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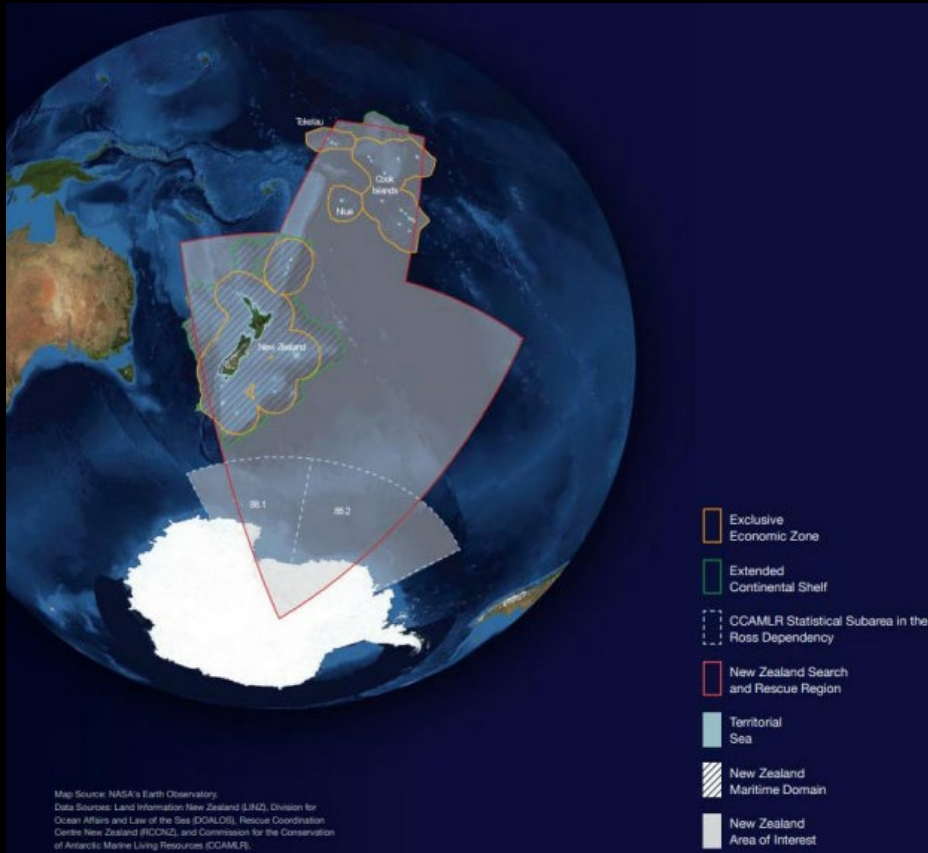
NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE



2026 Keystone Course

WO Cory King

Who We Are: National & Military Context



- New Zealand has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which is approximately 15 times the land area of our country and among the largest in the world.
- Population – 5.4 million
- We maintain a commitment to regional Search and Rescue which is vast.
- We have the ninth longest coastline in the world.
- We are a vast distance from most major international markets and 98% of our trade crosses the sea

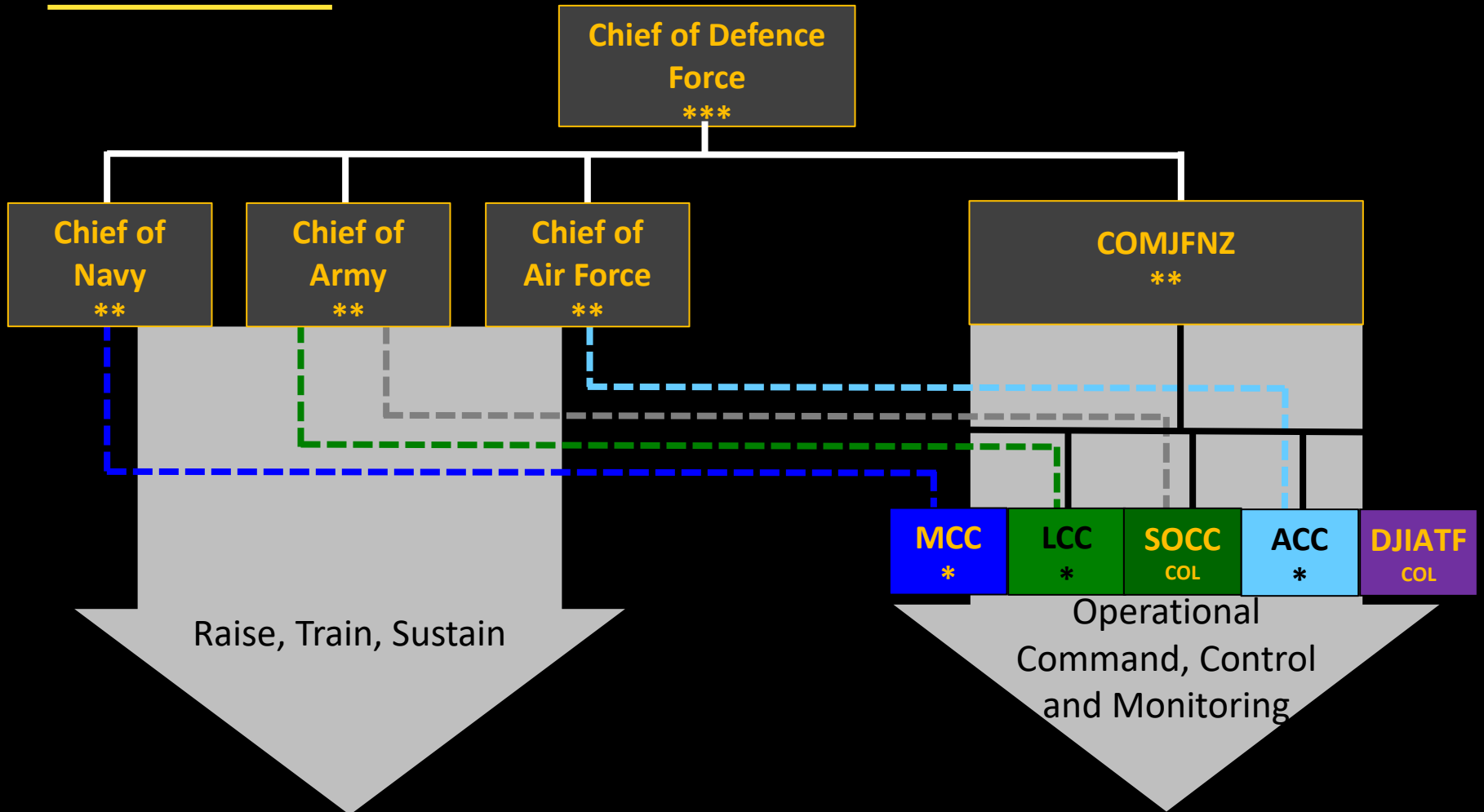
NZDF at a Glance



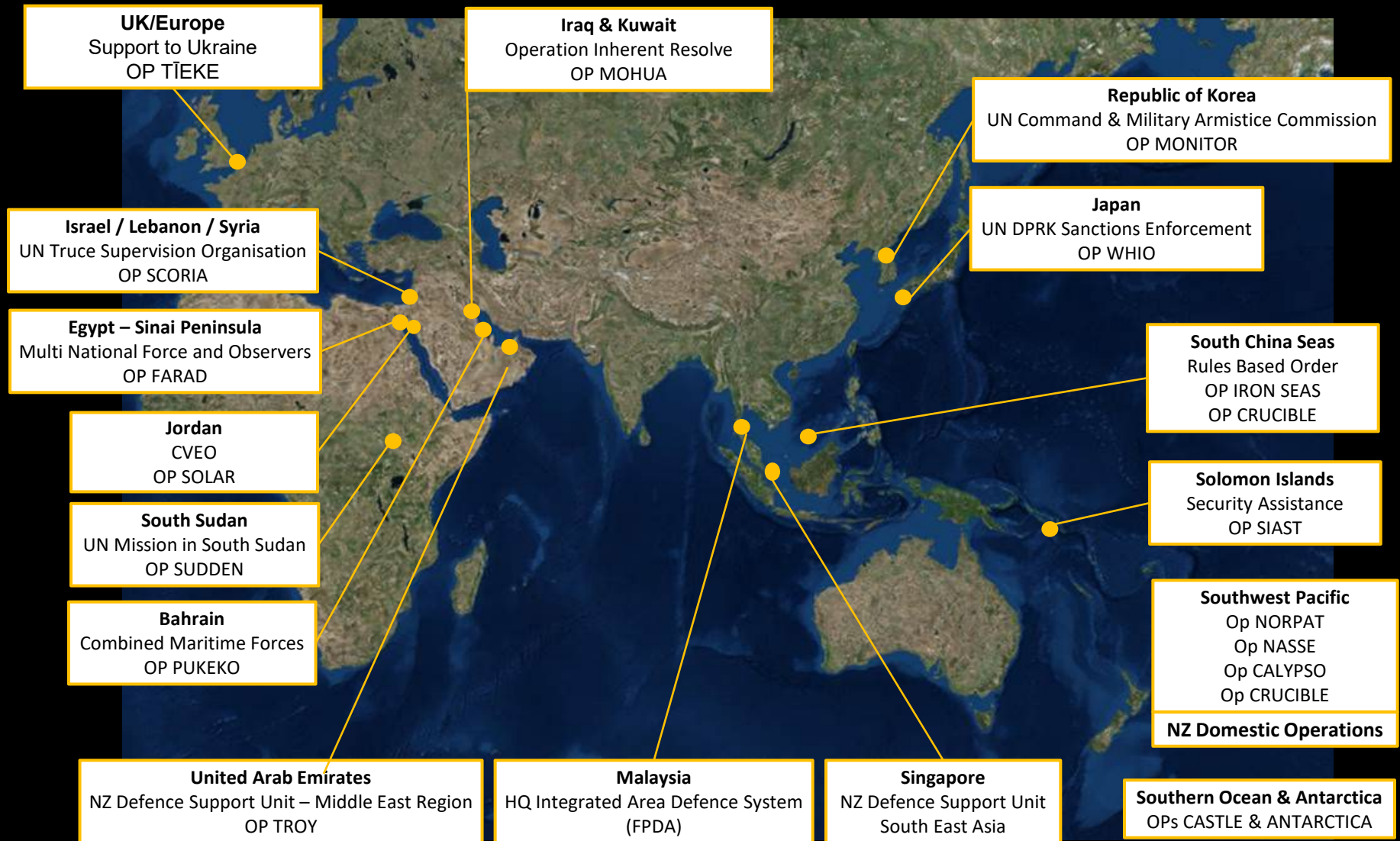
- Three Services: Navy, Army, Air Force
- ~15,000 personnel: Regular, Reserve, Civilian
- Joint Force by Design
- HQ Joint Forces New Zealand: Operational command of deployed forces
- Expeditionary & Maritime Focus
- Designed for Multinational Integration

HQJFNZ

Prepares, integrates, deploys, commands and supports assigned forces



NZDF Operations Overview



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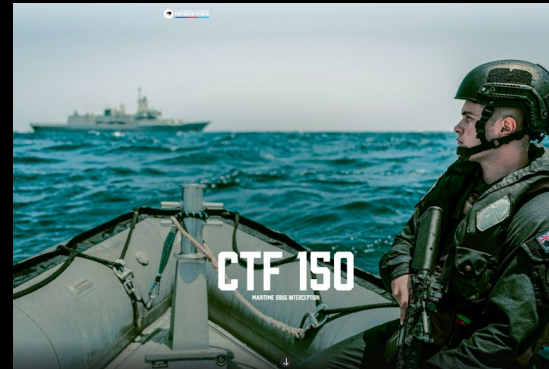
Capabilities That Matter in Coalition Operations

- Coalition-ready maritime forces
- Expeditionary, agile land units
- Air mobility and maritime ISR
- High-quality personnel and HQ staff
- Logistics and enabling support
- Interoperability by design



How We Operate in Joint & Coalition Environments

- Joint by design, not by exception
- Comfortable under allied command
- Clear national authorities and caveats
- Mission command within defined limits
- Scalable, but sustainment matters



Influence in the Pacific – Soft Power

- Presence without Coercion
- Long-term Engagement Builds Trust
- Disaster Response & Humanitarian Support
- Defence Diplomacy through Action (Consent-Based Engagement)





Success, Challenges, and Lessons Learned

Trusted coalition partner

Strong HQ integration and staff impact

Reliable, professional people

Limited scale and capacity constraints

Sustainment requires partner alignment

Political oversight shapes tempo



NZDF – Looking Ahead

- First National Military Strategy Released
- Defence Capability Plan Refresh Underway
- Significant Increase in Defence Investment
- Building Capacity, Enhancing Capability
- Continued Focus: Joint, Integrated, Coalition Operations





Questions

