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THE INQUIRIES ACT 2013

IN THE MATTER

A GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO OPERATION BURNHAM AND RELATED MATTERS

Supplementary Brief of Evidence for Richard Rhys Jones

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- 1. This supplementary brief of evidence is provided further to my brief of evidence of 13 September 2019.
- 2. I am aware that, on 19 September 2019, following a request from the Chair of the Inquiry, Sir Terence Arnold QC, a Classified Document Register in the Office of Chief of Defence Force (OCDF Register) was checked.
- 3. The relevant entries from the OCDF Register, which are in the NZDF Bundle at pages 369 372, show that two copies of a bundle described as "Baghlan Province Brief for MINDEF" and containing two secret documents were marched in by the Director of Special Operations (DSO) on 1 September 2011.
- 4. The OCDF Register also records that, on the same day, one copy was transferred to the Office of the Minister of Defence and one copy was transferred to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Mike Thompson.
- 5. I understand that one of the two secret documents was the IAT report. I was not aware that there was a copy of the IAT report at HQ NZDF during my time as Chief of Defence Force. I did not see the IAT report until it was shown to me in preparation for the Inquiry's public hearing that commenced on 16 September 2019.
- 6. I have no recollection of being briefed on the IAT report in September 2011. I was in China and Afghanistan between 2 and 16 September 2011. It may be that I was not briefed because I was away, although, in those circumstances, I would expect to have been briefed on my return. Alternatively, it may be that I was not briefed, or that I do not recall being briefed, because I and HQ NZDF were focussed at that time on a number of matters, including supporting the family and the New Zealand Special Air Service team following the death of Corporal Doug Grant, an NZSAS member who was killed in Afghanistan in August 2011.
- 7. I do not know whether the Minister of Defence was briefed on the IAT report.

Richard Rhys Jones

Date