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New Zealand  
**MINISTRY  
OF DEFENCE**  
Manatū Kaupapa Waonga

7 June 2018

Valerie Morse  
[<fyi-request-7817-a280ab04@requests.fyi.org.nz>](mailto:fyi-request-7817-a280ab04@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ms Morse

## **RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

Thank you for your email of 12 May 2018, in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) regarding whether the Ministry of Defence had any meetings with the Israeli Defence Force in the past five years.

The Ministry has been unable to find a record of any meetings with the Israeli Defence Force over the past five years. I note that there may have been international meetings over the past five years at which Ministry of Defence staff have been present, and that Israeli Defence Force personnel may have been in attendance as well. The Ministry of Defence, however, does not gather or hold information of this nature as part of its records and therefore, your request for this information is declined under section 18(e) of the Act, as that information does not exist.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Quilter'.

Helene Quilter  
**Secretary of Defence**