



From: Desk 8, Zone H, Level 4, Operations
Directorate

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Horse Guards Avenue
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Mr L Craig-Best
9 Arkwright Road
Hampstead
LONDON
NW3 6AB

Your Reference: -

Our reference: Ops Dir/.../FOI/20090213

Date: 13 February 2009

Dear Mr Craig-Best,

Thank you for your correspondence of the 20th January 2009 requesting full details of the decision by the Parliamentary Ombudsman relating to counter-narcotics assistance to Colombia, and specifically the section supporting the approach of not revealing the financial value of UK counter-narcotics assistance to Colombia. Your request has been treated as a Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

With regard to your request for the full details of the decision of the Parliamentary Ombudsman, this is information that is not held by this Department and is reasonably accessible within the public domain. The full text of the decision is available online at http://www.ombudsman.org.uk/improving_services/selected_cases/AOI/aoi0503-1/a3-05.html

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail xxxxxxx@xxx.xx). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the

case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours Sincerely,