



17 February 2023

Mohammed Khan
fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2223-1586

Dear Mohammed Khan,

Thank you for your email of 22 January 2023 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information from Immigration New Zealand (INZ):

"Kindly direct this inquiry to 'Immigration NZ'.

In the wake of the collapse of the collaborationist regime in Afghanistan, many sickening revelations have been made about the crimes committed against civilians by various paramilitary units of the former regime, particularly the so-called "zero units" of the "National Directorate of Security", the kill-squads of the collaborationist regime's CIA-trained internal spy service

(https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.propublica.org%2Farticle%2Fafghanistan-night-raids-zero-units-lynzy-billing&data=05%7C01%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7Cec2f2867c7df4ad4feb008dafc252976%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638099533795563120%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6I1k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=I8ToW7D6%2FCRs7UwJTBWtAvHvAXeuB_eD6o9IbK2I3fxI%3D&reserved=0), but also the so-called "Afghan National Army Commando" units.

Given New Zealand's commitment to human rights, and the danger that seasoned killers of innocent civilians pose to the New Zealand public:

- 1) Have former militants of the "National Directorate of Security" been allowed to immigrate to New Zealand?*
- 2) Have former militants of the "Afghan National Army Commando Corps" been allowed to immigrate to New Zealand?"*

Our Response

This information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

I have considered under section 9(1) of the OIA whether there are any countervailing public interest considerations in making available the information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, however in my view the public interest considerations do not outweigh the privacy rights of those concerned.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Owen', followed by a period.

Richard Owen
General Manager – Verification and Compliance
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment