

UNDER

THE INQUIRIES ACT 2013

IN THE MATTER

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

Supplementary Brief of Evidence for Michael Andrew Thompson

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1. This supplementary brief of evidence is provided further to my brief of evidence of 13 September 2019. In that brief, I indicated that I placed in my safe a bundle of documents containing the IAT report, and that this was recorded in my Classified Document Register. I said that I could not recall who may have given me the bundle.
2. As I understand it, on 19 September 2019, the Inquiry directed the NZDF to search a separate Classified Document Register in the Office of the Chief of Defence Force (**OCDF Register**). I have now had the opportunity to review the relevant entry. I refer to the NZDF Bundle at pages 369 - 372.
3. The OCDF Register shows that, on 1 September 2011, the "DSO" - Director of Special Operations - marched in two secret documents described as the "Baghlan Province Brief for MINDEF". It also shows that, on the same day, the "DCOS" took a copy of the brief, which has the serial number 387/11. I was the DCOS, Deputy Chief of Staff, at that time, and can confirm that it is my signature alongside the word "DCOS" on the OCDF Register. I did not write the words "Hoey folder" and do not know when they were recorded.
4. The OCDF Register indicates that the documents were marched in by the Director of Special Operations, who I believe at the time was Colonel Jim Blackwell. I still do not recall who gave me the documents, or what was said at the time, but I accept that it could have been him.
5. I can see Chris Hoey's initials on the OCDF Register. He was the Military Secretary to the Minister of Defence in September 2011. It is likely that if his signature was on the OCDF Register, it is because he picked them up from HQ NZDF.
6. I can see from my Classified Document Register (**Register**), which is in the NZDF Bundle at page 191, that I registered the two documents on 7 September 2011, described them as a "Briefing Pack on Civ Casualties - Kabul Aug 2010", and gave them the serial number S116. I imagine that I described the bundle in that way because the title of the IAT report refers to civilian casualty allegations. I realise now that the IAT report is about an operation in Baghlan, not in Kabul. That was an oversight.
7. Although I received the documents on 1 September 2011, it seems I didn't record them in the Register until 7 September 2011. They would have been stored securely in the safe during this period, but I must not have recorded them in the Register immediately.
8. I did not highlight or annotate the documents. I had no cause to do so and it is not what I would normally do with original documents going in to my safe.



Michael Andrew Thompson

4 Oct 19

Date