



Navy Resources & Plans - Secretariat
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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Mr D Redford

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
16-11-2009-152211-002

Date: 01 December 2009

Dear Mr Redford

I am writing to you in connection with your request for information dated 16 November 2009, which we have handled in accordance with Freedom of Information Act guidelines.

Your request for information was:

How much money was spent on all aspects of the Royal Navy in each year between 1967 and 1980?

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) does not hold the precise information that you have requested. The budgetary structure of the MOD does not show separately the costs of the three individual Armed Services (Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force). This is because large parts of the Armed Services operate as fully integrated joint organisations in which elements from the Navy, Army and Air Force work closely together and share land, buildings and facilities, and sometimes equipment. The MOD's Permanent Joint Headquarters, which commands most of our military operations, is one example. Another is our Defence Equipment and Support organisation which provides front line commands with equipment and logistic support.

However, we do have some information which may be of relevance to your request; a copy is enclosed for your information. As you will see, data on Defence spending has been recorded in different ways over the years so it is not possible to make accurate direct comparisons. For 1967/68, 1968/69 and 1969/70 it has been possible to use various historical Naval records to produce an illustrative figure of overall Royal Navy spending in each of these years. Although it is not possible to break this figure down into greater detail, it can, for example, be used as a guide to show the proportion of the overall Defence budget that was spent on the Royal Navy during these years.

The figures for 1970/71 onwards have been drawn from the respective year's Statement on the Defence Estimates, Volume II Defence Statistics. All government departments are required to submit such statements each year for approval by Parliament in order to secure funding for the year ahead. More information on this process is available on the HM Treasury website:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/psr_estimates_index.htm . These figures show the amounts that were spent on "sea equipment" in each of the years. Please be aware though that this description relates to the environment in which the equipment was used and does not necessarily relate to the particular armed service which would have used the kit. For example, the Navy will use helicopters during exercises and operations but this would be counted under the "Air equipment" heading. The figures for "personnel costs" and "other expenditure" relate to all three services together; figures for the Navy alone are not available.

You may be interested to know that the latest edition of UK Defence Statistics and many other sources of information about Defence can be accessed on the Defence Analytical Services and Advice website www.dasa.mod.uk .

I hope that you find this information helpful. However, 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, 6th 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

Navy RP-Secretariat

Encl:

DASA Summary of Defence Spending 1967 – 1981

Summary of Defence Spending 1967 – 1981

£Millions	1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81
Total Defence Spend¹	1,824	1,857	1,838	2,503	2,828	3,092	3,484	4,164	5,346	6,158	6,787	7,455	9,177	11,182
Navy Spend²	647	678	638											
Expenditure on personnel				1,182	1,399	1,552	1,694	2,026	2,530	2,864	3,021	3,293	3,912	4,556
of the Armed Forces				598	756	851	902	1,063	1,305	1,465	1,519	1,639	2,099	2,460
of the retired Armed Forces				128	140	157	186	200	255	316	361	432	459	503
of civilian staff				456	503	544	606	763	970	1,083	1,141	1,222	1,354	1,593
Expenditure on equipment				836	952	1,023	1,153	1,302	1,792	2,138	2,565	2,984	3,640	4,885
Sea				..	..	227	306	315	440	590	672	878	1,110	1,513
Land				..	..	151	182	249	413	486	612	601	740	904
Air				..	..	385	489	595	752	844	1,010	1,214	1,427	2,059
Other				..	..	260	176	143	187	218	271	291	363	410
Other expenditure				485	477	517	637	836	1,024	1,156	1,201	1,178	1,625	1,741
Works, buildings and land				164	190	215	266	314	394	463	462	405	599	623
Miscellaneous stores and services				321	287	302	371	522	630	693	739	773	1,026	1,118

¹ All figures from 1970/71 to 1980/81 have been drawn from the respective year's Statement on the Defence Estimates, Volume II Defence Statistics.

² The Navy Spend figures for 1967/68, 1968/69 and 1969/70 have been produced from various historical Naval records and so should be regarded as an illustrative rather than a definitive guide to Royal Navy spending during these years.