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

13 March 2024

Lee Jared  
[fyi-request-25749-5134a47f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-25749-5134a47f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Lee

## RESPONSE TO YOUR ENQUIRY

Thank you for your email of 9 March 2024, seeking clarification about the response you received from the Ministry of Defence on 28 February in relation to an information request.

On 16 February you requested:

*1. Documentation of UAP/UFO Sightings Reports Received:*

*Please provide any documents, reports, or records held by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) relating to reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) from January 1, 2010, to the present day. This may include incident reports, radar data, witness statements, and any investigative findings related to UAP/UFO sightings.*

*2. MOD Protocols and Procedures for Handling UAP/UFO Reports:*

*Request information regarding the Ministry of Defence's protocols, procedures, or guidelines for receiving, assessing, and investigating reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). This should include details on how reports are documented, analyzed, and disseminated to relevant agencies or authorities.*

*3. MOD Communication with Other Agencies Regarding UAP/UFO Reports:*

*Request any correspondence, communications, or exchanges between the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and other government agencies or authorities regarding reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). This may include emails, memos, meeting minutes, or any other records that discuss collaborative efforts or information sharing related to UAP/UFO sightings.*

*4. Documentation Regarding UAP/UFO Research or Studies:*

*Please provide any documentation, research reports, or studies conducted or commissioned by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). This may include internal memos, research findings, or any other related documents.*

Your four questions focused on material held by the Ministry of Defence. As such, the Ministry's 28 February response focused on advising you what the Ministry holds and clarifying our role and functions. Given this scope, no external consultation was undertaken.

I reiterate the 28 February response, that the Ministry holds no information relating to Unidentified Aerial Phenomena or Unidentified Flying Objects.

In terms of the other agencies you mention:

- The New Zealand Defence Force is separate to the Ministry of Defence, and operates military capabilities. You can contact that agency for information it holds through the following webpage: <https://nzdf.mil.nz/media-centre/contact-us/>.
- The CAA has responsibilities in relation to the management of New Zealand airspace. You can make requests for information held by that agency through the following website: <https://aviation.govt.nz/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-requests/>

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review the Ministry's 28 February response.

Yours sincerely



PP

Richard Schmidt  
**Deputy Secretary, Policy and Planning**