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OIA-2019-3597

// September 2019

Mr Alex Hill

fyi-request-10965-de65d2e4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hill

I refer to your email of 12 August 2019 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *all information relating to a previous OIA request you made, covering all communications relating to OIA-2019-3573 – “Information surrounding the Cryptographic Refresh Project”*. In this case, the term ‘communications’ means *internal correspondence (emails, briefings, memos), as well as external communications relating to the previous Official Information Act request ...as well as all communications relating to this request*.

I enclose eight emails/email chains, including one with an attachment. The first email chain originated on 15 July 2019. The last item arrived from you on 8 August 2019.

Some redactions have been made to emails under sections 6(a), 9(2)(a) and 10 of the OIA. Section 6(a) states that good reason for withholding official information exists if making that information available would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand. As I stated in my letter to you of 8 August 2019, the security of New Zealanders in general, and New Zealand’s serving personnel, depend on the New Zealand Defence Force’s (NZDF’s) communications also being secure.

Individuals’ names have been withheld under section 9(2)(a), to protect their privacy. I do not consider, under the circumstances, that there is a public interest in the release of individuals’ names that outweighs the desirability of withholding them.

You retain a right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A.J. WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF