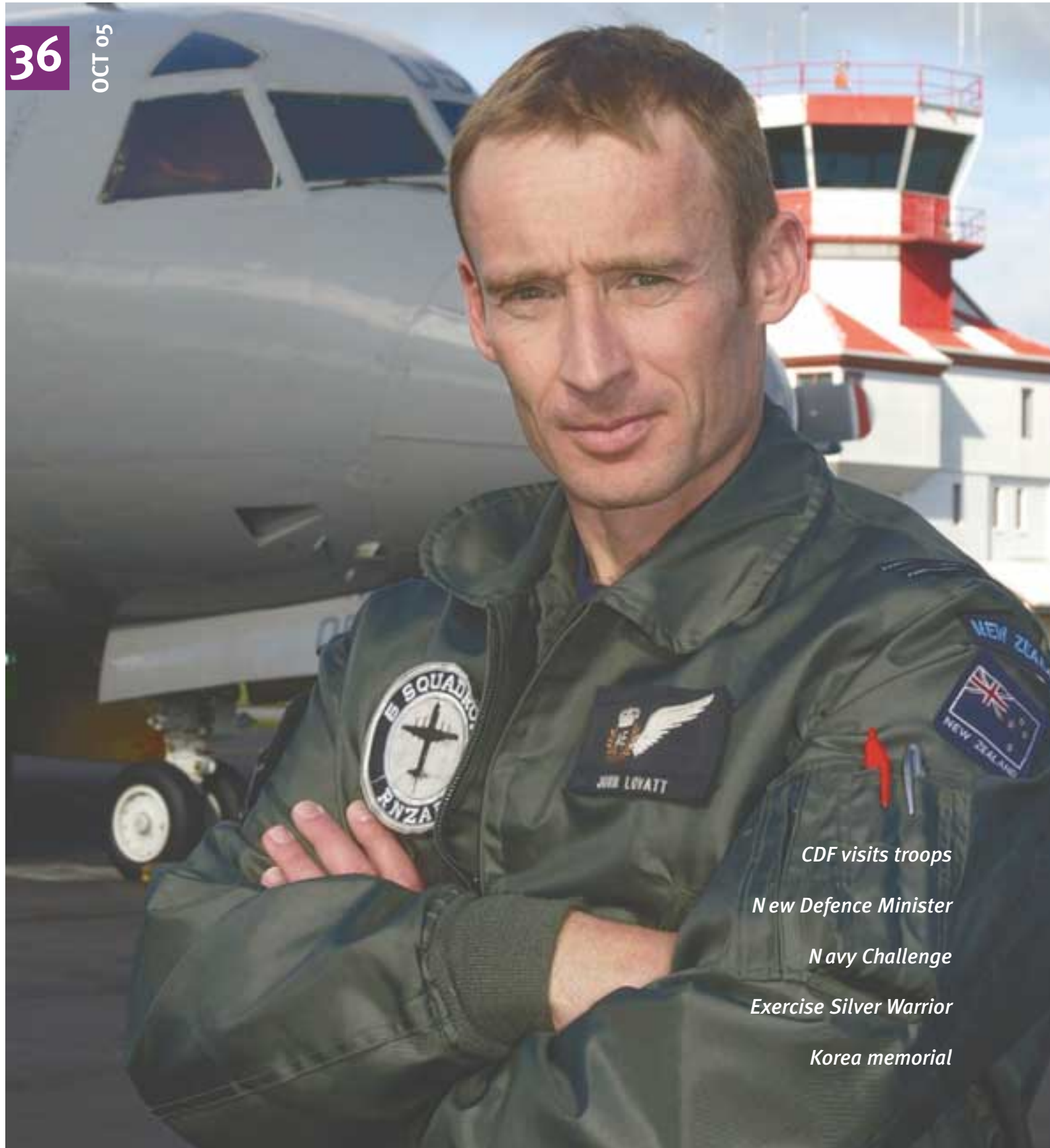


NEW ZEALAND

DEFENCE UPDATE

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CDF – New Zealanders can be proud

When Chief of Defence Force Air Marshal Bruce Ferguson visited his troops in Afghanistan recently, he smiled at what he saw.

"There were children in the streets playing, women walking around freely, many of them without burkhas, and small pockets of development everywhere. It was my fourth visit to see our personnel there, and on the first two you would never see females over the age of nine out in the streets. It's a world apart from New Zealand, but I saw amazing changes."

Air Marshal Ferguson has a policy of visiting deployed personnel as regularly as he can, to see for himself the work they are doing, the impact they are making, and the conditions in which they are working.

"I have nothing but admiration for them. And their impact is tangible. In Bamyan where our PRT (Provincial Reconstruction Team) is based there

have been two elections - one for a parliament and one for a president. Our PRT is there to develop security and stability, and Bamyan has turned out to have the highest voter registration in Afghanistan, as well as the highest vote count, and the most number of females who have voted. Bamyan is leading the way in Afghanistan in the introduction of democracy. I take a lot of pride in the role the PRT has played in that."

Air Marshal Ferguson says one important tenet of the New Zealand contribution in Afghanistan is that the Kiwi effort underpins sustainability and ownership, and avoids at all costs the development of a "cargo cult" mentality.

"The PRT encourages the local community to undertake the work wherever possible. They provide the material, plans and incentive, but make sure the locals provide the labour so they have ownership of the project. It's one thing to go in and provide aid, but it's much more enduring when ownership comes from having done the work themselves, albeit with guidance."

The highlands area where the PRT is based is huge and the infrastructure basic. Roads are poor, even in summer, and a new, robust 4-wheel drive vehicle lasts about 20,000 km before it is beyond repair.



"But even in those conditions, when you drive throughout Bamyan you see little villages which now have a well for the first time in decades, and towns where the schools are up and running, courtesy of the PRT. There are small municipal buildings dotted around the province. They're very basic, but before they were built there was nothing under the Taliban regime."

Special Forces

He also spent time with the 50 or so Special Forces the NZDF has working in Afghanistan.

"They are operating at the top of the Special Forces envelope, and are regarded as among the best in their field by other coalition forces. They are doing long-range reconnaissance patrolling and are involved in direct action if required, that is, if they come across enemy forces they can engage them."



New Zealand Defence Update provides information about defence policy and people, and the activities of our forces throughout the world, to a wide audience in New Zealand and overseas. It is published monthly, and is also available on www.nzdf.mil.nz. We welcome your feedback.

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The Defence Public Relations Unit also produces individual publications for New Zealand's Navy, Army and Air Force.



These are available on request.

COVER: The Commanding Officer of No.5 Squadron, Wing Commander John Lovatt. Photo: AC Loren Mehaffy. Inset: A student tries his balancing skills at the Navy's Whangaparaoa confidence course. (See "Navy challenge a hit with students") Photo: Jane Reilly.



CDF, Air Marshal Bruce Ferguson meets PRT member Lieutenant Commander Tania Koberstein (top) and addresses the contingent (above).



WN 05-0252-07

"Their mission is to reconnoitre and report back covertly. If they are compromised at all – for example, ambushed, they must be prepared

"The war on terror will undoubtedly continue for many years to come, and that region is going to be the centre of gravity for most activities."



WN 05-0252-08

The Qatar peninsula, one of the region's wealthiest states, is where most of the allied war on terrorism activities are based.

"Our meetings in those countries were to make contact with my counterparts there, and for us to get to know each other and establish a relationship. There is very little getting down to nuts and bolts in these meetings – they're about establishing trust and meeting people in person."

New Zealand's contributions to the war on terrorism were "quite well known, considering our size", says Air Marshal Ferguson.

"They know about our contribution, even though we are a small player, because the force elements we send are at the top of their game and make an impact. For example, the three rotations of frigates we sent performed more boardings than any other vessel in the coalition forces, were the only ships to do night boardings, and put in more sea days than any other coalition ship."



WN 05-0153-04

to fight their way out. After meeting them over there I'm assured our men are very capable of that. New Zealanders can be proud of the professional, motivated and determined force element it has there."

Diplomacy

Air Marshal Ferguson paid diplomatic calls to military leaders in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar to "smooth the way" should the NZDF need practical assistance with any future anti-terrorism operations it is involved in, such as basing or resupply.



WN 05-0252-04

Roads are poor, and living conditions basic, but stability is returning to Afghanistan.

Navy challenge a hit with students

By Judith Martin

When Auckland seventh former Will Thompson jumped off the side of the frigate Canterbury he admits it was "very scary".

"I'm a bit of an adrenalin junkie, but even that was pushing it for me," he says.

And Otorohanga 17-year-old Hannah Sanson had much the same reaction to her leap overboard. "I just took a big breath and tried not to think too much about it. Hitting the water was something else."

The pair's big splash was planned, and legitimate. It was all part of the Navy's Adventure Challenge, an innovative week of activities aimed at giving 40 of the country's young leaders a taste of what the Navy is about.



While the Navy has significant recruitment needs— it must find and train enough personnel for its new fleet of vessels over the next two years – the Navy Adventure



Top, Students jump over the side of the frigate Canterbury; (above) learning sea survival skills; the flood chamber at the Damage Control School.

Challenge is not directly intended to recruit people, says Lieutenant Commander Phil Bradshaw.

"We want to 'influence the influencers,' he says. "The Challenge week gathers a group of motivated, enthusiastic young college students from throughout the country and exposes them to learning leadership skills, shows them what the Navy does for New Zealand society, and challenges them to do new things while having a bit of fun at the same time. We aim to get the students to tell their mates at school what they have gleaned during the week. We tend to end up with quite a few recruits from the challenge participants, many of whom never considered a career with Navy until after the challenge, but the real benefit stems from having them tell their wider circle of friends what the Navy is really about."

Colleges throughout the country are contacted in the period leading up to the Challenge week, and mainly Year -13 students are selected for the live-in course. They are told about the Navy when they first arrive, and then introduced to Navy "hardware" – including the bridge simulator, the Maritime Warfare Training Centre with its combat systems technical training unit, and of course, the Navy's ships. The challenge also includes experiencing the Damage Control School, sea survival, and completing the Navy's confidence course at Whangaparaoa.

Lieutenant Commander Bradshaw says activities in the Challenge week, which is now in its second year, were designed to allow the students to expand their personal boundaries, and do things they wouldn't normally do, like jump off the side of the frigate.

"It's about team building, and getting them to see how, in a structured and safe environment, they can develop confidence in themselves and their own abilities."

Will Thompson, an Auckland Grammar student, says he learned leadership skills, and a lot about himself during the course.

"I didn't know anyone there at first, and that was a challenge in itself - meeting so many new people at once. We completed an obstacle course and had to work as a





MC 05-0466-12

"I learned I could do things I thought might be beyond me, and that by working as team you can get some really difficult things done, like getting through the mud tunnels and completing the obstacle course. Not to mention jumping off the ship! The course certainly pushed the boundaries, and gave me more confidence in myself."

Following the course the Navy held, for the first time, a Technical Challenge Week, where a different group of students from throughout the country was exposed to technical aspects of the Navy, including its engineering workshops, and machinery control rooms.

The technical week was designed to stimulate interest in mainly Year 12 students who need to study a base of technical subjects at college if they aim to pursue a technical career.

The week, says Lieutenant Commander Bradshaw, involved many of the activities in the adventure challenge, but also included demonstrations of how Navy machinery and systems work, as well as hands-on experience with technology used by the Navy.

"There is a recognised need in New Zealand for a highly-skilled workforce of engineers and technicians, and the Navy is just one employer that has, and will continue to have, a definite need for technically-skilled people."

team, to get everybody through it. Being in the flood chamber of the Damage Control School was one of the best parts – it was like being in a real ship that was rocking and flooding. We had to plug holes where the water was flooding in – we got one plugged and then had to abandon ship"

Will says he knew a little about the Navy before the course, but now has a much better knowledge of what it does, and why.

"It was good to see how the Navy trains, and to learn about what it can do."

Hannah Sanson, a student at St Peter's College in Cambridge, says she also learned a lot about the Navy, and about herself.



MC 05-0467-34



MC 05-0466-64

Top, Shoring a "hole" in the flood chamber; (above) waiting for instructions; (right) fighting fire.

Exercise Silver Warrior

An exercise designed to assess 1st Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment operating as a motorised battalion group is being held in the lower North Island throughout November.

Silver Warrior involves 800 personnel, 250 vehicles - including 51 NZ Light Armoured Vehicles - and No.3 Squadron, is also taking part with Iroquois helicopters. The Army must be prepared to operate in a complex threat environment, having the ability to help with the delivery of humanitarian aid, peacekeeping, and combat, simultaneously.

The exercise will evaluate the battle group in a complex operation, involving distinctly different scenarios. The concept for Silver Warrior is based on a number of real conflict situations currently occurring in various parts of the world.

The New Zealand Army plans to have a motorised battalion group, combining infantry and armoured combat soldiers working together with engineers, artillery, logistics



Evaluation: A NZ Light Armoured Vehicle in Waiouru tussock.

and health support personnel, at its peak by the end of this year.

The initial stages of the exercise will take part in Waiouru, when the battle group will conduct live firing

by day and night. The major part of the exercise is in Taranaki, Wanganui and Manawatu.

IN BRIEF

Orion rescue

An RNZAF P-3 Orion was involved in the rescue of a stricken yacht near the Chatham Islands in mid-October.

The crew on board the Orion spent over five hours flying over the yacht and maintained radio contact with the crew. The Orion crew coordinated the rescue of the two people on board the vessel. The skipper had tied an orange sail to the deck to make the yacht easier to spot, then he managed to restart the yacht's engine and fashioned a tiller to control the vessel. A nearby cargo ship was able to take the two survivors on board.



Spotted: the yacht at the centre of the search.

Ordnance destroyed

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) section of the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZPRT) in Afghanistan recently destroyed a large cache of ammunition accumulated from throughout Bamyan Province by the Kiwi patrols.

The cache was the largest destroyed to date by the 6th Contingent (Crib 6) of the NZPRT since it arrived in mid-July. Under the direction of the EOD Section commander, Staff Sergeant Mike Skiffington, the ammunition was destroyed in a single blast in the uninhabited Jare Surkhakzau Valley, north-west of the Kiwi base near Bamian City.



Gone: The latest cache of ammunition is destroyed.

Memorial in Korea

A granite memorial dedicated to the New Zealanders who died in the Korean War is to be unveiled by the Prime Minister Helen Clark in mid-November. A group of 20 Korean veterans will attend the ceremony at a United Nations cemetery in Pusan. The hour-long dedication ceremony will involve a Republic of Korea Army band and a United Nations Honour Guard. The veterans will spend a week in Korea visiting battle sites.

Military funeral

Staff Sergeant Andy Warren, who drowned in a white water rafting accident on the Rangitikei river, was given a full military funeral on 20 October. Members of SSgt Warren's Linton-based Army unit, 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, provided the military component of the funeral. An Army Court of Inquiry has been established to investigate circumstances surrounding the accident, which happened during a leadership development course.

Trafalgar celebrated

Royal New Zealand Navy ships HMNZ *Endeavour*, *Resolution*, *Kiwi*, *Wakakura*, *Hinau* and *Moa*, as well as Australian naval vessels, took part in celebrations in Nelson to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral David Ledson, represented the Chief of Defence Force at the celebrations, which included a charter parade, a ball, fireworks display and commemorative service. Various displays and performances were also held throughout the Nelson region to commemorate the anniversary.



Maritime Component Commander Commodore Jack Steer (left) and a local man dressed for the occasion celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Pacific patrols

A RNZAF P-3 Orion conducted Exclusive Economic Zone patrols in Samoa, Tokelau, Kiribati, Cook Islands and Niue in the last week of October. No miscreants were found.

Soldier injured

A New Zealand Special Forces soldier was injured in an explosion while clearing old munitions in Afghanistan on October 30. The soldier received cuts to his legs and feet. He is being treated at a coalition medical facility and is in a "comfortable" condition. He is to return to New Zealand.

New Defence Minister

Former Foreign Affairs Minister Phil Goff is the new Minister of Defence.

Mr Goff entered Parliament when he won the seat of Mt Roskill in 1981. This was the beginning of a nine-year stint in Parliament. Between 1984 and 1990 his portfolios included Environment, Employment, Tourism, Youth Affairs and Education.

Following defeat at the 1990 election, he lectured in political studies at the Auckland Institute of Technology between 1991 and 1993. He was soon back in Parliament, winning Mt Roskill in 1993. Boundary changes saw the seat re-named New Lynn for the 1996 election in which he was returned to Parliament. Between 1996 and 1999 he was Labour's spokesperson on Justice and Corrections.

Labour's election victory in 1999 (when he represented Mt Roskill again) saw Mr Goff made the Minister of Justice and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He continued to hold those portfolios, and also gained Pacific Island Affairs, after being returned with an increased majority at the 2002 election. Following the 2005 election when he was once again returned as the Member for Mt Roskill, he was made Minister of Defence, as well as Minister of Trade, Minister of Disarmament and Arms Control, and Associate Minister of Trade Negotiations. He continues as Minister of Pacific Island Affairs and is also an Associate Minister of Finance.

Mr Goff visited the NZ PRT in Bamyán last year as part of his Foreign Affairs portfolio. A profile on Mr Goff and his new defence portfolio will appear in the next issue of Defence Update.



Defence Minister Phil Goff

IN BRIEF

Giving overseas Defence students the best possible chance to succeed is Warrant Officer Greg Mitchell's mission.

An instructor at the Defence Language Centre at Trentham Military Camp, his students range from senior Defence personnel completing tertiary study at the NZDF Command and Staff College, to junior non-commissioned officers about to undertake a variety of courses or training at New Zealand Defence establishments.

Under the NZDF Mutual Assistance Programme (MAP) selected military personnel from 14 countries throughout the Pacific and Southeast Asia come to New Zealand for NZDF training or work experience. NZDF instructors are also based in several of those countries to assist with training. MAP is part of the NZDF's contribution to security and stability in the South Pacific.

MAP students must be able to speak proficient English to qualify to train in New Zealand. The Language Centre not only ensures their English is adequate for the course they plan to do, but provides them with other skills and experience to help them cope in New Zealand, and succeed.

"Many of our students have never been overseas before, so a lot of what we teach them at first is basic, but helps them establish themselves here. They learn about our culture, how to find their way around using our transport system, and how the NZDF operates. They also visit places of interest, like Te Papa, to expand their knowledge.



"Some have limited computer skills or public speaking experience, so we make sure they research and give presentations to their class-mates and instructors, which we critique and help them improve."

The Language Centre, which is part of the Military Studies Institute, structures its courses individually to ensure an appropriate basis for the training. "For example, if we have a group of tradesmen," says Warrant Officer Mitchell, "we make sure they are very familiar with English trade terminology. It's all about making sure they have the best possible chance to do well, and to get the most out of being in New Zealand."

Above, Royal Fiji Military Force soldiers, Private Mikaele Dovi (left) and Private Tevita Tuivakano, with Defence Language Centre instructors Warrant Officer Greg Mitchell(second left) and Major Mike Nicholls.

THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE: ALL CORNERS OF THE WORLD

NZ DEFENCE FORCE OPERATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
UNOTIL	Timor Leste	1
UNMIK	Kosovo	1
UNTSO	Middle East	9
UNCMAC	Korea	3
UNAMI	Iraq	1
UNAMA	Afghanistan	1
UNMIS	Sudan	2
CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
Operation Rata	Solomon Islands	1
Operation Koru	Timor Leste	3
CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL FORCES	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
EUFOR Liaison Team	Bosnia	11
ISAF Staff Officers/NCO	Afghanistan	3
MFO	Sinai	26
OEF Staff Officer/SNCOs	Afghanistan	4
OEF Provincial Reconstruction Team	Afghanistan	120
OEF (RNZAF)	The Gulf Region	6
OEF	Florida, USA	3
NZ SAS personnel	Afghanistan	

NZ DEFENCE FORCE DEPLOYMENTS

HMNZS <i>Te Kaha</i>	Australia	173
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL ON OPERATIONS OR DEPLOYMENT		368