



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

OIA-2025-5566

17th October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 8 October 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Will the NZ Navy commemorate in Wellington this December the 1941 sinking of HMS Neptune resulting in the loss of 764 men including 150 New Zealanders?

While there is no national commemoration to mark the sinking of HMS Neptune, individual naval reserve units are holding the following commemorations in 2025:

- in Auckland, HMNZS Ngaponga is organising a dedication by the Navy Chaplaincy, with a small number of descendants attending;
- in Wellington, HMNZS Olphert is conducting the Remembrance of the Sinking of Neptune Ceremony, which is anticipated to be part of the Olphert End of Year parade;
- in Christchurch, HMNZS Pegasus will conduct a Naval Memorial/Neptune Commemoration service on 14 December 2025; and,
- in Dunedin, HMNZS Toroa is holding a Neptune Service on 14 December 2025.

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