



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

OIA-2025-5559

17 October 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED] n

I refer to your email of 5 October 2025 to the Ministry of Defence requesting the following:

...the dates in which any helicopters in the existing NZDF Seasprite fleet entered into service, in New Zealand or abroad, noting any refurbishment or upgrade...

(a) any information whatsoever on whether Kaman repurposed component parts of airframes in the late 1950s, as held by the NZDF

(b) any information whatsoever on whether NZDF maintainers have observed Korean War era parts being used across some NZ Seasprite aircraft.

Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The NZDF's Seasprite aircraft have undergone several upgrades or modifications over their lives, resulting in model/variant changes. The NZDF currently flies the SH-2G(I) variant. The enclosed table details the known history and approximate dates of upgrades or modifications to the aircraft.

The NZDF does not have access to information regarding Kaman repurposing component parts of airframes in the 1950s. With respect to *whether NZDF maintainers have observed Korean War era parts being used across some NZ Seasprite aircraft*, despite all reasonable efforts, the NZDF has not identified any relevant information. I understand that whilst the Minister of Defence was advised by the Air Component Commander that parts of the SH-2GH(I) airframes currently in service were used in the Korean War, it was subsequently determined that this cannot be fully verified for the reason stated above. These parts of your request are therefore declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA because the requested information does not exist or cannot be found.

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

Enclosure:

1. SH-2G(I) Fleet Upgrade History