

OIA-2013-1944.1

24 September 2013

**Mr Alex Harris**

fyi-request-1049-9ebf7951@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Harris

I refer to your e-mail of 10 September 2013 querying the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) response to your earlier request of 5 August 2013, also made under the Official Information Act 1982. The NZDF reference for that response is OIA-2013-1944. You now ask, *is it really NZDF's position that there was no paper trail of this at all - no emails or communications from the public to the media monitoring unit, or from the media monitoring unit to Afghanistan, no written orders or documents relating to the ban, and no acknowledgement from Afghanistan to NZ that the problem had been dealt with?*

This matter has been discussed with the civilian employee who received the unsolicited alert about the Twitter post. She has since left the NZDF. The employee believed she received the alert via e-mail and probably passed it to someone at Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand. The NZDF has tried to locate such an e-mail, but has not been able to locate it.

Accordingly, I can confirm that my original response was correct in that no documentation can be found, and that I must therefore decline to meet your request under section 18(e) of the OIA.

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

Yours sincerely



**R.R. JONES**  
Lieutenant General  
Chief of Defence Force