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OIA-2019-3666

7 November 2019

**Alistair Reith**

[fyi-request-11573-9700795c@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11573-9700795c@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Reith

I refer to your request of 1 November 2019, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), in which you stated the following:

*The NZDF has provided training to the Iraqi security forces since 2015. This has included "stabilization forces" such as the police and border guards, as well as the Iraqi Army.*

*Given that Iraqi police and elite counter-terrorism personnel are currently using violence to suppress mass protests, please explain what training the NZDF gave security forces in Iraq regarding how to deal with protests and general civil unrest. Were specific tactics or tools recommended?*

*Please provide any relevant and available documents that deal specifically with any training the NZDF provided in Iraq regarding how protests and civil unrest should be handled.*

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) delivered military training in Iraq as part of the Building Partner Capacity mission that is linked to the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). The NZDF did not deliver training on *how to deal with protests and general civil unrest*.

More information regarding the NZDF deployment to Iraq and the Defeat-ISIS Coalition is available online at [www.nzdf.mil.nz/operations/iraq.htm](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz/operations/iraq.htm).

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely

**A.J. WOODS**

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF

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