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OIA-2026-5793

18th May 2026

Tobias Corbett
fyi-request-34603-1d44bd73@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Tobias Corbett

I refer to your email of 4 May 2026 to the Ministry of Defence regarding *the unit insignia of the recently reestablished No.62 Squadron RNZAF* and specifically requesting the following:

- a) *If 62 Squadron has been issued a 'crest' in-line with other numbered squadrons as seen in Table 5-2, Part 5 of the NZAP 207 RNZAF Dress Instructions?*
- b) *If not, why? as it would make it the only numbered squadron to not have a crest.*

Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

No. 62 Squadron has not yet been issued an officially approved squadron crest in accordance with NZAP 207 Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) Dress Instructions. When the Squadron was re-established last year, the RNZAF intended to review and, if appropriate, continue the use of an historical 62 Squadron crest from the 1930/1940 period. However, research has determined that the Squadron was disbanded before any crest was formally developed and approved through the heraldry process. As there is no legacy crest to reinstate, No. 62 Squadron will develop an original crest and submit it for formal heraldic approval. This process takes time to ensure historical accuracy, cultural appropriateness, and alignment with RNZAF traditions.

In the interim, the Squadron has adopted an unofficial unit patch for wear with the New Zealand Multi-Terrain Pattern for operational dress and flying dress uniforms. This is consistent with wider RNZAF practice, where unofficial patches often accompany, but do not replace, an approved crest. The current patch includes the Squadron motto *Titiro ki ngā whetū*, which translates as 'Look to the stars'.

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