

5 July 2023

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Personal details removed for proactive release

I refer to your email of 20 June 2023 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen with a strong interest in matters pertaining to national security and the unexplained aerial phenomena (UAP).

I specifically seek information regarding the Five Eyes Foreign Material Recovery Program (FMP) in relation to UAP. The Five Eyes alliance, which includes New Zealand, has long been known for its collaborative efforts in intelligence sharing and addressing global security challenges. As such, I believe that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade may possess valuable information concerning the collection, analysis, and evaluation of foreign materials related to UAP incidents.

To facilitate the OIA request, I kindly request the following information:

Any documents, reports, or memos related to the Five Eyes Foreign Material Recovery Program (FMP) with a specific focus on UAP.

Information on the objectives, scope, and operational aspects of the FMP in relation to UAP.

Any assessments, studies, or analyses conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding recovered foreign materials associated with UAP.

Any communication or correspondence between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other Five Eyes alliance members regarding the FMP and UAP.

Any records of encounters with UAP, including incident reports, witness testimonies, and analysis of potential national security threats.


I understand that certain aspects of the requested information may be classified or sensitive due to the nature of the subject matter. However, I trust that the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will undertake a careful review of the requested material, with due consideration given to the principles of transparency and public interest.

Your request for information is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information you have requested does not exist.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) and enclosed documents on the Ministry's website.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade