




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

OIA-2024-5190

 December 2024

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I refer to your email of 31 October 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *all communications relating to this incident* [at Devonport Naval Base on 31 October 2024], *and the outcomes of the incident (any investigation reports etc)*.

Enclosed are: emails following your query of 31 October; a security incident report; and, a copy of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) Military Police report. Where indicated, information is withheld to: avoid prejudice to the security and defence of New Zealand in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA; protect privacy in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the OIA; maintain the effective conduct of public affairs in accordance with section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA; and, to avoid the malicious or inappropriate use of NZDF staff information in accordance with section 9(2)(k) of the OIA. Emails between the Military Police and the Security Guard Force are not provided, however these are summarised in the Military Police report.

The then Chief of Staff Headquarters NZDF sent a SMS message to the NZDF Private Secretary to the Minister of Defence concerning the incident. A copy of this message has not been retained. As noted in the security incident report, the Minister was departing Devonport Naval Base around the time the incident occurred.

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](http://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

**GA Motley**  
Brigadier  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

**Enclosures:**

1. Emails
2. Security Incident Report
3. Military Police report

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

**From:** Millar, Simone s. 9(2)(k)  
**Date:** Thursday, 31 Oct 2024 at 3:55 PM  
**To:** s. 9(2)(g)(i), s. 9(2)(k) ; @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

This is the cleared line from CO PHIL:

*NZDF security staff and Military Police have responded to a security incident at the entrance to Devonport Naval Base this afternoon.  
The base has not been locked down but the Queens Parade entrance has been closed.*

**From:** Millar, Simone  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 October 2024 3:43 p.m.  
**To:** s. 9(2)(g)(i), s. 9(2)(k) ; @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

Some buildings have been evacuated and the QP Gate is closed.

However, the other gate is open, therefore not in lockdown.

**From:** s. 9(2)(g)(i)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 October 2024 3:42 p.m.  
**To:** Millar, Simone s. 9(2)(k) ; @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

Thanks Simone. Is the base in 'lockdown'?

**From:** Millar, Simone s. 9(2)(k)  
**Date:** Thursday, 31 Oct 2024 at 3:38 PM  
**To:** s. 9(2)(g)(i), s. 9(2)(k) ; @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

That is correct. EOD is also attending, I believe.

**From:** s. 9(2)(g)(i)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 October 2024 3:38 p.m.  
**To:** @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** FW: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

FYI I'm just about to provide the minister's office with this line:

I have been advised an alleged security breach occurred at Devonport Naval Base this afternoon. Military police and NZ Police attended the incident. As it is currently under investigation, I have no further comment will be made at this time.

**From:** Williams, David <[David.Williams@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:David.Williams@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Date:** Thursday, 31 Oct 2024 at 3:34 PM  
**To:** 'Phoebe Utteridge' <[Phoebe.Utteridge@stuff.co.nz](mailto:Phoebe.Utteridge@stuff.co.nz)>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry - Naval base unclassified

Hi Phoebe,  
Acknowledging your request and we'll get back to you.  
Regards

**Dave Williams**

Senior Communications Adviser - DPA, Defence Public Affairs  
Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa | New Zealand Defence Force  
Mobile: 021 925 745  
[www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz)



This media response has been provided by the New Zealand Defence Force Public Affairs team. For further information about requesting information under the Official Information Act (OIA), [visit our website](#). You have the right to request a review by the Ombudsman of this response at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

**From:** Phoebe Utteridge [<mailto:Phoebe.Utteridge@stuff.co.nz>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 October 2024 3:33 p.m.  
**To:** @Media <[Media@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:Media@nzdf.mil.nz)>  
**Subject:** Media enquiry - Naval base

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do **not** follow guidance, click links, or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If in any doubt please forward the email to [spam@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:spam@nzdf.mil.nz) and then delete the email from your Inbox. Thank you.

Kia ora,

We received a report that the naval base was in lockdown. Is that true? If so, please could you let me know any details you can?

Thanks very much,  
Phoebe



Christchurch

**Phoebe Utteridge**

Journalist  
+64 21 221 6297  
Press House,  
158 Gloucester Street,

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Christchurch 8011  
Private Bag 4722,  
Christchurch

## Security Incident Report

What: Unauthorised Entry of Vehicle and Driver

Where: Devonport Naval Base, Queens Parade Main Gate

When: Thursday 31 Oct Time: 1405

311405 Oct 24 - HMNZS PHILOMEL Command Team notified that a Van had crashed through DNB Queens Parade Main Gate after being stopped by the SGF guard and demanded to be let on DNB.

Informed of incident by SGF staff in PHL EOC

1406 – Base Operations Officer (BOO) informed by military police driver and vehicle contained.

Individual made way from parked car into Building SY14 and presented himself to NZDF MP

A 100 meter area cordon set from scene of parked vehicle

Clearing all buildings in vicinity of vehicle

1406 – NZDF MP informed BOO individual contained and secured in NZDF MP Office

1420 – FENZ standing by to assist.

1420 – NZ Police on scene.

1408 – BOO Contacted JFHQ watch keeper and requested EOD team.

1440 – EOD arrived at QP Gate

NZ POLICE s. 9(2)(a) in attendance

EOD completed external search of vehicle - vehicle clear

1613 - Individual removed from DNB by NZ Police s. 9(2)(a)

1647 - EOD conducted internal search of vehicle – vehicle clear

Media Interest – COPHL approved statement for release via DPA

EOD exterior sweep of vehicle complete, sweep of vehicle interior completed – Vehicle clear

1711 - NZ Police & EOD handed incident over to NZDF

Vehicle cordoned off & sentry in place until removed by NZ Police

Security cordons collapsed

All affected areas now cleared for general use and DNB reverts to BAU

Barrier arm U/S at QP Gate. Gate to revert to one lane Entry/Exit only

Full assessment will be conducted once CCTV reviewed and information gathered from all parties.

Lessons identified will be captured on completion.

Incident over, no further reporting.

Note:

MINDEF & VCDF visit to DST concluded around the same time as incident and both departed DNB via Ngataringa Bay gate. Visit not affected by incident.

*General Access*

s. 6(a)

**SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE - 1M**

Operation Name: NZDF MP

<b>Report Number:</b>	40451	<b>Report Type:</b>	NOTING
<b>Report Date:</b>	31/10/2024	<b>Security Level:</b>	General Access
<b>Source:</b>	No Source Stated		
<b>Source Reliability:</b>	A - COMPLETELY RELIABLE	<b>Information Reliability:</b>	1 - CONFIRMED
<b>Last Modified by:</b>	s. 6(a)	<b>on:</b>	05/11/2024 12:54:09

**ATTRIBUTES**

<b>Use of Force</b>	NO
<b>Post-Incident Urinalysis</b>	NO
<b>Media Interest</b>	NO
<b>Eastings</b>	1,375,906
<b>Northings</b>	6,829,572
<b>Ecl Exploitation</b>	NO

**RELATED OBJECTS**

Object Number	Object Type	Object Identifier
153747	LOCATION	ACHILLES ROAD, DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE, AUCKLAND
153746	OFFENCE	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE 31/10/2024 13:56:00
99857	PERSON	s. 9(2)(a) Male s. 9(2)(a)
153745	VEHICLE	s. 9(2)(a) MITSUBISHI L300 BLACK

**RELATED REPORTS**

Relationship Type	Document Ref	Report Type	Report Date
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**REPORT TEXT**

**MP UNIT:**

Devonport MP Station


**MP POC:**

s. 6(a)



**SGF POC:**

s. 9(2)(a)  SGF, Site Supervisor

s. 9(2)(a)  SGF, Security Guard - Bravo Section

s. 9(2)(a) , SGF, Section Leader- Bravo

**OFFENCE:**

1M - 1C Vehicle/1B

**DATE/TIME:**


31 October 2024, about 1357 hours

**PLACE:**

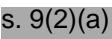
Achilles Road, Devonport Naval Base

**SUSPECT/OFFENDER:**

s. 9(2)(a)



**UNIT 1:**

2000 Mitsubishi L300, Black, s. 9(2)(a) 

WOF: 30/04/2025

REGO: 23/04/2025

**TEXT:**

At Devonport MP Station, on 31 Oct 2024, about 1356 hours, MP received notification regarding a 1C vehicle that had driven through the Queens Parade Gate at DNB.

About 1357 hours, S produced himself at the MP station, stating he wished to turn himself in,  
s. 9(2)(a) 

s. 6(a) [redacted] conducted ROI  
NZPOL contacted for HOTO  
U1 identified - EOD contacted for bomb sweep.

s. 6(d) [redacted]

At no point was S violent, uncooperative, or rude to MP/NZPOL.

**31 OCT 24**

1401hrs - MP2 contacted NZPOL

1402hrs - MP3&5 identified vehicle on Achilles Road, outside DNB Chapel/Seminar center

1403hrs - MP7 conducted ROI with S at MP station.

1407hrs - MP8 advised Base Operations Officer of NZPOL handover

1427hrs - NZPOL arrive at DNB. MP1 conducts HOTO, advising:

s. 9(2)(a) [redacted]

1440hrs - EOD arrive at DNB to clear vehicle.

1600hrs - MP8 provided brief to CO & XO PHL, with other command elements.

1620hrs - NZPOL 10/2 s. 9(2)(a) [redacted].

1647hrs - EOD clear van. 10/0.

1711hrs - NZPOL update, approx 1hr to uplift van and remove from base.

1724hrs - MP6 signed over vehicle keys to OOTD for NZPOL to receive.

1906hrs - MP8 received confirmation from NZPOL of van being moved

TO DO:

JS - all MP

AAR

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**UPDATE - 05 Nov 24 - s. 6(a) [redacted]**

**01 Nov 24**



s. 6(a) actions, requesting SGF incident report and CCTV from s. 9(2)(a) s. 9(2)(a).

1325 hrs -Sent email to s. 9(2)(a), SGF Site Supervisor, requesting a SGF incident report, and CCTV footage of the incident.

1400 hrs -Received email from s. 9(2)(a) with the SGF incident report. CCTV footage to be burnt to disk, and will notify MP when available for collection.

1413 hrs -Email comms with s. 9(2)(a), including SGF incident report, uploaded to DDMS file s. 6(a), filed under correspondence.

**BACKGROUND FROM SGF REPORT:**

- At approximately 1400 hrs a black sign written civilian van approached the traffic barrier, which was in the lowered position.
- As the driver approached the barrier he wound down the window. s. 9(2)(a)
- I asked the driver for ID. s. 9(2)(a) s. 9(2)(a).
- I asked him s. 9(2)(a). He stated that he didn't have to tell me.
- At this point I got the other guards attention s. 9(2)(a) as I thought something was "off" with him.
- He then stated to me again in a threatening tone s. 9(2)(a).
- that there was no way he was getting onto base without me verifying who you are."
- At this point he drove his van through the lowered barrier and fish tailed up the road toward the church out of my line of sight.
- s. 9(2)(a) went to the phone and called Command (AL) and informed him that there was a breach and a perp on camp.
- Command (AL) instructed us to secure front gate on QP

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**UPDATE - 05 Nov 24 - s. 6(a)**

**05 Nov 24**

1100 hrs - s. 6(a) called s. 9(2)(a) FPT. Requesting the following

information.

s. 9(2)(a)

1150 hrs - s. 6(a) received information from s. 6(a) IRT NZ POL staff who attended incident.

Original email from:

Caroline Pera-Anderson, Youth & Families.

CELL: s. 9(2)(a)

EMAIL: caroline.anderson@police.govt.nz

**Circumstances:**

On Thursday the 31st of October 2024 at approximately 2:06pm, Police were notified of an incident on the naval base.

s. 9(2)(a)

**Background:**

s. 9(2)(a)

**Circumstances:**

Police received a call from the Navy Base on Queens Parade, Devonport.

They stated that an unknown male had just driven through the front gate barrier arm in his vehicle.

The male was apprehended s. 9(2)(a)

s. 9(2)(a) was identified by Military Police as he provided his driver's license ID.

s. 9(2)(a)

Police attended and spoke to s. 9(2)(a).

EOD were called by the Navy due to the threats about explosive devices and the van being on site.

CRT attended and their DAO spoke to the male who willingly handed his keys over to assist with the clearance of his van.

s. 9(2)(a)

s. 9(2)(a)

DCC were advised and aware of this incident.

Navy staff were spoken to and advised that they were not wanting criminal action for the damage caused to the gate.

CRT returned to the Naval Base to retrieve the van and park it s. 9(2)(a)