

= M3 Gun Motor Carriage =

The M3 Gun Motor Carriage (GMC) was a United States Army tank destroyer equipped with one 75 mm gun and was produced by Autocar . After the fall of France , the U.S. Army decided to make a self @-@ propelled artillery piece from the M1897A4 gun on the M3 chassis , which was designated the T12 . After some improvement , it came into production as the M3 Gun Motor Carriage . However , the supply of M2A3 gun shields was insufficient for production needs , so a new gun shield was used . This was designated the M3A1 GMC .

The T12 / M3 first served in the Philippines Campaign in 1942 with the Provisional Field Artillery Brigade in the anti @-@ tank and the fire @-@ support role . It then served in North Africa in tank destroyer battalions . It was used ineffectively in the Battle of Kasserine Pass and several other engagements , but was used with success in the Battle of El Guettar . It also served in the Allied invasion of Sicily , but was eventually superseded by the M10 tank destroyer . A total of 2 @, @ 203 were produced , of which 1 @, @ 361 were converted back into M3A1 half @-@ tracks .

The M3 GMC also served in the Pacific theater , starting with the Battle of Saipan . It proved effective against the Japanese Type 95 Ha @-@ Go and Type 97 Chi @-@ Ha tanks . It later served in the Battle of Okinawa , the Battle of Peleliu and many other island battles .

= = Specifications = =

The M3 GMC was 20 @.@ 46 feet (6 @.@ 24 m) long , 6 @.@ 45 feet (1 @.@ 97 m) wide , 8 @.@ 17 feet (2 @.@ 49 m) high (including the gun shield) , and weighed 20 @, @ 000 pounds (9 @.@ 1 t) . Its suspension consisted of semi @-@ elliptical longitudinal leaf springs for the wheels and vertical volute springs for the tracks , while its transmission consisted of constant mesh . Its ground clearance was 11 @.@ 2 inches (280 mm) .

It had a White 160AX 147 horsepower (110 kW) , 386 cubic inch (6 @, @ 330 cc) , 6 @-@ cylinder engine with a compression ratio of 6 @.@ 44 : 1 . It had a 150 mile (240 km) range , 60 US gal (230 l) fuel tank , a speed of 47 mph (75 km / h) , and a power to weight ratio of 14 @.@ 7 hp per ton . It was armed with one 75 mm M1897A5 with 59 rounds , had 0 @.@ 25 ? 0 @.@ 625 in (6 @.@ 4 ? 15 @.@ 9 mm) of armor , and a crew of five consisting of a commander , gunner , two loaders , and a driver . The M3 (with the M2A3 mount) could traverse 19 ° left and 21 ° right , elevate 29 ° and depress ? 10 ° . The M3A1 (using the M5 mount) could traverse 21 ° in both directions , but could only depress ? 6 @.@ 5 ° .

= = Development = =

After the fall of France , the U.S. Army studied the reasons behind the effectiveness of the German campaign against the French and British forces . One aspect that was highlighted by this study was the use of self propelled artillery ; however , by 1941 , there was little available in the U.S. Army 's arsenal that could be used in such a role . The Army had a number of M1897A5 guns , sufficient enough for the mass @-@ production for such a weapon , and the M3 half @-@ track was coming into production . After some debate , the Army decided to place M1897A5 guns on the M3 half @-@ track chassis , which was designated the T12 GMC . The M1897A5 gun was originally adapted for the M3 chassis by placing it in a welded box riveted to the chassis behind the driver 's compartment . It was accepted by the Army on 31 October 1941 .

A batch of 36 T12s were used for testing , while another 50 were built and transported to the Philippines . The 36 T12s were improved in multiple ways . The improvements included the inclusion of a mount that raised the gun shield , the replacement of the original gun shield with the M2A3 gun shield , and the addition of a 0 @.@ 5 in (12 @.@ 7 mm) M2 Browning machine gun , which was later removed . After the final improvements were finished , the prototype vehicles were sent to the Autocar Company for production .

= = = M3A1 = = =

As the existing supply of M2A3 gun shields was insufficient to meet requirements for the production of the M3 , the Ordnance Department developed the M5 gun shield , which replaced the M2A3 . The new design was designated as the M3A1 Gun Motor Carriage .

= = Service history = =

= = = American use = = =

The T12 / M3 GMC first saw action with the U.S. Army in the Philippines in 1941 ? 42 , six months after it was designed . Three battalions of the Provisional Field Artillery Brigade operated T12s against the Japanese when they invaded the Philippines . During the early part of the campaign , the vehicle was used to provide direct covering fire and anti @-@ tank support . The Japanese captured a few vehicles in 1942 and used them in the defense of the Philippines .

By 1942 , M3 GMCs were being used by tank destroyer battalions in the North African Campaign , each of which consisted of 36 M3s and four 37 mm M6 GMCs . The M3 GMCs , which were designed for ambushing tanks , proved to be inadequate for this task in the battles of Sidi Bou Zid and Kasserine Pass , mainly due to poor tactics . Nevertheless , the M3 was later used in the Battle of El Guettar with success , claiming 30 German tanks , including possibly two Tiger tanks , at the cost of 21 M3s . Some M3s also saw service in Allied invasion of Sicily (Operation Husky) , but by that time , the M10 tank destroyer had replaced it in the U.S. Army . A total of 1 @, @ 360 M3 GMCs were also converted back into M3A1 half @-@ tracks .

The M3 also served with the U.S. Marines in the Pacific Theater of Operations and was first used in the invasion of Saipan . It proved highly effective against the Type 95 Ha @-@ Go and the Type 97 Chi @-@ Ha , in the fight against the Japanese 9th Tank Regiment on Saipan . It also served in the Battle of Peleliu and the Battle of Okinawa , and many other conflicts in the Pacific .

= = = Allied use = = =

The M3 GMC saw limited service with other countries as it was not widely supplied through the Lend @-@ Lease program . A small batch of 170 vehicles were supplied to Britain , which used them in armored car regiments . They were first used in the Tunisian Campaign with the Royal Dragoons . They were also used in Sicily , Italy , and later in France , but were gradually retired . The Free French Army also used M3s for training before receiving M10 tank destroyers .

= = Production = =

A total of 2 @, @ 202 M3 GMCs were produced from 1941 to 1943 . Only 86 vehicles were produced in 1941 , but this was increased in 1942 during which 1 @, @ 350 examples came off the production lines . A further 766 were completed in 1943 . Production was stopped due to the release of better tank destroyers , like the M10 GMC .

= Óengus I =

Óengus son of Fergus (Pictish : * Onuist map Uргуist ; Old Irish : Óengus mac Fergusso , " Angus mac Fergus ") , was king of the Picts from 732 until his death in 761 . His reign can be reconstructed in some detail from a variety of sources .

Óengus became the chief king in Pictland following a period of civil war in the late 720s . During his reign , the neighbouring kingdom of Dál Riata was subjugated and the kingdom of Strathclyde was attacked with less success . The most powerful ruler in Scotland for over two decades , he was involved in wars in Ireland and England . Kings from Óengus 's family dominated Pictland until 839

when a disastrous defeat at the hands of Vikings began a new period of instability , which ended with the coming to power of Cináed mac Ailpín .

= = Rise to power = =

Irish genealogies make Óengus a member of the Eóganachta of Munster , as a descendant of Coirpre Cruthnechán or " Cairbre the little Pict " , a mythological emanation or double of Coirpre Luachra mac Cuirc , legendary son of Conall Corc , and ancestor of the Eóganacht Locha Léin , rulers of the kingdom of Iarmuman . The branch of the kindred from which he came , known in the annals as the Eoghanachta Magh Geirginn , were said to be located in an area known as Circinn , usually associated with modern Angus and the Mearns . His early life is unknown ; Óengus was middle @-@ aged by the time he entered into history . His close kin included at least two sons , Bridei (died 736) and Talorgan (died 782) , and two brothers , Talorgan (died 750) and Bridei (died 763) .

King Nechtan son of Der @-@ Ile abdicated to enter a monastery in 724 and was imprisoned by his successor Drest in 726 . In 728 and 729 , four kings competed for power in Pictland : Drest ; Nechtan ; Alpín , of whom little is known ; and lastly Óengus , who was a partisan of Nechtan , and perhaps his acknowledged heir .

Four battles large enough to be recorded in Ireland were fought in 728 and 729 . Alpín was defeated twice by Óengus , after which Nechtan was restored to power . In 729 a battle between supporters of Óengus and Nechtan 's enemies was fought at Monith Carno (traditionally Cairn o ' Mount , near Fettercairn) where the supporters of Óengus were victorious . Nechtan was restored to the kingship , probably until his death in 732 . On 12 August 729 Óengus defeated and killed Drest in battle at Druimm Derg Blathuug , a place which has not been identified .

= = Piercing of Dál Riata = =

In the 730s , Óengus fought against Dál Riata whose traditional overlords and protectors in Ireland , the Cenél Conaill , were much weakened at this time . A fleet from Dál Riata fought for Flaithbertach mac Loingsig , chief of the Cenél Conaill , in his war with Áed Allán of the Cenél nEógan , and suffered heavy losses in 733 . Dál Riata was ruled by Eochaid mac Echdach of the Cenél nGabráin who died in 733 , and the king lists are unclear as to who , if anyone , succeeded him as overking . The Cenél Loairn of north Argyll were ruled by Dúngal mac Selbaig whom Eochaid had deposed as overking of Dál Riata in the 720s .

Fighting between the Picts , led by Óengus 's son Bridei , and the Dál Riata , led by Talorgan mac Congussa , is recorded in 731 . In 733 , Dúngal mac Selbaig " profaned [the sanctuary] of Tory Island when he dragged Bridei out of it . " Dúngal , previously deposed as overking of Dál Riata , was overthrown as king of the Cenél Loairn and replaced by his first cousin Muiredach mac Ainbcellaig .

In 734 Talorgan mac Congussa was handed over to the Picts by his brother and drowned by them . Talorgan son of Drostan was captured near Dún Ollaigh . He appears to have been the King of Atholl , and was drowned on Óengus 's order in 739 . Dúngal too was a target in this year . He was wounded , the unidentified fortress of Dún Leithfinn was destroyed , and he " fled into Ireland , to be out of the power of Óengus . "

The annals report a second campaign by Óengus against the Dál Riata in 736 . Dúngal , who had returned from Ireland , and his brother Feradach , were captured and bound in chains . The fortresses of Creic and Dunadd were taken . Muiredach of the Cenél Loairn was no more successful , defeated with heavy loss by Óengus 's brother Talorgan mac Fergusa , perhaps by Loch Awe . A final campaign in 741 saw the Dál Riata again defeated . This was recorded in the Annals of Ulster as Percutio Dál Riatai la h @-@ Óengus m . Forggusso , the " smiting of Dál Riata by Óengus son of Fergus " . With this Dál Riata disappears from the record for a generation .

It may be that Óengus was involved in wars in Ireland , perhaps fighting with Áed Allán , or against him as an ally of Cathal mac Finguine . The evidence for such involvement is limited . There is the

presence of Óengus 's son Bridei at Tory Island , on the north @-@ west coast of Donegal in 733 , close to the lands of Áed Allán 's enemy Flaithbertach mac Loingsig . Less certainly , the Fragmentary Annals of Ireland report the presence of a Pictish fleet from Fortriu fighting for Flaithbertach in 733 rather than against him .

= = Alt Clut , Northumbria , and Mercia = =

In 740 , a war between the Picts and the Northumbrians is reported , during which Æthelbald , King of Mercia , took advantage of the absence of Eadberht of Northumbria to ravage his lands , and perhaps burn York . The reason for the war is unclear , but it has been suggested that it was related to the killing of Earnwine son of Eadwulf on Eadberht 's orders . Earnwine 's father had been an exile in the north after his defeat in the civil war of 705 ? 706 , and it may be that Óengus , or Æthelbald , or both , had tried to place him on the Northumbrian throne .

Battles between the Picts and the Britons of Alt Clut , or Strathclyde , are recorded in 744 and again in 750 , when Kyle was taken from Alt Clut by Eadberht of Northumbria . The 750 battle between the Britons and the Picts is reported at a place named Mocetauc (perhaps Mugdock near Milngavie) in which Talorgan mac Fergusa , Óengus 's brother , was killed . Following the defeat in 750 , the Annals of Ulster record " the ebbing of the sovereignty of Óengus " . This is thought to refer to the coming to power of Áed Find , son of Eochaid mac Echdach , in all or part of Dál Riata , and his rejection of Óengus 's overlordship .

Unlike the straightforward narrative of the attacks on Dál Riata , a number of interpretations have been offered of the relations between Óengus , Eadberht and Æthelbald in the period from 740 to 750 . One suggestion is that Óengus and Æthelbald were allied against Eadberht , or even that they exercised a joint rulership of Britain , or bretwaldaship , Óengus collecting tribute north of the River Humber and Æthelbald south of the Humber . This rests largely on a confused passage in Symeon of Durham 's Historia Regum Anglorum , and it has more recently been suggested that the interpretation offered by Frank Stenton ? that it is based on a textual error and that Óengus and Æthelbald were not associated in any sort of joint overlordship ? is the correct one .

In 756 , Óengus is found campaigning alongside Eadberht of Northumbria . The campaign is reported as follows :

In the year of the Lord 's incarnation 756 , king Eadberht in the eighteenth year of his reign , and Unust , king of Picts led armies to the town of Dumbarton . And hence the Britons accepted terms there , on the first day of the month of August . But on the tenth day of the same month perished almost the whole army which he led from Ouania to Niwanbirig .

That Ouania is Govan is now reasonably certain , but the location of Newanbirig is less so . Although there are very many Newburghs , it is Newburgh @-@ on @-@ Tyne near Hexham that has been the preferred location . An alternative interpretation of the events of 756 has been advanced : it identifies Newanbirig with Newborough by Lichfield in the kingdom of Mercia . A defeat here for Eadberht and Óengus by Æthelbald 's Mercians would correspond with the claim in the Saint Andrews foundation legends that a king named Óengus son of Fergus founded the church there as a thanksgiving to Saint Andrew for saving him after a defeat in Mercia .

= = The cult of Saint Andrew = =

The story of the foundation of St Andrews , originally Cennrígmonaid , is not contemporary and may contain many inventions . The Irish annals report the death of " Tuathalán , abbot of Cinrigh Móna " , in 747 , making it certain that St Andrews had been founded before that date , probably by Óengus or by Nechtan son of Der @-@ Ilei . It is generally presumed that the St Andrews Sarcophagus was executed at the command of Óengus . Later generations may have conflated this king Óengus with the 9th century king of the same name . The choice of David as a model is , as Alex Woolf notes , an appropriate one : David too was an usurper .

The cult of Saint Andrew may have come to Pictland from Northumbria , as had the cult of Saint Peter which had been favoured by Nechtan , and in particular from the monastery at Hexham which

was dedicated to Saint Andrew . This apparent connection with the Northumbrian church may have left a written record . Óengus , like his successors and possible kinsmen Caustantín and Eógan , is recorded prominently in the Liber Vitae Ecclesiae Dunelmensis , a list of some 3000 benefactors for whom prayers were said in religious institutions connected with Durham .

= = Death and legacy = =

Óengus died in 761 , " aged probably more than seventy , ... the dominating figure in the politics of Northern Britain " . His death is reported in the usual brief style by the annalists , except for the continuator of Bede in Northumbria , possibly relying upon a Dál Riata source , who wrote :

Óengus , king of the Picts , died . From the beginning of his reign right to the end he perpetrated bloody crimes , like a tyrannical slaughterer .

The Pictish Chronicle king lists have it that he was succeeded by his brother Bridei . His son Talorgan was later king , and is the first son of a Pictish king known to have become king .

The following 9th @-@ century Irish praise poem from the Book of Leinster is associated with Óengus :

Good the day when Óengus took Alba ,
hilly Alba with its strong chiefs ;
he brought battle to palisaded towns ,
with feet , with hands , with broad shields .

An assessment of Óengus is problematic , not least because annalistic sources provide very little information on Scotland in the succeeding generations . His apparent Irish links add to the long list of arguments which challenge the idea that the " Gaelicisation " of eastern Scotland began in the time of Cináed mac Ailpín ; indeed there are good reasons for believing that process began before Óengus 's reign . Many of the Pictish kings until the death of Eógan mac Óengusa in 839 belong to the family of Óengus , in particular the 9th century sons of Fergus , Caustantín and Óengus .

The amount of information which has survived about Óengus compared with other Pictish kings , the nature and geographical range of his activities and the length of his reign combine to make King Óengus one of the most significant rulers of the insular Dark Ages .