

“What’s a T-5?” Here’s the Answer

By
Janice L. McCollum



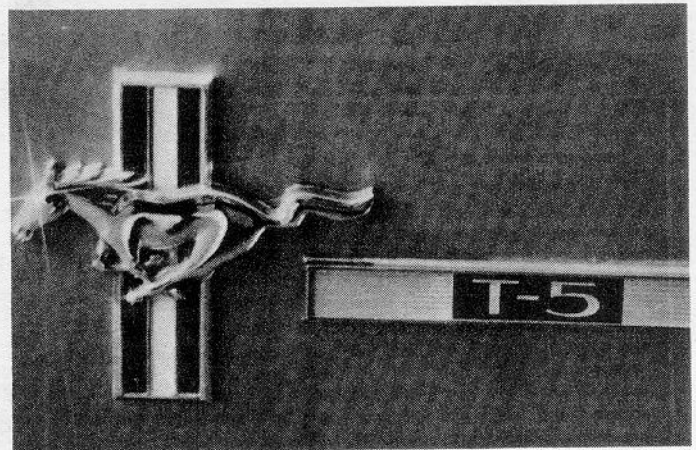
The story of this Mustang begins sometime in March of 1965 when SP/6 Donald W. McCollum ordered a medium blue metallic coupe equipped with a 289-2V and a three speed transmission.

It's not unusual for a man in the army to order such a Mustang *unless* he is stationed in West Germany at the time. Because this Mustang was ordered from West Germany, this ponycar changes from an ordinary Mustang into a T-5. Almost everyone who sees this car asks: “What’s a T-5?”

Well, a German bicycle manufacturer already had bought the trademark rights to the word “Mustang,” so if Ford wanted to import their famous ponycar, they had to remove the word “Mustang” entirely from the car. Therefore, the emblem on the fender changed from “Mustang” to T-5; the center of the hub caps were blank where they normally sport the word “Mustang”; the center of the horn ring had “Ford” imprinted, but not “Mustang,” and the gas cap was locking with no insignia at all. (Locking gas caps are required by the West German Government).

Heavy duty suspension also was required for exporting into West Germany. Other extra items ordered on this car were back-up lights, two-speed electric windshield wiper and washer, tinted windshield and an AM radio. SP/6 McCollum took delivery on this Mustang on April 16, 1965, and, in 1966, returned to the States with a T-5.

In 1976, after approximately 110,000 miles, Mr. McCollum (now retired from the military) decided to rebuild the ponycar. It had been well taken care of and really just needed a facelift. He completely rebuilt the original 289-2V (bored out .020) and the three speed transmission. The entire drive train was removed to inspect the underside for rust. None was



found. New undercoating was applied and everything re-installed. The interior received new carpet, dash pad, headliner, front seat covers, arm rest pads and bases. New paint and chrome were applied to the exterior, and now this Mustang was shiney new again.

Now, I'll bet you're wondering who I am? Well, I'm the current owner and daughter of the original owner of this T-5. As of February 26, 1982, this ponycar has 133,000 pampered miles and looks better than new. It has been entered in only two shows and has one first place trophy. Now that you know what a T-5 is, you can keep your eyes open for one, but don't expect to find them everywhere. Only approximately 300 were produced in 1965.