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**NEW ZEALAND
and
VANUATU**

Exchange of letters constituting an agreement on arrangements for the visit by a New Zealand Defence Force contingent to the Republic of Vanuatu for Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94. Port Vila, Vanuatu, 4 May 1994

Authentic text: English.

Registered by New Zealand on 1 June 1995.

**NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE
et
VANUATU**

Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif aux arrangements en vue de la visite en République de Vanuatu d'un contingent de la force de défense néo-zélandaise pour l'Opération TROPIC DAWN 94. Port Vila (Vanuatu), 4 mai 1994

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par la Nouvelle-Zélande le 1^{er} juin 1995.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND VANUATU ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT BY A NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE CONTINGENT TO THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU FOR EXERCISE TROPIC DAWN 94

I

NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION
PORT VILA

Port Vila
Vanuatu

4 May 1994

Our Reference:
35/2/3

Hon. Sethy John Regenvanu
Acting Prime Minister and
Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Vanuatu
PORT VILA

Dear Acting Prime Minister

I have the honour to refer to the talks held between officials from New Zealand and the Republic of Vanuatu in November 1993 concerning the visit of a New Zealand Defence Force contingent to the Republic of Vanuatu for Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94, to be held between 5 - 30 May 1994.

I now propose on behalf of the Government of New Zealand that agreement be reached between our two Governments relating to this exercise, on the following terms:

1. The Government of New Zealand shall send a contingent of 53 Army personnel to the Republic of Vanuatu

¹ Came into force on 4 May 1994, the date of the letter in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

between 5 - 30 May 1994 to take part in Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94 for the purpose of conducting a medical exercise in a tropical environment. An advance group of three New Zealand servicemen will deploy by civilian airline to arrive in the Republic of Vanuatu no later than 5 May 1994. The main body of the New Zealand contingent, predominantly medical servicemen, will deploy to and from the Republic of Vanuatu by RNZAF Andover aircraft, arriving no later than 9 May 1994. The contingent will also include servicemen for mutual assistance training and the provision of civic aid. The purpose of these groups is to:

- a. Medical Group. Comprising of up to 40 medical personnel to be based on the Island of Santo. This group will form medical teams to deploy to villages in the vicinity of Big Bay and South Santo to conduct a vaccination and education programme.
- b. Civic Aid Group. Comprising 10 engineers to be based on the Islands of Ambae and Pentecost. This group will complete water supply and plumbing tasks.
- c. Mutual Assistance Training Group. Comprising up to three personnel to be based in Port Vila to conduct on-the-job training. This activity will be subject to advice from the Vanuatu Mobile Force (VMF) that facilities and personnel are prepared for the training being offered.

2. For the purposes of the 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 the Republic of Vanuatu for the purpose of taking part in Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94.

"New Zealand Servicemen" means an individual member of the New Zealand contingent.

"New Zealand Service authorities" means the authorities empowered by the law of New Zealand to exercise command and jurisdiction over members of the New Zealand contingent while they are participating in Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94.

"The Vanuatu authorities" means the authorities from time to time designated by the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu for the purpose of exercising the powers in relation to which the terms are used.

"Port of Entry" means the Port, International Airport or National Airforce Base at which the contingent disembarks.

"Training" includes the conduct of combined training in either country.

3. The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu shall make available the following support to the Medical Group:

- a. vaccinations for the conduct of the vaccination programme;
- b. refrigeration facilities for the safekeeping of the vaccines;
- c. tentage area close to the Santo platoon to share ablution and cooking facilities;
- d. transport to move medical teams to village areas in the vicinity of Big Bay and South Santo;
- e. three VMF signals detachments (comprising 1 signaller and two riflemen as radio operators) to move with the medical teams to the village areas;
- f. frequencies for the use by VMF signalers; and
- g. liaison officers from the Ministry of Health to deploy with the medical teams.

4. The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu shall make available the following support to the Civil Aid Group:

- a. transport to move the engineering team on the island of Ambae;
- b. one vehicle on the island of Pentecost to be available at Lonorore Airstrip;
- c. six VMF engineers (three on Ambae, three on Pentecost) to deploy with the New Zealand personnel;
- d. one VMF signaller to deploy with the New Zealand personnel on Pentecost;
- e. radio frequencies for use by the VMF signaller;
- f. four liaison officers from the Department of Health to deploy with the New Zealand personnel to Ambae and Pentecost.

5. Subject to advice from the VMF, the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu shall make available the following support to the Mutual Assistance Training Group:

- a. transport assistance to and from the hotel accommodation (Kaiviti Hotel) and the VMF Barracks at Vila; and
- b. one liaison officer.

6. The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu shall not levy landing charges against the Government of New Zealand for the use of airport facilities in the Republic of Vanuatu in connection with Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94.

7. The Vanuatu authorities shall facilitate the entry of the New Zealand contingent into the Republic of Vanuatu by not requiring passports of its members. The following documents shall, however, be required for entry into the Republic of Vanuatu:

- a. a personal identity card issued by the appropriate authority of the Government of New Zealand showing the full name, date of birth, rank and number, Service and photograph of the holder;
- b. an individual or collective movement order issued by an appropriate authority and certifying to the status of the individual or group as a member of the New Zealand contingent.

8. All freight and exercise stores and equipment required by the New Zealand contingent for the exercise shall be given entry free of all duties by the Vanuatu authorities provided that a detailed list of New Zealand stores and equipment is forwarded to the Vanuatu authorities.

9. The New Zealand contingent shall be permitted to take with it upon departure all equipment brought by it into the Republic of Vanuatu for the purpose of Exercise TROPIC DAWN 94 free from export duties and related charges and restrictions.

10. The New Zealand contingent shall provide their own 24 hour ration packs which shall comply with the agricultural requirements of the Republic of Vanuatu.

11. The Government of New Zealand shall supply rations and loan field equipment to Vanuatu personnel deploying in support of the New Zealand contingent.