



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

OIA-2023-4615

27 February 2023

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 27 January 2023 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *any information please on Operation Midford from 20 December 1979 to Rhodesia.*

Four relevant files on Operation Midford were identified within New Zealand Defence Force records. The first file is listed as missing, and information from the second file was disposed of in 2009 in accordance with the relevant disposal authority. Information from the third and fourth files concerns communications with partner nations and is withheld in full in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA.

For your information, Archives New Zealand hold fourteen files regarding Operation Midford that are available for the public to view. These include files named as: General; Withdrawal Arrangements; Base Documents/Papers; Intelligence Summaries; A.S. Matters; New Zealand Contingent Situation Reports; Corrective Liaison Advisory and Monitoring Organising Rhodesia Situation Reports; Military Assistance to Zimbabwe – Rhodesia; Intelligence Matters; Miscellaneous Directives and Reports; and Aid to Zimbabwe/Rhodesia.

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, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF