



**GOVERNMENT  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SECURITY BUREAU**  
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

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In reply please quote: A928616

28 August 2013

Mr Brendan McBryde  
fyi-request-1043-5ddcdc76@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr McBryde

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

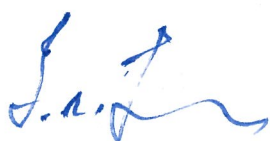
I refer to your request dated 1 August 2013, in which you requested:

- *"I wish to know whether there exists in New Zealand a written ban on computers made by Chinese company Lenovo being used in "classified" networks."*

In response to your request, in accordance with section 10 of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) the GCSB can neither confirm nor deny what equipment is or is not used on classified networks on the grounds that to do so would likely prejudice the interests protected by section 6(a) of the Act (the security or defence of New Zealand). To do so would likely provide adversaries with knowledge of those systems that would allow them to develop strategies to exploit such systems. Nor can I confirm nor deny what guidance may or may not have been provided to organisations with classified networks regarding the company you have requested on the grounds that to do so would likely prejudice the interests protected by section 6(a) of the Act.

I am required by section 19(b) of the Act to advise you that you have the right, by way of complaint to the Ombudsman under section 23(3), to seek an investigation and review of my refusal to disclose the information requested.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'I. Fletcher', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ian Fletcher  
Director