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OIA-2022-4482

/ September 2022

James Hunter  
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Dear James Hunter

I refer to your email of 16 August 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information regarding New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) Light Armoured Vehicles, Bushmaster, Pinzgauer & Unimog vehicles.

As at 15 August 2022, 105 New Zealand Light Armoured Vehicles (NZLAVs) have been delivered by the manufacturer to the NZDF, with 74 being operational as at the same date. One NZLAV was destroyed in Afghanistan. No NZLAVs were temporarily out of service or awaiting spare parts.

The Chilean Navy has bought 22 surplus NZLAVs from the NZDF. Nine vehicles have been delivered, with the remainder to be delivered next year. There are eight NZLAVs that are surplus to requirements and remain for sale.

As at 15 August 2022, five Bushmaster Protective Mobility Vehicles have been delivered to the NZDF, with three being operational as at the same date. Two of the Bushmasters were awaiting spare parts.

As at 15 August 2022, 326 Pinzgauer Light Operational Vehicles have been delivered to the NZDF, being 266 non-armoured and 60 armoured variants. A total of 255 Pinzgauers were operational as at the same date, with 85 undergoing maintenance. None were awaiting spare parts in order to be operational.

There are 56 Pinzgauer Light Operational Vehicles that are surplus to requirements. None are currently for sale. Of the 60 armoured variants, 54 have been retired. Two have been donated to the New Zealand Army Museum at Waiouru, 16 have undergone salvage activity or repurposed as training aids or hard targets, and 36 were awaiting salvage.

As at 15 August 2022, 415 Mercedes Benz Unimog vehicles have been delivered to the NZDF. A total of 224 Mercedes-Benz Unimog vehicles were operational as at the same date, and 39 were temporarily out of service. Of these, 19 were awaiting spare parts to be operational.

No Mercedes-Benz Unimog vehicles are currently for sale. 98 vehicles have been identified for future disposal and eight have undergone salvage activity.

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