



NEW ZEALAND



Background: The Polynesian Maori reached New Zealand in about A.D. 800. In 1840, their chieftains entered into a compact with Britain, the Treaty of Waitangi, in which they ceded sovereignty to Queen Victoria while retaining territorial rights. In that same year, the British began the first organized colonial settlement. A series of land wars between 1843 and 1872 ended with the defeat of the native peoples. The British colony of New Zealand became an independent dominion in 1907 and supported the UK militarily in both World Wars. New Zealand's full participation in a number of defense alliances lapsed by the 1980s. In recent years, the government has sought to address long standing Maori grievances.

Geography New Zealand. Location: Oceania, islands in the South Pacific Ocean, southeast of Australia. Area: total: 268,680 sq km. note: includes Antipodes Islands, Auckland Islands, Bounty Islands, Campbell Island, Chatham Islands, and Kermadec Islands. Area - comparative: about the size of Colorado. Land boundaries: 0 km. Coastline: 15,134 km. Climate: temperate with sharp regional contrasts. Terrain: predominately mountainous with some large coastal plains. Natural resources: natural gas, iron ore, sand, coal, timber, hydropower, gold, limestone. Natural hazards: earthquakes are common, though usually not severe; volcanic activity. Environment - current issues: deforestation; soil erosion; native flora and fauna hard-hit by invasive species. Geography - note: about 80% of the population lives in cities; Wellington is the southernmost national capital in the world. (CIA World Factbook 2006)

Military Notes:

1940 Carr, Anti-Aircraft, Trk, Armd, Imp, 4x2. Bedford

1940 Veh, Util, Trk, Cargo, 30-Cwt, Chevrolet (LRDG).

1941 Car, Armd, 4x4. Marmon-Herrington Armored Car, Mk 2 ME.



Above: SA Recce Car Mk II in Greece circa 1941. (Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, NZ)



Above: New Zealand SA Recce Car Mk II in North Africa. (Photo: Author's collection).

Remarks: New Zealand forces had already received the Mk 2 when they were transferred to Greece from North Africa in March 1941. Three of the cars' serial numbers were, F22761, F22768 and F22783 (see South Africa, SA Recce Car Mk 2 for vehicle details).

1942 Veh, Recce. M3A1 Scout Car.



Above: M3A1 Scout Car with a tank recovery unit in Italy, circa 1943. (Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, NZ)

Remarks: See US, M3A1 for vehicle details.

1942 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Carr, Wheeled, NZ Pattern.

1943 Car, Armd, 4x4. T17E1 Staghound.



Above: T17E1's of the New Zealand 2nd Division Cavalry in Italy, 1944. (Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, NZ)

1943 Veh, Recce. Canadian Ford Lynx.



Above: Canadian built Ford Lynx with New Zealand forces in Italy. (Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, NZ)

Remarks: Besides using the Dingo scout cars, at least some Canadian built Ford Lynx vehicles were used in Italy as well (see Canada for vehicle details).

1950 Car, Recce. Daimler Scout, 4x4, Dingo.



Above: New Zealand Dingo in Korea. (Photo: AWM)



Above: Maintenance on a New Zealand Dingo in Korea, note the Kiwi in the white star. (Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, NZ)

13 Special Operations, 122 Command & Control, 95 General Purpose, 68 Crew Served Weapons Carriers, 15 Shelter Carriers and 8 Ambulance versions. All had been delivered by the end of 2006 (see UK for vehicle details).

Remarks: Dingos were used in Korea from at least 1951 to 1953 by New Zealand forces (see UK for vehicle details).

2003 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. NZLAV. 72 new LAVs were delivered from GM Canada in 2003, with a further 33 vehicles on order.

2005 Veh, Recce. Pinzgauer 6x6 WP SO.



Above: Pinzgauer 6x6 Weapons Carrier, Special Operations (SO). The NZDF ordered 13 vehicles fitted as SO vehicles. (Photo: Pinzgauer Ltd.)

Remarks: Developed from the SDP Pinzgauer, the latest XM (X-treme Mobility) vehicle switched from an air-cooled engine to a five-cylinder water-cooled Volkswagen motor. The new versions can be recognized by the grille and short hood at the front of the vehicle for the cooling. All current versions of the Pinzgauer can be carried inside a C-130 or a CH-47 series helicopter. The vehicle can also be air-dropped using a platform. While the base Pinzgauer is unarmored, both the Weapons Carrier and Special Operations versions can be fitted with module armor to increase protection to the crew and automotive components. The NZDF order a total of 321 vehicles in various configurations,