

NZAR ID 102, Arm Type: AFV,

Date: 30 October 2011,

Compiled by : Phil Cregeen

Pattern (name) Sherman Medium Tank M 4, Introduced into NZ Service: 1943, Withdrawn 1945

Crew: 5 (commander, gunner, loader, driver & co-driver) **Battle Weight:** 66,500 lbs (30,164 Kg)

Length: 19 ft 4in. (5.8 m) **Width:** 8 ft 7 in. (2.64 m) **Height:** 9 ft 0 in. (2.74 m) **Track width:** 16.5in (419 mm)

Guns: One 75mm, plus two .30 Browning MGs and one .50 Browning AA MG, **Armour:** 75 mm to 12 mm,

Engine: 400 to 500 HP. **Max Speed:** Road 24-29 mph (37-47 Km/h), X-country 15-20 mph(24-32 Km/h)

Range: 120 miles.(190 Km)



Photo taken Waiouru National Army Museum November 2010



July '43 a Sherman delivered at Maadi, Egypt



NZ Shermans in Italy 1943



The 4th NZ Armoured Brigade was formed in Egypt in mid 1943, where they were reinforced from NZ by the disbanded 1 NZ Tank Brigade. Initially supplied with Shermans and Crusaders for training they were fully equipped with Sherman tanks from July 1943. In October '43 the Brigade landed in Italy, seeing action at the Sangro River, Casino, Rome, Florence, The Romagna and Trieste. Having returned their tanks to depots in Bologna the 4 NZ Armoured Brigade was disbanded on 2 December 1945.

The 4 NZ Armoured Brigade was equipped with diesel powered Sherman III for most of the Italy campaign. In Late 1944 the took delivery of some petrol driven 17 Pounder Fireflies (IC or VC) and later in 1945 some Sherman IBs with 105 mm howitzers.

Acknowledgements:

WWII Photos natlib.govt.nz & Alexander Turnbull Collection

Reference: Fighting Vehicles of the New Zealand Army by Michael Burgess

4th NZ Armoured Brigade in Italy by J Plowman & M Thomas