



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2024-5114

10 September 2024

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I refer to your email of 13 August 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

I respectfully request all documents and emails that you can access (from across the NZ Defence Forces - NZ and overseas), for the period 21 May 2023 to the present day (inclusive), referring to unidentified anomalous phenomena, UAP (or its equivalent term or abbreviation eg. USO, UAS, UFO, non-terrestrial, NHI) and the Five Eyes/FVEYS (United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand), and their ongoing co-operation and sharing of UAP data with AARO, The Pentagon, Washington DC, the US Defense Forces and US Government (including all contractors and consultants to the FVEYS).

I refer you to the attached documents, which include two previous OIA responses, the redacted agenda for the FVEYS-AARO Washington meeting (May 24th 2023), and a statement by Ms. Susan Gough (Pentagon Spokesperson) to Mr. Grant Lavac, Australia (June 25th 2024).

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) has not received a request from the United States' Department of Defense for assistance with unidentified anomalous phenomena data collection and analysis. The NZDF has no role or responsibility relating to unidentified anomalous phenomena and does not hold information relevant to your request. Accordingly, your request is declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA as the information you have requested does not exist.

In the response to you of 5 September 2023, you were advised that a NZDF representative attended a briefing by Dr Kirkpatrick on behalf of New Zealand, and the NZDF does not hold information concerning any current, considered or planned interactions with Dr Kirkpatrick or the United States Department of Defense All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office. Information provided to the NZDF in relation to the briefing remains classified and was provided to the NZDF by the United States on a basis of confidence. It is therefore withheld in full in accordance with sections 6(a) and 6(b)(i) of the OIA. You may wish to seek information from the All-domain Anomalous Resolution Office.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF