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OIA-2022-4438

2 / June 2022

James Hunter

fyi-request-19761-3562d906@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear James Hunter

I refer to your email of 28 June 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

- (A) Following the invasion of Ukraine on Feb 24, I understand the NZ government was presented at a cabinet meeting with a list of options (possibly via Peeni Henare) they could take in response. These may have included sending weapons. What were the options?*
- (B) At 24 February 2022, what number of Javelin anti-armour launchers did NZDF have in stock & what number have batteries in working order?*
- (C) At 24 February 2022, what number of Javelin ATGM did NZDF have in stock?*
- (D) At 24 February 2022, what number of M72 LAW / NLAW did NZDF have in stock?*
- (E) Have any of these weapons been used in training in NZ since Feb 24 2022? If so, how many?*
- (F) How did the NZDF acquire the Javelin & M72 LAW / NLAW? Bought or gifted & from which entity?*
- (G) In what year/s did they arrive in NZ?*
- (H) What year/s were the weapons the NZDF has in stock manufactured?*

Cabinet information regarding the options is being prepared for proactive release. This information will be made available on both the Ministry of Defence and New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) websites. This part of your request is declined in accordance with section 18(d) of the OIA.

Quantities of weapons and ammunition held by the NZDF, and specific information that would provide insight of the capability of the NZDF, are withheld in full to avoid prejudice to the security and defence of New Zealand in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA. Information that may be available on Wikipedia may be provided through a number of sources and is not endorsed by the NZDF.

With respect to the acquisition of the M72, the M72A3 was no longer being manufactured from 1998. The NZDF received its first consignment of M72A6 in 2001 from Nammo Raufoss AS, Norway. It should be noted that the M72A6 is no longer in production. The NZDF has not acquired nor does it use the NLAW.

The Ministry of Defence procured the Javelin missile system and accessories through the U.S. Department of Defense Foreign Military Sales program. Delivery of the principal equipment was completed in May 2007.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely



AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF