



THE SANDSTONE HERITAGE TRUST

Military Vehicles in Preservation

Eland 90

The Eland was for many years, starting in the late 1960s the main Armoured Car of the South African Army. Apart from the Ferret Scout Car, there had been nothing in use since the Marmon Harrington or 'Ford Mk4' dating from World War 2. It was developed from the French AML 60 and 90 built by Panhard.

It was originally designed as a light patrol and reconnaissance vehicle, but the 90mm has been used as a tank hunter and an assault gun, while the 60 with its breech loading mortar is an excellent anti-personnel area weapon.

It was developed and improved through seven Marks, from the imported Mark I with a flat opposed 4-cylinder air-cooled boxer engine and electrically operated clutch, so that apart from general outline, the Mark 7 was in fact a different vehicle altogether.

Specifications:

Crew: 3 Crew Commander / radio operator, Gunner and Driver

Weight: 6 tonnes **Length:** 4.04 metres (5.12 metres with Gun forward) **Width:** 2.015 metres **Height:** 2.5 metres **Ground Clearance:** 380 mm

Engine: 2.5 litre 4-cylinder water-cooled vertical Chevrolet **Transmission:** Manual 6-speed forward and 1 reverse constant mesh (crash) **Suspension:** Independent, trailing arm with coil springs and hydraulic shocks

Brakes: Vacuum boosted shoe-in-drum on all four wheels **Wheels:** Four, 12.00 16" split rims with run-flat inserts

Fuel tank: 32 gallons (142 litres) **Road speed:** 90 km/hr **Road Range:** 450 km **Off-road speed:** 30 km/hr

Gradient: 23 degrees **Side slope:** 12 degrees **Step:** 300 mm **Trench:** 0.5 m (no channel) 0.7 m (1 channel) 1.8 m (2 channels) 2.9 m (3 channels) 3.2 m (4 channels) **Ford:** 615 mm (without preparation) 820 mm (with preparation)

Main armament: 90 mm DEFA Gun – 8 to + 15 degrees **Ammunition:** 29 rounds **Effective range:** HEAT 1 200m HE 2 200 m

Co-axial: 7.62 Browning machine gun **Bracket:** 7.62 mm GPMG (optional) **Machine Gun ammunition:** 2 400 rounds 7.62 mm

