



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/9603



8 November 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letter of 7 October 2016 asking about Typhoon aircraft ZJ940, ZJ945 and ZJ948 being stored at RAF Coningsby. You requested the following information:

"... why have these three expensive jets been stored since delivery and why after almost nine years in one case has this jet still not seen service with the RAF?"

.....When will these three jets finally see service with the RAF, or will they be sent to RAF Shawbury, never to be seen again?"

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.

It is routine through life fleet management practice to hold some aircraft back from flying and to move parts between aircraft within the RAF Typhoon fleet to ensure optimum aircraft availability is maintained. Typhoons ZJ940, ZJ945 and ZJ948 have been used for this purpose but under current plans will be scheduled for recovery activity that will enable their return to flight in the Forward Fleet in the next 12-24 months. There are no plans to send any of these aircraft to RAF Shawbury.

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, 2nd 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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely


Secretariat 3a1
Air Command