

From J9 POLOPS



Freedom of Information
J9 Policy Division
Permanent Joint Headquarters (UK)
Sandy Lane
Northwood
Middlesex HA6 3HP

Email: xxxxxxxxxx@xxxx.xxx.xx

Reference: 27-06-2011-153731-016

19 July 2011

Dear Ms xxxxxxxxx,

Request for Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 24 June 2011 regarding "Voice of God" weapons and Russian equipment which has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. You requested the following information:

I have read the request made by Paul Gaffney and can see he missed the date by which he could request an Internal Review, therefore I am re-submitting the request using his words and original request as per this link

http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/use_of_voice_of_god_weapon_system

'I have read that that the US forces has experimented with the use of such weapons in Afghanistan. I am writing to enquire if this is true, whether UK forces have used them, and further if the use of such weapons is legal ?'

I'd like to also request how much information is available regarding Russian equipment/input/private corporation owned by Russian passport holders and /do you have any information at all regarding Russian weapons/devices/moneies spent on Russian hardware/s that you can share?

A repeat search of our records confirms that "Voice of God" weapons have never been used by UK Armed Forces in Afghanistan. We are unable to comment on whether such weapons are used by our allies, or their legality.

Regarding the second part of your request about Russian equipment, input and private corporations under the ownership of Russian nationals, I invite you to refine and resubmit your request. Applying specific terms and further

detail to your request will help us to run a more meaningful search of MOD records, which is more likely to return the information you are looking for. For example, you might specify a type of equipment or identify a particular company. Additionally, limiting the question to a set timeframe will ensure that we retrieve only those documents that are of interest to you.

The FOI Act sets a maximum limit of £600, which equates to 3.5 days time, on efforts spent to locate, retrieve and process the information requested for release. Please note when rephrasing your request that we are more likely to be able to answer a more specific question within this limit. You might find the advice published on the Information Commissioner's website helpful:

http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_the_public/official_information/how_access.aspx

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 xxxxxxxxxx@xxx.xx). 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,

J9 POLOPS