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New Zealand Defence Force
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OIA-2024-4964

18 April 2024

N. S. Hudson
fyi-request-26152-25a3bef0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear N. S. Hudson

I refer to your email of 19 March 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following:

1. Has the NZDF received the document titled "Joint-Chiefs-UAP-Directive-May-2023" [made available through a FOI request in the USA by a Douglas Johnson, dropbox link below] from the United States military or any affiliated agencies? If not, please answer the following:

1.1. Was there any representative associated with/on behalf of the NZDF present in Washington when the document was made available?

1.2. If so, did this representative obtain a copy of the document?

1.3. If a representative obtained a copy of the document, was it subsequently provided to the NZDF or briefed to NZDF officials?

1.2. If a representative from the NZDF was present in Washington, did they obtain a copy of the document?

1.3. If a representative obtained a copy of the document, was it subsequently provided to the NZDF or briefed to NZDF officials?

2. Does the NZDF have any formal agreements or arrangements with US military agencies operating in New Zealand regarding the exchange of information, intelligence, or collaboration on matters related to UAP or similar phenomena?

3. If there have been any sightings, engagements, or retrievals related to UAP or similar phenomena involving the NZDF and US military agencies in New Zealand, please provide details of such incidents.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and its representative based in Washington DC did not receive a copy of the document you have referenced in your request.

The NZDF has no current role or responsibility relating to reports of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomenon (UAP) or similar phenomena with the United States military. Accordingly, parts 2 and 3 of your request are declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA as the information does not exist.

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