

NZAR ID 169, Arm Type: AFV, Draft Date: (V1) 23 January 2014, Compiled by : Phil Cregeen

Pattern: (name)White Scout Car, M3A1 Introduced into NZ Service: 1941, Withdrawn: 1945

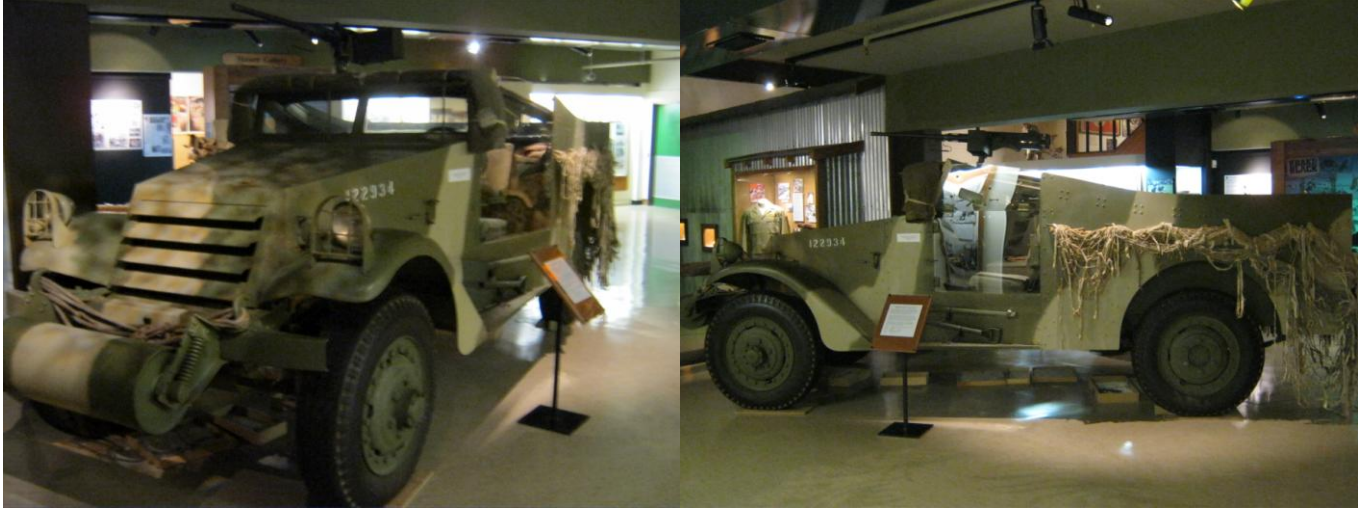
Maker: White Motor Company, Cleveland USA.

Crew: Driver +7, Weight: 8,900 Lb (4,037 Kg)

Length: 18 ft 5.75in. (5.63 m) Width: 6 ft 5 in. (1.95 m) Height: 6 ft 11 in. (2.108m)

Gun: .50 Cal Browning MG.

Engine: Hercules JXD 6 cylinder, 110 hp; Speed: 55 mph (89 Km/h) Range: 260 miles (402 Km)



White Scout Car displayed at the NZ National Army Museum, Waiouru

Design of the vehicle began at the [White Motor Company](#), based in [Cleveland](#), USA in 1937. It had .25 in (6.4 mm) face-hardened armour, full-time four-wheel drive (with no way to disengage it), four-speed manual constant-mesh (non-synchromesh) transmission (with one reverse gear) and two-speed transfer case, leaf spring suspension, manual steering, and (unusual for the period) vacuum-assisted (power) brakes. The wheelbase was 131 in (3.3 m), tread 65.25 in (1.657 m). The wheels were 8.5 in (220 mm) wide, 20 in (510 mm) diameter, and used standard 12-ply military non-directional tires. Fuel capacity was 30 US gal (110 l).

Production of the M3A1 started in 1940 and lasted until 1944, with 20,918 vehicles built.

New Zealand Service

95 White Scout Cars were brought to New Zealand in 1942, where they served with Light Armoured Fighting Vehicles Regiments but there was little requirement for them and most were shipped overseas. They were used by the New Zealand Division in North Africa and as command cars and also for a short time by the LRDG. In Italy the NZ Divisional Cavalry Regiment included a number of White Scout Cars in the inventory of Regimental and Squadron HQ vehicles as did the 4th NZ Armoured Brigade.

Acknowledgements: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M3_Scout_Car

2nd NZ Divisional Cavalry Regiment in the Mediterranean by J Plowman & M Thomas