



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

OIA-2025-5388

27 June 2025

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I refer to your email of 5 May 2025, to the Ministry of Defence seeking copies of all documents relevant to a number of matters. In accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following part of your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF): *Project Overmatch for interconnected naval warfare*. I apologise for the significant delay in providing this response.

As you may be aware from publicly available information on this United States Navy project¹, Project Overmatch enhances the member states' navies abilities to conduct distributed maritime military operations. This enhances the Royal New Zealand Navy's (RNZN) ability to remain interoperable with our military partners to directly support our strategic goals. As noted in the Ministry of Defence response to you, those strategic goals are outlined in the 2025 Defence Capability Plan².

Your request for all documents represents a significant collation effort due to the large volume of information within, and it is therefore declined in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA. In addition, this information specifically concerns RNZN combat capability and interoperability with partners, much of which remains classified and would not be made public.

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

¹ <https://www.navwar.navy.mil/Media/Article-Display/Article/4077984/project-overmatch-achieves-historic-milestone-with-five-eyes-agreement/>

² <https://defence.govt.nz/news/defence-capability-plan-released/>