## 1942 FORD GPW

OWNER: HT2 MICHAEL NEWMAN - U.S.N.

ENGINE: SFC TONY FRICKS - U.S.A.

RESTORATION: GRANT SNEAD & JOHN HIGHTOWER

## **BACKGROUND**

The first jeep design was a product of the Bantam Car Company in Butler Pa. Bantam worked in cooperation with the US Army to develop the vehicle in 1940/41. In the Fall of 41, just a few weeks before the attack on Pearl Harbor, the US Government awarded the first jeep contract to the Willys Overland Company of Toledo, Ohio. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, the US Government, contracted with the Ford Motor Company to also build the jeeps with parts to be fully interchangeable. By the end of the war, both companies produced over 640,000 jeeps.

## **VEHICLE MARKINGS**

My jeep is marked for Underwater Demolition Team 12. Created to clear beaches and act as combat swimmers for amphibious invasions across the Pacific, this unit served on Saipan, Tinian, the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Guam. Many years later this unit was converted into a SEAL Team and was renamed **SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1**.

This restored Willys Jeep is dedicated to all of the Navy Frogmen, Naval Combat Demolition Units and Underwater Demolition Teams in WWII.





**Underwater Demolition Team 12** 

Able platoon Vehicle Number 2







