

Multiple Gun Motor Carriage M16

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First Edition
Lublin 2007

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ISBN 978-83-60445-52-5

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Cena detaliczna: 22,00 PLN


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The Americans commenced the construction of the light anti-aircraft gun mounted on the universal half-track carrier in the early 1940. Warfare doctrines ascribed the vehicles of this type to defending military convoys from air raids.

There were two vehicles, the M13 and the M14, designed and accepted into service in 1941 and 1942, both armed with two coupled large-calibre machine guns. In the late autumn of 1942, the next two models were built – the M16 and the M17 respectively, armed with four large-calibre 12.7mm machine guns. Each gun could fire at a rate of around 400 rounds a minute, which, multiplied by four, provided with a significant firewall against attacking airplanes. Maximum effective ceiling of vertical fire reached 6500 meters.

The serial production started at the end of 1942. The vehicles manufactured at White Motor Company in Cleveland were marked M16, and identical vehicles from International Harvester Company in Chicago – M17. The differences between the two were insignificant. There were 2877 M16 and 100 M17 vehicles manufactured between 1942 and 1944. According to American sources, the entire 1944 M17 production was sent to the Soviet Union within Land Lease program. Although it is not mentioned in the official documents, over a dozen or even several dozen of the

M16 half-tracks were sent to the East. This claim is supported by the war reports as well as maintenance reports. The remaining over 2750 M16 vehicles were used by the US Army.

In January 1945 several dozens of these vehicles (mostly M17) were assigned to different First Armoured Corps' brigades of Peoples' Army of Poland, just in time to prove their combat effectiveness measured by the downed airplanes.

After the war has ended, until the mid 1950s, they were used by the Internal Security Corps, however, some remained armed with AA guns, and some were turned into regular armoured carriers with the AA guns removed.

In Poland, after removal from service, for ideological reasons and due to shortage of spare parts, American self-propelled AA guns were sent to ironworks. Only a few vehicles survived.

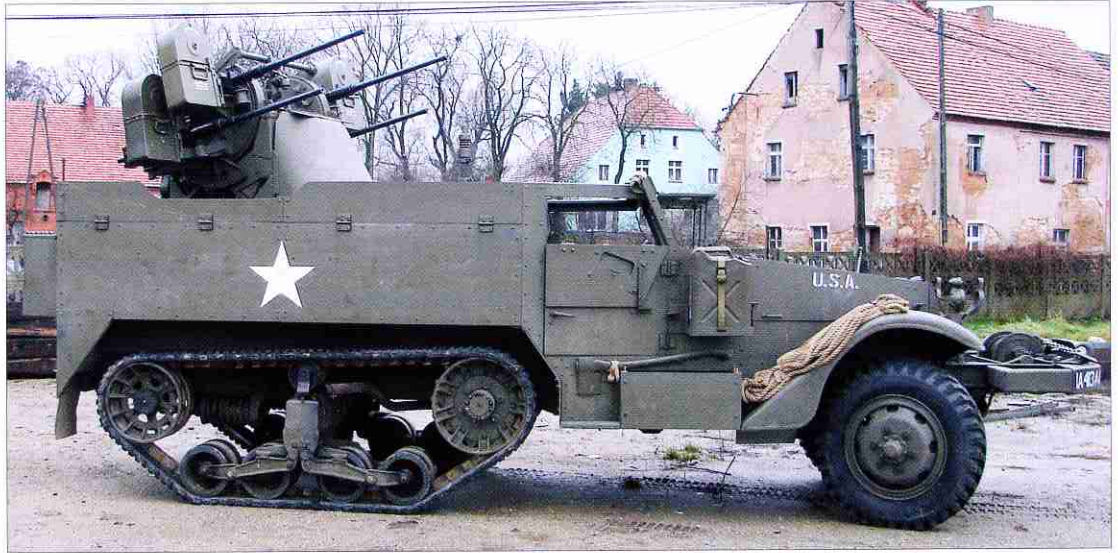
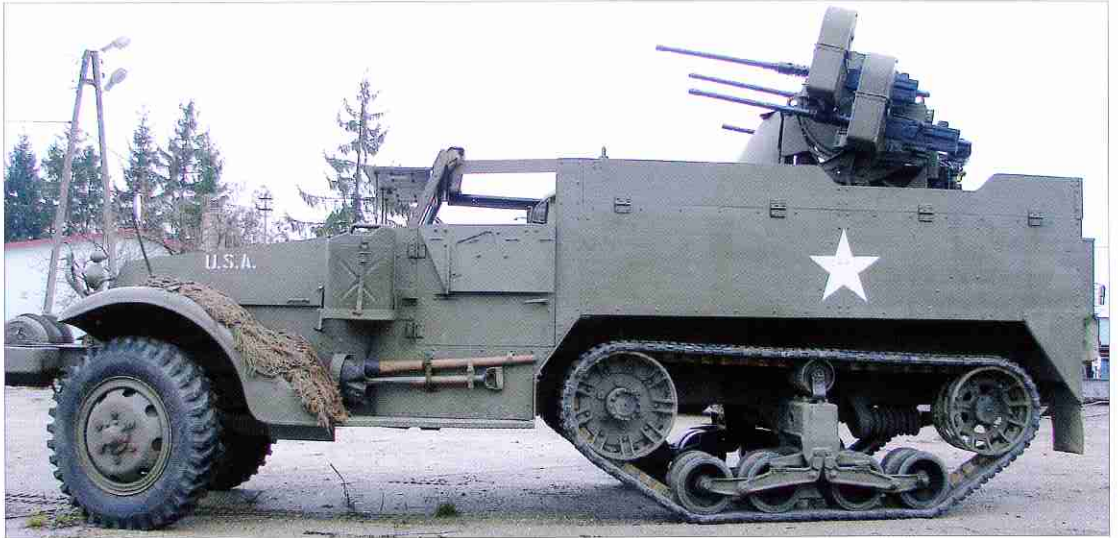
The M16 and the M17 vehicles in the USSR had more luck. Each and every piece of equipment, even exceptionally worn-out, was warehoused there, with the communism invasion to the West in mind. The communism invasion plans remained current in the USSR until the late 1980. Today, Russians offers the vehicles of this type for sale.

Tomasz Szczerbicki

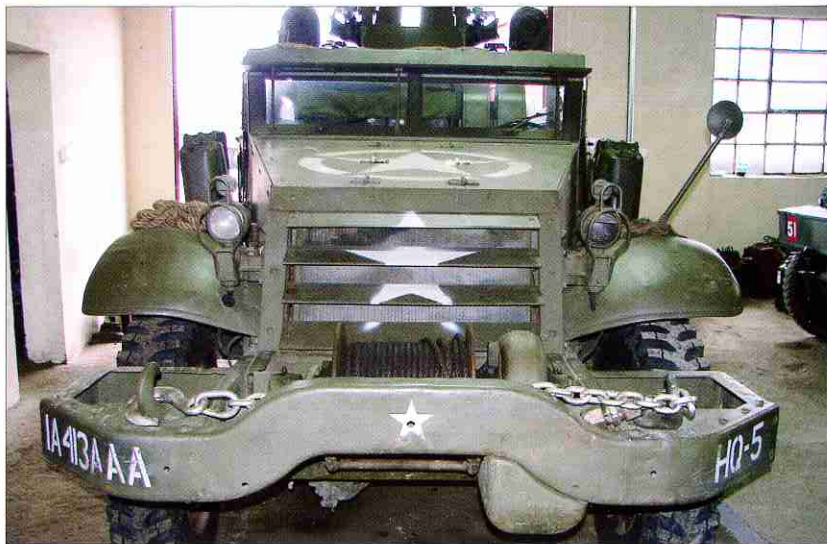


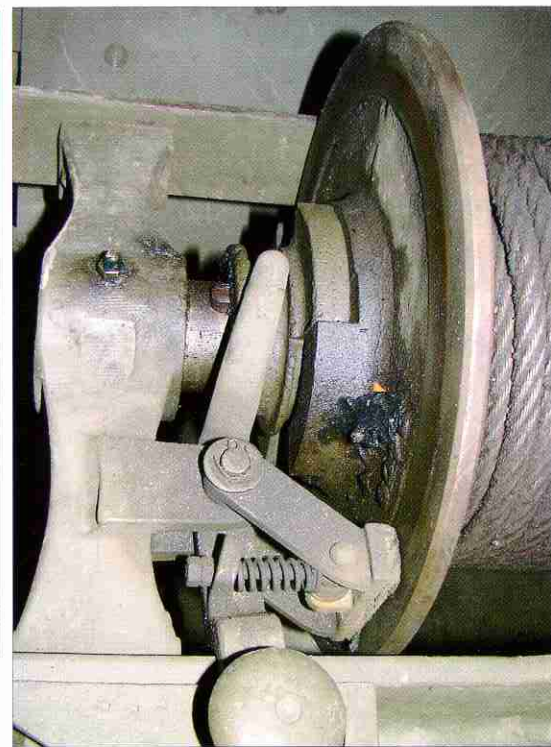
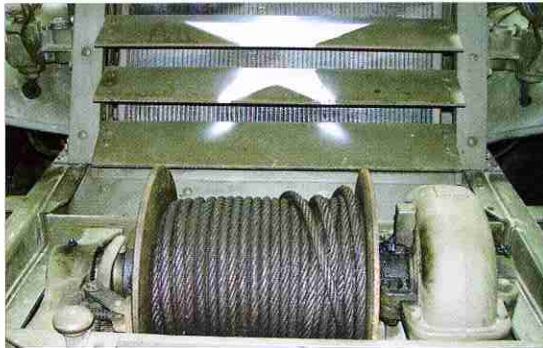


The M16 carrier's armour was made of 12.7 mm rolled steel in the front, and 6.3 mm on the sides and in the rear •
Pancerz transportera M16 wykonany był z płyt walcowanych o grubości: przód 12,7 mm, boki i tył - 6,3 mm

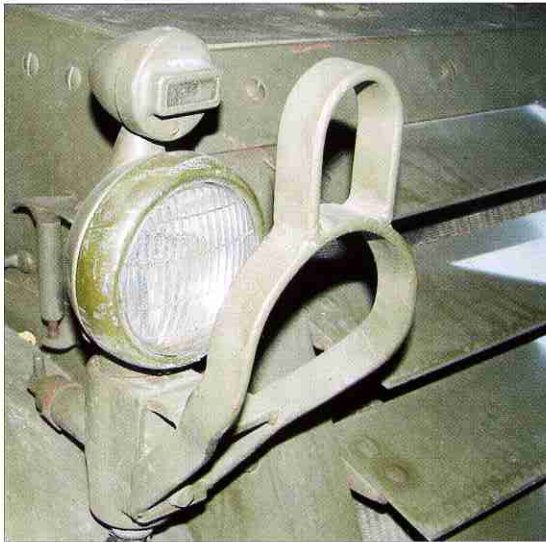
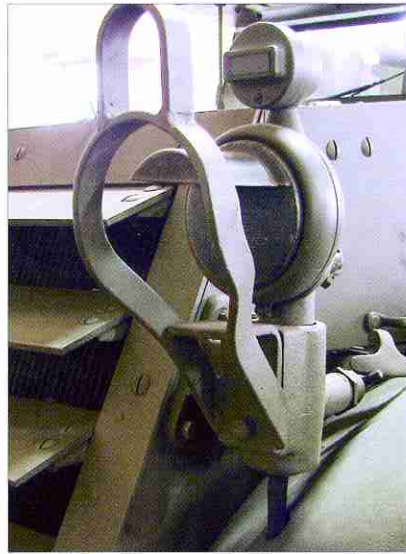


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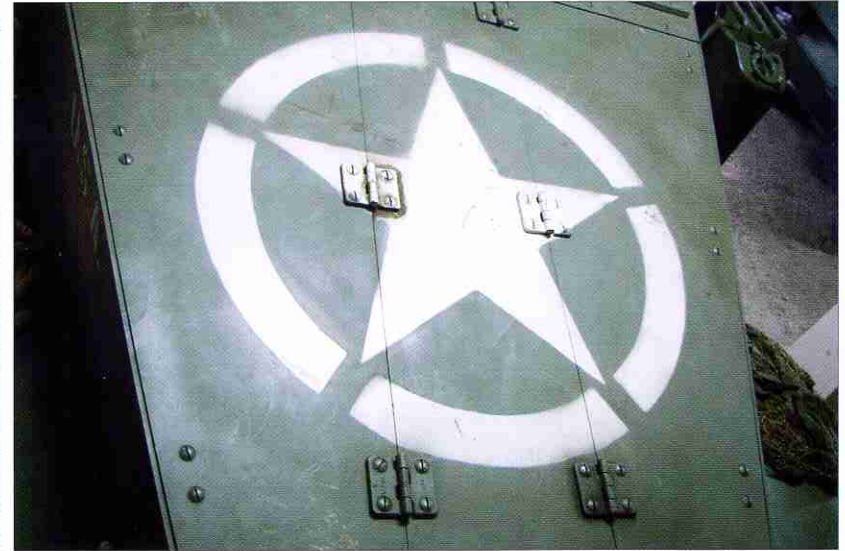


The hoist with the reeled steel line in the front of the vehicle. For the device to work properly in this over 9-ton vehicle, it was mounted to the lengthened frame • Wyciągarka ze stalowa liną, która nawijana była na szpule umieszczona z przodu pojazdu. Aby urządzenie to spełniało poprawnie swoje zadanie, w tym ważącym ponad 9 ton wozie, zamocowano je do przedłużonej ramy pojazdu



Inconspicuous road lights was supplemented with the Blackout lamps. The vehicle was meant for the day-light combat, so this was not too inconvenient. There was 12V wiring voltage • Skromne oświetlenie drogowe uzupełniane było lampami maskującymi „Blackout”. Pojazd był przewidziany do walki w dzień, dlatego nie było to zbyt uciążliwe. Napięcie instalacji elektrycznej wynosiło 12V







The fenders, the sills and the side boards were a perfect mounting places for accessories

- Błotniki, progi i burty boczne stanowiły świetny nośnik wyposażenia dodatkowego





Windshields
• Szyby
przednie



Fuel tank •
Kanister na paliwo

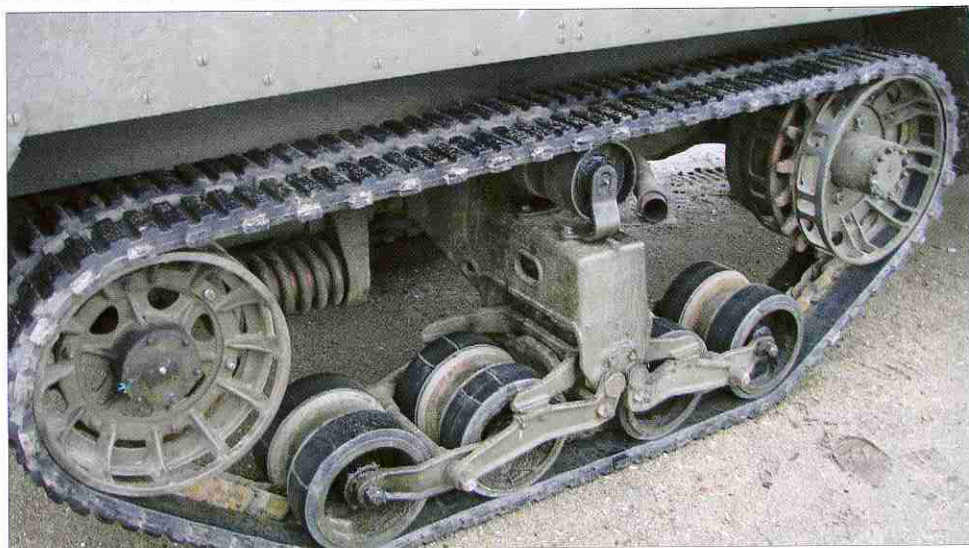
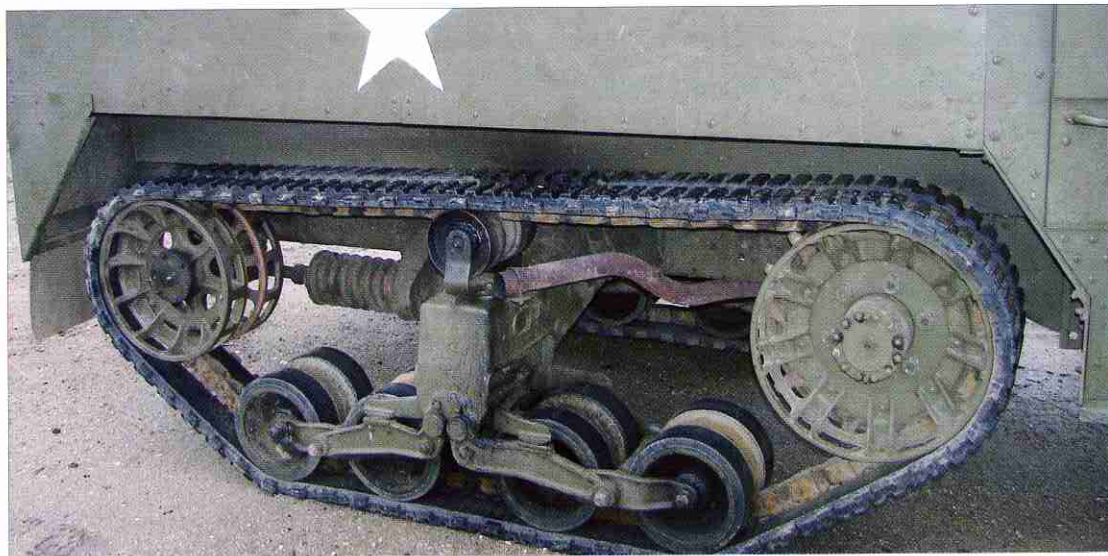






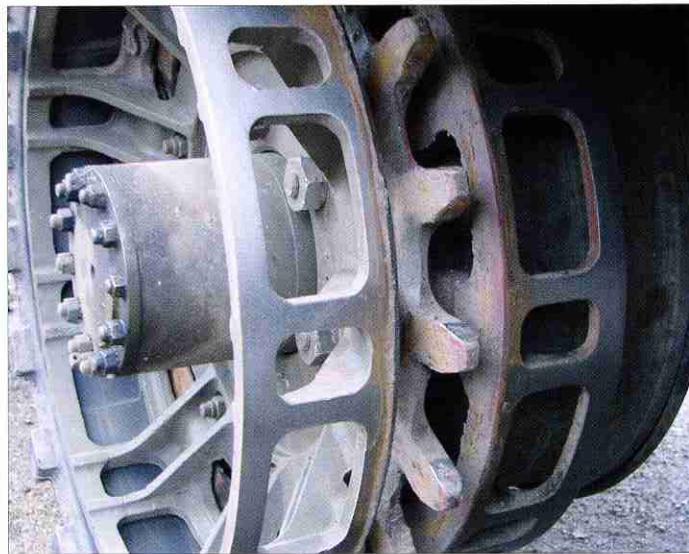
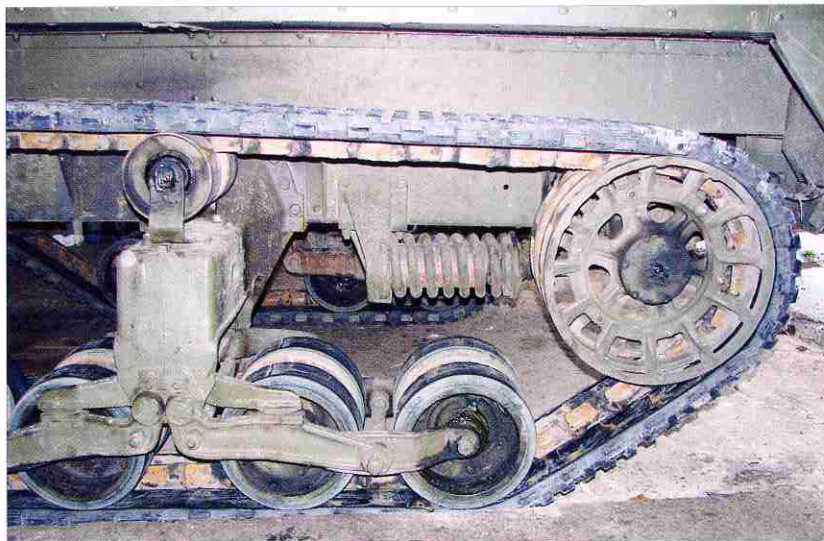
The pickaxe and the shovel were useful in the rough terrain • Kilof i łopata przydawały się w trudnym terenie



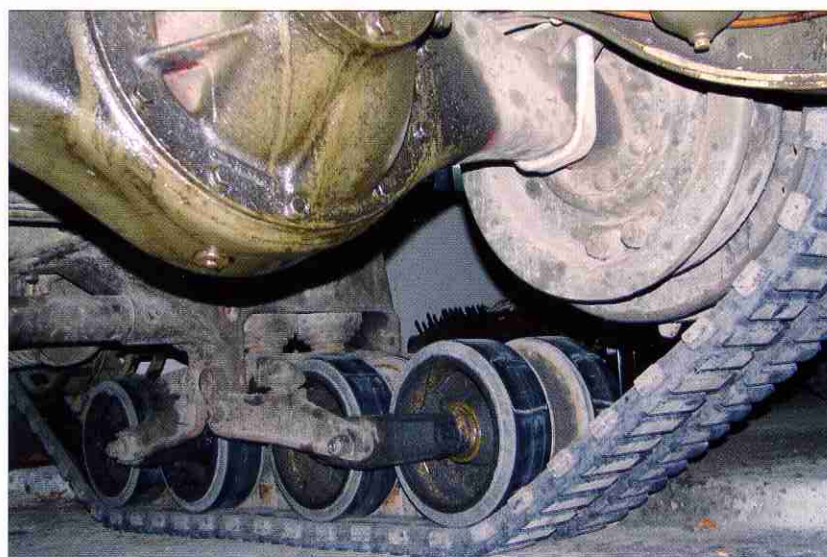
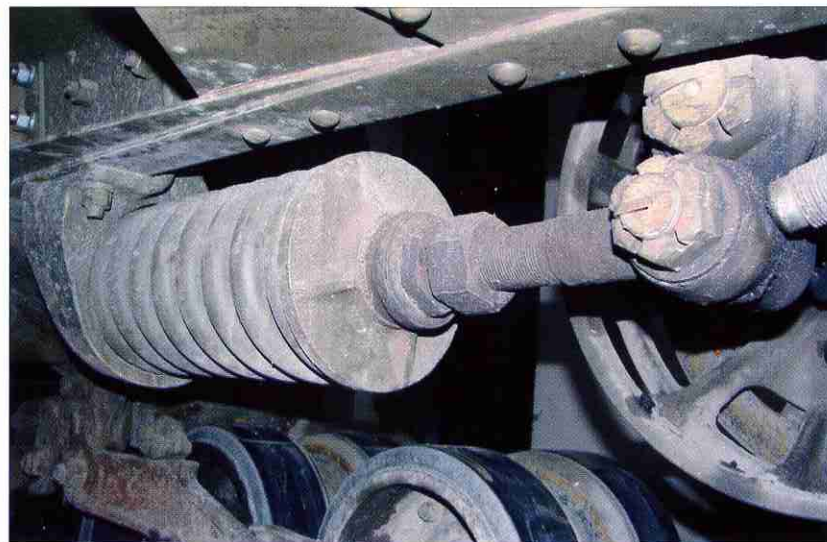


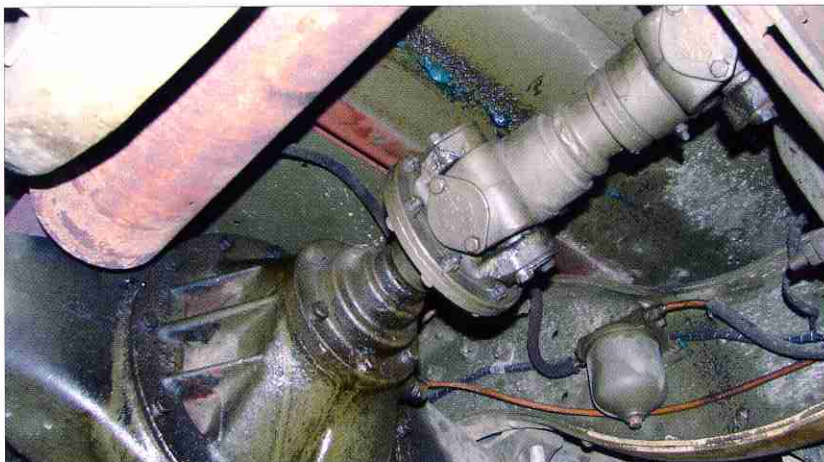


Rear track propulsion facilitated the rough terrain movement • Napęd gąsienicowy z tyłu ułatwia poruszanie się w terenie



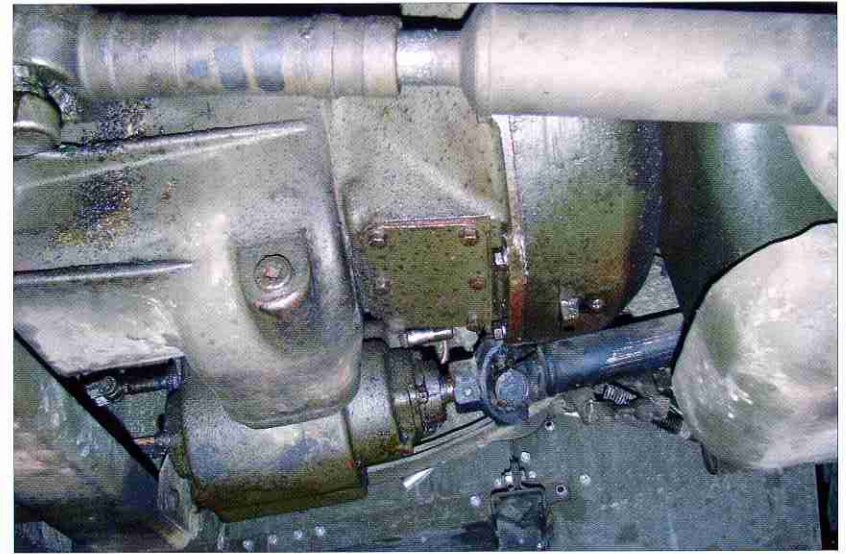


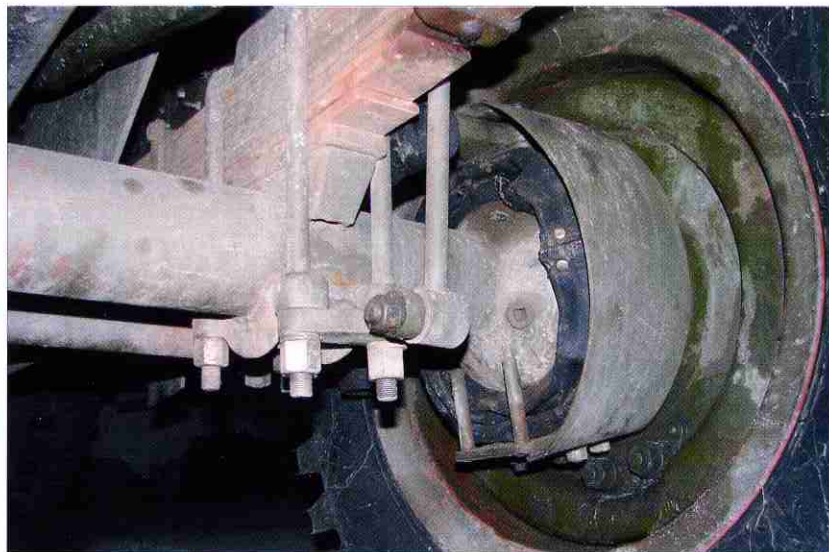




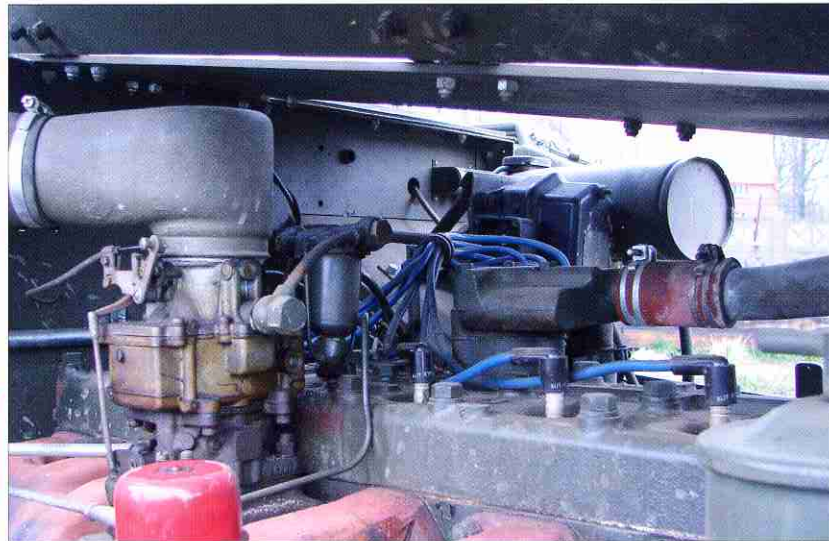
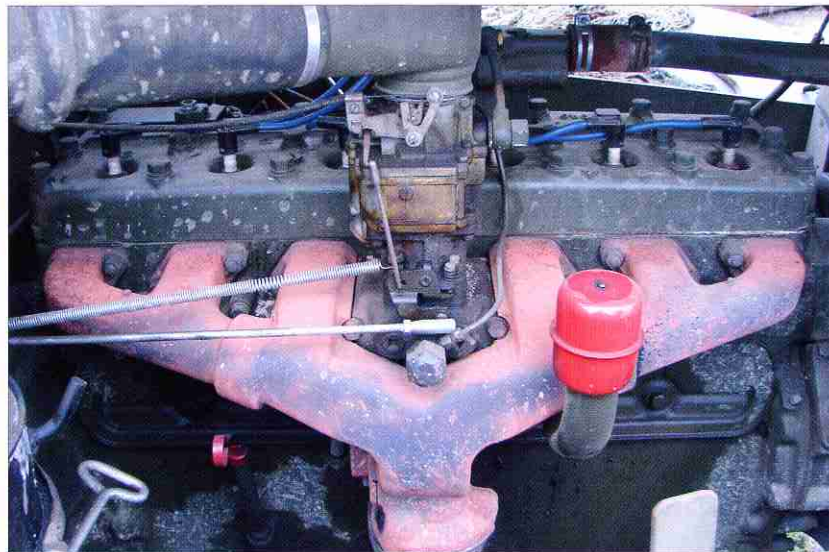
The propulsion was transmitted to front and rear axles through a dry, single disc clutch, gear box, reducer and a transfer case • Napęd z silnika przenoszony był – poprzez suche jednotarczowe sprzęgło, skrzynię biegów, reduktor, skrzynię rozdzielczą – do przedniego i tylnego mostu napędowego

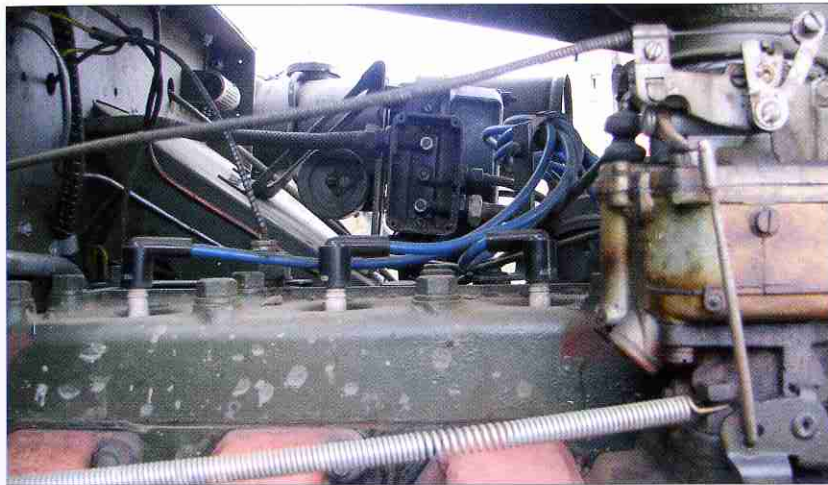






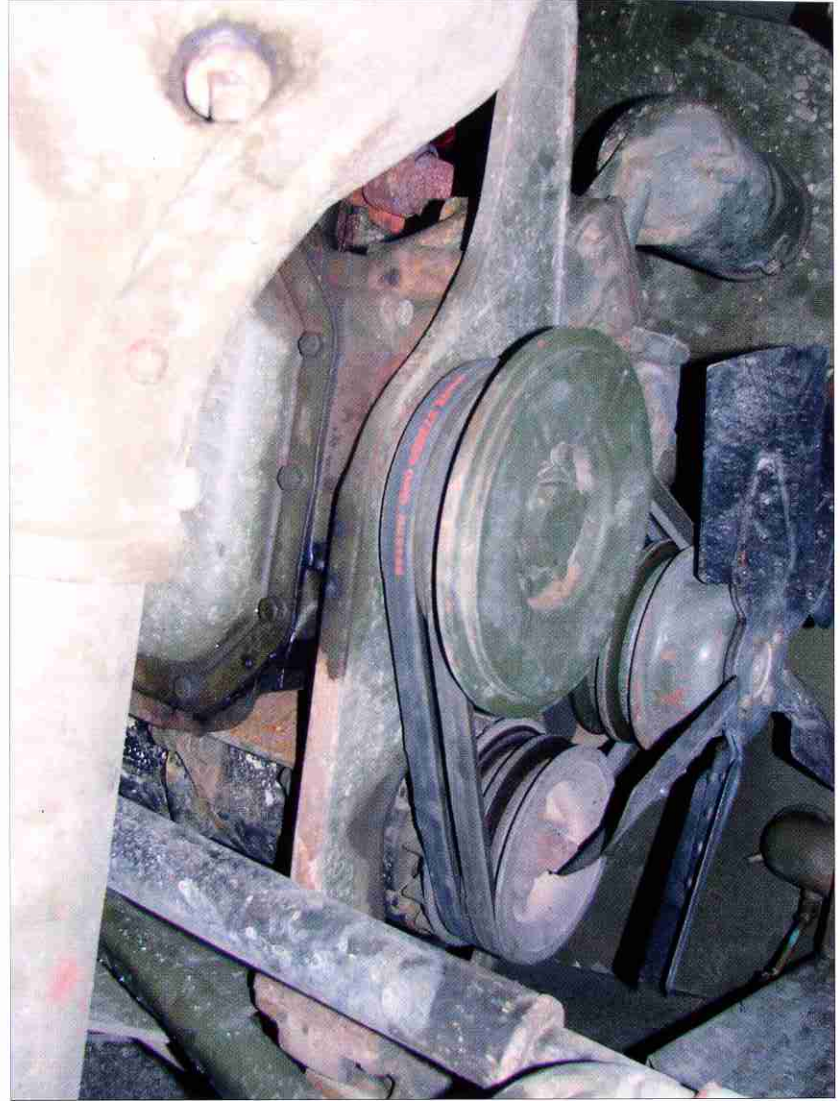


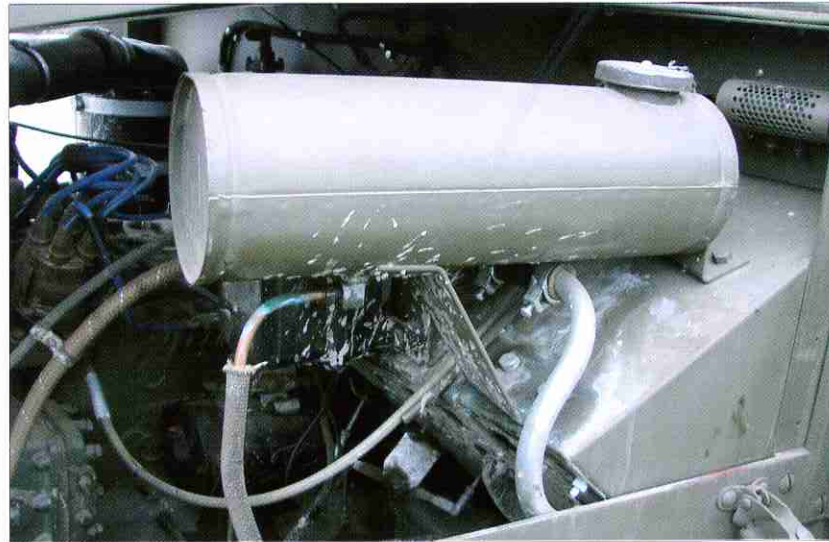
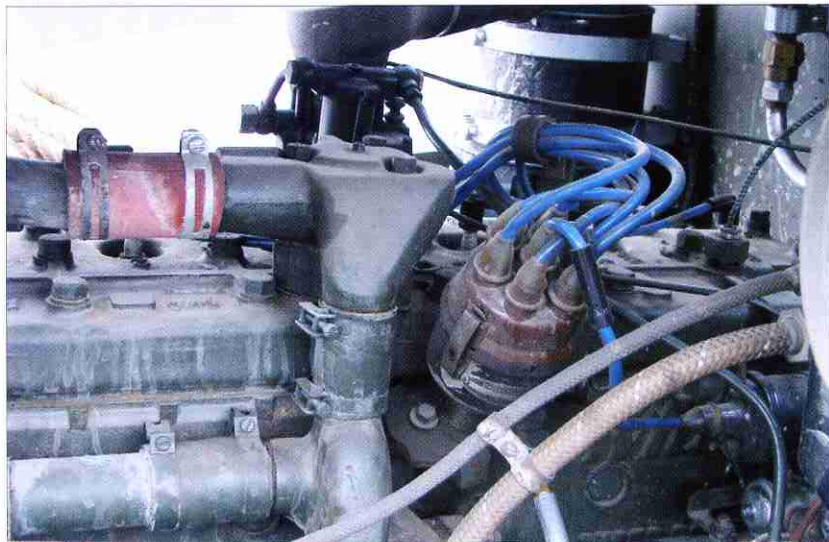
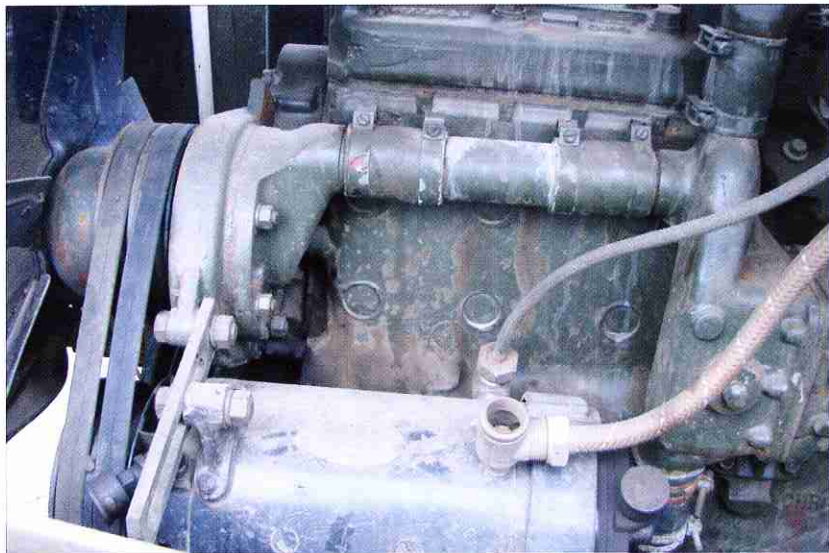


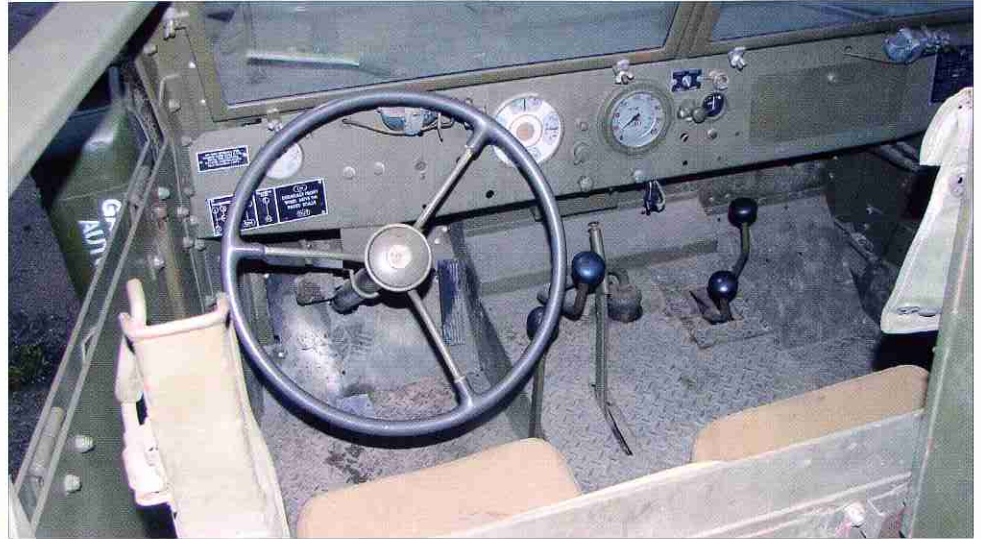


The M16 carrier was equipped with 6-cylinder, gasoline, side valve White 160AX engine with the maximum power of 147 HP • Transporter M16 wyposażony był w 6-cylindrowy, benzynowy, dolnozaworowy silnik White 160AX, który osiągał moc maksymalną 147 KM

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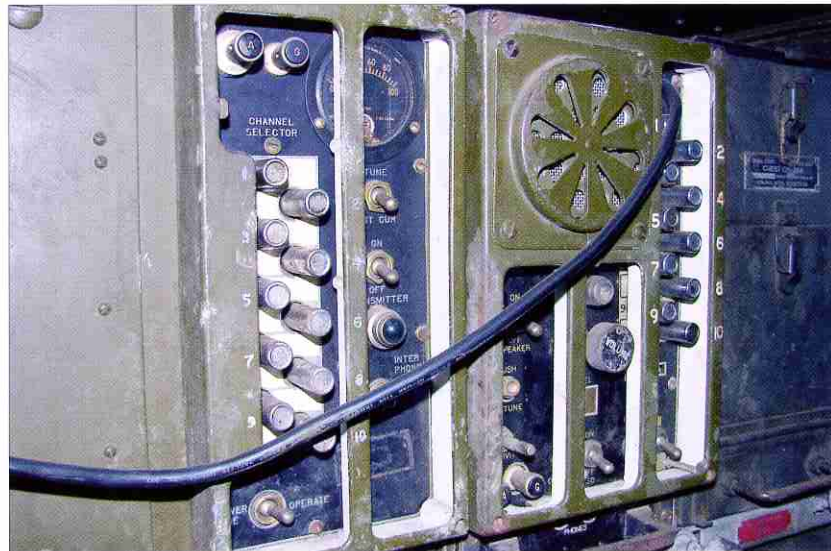


The inside of the driver's compartment was finished in an ergonomic, military style. Metal signboards instructed on the usage of particular devices. It must be noted that both experienced and inexperienced soldiers used to drive these vehicles, and for this reason there had to be precise manuals in the vehicles • Wnętrze przedziału kierowcy było wykonane w funkcjonalnym wojskowym stylu. Metalowe tabliczki instruktowały o użyciu poszczególnych urządzeń. Należy pamiętać, że takimi pojazdami kierowali różni żołnierze - doświadczeni i niedoświadczeni - dlatego obsługa pojazdu musiała być dokładnie opisana.



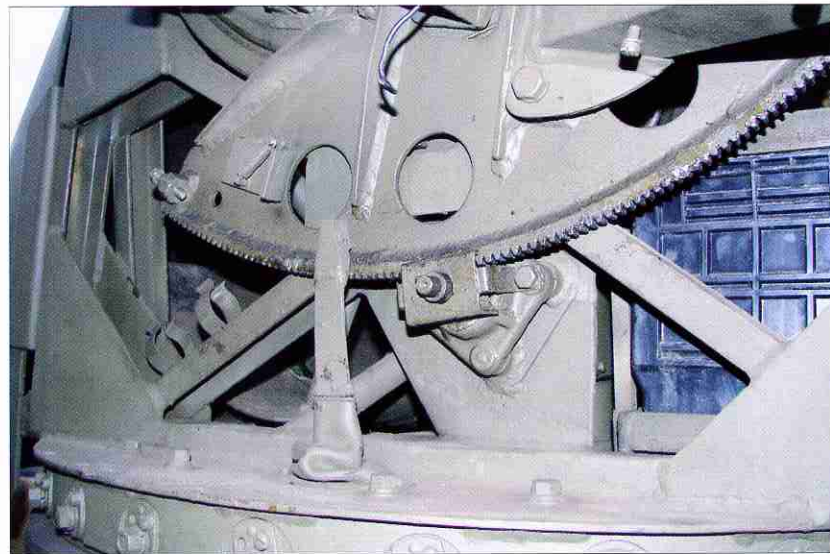


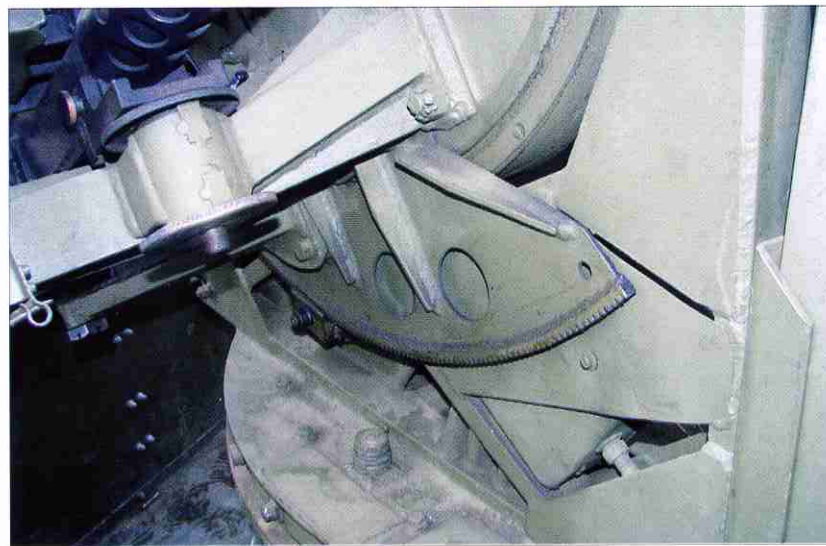
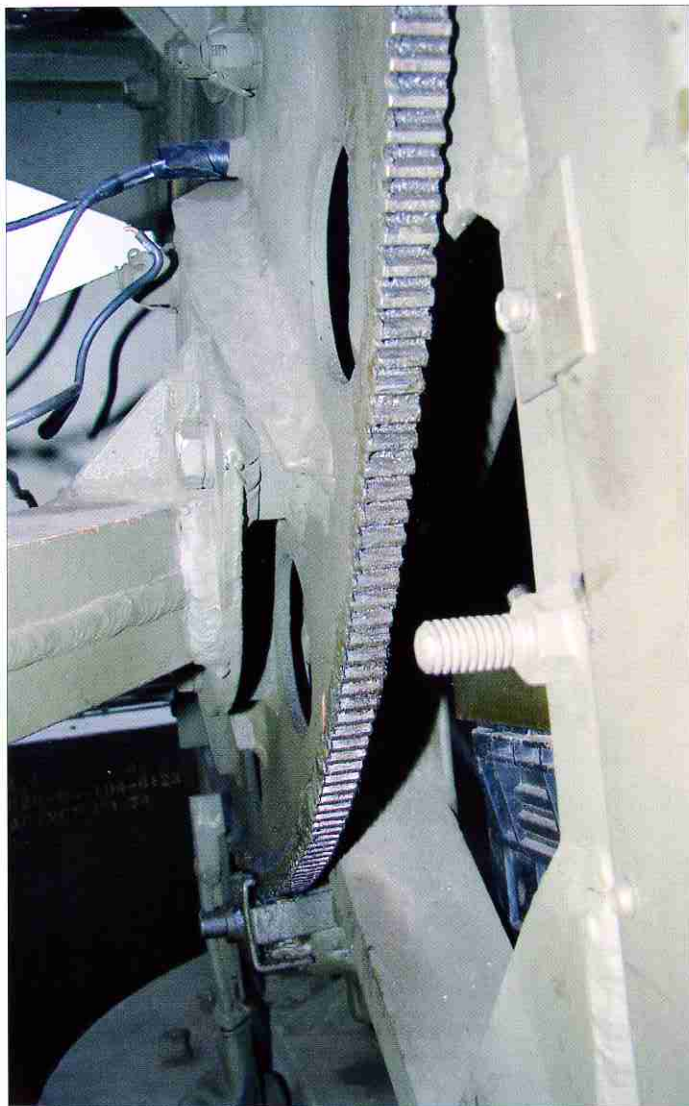
An American short-wave radio was installed in the M16 for external communications. Rarely, there was a British radio installed as well • Do łączności zewnętrznej w wozach M16 montowano amerykańską radiostację krótkofalową.





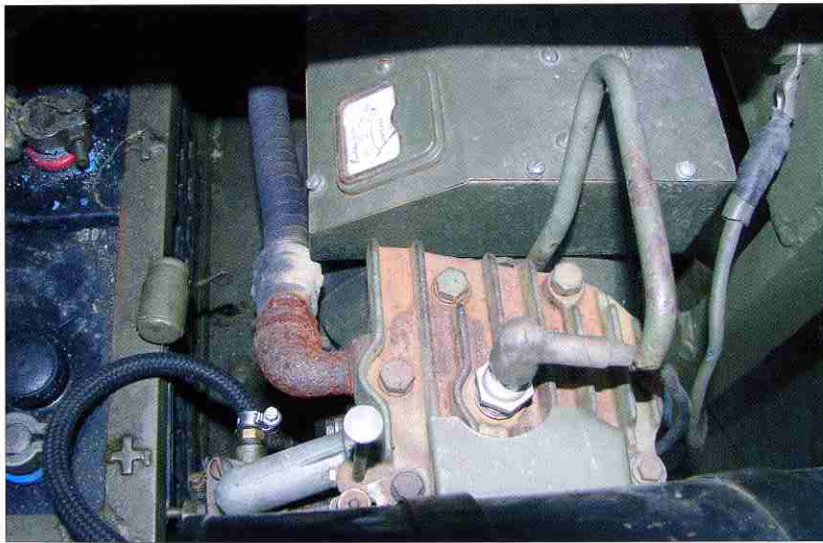
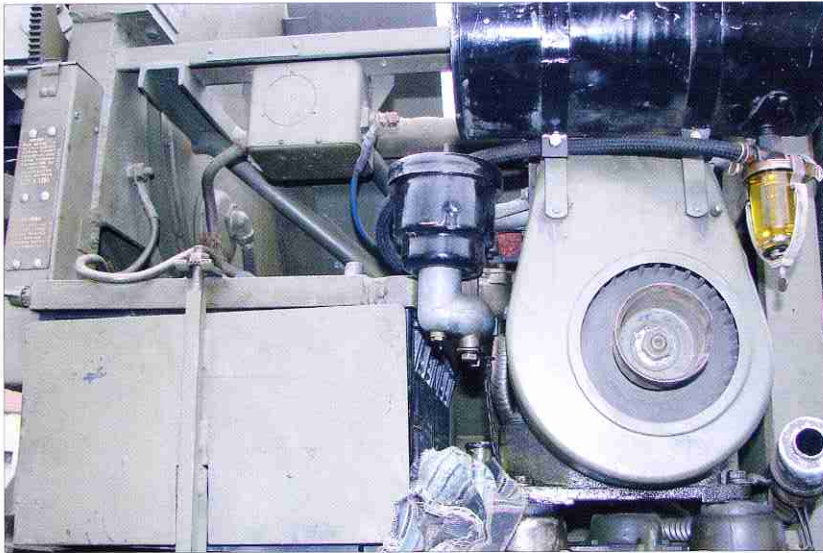




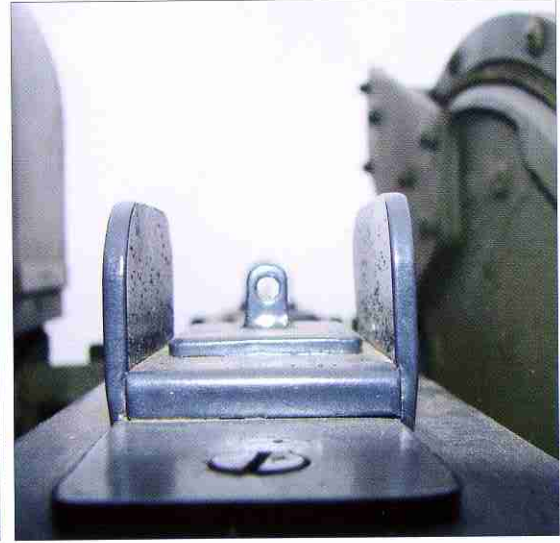
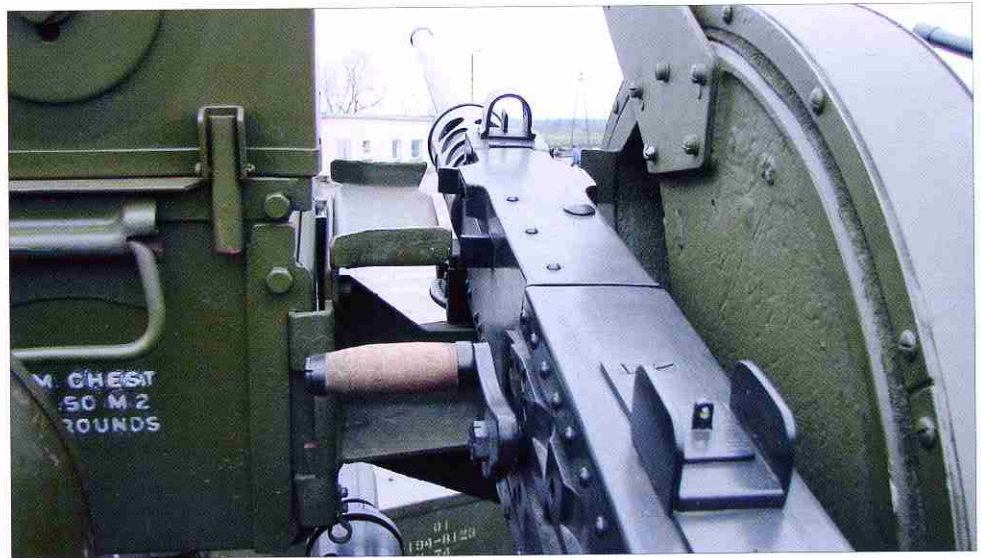


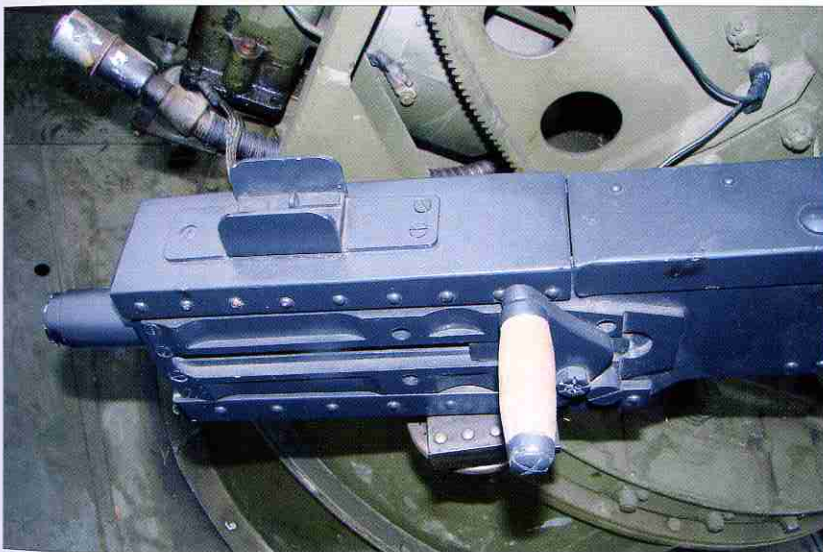
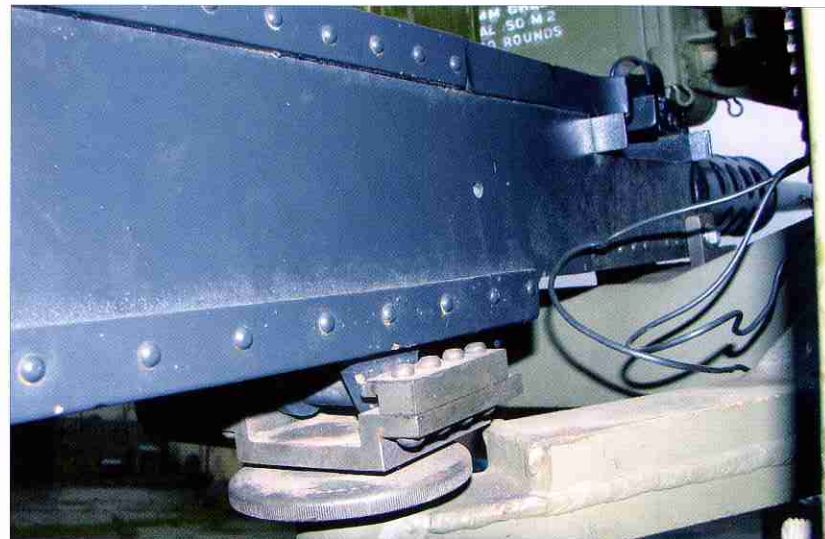
Four coupled
12.7 mm
Browning
machine
guns on
a rotating
carriage •
4 sprzężone
karabiny
maszynowe
Browning
kaliber
12,7 mm na
podstawie
obrotowej







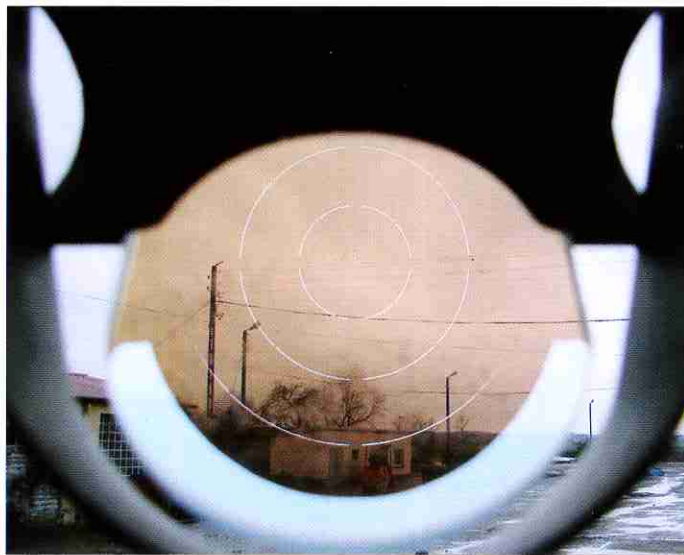
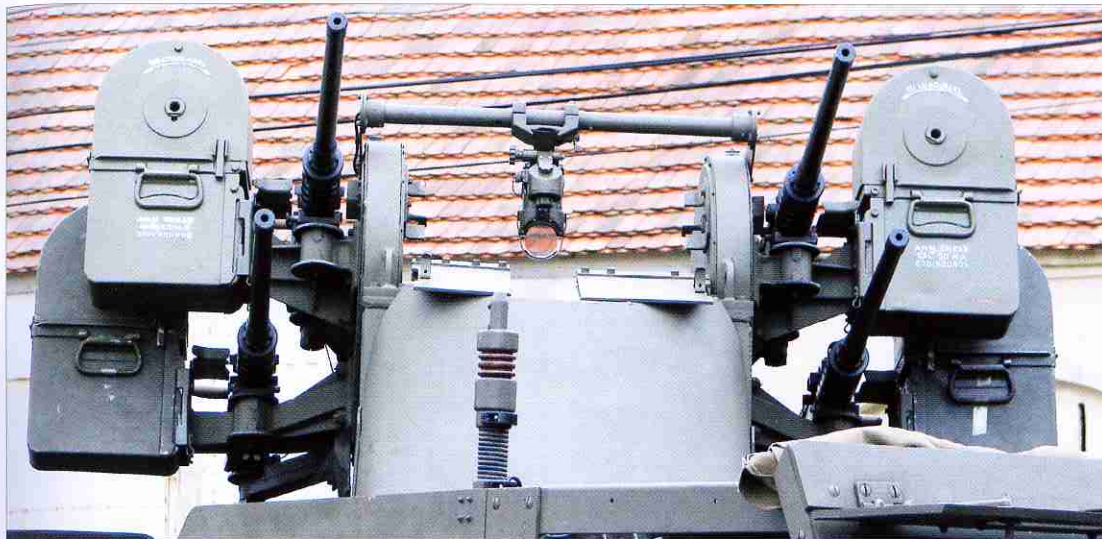




Technical data on MGMC M16

Manufacturer	White Motor Co.
Crew	Commander and driver in cab, gunner and two cannoners in turret
Combat weight	8 600 kg
Height	262 cm
Length with wihch	650 cm
Width	198 cm
Ground clearance	28.4 cm
Max road speed	72 kph
Max grade	60%
Max vertical obstacle	30 cm
Max turing diameter	18 m
Max fording depth	81 cm
Cruising range (roads)	approx. 320 km
Armament type	4 x 0.50 inch M2TTHB machine guns
Mount	M45D
Ammunition	5000 rounds
Traverse	360° (electric)
Max travers rate	60°/sec
Elevation	+90° to -10° (electric)
Engine	White 160AX: 6 cylinder, 4 cycle in line, gasoline
Horsepower	147 at at 3000 rpm
Fuel capacity	230 dm ³
Transmission	Spicer 3461 constant mesh, 4 + 1 speeds





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TOPSHOTS

ISBN 978-83-60445-52-5



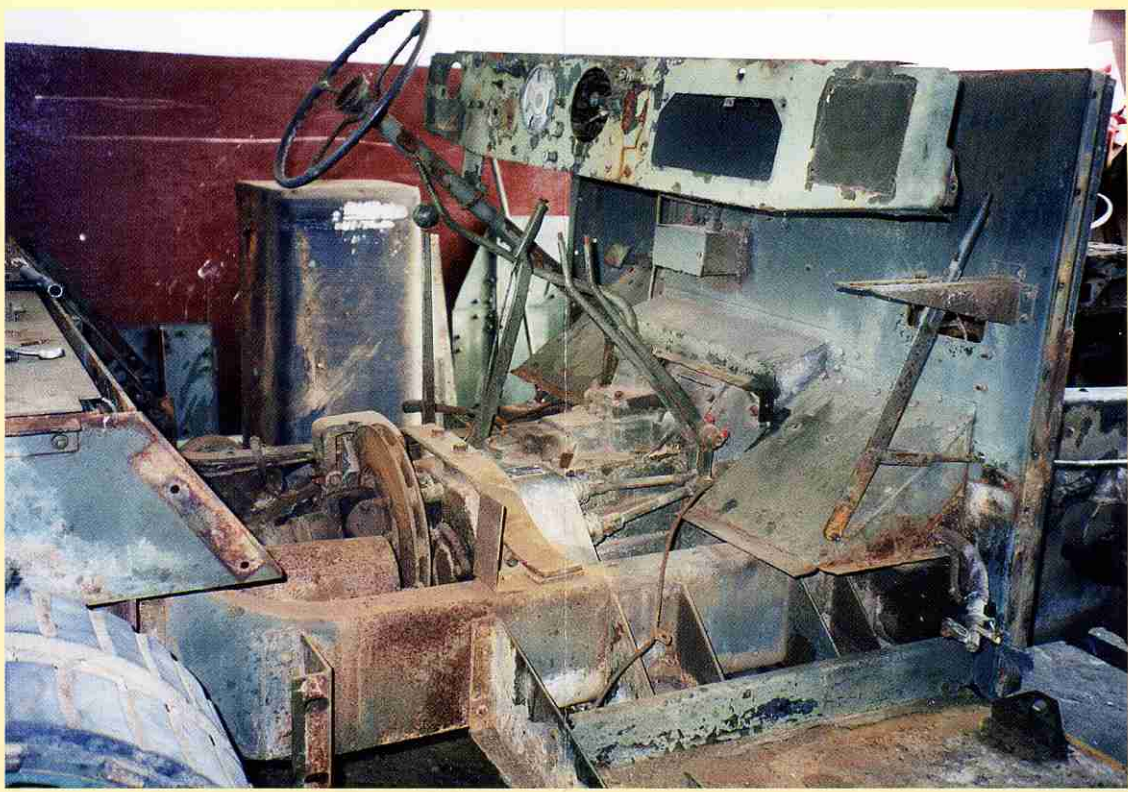


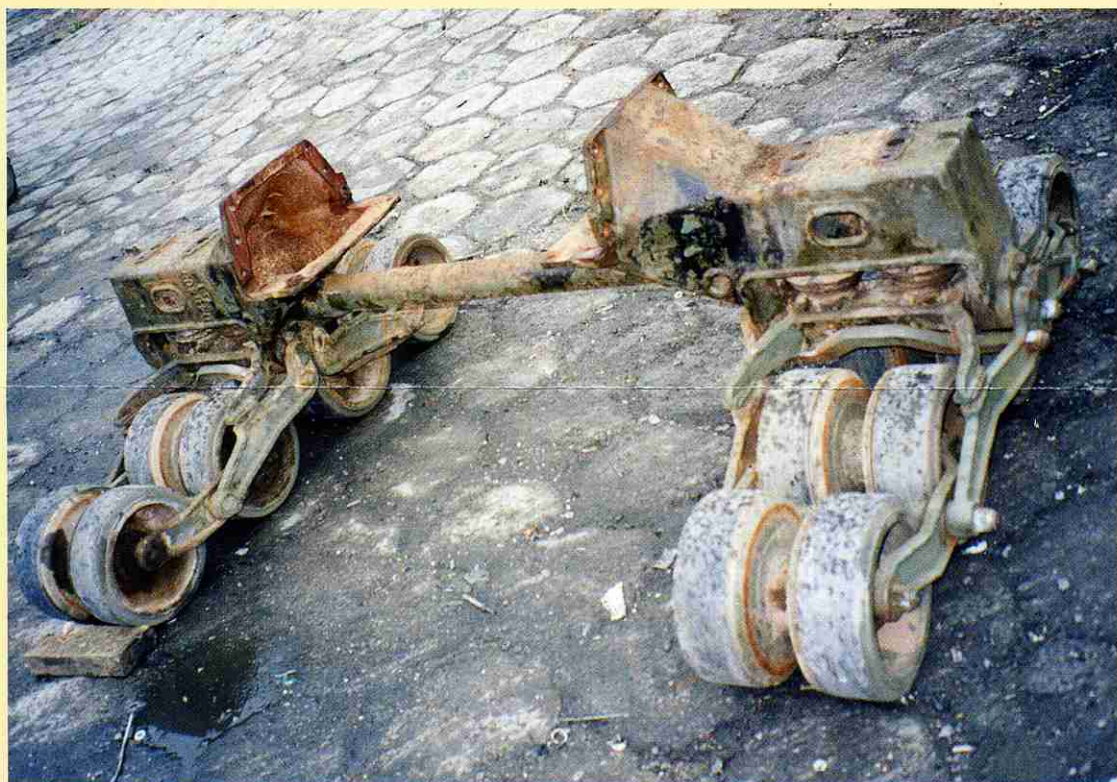
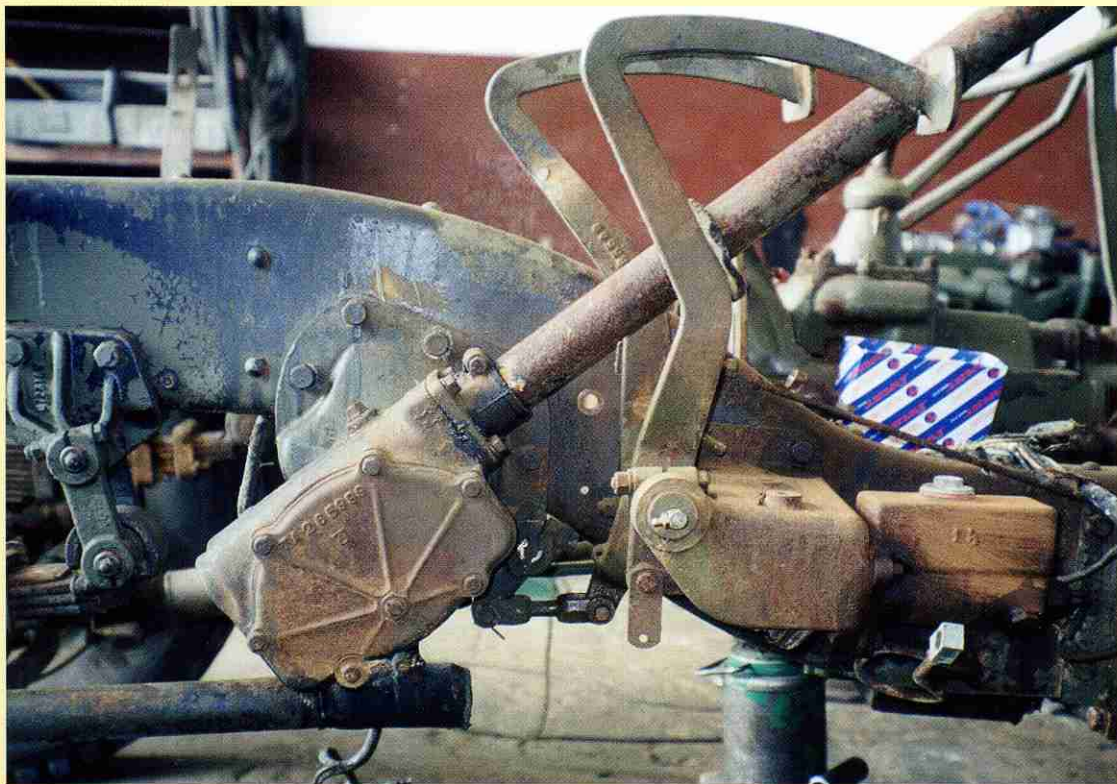
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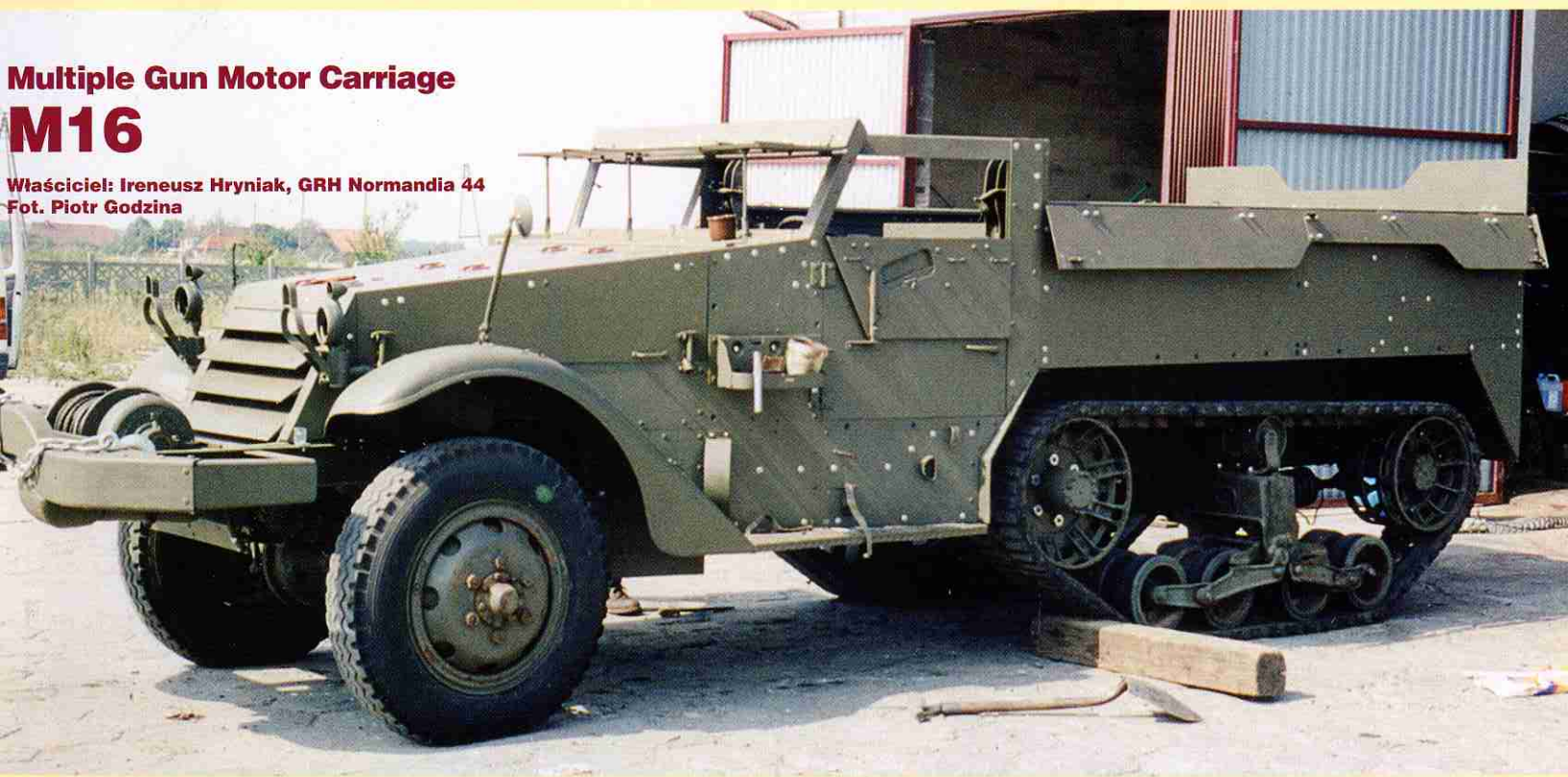


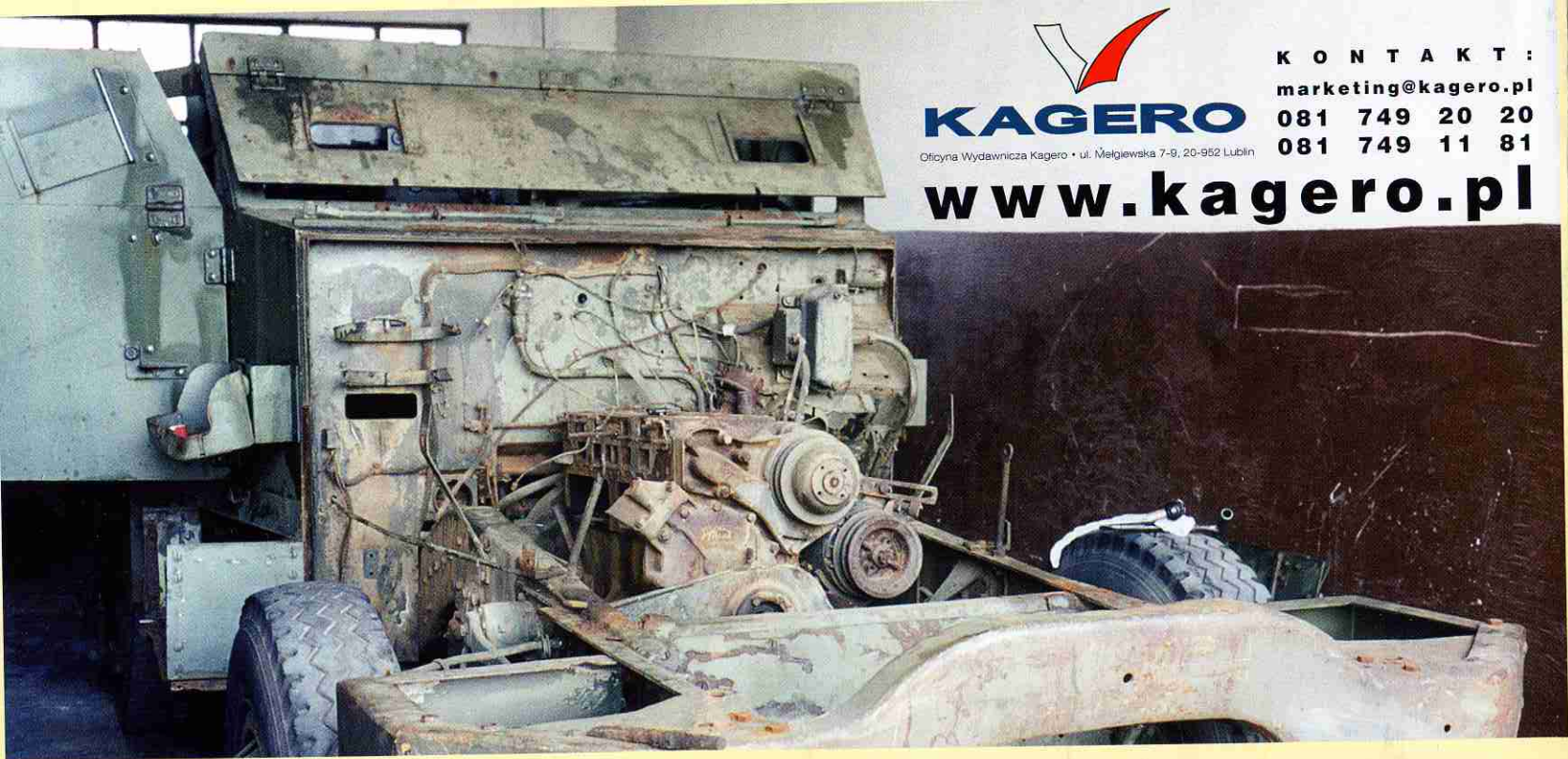


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M16

Właściciel: Ireneusz Hryniak, GRH Normandia 44
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