

UNDER

THE INQUIRIES ACT 2013

IN THE MATTER OF

**A GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO
OPERATION BURNHAM AND
RELATED MATTERS**

Date of Minute: 25 September 2019

MINUTE No 20 OF INQUIRY

[1] This Minute deals with the adjourned “cover-up” allegations hearing.

[2] The resumed hearing will take place on Tuesday 15 October and Wednesday 16 October 2019 at the Royal Society of New Zealand, 11 Turnbull Street, Thorndon. At that hearing, the Inquiry will take evidence from a number of witnesses in the following order:

- (a) Jim Blackwell, based on a brief of evidence to be filed;
- (b) Christopher Hoey, based on his existing affidavit, which has already been read into the record;
- (c) two recalled witnesses, Mike Thompson and Ross Smith;
- (d) Chief of Defence Force, Air Marshal Kevin Short, based on his existing brief.

[3] The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) is to file a brief of Mr Blackwell’s evidence by 4 pm on Friday 4 October 2019. The evidence-taking process in relation to both Mr Blackwell and Air Marshal Short will be the same as that followed at the initial hearing – reading of the brief of evidence by the witness; cross-examination by one of Counsel Assisting, then by one counsel for the non-

Crown core participants (Mr Salmon) for no more than 30 minutes per witness; re-examination by counsel for NZDF; and, finally, any questions from the Inquirers.

[4] Because Mr Hoey has already filed an affidavit that has been read into the record, he will be cross-examined by Counsel Assisting, and by Mr Salmon for the non-Crown core participants for no longer than 30 minutes. He may then be re-examined by counsel for NZDF and, following that, may be questioned by the Inquirers.

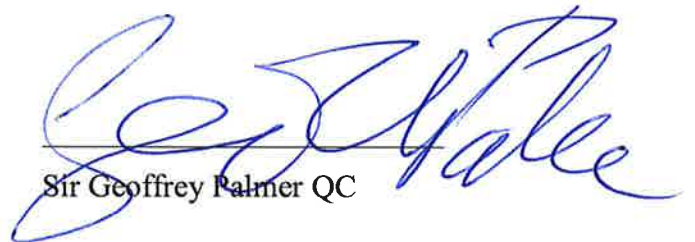
[5] In relation to the re-called witnesses, they will be cross-examined by Counsel Assisting and then questioned by the Inquirers.

[6] If there are any further witnesses to be called, NZDF is to advise by 4 pm on Wednesday 2 October 2019, and they will be fitted into the programme as appropriate.

[7] Finally, if NZDF has further, previously undisclosed documents relevant to the issues in the resumed hearing, they are to be filed with the Inquiry as soon as possible, but in any event, by no later than 4 pm on Friday 4 October 2019.



Sir Terence Arnold QC



Sir Geoffrey Palmer QC

Participants:
Mr Radich QC for New Zealand Defence Force
Mr Salmon for Mr Stephenson
Mr Geiringer for Mr Hager