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19 October 2016

W Shih

[fyi-request-4719-7935772f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-4719-7935772f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear W Shih

## Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your correspondence received 8 October 2016 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA): *"any information (including but not limited to; briefings, communications/ surveillance logs, investigation reports) held by SIS relating to the Soviet Embassy (both Soviet diplomats & embassy compounds) during the Cold War period"*.

The New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) has carried out initial scoping to establish what would be involved in processing your request. Because NZSIS holds a large volume of material potentially relevant to your request, substantial collation and research would be required to fulfil it.

As your request is currently framed, it is likely to be refused under section 18(f) [substantial collation or research] of the OIA. Therefore, it would be useful if you were able to identify a particular aspect of NZSIS's holdings in relation to the Soviet Embassy which is of interest to you, such as a particular individual or event; or a more specific time period. Refining your request in this way makes it more likely NZSIS will be able to meet your interest in this matter.

NZSIS would be happy to discuss this request further with you. Please direct your correspondence to: [uia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz](mailto:uia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rebecca Kitteridge'.

Rebecca Kitteridge  
Director of Security