

HEADQUARTERS NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE
Special Operations Command
MINUTE

CO DV

NZDF /SOC/1

11 Apr 17

CO NZDF MP

REQUEST FOR PRELIMINARY DISCIPLINE INVESTIGATION

References:

- A. DM 69 (2 ed) vol 1 chap 3 – Preliminary inquiries into suspected offences
- B. N. Hagar and J. Stephenson *Hit & Run: The New Zealand SAS in Afghanistan and the Meaning of Honour* (Wellington, Potton and Burton, 2017)

1. The purpose of this minute is to request that you assign members of your unit to carry out a preliminary discipline investigation of the type prescribed in ref A.

2. In January 2011 OP WAATEA saw members of the NZDF partnered with Afghani Security Forces during an operation that led to the detention of the person known as OBJ YAMAHA. Reference B, released in Mar 17, alleges that during transit OBJ YAMAHA was physically abused by members of the NZDF.

3. Whilst the members of the NZDF involved in this operation were responsible for force protection rather than the physical capture of OBJ YAMAHA, I still consider it prudent to have this allegation investigated for the purpose of discipline.

4. In order to best determine whether or not an allegation of offending against the Armed Forces Discipline Act 1971 should be made to the relevant Commanding Officer, I would ask that the investigation focuses at first instance on the matters of physical abuse raised by the authors of ref B. My approval is to be gained if the members of your unit wish to extend their investigation beyond this scope and into wider operational matters.

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