CAR WARS

MILITARY VEHICLE GUIDE

By Craig Sheeley

STEVE JACKSON GAMES
If you liked the military gadgets in *Uncle Al’s Catalog from Hell* – or if you went whole-hog and bought *Car Wars Tanks* – here’s the book you’ve been waiting for.

The *Military Vehicle Guide* contains over 80 different military vehicles and variants – tanks, armored cars, helicopters and other aircraft, and more.

And it includes over 150 different full-color *Car Wars* counters. Each counter includes the wrecked vehicle on the back. For the most-used vehicles, there are several counters – so you can create your own realistic military force.

There’s also a description of the new Central Missouri Commercial Combat Zone, located in and around old Fort Leonard Wood, where national forces, mercenaries and even corporate armies slug it out for the TV audience.

*This is a *Car Wars* supplement. You need *Car Wars* and either *Uncle Al’s Catalog from Hell* or *Car Wars Tanks* to play.*

Written by Craig Sheeley  
Edited by Jeff Koke  
Counters and Vehicle Diagrams by Michael Scott
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Counters

Aircraft

All aircraft counters are at air-to-air scale, as per *Aeroduel*, p. 20.

Chickens

Chickens have 1 HP and move as a ped. They can fly onto or over any obstacle not more than 1" high or 2" across. Their speed is the same in the air as on the ground. Chickens are at -6 to target due to their size. They cannot be armed or armored. They taste great fried, with dumplings or baked in herbs.

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Military vehicles differ from most civilian duellist vehicles in that they are usually designed as single-purpose vehicle beds, much like medium commercial vehicles. All-purpose vehicles like those popular in the civilian market are the exception in military service. Instead, a military vehicle is usually devoted to one function, to the detriment of other functions.

For example, the M-H25 Mobile Hovercraft Artillery Support Vehicle (see p. 27) carries artillery rockets, and that's all it carries. In a similar mode, the "Jeep" General-Purpose Small Transport (see p. 15) carries only a single pintle-mount MG, with the rest of the vehicle's space devoted to cargo and passengers. That's not much gunnery when matched against comparably-sized autoduelling vehicles.

In fact, most military vehicles aren't designed for combat. To be sure, AFVs and other front-line combat vehicles mount weaponry capable of destroying a car with a single shot, but the support and rear-area vehicles are normally poorly-armed and -armored. This is because they tend to operate in groups, or with other more heavily-armed vehicles acting as escorts. A truck convoy usually has a small helicopter and a couple of duellist-class vehicles riding shotgun, as well as the HMGs mounted on the trucks.

**Classifications**

Military vehicles usually fall into one of the following categories of function:

**Air Superiority:** An aircraft built for the specific purpose of shooting down other aircraft and maintaining or contesting air superiority over the battlefield.

**Anti-Aircraft:** A vehicle mounting AA weapons - rapid-fire guns, SAMs, etc. - and using them to guard other vehicles from aircraft.

**Armor-Hunter (AH):** A vehicle mounting heavy and heavy armor. Its purpose is the destruction of Battle Tanks and other heavily-armored targets.

**Armored Personnel Carrier (APC):** A vehicle built to transport troops into hostile environments, usually equipped with light weaponry, allowing them to support their troops. An APC sacrificing troop capacity and mobility in favor of heavier weaponry is called an Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV).

**Attack:** Mostly applied to helicopters, this indicates a vehicle that is armed for both assault and anti-armor.

**Assault:** A fire-support vehicle mounting bombardment and light weaponry, intended for troop support and direct-fire attacks. It is lighter than a Battle Tank and mounts lighter weaponry.

**Auxiliary:** A catch-all classification encompassing any vehicle type not mentioned above. Most autoduelling vehicles used by military and paramilitary organizations fall into this category.

**Battle Tank (MBT):** A fully-tracked vehicle mounting heavy offensive armament and armor, capable of surviving long enough in an intense combat environment to deliver its offensive payload. These vehicles tend to mount one or two heavy weapons and several lighter weapons for anti-personnel/vehicle use.

**Cargo:** A cargo-hauler, devoted to moving equipment and supplies from one spot to another.

**Command:** A vehicle specifically modified to function as a command and control center.

**Engineering:** A vehicle dedicated to engineering problems - removing obstacles, bridging gaps, and construction.

**General Purpose:** A vehicle that can be modified for various purposes - combat, transport, cargo, etc.

**Patrol:** A moderately-armed and -armored vehicle constructed for mobile perimeter patrol. Often it is indistinguishable from an autoduelling vehicle, and many autoduelling vehicles with upgraded equipment are used for this purpose.

**Recon:** A small, fast vehicle devoted to gathering battlefield intelligence. It is typically under-armed, depending on speed and stealth rather than on firepower.

**Self-Propelled Artillery:** A vehicle mounting artillery weapons, either mortars, guns, cruise missiles or rockets. Its mission is to provide artillery fire support, not to engage the enemy directly.

**Transport:** A vehicle for troop transport, off the battlefield, with minimal weaponry and emphasis on troop capacity. Transports often double as cargo vehicles.

**Vehicle Types**

The vehicles listed in this guide are grouped according to vehicle chassis type rather than function: Motorcycles, Trikes, Cars, Trucks, Hovercraft, Boats, Helicopters, Aircraft, Armored Cars, and Armored Fighting Vehicles (fully-tracked AFVs). Each vehicle has its specific function noted.

Note that the illustration of each vehicle is for silhouette recognition only; they are not to any particular scale, even within each vehicle type.

**Who Makes These Vehicles?**

Various vehicle manufacturers around the world, and particularly in North America, manufacture and sell military and milspec vehicles. Some vehicles are made under strict contract to specific military organizations, with the understanding that those vehicles will not be made for or sold to any other person or organization. Some are made in conjunction with specific military organizations and marketed to interested buyers with the military's blessing. The rest are designed by the manufacturers for direct sale.

Almost every manufacturer of autoduelling equipment builds military equipment as well. The markup on military vehicles is higher and the market is not as fickle as the autoduelling market; these factors attract manufacturers. Such brand-names as Nippon Motors, Fnord, Alamo Arms, H&K&P, and Generic Motors can be found in the military marketplace, as well as scores of smaller, more specialized firms.

**Who Buys Them?**

Military vehicles are not sold to every customer who walks into a manufacturer's showroom. They are sold to accredited armies, both governmental and corporate, and to individuals who have excellent credit references and the wherewithal to pay for the expensive machines. Bargains can be had by ordering bulk shipments of vehicles, but this is usually restricted to a few types of vehicle per army. The U.S. Armed Forces and the Texan Armed Forces are exceptions to this rule, waging an economic war based on the acquisition of equipment. Aside from these two military giants, most military vehicle purchasers are corporations interested in security, defensive postures and equipment for their private gladiatorial armies.

Some "mercenary" commercial armies purchase military vehicles. They are few, generally under-equipped, and carefully watched by the Federal and the Free Oil States' governments.
Where Can These Vehicles Be Found?

Most of the time, military vehicles are kept close to their home bases. They're too expensive to use for normal patrol and convoy duties; normal autodueling vehicles can handle those functions. The only good view of military vehicles the average citizen is likely to have is on the nightly documentary program Brute Firepower, Death TV’s most popular program (Channel 37 on the Sat-Link global communications system), or in action footage from Commercial Combat Zone engagements. This is to the average citizen's benefit, because even the most lightly-armed military vehicles are virtually immune to the light machine-guns carried by most citizens' vehicles. Occasionally, citizens might bump into military convoys moving between bases and engagements, or get to see a military vehicle show.

In 2042, few people actually man and maintain military vehicles. During the late 20th century, the great armies of the world employed hundreds of thousands of soldiers who worked with such equipment on a daily basis. However, despite today's smaller armies, more people than ever are familiar with military vehicles and combat, thanks to the subject's media popularity. Vid-shows like Brute Firepower, computer games and combat micros give an audience the thrill of combat without the expense of actually participating. Micros (virtual copies of military training micros) all contribute to the public's military education.

The favorite military medium is combat televiolence. Every week, commercial combat teams meet in actual battle, covered by scores of cameras, so the audience doesn't miss a second of the action. And through the wonder of instant replay and computerized intelligence processing, every firefight can be routed to the home audience, in slow motion. Intricate networks of carefully positioned cameras allow directorial staffs to overcome the old problem of action occurring while the cameras are elsewhere— and if there's too much action at once, the images are kept on file and shown during periods of inactivity.

These battles are even more popular with broadcasters than professional autodueling—a commercial battle may cost more to produce, but lasts much longer than the average autodueling event, allowing more commercial time, and ultimately producing more income.
M-C006 "Owl"

Length: 7’
Width: 2’ 8”
Height: 4’ 8”
Mass: 1,225 lbs.
Top Speed: 172.5 mph

Cost: $36,040
Function: Recon
Manufacturer: Jupiter Electronics
In Service: U.S. Army, USMC

The Owl is silent, a whisper on the breeze. Its highly-touted Stealth option works quite well; with good camouflage, the Owl is practically invisible. Its high-tech gadgets make it unpopular with maintenance personnel, but the fact that it has an actual cargo box (large enough for a nice lunch, or a couple of spare magazines) is appreciated by the cycle scouts who use it. (Some of these cycles have been “lost” from government inventory and are used by border-runners. The cargo box is just right for contraband.)

Construction: Heavy Cycle, Super Power Plant with PCs and SCs, OR suspension, OR Puncture-Resistant Tires, Cycle Windshell.
Crew and Cargo: Driver. 1/2 space/20 lbs. cargo.
Armament: None.
Concealment: None.
Handling: Acceleration 10, HC 1(2 off-road), Top Speed 172.5 mph.

M-CSU40 "LaForge"

Length: 7’
Width: 1’ 5”
Height: 2’ 10”
Mass: 1,300 lbs.
Top Speed: 125 mph

Cost: $133,800
Function: Recon
Manufacturer: Harley-Hughes
In Service: U.S. Army

The LaForge is the state-of-the-art, when it comes to cycle electronics. It’s a perfect example of dedicated sensors meeting classic American motorcycle frame engineering – meaning that it’s not a “crotch-rocket,” a lay-down bike. Its lack of a radar-shielding windshell and its low speed make it seem less impressive than the other recon bikes – until the electronics suite is revealed. Few motorcycles are capable of providing their own ECM, either to cover their own activities or as ECM support for other forces.

Construction: Heavy Cycle, Medium Power Plant with PCs and SCs, OR suspension, OR Puncture-Resistant Tires.
Crew and Cargo: Driver. No cargo.
Armament: None.
Concealment: None.
Armor: F5, B5.
Handling: Acceleration 10, HC 1(2 off-road), Top Speed 125 mph.
Military trucks are usually called almost anything except “trucks.” Usually the only “truck” on a post is the ball at the top of the flagpole. The most popular term for military trucks is “transport, cargo,” or “transport, general purpose.”

Civilian trucks are much more heavily-armed than any but the most special-purpose military trucks. If you see a military truck that sports as many guns as a civvie eighteen-wheeler, then it’s probably a standard civilian rig in military service. Buying civilian-spec road vehicles is Standard Operational Procedure with almost every military organization; they’re good enough for the road, so why not military service? Special military-grade trucks are only constructed for off-road service, an environment hostile to civilian trucks.

Military organizations also use a great many trailers; if you have an off-road vehicle with some extra power left over, hitch a trailer to it! These are typically normal car trailers, usually with Off-Road solid tires and Extra-Heavy suspensions, 2 to 4 points of Laser-Reflective Metal armor and no weapons. Trailers are used for cargo, ammunition transport, mine-laying (with minedrovers), fuel, water, and even troop transport. Some are outfitted with communications facilities and used as command trailers.

### M-73A “Two-Ton” Cargo Transport

- **Length:** 17' 6"
- **Width:** 7' 1"
- **Height:** 8' 9"
- **Cost:** $109,662.50
- **Function:** Transport
- **Manufacturer:** Various
- **In Service:** Ubiquitous
- **Mass:** 9,695 lbs. (unloaded)
- **Top Speed:** 115 mph

The “Trey-Eight” or “Two-Tonner” is one of the most widely-used vehicles in military service. The original design dates back to the 20th-century Electric Vehicle Project, where the U.S. military started looking into “green” alternatives to gas-powered vehicles. When the design was perfected, it was licensed to several truck manufacturers. Through mergers, corporate takeovers and contract renegotiations, almost every vehicle manufacturer now has the contract to legally manufacture M-73A transports.

The M-73A is nothing more than a lightly-armored, ten-wheeled, off-road truck with cargo capacity, benches for troops, and a single M2A2 Heavy-Barrel machine-gun mounted over the cab. This simplicity makes it popular with every military organization, and even with civilian operators needing off-road cargo trucks.

**Construction:** Cab-over Ten-wheel Truck, Van Carrier, Standard Chassis, Military Off-Road Suspension, Small Truck Power Plant with PCs and SCs, OR Truck Solid Tires.

**Crew and Cargo:** Driver, Gunner, Cargo/Passengers 29 spaces/5,305 lbs.


**Armament:** Pintle-Mount HMG on cab.

**Concealment:** None.

**Armor:** LR Metal Armor: Cab F3, R3, L3, B2, T3, U3. Carrier F0, R2, L2, B2, T0, U2.

**Handling:** Truck Acceleration, HC 1 (2 off-road), Top Speed 115 mph (loaded).
The helicopter was a military development from its inception nearly a century ago. It was the answer to the problem of large airfields and aerial travel — how to get the speed of aerial travel without having to have a large airfield waiting at the end of the flight? The vertical take-off and landing capabilities of the helicopter answered the problem perfectly.

Not 20 years after their first appearance helicopters became the staple of swift troop movement and deployment. In the middle of the Vietnam War, a new development surfaced: the helicopter gunship, at first a normal machine with tacked-on weapons, then a specialty machine built to support troops. With its slow speed and loiter time, helicopters could precisely hit troop targets that the high-speed jets of the time missed.

Helicopters swiftly evolved into the familiar forms they occupy today: attack, transport, recon, medivac. With the advent of plasticermet armor, they acquired enough protection to actually take a hit from AA weapons and survive. They still have to operate at the most dangerous altitude level. Helicopters live at NOE — where one wrong move means disaster, and a bewildering array of anti-aircraft weapons are present to work against them.

Still, no military is complete without its helicopters.

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**M-RHD "Robot"**

- **Length:** 11' 3"
- **Width:** 5' 1"
- **Height:** 9' 7"
- **Mass:** 4,484 lbs.
- **Top Speed:** 187.5 mph
- **Cost:** $74,136
- **Function:** Recon
- **Manufacturer:** MDDH Industries
- **In Service:** U.S. Army, National Guard, U.S. Navy, Oklahoman Corporates

"Robot" is an uninspired name, but appropriate, since it's an uninspired helicopter. The Robot is a simple, serviceable, effective RPV (remotely-piloted vehicle) surveillance drone with the added usefulness of "break-down" capability; the machine can be disassembled into sections and carried in a truck. Because of the low price tag and easy availability, the Robot can be found nearly anywhere. TV companies even use them to cover heavy-fire events where manned machines would be at too much risk.

**Construction:** One-Man Helicopter, Mini Power Plant, CACR, Remote Control, Streamlined.

**Crew and Cargo:** No crew, no cargo.

**Equipment:** Hazard Detector, IFF, Image Enhancement, IRSS, IR Shielding, Military Radio, Radar, Radar Detector, Radar Jammer, Rotor Camera with IR and tuned TL, Telescopic Optics, Terrain-Following Radar, Thermograph.

**Armament:** None.

**Concealment:** None.


**Handling:** Acceleration 5, HC 0, Top Speed 187.5 mph.
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