

D/MSU/7/1/3/3/is

28 June 2006

**CM(BM)**

Copy to:

APS/SofS	MA/CinC LAND	DGRP	DCI(A)
APS/Min(AF)	PS/CSA	DG Log (Land)	CA IPTL
PS/USofS	MA/DCDS(EC)	D Ops IS	FBG GL
PS/PUS	PS/Finance Director	DLM	SUV IPTL
DPSO/CDS	PS/DCE	DDef RP	LASS IPTL
APS/2 <sup>nd</sup> PUS	COS Support LAND	D Army RP	D News Proc
APS/VCDS	DG Commercial	PJHQ J9 Pol Ops	Special Advisers
MA2/CGS	MA/CJO	DCRS	
PS/CDP	MA/ACGS	DEC(GM)	
MA/CDL	DGE	FRES IPTL	

**PROTECTED PATROL VEHICLES (PPV)**

1. Thank you for your submission (reference: CM(BM) 5/3/1/6/2) of 28 June concerning the capability that might be achieved with the investment of about £50m for the protection of soldiers in PPVs.
2. Minister (DP) has agreed:
  - That £2m be committed now for an urgent study on options for an enhanced PPV.
  - That the MOD proceeds with the full purchase of 166 VECTOR for Southern Afghanistan using existing funds.
  - That additional armoured kits for FV 430 be purchased to provide additional protection options in Iraq on a rolling uplift basis.
3. He has also noted:
  - That EP funding would be required to deliver 4 Battle Groups worth of an improved PPV capability as part of Phase 2 of EP07 with a target fielding date in the second half of 2007<sup>1</sup>.
  - LAND and PJHQ still see the need for a PPV.

<sup>1</sup> An improved PPV with Bowman and ECM is likely to cost in the region of £400K.

DECLASSIFIED

LAND remain committed to the full buy of 166 VECTOR, with the first vehicle available in Mar 07, to meet the requirement in Afghanistan. The full buy will be complete by Jul 07, with first vehicles available in Mar 07.

The current UOR for uparmoured FV 430 Mk 3 will improve the survivability for troops in Southern Iraq; fielding will be complete in Jan 07 with first systems available during Oct 06. Options are being examined to accelerate the delivery rate of FV 430 Mk 3.

The recent development of better protected vehicles for the PPV role.

That PJHQ and LAND continue to regard a broad systems approach to force protection as essential.

4. The Minister would also be grateful if you could engage with coalition partner to identify whether they may have excess PPV capacity which would provide a greater level of protection which could be made available to the UK. He would be grateful for further advice on both this and on progress on the assessment of enhanced PPV options by 13 July.

C W Bailey  
PS/Minister(DP)  
MB15-B-5 JMB

DECLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED - MANAGEMENT - COMMERCIAL