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New Zealand Defence Force
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New Zealand

OIA-2025-5356

15th May 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 17 April 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following:

- *What steps were taken to recover the ships log?*
- *Was the NZ Navy actively searching for the Manawanui ship log when it was found by the Royal Navy?*

The Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) was not actively searching for the ship's log when HMS Tamar retrieved the log on 7 October 2024. As this was within the first 24 hours of the sinking of the HMNZS Manawanui, the RNZN's immediate priority was the recovery and welfare of the ship's crew.

- *When was Rear Admiral Golding advised that the ships log for the Manawanui was lost at sea / unaccounted for?*

The ship's log was not considered lost. Rear Admiral Golding was first informed of the whereabouts of the ship's log when it was retrieved by the HMS Tamar.

- *When did Golding advise Minister Collins that the ships log was missing?*
- *Who advised Minister Collins that loss of power may have been a contributing factor in the grounding of Manawanui?*

Rear Admiral Golding did not advise the Minister of Defence that the ship's log was missing. When Rear Admiral Golding and the Minister of Defence first communicated after the grounding of HMNZS Manawanui, the possible causes of the grounding were discussed including, but not limited to, a loss of power.

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

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF