

OIA-2017-2697

12 April 2017

Harry Smith

fyi-request-5596-ae1ce66b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear H Smith

I refer to your email of 22 March 2017 to the Ministry of Defence requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to the cost of the humanitarian mission to Fiji. Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) for response.

Specifically you asked for:

1. *The number of flights.*
2. *The date of the flights.*
3. *The type and quantity of goods and personnel on each flight.*
4. *The cost of each flight.*
5. *The cost of the goods and personnel costs.*
6. *The total cost of the response to Tropical Cyclone Winston.*

A table providing the number of flights, the dates they occurred and a description of the load carried is presented at Annex A. In-theatre flights have been excluded from this table, as their inclusion would result in counting goods or personnel twice. Surveillance flights by the P-3K2 Orion have also been excluded, as no freight was delivered.

The following table provides the cost of operating each type of aircraft based on flying hours per aircraft type (the NZDF cost per hour, not cost per flight). The rates used are based on long-run average cost including workshop maintenance, ammunition, equipment and spares, satellite communication, port charges and scheduled maintenance for all types of tasks. The rates exclude personnel, depreciation and other ownership charges.

Aircraft	Hours	Cost per Hour	Cost
C-130 Hercules	102.7	\$16,521	\$1,696,707
P-3K2 Orion	25.9	\$18,702	\$484,382
B757 Boeing	6.4	\$16,000	\$102,400
B200 King Air	48.2	\$4,236	\$204,175
NH-90	154.1	\$14,358	\$2,212,568
SH2G Seasprite	71.4	\$10,717	765,194
TOTAL			\$5,465,426

The NZDF cannot provide the costs of goods transported to Fiji in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Winston as these were supplied by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The costs of other government agencies and non-government organisations related to the relief effort should be requested from them directly.

The personnel costs to the NZDF for the humanitarian mission to Fiji in response to Tropical Cyclone Winston were \$448,231. These include only the additional allowances paid to NZDF personnel, and do not include the salaries of the 518 New Zealand Defence Force personnel involved with the operation. Personnel costs such as salaries and superannuation are fixed costs of the NZDF and do not contribute to additional marginal cost of the Fijian relief effort.

The NZDF can only provide costs borne by the NZDF. The costs of other government agencies and non-government organisations related to the relief effort should be requested from them directly.

The total direct cost of the New Zealand Defence Force response to Tropical Cyclone Winston is \$10,836,860. As noted above, this does not include the salaries of the 518 New Zealand Defence Force personnel involved.

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

Yours sincerely



C.J.A HOEY
Director Coordination
Office of the Chief of Defence Force

Annex A
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Date	Aircraft	Load Details									
		Number of Passengers	Passenger /Bag Weight	Pallets	Weight (lbs)	Loose Load	Freight Details	Total Weight (lbs)			
22 Feb 16	C-130	17	6,405	3	25,070	0	Generators, tarpaulins, tool boxes, water containers, water, ration packs, tents	31,475			
24 Feb 16	C-130	0	0	4	35,564	0	White Shelters tool kits, tool kits, generators, water, tarpaulins, compressed gas, aerosols, Lithium batteries, jerry cans	35,564			
24 Feb 16	B757	44	14,247	2	9,685	0	Jerry cans, stretchers, ration packs, water, two man tents, 14x14 tents, medical stores	23,932			
25 Feb 16	C-130	2	370	3	23,284	122	Tarpaulins, generators, chainsaw packs, jerry cans	23,776			
26 Feb 16	C-130	1	355	5	34,216	0	MFAT tool kit, tents, tarpaulins, water containers, food, rice, generator, chainsaw kits, Emergency response kits (Rotary), Breakfast biscuits	34,571			
26 Feb 16	C-130	1	225	4	22,354	6	Tarpaulins, jerry cans, blankets, Emergency response kits (Rotary)	22,585			
27 Feb 16	C-130	8	2,431	5	30,592	1,445	Shelter boxes, tents, rice, tuna, tomatoes, wash kits	34,468			
29 Feb 16	C-130	8	2,410	5	21,994	0	blankets, buckets, ladders, tents, marquees, marquee poles, mosquito nets, solar lights, filter kits	24,404			
2 Mar 16	C-130	16	4,560	5	21,015	702	Hoes, spades, shovel, kitchen kits, hand sanitizer, insect repellent, toilets, step ladder, tyre, blankets, stretchers, chairs, stationery, radios, pipes, gazebo,	26,277			
Running Totals		97	31,003	36	223,774	2,275		257,052			