TECHNICAL MANUAL

TRANSPORTABILITY GUIDANCE
CARRIER, CARGO, M973, 1-1/2-TON
(NSN 2350-01-132-9099)
SMALL UNIT SUPPORT VEHICLE (SUSV)

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY **NOVEMBER 1985**

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1-1. Purpose and Scope

This manual provides transportability guidance for logistical handling and movement of the carrier, cargo, 1½-ton (referred to hereinafter as M973). It provides transportation officers, down to division level, and other personnel engaged in or responsible for movement or providing transportation services with information considered appropriate for safe transport. Significant technical and physical characteristics, as well as safety considerations, required for worldwide movement by the various modes of transportation are included. When considered necessary, metric equivalents are given in parentheses following dimensions or other measurements.

1-2. Reporting of Recommendations and Comments

The reporting of errors, omissions, and recommendations for improving this manual by the individual user is encouraged. Reports should be submitted on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to DA Publications and Blank Forms) and forwarded direct to Commander, Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Engineering Agency, ATTN: MTT-TRC, PO Box 6276, Newport News, Virginia 23606- 0276. Electrically transmitted messages should be addressed to CDR MTMCTEA FT EUSTIS VA//MTT-TRC//. A reply will be furnished by this command.

1-3. Safety

Appropriate precautionary measures required during movement of the vehicle are contained in chapter 3.

1-4. Definitions of Warnings, Cautions, and Notes

Throughout this manual, warnings, cautions, and notes emphasize important or critical guidance. They are used for the following conditions:

a. Warning. An operating procedure or practice that, if not correctly followed, could result in personal injury or loss of life.

b. Caution. An operating procedure or practice that, if not strictly observed, could result in damage to or destruction of equipment.

c. Note. An operating procedure or condition that must be emphasized.

CHAPTER 2
TRANSPORTABILITY DATA

2-1. Scope
This chapter provides a general description of the M973, identification photographs, and tabulated transportability characteristics and data that are necessary for movement of this vehicle.

2-2. Description
The M973 is a full-tracked, self-propelled, articulated vehicle with drive on all four tracks. It is powered by a diesel engine with a fully automatic gearbox. The M973 can be transported by helicopter, ship, rail, high- way, and cargo aircraft.

2-3. General
The M973 cargo carrier is illustrated in figure 2-1. Side and rear elevation drawings (figs 2-2 and 2-3) provide data necessary for determining the loadability of the M973 for movement by various transportation modes.

2-4. Reduced Configuration
Transportation economies can be obtained by reducing the carrier to the minimum dimensions for terminal handling and ocean transport. The only items that are readily removable are the radio antenna and winch, which should be shipped inside the cab of the M973.

2-5. Unusual Characteristics
The M973 carrier is an articulated vehicle. Before the carrier can be lifted by sling, care must be used to insure that the steering cylinders are locked. There are no other unusual characteristics requiring that special attention be given to temperature, atmospheric pressure, or humidity variations during exposure to normal transportation environments.

Figure 2-1. The M973 cargo carrier.