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New Zealand

OIA-2026-5780

18th May 2026

John Luke

fyi-request-34530-6e2d13b0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

I refer to your email of 22 April 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Could you please advise progress for the establishment of a New Zealand Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal as described in the petition of Thomas Peter Alan Ward and the submission heard in parliament in July 2017. Are there any more progress since 2025 reply noted above?

What other new medal programs is the NZDF currently working on?

Also, noted "The mounting of medals and provision of medal ribbon bars at public (NZDF) expense is provided to NZDF serving personnel because they are required to wear medals on their uniform as a part of their employment. " Can I please request a copy of your most current medal mounting supplier list.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and the Honours Unit, Cabinet Office are continuing to work together to develop advice for the Government on how humanitarian and disaster relief service could be recognised.

The Minister of Defence announced on 31 March 2026 that the Government will award the New Zealand Special Service Medal (Support to Ukraine) to recognise Defence personnel who have deployed in support of Ukraine's self-defence. NZDF staff are working with the Parliamentary Counsel Office and the Honours Unit, Cabinet Office, to draft the medal Regulations for the Governor-General's approval, and to prepare to issue the medal¹.

Some other contemporary military deployments and military activities are being considered for recognition, such as peacetime international military deployments to support New Zealand's security, international peace and stability, and military activities overseas involving the disposal of hazardous military material. Advice will be provided by the NZDF to the Government in due course on each proposal.

Enclosed is the current list of authorised medal mounting suppliers.

¹ <https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/media-centre/news/nz-special-service-medal-ukraine/>

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

Enclosure:

1. Authorised Mounters for NZDF 2026