

PO Box 12-209 Wellington 6144 **P** +64 4 472 6881 **F** +64 4 499 3701 www.gcsb.govt.nz

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Mohammed Khan fyi-requests-20575-5df58947@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mohammed

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 16 September 2022 to the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) seeking the following information:

1) Britain, like New Zealand, is part of the 'Five Eyes' group that is supposed to enhance our national security, which one assumes includes protecting young girls against rape, but this does not seem to have protected their citizens from victimization from the group. Is the GCSB aware of any assurances New Zealand has received that CSIS, or other elements of the Five Eyes, will not send 15 year old New Zealand girls to be raped by takfiri terrorists, as they did British girls?

It has come to light that the 'Five Eyes' organization has been holding a 'gathering'/conference/meeting in New Zealand this month to advance its goals. This raises obvious concerns-

2a) What vetting has been conducted on foreigners attending this conference? In particular, have CSIS representatives been assessed to ensure they have not been involved in sex crimes or the trafficking of young girls for sex, as many have been revealed to have?

2b) What arrangements are in place to protect New Zealanders from those attending the conference? Are those attending the conference confined to the Millbrook Resort, or will they be allowed to roam the community at large, risking their coming into contact with underage victims? Has the GCSB assessed whether the Millbrook Resort employs anyone under the age of 18 who might be targeted by those attending the conference?

2c) Please detail other security arrangements around this conference.

Response

Human rights are fundamental to the work our agency carries out in accordance with New Zealand law and international human rights obligations. We have stringent authorisation, compliance and oversight mechanisms in place to ensure this.

However, with regard to your request for specific information, I am refusing your request under section 6(a) of the OIA, as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

Review

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact information@gcsb.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Andrew Hampton

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Tira Tiaki

Director-General, GCSB