



Ministry
of Defence

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4 September 2017

Ref. FOI2017/07811

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 7 August 2017 requesting the following information:

"I am enquiring about a small military installation on the Brecon Beacon military ranges. It is located at grid reference SN864328.

A front page article written in the Brecon and Radnor Express dated 14th March 1991 gives details about this facility before it was built. The article is titled "MOD Comes Clean At Last Over Eppynt Range Masts". The article then goes on to describe that the facility will be part of a N.A.T.O. intelligence Network for the Trident Submarine Fleet. The article also describes how the facility will consist of four masts, each 1,500 feet in height. Masts this height would usually be VLF (very low frequency), typical of such VLF stations around the world used to send signals to submarines through the ocean.

I have recently taken photographs of the installation and had these analysed by experts in mechanical engineering. The masts that have been constructed are only approximately 44 feet in height and therefore cannot be a VLF transmission station. The experts in mechanical engineering claim these masts are probably not radio transmitters.

I also have information that a large dish is brought out during hours of darkness and used in conjunction with the four masts.

Bearing in mind this facility is in public view, and has been funded by tax payers money, can the MOD please make a statement as to the purpose of the facility at SN864328."

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 (MOD) and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that what you see at the centre of the compound are not masts but are lightning conductors.

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.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 sincerely,

DIO Secretariat