

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

OIA-2023-4756

/8 July 2023

Dear

I refer to your email of 16 June 2023 to the Ministry of Defence requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the *number of foreign military in NZ* and the *number of Indian Military in NZ*. Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the OIA.

The NZDF does not maintain a centralised record of foreign military personnel who may be visiting New Zealand on official business with the Services and Branches of the NZDF. As you provided no date range for your request, this response considered foreign military personnel in New Zealand as at 16 June 2023 who conduct official business with the NZDF. There are no foreign military camps or bases in New Zealand, but there were 13 accredited Defence Attachés located in New Zealand as at that date. There were also approximately 55 foreign military personnel in New Zealand as part of the Mutual Assistance Programme<sup>1</sup> or attending the Command and Staff College. None were identified as serving as part of the Indian Armed Forces.

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, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS

Air Commodore Chief of Staff HQNZDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/nzdf/our-operations-and-engagements/