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New Zealand Defence Force  
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Lower Hutt 5045  
New Zealand

OIA-2026-5856

15<sup>th</sup> September 2026

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].nz

[REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 23 June 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information related to *the report of the court of Inquiry into the sinking of HMNZS Manawanui*.

- According to section 62 pg 42 ... the ship was conducting hydrographic survey "at the request of CHOGM Command". In this context, who does CHOGM Command refer to?
- Which governments and/or organisations were involved in making this request?
- Additionally, please send me all correspondence between CHOGM Command and the NZDF relating to the request for hydrographic survey.

In the context of the comment, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) Command refers to the planning, command, and coordination element comprised of representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, and the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom Liaison Officer to Headquarters Joint Operations Command in Australia initiated an email referring to charting data gaps. Enclosed is email correspondence regarding the request to improve navigation charts. Where indicated, information from partner nations is withheld in accordance with sections 6(a) and 6(b)(i) of the OIA, and personal information is withheld to protect privacy in accordance with section 9(2)(a) 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](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

**Enclosure:**

1. Email correspondence

**From:** Stewart Dines s. 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 September 2024 2:58 p.m.  
**To:** s. 9(2)(a) LT s. 9(2)(a); s. 9(2)(a) WGCDR  
s. 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** CHOGM - TAMAR Charting data gap

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OFFICIAL

s. 9(2)(a)

It looks like the request below for survey support during CHOGM has already been sent to s. 9(2)(a) from our LO in HQ JOC, but wanted to also feed this in through you and SCE Branch.

s. 6(a)

. So it would be really beneficial if the RNZN were able to provide survey support to help improve the charts.

I believe NZ is the Primary Charting authority for Samoa so the task would have the added benefit of providing the Government with updated charts.

Regards

Stewart

**Lieutenant Colonel S J Dines** | UK Defence Adviser to New Zealand | Kaiārahi  
Kaupapa Waonga Aotearoa  
British High Commission, [44 Hill Street, Wellington 6011](#), New Zealand | Te Māngai,  
Kāwanatanga o Peretania ki Aotearoa, Poutāpeta, Te Whanga Nui-ā-Tara 6011,  
Aotearoa

s. 9(2)(a)

🐦@UKDefenceNZ @UKinNZ Website: [www.gov.uk/world/new-zealand](http://www.gov.uk/world/new-zealand)

**From:** s. 6(a)  
**Sent:** 10 September 2024 01:33  
**To:** s. 6(a)  
s. 9(2)(a)  
s. 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** s. 6(a), s. 6(b)(i)

**Subject:** TAMAR Charting data gap [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

s. 6(a), s. 6(b)(i)



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