

No. 31860

**NEW ZEALAND
and
SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement on arrangements for visits by contingents of the New Zealand Defence Force to Solomon Islands for Exercise TROPIC DUSK 91 and Exercise TROPIC TWILIGHT 91. Honiara, Solomon Islands, 30 July and 5 August 1991

Authentic text: English.

Registered by New Zealand on 1 June 1995.

**NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE
et
ÎLES SALOMON**

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux arrangements en vue de visites aux Îles Salomon de contingents de la force de défense néo-zélandaise pour l'Opération TROPIC DUSK 91 et l'Opération TROPIC TWILIGHT 91. Honiara (Îles Salomon) 30 juillet et 5 août 1991

Texte authentique : anglais.

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EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND SOLOMON ISLANDS ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITS BY CONTINGENTS OF THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE TO SOLOMON ISLANDS FOR EXERCISE TROPIC DUSK 91 AND EXERCISE TROPIC TWILIGHT 91

I

NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION
HONIARA SOLOMON ISLANDS

30 July 1991

NOTE NO. 91/36

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Relations
HONIARA

Dear Minister

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF NEW ZEALAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITS BY CONTINGENTS OF THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE TO SOLOMON ISLANDS FOR EXERCISE TROPIC DUSK 91 AND EXERCISE TROPIC TWILIGHT 91

I have the honour to refer to the talks held between officials from New Zealand and Solomon Islands in May 1991 (EX TROPIC DUSK 91) and April 1991 (EX TROPIC TWILIGHT 91) concerning the visit of contingents of the New Zealand Defence Force to Solomon Islands for Exercise TROPIC DUSK 91, to be held between 6 and 26 August 1991, and Exercise TROPIC TWILIGHT 91 to be held between 26 August and 14 September 1991.

The purpose of the exercises is to provide New Zealand Service personnel with training experience in a South West Pacific jungle environment, and to undertake training with and to provide assistance to the Royal Solomon Islands

¹ Came into force on 5 August 1991, the date of the note in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

Police Force (RSIPFF) and the Solomon Islands Marine Division (SIMD). Deploying with the EX TROPIC DUSK 91 group will be a five man EOD team and a five man medical team to undertake civic aid tasks under the auspices of the Mutual Assistance Programme. These teams will remain in Solomon Islands to continue their assignments until mid-September and will return to New Zealand with the EX TROPIC TWILIGHT 91 contingent.

I now propose on behalf of the Government of New Zealand that an agreement be concluded between our two Governments relating to these exercises on the following terms:

1 For the purposes of this Agreement, and unless the context otherwise requires, the terms set out below shall have the following meanings:

"New Zealand contingent" means that group of New Zealand servicemen who will be visiting Solomon Islands for the purpose of taking part in Exercises TROPIC DUSK 91 and TROPIC TWILIGHT 91 in Solomon Islands.

"New Zealand serviceman" means an individual member of the contingent of the New Zealand Defence Force who will be visiting Solomon Islands for the purpose of taking part in Exercises TROPIC DUSK 91 and TROPIC TWILIGHT 91 and "New Zealand Servicemen" means such members.

"New Zealand Service authorities" means the authorities empowered by the law of New Zealand to exercise command or jurisdiction over members of the New Zealand contingents while they are participating in Exercises TROPIC DUSK 91 and TROPIC TWILIGHT 91.

"The Solomon Islands authorities" means the authorities from time to time designated by the Government of Solomon Islands for the purpose of exercising the powers in relation to which the term is used.

Ex TROPIC DUSK 91

2 The Government of New Zealand shall send a contingent of 122 Army personnel, which will include the 10-man Civic Aid Team, to Solomon Islands between 6 and 26 August 1991 to take part in Exercise TROPIC DUSK 91. The contingent shall deploy to and from Solomon Islands by RNZAF Hercules C130, HS 748 Andover and RNZAF Boeing 727 aircraft.

3 The New Zealand contingent, excluding the Civic Aid Team, shall be permitted to:

- a conduct theatre indoctrination and minor tactics training on Guadalcanal Island;
- b conduct a low-level field exercise on Tetepare Island;
- c exercise with up to 20 RSIPFF personnel on Tetepare Island;
- d use SIMD vessels and personnel to assist with the deployment and extraction from Tetepare Island;
- e use Solomon Islands Police barracks at Honiara as a base location for the contingent administrative cell during the exercise and as a staging camp prior to recovery to New Zealand.

Ex TROPIC TWILIGHT 91

4 The Government of New Zealand shall send a contingent of 110 Army personnel to Solomon Islands between 26 August 1991 and 14 September 1991 to take part in Exercise TROPIC TWILIGHT 91. The contingent shall deploy to and from Solomon Islands by RNZAF C130 Hercules and RNZAF Boeing 727 aircraft. The contingent which leaves Solomon Islands on 14 September will comprise 120 personnel, the TROPIC TWILIGHT 91 personnel having been joined by the five medical personnel and five engineer personnel who deployed with Exercise TROPIC DUSK 91 to carry out MAP tasks.

5 The New Zealand contingent, excluding the Civic Aid Team, shall be permitted to:

- a carry out theatre indoctrination and minor tactics training on Guadalcanal Island, specifically on Levers Company leased land at Tenaru/Red Beach.
- b conduct a low-level field exercise on Pavuvu Island with up to 20 RSIPFF personnel.
- c use the SIMD vessels LATA and VELE to assist with the deployment and extraction from Pavuvu Island.
- d use Solomon Islands Police barracks at Honiara as a base location for the contingent administrative cell during the exercise and as a staging camp prior to recovery to New Zealand.

Civic Aid Team

6 The Government of New Zealand shall send a contingent of 10 Army personnel to Solomon Islands between 5 August and 14 September 1991 to carry out Civic Aid tasks on Solomon Islands. The five-man medical team will deploy by HS 748 Andover aircraft to Lata Airfield on 5 August. The five-man engineer team will deploy with the EX TROPIC DUSK 91 contingent on 6 August.

7 The aim of the medical and engineer team deployments is to complete a series of civic assistance tasks in support of the Solomon Islands Government (SIG).

Objectives

8 The objectives of the medical team deployment are:

- a to gain experience in operating in a South West Pacific Island environment.
- b to undertake practical training in preventative medicine.
- c to enhance cooperation and understanding with the Solomon Islands local population.

9 The objectives of the engineer team deployment are:

- a to gain experience in operating in a South West Pacific Island environment.
- b practice EOD location and clearance procedures.
- c to enhance cooperation and understanding with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Field Force (RSIPFF).

10 The medical team will be supplemented by health service personnel from the Solomon Islands National Hospital, Honiara. The engineer team will be supplemented by five personnel from the RSIPFF.

11 The following Civic Aid tasks will be carried out:

a Medical Team

- (1) Conduct a Yaws Eradication Programme on Santa Cruz Island in support of the Lata Hospital.