



15 February 2016

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of information request: 160029/15947

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (ACT) (the Act) which was received by the University on 26 November 2015 for access to the following documents:

Thesis – Master of Public Administration 1991

Title – the analysis of critical aspects of forecasting and planning the administration and management of overseas survey operations; the case of the Royal Australian Survey Corps in Iran Jaya 1975-1988

[REDACTED]

I am authorised under section 22 of the Act to make a decision in respect of your application.

The University has consulted with the Department of Defence and the author in order to confirm the security classification of the Thesis. As we have been unable to confirm that the document is not restricted, I have no option but to refuse your request for access to this document in accordance with sections 37A and 38 of the Act.

Statement of Reasons for Decision

Section 37A – Documents affecting national security, defence or international relations

Your application requests access to a thesis that has been embargoed on the grounds that material contained in the thesis may be deemed classified by a state or Commonwealth agency. The document states, "...the workings of such a document, dealing with the administration and management of the planning and forecasting of overseas survey operations, is required to remain 'Restricted' until such time as the material contained herein is deemed unclassified."

Section 38 – Documents to which secrecy provisions of enactments apply

Under section 73A of the *Defence Act 1903* (Cth) a person is guilty of an offence if they obtain any plan, document, or information relating to any field work, defence work or to any of the defences of the Commonwealth, and that conduct is unlawful. The Thesis has a military-related embargo placed upon it and consequently its release to any member of the public could be unlawful.

As previously advised, a fee is payable in respect of the processing of your application under the Act. The actual time spent processing your request is shown below. The charges are based on the rates payable under the *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2015* ('the Determination'). An invoice will be raised by the University's finance unit and sent to you for payment.

PROCESSING CHARGES		
Decision making		
Task	Time	Cost \$33.00 per hour
Consultation (internally and externally)	11 hours	\$363.00
Determination	14.5 hours	\$478.50
<i>Decision making subtotal</i> <i>before exclusion of 10 hours in accordance with the Determination Item 400 (5)(e)</i>		\$841.50
<i>A. Decision making total</i> <i>including exclusion of 10 hours in accordance with the Determination Item 400 (5)(e)</i>		\$511.50

TOTAL AND DEPOSIT	
B. PAID DEPOSIT <i>25% of total charge, in accordance with the Determination Item 401 (3)</i>	\$221.92
TOTAL OWING (total of A minus B)	\$289.58

Your rights of review

You may, within 28 days of notification of this decision, apply in writing for an internal review of my decision in respect of the partial release or refusal to release the documents. If you have any new information to support your request, please ensure that you include it in your letter or email. If you wish to apply for an internal review, please forward the letter or email to FOI@canberra.edu.au and it will be forwarded to the person authorised to undertake the review.

Or, you may make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 54 of the Act. You can access the FOI Act and the Ombudsman website on the University's FOI webpage at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/about-uc/policy-and-legislation/freedom-of-information>.

Yours sincerely



Ms Kathleen O'Sullivan
A/g Secretary to Council
University of Canberra