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OIA-2022-4451

14 July 2022

Valerie Morse

fyi-request-19850-26b316f4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Valerie Morse

I refer to your email of 7 July 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following:

1. The ranks and total number of NZDF personnel embarking on the USS Mobile Bay as part of RIMPAC 2022

Eight New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel led by a Royal New Zealand Navy Captain embarked on *USS MOBILE BAY*. The ranks for other personnel are withheld under section 6(a) of the OIA in order to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand.

2. The composition of the Carrier Strike Group commanded by NZDF: including number and type of ships, aircraft, submarines, soldiers (and any other assets used) and nationalities of the same.

The NZDF is not in command of the carrier strike group. The vessels that may be controlled by the NZDF as part of RIMPAC 2022 are: *JS IZUMO* (Japan), *HMCS WINNIPEG* (Canada), *USS MOBILE BAY* (US), *BRP ANTONIO LUNA* (Chile), *SEJONG THE GREAT* (Republic of Korea), *JS TAKANAMI* (Japan), *KD LEKIR* (Malaysia), *USS SAMPSON* (US).

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