



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON DC 20310

INFO MEMO

December 22, 2004, 1:00 p.m.

FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Peter J. Schoomaker, General, Chief of Staff, Army

*for Richard Alody 22/12/04*

THRU: Richard B. Myers, General, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Peter Brown Article, "Need Armor Fast?"

- The **Army** considers all **known** foreign and domestic sources in satisfying materiel solutions for needed capabilities. To date, we have not found a better alternative than the M1114 Up-Armored HMMWV (UAH) and Armored Security Vehicle (ASV) for the Convoy Protection Platform (CPP) and other selected roles.
- The following vehicles have been/are being considered by the **Army** for **their** related mission essential roles:
  - Casspir, RG-31, and Meerkat; South Africa. Procured for current operations.
  - Cougar and Buffalo; Canada. Procured for current operations.
  - Cobra; Turkey. Evaluated, but not **used**.
  - VBL; France. Evaluated, but not used.
  - Dingo, Mungo and Husky; Germany. Husky procured for current operations. Information requested on Dingo and Mungo manufacturers.
- Limited information is available on the JGSDF (Japanese Ground Self Defense Force) Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) produced by Komatsu Ltd. The JGSDF LAV is in the early stages of production and its characteristics are unknown. The Army will continue to pursue contacting Komatsu to properly assess the vehicle's capabilities.
- PM Tactical Vehicles published an armor sources sought in the FedBizOps on October 1, 2003..
- Since October 2003, the **Army** has tested 207 different armor solutions from 40 vendors. The Army evaluated and is producing 12 add-on-armor (AoA) kits for our Light, Medium, and Heavy truck fleet. The 12 kits are in production at six **depots** and



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five corporate locations. **As of December 15, 2004** we have produced **13,845 kits**. In addition, the Army projected production of 8,105 UAH vehicles by April **2005** with the current production **rate of 450** per month. The recent modification to accelerate production to **550** per month provides additional UAH vehicles beginning in March.

- In addition to armoring solutions, the Army continues to modify tactics, techniques, and procedures to preclude Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks.
- Additional information regarding the other vehicles procured and those evaluated but not procured is provided **as** follows:
  - Casspir, **RG-31**, and Meerkat; South Africa. One Casspir and one **RG-31** have been purchased and **are** being evaluated by the Army's Rapid Equipping Force (REF). PM Close Combat Systems (PM CCS) is purchasing **148 RG-31s** **as** a medium mine protected vehicle. There are 2 in **Iraq**, **5** in **Afghanistan** and **141** systems yet to be produced. PM CCS is purchasing **39** Meerkat vehicles **as** the Interim Vehicle Mounted Mine Detector (IVMMD). There are 6 **in Iraq**, **3 in Afghanistan** and **30** systems yet to be produced.
  - Cougar and Buffalo; Canada. The USMC purchased **16** Cougars. The PM CCS is purchasing **45** of the Buffalo **as** the Ground **Standoff** Mine Detection System (**GSTAMIDS** Block 0). There are 11 in Iraq, 3 in **Afghanistan** and 32 systems yet to be produced.
  - Cobra; Turkey. The Cobra **was** formally evaluated for Special Operations. The vehicle did not meet payload **and** survivability requirements and was not purchased.
  - VBL; France. The Army evaluated the VBL. The VBL **was** similar to the HMMWV. The VBL was evaluated but due to human factor issues was not considered for additional analysis.
- Dingo, and Mungo; Germany. The Army has contacted the Dingo and **Mungo** producers and requested information on these products. Textron, under license from **KWI**, is going to produce a Ding02 that they would like the **U.S. Army** to consider. However, Textron does not yet have the production line up and running. The Mungo is a light armored airborne vehicle that would require additional armor protection for **US Army** application.

COORDINATION: None

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CF: Secretary of the Army

