

8 May 2024

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OIA 29268

I refer to your email of 1 April 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*'I request any information about a proposed military intervention in Fiji following the May 1987 coup, including minutes, notes, or other documents containing consideration of and advice on such an intervention. If this information is unable to be provided, I request confirmation about whether such documents exist and, if so, when their access restriction is expected to expire.'*

On 10 April 2024 you agreed to refine the scope of your request to be for:

*'I request any correspondence between Minister David Lange and/or his staff and the Ministry, summaries of any meetings with or calls from or to Minister Lange and/or his staff and the Ministry, and any advice provide from the Ministry to Minister Lange and/or his staff about a proposed military intervention in Fiji by New Zealand and/or Australian defence personnel following the May 1987 coup from between 14 and 18 May 1987, inclusive.'*

*If this information is unable to be provided, I request confirmation about whether such documents exist and, if so, which institution has custody of them and when their access restriction is expected to expire.'*

Your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information does not exist. I understand you have also made requests to the New Zealand Defence Force and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. I direct you to their responses for further information.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: [www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Sarah Corbett  
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade