



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

OIA-2025-5503.1

22nd January 2026

[REDACTED]
[@nzme.co.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@nzme.co.nz)

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 8 December 2025 again requesting information about an item of a personal nature recovered by divers working with a salvage company. Specifically, you have requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- *All correspondence with salvors working on Manawanui regarding the recovery of an item of intimate personal nature.*
- *All correspondence with salvors and others working on Operation Resolution regarding photos and videos of an item intimate personal nature recovered from Manawanui.*
- *All information held on how this was dealt with by the salvors.*
- *All correspondence with the Minister regarding the existence of an item of intimate personal nature recovered from the Manawanui.*

There is no relevant correspondence with the salvors. When the New Zealand Defence Force learned of an image of the object, the matter was raised verbally with the salvors and they conducted an internal investigation. There is no correspondence with the Minister of Defence *regarding the existence of an item of intimate personal nature recovered from the Manawanui*. Your request is therefore refused in accordance with section 18(g) 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 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