m). No of wheels, 4 w/central tire inflation system. *General Data:* Elec Voltage, 24 V. Cargo Vol/Weight, 2,822 lbs (1280 kg). *Night Vision Devices:* As fitted by user. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 62 mi (100 km/h). Speed/Water, varies. Range, 410 mi (660 km). Forging Depth, amphibious. Max Grade, 60%. Trench Crossing, 31.5 in (800 mm). Step, 16 in (400 mm). *Usage:* In service with the Slova-kian Army, a total of 100 vehicles in various variants are scheduled to be delivered by 2009. *Manufacturer:* Kerametal and Transmisie, Slovakia.