



Deployment review

We are reviewing deployments since 1 April 1974 to determine if they should be considered Qualifying Operational Service.

We're doing this work to make sure that support is available to those who the Government intended us to support through the Veterans' Support Act 2014.

Deployments we're reviewing

We're reviewing over 100 deployments.

Deployments without coverage that may meet the required risk thresholds

This could include deployments that have no cover.

An example of an area are under consideration is deployments to the Gulf Region.

Deployments declined coverage before 2009 that warrant reconsideration

This includes operations declined coverage before 2009 under the old legislation, which may meet the new risk criteria in the 2014 legislation.

Examples of areas under consideration are:

- Pakistan
- Rwanda.

Deployments considered and declined since the 2014 Act that may meet the eligibility criteria

These deployments may have a single factor which indicates personnel may be at risk from a threat (either environmental or operational). For example a Centre for Disease Control health warning might be in place.

It is unlikely the overall threat assessment will meet the required threshold, but we are carrying out due diligence and reviewing these deployments.

Deployments we're not reviewing

We're not reviewing:

- operations before 1 April 1974, as everyone who served in NZ's Armed Forces before this date has Qualifying

Routine Service and thus eligibility for support and services from Veterans' Affairs

- operations not conducted as part of NZDF Output 5.1 (Military Operations in Support of Rules-Based International Order). The way that Qualifying Operational Service is defined in the legislation does not cover business as usual.

Deployments that have been reviewed

Deployments declined coverage before 2009 that warranted reconsideration

- Namibia — between 1 September 1989 up to and including 31 March 1990
- Mozambique — between 1 February 1994 up to and including 30 June 2005
- Laos — between 1 July 1997 up to and including 31 May 2003.

Significant deployments without appropriate coverage

Regardless of mission or operation, veterans are eligible for support from Veterans' Affairs if they served in:

- the Indian Ocean on HMNZS Canterbury or HMNZS Waikato while under the operational command of the Royal Navy Task Group — between 21 June 1982 and 20 September 1983
- the Sinai Peninsula — between 25 April 1982 and 30 September 2022
- the Former Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia — between 1 January 1992 and 31 July 2019
- Timor-Leste — between 1 August 1999 and 31 July 2019
- the Solomon Islands — between 1 April 2000 and 31 July 2019.

Deployments with coverage where there needed to be a review of the specified period or a reconsideration of risk

Regardless of mission or operation, veterans are eligible for support from Veterans' Affairs if they served in:

- Syria — between 1 April 1974 and 30 September 2022
- Lebanon — between 1 April 1978 and 30 September 2022
- Iraq — between 1 July 1988 and 30 June 2022
- Angola — between 1 July 1991 and 30 June 1999
- Cambodia between 1 October 1991 and 30 April 2005
- Somalia — between 1 January 1993 and 31 March 1995, between September 2011 and 30 April 2016
- Sierra Leone — between 1 August 1998 and 30 June 2005
- South Sudan — between 9 July 2011 and 30 June 2022
- Mali — between 1 March 2018 and 31 March 2019.

How we're reviewing deployments

We'll look at each deployment and consider whether it meets a threat threshold. To do this, we'll work with our colleagues in:

- GEOINT New Zealand
- Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand
- Strategic Commitments and Engagement Branch NZDF
- NZDF Health
- NZDF Personnel Archives and Medals.

Once all the deployments in a tranche have been considered, the Head of Veterans' Affairs will advise the Chief of

Defence Force of the outcome.

The Chief of Defence Force will then recommend to the Minister for Veterans if any declarations should be made or changed.

The Minister for Veterans will decide whether to declare deployments as Qualifying Operational Service.

Have your say

If you feel there is a deployment that should be considered against the criteria for Qualifying Operational Service, and you don't see it listed above, please contact us to suggest deployments that we should consider as part of the review.

Have your say (<https://www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz/about-veterans-affairs/our-programmes/deployment-review/have-your-say/>)

In this section

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