

**NZART ID No: 352, Arm Type: Rifle, Date of Draft (V1) 21/7/2012, Compiled by Phil Cregeen**

**Pattern: Enfield P 14 Mk I\*(T) (No 3 Mk I\*(T))** Introduced into NZ Service: 1918, Withdrawn: Post WWII

Makers: Winchester Repeating Arms Co, New Haven,

**Details of Arm:**

Calibre: .303 British, Rifling: 5 grooves 1:10 in LH Twist, Barrel Length: 26.0 in., OA Length: 46.25 in. (1175 mm),

Action: Bolt with 5 round fixed box magazine. Weight: 9 Lb 6 oz (4.25 Kg) without Telescopic sight,

Sights: blade foresight with protector, fixed aperture and tangent back sight with aperture in slide 200-1650 yds. , Telescopic sight Pat 1918 by Periscope Prism Co, London

Bayonet: (NZART # 61) Pattern 1913 Mk I LOA 21.9 in. Blade 17.0 in, MRD 15.5 mm, Scabbard 17.9 in.

Markings: Makers Initial on receiver ring and on RHS butt, serial No on receiver ring, NZ Issue marks.



Right and left views of P 14 Mk I\* (T) made by Winchester with Pat 18 telescopic sight by Periscope Prism Co.

The P 14 was not consider a front line rifle and was generally issued to rear echelon troops and used for training, however it did prove to be an accurate rifle and many were adapted for a sniper role. Winchester rifles were modified to include a fine adjustment screw to the rear sight and these rifles were designate Pattern 1914 Mk I (F) or Mk I\*(F). Later a total of 2,001 Winchester Mk I\* (F) were set up with telescopic sights and detachable mount by the Periscope Prism Co of London, these sniper rifles were designated Pattern 1914 Mk I\* W (T)( LOC 21674 dated 11 April 1918), however they were introduced too late for the 1914-18 war.

In 1926 in line with other rifles the P 14 was re-designate Rifle No3 Mk I\*(T). Between the wars the P14 languished in stores and many were exported to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India and other parts of the Empire. On the outbreak of WW II the P14 rifles were refurbished in UK factories and Mk Is upgraded to MK I\*, this also included removing the long range dial and aperture sights, to what was termed the Weedon Repair Standard. They were then issued to reserve and Home Guard units. Some were also fitted with telescopic sights and used as sniper rifles.



Left and right views of telescopic sight and mounts.

Note the repositioning of the rifle serial number which is also on the scope and NZ mark below front scope mount



Top view of P 18 telescopic sight

### **New Zealand service**

When New Zealand ran short of rifles in WW I troops were sent to Europe unarmed and it is therefore probable that New Zealander used the P 14 in training once they arrived in Britain and also as snipers on the Western Front.

From observed marking it would appear that New Zealand imported an unknown quantity of P 14 in March 1917 and some have been set up as sniper versions.

New Zealand P 14s were sold as surplus in the 1950s and 60s. Unfortunately most of the Telescopic sights were sold separately from their rifles.

**Marking**



Winchester 1W \*, N^Z



N^Z

Note: no special marks were applied to the (T) version



British Sniper with P 14 in Italy WW II



Winchester fine adjustment rear sight

.NZ Marked P 14 (T) rifles observed to date:

NZ Marked					
Arm	NZ Marked	Maker	Dated	Serial No	Other marks
Pat 14 Mk I* (T)	N^Z 3/17 /1957	Winchester			
Pat 14 Mk I* (T)	NZ	Winchester		W226421	

*Acknowledgements: John Osborne, Noel Taylor, Rod Woods, Shawn Conaghan, Colin Arnold*

*Photographs: Shawn Conaghan*

*Reference: 1. SAIS #10 .303 Pattern 1914 Rifle & Sniper variants by I Skennerton  
2. The Pattern 1914 & US Model 1917 rifles by C R Stratton*