

Ships and Submarines Team DE&S Policy Secretariat

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DESSEC-PolSecShipsandSubs@mod.uk

Mr Fred Dawson

request-127384-be1fe481@whatdotheyknow.com

Our References: 25-10-2012-090410-001

Date:

20 November 2012

Dear Mr Dawson,

Request for Information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000

Further to my letter of 14 November, I am writing to update you on your request for "a letter to the Prospect Union on 16 March 2012 signed by 2nd PUS John Day".

I can confirm that we have now identified and located the information that falls within the scope of your request.

I wish to advise you, however, that we are still considering whether any of the exemptions in the FOI Act apply to some or all of the information you have requested. As you are aware, there are both absolute and qualified exemptions under the FOI Act and, for the latter, we have to consider, in all the circumstances of the case, where the balance of the public interest lies in relation to the information that you have requested.

This work remains ongoing, so we are not yet in a position to provide a substantive response to your request. We hope to conclude this work within the next 10 working days, so I will write to you again with a substantive response, or a further update, no later than 4 December 2012.

If you are not satisfied 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 Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). 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 dissatisfied 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 your case until the MOD 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.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

The Ships and Submarines Team