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2. Brief Description of the Equipment. A single shot anti-riot gun capable of firing in-service baton rounds.

3. Operational Concept. The weapon will be a direct replacement for the L67 anti-riot gun currently in service with troops in NI. No change to the present operational concept for the L67 is envisaged. The weapon will be used if the Army are called to support the RUC in dealing with large scale riots that are beyond their resources. The weapon will also be carried by routine patrols to enable them to cope with sudden unexpected confrontations with hostile groups intent on assault.

4. Current Equipment to be Replaced. The L67 was introduced as an emergency measure in the early years of the NI campaign to satisfy the need for an anti-riot weapon. It is not a purpose built weapon and is a modified signal pistol. The weapon has a number of failings which include a poor trigger action, inadequate butt and faulty breech. However the main reason for the need to find a replacement is the poor condition of the present stock of weapons which cannot be maintained beyond 1987. Further manufacture of the L67 is no longer possible as the signal pistol is out of service. A new weapon is required.

5. Justification for the Proposed Solution. The recently completed review of security policy in NI for the period up to 1990 concludes that the Army will continue to be used in their present role throughout this period. This will continue to involve supporting the police, when necessary, in dealing with riots. Consequently there remains a requirement for an anti-riot weapon for troops in NI. However the Review also concluded that the RUC should take

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