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OIA-2022-4497

15 September 2022

Roger Brown

[fyi-request-20370-a086227d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-20370-a086227d@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Roger Brown

I refer to your email of 28 August 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1) *All rules, orders, regulations and other official documents issued by the Defence Force that regulate unpaid leave for NZDF personnel.*
- 2) *Confirmation whether the NZDF is investigating other personnel subject to service law who may have committed mutiny under the Armed Forces Discipline Act 1971 by combining to resist lawful authority in the NZDF in regards policies prohibiting personnel on unpaid leave from taking part in hostilities against Russian-speaking civilians in Ukraine, as Dominic Abelen did.*

Enclosed is a copy of the relevant part of the Defence Force Order (DFO) concerning Leave Without Pay for New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel. Also enclosed is a copy of the guidance on Leave Without Pay for NZDF personnel from the NZDF Intranet.

The NZDF is not undertaking any investigations of personnel on Leave Without Pay in relation to mutiny under the Armed Forces Discipline Act 1971.

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

**Enclosure(s):**

1. DFO 3, Part 8, Chapter 8, Leave without pay
2. NZDF HR Toolkit, Leave Without Pay