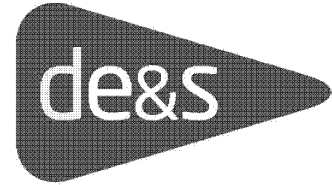




Ministry
of Defence

DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment & ISTAR)
Maple 0A
#2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Your Reference:

Our Reference: FOI2015/03533

Date: 15th April 2015

Thank you for your letter of 30th March 2015 requesting the following information:

- “1. An historical record of all self-loading service rifles which have been in service since 1886;
2. The total number of each type of self-loading service rifle which have seen service to present day;
3. The method of acquisition for such self-loading services rifles (locally manufactured, imported, captured etc.); and
4. The current status of all self-loading service rifles as listed (active, storage/reserve, decommissioned/destroyed, missing)”

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information held is summarised in the table below:

Self-loading rifle	Number in service	Method of acquisition	Current status
SA80 and variants	200,000	Locally Manufactured	In-Service
L115A3	600	Locally Manufactured	In-Service
L129A1 sharpshooter rifle	1,200	Imported	In-Service

You might be interested to know that the National Firearms Centre, enquiries@armouries.org.uk, holds the national reference collection of firearms and that the National Army Museum, info@nam.ac.uk, provides historical information about the Army. Both may be able to assist in providing a historical record.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

