



OIA-2019-3573

8 August 2019

Mr Alex Hill

fyi-request-10727-4db6f43f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hill

I refer to your email of 12 July 2019 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA): *Information surrounding the Cryptographic Refresh Project*.

New Zealand's national interests, the security of New Zealanders in general, and New Zealand's serving personnel, depend on the Government's and the New Zealand Defence Force's (NZDF's) communications also being secure. That security is enabled by cryptography.

I shall respond to your specific requests in order.

1. a. *How many AN/CYZ-10 units (commonly referred to as the Crazy-10) does the NZDF currently have in stock*

To give the number and type of such units that the NZDF may, or may not, possess would disclose the extent of Defence Force capability. This information is therefore withheld under section 6(a) of the OIA, that is, to make information about the NZDF's cryptographic equipment available would be likely to prejudice the security and/or the defence of New Zealand.

- b. *When do the current AN/CYZ-10 units pass their Life Expiration date*
Such expiration data are highly classified and are maintained at that level in conjunction with New Zealand's international partners. This information is therefore withheld under sections 6(a) and 6(b)(i) of the OIA – to make the information available would be likely to prejudice the international relations of the Government of New Zealand and to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Governments of other countries or the agencies of such Governments.

2. a. *How many AN/PYQ-10 (SKL) units are being procured, and what is the price per unit*

The number and type of such units that the NZDF may acquire could indicate the direction and extent of changes in Defence Force capability, so that information is withheld under section 6(a). Price information about new cryptographic equipment would be withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the OIA, to enable the Defence Force to carry on commercial negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage.

- b. How many KYK-30 (RASKL) units are being procured, and what is the price per unit*

The number and type of such units that the NZDF may acquire could indicate a direction and extent of changes in Defence Force capability, so that information would be withheld under section 6(a). Again, pricing information would be withheld under 9(2)(j).

- 3. How many specific instances in the past 5 years have cryptographic fill codes been issued to an aircraft*

NB: Instances include each individual sign-out of a cryptographic unit, and is limited to red, black and HF fill.

The release of this information would reveal aspects of the NZDF's secure communications capabilities and practices, so it is withheld under section 6(a) of the OIA.

- 4. When is the planned replacement date for the KY-100 units found on RNZAF aircraft?*

Should replacement units for current cryptographic equipment be selected or fitted, that information would be withheld under sections 6(a) and 6(b)(i) and 9(2)(j) of the OIA.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely



A.J. WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF