

Pattern: (name) Otter Light Reconnaissance Car Mk II; Introduced into NZ Service: 1941, Withdrawn: 1944 ?

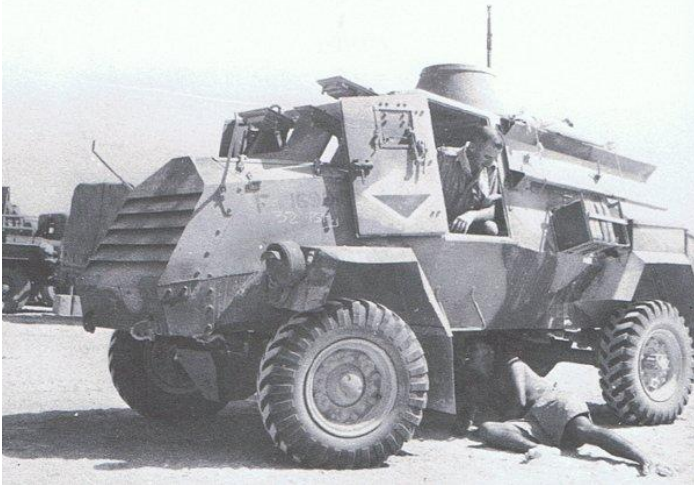
Maker: General Motors, Canada

Crew: Mk II 3 (commander, gunner, driver)

Weight: 9,070 Lb (4,114 Kg), Length: 14 ft 9 in. (4.495 m) Width: 7 ft 0 in. (2.133 m) Height: 8 ft 0 in. (2.44m)

Guns: one .303 Bren LMG, one Boys anti-tank rifle; Armour: 12 mm max.

Engine: GMC 6 cylinder, 106 hp; Speed: 47 mph (75 Km/h) Range: 260 miles (402 Km)



The Otter Light Reconnaissance Car (LRC) was developed by [General Motors Canada](#) to meet the demand for this type of armoured car. The design followed the layout of the British [Humber Mark III LRC](#). The Otter was based on the [Chevrolet C15 Canadian Military Pattern truck](#) chassis and used many standard GM components. The armament consisted of a hull-mounted [Boys anti-tank rifle](#) and a [Bren light machine gun](#) in a small open-topped turret. Although it used a more powerful engine than the Humber, it was larger and heavier (by a ton); overall performance was less than the Humber but still acceptable.

Between 1942 and 1945, 1761 units were produced in [Oshawa, Ontario](#), though fewer than 1,000 were delivered overseas.

#### **New Zealand Service**

The Otter was used by the NZ Forces including 7<sup>th</sup> NZ Anti Tank Regiment and NZ Artillery in the Western Desert and also by the Artillery in Italy as an armoured Observation Post.

Acknowledgements: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humber\\_Armoured\\_Car](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humber_Armoured_Car)  
Fighting Vehicles of the New Zealand Army by M Burgess.

Photos: <http://www.warwheels.net/OtterMk1INDEX.html>  
<http://ww2photo.se/tanks/can/armerc/otter1.htm>  
<http://antipodeanarmour.blogspot.co.nz/>