

OIA-2018-3138

30 July 2018

[REDACTED] RNZ News

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 14 June 2018 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), copies of the following documents:

1. *8/3/2018 - Royal New Zealand Air Force Base Woodbourne – Sale of Surplus Land*

Negotiations in relation to this issue remain underway. Accordingly, this document is withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(j) of the OIA, to enable negotiations to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage.

2. *29/3/2018 - Strategic Defence Policy Review 2018*

This document can be found online, on the NZDF website, at nzdf.mil.nz/downloads/pdf/public-docs/2018/strategic-defence-policy-statement-2018.pdf. Accordingly, this part of your request is declined pursuant to section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available.

3. *4/4/2018 - Operation Burnham – Update on a Number of Issues including Further Analysis of the Book Hit and Run*

The related inquiry is ongoing. Information connected with this is therefore withheld pursuant to section 6(c) of the OIA, as its release would likely prejudice the maintenance of the law.

4. *10/4/2018 - Sign and Issue of New Zealand Army Commissions*

The commissioning schedule, the Minister's letter to the Governor General and our cover sheet to the Minister for these are enclosed. Note, however, that copies of the actual commissioning parchments are not maintained. Where indicated, the names and contact details of NZDF personnel have been withheld pursuant to sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k) of the OIA, to protect individual privacy and avoid malicious or inappropriate use, such as phishing, scams or unsolicited advertising.

5. *11/4/2018 - Afghanistan Inquiry*

As noted above, this inquiry is ongoing, and related information is withheld pursuant to section 6(c) of the OIA, as its release would likely prejudice the maintenance of the law.

6. *17/4/2018 - Gratuitous Issue of Unimog 1700 Trucks*

A copy is enclosed. Where indicated, personal details of NZDF personnel have been withheld pursuant to sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k), as described above. The possible return from sale, and cost involved in demilitarizing the vehicles for civilian use, have been withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(j), also described above.

7. 20/4/2018 - Surplus Small Arms Disposal

A copy is enclosed. Where indicated, personal details of NZDF personnel have been withheld pursuant to sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k), as described above. Comments written by the Minister have been withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA, which allows for withholding of information to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by, between or to Ministers of the Crown.

8. 20/4/2018 - Dot-Point Brief: Waitangi Tribunal Maori Military Veterans' Kaupapa Inquiry

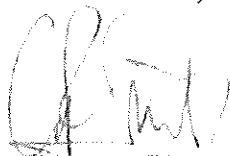
A copy is enclosed. Where indicated, the Director of Coordination's contact details have been withheld pursuant to sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k), as described above.

9. 23/4/2018 - Operation Scoria: Situation Update

A copy of this document is enclosed. Where indicated, advice regarding operational information has been withheld pursuant to sections 6(a), 6(b)(i), 6(b)(ii), 6(d) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA. Respectively, these sections provide for the withholding of information if its release would likely: prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand, or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand, to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government, or any international organisation; endanger the safety of any person, or to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions as described above.

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

Enclosures:

1. Item 4 – Sign and Issue of NZ Army Commissions
2. Item 6 – Gratuitous Issue of Unimog 1700 Trucks
3. Item 7 – Surplus Small Arms Disposal
4. Item 8 – DPB: Waitangi Tribunal Maori Military Veterans Kaupapa Inquiry
5. Item 9 – Operation SCORIA: Situation Update