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The Regionalisation of New Zealand's Territorial Forces, 1999 - 2005

By Richard Campbell

ABSTRACT

The following is a review of the structural changes which were made to New Zealand's Territorial Forces (TF) between 1999 and 2005. These administrative reforms, often referred to as the regionalisation process, are studied with reference to four relevant Army General Staff Directives (1999, 2000, 2002 & 2005) which detail both the intent of the initiatives and their outcomes. Commentary is also provided by a number of Army officers who were either directly involved with formulating these changes or have been members of the TF at the time or since. Discussion is further framed by reference to proximate trends in the international defence and security environment, relevant reserve component policies in other nations (particularly Australia and the US) and by social, economic and political influences within New Zealand itself.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

When this project first began in 2008 it was anticipated that it would be completed in that same year and this writer, with reservations, felt that it would proceed with relatively few hiccups. How wrong he was! Almost three years later, as I sit here writing this, I now look back on a period in my life that could not have contained more complications, angst and near catastrophes if it had been the result of the creative machinations of a writer in some fictional melodrama. As such, it is important that I recognise all of the people who have helped me over or, sometimes, around the many hurdles that have stood in my way.

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