



Ministry
of Defence

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

Our Ref: 2015/07056

[REDACTED]

9 September 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 10 August 2015 asking for details of Reaper training provided by United States personnel. You requested the following information:

- 1. What training is provided to UK Reaper pilots by United States personnel (i) at Holloman Airforce base (ii) another location in the United States and (iii) any other location. Please provide information on the structure and topics covered.*
- 2. What training is provided to UK personnel other than UK Reaper pilots by United States personnel in connection with the operation of Reapers (i) at Holloman Airforce base (ii) another location in the United States or (iii) any other location.*
- 3. What additional training is provided to UK embedded personnel (i) at Creech (ii) another location in the United States and (iii) any other location in connection with the operation of Reapers.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search of our paper and electronic records for the information you requested and I can confirm that information within the scope of your request is held.

Initial training to qualify personnel to fly Reaper is provided to UK Reaper pilots by US personnel at Holloman Air Force Base. The Ground school element covers aircraft systems, engine, communications links, weapons and aircraft limits. The Live Firing and Simulation element covers operation of the aircraft, general handling, emergency handling, basic tactics, basic mission sets and weapons employment. Launch and Recovery training covering all aspects of launching and landing the Reaper is provided at Creech Air Force Base by both US and UK trainers. US delivered training for Reaper aircrew is limited to Holloman and Creech Air Force Bases.

No Reaper training is provided by US personnel to UK non-aircrew personnel. However, UK personnel embedded with the US at Creech and Holloman as instructors undergo a US instructors course. These courses take place at Holloman and Creech Air Force Bases.

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.

<https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely



Secretariat 3a1
Air Command