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OIA-2022-4387

26 May 2022

Andrew Li  
[fyi-request-19263-cf7ac031@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-19263-cf7ac031@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Andrew Li

I refer to your request of 3 May 2022, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), as follows:

*I am requesting all records, communications, and notes, regarding misconduct by American military personnel*

- 1) where it involves harm to NZDF personnel, i.e. sexual harassment of NZ Army soldiers*
- 2) and/or where conducted on New Zealand soil or New Zealand bases overseas, i.e. dangerous actions conducted on joint exercises at the Waiouru Military Training Area*

*This should include cases where the American military was left to deal with discipline or prosecution of those involved.*

The nationality of an alleged offender is not readily retrievable from New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) complaints data. It would require a search of each individual complaint file to identify any relevant information. As it stands, your request is therefore declined in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA, as identifying and providing relevant information would require a substantial collation and research effort. If there is a particular incident or incidents you wish to request information on, however, and you are able to refine your request with sufficient supporting information to identify these (for example a particular date or date range and specific exercise or activity), it will be reconsidered in that light.

Please note that in cases of misconduct by a member of the United States' military that are adjudicated by the United States' military, the NZDF is unlikely to hold documentation and/or does not have the authority to release such information.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely

**AJ WOODS**  
Air Commodore  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF