

NZART ID: 18 Arm Type: Machine Gun, Date of Draft: (V1) 20 March 2012, Compiled by: Phil Cregeen

Pattern: Minimi C 9 LMG **Introduced in to NZ Service:** 1988, **Withdrawn:** In Service

Maker: Thales, Lithgow Australia, **Calibre:** 5.56 mm, **Cartridge :** 5.56x45mm NATO ,

Magazine: belt or 30 round magazine, **Rate of fire:** 700 to 1150 rounds per min

Barrel length: 465 mm, **OA Length:** 1038 mm, **Height:** 270 mm, **Width:** 110 mm, **Weight:** 6.48 Kg,

Type of Action: Gas-operated, rotating bolt, **Sights:** rear aperture 300 – 1000 m

Minimi C9 Light Machine Gun



The 5.56 mm C9 Minimi Light Machine Gun is a fully automatic, air-cooled, gas operated weapon. It fires ammunition from disintegrating link belts or can be fed by magazines. It incorporates an open breech firing system and interchangeable barrels.

This gun is the most common within the NZ Army and has been used as the army's Light Support Weapon (LSW) since 1988. The C9 can be converted for parachuting by fitting a carbine (shorter) barrel and collapsible stock, which reduces the overall length of the Standard C9 by 318 mm.

The **Minimi** (short for French: *Mini Mitrailieuse*; "mini machine gun") is a Belgian 5.56mm light machine gun developed by Fabrique Nationale (FN) in Herstal by Ernest Vervier. First introduced in 1974, it has entered service with the armed forces of over thirty countries. The weapon is currently manufactured at the FN facility in Herstal and their US subsidiary FN Manufacturing LLC, as well as being licence-built in Australia, Italy, Japan, Sweden and Greece.

The Minimi is a light machine gun firing from an open bolt. The weapon is primarily chambered for 5.56x45mm NATO, though a 7.62x51mm NATO variant exists. It is an air-cooled weapon, capable of fully automatic fire only. It can be belt fed or fired from a magazine.

The Minimi is configured in several variants, the **Standard** model as a platoon or squad support weapon, the **Para** version for paratroopers and the **Vehicle** model as secondary armament for fighting vehicles.

Acknowledgements:

<http://www.army.mil.nz> March 2012

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FN_Minimi