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New Zealand Defence Force
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New Zealand

OIA-2026-5987

2nd October 2026

Prof. Andrew Jull

fyi-request-35479-72dd7911@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Prof. Andrew Jull

I refer to your email of 16 September 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Please provide data on the total number of armed services personnel (regular forces and reservists) who have served or are currently serving with the Israeli Defence Force, since October 7, 2023.

No active New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel have served with the Israel Defence Force (IDF) since October 7, 2023. There is no formal treaty, agreement, or arrangement that requires NZDF military personnel to serve alongside the IDF.

Regular and reservist military personnel are required to seek approval for international travel that falls outside of deployment. Approval for such travel is based on various factors, including but not limited to the reason for travel, travel advisories, and the security situation at the destination. Personnel are individually responsible for declaring any past or planned international travel, as well as any intended involvement with foreign military organisations.

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

GA Motley

Brigadier

Chief of Staff HQNZDF