



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE



New Zealand Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Manatū Aorere

10 April 2018

Jonathan Red
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Dear Jonathan Red

I refer to your email of 11 March 2018 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I would like to request all information held by the Ministry regarding the following two properties - 24 Hatton Street in Wellington and 33 Rama Crescent in Wellington. These properties housed the chancery and the residence of the Embassy of the former Yugoslavia until 1992. The Appendix to Annex B of the Agreement on succession issues, signed by all five successor states of the former Yugoslavia in 2001 in Vienna, lists diplomatic properties of the former country abroad. On this list the two aforementioned properties are listed under the entry for New Zealand. They are listed as having a legal status of "ownership" however under comment column the entry says "Taken over by the Government of New Zealand since 1992".

More specifically I would like to request

-copy of the decision under which the properties were seized in 1992 and any potential subsequent decisions extending the hold -documents showing the current legal status and documents related to the current use of the two properties -any other documents pertaining to the status of these properties, especially recent correspondence with the authorities of Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina or FYR Macedonia or the United Nations bodies."

I also refer to my letter of 23 March 2018 in which part of your request was transferred to Public Trust:

"copy of the decision under which the properties were seized in 1992 and any potential subsequent decisions extending the hold -documents showing the current legal status and documents related to the current use of the two properties -any other documents pertaining to the status of these properties,"

The Ministry is continuing to work on your request for:

"especially recent correspondence with the authorities of Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina or FYR Macedonia or the United Nations bodies."

This letter advises that due to the necessity for further consultation, we will need to extend the time limit for responding to you by 20 working days, to 9 May 2018. It is possible however, that even with this extension, we may be unable to release material relevant to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Adams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wendy Adams
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade
