



New Zealand  
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10 May 2022

JR

[fyi-request-18950-0400604a@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-18950-0400604a@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear JR,

## Official information request

Thank you for your email of 29 March 2022 clarifying your Official Information Act (OIA) request for information pertaining to the USSR and any security threats to New Zealand.

You have identified three dates of interest, namely 30 March 1948, 13 August 1961 and 9 November 1989, and seek documents from around five to 10 days either side of these dates. It is noted that the three dates relate to events in the then-divided city of Berlin.

### Decision on your request

You will recall from our previous email that the information held by the NZSIS relates to national security, defined as the protection of New Zealand from acts of espionage, sabotage, subversion and terrorism.

Espionage and subversion were the principal long-standing threats emanating from the Soviet Union. They were characterised by slow development and gradual evolution, and not driven by particular events.

The developments in the USSR and German Democratic Republic associated with the dates to which you refer would not have had any impact here that would have resulted in the NZSIS re-assessing the threats to New Zealand's national security. Accordingly, your request falls within the provisions of section 18(e) of the OIA – the information does not exist or cannot be found.

### Review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [oya.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz](mailto:oya.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

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

**Rebecca Kitteridge**

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumarū  
Director-General of Security