



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

OIA-2025-5585



20<sup>th</sup> November 2025

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I refer to your emails of 30 October and 6 November 2025 requesting *any and all reports to the New Zealand Defence Force of extremely loud unexplained noises in various parts of Cambridge.*

- *These incidents date back to at least 2017. I am requesting the information from you covering 2023 to 2025 to make this an achievable request...*
- *I also request reports, memos, letters, notes and advice on this subject. Please include if the cause of these explosive sounds and shockwaves is known and if anything is being done to investigate and stop them.*
- *Also, please provide internal and external emails regarding this situation, such as to Cambridge Police, Fire and Emergency and Waipā District Council.*
- *The extremely loud noises are heard all over Cambridge. ....The noises are heard at different times including 11.45pm, 12.20am and around 3am.*
- *Please advise if you have any intel on what is or could be causing these noises that have the whole Cambridge community wanting answers...*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) is not responsible for such investigations, and public notices are issued for military exercises. However, searches of NZDF records of activities for the requested time period were undertaken and no information relevant to your request was located. As a result, your request is declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA.

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron conducted demolition tasks at Cambridge quarries on 10 May 2023 and 24 October 2024. Both demolitions were conducted between 9am and 5pm and do not correlate with the dates and times you have provided.

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