



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2022-4470

4 August 2022

Byron Clark
fyi-request-19196-4c934078@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Byron Clark

I refer to your request of 22 April 2022 seeking, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

any information NZDF has regarding the involvement of active duty soldiers, army reservists, or any other NZDF personnel who were members of or associated with one or more of the following groups: The Dominion Movement, Action Zealandaia, Wargus Christi.

Further to this I am requesting any internal communications, meeting minutes etc relating to the topic of NZDF personnel involved in any of the above groups or any named or unnamed far-right or white supremacist groups, and any documents relating to policy regarding NZDF personnel who are members of far-right groups or adhere to far-right or white supremacist ideology.

Apologies for the considerable delay in providing this response. Unfortunately your request was initially missed when it was delivered from the FYI website.

Information regarding the first part of your request cannot be provided at this time in accordance with section 6(c) of the OIA as it concerns matters before the Courts.

Enclosed is a copy of Defence Force Order 3, Part 9, Chapter 1, that provides information on the NZDF policy regarding political activity. Members of the NZDF retain the rights of membership of New Zealand society. These include the right to vote, join political parties, hold political views, and to seek election to Parliament or a local body. There is a requirement, however, for members of the NZDF to maintain political neutrality while fulfilling the requirements of their role within the NZDF. Note, members of the NZDF are also required to achieve and maintain a security clearance. Information on the government's Protective Security Requirements is available online.¹

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

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

Enclosure:

1. Defence Force Order 3, Part 9, Chapter 1: Political Activity

¹ protectivesecurity.govt.nz