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

OIA-2026-6037

3rd November 2026

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I refer to your email of 17 October 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

1. *A complete index of all UFO and UAP files, historical and current.*
2. *Copies of declassified reports, including RNZAF files from 1952 to 2009.*
3. *Military sightings, radar observations, photographs, videos, witness statements and investigation reports.*
4. *Communications with overseas governments, including Five Eyes partners, concerning UFOs or UAPs.*
5. *Assessments and briefings about unidentified objects in New Zealand airspace or territorial waters.*
6. *Previously released UFO/UAP documents and links to published releases.*
7. *Details of records transferred to Archives New Zealand.*
8. *Details of withheld or redacted records and applicable withholding grounds.*

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) has no role or responsibility relating to reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) / unidentified flying objects (UFO). The NZDF neither investigates nor maintains records relating to UAP/UFO sightings.

The NZDF released fifteen volumes containing all accumulated correspondence from 1952 to 2009 relating to reports of UAP/UFO to public libraries in 2010. Redactions were made to protect the privacy of individuals. Copies of this information were provided to the Dunedin Public Library; the Hamilton Public Library; the Marlborough District Libraries; the Alexander Turnbull Library; and Infofind (the Radio New Zealand library). Information contained in public libraries is not official information under the OIA. As this information is publicly available, the NZDF will not undertake the work involved to generate indexes or make copies in accordance with section 16(2)(a) of the OIA.

While no such reports are held by the NZDF, a search of all correspondence from 1 January 2010 to 30 June 2026 was undertaken using the terms "UFO", "UAP", "Unidentified Flying Object", "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" to identify if any had been sent to relevant authorities. This produced nil results.

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