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**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

20 October 2021

Liam Kiely
fyi-request-16925-387ba78c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Kiely

RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email on 29 September 2021, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Please provide any and all information, including civilian and military reports, reports to the Minister of Defence, information shared between government agencies and the Ministry of Defence, including correspondence, relating to unidentified submerged objects, unidentified submerged objects with unusual capabilities such as travelling underwater at high velocity or the ability to travel through both air and water, or any other unexplained underwater phenomena in New Zealand waters, or that of its territories.

Any and all information pertaining our overseas allies, including information shared with the Ministry of Defence and correspondence, relating to unidentified submerged objects, unidentified submerged objects with unusual capabilities such as travelling underwater at high velocity or the ability to travel through both air and water, or any other unexplained underwater phenomena.

The Ministry of Defence has not identified any material pertaining to your request. As such we are declining your request pursuant to section 18(e) of the Act. We understand that you have also made a similar request to the New Zealand Defence Force.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to request an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Douglass'.

Carol Douglass
Deputy Secretary Governance, People and Executive Services