



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2025-5464

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August 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 8 July 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *information regarding the current status of retired AUG rifles as it relates to possible export to the USA in the form of demilled [sic] parts kits?*

The STEYR AUG rifle was withdrawn from service in 2018. Originally, the Minister of Defence approved potential resale and/or reuse of some of the rifles but, following the Christchurch terror attack in March 2019, the decision to destroy the majority of the rifles was taken. 36 variants/rifles were retained for military heritage purposes (service museums and NZ Police) and the remaining stocks were destroyed. The New Zealand Defence Force has no plans to export retired AUG rifle parts to the USA.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF