



Headquarters  
New Zealand Defence Force  
Defence House  
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Wellington Mail Centre  
Lower Hutt 5045  
New Zealand

OIA-2024-5122

8 October 2024



Dear 

I refer to your email of 4 August 2024 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *all briefings, notes, reports, aides-memoire, and written advice provided to support engagement with a congressional delegation of the United States of America to New Zealand during August 2024.*

On 13 August 2024 your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with section 14(b)(ii) of the OIA. Copies of the briefings are enclosed. Where indicated, information is withheld in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand and the international relations of the Government of New Zealand; section 6(b)(i) of the OIA as the release of this information would be likely to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the government of any other country or any agency of such a government; and section 6(d) of the OIA as making the information available would be likely to endanger the safety of any person. Slide 4 of Enclosure 2 is a repeat of slide 3 and was used to highlight that 3 Squadron is the only unit that does not use United States' aircraft.

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, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

**AJ WOODS**  
Air Commodore  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

**Enclosures:**

1. RNZN US Congressional DEFENSE & MILCON / VA Sub-Committee, 4 August 2024
2. RNZAF US Congressional DEFENSE & MILCON / VA Sub-Committee, 4 August 2024
3. Defence Science and Technology US Congressional DEFENSE & MILCON / VA Sub-Committee, 4 August 2024
4. Te Maia Hei Toa United States Congressional Delegation Visit, 4 August 2024



**US Congressional DEFENSE & MILCON / VA Sub-Committee**  
4 August 2024



**New Zealand has expansive maritime responsibilities and interests**



- Obligations to other Realm countries
- An Exclusive Economic Zone that is 15 times the area of mainland New Zealand
- A Search and Rescue Region that covers 1/11<sup>th</sup> of the globe



## DEFENCE POLICY OBJECTIVES

Defence will act early and deliberately in pursuing and protecting our defence interests, particularly in and for the Pacific by:

1. Promoting and protecting New Zealand defence interests in our region, particularly in the Pacific
2. Contributing globally to collective security efforts that protect New Zealand's interests and values
3. Responding to events in New Zealand, our region and globally where required

## DEFENCE STRATEGY

Understand

Partner

Act

# Defence Strategy

- **Understand**

- Partner

- Act



*P8 Poseidon*





# Defence Strategy

- Understand
- **Partner**
- Act



USCG Cutter Harriet Lane



McMurdo Medical Evacuation - 2024



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# Defence Strategy

- Understand
- Partner
- **Act**



CTF 150 Deployment - 2025



HMNZS AOTEAROA - Fleet Tanker



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# Questions

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# US CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE & MILCON / VA SUB-COMMITTEE VISIT

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GPCAPT Adam Death  
Logistics Commander (Air)  
04 Aug 24

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## Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF)

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### MISSION:

To provide New Zealand with relevant, responsive and effective Air Power to meet its security interests

- Workforce
  - Distribution
  -  Air Staff HQ
  -  Main Operating Base
  -  Ground Training
  -  Forward Operating Base (Antarctic Programme)
- 



## RNZAF - Fleet Capabilities

- **Airborne Surveillance:** 5 Squadron (Ohakea) – P-8A Poseidon (4)
- **Fixed Wing Transport:** 40 Squadron (Auckland) - Boeing 757 (2); C-130H Hercules (3)  
*\*will be replaced in Q4 2024 with C-130J-30 (5)*
- **Rotary Wing Transport:** 3 Squadron (Ohakea) – NH90 (8); A-109 (5)
- **Naval Helicopter:** 6 Squadron (Auckland) – SH-2G(I) Super Seasprite (5)
- **Training Aircraft:** 42 Squadron (Ohakea) – King Air 350 (4); 14 Squadron – T-6C Texan (11)
- **Space:** Joint Commercial Operations



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## RNZAF - Fleet Capabilities

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## Key Air Force Relationships with US Sourced Fleets

### P-8

- FMS sale and sustainment through US Navy
- Boeing Defence Australia
- Boeing Global Services

### B757

- Boeing
- Air NZ

### C-130J

- FMS sale and sustainment through US Air Force
- Lockheed Martin
- Rolls Royce

### SH-2G(I)

- Direct purchase from Kaman (ex ADF)

### T-6

- Direct purchase from Textron Aviation
- Owned by RNZAF, maintained by TA through Beechcraft to Airbus NZ...

### KA350

- Full operating lease from Jet Aviation

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## Key Air Force Relationships within US Military System

### P-8

- Personnel embedded in NAS Jacksonville to learn and operate with USN crews prior to delivery.
- s. 6(b)(1) [REDACTED]
- RIMPAC 2024
- Ex SEA DRAGON (Guam)
- Increasing engagement with P-8 community

### C-130 (H and J)

- Personnel embedded in USAF to support introduction C-130J at Little Rock AFB
- Joint Readiness Training Centre (LRAFB)
- Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Centre (US ANG)
- Ex MOBILITY GUARDIAN (various locations)
- Ex RED FLAG (INDOPACOM: Alaska)
- s. 6(b)(1) [REDACTED]

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## The Value Proposition. *Relevance...?*

What is our competitive advantage?

- SW Pacific and culture
- Strategic Location for old & new domains
- Necessity Breeds Innovation
- Antarctica...



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## Questions?



Antarctica MEDEVAC  
27 Jun 24

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# Defence Science + Technology

**US Congressional DEFENSE & MILCON / VA Sub-Committee**

**04 August 2024**

# Who we are

Defence Science & Technology (DST) is a specialised unit enabling the New Zealand Defence Force through the application of leading edge applied science and technology



A team of qualified and experienced Defence scientists



Apply S&T solutions to Defence operations



Main facility at the Devonport Naval Base



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# Our science programmes

Partnered nationally and internationally for success



## Sensing & Intelligence

*Application of AI for Intelligence & Data Collection*



## Air Warfare

*Advancing the Protection of NZDF Aircraft*



## Cyber & Electromagnetic Warfare

*Cyber Defence & Radio Frequency Systems*



## Maritime Warfare

*Tactics & Technology to Protect our Sailors & Ships*



## Concepts, Strategy & Analytics

*Research to inform Decisions, Planning & Policy*



## Land Warfare

*Maximise the Safety & Effectiveness of our Soldiers*



## Human Sciences

*Understanding our People: Cognitive & Physical Performance*



## Autonomous Systems

*Harnessing the Potential of Autonomous Systems*



## Climate Intelligence

*Supporting the NZDF through a Changing Climate*



## Space & Navigation Warfare

*NZDF's Research Pathway to Space Domain Operations*



# Growing NZ ecosystem engagement

Strategic partnerships to support Defence R&D priorities and power innovation



Exploring options for NZ and US science investment alignment

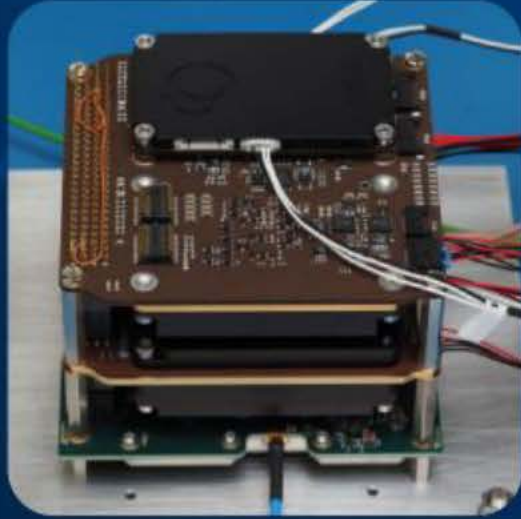


Working together to leverage world leading innovation



Strengthening connections with NZ industry





## Impact through FVEY experimentation, with strong US-NZ programme

- Delivers rapid collaboration and innovation for national security needs
- Shares knowledge and harmonises programmes
- Extends R&D capabilities while improving interoperability
- Maintains FVEY technological advantage and aids deterrence against adversaries

s. 6(b)(i)





TE OPE KĀTUA O AOTEAROA  
**DEFENCE FORCE**

**Defence Science  
+ Technology**



**1<sup>st</sup> New Zealand Special Air Service Regiment**

# TE MAIA HEI TOA



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**United States Congressional Delegation Visit**

**04 August 2024**

## **NZ SPECIAL OPERATIONS VISION**

A **trusted, nationally-integrated, and globally connected** full-spectrum special operations force that is orientated and prepared to support New Zealand's national interests.

## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS DEFINITION**

Special Operations are **focused**, often **discreet**, operations of an unorthodox and frequently high risk nature, undertaken to achieve **significant political or military objectives** that are outside the current capability of conventional forces.

# Military options directed by Government

## Domestic

**EOD Teams** s. 6(a) [redacted]

**SAS Squadron** s. 6(a) [redacted]



## Regional

**SAS Squadron** s. 6(a) [redacted]



## Global

**SAS Squadron** s. 6(a) [redacted]

*and seamless interoperability*

## Permanent

**SAS Task Group Headquarters** s. 6(a) [redacted]

[redacted]





# New Zealand Special Forces Concept – TE MAIA HEI TOA

**We provide the Government with a unique capability that adds significant military and inter-agency value**

## Our vision

A trusted, nationally-integrated, and globally connected full-spectrum special operations force that is orientated and prepared to support New Zealand's national interests.

## What are Special Operations?

Special Operations are focused, often discreet, operations of an unorthodox and frequently high risk nature, undertaken to achieve significant political or military objectives that are outside the current capability of conventional forces.

## What do we do?

- Conduct *Special Reconnaissance* to inform strategic decision-making
- Conduct *Direct Action* to defeat threats and influence outcomes
- *Train and Assist* partners to enable their, and NZ's, desired outcomes

## What is our role?

New Zealand Special Forces exist within a policy framework set by Government that directs what we are capable of achieving, how we are resourced, and why we are needed.

## What we deliver

### Headquarters Special Operations Command



Generates special forces, special operations capability, advises on and commands special operations.

### Full Spectrum Special Operations

Global and Regional Employment



A force capable of conducting coalition operations across the spectrum of conflict to achieve strategic effects.

### Supporting partners at Home



Specialist capabilities made available to the Civil Authority at immediate notice for counter terrorism and other complex responses.

### Agile Regional Response



High readiness capabilities that can quickly react to regional crises independently or in support of the joint force and partners.

### Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Supporting Partners at Home and Abroad



Domestic and expeditionary Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) response and a national chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive render-safe capability.

## Special Operations Tomorrow

New Zealand is facing a more challenging and more complex strategic environment than ever before. NZSF is a critical part of the NZDF's ability to act early and deliberately shape our security environment. Through our core tasks, NZSF will contribute to a secure, sovereign, and resilient New Zealand. Future NZSF operations may range across a spectrum from cooperation to conflict. NZSF remains an agile organization capable of operating in various environments, including partnered operations in the remote Pacific region and highly complex and technical domestic and global operations. NZSF will evolve as required to meet these challenges and stands ready to respond as needed.

# A national capability



- **International reputation**
  - (10% of worlds Tier 1 SF)
- **Global and regional crisis responses**
- **National level intelligence capability**
- **Trusted by domestic agency's**
- **Very cost effective Defence capability:**
  - **1% CAPEX, 2% OPEX, 3% PERSEX**

## What a national capability needs

s. 6(a)

s. 6(a)



- **Political understanding and policy direction**
- **Operational experience**
- **Capability resourcing**
- **Appropriate workforce pay and conditions**
- **A capable Army and operationally focused NZDF**



# Operational Agility

### Partnerships in Asia



### Global Crisis Response



### Partnerships in the Pacific



### MFAT Consular Support



### COVID high risk facility



### Customs Maritime Support



### Whakaari / White Island



### Police and Agency Support



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**New Zealand Special Operations Advantage Concept:**

**Our role is to provide New Zealand decision makers a strategic advantage**

We will maintain Special Operations networks and partnerships domestically, regionally and globally to provide advantage to NZ decision makers  
The placement, access and understanding these networks and partnerships provide broadens the range of response options available to Defence, Intelligence and Security agencies



s. 6(a)

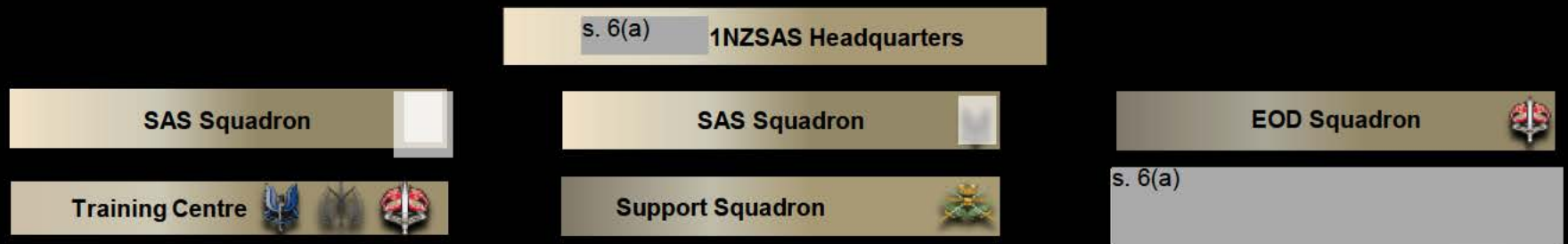
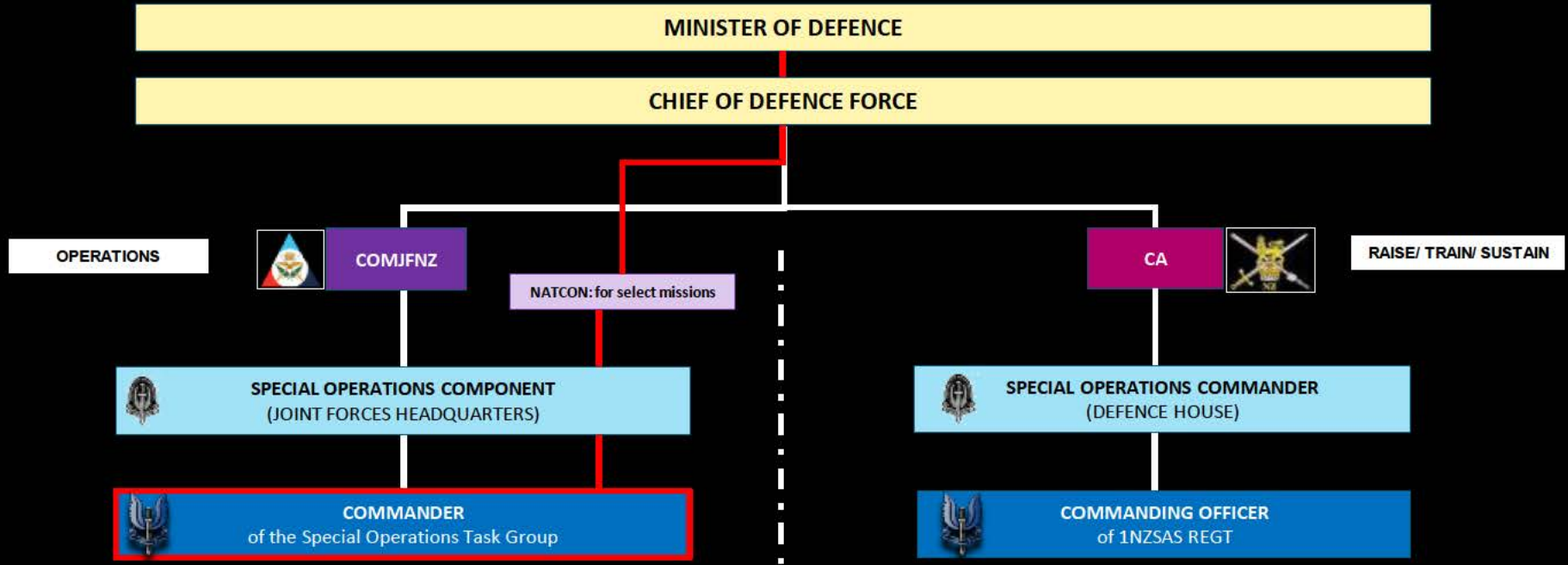




**HEI MANA MŌ AOTEAROA  
A FORCE FOR NEW ZEALAND**

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# COMMAND & CONTROL



# 1 NZSAS Regt Plans

Delivering sustained operational readiness of New Zealand's Special Forces



Retention

Command and Control

Readiness



CA Task: Raise, Train and Sustain the 1<sup>st</sup> NZSAS Regiment



CDF Task: Deliver agreed s. 6(a) Outputs



COMJ Task: Execute Joint Missions



CDF Task: Execute Sensitive Activities

## Regimental Command Priorities 2024/2025

Establish a sustained readiness model

Optimise Command and Control

Retention of our families and our operators



## Enduring NZ Army Tasks for 1NZSAS Regt:

**Training Objective:** Special Forces are trained to world class standards

**Capability Objective:** Modernisation is sustained to meet operational needs

**People Objective:** The people we need are recruited, retained and reenlisted

## NZSOF Outputs

Special Operations  
Output objective:

Sustained  
Operational  
Readiness

s. 6(a)

s. 6(a)

## Guidance for 1NZSAS Commanders

We have a clear unit plan, we are organised for success, we have national purpose, we are busy, we are valued, we have a positive future – lead well, inspire others



# Core tasks

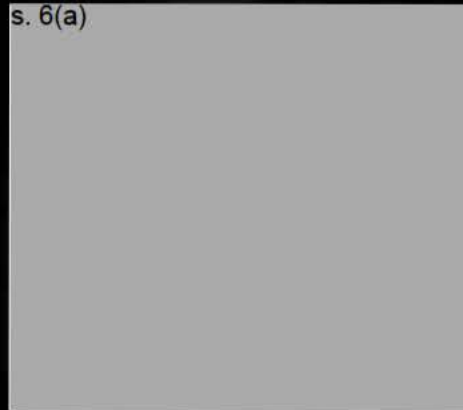
## Special Reconnaissance

*Inform Leaders and Plans*



## Support and Influence

*Enable others to succeed*



## Direct Action

*Defeat and Disrupt Threats*

