



Ministry of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
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Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
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HP14 4UE

Ref: FOI2019/13577

Caolan Wiggins
Request-627625-
0417d376@whatdotheyknow.com

20 January 2020

Dear Caolan Wiggins,

Thank you for your emails of 13 and 17 December 2019, requesting the following information:

"I have a question regarding the role of the RAF Force Protection Police who are both reserves and full time personnel.

As part of their role as RAF Police officers, are they trained on firearms that the regular military use.

Secondly, does the RAF police carry out duties with firearms to protect RAF establishments like airbases just like other branches of the military?"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below, I have answered each question in turn:

As part of their role as RAF Police officers, are they trained on firearms that the regular military use.

Yes, RAF Police Officers are trained to use the same firearms as other RAF personnel.

Secondly, does the RAF police carry out duties with firearms to protect RAF establishments like airbases just like other branches of the military?

Yes, however this is not a duty exclusively undertaken by the RAF Police; RAF personnel employed on armed/armed security duties may be drawn from any trade or branch within the RAF.

Also, if suitably trained and qualified, RAF Reserve personnel may be armed and utilised for general security duties inside Defence installations and at off-base sites that require armed guarding.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

L.Bannister
HQ Air Command Secretariat