

# ARMYNEWS

ISSUE 533  
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**THE UKRAINE  
EFFORT**  
Helping a country in dire need

**TRAINING  
OFFICERS**  
OCS puts them to the test

**HELPING  
OUR PACIFIC  
NEIGHBOURS**  
Lending a hand in Fiji



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Cover: Officer Cadet Jasmine Hill on  
Exercise Nemesis.  
Photo: CPL Naomi James.



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PREFERENCE TO SERVE  
Trust, train... and treat people well.

There's a feeling since  
conducting and stepping  
back from Operation  
Protect that the Army and  
its purpose has changed...  
but I ask, has it? Over  
these past few years most  
of the world has responded  
to a novel but viral foe,  
Afghanistan fell to the  
Taliban after 20 years of  
fighting, and more recently,  
a new war started,  
resulting in widespread  
ruin of Ukraine. With all  
this and more going on –  
what really changed in our  
purpose and function?

Despite the significant effort  
assisting Government through  
the Covid border response and  
security, we unquestioningly  
managed our responsibilities  
and reacted to those limited  
contingencies both near and  
far. We know it took a toll, some  
of which remains present in the  
tempo of our work and attrition  
of people – but overall we've  
prepared for and done the job we  
train for. My challenge to us is – do  
we have the right mind-set, culture  
and capability to re-engage with  
our work?  
As we've returned to relative  
normality, I'm hearing a waning  
purpose, the hint of personal

frustration and a creeping-  
cynicism in small parts of our  
force. Appreciating that everyone  
is facing adversity in the current  
social-economic climate –  
I challenge the negative narrative.  
Times are tough for some – but  
they are tough for everyone.  
People are busy, finance is turning  
penny-wise in both policy and in  
our back-pockets. Something to  
remember is that issues faced  
here are not uniquely Army's or  
NZDF's, as much as it is a wider  
societal and possibly global  
challenge.  
As times get tough I think  
we need to focus on what we  
have, not what we lack. I reason  
that there's value in creating  
opportunity, reducing impact  
where it can be, and making use  
of the energy and means to good  
effect. We must understand what  
we are and have as an Army – that  
means employing values; using an  
array of problem-solving tools and  
resources to reassure ourselves  
or those around us. Trust in the  
legacy of good-soldiering, service  
and sacrifice – all the things that  
are bedrock to a Land Army  
profession.  
As we move from pausing to  
a reset force, I would offer a few  
things to reflect on while shifting  
the narrative to what we will do,  
and will be!  
• **Trust in the Profession.** The  
profession of arms has been  
around for a while, ours for

at least 177 years. This is  
not our first rodeo. Ours is a  
reputable force at the service  
of its population; it trains and  
disciplines itself; it manages  
doctrine, force-design, and  
outputs and continually  
improves; and it maintains the  
trust and confidence of its  
political leaders. *What's your  
part in this?*  
• **Train fundamentals.** A friend  
in the US Army of the Pacific  
recently commented to me  
about what an Army is and  
does – “we create readiness;  
we train our soldiers for their  
worst day,” he said. To me you  
can't do the collective, complex  
or combined things if you  
can't function as competent  
individuals and teams. Be good  
at your job is my message. Do  
the fundamentals well – and all  
else will follow. *Think, shoot,  
move, communicate, medicate,  
and operate.*  
• **Treat people well.** Whether it's  
connection between teams,  
leaders and subordinates,  
career management, or  
collaboration in our many  
parts – a common thread is just  
about fairness. While the golden  
rule applies always – I would  
scale up to the platinum rule  
of treating others the way they  
want to be treated. *How are you  
leading your people?*



In closing, I set out to expose an  
unsettling trend. It's ok to question  
and seek answers – but don't give  
in to negativity. Much is going on  
in the world and across the nation,  
but we are not in crisis. Take time  
to look outside our situation and  
understand a wider purview –  
while ensuring we use every effort  
to help our own.  
Focus on the big things – the  
profession we chose, the training  
we need, and the people we lead.

WO1 Wiremu Moffitt  
16<sup>th</sup> Sergeant Major of the Army

EOD  
ASSESSMENT  
WEEK

Are you looking  
to pursue a new  
challenge? Do you  
want to be part  
of small dynamic  
and operationally-  
focussed team?  
Does working with  
new and emerging  
technologies,  
highly professional  
and motivated  
soldiers, and,  
explosives, sound  
like the workplace  
for you?



E Sqn (EOD), 1NZSAS Regt is  
requesting nominations for the  
upcoming EOD trade assessment.  
Successful candidates will  
be fit, motivated, and highly  
disciplined soldiers capable of  
decisive action in complex and  
dynamic environments. You will  
also meet the following minimum  
requirements:  
• Hold the rank of Private (Band 4)  
• Have a full class one vehicle  
license  
• Hold a confidential vetting  
security clearance  
• Have a minimum medical grade  
of A4, G2, Z1 (RFL minimum G2)  
• Complete the assessment  
week and an evaluation by an  
NZDF psychologist as suitable  
to operate as an IEDD team  
member.

If you are successful you will  
complete the following initial  
training:  
• Basic EOD course (12 weeks)  
• Supporting Elements Special  
Operations Training (2 Weeks)  
Once qualified your future  
postings could include support  
to domestic, expeditionary, or  
special operations with locations in  
Auckland, Linton, Wellington, and  
Christchurch.  
Further training and opportunities  
include:  
• IEDD Team Leader Qualification  
• Tactical and Assault IEDD  
Training and Support to Special  
Operations  
• Advanced and High Threat IEDD  
Training  
• CBRNE Training and Operations  
International Training and  
Operational Activities.

If you want to find out more or  
apply, visit:  
<http://org/nzsof/LP/Recruiting.aspx> and  
download your AFNZ 3 today.  
For further information, please  
contact SSM, E Sqn (EOD).  
[ESQN.EOD.SSM@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:ESQN.EOD.SSM@nzdf.mil.nz)  
For officers wanting to pursue  
a career in EOD please  
contact XO, E Sqn (EOD) for  
further information.  
[ESQN.EOD.XO@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:ESQN.EOD.XO@nzdf.mil.nz)  
Nominations close:  
Mon 05 September 2022.  
EOD Assessment week is  
26 to 30 September 2022.





# A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF OF ARMY

Over the last two years, with a focus on domestic support to other government agencies, it has been easy to lose sight of our core role and the wider utility that Army provides to both the NZDF and Government.

But if we look at how over the past ten or so months we have been employed, and the types of tasks we have been required to undertake in addition to Operation Protect, the value of an Army that has broad utility and is both scalable and responsive is obvious.

Ongoing deployments to South Korea, the Middle East and South Sudan. Our contributions to the Kabul evacuation operation, security in the Solomons, disaster relief in Tonga, and recent partner capacity building efforts in the Pacific are all examples of the wide variety of tasks we must be prepared to undertake. Add to this, the recent contribution to our nation's Ukraine response of Army staff officers, intelligence operators, a logistics detachment and most recently the Artillery Training Team and it becomes clear that, as an Army, we must remain capable of undertaking tasks ranging from combat through to delivering security, peace support, humanitarian assistance, defence engagement, and aid to civil authorities.

And as we prepare for and then respond to the operations required of us by Government we must remain cognisant that, regardless of the mission, each deployment our forces undertake is unique and will be shaped by factors such as geography, the human terrain, the type of tactics and technology that adversaries employ, and the increasingly pervasive nature of information. Our forces must be able to both maximise the opportunities and advantages presented by the human, information and physical aspects of the land environment within which we are deployed and eliminate, reduce or mitigate the challenges they pose.

As we look to the scope and conduct of regeneration be guided by the absolute need to be an Army that is both agile and highly adaptive.

Agility underpins our ability to perform a broad range of functions, and lies at the heart of our Army's broad strategic utility. It is achieved through the development of highly skilled, resilient soldiers who are as equally adept at moving among, interacting with and reassuring a population under stress as they are, where circumstances require, at applying extreme physical violence. It demands commanders who are flexible, decisive, inspirational and knowledgeable and that we maintain a breadth of capabilities that are widely employable across the spectrum of conflict.

Our adaptiveness as an Army acknowledges that the character of future conflict cannot be predicted accurately and therefore we must prepare for the most complex and demanding operations whilst maintaining the ability to adapt rapidly to specific operational requirements. A balance of capabilities that can be task organised appropriately for specific missions and tasks is key, and therefore the desired end state of regeneration.

**Major General John Boswell**  
Chief of Army



A member of the warrior party flanks the New Zealand contingent.

## NZDF MARCHERS AND WARRIORS WOW CROWD AT QUEEN’S JUBILEE PAGEANT

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and its taua, or warrior party, added a unique Kiwi spark to the military parade celebrating Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee in London.

The 40-strong party was among 2,000 military personnel taking part in the 3.2-kilometre march along The Birdcage and The Mall near Buckingham Palace on a cool and overcast Sunday, 5 June.

It was led by six Māori warriors who, bearing traditional weapons and playing the role of kiore, or runner scouts, searched the left and right flanks of the main body.

It proved a hit with the London crowd, which had just witnessed the ceremonial best from the British Armed Forces.

Taua member, the Navy’s Petty Officer Te Teira Maxwell, of Te Arawa, said the crowd was relatively quiet until they saw the NZDF marchers with the kiore moving out from the rest of the contingent.

“Then a big roar went up. It was an awesome experience,” he said.

“I’m pretty proud to be involved in such a celebration, and to represent the NZDF and the wider community of Rotorua and iwi Māori,” he said.

The taua was followed by flag-bearer, the Army’s Second Lieutenant Elese Russell, who had the best view of the reaction.

“It was unreal. When the warriors broke off the crowd went crazy. It was a very special moment.

“The energy of the crowd was amazing. I felt New Zealand really stood out and when the warriors took the lead it was very special.”

Contingent commander, the Navy’s Commander Kerry Tutty, said it was a fantastic moment for the contingent as it represented the NZDF and New Zealand celebrating Her Majesty’s 70-year reign.

“Walking down The Mall and the first lot of warriors break off

and the cheers just went up. I can imagine how fantastic this looked to the UK and the world.

“Another special moment was about two-thirds down The Mall and we heard ‘three cheers for the Commonwealth, hip hip hooray’. It was just so incredible.”

New Zealand military representatives have been attending royal jubilees since 1897, when a contingent was sent to Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee.

While in England, the contingent also played a role in the Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul’s Cathedral prior to the pageant and attended services at the Brockenhurst and Brookwood cemeteries, where New Zealand service people are buried.



Flag bearer Second Lieutenant Elese Russell.



Marchers enroute celebrate the jubilee.





# A DAY IN THE IDCC

By MAJ P

**The International Donor Coordination Centre (IDCC) is already buzzing with activity when I arrive at work at 8am.**

The facilitation of support in all its forms, to the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) is an ongoing and ever evolving task, as the quantities and technological complexity of military aid donations increases.

The multinational group has a core membership of predominantly NATO and FVEY partners, with numbers and nationalities growing and shrinking depending on direct involvement at the time. Safe to say though, the CP is always full and constantly humming with meetings, briefings and working groups.

Of the many functional areas within the IDCC, the Force Movement Control Centre (FMCC) is my primary workspace. The role of the FMCC is to facilitate uplift and onward movement of donations by nations that cannot do this themselves. This can be achieved through tactical airlift by New Zealand, Canadian or US means, by ground or rail, or even sea lift if required. The FMCC is also able to link into strategic air and sea lift assets from a number of nations, predominantly the US. As donations become available or offers of donations are made, my role is to filter offers and decide whether they need to go to a capability development team, to the J5 or J3 cell, or straight into the delivery hopper within the FMCC.

In the end, all of these decision-making pathways lead to equipment being delivered complete, on time and properly trained, to the AFU in order to keep them in the fight. The sheer scale and volume of the donations and requests is something that is difficult to explain through this medium. It is obvious however, that war is a voracious beast and this war is consuming

materiel on a scale I didn't quite expect, nor have I ever experienced in my service even on my previous deployment to Iraq.

It is a busy job, and I am always jumping between various cells, liaising, planning and executing tasks. As a relatively junior Major, to be routinely updating and back-briefing one to three-star level was quite eye opening, but something I feel well prepared for through the coursing I have done. It is also hugely rewarding as a logistician to see all that I have learned over the years being put into practice, real-time. The AFU are an incredibly adaptive and resilient force, so to be able to assist in giving them the tools they need to win on the battlefield is the most rewarding part of the job.

I would also like to give a shout out to the other NZDF staff in the IDCC. The members of the IDCC Mobile Team, who are out there on-site, preparing equipment to load and deliver, the air planners who are keeping our Herc in business and enabling the work that the IDCC does, and our SNO for representing the NZDF as a part of this massive coalition effort and wearing a number of hats within the IDCC including capability development, national liaison and planning and advisory roles. It's a great team to part of and a rewarding role to be filling.







# NZDF ARTILLERY TEAM TO TRAIN UKRAINIANS ALONGSIDE UK

**A New Zealand Defence Force artillery training team is training Ukrainian soldiers in using L119 105mm light field guns and dial sights for the weapons system.**

The training team, of up to 30 personnel, has been deployed for up to two months, and will instruct members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the United Kingdom. NZDF personnel will not be entering Ukraine.

The NZDF is also providing approximately 40 gun sights to Ukraine, along with 360 rounds of ammunition for training purposes.

16<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Dean Gerling said the training team had spent the days before deploying revising the equipment as well as the delivery of the instruction to people.

“The delivery of this instruction will be complicated by having to use translators and interpreters to ensure the technical side of artillery and gunnery can be portrayed in a manner the Ukrainian forces can understand.”

He said the ability for 16<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment and the wider Royal New Zealand Artillery team to deploy demonstrated the importance of their continued training over Operation Protect, but also since then.

“The School of Artillery has continued to conduct individual coursing in gunnery during Op Protect so that we have been able to maintain an individual based level of capability throughout the period of Covid-19.

“In addition, 16<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment has continued to conduct unit based training in those windows when people haven’t been on Op Protect to maintain a basic level of capability.”

LTCOL Gerling said the NZDF training team would be part of a wider UK team instructing in use of the light gun.

The NZDF team would be primarily focused on training orientation of the light guns and use of dial sites.

“All artillery equipment needs to be pointing in the right direction, and that orientation can ensure all of those light guns are pointing in parallel to each other, so we know the rounds are going to land on target,” he said.

“The dial site is a piece of equipment that is used to ensure the light gun is pointing individually in the right direction to achieve the desired effect at the target end,” he said.

The Artillery Training Team joins more than 60 other NZDF personnel deployed to the UK and Europe where they are working with international partners in support of Ukraine’s self-defence.

The Government previously approved the deployment of a Royal New Zealand Air Force C-130H Hercules aircraft and NZDF personnel to Europe to provide

intelligence, liaison, transportation and logistics support to the international community’s efforts to support Ukraine’s self-defence.

The NZDF’s New Zealand-based open-source intelligence capability has also been used, and military equipment has been donated to Ukraine.

New Zealand has also donated approximately \$15.7 million to purchase military equipment for Ukraine, and commercial satellite access for Ukrainian Defence Intelligence, and has rolled out sanctions targeting those associated with Russia’s invasion.

The Hercules and personnel have been continuing to fly missions around Europe transporting donated military aid.

Our deployed personnel include a logistics team based in Germany who are continuing to assist international efforts to cohere and coordinate the movement of donated military aid. They are working to ensure equipment donations are in accordance with Ukraine’s operational priorities, and are coordinating the logistics for donations and matching transport to aid consignments.



# What I do: EMERGENCY RESPONDER

Feel like a change of scenery? The Emergency Responder (formerly branded as Firefighter) trade is currently seeking fit and motivated personnel from across the NZ Army to take up the challenge of being a first responder.

As an Emergency Responder, you can expect to be highly trained across the spectrum of operations which include structural firefighting, medical co-response, hazardous substance incident response, motor vehicle crash response, vegetation firefighting and aircraft crash response. These skills will be put into action operationally at any of the three Emergency Response Troops across the country, where you can expect to be responding to incidents with no notice, while you are working on shift. If you want to be part of a trade that puts into action what they learn and practise, then this is the job for you.

## Sergeant Soane Tiseli has been fighting fires and doing everything else an emergency responder does for nearly 17 years.

“From a very young age I was always interested in working as a firefighter or along with other emergency organisations.

“On any given day our incidents can range from structure fires, bush fires, dealing with hazardous substances, motor vehicle accidents, and providing First Aid. Operationally our job is about helping people at their most vulnerable time.

“It also reminds me of how vulnerable we are as human beings and why time is very important on this earth. It’s about meeting new people coming in and seeing them grow and bettering themselves and knowing there’s hope for the future of the ER Sqn and NZ Army.”



## Warrant Officer Class Two Jared Davidson knows that at a moment’s notice he and his team must stop what they’re doing to respond to an incident.

“I like never knowing what a day might bring in this job. When we had the Army recruiting team visit my school and I saw that Firefighter (that was the trade name at the time) was an option, it seemed to resonate with me. I’d always been interested in joining the Army and this just seemed to fit.”

WO2 Davidson has been in the trade for more than 22 years, the last two years of which he has been the SSM in the unit that all three Army fire stations are a part of. He is also the current Head of Trade.

“I’m no longer a “coal face” ER soldier, but I approached training by attending PT first thing, routine admin/maintenance for the rest of the morning and trade training in the afternoon. As I knew my team, I would focus the training around skills that hadn’t been touched in a while, areas that needed improvement or to prepare someone for a course they were getting ready for.”

All three Army fire stations are able to provide a response to their immediate neighbouring local communities. WO2 Davidson played a significant role in fighting the Port Hills fire in 2017. “I was a part of the first Incident Management Team on the first night and acted as a liaison for the civilian fire sector, my HQ and my staff on the ground.”

Would he recommend the career to a young person?

“This is an enjoyable job that certainly isn’t 9–5. You get a huge variety, it’s exciting and dynamic; you never know what the day will bring.”



## Emergency responder Corporal Nate Thompson’s Koro served in the 28<sup>th</sup> Maori Battalion.

“I always looked up to him, even though he was a grumpy old man, because he had a lot of mana and I wanted to follow in his footsteps in a way. Firefighters are always glorified in the movies and I thought it looked like a good gig from a young age!

“I like working in small teams. Our shifts range from four to six personnel at a time and we spend just as much time with each other as we do at home so we get to know each other quite well. We face the same challenges due to our nature of work and support each other through it all. It’s the work we put in as a team and the trust we place in each other’s hands.

“We have planned troop or squadron activities scattered throughout the year that we work towards to ensure we are up to date with the latest teachings or practices for trade for a variety of situations we may come across on the job for example, rural, motor vehicle accidents, structural or pressurised bulk fuels.

“We also work on the FENZ operational skills maintenance system where it pretty much tells what skill we need to work on and also an expiry date

“Our notice to move is pretty tight; the bells (station tones) go, then we go. Any time, day and night.

“We operate our station 24 hours, seven days a week for 365 days of the year, meaning sometimes we don’t travel away for some holidays but we make the most of it.

“Because of the nature of our job we see some things that can affect you (death, injuries, blood, distraught families, damaged property, fire etc.). Fortunately we have a good support system in place.

“Sounds cheesy I know, but getting the job done with my bros and making sure we can assist those that request us – there’s no better feeling.”





**If you are interested in trade changing to be an Emergency Responder, and want to find out more, please get in touch with any of the three Fire Masters in your region (SSGT Shaun Tivers – Burnham, SSGT Ben Lockton – Linton or WO2 Callan Reid – Waionuru) who will be happy to provide more insight on the role.**

From there, an expression of interest needs to be made through your unit chain of command. If a trade change is supported by your unit and your Career Manager, a Tour of Duty to your closest Emergency Response Troop will be arranged. This enables you to see if the role suits you and for the troop to see if you are suited to the role.

Upon successful completion of a TOD, an offer of service follows, which if accepted, would see you posting to one of the three troops around the country. From there, you enter the training pipeline, which will start with RNZE Corps Training and Fire Fighter Basic Training (both three months long), usually back to back, before you return to your troop as a qualified Emergency Responder.

# HELPING THE NEIGHBOURS

**Six New Zealand Army soldiers are providing instructor support to the Republic of Fiji Military Forces Basic Recruit and Senior Non Commissioned Officer courses in Fiji.**

This is a two to four month engagement that will see the NZ Army instructors build on a long-standing partnership with the RFMF, supporting training and assisting the RFMF in the delivery of lessons based on international best practice and standards.

The instructors are split up into two groups of three, and Corporal Kim De Schot says the role is mutually beneficial as it also provides learning experiences and situations to develop and grow the Kiwi soldiers.

“There are challenges for both the students and the instructors. The Fijian students have been doing an incredible job of learning and developing the skills required. They are eager to learn and very motivated to succeed. As the course has progressed, all the instructors have noticed considerable improvement which is rewarding for everyone involved.”

For the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer course, the training will culminate in a three week exercise in the Fijian jungle.

“The exercise is located on a beachfront property, providing the perfect backdrop for urban jungle operations as well as some sea infiltration operations. In the eyes of the Kiwi team, it certainly beats the often cold and wet Waionuru, though the jungle is not devoid of its own challenges,” said Sergeant Johan Batelaan.

“We’re all very much enjoying sharing our knowledge and learning from our Fijian friends here, and we’ve seen the true meaning of the ‘Bati’ warrior and Fijian spirit. With all their laughter and smiles they have been welcoming from day one, treating us as part of their vuvale (whānau/family).”







# NOTORIOUS NEMESIS

## THE ANATOMY OF AN EXERCISE

By Kirsty Lawrence

The notorious Exercise Nemesis is probably one of the most talked about exercises on the New Zealand Army Commissioning Course (NZCC).

If you’ve ever taken part in this gruelling exercise, you can almost guarantee the way you talk about it is that your year was the hardest year there ever was.

In recent years, while still physically and mentally tough, more emphasis has been placed on the cadets understanding why they are doing what they are doing, and how it will benefit them as they begin their NZ Army career.

This year, Exercise Nemesis was structured around 10 tasks, with the NZCC split into four sections, as well as a Left Out of Battle Programme, for people physically unable to commence or continue Exercise Nemesis.

Each Officer Cadet was assessed as a section commander for a task designed to force the

cadets to apply the functional leadership model which balances team, task and individual needs.

While they might sound like easy things to rank sitting in a nice warm classroom, trying to keep your priorities straight when you’re tired, hungry, and sore is a different ballgame.

Nemesis kicked off in early May, with the cadets having recently returned to camp after refining their basic soldier skills on Exercise La Basse Ville.

Unbeknown to them a storm was brewing. Without warning, OCS (NZ) staff threw open doors and flicked on lights, ushering cadets outside and onto parade. Exercise Nemesis has started.

The air was filled with excitement, as well as nerves, with some cadets

running around with big smiles on their faces, while others shifted into serious mode.

A safety briefing was undertaken and from there battle prep began which saw weapons, ammunition and section stores issued before cadets were sent out onto their first tasks.

Over the course of the exercise the four sections walked more than a hundred kilometres, participating in a variety of tasks that tested them physically, mentally and socially.

Most groups departed for their first task in the early hours of the morning, and catching up with the first group at 5.30am, you could see the fatigue had already set in for some.

This group had walked through the night in field service marching order to Lake Moawhango to

undertake their first task. This involved using buckets and jerry cans to fill a flexi dam up with water.

All of the tasks on Exercise Nemesis present the cadets with a dilemma which requires them to use cognitive thought to complete the mission while balancing the needs of the team and individuals. The options are not clear and often force the cadets to choose between the lesser of two evils or the hard right over the easy wrong. This task was no different.

Time spent planning is never wasted and if the cadets put their heads together they may find an efficient method of completing the task. Or, they could go at it like a bull at a gate and make the task much more demanding than it needs to be.

This section decided to plan, and came up with a solution which got them underway. Although, as the task progressed problems which they had not foreseen arose. This saw the section commander alter the plan as the flexi dam began to buckle. This required the cadets to find a solution to stop the water overflowing, with their toes and legs going numb from the cold.

Slogging through this task after a night of walking in the dark and cold, you could see on their faces as the water levels started to rise, they hoped the end was near.

As the flexi dam reached tipping point, the Directing Staff called the Section Commander over to tell him they were finished, with the flexi dam collapsing and flooding over just as he uttered those golden words.



.....

***“This exercise is about instilling resilience, a performance mindset and exposing cadets to a high degree of pressure, which brings out traits they maybe were not aware of or didn’t know how to manage.”***

– Captain Cameron Charles  
Senior Instructor, Officer Cadet School

Photos: Corporal Naomi James





After completing this task, the group then set off to their next command task.

At the end of each command task, the cadets conducted an After Action Review and a Systematic Self-Reflection in an individual aid-memoir. This is where they recorded thoughts and feelings about themselves and their team mates. These reflections provide the details that will come out as part of the peer review in the recover phase of the exercise.

The section commander leads the After Action Review which saw the section review as a group what worked and what didn't, and acknowledged their strengths and weaknesses.

The Systematic Self-Reflection aligns with the Performance Under Pressure programme which has been successfully implemented by the NZ Army Leadership Centre. This programme of goal setting (prepare), undertaking Exercise Nemesis (perform), before a deliberate self-reflection and peer feedback session (recover). This process will continue to be used for every field training exercise on the NZCC and will assist cadets identify their individual strengths and areas for improvement in the next phase of training.

"What we're trying to build is resilient officers who can remain professional and perform to a high standard under pressure, both domestically and overseas.

"This exercise is about instilling resilience, a performance mindset and exposing cadets to a high degree of pressure, which brings out traits they maybe were not aware of or didn't know how to manage," Senior Instructor of the Leadership Wing at the Officer Cadet School Captain Cameron Charles said.

Keeping cadets in the stretch band of the comfort, stretch,

panic model enhances their ability to perform under pressure. The tools cadets have been taught as part of the Institute of Learning Development Lead Teams Package in conjunction with resilience lessons from NZ Army psychologists enable them to expand their stretch zone as well as pull themselves back into this zone when they start to move into the panic zone. This will help them mentally and physically cope with the pressure of assessments on future NZCC field training exercises.

"I've never heard someone come out and go 'wow that was easy'.

"Everyone is challenged here, for a number of different reasons."

While it was meant to challenge people, Captain Charles said it wasn't designed to weed people out, but to train people in.

Watching a debrief 24 hours into the exercise, it was enlightening how self-reflective the cadets were, and how well they took feedback on-board.

This section went through the task they had just completed and discussed what went well, what didn't, what they could improve and how the person who was in command had done.

Everyone contributed evenly, and the person who had been in command reflected well on what she could have done better, and what she thought she did well, taking careful note of her team's feedback.

From there, the group also developed a plan as to what they could do better during the next command task, including sticking to rest timings better.

After the After Action Review and Systematic Self Reflection, it was time to try and get some sleep, before stepping out again with a new commander.

This group appeared to be doing quite well, gaining a few hours'

rest and having a little food before heading out on their next task.

However, not every group was doing as well, and at 7am the next day another group was struggling along after only an hour's sleep.

This group had decided not to eat any food at all, and heading into almost 48 hours of the exercise, the toll this was taking on them was obvious.

They were tasked with carrying a stretcher filled with jerry cans, but had only managed a few kilometres.

If they dropped the stretcher, they instantly lost any food they had left, and on top of this stress, their stretcher broke, with the team trying to repair it, but not having much luck.

Being fatigued and trying to carry a stretcher, you can almost guess what happened.

They dropped it, and lost their ration pack.

Extra food was available along the way on Exercise Nemesis, but required teams tossing up if they were up for more walking to get it. These decision points highlight the functional leadership dilemma requiring cadets to balance the needs of the task, team and individual.

Carrying on, fatigued and hungry, this group was a stark contrast to the group from the night before, and really showed the highs and lows cadets could go through on this exercise.

While the decision to limit their food might not seem like a major one, running alongside Exercise Nemesis was the Human Performance Cell, which helped show the cadets how their body was performing, and the slow decline the lack of food and sleep was having on them.

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### Human Performance Programme

This programme, run by the JSG Human Performance Cell, saw cadets tracked throughout Exercise Nemesis using four tests to look at their hydration levels, weight loss, mental and physical states.

As groups made their way back through Waiouru Military Camp at various points during the exercise, they were moved through the HPC tent to undergo these tests, and see how their body was coping.

Weary faces and tired eyes stumbled into the tent set up, with the warm air something some of these cadets hadn't felt in hours.

Slower reaction times were already evident only 24 hours into Exercise Nemesis and the smell of sweat and hard work overwhelmed the tent when the bodies poured in.

Some cadets were celebrating how they have managed to keep their hydration levels optimal, while others were amazed at how bad theirs already were.

Major Jacques Rousseau and Captain Dave Edgar tracked the cadets and Captain Edgar said the chart they used to test hydration levels had a green, red, orange and black zone.

Before working with the New Zealand Defence Force, even though he had worked with professional athletes, he had never seen someone in the black zone.

In this group, a few were already there.

They were told to concentrate on getting their water intake up, as water was never restricted during Exercise Nemesis; the cadets just needed to remember to drink it.

One common theme was everyone was already dropping weight.

One cadet said since the start of Exercise Le Basse Ville, which was

10 days prior, he has already lost seven kilograms.

Major Rousseau said they moved quickly with the cadets as they didn't want this testing to impact on the overall exercise, so they worked hard to get them in and out.

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### Ending on a high

Pushing through physical pain, hallucinations, sleep and food deprivation, 25 of the 33 Officer Cadets who started Exercise Nemesis managed to successfully complete the activity.

From the 33 who started, the 13 who didn't finish Exercise Nemesis completed the Left out of Battle Programme, with another five Officer Cadets who started on that programme from the beginning.

When catching up with some cadets a few weeks after Exercise Nemesis, you could tell the gravity of what they had managed to achieve still hadn't sunk in.

While they still have the rest of the NZCC ahead of them, the resilience techniques cadets had been exposed to, coupled with the grit and determination required to complete Exercise Nemesis will stand them in good stead for future challenges on the NZCC and provide a baseline level of resilience as they commence their careers as Commissioned Officers in the NZ Army.



# LA BASSE VILLE

## An exercise in self-leadership

Open country section offensive and defensive operations were the focus of Exercise La Basse Ville in Waiouru recently. The conventional field training exercise assesses officer cadets in command and leadership at the Lead Teams level. It conducts introductory Lead Teams assessments, and trains cadets to Lead Self through the application of all corps soldier skills at the section level. It also encompasses progressive field conditioning of cadets for future exercises.







# EX VENOM II

After a night of heavy rain and wind, the bad weather had blown itself out for a clear morning on the 18<sup>th</sup>, perfect weather for a dawn attack.

Four platoons had been resupplied by helicopter the day before so were ready to get stuck into the destruction of the RAM insurgent training camp. The reconnaissance detachment had watched the camp for four days, seeing the insurgents make their accommodation, training areas, and the arrival of the couriers bringing new weapons to train on, including mortars. Most importantly they had observed the arrival of two individuals who began to train the other insurgents on the use of the mortar and improve their skills with the other weapons. Once the reconnaissance detachment reported this to the Company Headquarters, the commander had given the order to destroy the camp. The Company mission was to deny the insurgents freedom of movement in the Area of Operations and on sight of weapons greater than 7.62mm caliber or containing HE, the company was to destroy the insurgents.

Until this point the company had successfully denied freedom of movement in the area of operations, with two platoon ambushes removing nine RAM insurgents from the battlespace and capturing a ninth, female, insurgent. Four platoons had captured her and were able to gain more information through the Female Engagement Team that was supporting them. This information had led Five Platoon to clear numerous spot heights, clearing multiple caches often surprising the RAM

insurgents who were recovering them. The Company intelligence operators assessed that if these caches hadn't been cleared then the weapons and ammunition would have been used to prepare a larger fighting force to disrupt local authorities and coerce the local population into supporting RAM.

So on the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup>, everyone knew that the destruction of the RAM insurgent training camp would be the decisive point in this operation, with all other actions shaping the battlespace to this point. At 0600, Four Platoon married up with the reconnaissance detachment who guided them to the prepared forming up point. At 0700 the platoon was ready in the forming up point, the detachment quietly moving into a mechanical ambush on the assessed withdrawal route. On H-hour, the platoon commander pumped their fist in the signal to assault and the two assaulting sections crossed the line of departure intent on killing or capturing the RAM. In depth was the reserve section with two Infantry Support Dogs, ready to track and apprehend any withdrawing RAM, as well as the Female Engagement Team ready to debrief anyone that is captured.

The assault was arguably the easy part, as the RAM insurgents were only just getting up and weren't prepared to mount a significant defense that cold, wet morning. The break in was achieved first on the southern flank of the camp which forced the RAM to

concentrate in the northern sector. This enabled the northern section to make short work of a moving, disoriented enemy. By 0730 the assault was over with the sections reaching their limit of exploitation. One female RAM insurgent was captured on position while a male RAM insurgent was apprehended by the infantry support dogs. As part of the battlefield clearance a 60mm Mortar, two RPG 7s, two Ak-74 and a mauser rifle were recovered along with training pamphlets and other resources. By 0830 four platoon had moved off objective, reorganised and started patrolling toward their next objective.

This narrative covers the main parts of Victor Company's Platoon level close country exercise. This was run in two phases; a week long blank exercise in Pureora forest and a three-day live firing exercise in Waiouru. Victor Company was supported by a variety of enablers including, reconnaissance, infantry support dogs, intelligence operators, female engagement teams, Joint Fires Teams, Regimental and Royal Signalers, and rotary wing assets. This forms part of the annual DLOC training Victor Company undertakes as the Lead Combat Team.







# VOLUNTARY EDUCATION STUDY ASSISTANCE (VESA)

**Semester Two 2022 applications are now being accepted**

**You may submit your request for funding within 90 days of your study start date. Apply online at NZDC, Defence Learning Toolkit VESA Application (e-form)**

**Applicants should be aware of their responsibilities prior to making an application IAW DFO 3/2016.**

**Prior to starting the application process, applicants are to:**

- Confirm the level of study is right for them with NZDC DLearn
- Advise their 1-UP of their study intentions
- Provide supporting paperwork including study documentation from the official learning provider website (ready to attach to your e-form application)

Contact your local DLearn Adult Learning Tutor who can assist you with your application. If you have any further queries, please email our Tertiary Services & Support Advisor at [nzdclearnvesa@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:nzdclearnvesa@nzdf.mil.nz)

POLICY (terms and conditions) SADFO 3/2016 VESA Policy  
SADFO 3/2016 VESA Policy (terms and conditions)



## New Zealand Army Engineers are in Fiji working on the rebuild of Lekutu Secondary School with a multinational Combat Engineering Team led by the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

The school buildings were damaged during Cyclone Yasa in 2020, and alongside their Australian, Fijian and French Army of New Caledonia counterparts, the Kiwis are working to build two structures with solar panels and a total of six classrooms for the local community.

Second Lieutenant Bradley Taniora-Brockelsby said the participation in the ADF's Operation Assist has been a good learning opportunity for the New Zealanders.

"We're being reintroduced to working in a joint environment after a quiet period during the pandemic, while also supporting one of our closest neighbours in their longer term recovery efforts after Cyclone Yasa."

The multinational teams have shared events including Anzac Day and have been learning new phrases to bridge the gap between languages and cultures.



2LT Taniora-Brockelsby said the Kiwis were thoroughly enjoying the experience.

"We've been getting to work closely alongside the local community including the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, school staff and members of the Lekutu village. They've been

incredibly enthusiastic to share their beautiful country, tell us the best fishing spots and give us free lessons on the rugby field."

## CAREER MANAGEMENT CORNER

### 2022 Career Boards

The 2022 Career boards are now complete and individuals who were represented at the Senior Career Management Board (LTCOLs and above), Career Management Board (CAPTs with 3 years seniority and MAJs), Warrant Officer Employment Board (SSGTs and WOs), Specialist Career Development Board (Specialist Capts and Majors) will be receiving their career board letters starting from late June.

### 2022 Posting date change

Due to LCC's Army RESET regeneration activity occurring in Waikouaiti over the period 14 to 28 November, DCA has approved a change to the 2022 Army posting date to 12 December 22. This is to allow individuals, who are moving between regions, to complete the Army RESET activity and then have sufficient time to prepare for the move to their new location.

### Key Dates

**27 June 22**  
Kippenberger Scholarship Scheme Board

**10-14 July 22**  
Commissioned From the Ranks Board (CFRB) and Officer Selection Board 1 (OSB 1)

**12 August 22**  
Applications (AFNZ 413D) for Officer Selection Board 2 (OSB 2) due at DACM

**15 August 22**  
Kippenberger Scholarship Scheme 2023 applications due at DACM

**12 December 22**  
NZ Army Posting Date

### For more information:

Army Career Management Intranet Site:  
<http://orgs/sites/armint/I-0001/>  
Contact us at:  
[DACMRegistry@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:DACMRegistry@nzdf.mil.nz)



# CHANGE IS COMING TO THE WAY THE ARMY PLANS

Late last year a new Staff Officers’ Handbook, sponsored by the Tactical School in the Mission Command and Training Centre, was released.

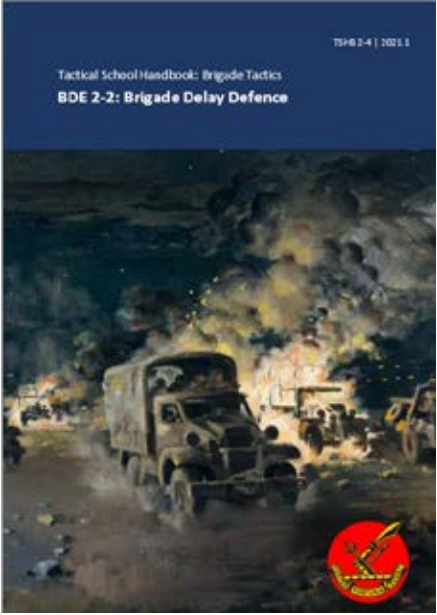
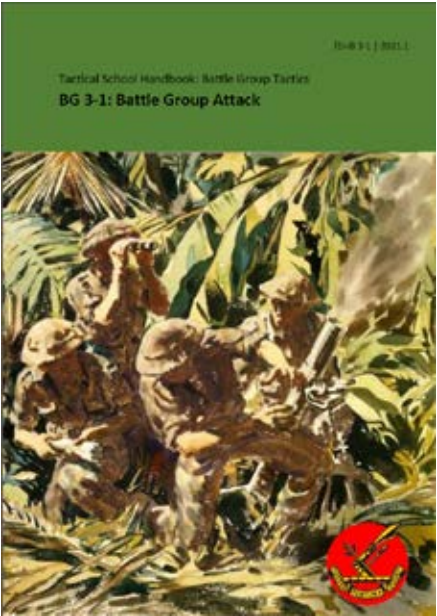
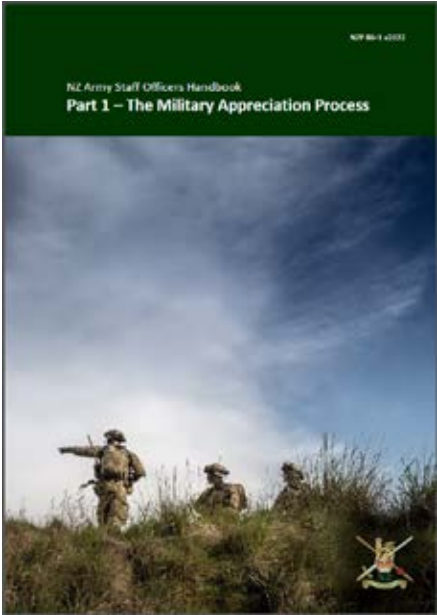
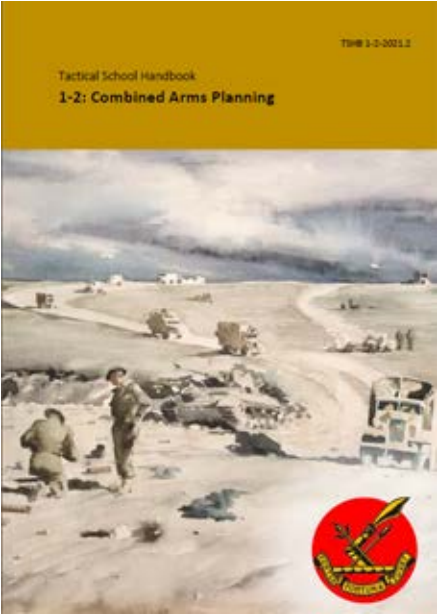
This handbook provides a general reference for individual and staff planning in the NZ Army. Codified as the NZP 86-1 Military Appreciation Process, it is designed to be used as the foundation reference for all Grade 3 and Grade 2 Staff and Tactics courses but will have utility and relevance for anyone involved in tactical planning or working in a headquarters. While the Staff Officers’ Handbook reinforces and refines a number of existing planning tools and techniques, it also introduces a revised NZ Mission Appreciation Process (MAP) that will standardise tactical planning across all NZ Army units and schools. Importantly, the revised MAP will better align our process against Australian and American processes for enhanced interoperability.

In addition, the Land Component Commander has provided updated direction to ensure that Tactical School courses continue to provide competent, capable Grade 2 and 3 staff officers for employment across the NZ Army and NZDF. As a result the Grade 2 in 2022 will see the reintroduction of Brigade Attack and Sustainment packages, increased emphasis on the manoeuvrist approach and greater emphasis on the mechanical application of tactics in general.

Linked to the LCC’s direction, Tactical School has continued to review and refine the way it teaches tactics. Instruction is now centred on primary source doctrine, with doctrinal handbooks now available for each tactical package and for general combined arms planning. These handbooks clarify primary doctrine alongside more subjective Tactical School guidance, providing a more authoritative and useful reference for understanding Battle Group and Brigade tactics in the NZ context. Instruction and learning at Tactical School has continued to evolve. Building upon recent feedback and course validations, more use is now made of structured After Action Reviews (AAR) with simulation in support of AAR wargames and AAR terrain analysis, with less emphasis on powerpoint.

As part of the focus on identifying and adopting best practices relating to the teaching of tactics, Tactical School has sponsored a Land Tactics Centre of Excellence to enable information sharing and rapid feedback across the organisation. The Centre of Excellence has been instrumental in enabling Tactical School to identify, design and adopt the updated documentation and processes outlined above, and will enable and support best practices being adopted both within Tactical School and across all army schools involved in instructing tactics into the future.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the Tactical School continues to deliver relevant and world-class training to meet the NZ Army’s needs, and that the future generations of Grade 2 and Grade 3 officers remain prepared to face tomorrow’s operational challenges. Further details on these changes are available on KEA or by contacting Tactical School directly at [tactical.school@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:tactical.school@nzdf.mil.nz).





As family members looked on, some of our newest soldiers marched out in Waikouaiti recently.

The graduation parade was reviewed by Major General John Howard.



Private Jack Culshaw with his mum



Private Joseph Hill with his family.



MAJGEN Howard speaks to a recruit on parade.



Major Blake, 2/1 RNZIR.



# 2/1 STEPS UP TO HELP THOSE WHO HELPED

By Charlene Williamson

**The sudden takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban in August 2021 saw the New Zealand Defence Force undertake several evacuation flights from Kabul, however not everyone was able to be evacuated at that time.**

Operations Officer and Senior NZDF representative, Major Matt Blake, 2/1 RNZIR, said when the call came in he didn't hesitate.

"We got the call three days before Christmas with vague information and a mission, we had an hour to decide if we wished to be deployed.

"We were told to be ready in two weeks and that we may be deployed for up to two months," he said.

Major Blake, along with Captain Matthew Horn (2CSSB), a Logistics Planner, were deployed to Pakistan as a part of the Islamabad Consular Response Team in support of the

Afghanistan Departure Taskforce (Operation Whakahokinga Mai) led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

The Islamabad Consular Response Team had a clear mission: help evacuate undocumented Afghans and eligible people from Afghanistan to New Zealand, via Pakistan.

The short-notice deployment was due to a very short timeframe where there was the ability to move people out of Afghanistan and through Pakistan.

"The unique ability to allow undocumented Afghans to cross into Pakistan only allowed for a small timeframe and had a specific end date.

"Usually this would be illegal. This created a short window in which the mission had to be conducted," said MAJ Blake.

He said the most challenging part of the operation was not knowing exactly what they would be doing until they arrived in country.

"We knew it would be a unique deployment and we also knew it would be very different to a typical NZDF operation.

"So although it wasn't a typical military task, the planning skills and operational management were still very valuable in contributing to the mission," he said.

"I found the operation personally rewarding because we were able to help Afghan families that had helped our soldiers in the past.

"Some of these people were engineers, builders, cleaners and mechanics, some had photos showing them smiling with our peers and friends from when the Provincial Reconstruction Team was deployed to Bamyan.

"It was enjoyable to be able to make a direct impact on helping these people move to New Zealand and a better life."

Op Whakahokinga Mai is one of the largest humanitarian efforts undertaken by the New Zealand Government and has helped evacuate thousands of people from Afghanistan.

"We were part of the big first step of their journey to a better life, and I am proud of that," said MAJ Blake.





# Proud to wear the uniform: Reservist PTE Danny McCarthy



By Sergeant Caroline Williams

**A recent graduate of the NZ Army Reserve Force (ResF) recruit training Private Danny McCarthy from 2/4 Battalion, RNZIR shares his experiences of life in uniform so far.**

PTE Danny McCarthy, 2/4 Battalion, RNZIR, returned to New Zealand after two years in the United Kingdom during the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, and seeing New Zealand's response to the pandemic made him proud to be a Kiwi, igniting a spark to join the NZ Army. Shortly after arriving home a work colleague who had served in the ResF encouraged PTE McCarthy to attend a parade night in Nelson, his home unit, and he hasn't looked back.

PTE McCarthy has a keen interest in military history so, although he felt "half terrified" arriving at Waiouru Military Camp, he also felt a real appreciation to be training at a location he had read so much about in history books.

Having the opportunity to regularly attend unit training in Nelson prior to arriving in Waiouru also gave him a valuable insight into what might be required on

recruit training and really helped his preparation.

"I had an insight to how the Army operated and was structured, could see how their focus on discipline impacted, and how they built on your strengths as a person," he said.

"I start work at 0430h every morning so the early starts weren't hard for me, my greatest challenge was fitness. I went to all the Force Fit training nights at the Nelson recruiting office. We had an Ironman fitness person teaching us," says PTE McCarthy.

"I didn't struggle with fitness after attending Force Fit training which made everything else easier," he said.

A highlight for PTE McCarthy was learning 'He taua' from his Section Commander.

"On Corps training we sung this at our graduation. It's a very historical chant, it really brought us together and gave us a real sense

of pride as we sung it," he said.

Marae Educator and Cultural Advisor, SSGT Royal Pita, says he adapted 'He taua' from Manene Waka specifically for soldiers to sing as they march.

"The meaning behind the chant is that if we are united in mind, spirit and body we can accomplish anything," said SSGT Pita.

PTE McCarthy said, "I felt extremely proud to wear the uniform and wear the lemon squeezer on recruit graduation day, and proud to enter Ngāti Tūmataunga. Our families and my partner were watching us graduate via the internet, and I felt so proud." Due to Covid-19, graduation parades have been online via Facebook.

PTE McCarthy trained as a chemical engineer at Waikato University and now works at natural health product manufacturing company, Alaron Products Ltd, in Nelson where he is a Manufacturing

Lead. PTE McCarthy has found his Army training has crossed over into his workplace.

"Army training teaches you how to build a team, identify strengths and weaknesses, and become more efficient. Even my Team Leader noticed improvement in my communication towards our team at Alaron."

The day after arriving back from Reserve Infantry Corps training in January, PTE McCarthy was deployed to assist Westport residents when flooding hit the town.

"My parents live in Westport. It was fantastic to help and really rewarding to be able to serve my community," said PTE McCarthy.

## The NZDF's Chief Medical Officer, Charmaine Tate has been promoted to the rank of Colonel.

COL Tate, DSD, has served both as a Reservist and in the Regular Force since 1993. She is a disaster victim identification specialist, among other things, serving in Indonesia after the Asian tsunami, in Christchurch and Japan after major earthquakes, and after the Christchurch mosque attacks.

COL Tate has completed five tours of Afghanistan, and has also served in Timor Leste.



The Chief of Army, Major General John Boswell (left) and the Chief of the Defence Force, Air Marshal Kevin Short attach COL Tate's new rank slides.



WO2 Aaron Morrison with boys and teachers from Hato Paora.



# A VISIT TO THE SPIRITUAL HOME OF NGĀTI TŪMATAUENGA

**The importance of the role the National Army Marae plays in the lives of soldiers right from their first days in the Army was explained to more than 100 students from Hato Paora College recently.**

Hato Paora is a long-established school for Māori boys, and its new Director of Boarding is Warrant Officer Class Two Aaron Morrison who, until he took up his new role, was the Army marae manager.

During his more recent years in the Army he was a fierce proponent of Rongomaraeroa ō Ngā Hau e Whā being the spiritual home of Ngāti Tūmatauenga. All new recruits are welcomed on to the marae, and into Ngāti Tūmatauenga during their basic or initial officer training.

The Hato Paora boys as well as teaching and college staff were welcomed onto the marae. After a pōwhiri they had lunch before listening to WO2 Morrison explain the marae's history.

The marae is multi-cultural and acknowledges the bi-cultural dominance of the Māori and European warrior culture. It allows women the right to speak, and acknowledges all local iwi.

The marae building originally belonged to local Waiouru people and was built about 200 metres away from its present site. When a decision was made that it would be better where it is now 160 soldiers picked up the building and moved it.

It has been renovated extensively since then, and late last year two unique pouwhenua were unveiled in the marae grounds.

TRADOC Commander Colonel Trevor Walker said the New Zealand Army, as part of the Treaty Negotiations on the Central Plateau, was obligated to be a partner with tangata whenua. "Our kura will provide the education and training to those soldiers who will undertake the role of iwi liaison within our camps and bases. Not only here in Waiouru, but also in Papakura, Linton, Trentham and Burnham.

"We owe it to our soldiers to be culturally safe when representing Ngāti Tūmatauenga. To do this we need to provide the training, and more importantly the kaiako who can take the Ngāti Tū kaupapa to the units and soldiers across the motu, so that learning and embracing te ao Māori is not only something done when soldiers come to Waiouru. Te Kura o Tūmatauenga will be the genesis of the journey for our soldiers who also wish to become kaiako and kaitiaki of Ngāti Tūmatauenga. With our partner, the formal learning will occur here so that the kaupapa of Ngāti Tū is standardised and becomes entwined into our everyday training."

COL Walker said as the Army evolved it understood better than ever that one of its underlying strengths as an army is its heritage.

He attended WO2 Morrison's welcome at Hato Paora College. "WO2 Morrison has now made the journey from He Hoia to He Kaiako."



**Major Rob Te Moana (left) and his son, Officer Cadet Luke Te Moana, both Hato Paora old boys, attended the pōwhiri where the college students were welcomed onto the Army Marae.**

"Luke and I have strong whānau values and follow in the footsteps of our tupuna (ancestors) who were great Māori leaders and Ariki – Horonuku (Tukino IV), to Ta Hepi and Tumu te Heuheu of Ngāti Tūwharetoa," said MAJ Te Moana. "I learned leadership through whakapapa and this was further developed by my Māori and catholic secondary schooling at Hato Paora Māori Boys' College, which is a college steeped in tikanga, kawa and has the motto – *Whaia te Tika* (Seek what is right). It is now one of only four remaining Māori boarding schools in New Zealand aiming to grow Māori leaders for tomorrow."

He said he was the proud father of two sons (Joshua and Luke) and stepfather of Daniel and Hannah. "It was a proud moment to be by Luke's side,

with his mother (his whānau), when he completed his Officer Cadet Basic training. It was also good to stand side-by-side on the NZ Army marae to be part of the pōwhiri to Hato Paora Māori Boys' College to acknowledge the mahi that WO2 Morrison has done. The boys learned from him about leadership and Ngāti Tūmatauenga before he takes up his new role at the college."

"Three generations (including my father and Luke's grandfather) of Moanas have passed through the gates of Hato Paora College and three generations of whānau, from our tupuna in the NZ Expeditionary forces to father and son have served Aotearoa proudly side-by-side."

MAJ Te Moana served three months on secondment recently with Te Puni Kōkiri as Acting Manager of Crown Entities. He recently accepted an appointment (on secondment) that increases Māori Leaders in the Public Sector as a Director at Toitū Te Whenua (Land Information New Zealand).

"The journey to transition out of combat uniform, knowing that my whānau will follow me one day, has begun where I can make

a difference where our people are at the front and centre of how we think, organize ourselves, and operate. It is where I can tautoko mahi that ensures lwi and whānau can thrive, and that Aotearoa remains a better place for our children, their children, and future generations."

OCDT Luke Te Moana said Hato Paora prepared him well to train in the Army. "It allowed me to pursue my athletics and be able to go to the gym every day and build my strength. But the thing I would say I enjoyed the most would be the culture that the school provided. A brotherhood as some would call it. That would be the thing I enjoyed the most and that brotherhood continues even after leaving."

"The school's emphasis on leadership, and my own whakapapa was behind my decision to join the Army. We are encouraged to work as a team, and brotherhood and camaraderie are very important to me."



# Our people

The Chief of Army, Major General John Boswell awarded commendations to three Army personnel recently.



Major Connor Yardley (far left) received a commendation for developing standard operating procedures for Jet Park Managed Isolation and Quarantine facility. Captain Jeremy Hodren was commended for developing an online/virtual Officer Selection Board, and Mrs Dee O'Connor received a commendation for her involvement in the planning and execution of the NZ Army 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

## RAISING MONEY FOR UKRAINE IN 1066-ERA ARMOUR

As an avid Lord of the Rings fan, Private Kane van Lit decided almost instantly to sign up for the Middle-earth Halfling Marathon in Hobbiton when he saw it advertised.

But after signing up, PTE van Lit from 2CSSB in Linton Military Camp decided to take the challenge up a notch, taking part in the half marathon in 1066-era armour and doing the run for charity. PTE van Lit smashed his goal, helping contribute to the Ukraine Orphan Fund Charity, which has raised more than \$20,000 US dollars, and completing the half marathon in about three hours. “My grandad passed away during my training and I got to

thinking about what he lived through in England as a child during World War II. “It really motivated me to run for the Ukraine Orphan Fund Charity.” PTE van Lit said his grandad was put into an orphanage in London during WWII, and he was often hungry, and all they got to eat was bread and butter. He remained in the London orphanage until he was old enough to leave at age 15. His other set of grandparents both came from the Netherlands, and he said his Oma remembers as a child their house being bombed, and his Opa saw his mother shot in front of him while their town was occupied. “He would also have to run out to where there was fighting as a child and cut meat off the wounded horses to take home to eat.” PTE van Lit said running for the Ukraine Orphan Fund Charity was a way he could help the war orphans today. “One post said there was 150 orphans that came across the border that day.

“I remember seeing one video of just a small boy walking across the border crying and he was all by himself and I thought man, that’s just one we know about on TV, how many of those kids are climbing over rubble to get to safety.” The decision was made to run in 1066-era armour as PTE van Lit said it fit into the overall middle earth theme. “I can simulate being in the hasty 1066 battle march the Anglo-Saxons endured when England was invaded during the year 1066, and this will also be a great challenge no one has done before in NZ.” PTE van Lit is no stranger to armour, already participating in full contact medieval fighting as a combat sport. However, he still had to put in some serious training to make sure he was prepared for the race, as well as making sure his dress was historically accurate. “The equipment comprised of a nasal helmet, torso chainmail, two leather belts, sword and scabbard, round shield, two handed axe, Seax knife, leather admin pouch, sharpening stone, brooch, fire steel, flint stone, char clothe, dried food and a blanket all weighing just over 20kg.” With his background as a full contact medieval fighter, PTE van Lit said his body was already somewhat conditioned to this type of weight training. “Having also been in the infantry for 11 years you learn valuable physical and mental skills on how to cover great distances.” During his training PTE van Lit said he started running 8km in the full kit, working his way up to 14km. “To make this enjoyable I trained in five middle earth film locations and the terrain tended to be more



challenging in those areas to help condition myself.” The day of the actual event he did his last gear check and was ready to go. “The sun was very hot that day and some staff members at Hobbiton feared I may get heat stroke, but I assured them I will remain hydrated as there were water stops around the track. “I started the first half no problems with no fatigue and drank at every water point.” He ran 50% and walked 50% of the half marathon, which he said the terrain dictated. “When I got to the 13km mark that’s when a bit of fatigue kicked in and the mental game took over. “I finished the course around the three-hour mark, which was what I

roughly estimated, but it was hard to say as lots of people wanted to stop and take photos.” PTE van Lit said when he got to the finish his wife and family were there to meet him. “I felt very proud of the challenge I set myself and completed, and very proud of doing it for a good cause.”







Provost General Brigadier Kate Hill presents a certificate to one of the NZDF's newest military police, Lance Corporal Renee Makareta Toko Hopcroft. The group of new MPs recently conducted and completed a junior investigator course at Trentham.



Lance Corporal Jesse Carter's parents pin on his new rank slides.





# USING STEALTH AS A WEAPON: EXERCISE KALAMI

By John Cosgrove

**Under their feet the decaying remnants of ancient kahikatea and silver beech trees rustled and crackled as the soldiers carefully tried to thread their way silently through the lush West Coast forest south of Maruia.**

The deep and spongy humus underfoot hid holes spawned by decaying trees which caught out many a soldier trying hard to complete their task as silently as possible.

The Reserve Force soldiers were taking part in Exercise Kalami, Alpha Company 2/4 RNZIR's latest field exercise in an AO situated below Murchison in the central northern South Island.

Their task seemed simple: follow a defined bearing through the bush, but the decaying undergrowth and limited views in the dense forest challenged them all as they patrolled laden with weapons and packs, all while an active enemy party confronted them at every turn in the trail.

Alpha Company, officer commanding, Captain Penny Roy, said the weekend-long training exercise was focused on training sections TTPs. "This was building on the individual soldier skills training we had conducted in March," she said.

"There were a lot of lessons learnt by the soldiers over the weekend, from an individual level and right up to the section commanders understanding their tasks, time appreciation and how to manage their soldiers through an assault on an enemy position.

"This exercise was a good building block to move towards the next exercise, where we will live field fire later in the month," she said.

Exercise Kalami saw 60 officers and soldiers in attendance from Nelson, West Coast, Timaru and Christchurch.

Captain Roy said Alpha Company had sought the help of Charlie Company (who provided a number of soldiers with more specialist skills) to add another element to the training.

The weekend began with Platoon HQs taking the sections through a round robin of lessons.

Soldiers practised their section and individual contact drills when faced with an entrenched enemy, what to do as a section when there were casualties during a contact, how to prepare for attacking enemy positions, how to walk and patrol stealthily through dense bush, cross obstacles and what tactics and field craft skills they needed to learn in this challenging environment.

The afternoon saw the sections conduct rehearsals and prepare for the next 24 hours.

The sections then deployed independently into the bush to conduct a night harbour and prepare for a deliberate task early the next morning.

Once that was all wrapped up, the soldiers got stuck into the post-exercise admin and were rewarded with a BBQ lunch before heading back to their various home locations.

They were preparing for their next training exercise later this month which will be conducted using live ammunition.

Ex Burma will be held in Kumara on the West Coast, and will be used to confirm the section battle drills learnt over the past weekend.







Lieutenant Colonel Cory Neale (left), and RSM, Warrant Officer Class One John Cantwell with centenary BRIG Wright.

# RED DIAMOND FOUNDING FATHER TURNS 100

By Charlene Williamson

**In May one of the founding fathers of the Red Diamond, Brigadier (Rtd) Les Wright, celebrated a significant milestone birthday, 100 years old.**

Worn on the left shoulder of our dress uniform by members of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR), the Red Diamond traces its origin to 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> NZ Expeditionary Force (NZE).  
Brigadier Wright joined the New Zealand Army in February 1941 and went on to serve 36 years before retiring in 1977. He spent more than half of his military career overseas including Italy, Japan and Malaya.  
The first to wear the Red Diamond was the 2<sup>nd</sup> NZ Regiment in 1959, and Brigadier Wright recalled how it all came about.  
“In putting 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion together in Waikouaiti back in 1959, Colonel John Aitken and I wanted to have some sort of system whereby we could identify our soldiers. At that time any adornment on uniform was not approved by the dress committee,

other than the New Zealand flash and you could only wear that when you went overseas.  
“Having served in 22<sup>nd</sup> battalion, their identity was a red diamond with a horizontal green stripe joining the two middle points of the diamond. I wrote to the president of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Association who was then Brigadier Tom Campbell and asked if they would agree to our using the diamond as our unit patch. Which they agreed.  
“Then it was a question of how does one do this. I had a friend in ordnance in Wellington, he provided us with reels of red material that they used in nurses capes in those days, and he had properly cut to the right size so we could cut the diamonds with one pair of scissors and provided the needles, and cotton and what we needed to sew them on. The thing we couldn’t do was replicate the green stripe,

knowing full well that if it got to the dress committee that they would stop it.  
“The night of 30 June 1959 was the night before we had our first formal regimental parade, which was to be reviewed by the district commander Brigadier Alan Andrews. On that night everyone, including the CO and me, sewed the red diamond patch on our right shoulders, one and a quarter inches below the seam.  
“We paraded the next day, the Brigadier came and reviewed the parade, not a word was said, no comment, no nothing, that is how it was established, we were the first of the regular Army to wear a patch. And that is the background to the red diamond,” Brigadier Wright said.  
Lieutenant Colonel (LTCOL) Cory Neale, Commanding Officer, 2/1 RNZIR visited Brigadier Wright for his birthday and presented him with a framed flag and birthday wishes from the Battalion.  
“Brigadier Wright is the living link between 2/1 RNZIR and 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> NZEF. From joining the Army as an 18 year old in 1940, Les has seen and done so much in both war and peace, serving through Italy, Japan and Malaya among others.  
“A formative member of the post-WWII Army, he is our history, he is second-to-none; a living legend, and we are exceptionally lucky to share his company and hear his stories,” LTCOL Neale said.

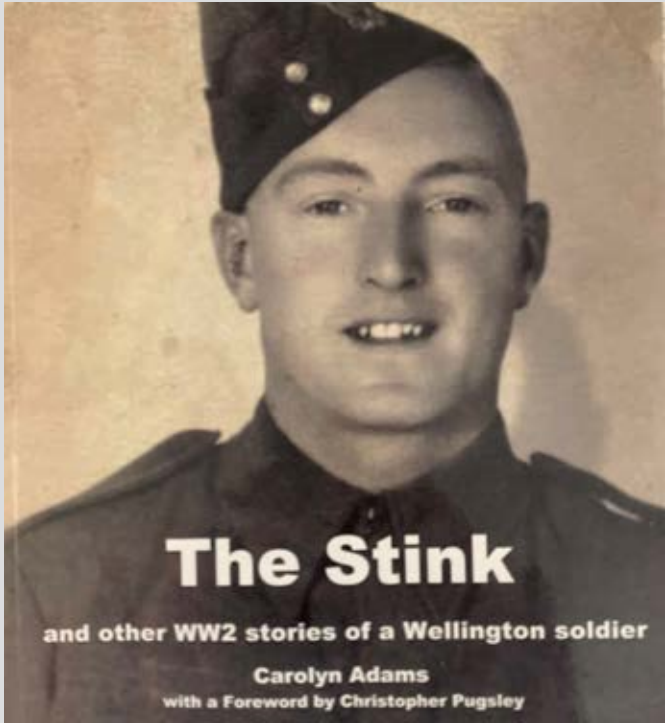
## The history of the Red Diamond

The Red Diamond, worn on the left shoulder of our dress uniform by members of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, traces its origin to 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> NZ Expeditionary Force (2<sup>nd</sup> NZEF) who adopted the patch of 9<sup>th</sup> NZ Infantry Brigade deployed as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation of Japan, known as J Force.  
In 1947, 2<sup>nd</sup> NZEF’s Brigade in Japan was reorganised, and 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was re-designated 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the New Zealand Regiment. The Battalion was disbanded in 1948 and reformed in July 1959, when the Commanding Officer claimed descent for the new Battalion from the re-designated and disbanded 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.  
In 1963 the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Depot was formed, the Commanding Officer of the Depot awarded the Red Diamond to personnel who had completed their Infantry Corps training. From 1964 the Red Diamond was worn as a dress distinction for personnel posted to 1RNZIR and 2/1RNZIR.  
In 2007 the patch was approved to be recognised as a qualification rather than a Corps distinction and it is awarded to, and worn by, all personnel who have successfully completed combat corps training regardless of unit or posting.





# BOOK REVIEW



## The Stink And other WW2 stories of a Wellington Soldier

By Carolyn Adams  
Published by Te Aro Publications

It has become quite popular in recent years for amateur historians to publish wartime diaries left by family members. In this case the wartime diary, letters and photos of Wellington soldier Chauncey Adams, is published by his daughter Carolyn. The quality, and content of these publications tend to vary, but this publication is very much at the top end of the quality spectrum.

Chauncey joined the Army at the outbreak of war and became a member of A Coy, 25 Battalion. "The Stink" is what he called Sidi Rezegh, fought as part of Operation Crusader. Carolyn has taken the original source materials and written a detailed, informative and extremely readable narrative to tie them all together, provide broad overall context and really tell her father's story.

Like many WW2 diarists, Chauncey has recorded what he had time and ability to record. Carolyn clearly and frankly accounts for some of the larger gaps in his writing. When the operational tempo was clearly extreme, the situation was grim and staying alive was the priority, there was little time or inclination for letter or diary writing.

Chauncey was at the sharp end of hostilities throughout the early days of fighting in Greece and North Africa. It was a time when more often than not the tide of war was pushing against the allies in Germany's favour. Chauncey became ill, eventually being invalided out of the front lines and returned to New Zealand, where he was discharged and like so many of his generation, worked hard to raise a family and help build this country once the war had finished.

Carolyn Adams has done a superb job in producing this book as a tribute to her father. Based on what little he had said about his experiences and the source material, Carolyn has heavily researched the Allies work in Greece and the wider Middle East during the period of Chauncey's service to tie his personal letters and diary accounts together with a well written and very informative narrative.

This account of one young Wellingtonian's war is a superb example of just what can be achieved when you combine good source materials and solid research. My father's step-father was KIA in Greece serving with 25 Battalion, and was also from inner-city Wellington, so the book held special interest for me. *The Stink* is a great example of what any published account of a relative's war service can, and should be. The design, layout and presentation is superb, it is a wonderful tribute to one man's service.

It is available exclusively online from Te Aro Publications:  
[www.tearopublications.store](http://www.tearopublications.store)

**Reviewed by Jeremy Seed**

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# HISTORIC RUGBY TROPHY STILL AT CENTRE OF 1<sup>ST</sup> XV BATTLES

By Geoff Davies

One of New Zealand’s oldest and most prestigious rugby trophies, with a great Army back story, currently holds pride of place amongst the sports silverware at Rotorua Boys’ High School.



Photos: Rotorua Boys’ High School

The Moascar Cup, considered the Ranfurly Shield of school rugby, has been contested by school 1<sup>st</sup> XVs throughout the country in most years since 1920. Some of the details of its history vary from source to source, but it came into being at the end of World War I, when British, New Zealand and Australian soldiers camped in Ismailia, Egypt, formed the “Ismailia Rugby Union” to hold an international rugby competition while they waited for ships to take them home. Some sources say that Moascar was the village near which the soldiers were camped, but according to others, it’s because “mueaskar” means “camp” in Arabic.

A committee of officers went to Cairo to find a suitable trophy and came back with the sterling silver Cup, which was then mounted on a piece of a wooden propeller from a shot down German aircraft. Its previous history isn’t known, but it is stamped on the bottom “Made in London, 1904”. It is a “loving cup” – a cup with multiple handles commonly used at occasions such as weddings. The New Zealand Mounted Rifles Units and Depots team won the competition, losing just one of its ten matches (points for: 147, points against: 3), and triumphantly carried it home to New Zealand, where it was presented to the New Zealand Rugby Football Union by the captain, Herb Quartermain, and the senior officer on the troopship, Major Edward Hulbert DSO, to be a challenge trophy for secondary schools.

It was first played for between Christchurch Boys’ High School and Palmerston North BHS in 1920. The two schools, one from each island, were chosen for the contest based on their recent records.

The game was at Athletic Park in Wellington and played in “appalling conditions”, wrote Ron Palenski in *“Rugby: A New Zealand History”*: “Driving rain across a ground that was a shallow lake made team play almost impossible,” one of the Christchurch players, Jim Burrows, later wrote. Prime Minister William Massey and several cabinet ministers, having adjourned Parliament for the afternoon, ‘sat miserably’ in the main grandstand. The game ended with no score so extra time was played and the referee ruled that if there was no score, ‘force-downs’ (that is, a touchdown in goal) would count. A Palmerston North player kicked the ball dead and that was deemed, much to the dismay of the Palmerston North players and supporters, a force-down. Christchurch Boys’ thus became the first holders.”

Each year the holder is required to put the Cup up for at least seven challenges. Rotorua BHS, the current holder, won it for only the second time in their history in August 2020, holding out Napier BHS in a nail-biting 25–22 finish. Their first Cup win, in 2003, was also against Napier BHS, who have themselves held it five times. Holding the iconic trophy has been a great experience for the team, former 1<sup>st</sup> XV manager Gordon Hunt said.

“In the first place, many stars had to align for us to win this trophy... it’s the symbol of school rugby supremacy. Even over 122 years, only 39 schools have held it.

“We treat each game as a challenge, not a defence, because it’s a different mindset. The boys embrace the challenge and enjoy the week building up to the game. But before kickoff, our captain, Brooke Mitchell, carries it out and puts on the half-way line, and from that moment ‘the best team wins,’” he said.

When this issue of *Army News* went to press, Rotorua BHS had already held off three challengers this year, beating St John’s College (40–34), Matamata College (64–14) and Massey High School (60–19). Still to come were games against Gisborne BHS, Hamilton BHS, Hastings BHS and Palmerston North BHS, all of which are also Super 8 pool games.

The full list of Moascar Cup holders can be found online at [nzrugby.co.nz](http://nzrugby.co.nz).





A soldier on a dawn patrol during Exercise Venom.  
Photo: Sergeant Sam Shepherd