



New Zealand
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OIA-2019-3657

12 November 2019

Simon Ewing-Jarvie

fyi-request-11375-a8b479c1@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Ewing-Jarvie

I refer to your request of 4 October 2019, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) to the Minister of Defence, for the following:

I request copies of all documents, notes and briefings in any form relating to the use of Reserve Force structure and positions to facilitate deployment of very senior officers (Brigadier equivalent and above) on full-time duties overseas. By way of clarification, I am specifically interested in the manner in which the currently-listed Reserve Force Major-General may be impacting on the financial position of the Reserve Force budget, any effect on or implication for the total number of very senior officers in the NZDF and any precedent that may now exist for the deployment of other Reserve Force personnel without them having to transfer to the Regular Force.

Please note that I am not seeking any information at all about the person or the role they are employed in.

No information relating to the use of the Reserve Force structure and positions to facilitate deployment of *very senior officers* on full-time duties overseas has been identified. With respect to *very senior officers*, there is one Brigadier position currently occupied.

When a senior member of the Reserve Force deploys on full time service overseas, they deploy as a member of the Regular Force. There is therefore no impact on the Reserve Force budget. The exception to this, specific to senior officers, is when these personnel are seconded to an organisation such as the Multinational Force & Observers (MFO) or the United Nations (UN). In this case the senior officer's salary and conditions of service are met by that organisation for the duration of the secondment.

There is no precedent for a senior officer to deploy without transferring to the Regular Force.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A.J. WOODS

Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

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