

US Air Force Developmental Prototypes 1950s

Information from 1958 Air Force Records

MA-1 Dry Chemical, this vehicle has been in a developmental status for four years. Prototype is currently undergoing engineering, evaluation, including road test, etc. Fire Extinguishing capabilities have not been evaluated.

MB-3 This vehicle is light weight, high speed, designed to incorporate dual fire fighting capability, aircraft and structural. Minimum extinguishing agents are carried and it is proposed that vehicle include provisions for removal type extinguishing kits, i.e. water foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide. Such a vehicle would materially decrease logistical supply and would reduce the number of types. Its high speed and superior maneuverability makes it ideal for protection at satellite fields and missile launching sites as well as ramp patrol at major installations.

MB-4 This is a medium foam-water capacity vehicle, having increase discharge capacities and improved extinguishing capabilities. Design toward replacement of current Type O-10, O-11 and O-11B vehicles.

The greatest improvement to be noted in the developmental type vehicles is their superior off-road mobility, obtained through development of 8x8 all wheel operations. Increased ground clearance, reduction in gross weights, although the agent extinguishing quantities have been retained; pump discharge capacities increased and additional horsepower to provide superior vehicular performance. Vehicle length remains relatively the same.