

**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 Bougainville as defined, from 1 October 1997 up to and including 30 June 2003, to be operational service for the purposes of the Act.

***Bougainville** - The Autonomous Region of Bougainville was formerly a province of, and is now a self-governing region of, the nation of Papua New Guinea. The Autonomous Region of Bougainville is located at the most eastern extent of archipelagic waters claimed by the nation of Papua New Guinea. The Autonomous Region of Bougainville includes the islands of Bougainville, Buka and several small outlying islands and atolls, and internal jurisdiction extends three nautical miles from those islands.*

2. I declare that the declaration for service in Bougainville will supersede the previous declarations for:

- Service in the territory of Bougainville as part of the Truce Monitoring Group, from October 1997 to April 1998, made on 25 June 2012 by Hon Nathan Guy, Minister of Veterans' Affairs; and
- Service in the territory of Bougainville as part of the Peace Monitoring Group, from May 1998 to June 2003, made on 25 June 2012 by Hon Nathan Guy, Minister of Veterans' Affairs.

3. 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.

4. The persons covered by this declaration shall have access to the entitlements and services specified in the Act and the Veterans' Support Regulations 2014.

5. I am satisfied that there was a significant risk of harm to those that undertook this service, as required by the Act.



Dated this 5th day of September 2022

Hon MEKA WHAITIRI, Minister for Veterans