



Mrs S Appleton
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Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London, SW1A 2HB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Mr C McKay
Request-61825-3bbb5f05@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: 1/11/4/08

Date: 15 February 2011

Dear Mr McKay

1. Thank you for your correspondence dated 11 February 2011 which has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You requested the following information:

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request information on the Joint Services Intelligence Organisation, operating out of the Defence Intelligence and Security Centre (DISC), based at Chicksands.

a. In 2005/2006 the JSIO was disbanded. I would like to request full details of the successor body which now carries out the training previously provided at JSIO.

b. I would like details regarding which branches of DISC have taken on roles previously performed by JSIO and which roles specifically they have taken on.

c. I would also like to request information on why the Templar Training Coy is so named. For example, did it derive its name from a previous unit or location or is it named after General Templar.

d. In addition to this I would like to request the full name of the ISTAR Training Wing be provided.

e. I would like to receive full details on the military unit 'F Branch', previously part of the JSIO, including the number of staff and their roles.

f. I would also like to request the equivalent information on any other sub-unit or branch categorised by letter. E.g. A Branch, B Branch, C Branch and so forth.

g. I would like to request details of all correspondence between staff at the Joint Services Intelligence Organisation (JSIO) and its successor body and the staff of the Directorate of Targeting and Information Operations, including emails, written letters and any documents which have been sent between the two bodies.

h. I would also request details of all correspondence between the staff at the Joint Services Intelligence Organisation (JSIO) and its successor body and the staff of the 15(UK) Psychological Operations Group, including emails, written letters and any documents which have been sent between the two bodies.

2. I am writing to confirm that we hold information on the subject you have requested. However, from our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification. Under section 1(3) of the FOIA, a public authority need not

comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied. If a request is too broad or general in nature, then public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance to the applicant in order to focus the request.

3. In order to provide you with the information on the scale that you have requested would require extensive searches of our electronic and hard copy data holdings.

4. Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

5. The MOD may be able to provide information requested if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. For example, against points G and H of your request, you may wish to limit your request to a specific date range and identify, if possible, a particular topic you are interested in. Please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

6. 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.

7. 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

S Appleton