



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

OIA-2024-5118

19 September 2024



Dear [Redacted]

I refer to your email of 15 August 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *any documents (incoming or outgoing communications, electronic or otherwise), from 1 May 2023 to the present day, which you are able to access within the NZDF, which include any of the following keywords and phrases: AUKUS, Second Pillar, JCS, JSOC, ODNI, UAV, UKN, disruptive technology, advanced materials, strategic anomalies, hypersonic, plasma, propulsion, satellite/radar imagery, data sharing, drone, incursion, investigation, assessment, inaugural, forum, caucus, task force, working group.*

On 22 August 2024, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) asked you to refine your request as it would be likely declined in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA as a substantial collation and research effort would be required. On 22 August 2024 you refined your request to the following:

I therefore, respectfully request any documents (incoming or outgoing, electronic or otherwise), from 1 May 2023 to the present day, which you are able to access within the NZDF, which include any of the following keywords and phrases:

"Disruptive technology, strategic anomalies, UAV, UKN, hypersonic, JSOC, Second Pillar."

A search of the NZDF email archive system produced over 700 results. The only mechanism by which these results can be reviewed to remove false positives and duplicate emails is a manual search. Your refined request is therefore declined in accordance with 18(f) of the OIA, for the reason explained above. A review of some of these emails was undertaken and these were limited to copies of media reporting and administrative updates. It seems likely that the system identified the words "strategic", "second" and "pillar".

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