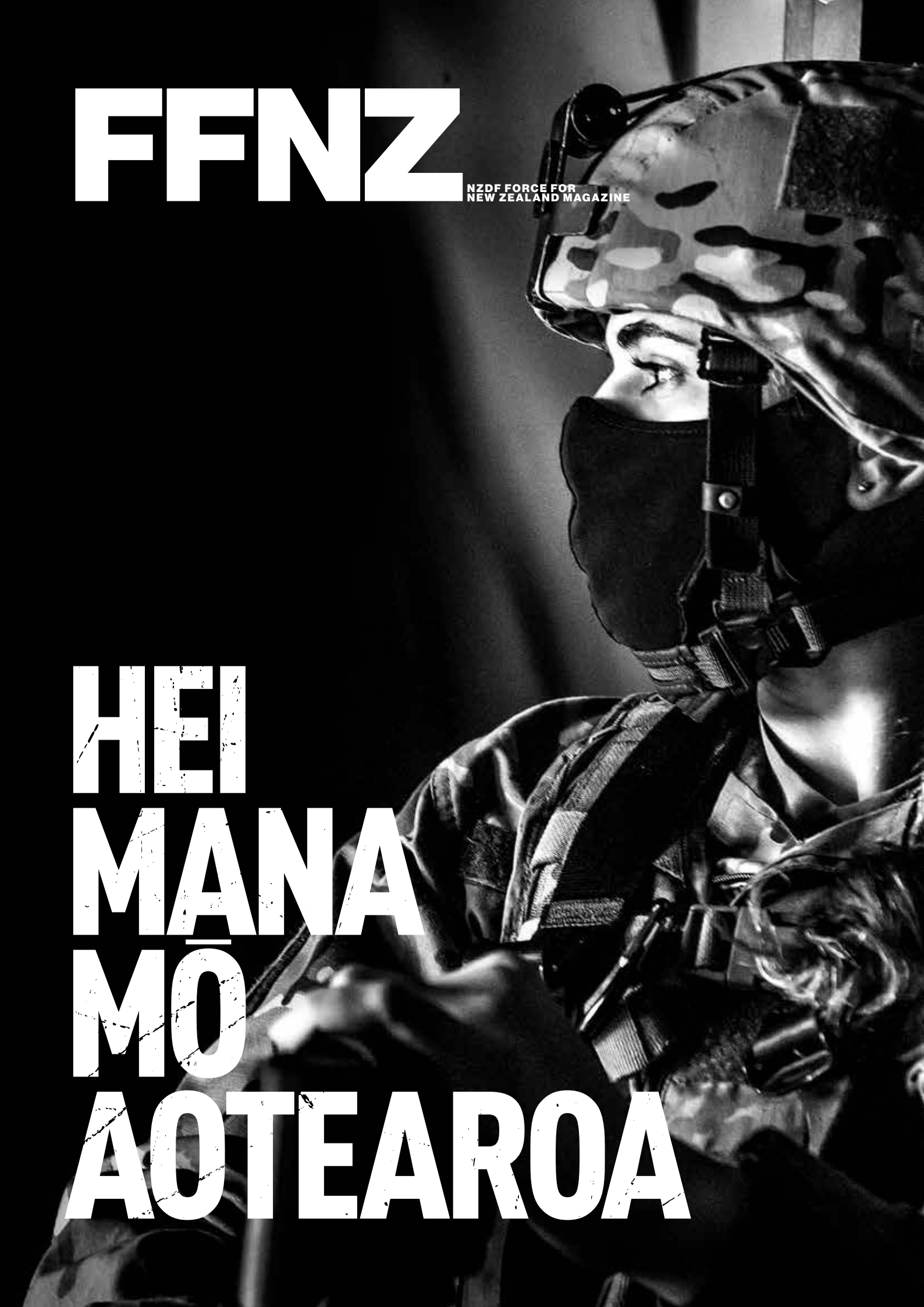


FFNZ

NZDF FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND MAGAZINE

HEI MANA MŌ AOTEAROA



Message from CDF	3
Our people	6
At a glance	8
Global footprint in 2020/21	10
Where we work	12
What we do	15

Operation Protect	18
Doing it for New Zealand	21
It's like being on operations	22
Evacuation from Kabul	25
Exercise Urban Warrior	27
Navy's presence in South East Asia	29
Success for CTF 150	31
The tactical drop	33
The value of Reservists	35
Flood relief in the South Island	37
Navy assists with Pacific vaccine roll-out	39
Deft fire control	41
International sanctions	43
Kiwis help in Bahamas search and rescue	45
HMNZS Te Mana readies for sea	47
Water tanks to the Chathams	49
Night vision first in Antarctica	51

Message from CDF

Welcome to the 2021 issue of the *Force for New Zealand* magazine. This edition provides a snapshot of today's NZDF: who we are, where we are and what we do, with a focus on what we have done in 2021. Our accomplishments this year are many and varied, broader than the size of this publication permits, but the stories included are a range of highlights that represent the breadth and depth of the NZDF.

Back in June 2020 we were asked to stand up NZDF's largest deployment since East Timor, Operation PROTECT. Op PROTECT has continued throughout 2021, and the Government has indicated it will continue well into 2022. I am extremely proud of the around 1,200 personnel (at any one time) supporting, or preparing to support, COVID-19 response activities as part of the All of Government response.

Deploying domestically within New Zealand is something the NZDF is used to. In the past we've answered the call to the Christchurch and Kaikoura earthquakes, rural fires, and droughts. This year we have distributed water and food, staffed cordons and helped clean up after disasters. We have also responded to calls to assist from overseas, supporting our Pacific neighbours in Op VACCINATE, repatriated Vanuatu citizens and responded to the non-combatant evacuation from Afghanistan to name just a few.

Regardless of our substantial commitment to the COVID-19 response we are required to get on with our core business, providing operational outputs both at home and abroad. We train, we exercise, and we deliver outputs. We are a Force for New Zealand.

A force that is ready to support our partners and those who need our help, because the NZ Government expects us to have capability both in New Zealand and beyond our shores. A global pandemic does not alter that. Not every activity is essential, but there will always be essential missions and international commitments that require us to be at our operational best. "Non-contact" in all its different forms becomes the new norm when we engage with our partners across the Pacific.

Guarding our borders, and generating our output requirements, requires us to draw deeply on the four values of the New Zealand Defence Force: Tū Kaha (courage), Tū Tika (commitment), Tū Tira (comradeship), and Tū Māia (integrity). People are the heart and soul of the Defence Force, that make it such a great place to work and serve, and I am proud to say we have been where we were needed, when we were needed, and delivered what was needed for our country.

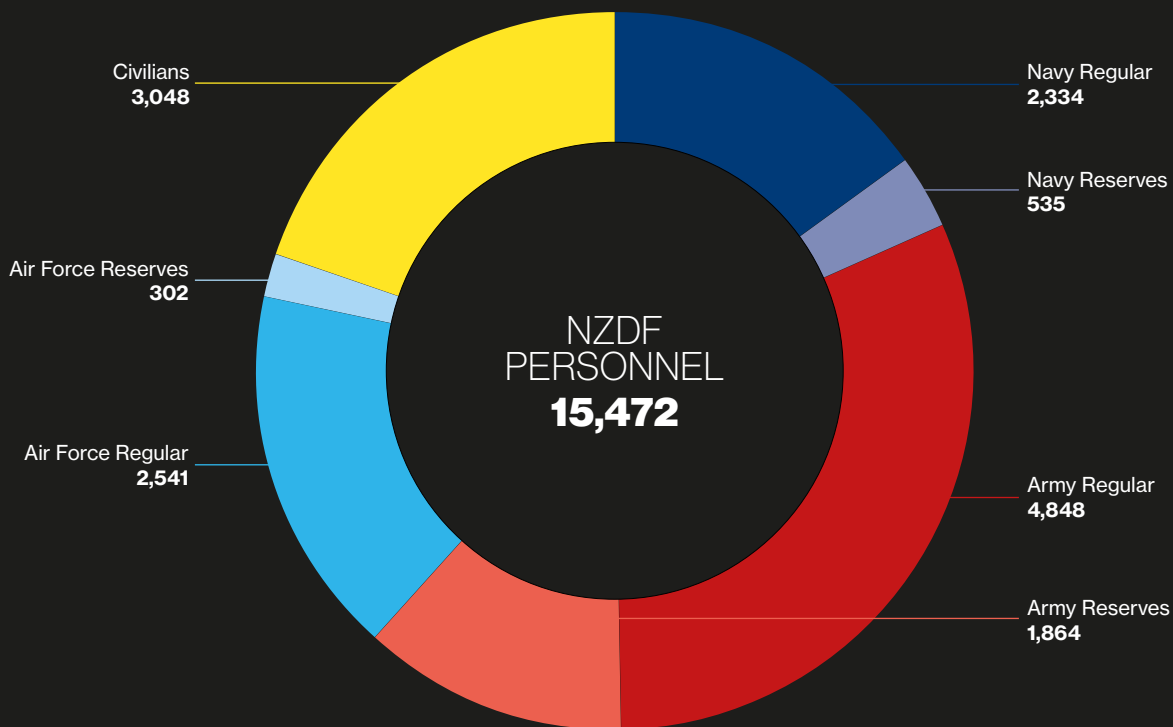


K.R. Short
Air Marshal
Chief of Defence Force

**The New Zealand
Defence Force is
a combat-capable
military force,
trained, equipped,
and ready to
respond every hour
of the day, every
day of the year.**



Our people



The Defence Force comprises 15,472 military personnel, Reservists and civilian employees as of 30 June 2021. The Regular Force is made up of Service personnel who fill a wide variety of roles across the Navy, Army, and Air Force. The soldiers, sailors and airmen are a diverse and capable group of people in ranks and roles: Privates to Generals, technicians to special operations troops, intelligence specialists to medics.

The NZDF's people are also trained in command, planning, leadership, operations, and logistics support. They participate in and support operational deployments, training, and recruitment. They have oversight, managerial and corporate functions on bases, camps, and at Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand and Headquarters NZDF. They serve in New Zealand and around the world.

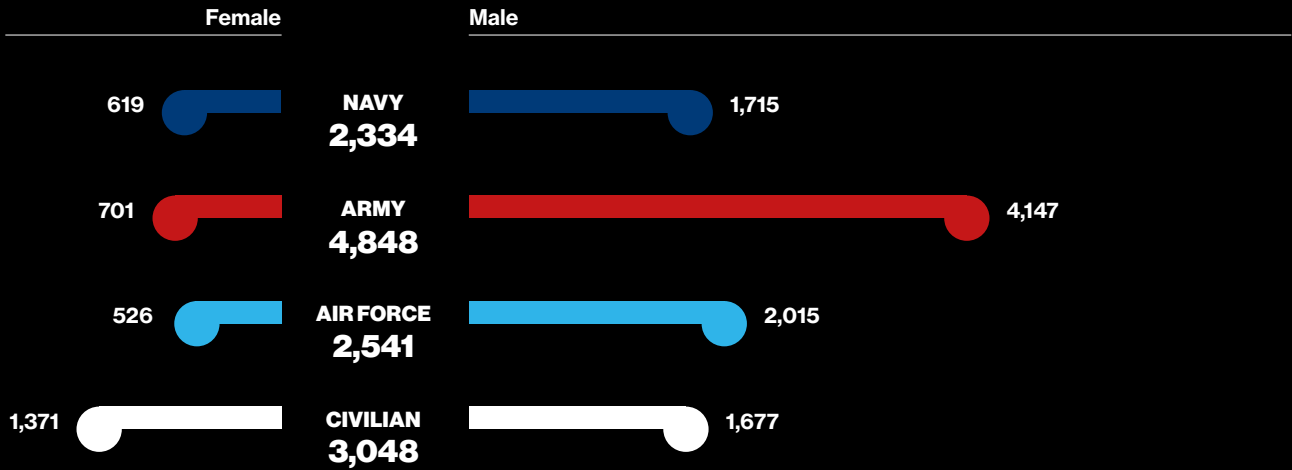
Reservists provide extra military capacity through the Navy, Army and Air Force Reserves, who work and train part-time. These Reservists supplement the Regular Force by providing specialist roles and additional forces ready to respond to a large-scale military deployment.

Civilian employees fill a wide range of specialist and corporate roles that do not require deployment in an operational environment. The work they do enables the NZDF to operate effectively.



At a glance*

Headcount by Service and Gender



 **12,771**

 **25.2%**

 **74.8%**

Gender Pay Gap

5.5%
OVERALL

Regular Force  4.9%

Civilian  14.1%

Ethnicities

	Regular Force	Civilian
NZ European	63.9%	50.9%
Other European	15.0%	17.6%
Māori	17.7%	8.0%
Pacific	5.6%	3.6%
Asian	3.1%	4.6%
MELAA	0.4%	0.4%
Other	4.5%	21.8%

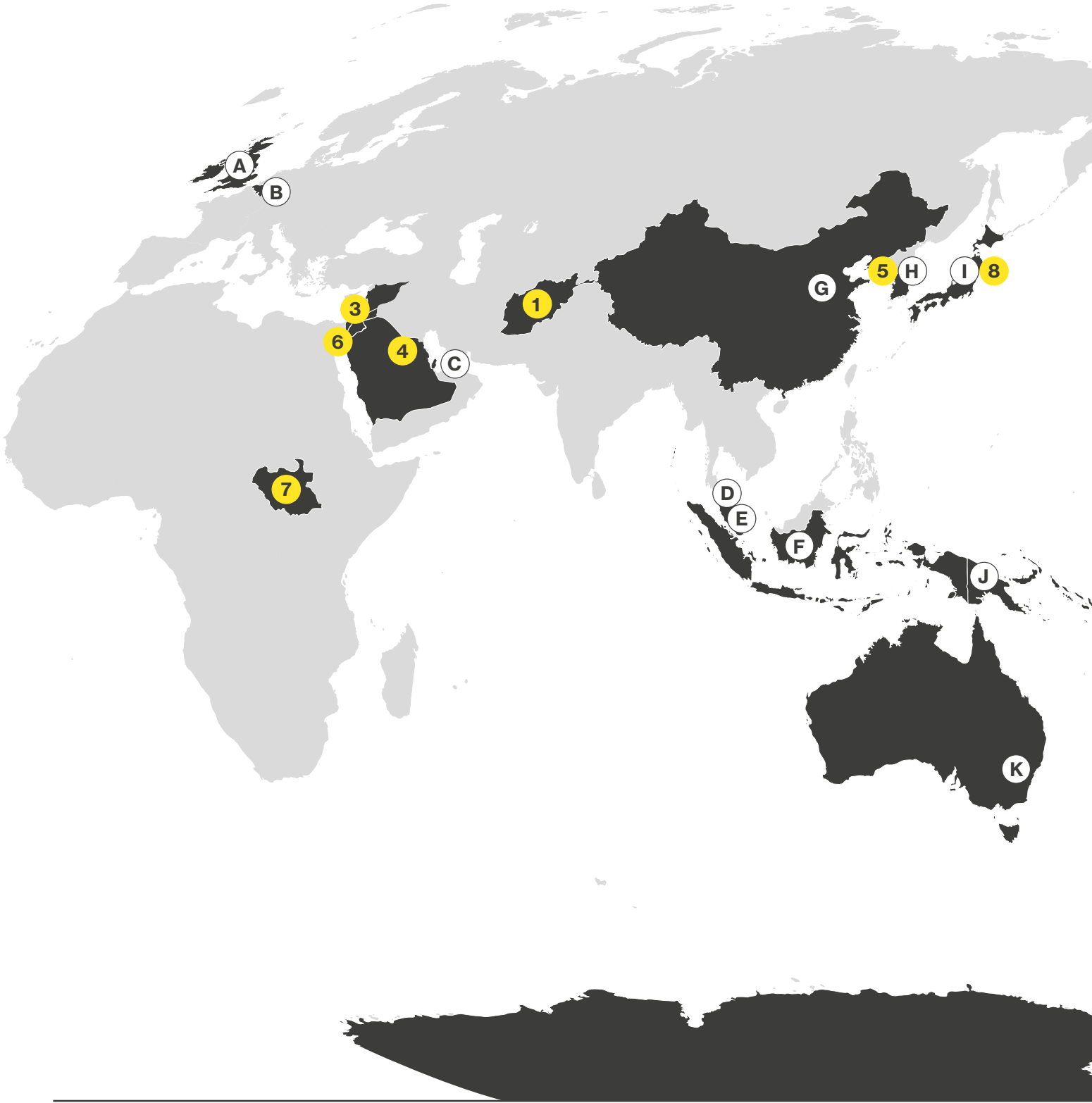
Percentages do not add up to 100% as personnel are able to provide multiple responses.

NZ European - This classification is based on the 2013 Statistics NZ categories and includes New Zealander.

MELAA - Middle Eastern, Latin American, African.

Other - includes personnel who did not declare their ethnicity.





Operations (Op)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Afghanistan (Op RUA II) | 5 | Republic of Korea (Op MONITOR) |
| 2 | Antarctica (Op ANTARCTICA) | 6 | Sinai Peninsula (Op FARAD) |
| 3 | Israel, Lebanon, Syria (Op SCORIA) | 7 | South Sudan (Op SUDDEN) |
| 4 | Middle East (Ops PUKEKO, KERERU, MOHUA) | 8 | Japan (Op WHIO) |

Global footprint in 2020/21

L
M

- Operations
- Defence Attachés

2

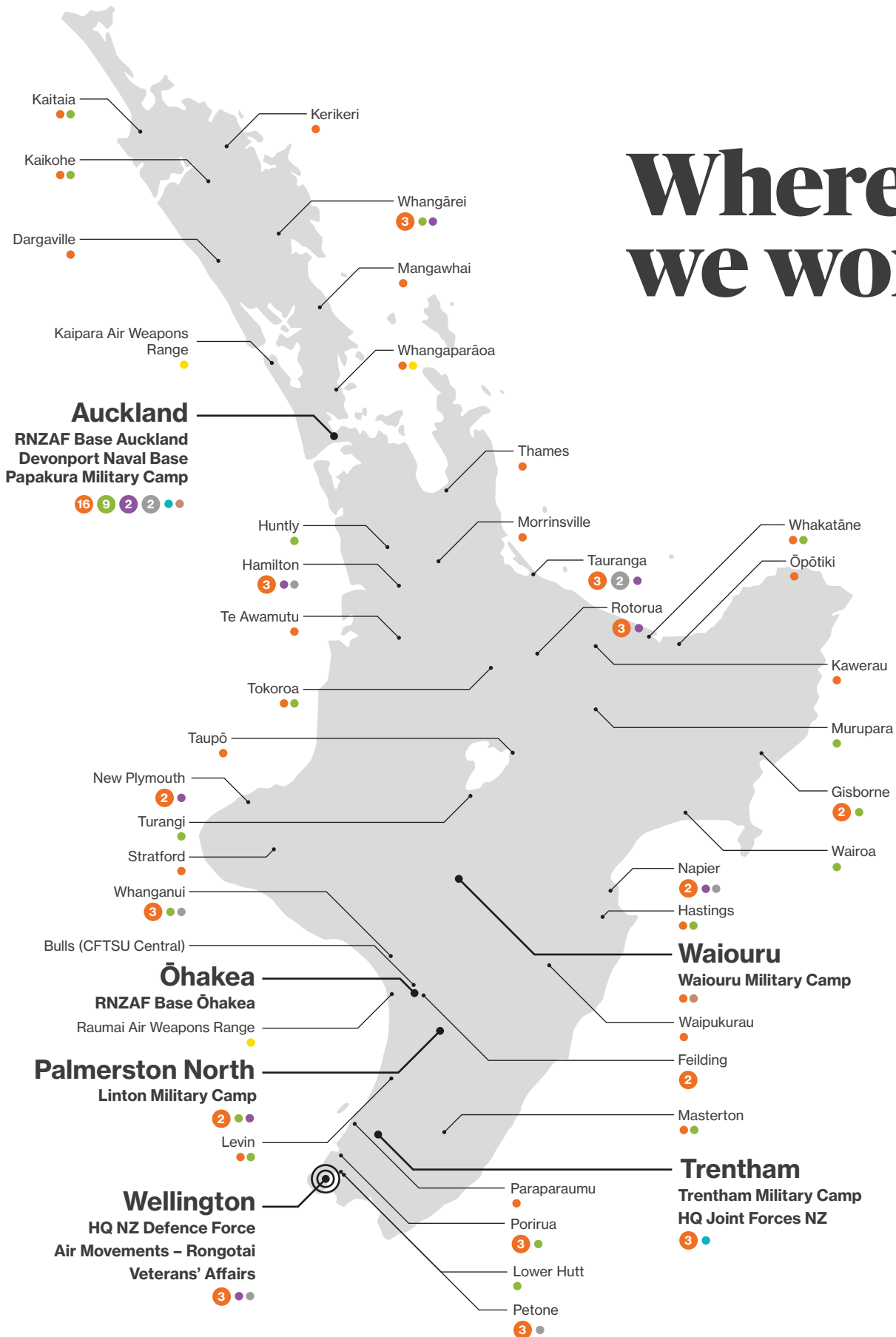
Defence Attachés (DA)

A Head of Defence Staff and Defence Advisor United Kingdom
B DA Belgium
C DA Abu Dhabi
D Defence Advisor Malaysia, HQIADS
E Defence Advisor Singapore, NZDSU

F DA Indonesia
G DA China
H DA Korea
I DA Japan
J Defence Advisor Papua New Guinea
K Head of Defence Staff and Defence Advisor Australia

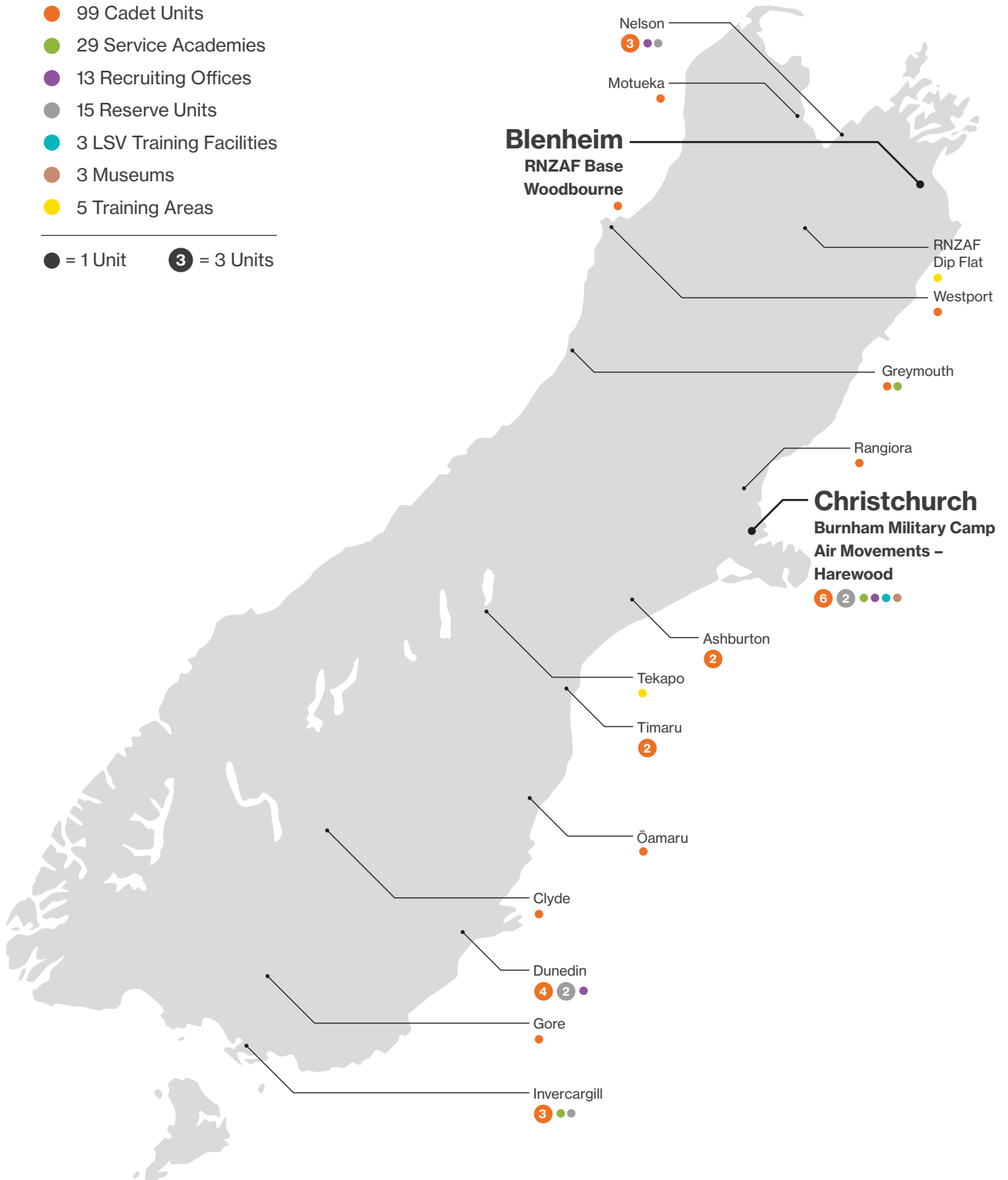
L Defence Advisor Fiji
M Defence Advisor Tonga
N Defence Advisor Canada
O DA Head of Defence Staff USA
P Military and Police Advisor NZ Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Where we work



Areas of activity

- 99 Cadet Units
 - 29 Service Academies
 - 13 Recruiting Offices
 - 15 Reserve Units
 - 3 LSV Training Facilities
 - 3 Museums
 - 5 Training Areas
-
- = 1 Unit **3** = 3 Units





OUR PURPOSE

**We are a combat-ready force keeping
New Zealand safe and secure**

OUR MISSION

**To secure New Zealand against external
threat, to protect our sovereign
interests, including in the Exclusive
Economic Zone, and be able to take
action to meet likely contingencies in
our strategic areas of interest**

OUR VALUES

**Tū Kaha | Courage
Tū Tika | Commitment
Tū Tira | Comradeship
Tū Māia | Integrity**

What we do

The core task of the Defence Force is to conduct military operations. Its key role in supporting this task is to have military capability – delivered through people, research and development, infrastructure, concepts and doctrine, information, and equipment – ready for use when the Government needs it. The preparation and availability of a credible and effective armed force, capable of serving the Government's defence and national security policy objectives, is the NZDF's highest priority.

In addition, the NZDF has the technical skills, professional training, and high-end military equipment to lend versatility to a range of security and humanitarian tasks.

Many other government agencies work in partnership with the NZDF to conduct activities within New Zealand, the Pacific and the Southern Ocean to protect New Zealand's resources, enforce protected areas, build experience and capacity, and provide life-saving aid when required.

The NZDF has built strong partnerships with New Zealand's Pacific partners and made a valuable contribution to Pacific regional and global security through capacity building, peacekeeping, engagements, and humanitarian and disaster relief activities.

The Defence Force is a key part of New Zealand's broader security system, and works alongside other government agencies, including the GCSB and NZSIS, to protect and advance New Zealand's security interests. The External Sector is administered by four departments – the NZDF, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the New Zealand Customs Service. Collectively, these departments manage most of New Zealand's official relationships with the rest of the world and protect its security beyond the border.

Our operating environment

Defence planning and management must be undertaken in circumstances where there is a high degree of uncertainty.

New Zealand's geographic location results in some unique challenges. Being a small island state with significant maritime responsibilities has compelling implications for the specialist military equipment we require. New Zealand's Search and Rescue Region is one of the largest in the world, spanning over 30 million square kilometres. New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone is the 5th largest in the world. Many of the operations in support of regional and global security are expeditionary and must be supported over long distances.

Adding value to New Zealand's security, resilience and wellbeing

The Living Standards Framework is a Treasury-developed tool that emphasises the diversity of outcomes that are meaningful for New Zealanders. The NZDF provides value to the community, nation and world through the four capitals of the Living Standards Framework.

Natural Capital

The NZDF contributes to the sustainable use and awareness of the environment for the current and future wellbeing of New Zealanders, through the monitoring and surveillance of the maritime environment, including the Southern Ocean and New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone.

Human Capital

The NZDF contributes to the personal, social and economic wellbeing of New Zealanders, through the generation of a skilled and diverse workforce and through stewardship roles with New Zealand youth and communities.

Social Capital

The NZDF protects the New Zealand way of life through providing security to democratic norms and values.

The NZDF safeguards this social capital into the future by maintaining military capabilities which can respond to a broad range of security events.

Financial and Physical Capital

The NZDF protects New Zealand's financial and physical assets, and ensures that New Zealand's economic prosperity is sustained and remains resilient.


The NZDF invests in military infrastructure and equipment across a diverse range of New Zealand communities.

The NZDF and Te Tiriti o Waitangi – Partnership

The NZDF is committed to improving outcomes for Māori and meeting its partnership obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi. The NZDF Māori Strategic Framework (Kia Eke) continues to be developed and implemented to advance the rate of bicultural competency throughout all levels of the force. The NZDF's Bicultural Policy provides guidance to develop the cultural skills and knowledge of all personnel and staff within the organisation, aimed specifically at Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te reo Māori, kawa, and tikanga.

The NZDF established a Senior Māori Advisor role in October 2020 to support the development of plans that meet its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and requirements contained within the Public Service Act 2020. The single Services continue to develop plans to better support Māori-Crown relationships.

The NZDF provides opportunities for all members of the Defence Force to learn te reo Māori and tikanga. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is covered in some single Service courses, however this needs to be developed further to better afford opportunities across the whole of NZDF that is integrated and common.



Examples of actions occurring throughout the NZDF are as:

- Te reo Māori classes are available within camps, bases and at headquarters locations. This is either provided by marae staff, volunteers within speaker communities and/or an external provider. Full immersion te reo Māori programmes are also available on application.
- New Zealand Defence Force service personnel are exposed to te reo Māori (words, some comprehension, mihi mihi and waiata) during formal coursing conducted throughout their career.
- Single Services conduct wānanga and noho marae, focussing on te reo Māori, tikanga and kawa. Services also conduct wānanga for Kaikaranga and Mau Rākau.
- Planning continues to support Whāinga Amorangi Organisational Plan, Phase One.
- The NZDF and single Services have updated their respective logos to improve the balance between te reo Māori and English names.
- The NZDF has developed signage standards that align to Te Puni Kōkiri Māori-English Bilingual Signage guidelines.

Operation Protect

TASK UNIT NORTH

Auckland

18 MIQFs

looking after 3,701 returnees

TASK UNIT CENTRAL

Hamilton

3 MIQFs

looking after 275 returnees

Rotorua

3 MIQFs

looking after 350 returnees

Wellington

2 MIQFs

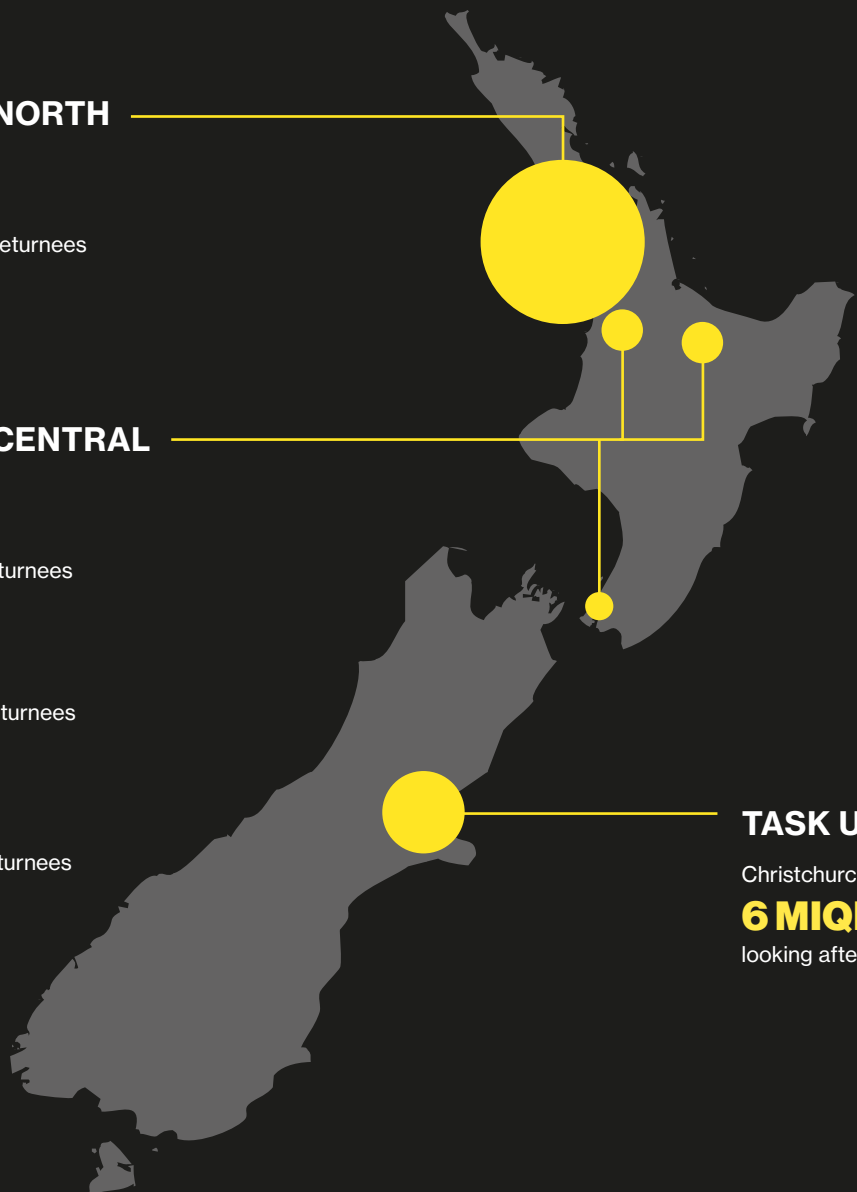
looking after 160 returnees

TASK UNIT SOUTH

Christchurch

6 MIQFs

looking after 899 returnees



4,179

NZDF personnel were tasked in support of the Government's action against COVID-19 over 12 months

DAILY COMMITMENTS

ALL-OF-GOVERNMENT

17

Personnel

Planning and Logistics personnel supporting the All-of-Government response group

JOINT HEAD OF MIQ OPERATIONS

1

Senior officer

Management of MIQ is from within MBIE and jointly lead by MBIE and NZDF

COMMAND AND CONTROL

55

Personnel

The NZDF leadership cohort dedicated to the COVID-19 response

REGIONAL ISOLATION QUARANTINE COMMAND CENTRES (RIQCC)

33

Personnel

These command centres coordinate the managed isolation and quarantine facilities in Auckland, central New Zealand and southern New Zealand

MANAGED ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE FACILITIES (MIQFS)

789

Personnel

These personnel are working shifts or are off shift in the 31 managed isolation and quarantine facilities

TASKS COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

REGIONAL LOCKDOWN VEHICLE CONTROL POINTS

206

Personnel

Assisting NZ Police during the three Auckland regional lockdowns

MARITIME SECURITY

82

Personnel

Assisting NZ Customs at ports around NZ to assist with compliance checking

MARITIME SECURITY

41

Flying hours

Surveillance of vessels entering NZ territorial waters

REPATRIATION TO VANUATU

122

Passengers

RSE workers and High Commissioner's family

ASSISTANCE TO REGIONAL NEIGHBOURS

7,000^{KG}

COVID PPE

Transported to Solomon Islands and Timor Leste



CASE STUDY - OPERATION PROTECT

Doing it for New Zealand

Ordinary Electronic Technician Jacob Burkhard, 21, knew he and his mates would be staffing a Managed Isolation Facility at some point. He was looking forward to it.

OET Burkhard did two weeks at the Holiday Inn at Auckland Airport. "It was my first time doing this," he says. "When you've been trade training for six months, it's kind of exciting to do something for the country. You feel useful, you feel like you're having an impact on what the country is doing."

OET Burkhard's main role was in security. "We ran the front gate, checked everyone that came in, and processed positive patients who had been referred to us. We'd confirm who was on board, brief the driver, and send them through. We'd take people out for smokes and walks. It was almost non-stop."

“

It's knowing that the people in MIQF are safe. We're not fans of the lockdown, and the sooner it's over the better. But these people couldn't isolate at home, and had to come here. It's good to be able to help.

Jacob Burkhard
Ordinary Electronic Technician

CASE STUDY - OPERATION PROTECT

It's like being on operations

As the manager of the Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facility (MIQF) at the Sudima Hotel, Christchurch, Staff Sergeant Heath Palatchie says the job has similar aspects to an overseas operation.

Imagine controlling humanitarian or medical support activities on deployment, he says. "You've got civilians arriving in bulk requiring direction, security staff doing their thing, medics doing theirs, collaboration with NGO agencies and you're overseeing the site. It has an operational theme and you have to look at it that way."

He's the Artificer Vehicle Mechanic at 3 Workshop Company in Burnham and this Operation Protect task is not something he's used to. "I'm a mechanic by trade. I had 200-odd rooms with people, making sure they are safe." He's had his share of challenges among the returnees in his six-week tours of duty, including domestic quarrels, autistic and ASD children, people refusing for religious reasons to eat the food provided, and those who struggle to live in a four-star hotel as their last accommodation was a garage. That said, he also got to meet Olympic shotput athlete Tom Walsh.

SSGT Palatchie says he has had good crews, and the simplest way to ease the work is to get to know the staff, he says. "I talk to the staff daily, find out what they do in the weekend. I also got to know the Infection Prevention and Control people well, because they have good advice when it comes to the final sign-off. Dad jokes and jumping in to help where I could, even if it's getting the food out.

"Before the Delta variant, I would get out in the exercise yard, talk to returnees and see how they were. You have to keep morale high, because it's not as if you can break away after hours and the days can be really long."

One of his platoon members has done five rotations this year in a MIQF. "And he's been professional the whole way through. He's away from his normal job, away from his partner or shiftwork, and the unit has a number of young men and women like that."

Balancing work-life can be difficult.

"My wife has done a rotation this year as well, and we've got a 10-year-old who has indirectly been involved with 18 weeks of disruption. There's also balancing the needs of the unit. I'm often doing admin, quarterly reports, answering emails while in the facility. I have to spare a thought for those who have more than one dependent and complete rotations, to balance this; in some ways I get off lightly."

He says the work has opened his eyes – and developed his skills – in dealing with situations he's never come across before. "We've had over 180,000 people come through the hotels. It's been a challenge, but it's been a good challenge. Everyone takes a crack at it, everyone has to share the load and I have to take my turn at the end of the day."



“

My wife has done a rotation this year as well, and we've got a 10-year-old who has indirectly been involved with 18 weeks of disruption. There's also balancing the needs of the unit. I'm often doing admin, quarterly reports, answering emails while in the facility. I have to spare a thought for those who have more than one dependent and complete rotations, to balance this; in some ways I get off lightly.

Staff Sergeant Heath Palatchie
Manager Sudima Hotel MIQF, Christchurch



CASE STUDY

Evacuation from Kabul

In August 2021 Taliban forces in Afghanistan captured Kabul, the culmination of a military offensive against the Afghan government.

A Royal New Zealand Air Force C-130 Hercules, with about 80 personnel, was deployed to the United Arab Emirates from where our evacuation operations were based. We worked alongside our partner nations and other agencies to support the evacuation of New Zealand and Australian nationals from Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul.

The three missions were successful, with hundreds of evacuees being flown to the United Arab Emirates for onward travel, facilitated by other agencies.

“

We worked alongside agencies and partner nations to evacuate New Zealanders, their families and other visa holders in Afghanistan. This was truly a multi-agency effort in collaboration with partner nations. We were pleased to get this group of evacuees onto our Hercules aircraft and out to a safe base, and to have worked closely with our Australian counterparts on the return of other evacuees home to New Zealand.

Rear Admiral Jim Gilmour
Commander Joint Forces New Zealand



CASE STUDY

Exercise Urban Warrior

A former meat works near Ashburton becomes the scene of a simulated urban attack, when 94 soldiers from 2nd/1st Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment's Depot Company take over the site for a four-day training exercise.

Exercise Urban Warrior is part of Combat Corps Training (CCT), a 15-week course that aims to prepare soldiers to operate as effective members of a rifle section. Fresh from recruit training, and away from camp, the soldiers develop new skills, while also experiencing and practising operations in an unfamiliar and complex setting.

The exercise is as realistic as it can be to prepare soldiers for a real-life operation. Working in teams, the soldiers rotate through the four stages of the attack, using tactics they've learnt over the last few months, such as external movement and break-in, room clearance, corridor and stairwell drills, and a range of method of entry techniques. The final day culminates with a testing component in the form of a tactical phase where they are graded based on their competency.

“

Urban terrain demands adaptability, initiative and problem solving, not only at the individual soldier level, but at every level of command. Because of this, soldiers are taught both the hard skills required for urban operations, and the mind-set required to win. As no two urban environments are the same, soldiers need to problem-solve in order to adapt, overcome and be successful.

Major Matthew Blake
Officer Commanding Depot Company



CASE STUDY

Navy's presence in South East Asia

The Navy's regeneration of its South East Asia deployments is one of the high points for the service in 2021.

With the introduction of new capabilities with HMNZS Te Kaha's Frigate Systems Upgrade, and the first operational deployment for HMNZS Aotearoa, 2021's Operation Crucible saw the Navy reengaging with multiple countries and partners across three months. The mission involved the deployment of approximately 270 Navy and Air Force personnel, including a medical doctor as well as medics.

As a Naval Task Group, Te Kaha and Aotearoa – with an embarked Seasprite SH-2G(I) helicopter – conducted air defence exercises with France, and carried out numerous Replenishment at Sea manoeuvres with the United States, Australia and Singapore. New Zealand was invited to join the United Kingdom's Carrier Strike Group, featuring HMS Queen Elizabeth, before participating in Exercise Bersama Gold near Singapore. The exercise involves the Five Powers Defence Arrangement forces – United Kingdom, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand – in a war-at-sea scenario.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the FPDA HMNZS Aotearoa took part in a flypast and vessel display ceremony at the conclusion of Bersama Gold.

“

The opportunity to deploy back to Asia was a significant step in Naval Combat Force operations.

Commander Brock Symmons
Commanding Officer HMNZS Te Kaha



CASE STUDY

Success for CTF 150

For the first time, New Zealand has taken command of the Combined Maritime Forces' (CMF) Combined Task Force 150 (CTF 150) in Bahrain, with the team hitting success early into their tenure.

In July 2021 Captain Brendon Clark RNZN received the transfer of command from the Canadian Armed Forces. He and a 16-strong multi-national team are tasked with tackling counter-terrorism operations in the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, coordinating naval and air assets for potential intercepts. Their mission is to disrupt criminal and terrorist organisations and their related illicit activities, including the movement of personnel, weapons, narcotics and charcoal.

In September, in two separate intercepts within a week, French Marine Nationale frigate FS Languedoc searched two dhows suspected of smuggling and seized more than 5,000kg of hash and 166kg of methamphetamine. The illegal cargo had a combined value of more than \$US7 million (\$NZ10.1m). Languedoc was conducting patrols in support CTF 150 when it seized the drugs.

“

The seizure of narcotics from dhows is testament to the strong partnership between Combined Maritime Forces, the Marine Nationale and CTF 150.

Captain Brendon Clark
Commander CTF 150



CASE STUDY

The tactical drop

Evading surface-to-air missiles, flying low over unfamiliar terrain dropping pallets onto drop zones and flying in formation are all part of No. 40 Squadron's regular tactical exercises with the C-130 Hercules.

The exercise involves a range of flight training over unfamiliar and challenging terrain and coordinating pallet drops into drop zones, testing the crew's proficiency in tactical flying and dropping loads so they can be ready to assist in resupply, humanitarian aid and disaster relief or search and rescue operations whenever required by the New Zealand Government.

The crew have to compute the release point for the loads dropped and direct the pilots to put the aircraft in the right position to make sure they are in the right place for the drop.

But they also have to contend with a Smoky SAM (surface-to-air missile), which simulates a surface-to-air threat and puts the crew in a position where they have to react to that threat and manoeuvre the aircraft away from it.

“

The exercise is about as real as we can make it in New Zealand. It can be difficult, we have a lot of things to contend with, whether it's other traffic, the wind, weather conditions and also the loads and the size of the drop zone and how easy it is to get to the drop zones.

Flight Lieutenant Adam Palmer
Air Warfare Officer No. 40 Squadron



CASE STUDY

The value of Reservists

The Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment has stood up their Reserve Support Company in the South Island.

'Charlie' company mirrors that of its South Island colleagues 2/1 RNZIR Support Company, with a skill set of reconnaissance and surveillance, snipers, Regimental Signals and Fire Support Group (FSG) elements.

It allows previous and former serving Regular Force infantry soldiers the opportunity to re-engage and use their skill sets. It also provides soldiers releasing from Regular Force the opportunity to remain engaged and involved with the Army.

“

Being able to offer a Regular Force soldier an opportunity to transition outside of the Army with an opportunity to maintain links and a sense of belonging to the New Zealand Defence Force is powerful.

**Major Chris Allen,
Officer Commanding Charlie Company**



CASE STUDY

Flood relief in the South Island

Two extreme weather events on either side of the South Island in 2021 required callouts for the NZ Army and Royal New Zealand Air Force to assist in evacuations, rescues and food and water distribution to cut-off communities.

Canterbury received two-to-three months' worth of rain in the space of two days, as much as 288mm. The lightning-pace change of conditions caught three motorists and put their lives in immediate danger, resulting in an NH90 helicopter rescue mission that saved their lives.

One man had abandoned his vehicle and climbed a tree, but attempted to swim to shore. The helicopter crew found him clinging to a branch, and he was pulled to safety by the helicopter loadmaster, using sheer strength, bear-hugging him until they could be dropped on dry land.

On the West Coast the following month, soldiers working alongside emergency teams helped with the evacuation of more than 800 properties and 2,000 residents in the district after the Buller River burst its banks. The flood flows were the largest of any New Zealand river recorded in almost a century.

“

New Zealand Defence Force vehicles have been critical in evacuating residents from inaccessible locations and adverse conditions. The efforts of our soldiers have been noted across the Civil Defence community with our soldiers at the front line doing all they can to support the people.

Captain Jake Faber
Army Liaison, Ashburton



CASE STUDY

Navy assists with Pacific vaccine roll-out

When it comes to COVID prevention, it's often a case of big country, big picture. But what about our smallest populations in the 'realm' of New Zealand?

In July 2021 the Tokelau Islands were able to start their COVID-19 vaccination programme thanks to a 5,000 nautical mile trip by Offshore Patrol Vessel HMNZS Wellington. The ship and crew delivered enough Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines for around 1,100 people on Fakaofu, Nukunonu and Atafu atolls of Tokelau, as well as 40 people on Palmerston Island in the Cook Islands.

It meant embarking with a cold storage facility on board, and an Army Pharmacy Officer who constantly monitored the state of the vaccines. In the case of Palmerston Island, the vaccines were transferred to a Cook Island patrol boat, who had the local knowledge to get through the reefs.

Kelihiano Kalolo, Ulu-o-Tokelau (head of state Tokelau), said it was a feeling of relief to see the vaccines arrive. "Thank you very much. We really appreciate the help of New Zealand."

“

This 5,000-nautical mile journey is no small undertaking and demonstrates New Zealand's commitment to our neighbours in Tokelau.

Lieutenant Commander Pip Davies
Commanding Officer HMNZS Wellington



CASE STUDY

Deft fire control

The Royal New Zealand Artillery (RNZA) is at the threshold of generational capability enhancement.

This will re-assert the RNZA's ability to make decisive, innovative and valuable contributions to future NZDF operations; specifically precise, lethal fires and counter-fires protection which will allow ground forces to win at close combat.

2021 saw the delivery of a modern, digitally-enabled Fire Control System (FCS) for the RNZA. This system will enhance the ability of fire units to command, control and coordinate Joint Fires and Effects on the battlespace in support of operations.

2022 will see the RNZA receive four AN/TPQ-49a Weapon Locating Radars, designed to be set up in under 20 minutes. Functions include sense, warn and locate, counter-fire acquisition and Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) detection and tracking when upgraded with the required software.

“

This will re-assert the RNZA's ability to make decisive, innovative and valuable contributions to future NZDF operations; specifically precise, lethal fires and counter-fires protection which will allow ground forces to win at close combat.

Major Ollie Lynn
Capability Manager Joint Fires



CASE STUDY

International sanctions

In April the Government committed a P-3K2 Orion maritime patrol aircraft in support of United Nations Security Council sanctions against North Korea.

Royal New Zealand Air Force personnel on board detected and reported illicit ship-to-ship transfers and vessels of interest this year.

The sanctions are intended to persuade North Korea to denuclearise and abandon its ballistic missile capabilities. The recent deployment followed previous deployments in October 2020, October 2019 and September 2018.

During patrols, aircrew on the P-3K2 locate vessels of interest with the aim of detecting violations of the sanctions such as illicit ship-to-ship transfers of restricted goods such as oil, coal and iron ore.

Air Component Commander Air Commodore Shaun Sexton said the patrols were flown over international waters in North Asia.

“Our P-3K2 aircraft and the personnel that operate and support them, are extremely well suited to this mission.

“Air Force people welcome the opportunity to make an important contribution to sanctions monitoring by providing information on potential breaches that can be used by the international community.”

The aircraft was based at Kadena Air Base, Japan, during the deployment.

“

Air Force people welcome the opportunity to make an important contribution to sanctions monitoring by providing information on potential breaches that can be used by the international community.

Air Commodore Shaun Sexton
Air Component Commander



CASE STUDY

Kiwis help in Bahamas search and rescue

In July 2021 the New Zealand crew training on the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft in Jacksonville, Florida, got involved in a dramatic rescue of a group of Haitians, including a baby, after their vessel capsized off the coast of Grand Bahama.

The Royal New Zealand Air Force No. 5 Squadron crew were on board two US Navy P-8As on a maritime intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance exercise with US Navy instructors when a radio channel lit up with a distress call from the United States Coast Guard.

In the United States, the US Navy does not generally get involved in search and rescue tasks, but in New Zealand No. 5 Squadron's role includes year-round, fast-notice search and rescue tasks. It meant the Kiwis were able to offer some of their own experience and insight into search options.

The capsized vessel was found initially on radar and then visually. Once the drift was assessed, both aircraft commenced a visual search for survivors in the water, unaware exactly how many people were involved, or what survival aids they might have had.

The Kiwi team briefed the observers in the windows on their duties upon seeing anything in the water, controlled the sensors, and coordinated the aircraft's search while the US Navy instructors focussed on communication and deconfliction with the other aircraft.

Sadly a Haitian woman and a boy died, while the survivors were taken back to land for treatment. The event was a bleak reminder of the importance of the job No. 5 Squadron currently do with P-3K2 Orions, and will continue to do with the P-8A Poseidons.

Eight No. 5 Squadron personnel and their families deployed to Jacksonville early last year to begin a three-year deployment working with P-8A Poseidon aircraft, training to be the first RNZAF instructors when the P-8As commence arrival into New Zealand in late 2022.

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It meant the Kiwis were able to offer some of their own experience and insight into search options.

**Flight Lieutenant Reece Tamariki
No. 5 Squadron**



CASE STUDY

HMINZS Te Mana readies for sea

With the arrival back in New Zealand of HMNZS Te Kaha in December, the focus for 2021 was sister ship HMNZS Te Mana and her Frigate System Upgrade in Esquimalt, Canada. The work includes upgraded and new surveillance and warfare countermeasures suites, plus the newly installed SeaCeptor missile.

In July the 'sailing crew' arrived in Esquimalt to become familiarised with the ship as it regenerated, with the Maritime Operational Evaluation Team working alongside the Ship's Company to ensure the crew were properly compliant with ship procedures and well-versed in core mariner skills, damage control, seamanship and individual departmental training.

After 938 days of refitting, Te Mana went to sea in late September for her Safety and Readiness Check, followed by several weeks of sea trials.

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HMNZS Te Mana got her first taste of rough weather and big swells; she pushed through successfully and achieved the trials.

Lieutenant Richard Horne
HMNZS Te Mana Ship's Information Officer



CASE STUDY

Water tanks to the Chathams

Ten 1,000 litre water tanks were distributed by the Te Ha O Te Ora O Wharekauri Trust (Māori Health Services) and will benefit the community garden, families living on rural properties and the Saint Barnabas Shelter at the local cemetery.

C-130 pilot Squadron Leader Matt Rieper said the delivery to Tuuta Airport was part of a flying programme the squadron was undertaking to maintain crew currencies.

“We have to keep our aircrews current in a range of flying competencies so it was great to be able to use one of these flights to go to the Chatham Islands and deliver these water tanks.

“For some places in New Zealand like the Chathams it is difficult for them to freight these types of things so we were really happy to help out,” he said.

Paul and Donna Kerridge donated the tanks after forming a close bond with the community through several visits over the past 10 years.

The retired Flight Sergeant said on his last trip to the Island to lay his friend to rest, he and Donna noticed there was a real need for water tanks in the community.

“If you run out of fresh water on the Island you can’t just pick up the phone and dial a water truck to come fill up your tank. In many cases you just have to wait until it rains again.”

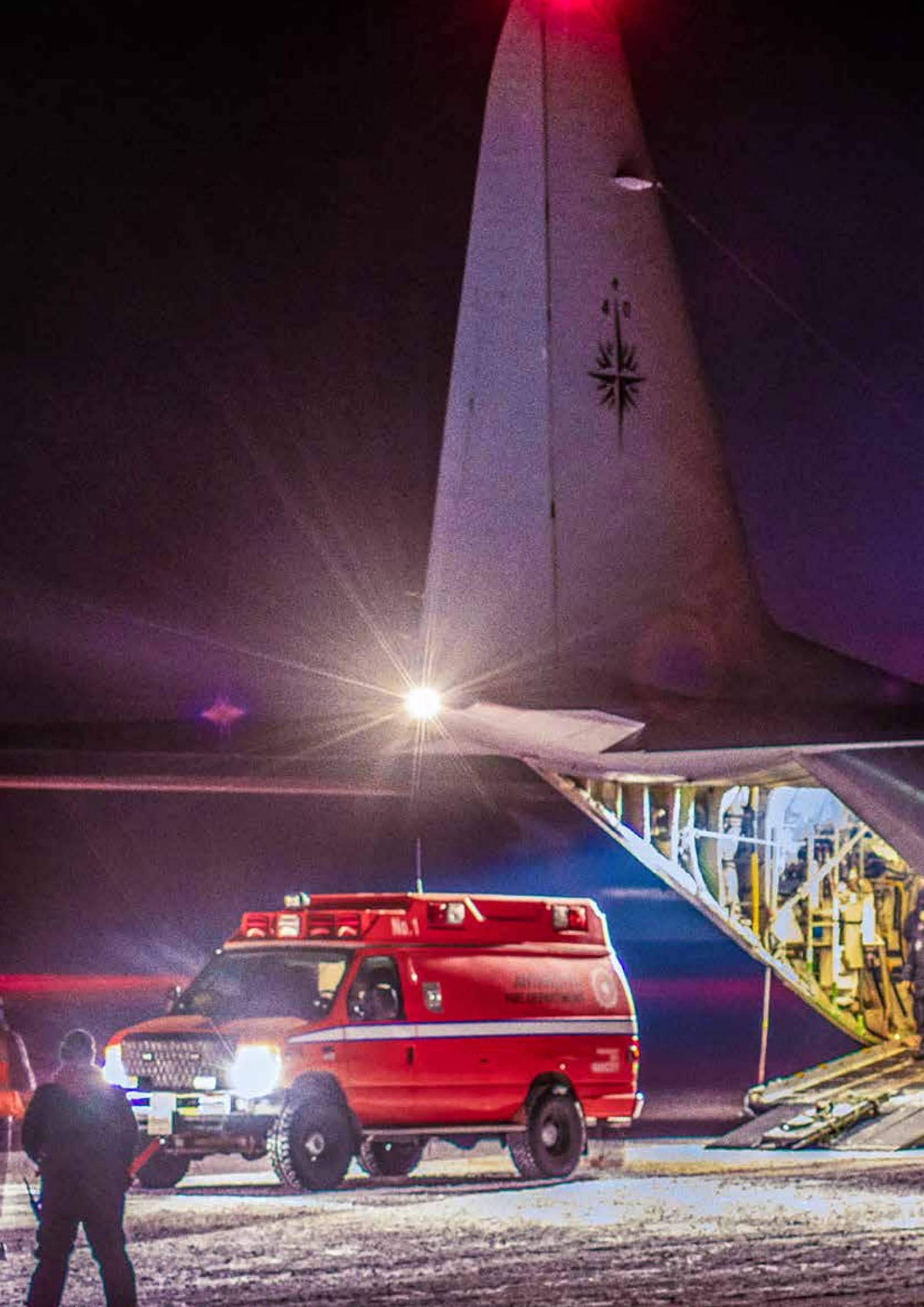
Mrs Kerridge said having access to the tanks mean that those who already have a water supply can also have a garden supply for water at home, she said.

“The tanks will make such a big difference – for the community garden especially. Fresh vegetables on the island are extremely expensive, so being able to grow them for the older people in town is important.”

“

We have to keep our aircrews current in a range of flying competencies so it was great to be able to use one of these flights to go to the Chatham Islands and deliver these water tanks.

Squadron Leader Matt Rieper
C-130 Pilot



CASE STUDY

Night vision first in Antarctica

For the first time, the Royal New Zealand Air Force used night vision technology to land on the ice runway in Antarctica, in order to execute a medical evacuation from America's McMurdo Base.

In July 2021, when there is no daylight in Antarctica, the C-130 Hercules landed successfully at Phoenix airfield, having been delayed a week due to bad weather on the frozen continent.

The patient, who is a member of the United States Antarctic Program, was not suffering from life-threatening injuries, but needed further medical treatment on arrival into New Zealand.

Flying to Antarctica is a high-risk mission because of the lack of divert airfields, with crews having to make a decision to proceed past the point of safe return. The crews train using night vision goggles but had never done it in Antarctica. The entire round-trip journey takes around 16 hours of flight time.

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This is probably one of the more complicated missions that we would see an aircraft with a C-130 crew have to do. We really appreciate the support the NZDF has given this American citizen to get off the ice and back to medical treatment.

Colonel Ian Murray
United States' Defense Attaché

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