

# Trident Missiles and Duds

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Report by Geoff Archer

*Market opinions in italics*

**F**rom the Ghibli to the TC, this month's collection features both the best and worst Maserati has to offer.

*Condition inferred from seller's descriptions; cars were not physically examined by the author. All quoted material taken from the eBay listings. sf=seller's feedback; bf=buyer's feedback*



**#330040397375-1972 CITROEN SM coupe.** S/N A0058076. Gold/brown leather. Odo: 112,000 miles. 60+ photos. Tucson, AZ. 112k miles. Maserati V6 w/automaticque. Paint matte—might not even look glossy when wet. Interior looks worn and dry with some splitting. Driven twice per week. “Trans feels good and brake are the best Ive ever felt.” Air



suspension looks to be functional. “Why buy a rust bucket to restore when this is available?” 23 bids, sf 1061, bf 33. **SOLD AT \$6,200.** *The price was correct for the condition. Seller does make a pretty good argument that this would be a great basis for a restoration... if one wanted to restore a wacky Franco-Italian joint venture on wheels. SCM reminds you that buying a finished one will almost always be cheaper in the end.*

**#110130539485-1966 MASERATI QUATTROPORTE sedan.** S/N AM1971020. Rusty primer/tan leather. 14 photos. Houston, TX. Mostly complete parts car, no title. “One carburetor missing, gauges missing, steering wheel missing. THERE is a grille which was not photographed. There may be other parts



missing that we are not aware of.” In-person inspection encouraged. 15 bids, sf 12, bf 42. **Cond: 4-. SOLD AT \$2,425.** *“THE ENGINE AND 5 SPEED TRANSMISSION ARE MORE THAN WORTH WHAT WE ARE SELLING THE WHOLE CAR FOR.” Cherry picking the drivetrain would be the only reason to buy this hulk. Well bought if you need the bits. Hopefully we will soon see this body up on eBay—otherwise we will know a poor buyer has been consumed by an impossibly upside down restoration.*

**#250071919674-1967 MASERATI GIBLI coupe.** S/N AM115212. Grigio Flemington Metallic/black leather. Odo: 27,400 miles. 24 photos. Atlanta, GA. “One of the best low mileage Ghibli coupes available. This is one of the very early Ghibli with dual brake calipers, drop down rear hatch and knock off Campagnolo wheels.” Bare metal respray, bumpers and trim



rechromed. Nearly everything is new, rebuilt, or reupholstered. Engine rebuilt 3k miles ago. 1 “Buy-It-Now” bid, sf 184, bf 392. **Cond: 2+. SOLD AT \$74,900.** *Big bucks for a car without a name brand restoration. Still, it does sound as if everything was done right. Riding on the coattails of the Ferrari Daytona, Ghiblis have plenty of catching up to do. This may not seem cheap six months from now, but it won't feel like a bad call either.*

**#110074892943-1974 MASERATI BORA coupe.** S/N AM117816. Red/tan. Odo: 32,500 km. 15 photos. Rickmansworth, U.K. LHD.



“First supplied to Guy Ligier (Ligier F1 team driver and owner)... in France where she stayed and eventually made her way to California. It was type approved in this US State and still wears the original Californian plaque, along with its factory originals. It then came to the UK in 1979. The car has all the MOTs to date. The mileage is reading 32.500 Kms, which is believed genuine, however cannot be totally guaranteed.” Solid driver needing cosmetics and, “mechanically, there are a number of items that require work.” 3 bids, sf 69, bf private. **Cond: 3-. SOLD AT \$37,100.** *Provenance counted for nothing here, as it appeared everyone was scared by the prospect of deferred maintenance Italiano. Price was spot on for condition.*

**#200068114996-1977 MASERATI MERAK SS coupe.** S/N AM122US2218. Black/black. Odo: 43,000 miles. 23 photos. East Freetown, MA. “Selling vehicle because I just don't have time or knowledge to restore the car.” Bought in 2003. “Started and ran the car for two years. It turned a lot of heads - reached speeds of over 140 m/hr.” Paint and body not described. “Interior was removed for replacement, but I never completed project...”



This is now a project car. Motor has oil leaks and parts for motor may be difficult to find.” 37 bids, sf 25, bf 3. **Cond: 4. SOLD AT \$9,500.** *Seller suggests a Chevy 350 transplant. Now that you can't touch a Pantera for \$10 large making one's own starts to... nah... it will still suck up major hours and dollars only to be worth less than a temperamental stock example. The best thing to do at this price is to pull the engine, resell that on eBay, and peddle the rolling car elsewhere. Who knows, you might profit enough to score a sweet BiTurbo!*

# Fresh Meat

Online sales of recent production cars.

## 2007 Mercedes-Benz R63 AMG



**Date sold:** 04/23/07

**eBay auction ID:** 230119116478

**Seller:** Autohaus on Edens Mercedes-Benz, Northbrook, IL, [www.autohausonedens.com](http://www.autohausonedens.com)

**Sale Type:** New car in stock

**Details:** Iridium Silver, black leather. AWD, 503 hp, premium package w/ heated rear seats  
**Sale result:** \$90,501, 18 bids, sf 36, bf private  
**MSRP:** \$92,465

**Other current offering:** Penske Motorcars, West Covina, CA, [www.penskemotorcars.com](http://www.penskemotorcars.com), asking \$92,275 for 116-miles white car.

## 2007 Lamborghini LP640 Roadster



**Date sold:** 04/24/2007

**eBay auction ID:** 130104821608

**Seller:** The Bimmer Store, Atlanta, GA, [www.motorcars-of-georgia.ebizautos.com](http://www.motorcars-of-georgia.ebizautos.com)

**Sale Type:** Used car, 718 miles, on consignment  
**Details:** Arancio Atlas (orange), black leather.

Carbon engine bay, Hermera rims  
**Sale result:** \$469,000, 1 bid, sf 163, bf 318.

**MSRP:** \$380,000

**Other current offering:** Kip Sheward Motorsports, Novi, MI, [www.kipshewardmotorsports.com](http://www.kipshewardmotorsports.com), asking \$455,000 for car with 340 miles.

## 2007 Porsche 911 Turbo



**Date sold:** 04/25/07

**eBay auction ID:** 290106954907

**Seller Type:** Private seller in Montrose, CA

**Sale Type:** Bidding on rights to seller's place in line, not on car itself.

**Details:** Carrera White, black leather. Tiptronic, Sports Chrono

**Sale result:** \$2,550, 40 bids, sf 163, bf 318.

**MSRP:** \$122,900

**Other current offering:** Schneider + Nelson Porsche, West Long Branch, NJ, [www.schneidernelson.com](http://www.schneidernelson.com), asking \$155,353 for new car in stock. ♦

#180070396749-1979 **MASERATI MERAK SS coupe.** S/N AM122AUS2522. Red/black. Odo: 39,800 miles. 30 photos. Santa Barbara, CA. Seller opens with, "awesome example perfect for your collection or for use as a daily driver," but then admits that he is a dealer who needs "the room and money." Finally the warts (rust blisters) come out, and we learn



about the rusty door bottoms, nicks and dings, warm a/c, and the antenna that, "makes noise, but doesn't work automatically." 17 bids, sf 85, bf 366. Cond: 3-. **SOLD AT \$19,950.** *Though only a few hundred of these were made, they are not expensive cars to buy. A nicer car could have been found for this price. Then again, you are not likely to see one in your local paper, and if you're in this market, it might be sensible to start getting used to the sensation of throwing a few grand into the wind.*

#180119405062-1985 **MASERATI QUATTROPORTE sedan.** S/N ZAMBC1100FA305324. Dark Green Metallic/brown leather. Odo: 61,000 miles. 10 photos. San Diego, CA. "This is a beautiful and well preserved Maserati Quattroporte... in original unmolested condition." Original paint with slight imperfections. "Runs and sounds great." a/c needs



recharge. 1 bid, sf 469, bf 1. Cond: 3+. **SOLD AT \$7,000.** *Seller invokes a pathetic but fairly common logic, "asking price is probably half of what the engine is worth (since it shares parts with the Bora)." It seems sensible enough until you step back and realize that nobody afflicted enough to own a Bora could bring themselves to sacrifice a nice running Quattroporte. This survivor was well bought by a few grand.*

#200114394810-1991 **CHRYSLER TC convertible.** S/N ZC2FS120XMB207507. Black/black/black leather. Odo: 63,500 miles. 16 photos. Richeyville, PA. "This is the car collectors dream... built in Italy for a gentleman by the name of Tug Tuggle. His name is on a plaque near the stereo controls." Porthole hard-top included. "This car has the very desirable Mitsubishi 3.0 engine." Looks to be a very nice example of a weird used car. 1 "Buy-It-Now" bid, sf 328, bf 17. Cond: 2. **SOLD AT \$10,000.** *Seller set the tone with, "...The NADA lists this car at over \$1,200..." In case you are wondering how that guidance could possibly result in*



*a five-figure winner, you're not alone. My guess is that the deal was negotiated offline, and that "Buy-it-Now" was only used to allow for eBay feedback. Either that or one of the Cerberus private equity guys just bought his secretary an ironic bonus.*

#160117046621-2002 **MASERATI coupe.** S/N ZAMBC38A220008338. Red/tan leather. Odo: 38,248 miles. 24 photos. Atascadero, CA. "We have all the books that come along with this vehicle as it is a one owner-lease return car." 6 speed paddle shift. 4.2-liter, 390-hp Ferrari-designed V8 looks like cast aluminum crinkle-finish pasta.



Options include red calipers, heated seats, CD changer, leather piping, leather headliner, and xenon lights. 24 bids, sf 84, bf 289. Cond: 2-. **SOLD AT \$36,600.** *Only time will tell if these will go up in smoke like BiTurbos. IF not, they may represent one of the very best deals in an affordable exotic, because we cautious Americans seem to value them as though we believe only in worst-case-scenarios. I did capitalize that very big "IF," right?*

#160118418414-2006 **MASERATI QUATTROPORTE 4-dr sedan.** S/N ZAMCE39A560023371. Bordeaux Pontevecchio/ivory leather. Odo: 516 miles. 9 photos. Cleveland, OH. "LOADED with options: NAVIGATION, FRONT & REAR HEATED SEATS, FRONT & REAR PARK SENSORS,



POWER SUNROOF, BURGANDY PIPING, POLISHED 19" WHEELS, REAR PICNIC TABLES. 1-OWNER with only 516 INCREDIBLY PAMPERED ORIGINAL MILES. With an ORIGINAL MSRP of \$124,385 "1 bid, sf 78, bf 0. Cond: 1. **SOLD AT \$91,500.** *20% off for letting someone else drive the break-in miles? Sounds good to me. Look cool for less. Just don't own this car when the warranty expires. Start thinking about the Panamera or the Aston 4 door in 2010...♦*