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New Zealand Defence Force
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Wellington Mail Centre
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New Zealand

OIA-2022-4543

8 November 2022

A. Jaswinder
fyi-request-20914-ba625771@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear A. Jaswinder

I refer to your email of 18 October 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following:

Please provide all communications pertaining to the initial decision to determine the 2022 NZDF support mission to Ukraine (C130 plus 50 persons as mentioned by News Hub) as "Operational" or "Non Operational". Please also provide documentation or communications made after regarding any requests to review or amend this status.

Chief of Defence Force (CDF) Operational Directive 12/2022, dated 14 April 2022, relates to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) deployment to support the self-defence of Ukraine. It states: '**Category of service.** This deployment is categorised as non-operational service'. The directive was written in accordance with standard Defence Force Orders and there is no associated correspondence. The operational status of the deployment has remained unchanged since 14 April 2022. The NZDF does not hold any documents or communications that request a change to the status of the deployment.

Accordingly, your request as outlined above is declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA.

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 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