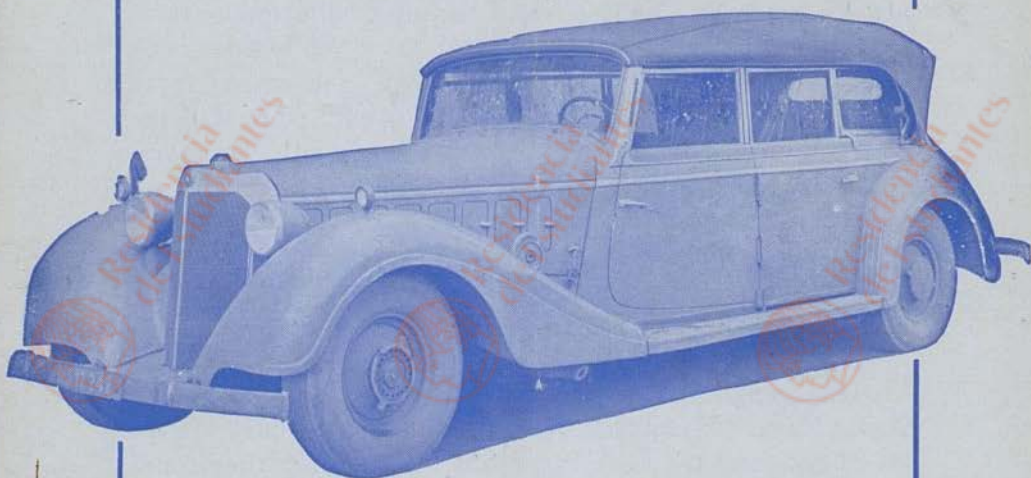




# **HERMANN GOERING'S BULLET-PROOF CAR**



**Captured by the British Army  
and Exhibited for  
THE SOLDIERS', SAILORS' & AIRMEN'S  
FAMILIES ASSOCIATION**

23, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1



# **SUPER MERCEDES BULLET-PROOF CAR**

## **used by Field Marshal Goering**

THE car, which weighs five tons, is driven by an eight-cylinder supercharged engine of 7.7 litre capacity, each cylinder being fitted with two plugs and dual ignition. The engine is roughly over ten times bigger than the average 8 h.p. engine fitted to British cars and is equivalent in volume to the engine of the average 56-seater 'bus.

The car was well proofed against small arms fire, and as a protection against grenades or mines has a specially fitted steel floor. The bodywork includes bullet-proof steel fitted into each door panel, the windows and wind-screen being made of 5-ply glass  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. thick, and marks from British rifle fire indicate that it really is bullet-proof. A retractable sheet of steel protects the backs of passengers. A secret switch for the electrical system under the driver's seat is an intriguing feature.

### **Design of Body**

The design of Goering's car is based on that of the Super Mercedes Cabriolet D model. Germans have always loved gadgets; they are ingenious in designing them, and this car abounds in them. The hood, important as it is in a tourer, is a work of art, of effortless adjustability, thanks to a springing system, and rubber-proofed against the iciest blast of which the North German Plain is capable. The locker is water- and dust-proof, and, under normal conditions, equipped with four cases including a specially designed toilet case. The electrical installation is extraordinarily complete, from the searchlight to the cigar-lighters under the dash board and in the arm-rests.

### **Construction of the Chassis**

The chassis of the car is a very rigid structure formed of oval tubes and based on the maker's Grand Prix racing experience. Independent front suspension enables rough road surfaces to be transversed at speed. The rear axle is similarly specially designed, with the differential attached to the frame to reduce unsprung weight and axles which swing under the control of the rear springs. The controls are quite light for a car of such weight 20 ft. long. The gear-box has five forward speeds, the fifth being an overdrive ratio. The production model, when tested in England at Brooklands, reached 50 m.p.h. in 12.2 sec., ran a quarter mile at over 100 m.p.h., and finally achieved 108 m.p.h. This model, however, was not bullet-proof and weighed only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons. The engine gives immense power for a "private" car—155 b.h.p. without the supercharger and 230 b.h.p.—twice the usual maximum of the best-performing and biggest lorries and 'buses in Britain—when the accelerator pedal is pressed down far enough to bring the supercharger into action. Developing such power the car screams along emitting a note which is paralysing to other road users and perhaps typical in its manners of the gang for whom it was designed.

### **The Discovery of the Car**

The car was discovered by British Forces in a large enemy vehicle park captured at Lentforden in the province of Schleswig-Holstein. This park, on which 20,000 to 30,000 enemy vehicles had been collected after the final capitulation of Germany, contained many interesting cars, and it was some time before this one was discovered.



## THE SOLDIERS', SAILORS' & AIRMEN'S FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

A voluntary Association of 15,000 workers with 1,500 Branches throughout Great Britain, Ireland, and in many other countries overseas, founded 65 years ago.

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granting temporary FINANCIAL HELP for those in trouble, whose needs are not met by the State,

INVESTIGATING CASES and ADMINISTERING GRANTS for other Service and Regimental Funds, thus preventing overlapping,

providing EMERGENCY HOMES FOR CHILDREN when mothers are ill,

supplying CLOTHING to families in real need,

and administering a NURSING SERVICE for service families in overseas Commands.

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*The Car is now being Exhibited at—*