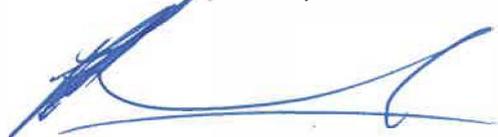


**DECLARATION OF OPERATIONAL SERVICE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE
VETERANS' SUPPORT ACT 2014**

In accordance with section 9 of the Veterans' Support Act 2014 (the Act), I hereby give the following notice.

Notice

1. I declare service:
 - in the Lao People's Democratic Republic as defined, from 1 July 1997 up to and including 31 May 2003, to be operational service for the purposes of the Act.
Lao People's Democratic Republic. The geographic area of Laos includes the sovereign territory incorporated at independence in 1953. Laos is a landlocked country and its territory is defined by all relevant boundary agreements with neighbouring countries including: Thailand, Myanmar, China, Cambodia, and Vietnam.
2. This declaration covers:
 - members of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) serving with the NZDF;
 - members of the NZDF on secondment with the armed forces of other nations; and
 - any person seconded to the NZDF with the permission of the Chief of Defence Force.
3. The persons covered by this declaration shall have access to the entitlements and services specified in the Act and the Veterans' Support Regulations 2014.
4. I am satisfied that there was a significant risk of harm to those that undertook this service, as required by the Act.



Dated this *12* day of October 2020
Hon RON MARK, Minister for Veterans