



25 October 2019

Hon Sir Terence Arnold QC
Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Palmer QC
He Uiuinga i a Inquiry into Operation Burnham
PO Box 12008
Wellington 6011

Dear Sir Terence and Sir Geoffrey

Review of classified/withheld material: Operation Nova and related documents

1. In accordance with our appointment and instruction under the Inquiry's *Procedural protocol for review of classified information / claims to withhold information from disclosure*, we advise that we have reached agreement for disclosure of a further tranche of documents broadly related to Operation Nova.
2. As part of that agreement and in line with our earlier advice to you, we have accepted claims to redaction of the following parts of these documents, mitigated by gists where that is possible:
 - 2.1. Detail of operational methods, including for example particular operational procedures and information- and intelligence-gathering practices that are still in use and that, if disclosed, would cause prejudice to national security and to the safety of New Zealand personnel;
 - 2.2. Reference to unrelated operations and persons, outside the scope of the Inquiry;
 - 2.3. Information provided in confidence by partner governments, which if disclosed without consent would prejudice New Zealand's international relations and future provision of such information;
 - 2.4. Information concerning other governments, so far as that information would if disclosed prejudice New Zealand's international relations; and

2.5. Detail of individuals, so far as disclosure of that information would prejudice the safety of those individuals and/or unduly intrude into their privacy.

3. We are continuing to work through further documents sought to be disclosed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Keith'.

Ben Keith / David Johnstone
Specialist advisors