



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

OIA-2023-4760

7 July 2023

Jason Gooch

fyi-request-23198-60853b14@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Jason Gooch

I refer to your email of 20 June 2023 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

Any documents, reports, or memos related to the Five Eyes Foreign Material Recovery Program (FMP) with a specific focus on UAP.

Information on the objectives, scope, and operational aspects of the FMP in relation to UAP.

Any assessments, studies, or analyses conducted by the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service [New Zealand Defence Force] regarding recovered foreign materials associated with UAP.

Any communication or correspondence between the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service [New Zealand Defence Force] and other Five Eyes alliance members regarding the FMP and UAP.

Any records of encounters with UAP, including incident reports, witness testimonies, and analysis of potential national security threats.

As noted in square brackets above, your reference to the New Zealand Intelligence Security Service has been interpreted to mean the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), as your request was directed to the NZDF.

While a NZDF representative based in Washington DC attended a briefing by Dr Kirkpatrick of the United States Department of Defense All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office, the NZDF does not hold any information generated by the NZDF relevant to your request. The briefing information is classified US information and is therefore withheld in full in accordance with sections 6(a) and 6(b)(i) of the OIA. You may wish to contact the appropriate US authorities for their information.

In 2010 the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) released to public libraries fifteen volumes containing all accumulated correspondence then held relating to reports of unidentified aerial phenomenon or sightings (UAS) / unidentified flying objects (UFO) 1952 to 2009 inclusive, suitably redacted to protect individual privacy. Copies of this information were provided to: the Dunedin Public Library; the Hamilton Public Library; the Marlborough

District Libraries; the Alexander Turnbull Library; and Infofind (the Radio New Zealand library).

The NZDF has no role or responsibility relating to reports of UAS/UFO. It is standard practice that any such reports received by the NZDF are to be referred to the Civil Aviation Authority. The NZDF neither investigates nor maintains records relating to UAS/UFO sightings.

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.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF