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OIA-2024-5215

10th
December 2024

Andrew Arkins
fyi-request-29359-8b83b100@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Andrew Arkins

I refer to your email of 28 November 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information *related to New Zealand's involvement in the "FVEY Inaugural UAP Caucus Working Group" meeting held on 24 May 2023.*

Specifically, I seek:

- 1. Agendas, minutes, reports, and communications related to this meeting, including but not limited to input from or pertaining to the Science and Technology Unit of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF).*
- 2. Data or findings shared by or with New Zealand during or after the meeting and since till the present, particularly those involving science, technology, or defense research as appropriate and in consideration of security and privacy concerns.*
- 3. Information about decisions, initiatives, or collaborative frameworks involving New Zealand, particularly any contributions from the Science and Technology Unit of the NZDF but not limited to.*
- 4. Correspondence between New Zealand and other Five Eye "FVEY" partners as a result of or pertaining to the aforementioned meeting regarding research or policy, including any involvement of science and/or technology teams, departments or agencies.*

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) has not received a request from the United States' Department of Defense All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office for assistance with unidentified anomalous phenomena data collection and analysis. And as previously advised, the NZDF has no role or responsibility relating to unidentified anomalous phenomena and is not undertaking any research or programmes, or generating data.

A NZDF representative based in Washington D.C. attended a briefing by Dr Kirkpatrick on behalf of New Zealand. Briefing information provided to the NZDF is classified United States information. It is therefore withheld in full in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA to avoid prejudice to the international relations of the Government of New Zealand and section 6(b)(i) of the OIA to avoid prejudice to the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country. You may wish to seek information from the United States' Department of Defense All-domain Anomalous Resolution Office.

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

GA Motley

Brigadier

Chief of Staff HQNZDF