



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

OIA-2025-5414

12<sup>th</sup>  
June 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 19 May 2025 to the Ministry of Defence requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

*1) How many service personnel, police and national film unit staff have applied for and been rejected for the Erebus medal in relation to the TE901 crash?*

On 26 May 2025 your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the OIA.

The response to this request is similar to the response to you of 26 July 2024, the NZDF has not created a report or database regarding those who may have applied but were unsuccessful in being awarded the Erebus medal. As you were notified in the 2024 response, decisions on those who have applied for the medal but are not eligible are recorded in the relevant subject matter file or on the applicant's military personnel file. A substantial research and collation effort involving the review of all files would be required to generate the information you have requested. Your request is therefore declined in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA.

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](http://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