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

27 August 2025

RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 18 August 2025, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

Under the Official Information Act 1982 I request copies of all correspondence including emails, letters, text messages, WhatsApp messages, Signal messages, or Microsoft teams messages, sent or received by your Chief Executive regarding the American Proud Boys since 1 January 2025.

As a member of the National Security Board (NSB), the Secretary of Defence received NSB material from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) associated with the terrorist designation of the American Proud Boys. I refer you to DPMC's proactive release on this matter, available at <https://dpmc.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-designation-american-proud-boys-terrorist-entity>.

I also understand you have made the same request to DPMC, and I refer you to that agency's response with respect to information generated by DPMC, as they are best-placed to respond. The Ministry has not identified any further information in relation to your request, and so it is declined pursuant to section 18(e) of the Act.

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

Yours sincerely

Hamish Rogers
Deputy Secretary Governance, People and Executive Services