

OIA-2017-2715

9 June 2017

Simon Ewing-Jarvie

fyi-request-5661-d25de97a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Ewing-Jarvie

I refer to your email of 2 April 2017 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

...any correspondence sent to or received from or otherwise held in any form between the New Zealand Defence Force and Rodney Hide.

An extension was applied to the timeframe for providing a response on 3 May 2017. I apologise for the time it has taken to provide this response.

Since Mr Hide served as a Member of Parliament from 1996, correspondence he may have had with the New Zealand Defence Force predates any electronic file storage system. After a search of those systems, and archived documents that can be accessed following the November 2016 earthquake, no correspondence sent to or received from Rodney Hide could be located. As a result of this search I am declining your request in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA as the information you have requested does not exist or cannot be found.

Given the period of time your request covers and the difficulty involved with searching through a substantial number of old documents, I do not believe consulting you would have changed this outcome.

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

Yours sincerely



G.R. SMITH
Commodore, RNZN
Chief of Staff HQNZDF