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New Zealand Security Intelligence Service

Reference: KAB0396

Support to Military Operations

15 September 2010

Kabul, Afghanistan

SMO, OCM

Info:

Routine

Auachments:

MEETING WITH NZ AMBASSADOR ABOUT NDS

On 15 September I met NZ Ambassador to discus MFAT concerns with NDS. NZ Ambassador showed me a cable that MFAT had sent asking him to make an appointment with NDS to discuss the detainee issue and a Director General PSR(sen)1, PSR(IC)3 subsequent email they had sent him asking him to hold off until he had talked to us.

NZ Ambassador

I had an appointment with NDS that afternoon and told that subject to his agreement I proposed to highlight New Zealand concerns and suggest that we (NZSIS and NDS) actively seek to address the issue as soon as possible. It was my intention to ask them to answer any questions that we had and to give me a tour of their detention facility. While I did not tell the NZ Ambassador this the latter was a requirement that NZDF (DDIS) had levied and I had planned to pursue prior to MFAT interest in this area.

NZ Ambassador was comfortable with my proposed course of action but was quick to point out that he had not been told not to visit D-G just to talk to us first so he still planned to push ahead and make his appointment. I suggested that if he felt he needed to do this (which adds no value from our point of view) that he wait until after I had discussed this with NDS and we had gone some way to resolving the issue. We agreed that I would not raise the issue of a meeting between the two so that when/if the Ambassador meets PSR(sen)1, PSI the meeting can occur on a positive note.

NZ Ambassador is also planning to go to Bagram on 29 September with the TF81 SNO (CO of SAS) Chris Parsons and the TF81 Legal Officer to view the Detention Facility in Parwan (the DFIP aka the Bagram Detention Facility). He has asked me to join them and I have arranged to do this with the SNO.

I subsequently met NDS. KAB0398 refers. 5.

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