



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

OIA-2026-5644

23rd February 2026

Stan Smith

fyi-request-33607-40879a40@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Stan Smith

I refer to your email of 29 January 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to UAS, aerial or space based systems.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) does not hold any information about unmanned aerial systems (UAS), drones, satellites, aerial sensor platforms, or other coordinated aerial or space-based systems UAS systems being used over Invercargill in the last five years. The NZDF has no role in monitoring New Zealand airspace.

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