



Te Pā Whakamarumarū
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N. S. Hudson

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Tēnā koe N. S. Hudson

Official information request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 3 October 2023 to the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) seeking answers to the following questions:

On the 31 May 2023, Sean Kirkpatrick the head of the US All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) team, told a public NASA meeting on UAP, that in the previous week he had met with the Five Eyes which includes the NZ, to discuss Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP), data collection and collaboration.

i) Did the NZSIS take part in this meeting mentioned above?

ii) As the NZSIS, NZDF and the CAA have either stated they have no information on UAP's, or retrieval programs of seized UAPs, has the NZSIS offered to assist with collaboration on UAP/USO data collection and analysis? If so, what does this entail?

iii) Has there been a risk assessment investigation for UAP or Unidentified Submerged Objects (USO) regarding our territorial airspace and waters?

iv) Has there been any documentation sent to NZSIS regarding:

a) "UAP#20", which was engaged by the U.S. on February 10, 2023; or

b) "UAP#23", which was engaged by the U.S. on February 11, 2023, where a Norad F22 Raptors successfully engaged with these UAP's in Canadian Airspace under NORAD authorities?

c) The 26th February 2016 incident in Pentyrch, Wales with a UAP being engaged by military forces?

v) Has there been any communication via the 5 Eyes network; regarding UAP, being aerial, or USO's (Unidentified Submersible Objects), or of a crash retrieval program regarding UAP's and /or USO's?

Response

In response to question i), I can advise that the NZSIS did not attend the meeting.

Regarding questions, ii) – v), the NZSIS does not hold any information related to crash retrieval programmes, risk assessments, the specified incidents, nor any communications related to UAP or USOs. As such, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the documents requested do not exist.

Intelligence and security agency functions

For context, it might be helpful to explain more about the NZSIS's functions. Our priorities, called the National Security Intelligence Priorities (NSIPs), are set by Government. The NSIPs outline key areas of national security interest to the New Zealand Government – more information can be found online at www.dpmc.govt.nz.

The key priorities relevant to the NZSIS and our functions are foreign interference and espionage, terrorism and violent extremism, Pacific resilience and security, space security, and threats to New Zealanders overseas. Our remit in relation to space security is limited – our only role is in undertaking national security risk assessments for all activities licensed or permitted under the Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017.

Review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact oa.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that the NZSIS proactively publishes OIA responses in accordance with the expectations of Te Kawa Mataaho/the Public Service Commission. We intend to publish this letter (with your personal information removed) on the NZSIS website. Publication of such responses is done on a quarterly basis.

Ngā mihi



Andrew Hampton

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumarū
Director-General of Security