



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

OMB-2025-0198  
[REDACTED]

19<sup>th</sup> November 2025

[REDACTED]

cc: [REDACTED] [@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@ombudsman.parliament.nz)

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman regarding the decision to withhold operational information in the response of 22 March 2024 (OIA-2024-4931). As New Zealand's support to that operation has now concluded, the decision has been reviewed.

New Zealand Defence Force personnel were not involved in the 24/25 or 27/28 February 2024 events of your requests.

You retain the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this revised 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

**GA Motley**  
Brigadier  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF



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Lower Hutt 5045  
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OIA-2024-4931

22 March 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your emails of 3 and 25 March 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information about events in the Red Sea on 24/25 and 27/28 February 2024 respectively:

*On 24/25 February 2024, forces involved in 'Operation Prosperity Guardian', the US/UK/AU/NZ operation to support the zionist genocide of the Palestinian people, attacked a civilian facility producing agricultural pesticides in Hayy al-Nahda, causing damage to the factory and civilian homes, and civilian communications networks used to distribute humanitarian aid in Haifan and Muqbanah districts in the Taiz Governate. 1) Did NZDF personnel sent by the NZDF to assist in the zionist 'Operation Prosperity Guardian' attacks take part in any way, 'targeting' or otherwise, in the attacks on the factory in Hayy al-Nahda? 2) Did NZDF personnel sent by the NZDF to assist in the zionist 'Operation Prosperity Guardian' attacks take part in any way, 'targeting' or otherwise, in the attacks on the Yemeni communications infrastructure in Taiz governate?*

*Last Thursday evening/Friday morning, 27/28 February 2024 Yemeni local, forces involved in 'Operation Prosperity Guardian', the US/UK/AU/NZ operation to assist the zionist genocide of the Palestinian people, attacked Yemeni civilians fishing in the Red Sea in the waters off the port of Mokba, successfully murdering at least two of them. 1) Did NZDF personnel sent by the NZDF to assist in the zionist 'Operation Prosperity Guardian' attacks take part in any way, 'targeting' or otherwise, in the attacks on these Yemeni fishermen?*

The NZDF does not discuss the specific details of ongoing operations. This is in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA, as to do so would be likely to prejudice the Security and defence of New Zealand and the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

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.

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Yours sincerely

**AJ WOODS**

Air Commodore  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF