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New Zealand Defence Force  
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OIA-2024-5103

16 August 2024

Tom Wells

[fyi-request-27873-ac7cb9d3@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-27873-ac7cb9d3@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Tom Wells

I refer to your email of 31 July 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *any information possible about NZSAS deployments to Iraq as a part of the Defeat ISIS Coalition, in particular, if they were involved in any form of combat beyond indirect fire. I am also writing to request what the undisclosed fifth country New Zealand has deployed personnel to as a part of said coalition, beyond Iraq, Qatar, Jordan, and Kuwait, as well as what type of personnel these were.* The document you are referring to is a redacted briefing document titled *New Zealand's Military Contributions to the Defeat-ISIS Coalition in Iraq* publicly available on the Ministry of Defence website. You also made a similar request on 30 July 2024 to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Information that can be released concerning New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) deployments in support of the Defeat-ISIS Coalition is already publicly available with information withheld in accordance with the OIA. Your request is therefore declined in accordance with section 18(d) of the OIA. As noted in these documents, information regarding the location is withheld in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA to avoid prejudice to the international relations of the Government of New Zealand. These are logistics and support personnel (as per the red text in the publicly available document).

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website.

Yours sincerely

**AJ WOODS**

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF