



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2019/13754

[REDACTED]

20 January 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 28 December 2019 about *AP3456 The Central Flying School (CFS) Manual of Flying* and the *RAF Search and Rescue Manual*. You have requested the following information:

"I am writing to ask for electronic copies of AP3456 and the RAF Search and Rescue Manual? I apologise but I am unsure of the AP reference for the latter publication."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 21 of the Act (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means) you should note that a copy of the most recent AP3456 was released in response to a previous FOI request and is available on the MOD website at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-released-by-mod-week-commencing-13-january-2020>

A very small amount of information was withheld under Section 40 (Personal Information) as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018.

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some documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the Intellectual Property Office's website at www.ipo.gov.

I have been unable to identify a document entitled the *RAF Manual of Search and Rescue* and do not believe a document of that nature exists. You may care to note that since the end of 2015, responsibility of Search and Rescue around the UK falls to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and not the Ministry of Defence.

However, under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the Act, you may wish to note that the *International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (Volumes 1-3)* which is published by the International Civil Aviation Organisation and the International Maritime Organisation can be purchased through a variety of outlets that can be found by an internet search.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

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 Office, 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 faithfully



Secretariat 3a1
Air Command