



THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE  
THE HON JOEL FITZGIBBON MP

22 MAY 2008

Sheikh Haron  
PO Box

Dear Sheikh Haron

Thank you for your letter of 4 March 2008 to the Minister for Defence, the Hon Joel Fitzgibbon, in which you request that he investigate an operation in Afghanistan in which civilians were killed. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

The matters referred to in your letter have been the subject of a thorough inquiry by Defence. An unclassified version of the inquiry report is posted on the Defence website at:

<http://www.defence.gov.au/coi/reports/IOReportCollateralDamageAllegationsMistreatment.pdf>

I trust that the information contained in this publicly available report addresses the matters raised in your letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cotterill', written over a white background.

DANIEL COTTERILL  
Chief of Staff