



Ministry of Defence

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27 May 2016

Dear Mr Rutherford,

I am writing further to your e-mail dated 4 May 16. Your correspondence has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and for ease of reference I have repeated your request in full:

"What are the terms and conditions under which these facilities (UK bases) are made available to the USA? In the event of the office of US presidency being occupied by a person deemed by many people to be unsatisfactory to the point of almost being a threat, what freedom do we have to revoke these privileges before any lease terms might run out (if appropriate)?"

The principal agreement under which bases in the UK are made available to the United States Visiting Forces (USVF) is the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) of 1951. There are no leasing arrangements. The Ministry of Defence retains ownership of the bases, with the USVF responsible for administering their own day-to-day activities. With regard to the future use of bases by the USVF, the UK Government will continue to make them available for as long as it is considered in our national interests to do so.

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 Information Rights Compliance team, 1st 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.org.uk>

Yours sincerely

Air Staff International