



Ministry
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Ref: FOI 2020/00003

Mr Jones

request-631140-9775fedc@whatdotheyknow.com

28 January 2020

Dear Mr Jones,

Thank you for your email of 01 January 2020, which contained the following request;

"Please may I request the Minutes/RoDs of the ACMB and CEB for the calendar year 2019."

This letter is to inform you that the Ministry of Defence holds information relating to your request, but we believe some information falls within scope of the following qualified exemptions: Section 26 (Defence and Security), Section 37 (Information that relates to communication with the Royal Family) and Section 43 (Commercial Interests). As such, it is necessary for us to decide whether in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The FOIA requires us to respond to requests promptly and in any case, no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test has to be conducted, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days. A full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case and, in relation to your request, we estimate that it will take an additional 20 working days to take a final decision on where the balance of public interest lies. We therefore plan to let you have a response by 27 February 2020. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will inform you.

If you are not satisfied with this response or 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 Information Rights Compliance Team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (email 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 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 Officer, 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,

[Original Signed]

Air Command Secretariat