



Ministry  
of Defence

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28 August 2014

E-mail address:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*Dear xxxxxxxxxxxx*

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2014 where you requested information about:

*“what versions and quantities of the Medium Girder Bridge were in service with the British Army from the 70s through the 90s. Versions include: single span bridge sets, multi-span sets, portable pier sets, single storey floating, double storey floating, ferry, link reinforced, and MACH (Mechanically Aided Construction by Hand).*

*Would also appreciate if an overview of the contents of a bridge set could be provided”.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is below and attached.

The Medium Girder Bridge came into service in 1972 and was officially taken out of service in 2008. However, to satisfy operational requirements in Afghanistan the system was retained for use solely in Theatre. The remaining 9 bridge sets are not currently part of the Army’s Table of Equipment.

There has only ever been one version, subject to occasional safety and sustainment modifications. What you have termed “versions” are in fact different possible permutations built from a bridge set or sets. As you will see from the attached, a “bridge set” is a collection of components which can be utilised to build single or multi-span bridges, single or double storey, fixed or floating.

MACH was trialled but the option was not taken up. The Ministry of Defence has no historical record regarding numbers purchased or deployed.

With regard to the individual components of the Medium Girder Bridge, you may find the following link of interest:

<http://www.thinkdefence.co.uk/2012/01/uk-military-bridging-equipment-medium-girder-bridge/>

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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.gov.uk>.

*Yours sincerely,*

*xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

Army Secretariat

### MEDIUM GIRDER BRIDGE LOADING LISTS

	<b>NATO STOCK NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>QTY</b>
1	5420 99 931 8686	BAG BRIDGING	15
2	5420 99 931 8559	BASKET	18
3	5420 99 931 8688	BASEPLATE BLDG FRAME	4
4	5420 99 931 8689	BASEPLATE ROLLER BEAM	6
5	5420 99 931 8687	BEAM BANKSEAT	6
6	5420 99 931 8691	BRACE SWAY	16
7	5420 99 931 2010	BRACKET POST	16
8	5420 99 931 8693	CARRYING BAR	32
9	5420 99 931 8694	CARRYING HANDLE	32
10	5420 99 931 6653	CLIP PANEL PIN	225
11	5420 99 931 8695	CROSS GIRDER BLDG FRAME	2
12	5420 99 931 7746	CROSS GIRDER LAUNCHING NOSE	1
13	5420 99 931 8697	CROSS GIRDER PUSH BAR	1
14	5420 99 931 8698	DECK UNIT	84
15	5120 99 931 5794	HANDLE JACK	7
16	5120 99 930 2139	JACK HYDRAULIC	6
17	5120 99 930 8702	JACK SEAT	4
18	5420 99 931 8703	KERB BRIDGE	40
19	5420 99 931 8704	LAUNCHING NOSE HEAVY	6
20	5420 99 931 8705	LAUNCHING NOSE FRONT	3
21	5420 99 931 8706	LAUNCHING NOSE REAR	3
22	5420 99 931 8182	LINK LAUNCHING NOSE	2
23	5420 99 931 8707	LONGITUDINAL BLDG FRAME	2
24	5420 99 931 9228	PACKING TIMBER	20

25	5420 99 931 8710	PANEL BOTTOM	24
26	5420 99 931 8711	PANEL END TAPER	4
27	5420 99 931 8712	PANEL ERECTION AID	2
28	5420 99 931 8713	PANEL JUNCTION	4
29	5420 99 931 8714	PANEL TOP	40
30	5420 99 931 8715	PEDESTAL BUILDING	6
31	5420 99 930 2184	PEDESTAL ROLLER LANDING	1
32	5420 99 931 8717	PIN BRACING MEMBER	46
33	5420 99 931 8718	PIN LAUNCHING NOSE	18
34	5420 99 931 8719	PIN PANEL	90
35	5420 99 931 8522	PIN PANEL HEADLESS	10
36	5420 99 930 2009	POST EDGE BRIDGE MARKER	16
37	5420 99 931 8720	POST JACKING	3
38	5420 99 931 7972	POST LAUNCHING NOSE	2
39	5420 99 931 8142	PUSH BAR LONG	1
40	5420 99 931 8723	RAMP UNIT	42
41	5420 99 931 8724	ROLLER BEAM	3
42	5420 99 931 8725	ROLLER BEAM SPT ADJ	4
43	5420 99 930 2701	ROLLER LANDING	3
44	5420 99 931 7989	ROLLER LAUNCHING NOSE	1
45	5420 99 931 8726	ROLLER BEAM SUPPORT	6
46	5420 99 138 8318	TIE DOWN REAR	6
47	5420 99 972 6584	TIE DOWN FRONT	6
48	5420 99 728 7873	WEDGE BRIDGE	4
49	5420 99 324 0016	SECURING NET	0
50	3990 99 798	CARGO STRAP	72

	5399		
51	3990 99 798 5398	CARGO RACHETT	72