



Ministry
of Defence

HQ Air Command
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Ref: FOI 2015/01319

E-mail address:
[REDACTED]

17 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 3 February 2015 requesting information about a low flying military aircraft over Exeter on that date.

You have asked the following:

- *What type of aircraft was it?*
- *Why was it flying in UK airspace, specifically over Exeter city centre?*
- *To which country does the aircraft belong?*
- *Under whose command was the aircraft operating?*
- *What operation, if any, was the aircraft involved in?*
- *Where did the aircraft take off from and land?*

As you will be aware from my earlier letter of 5 February, 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 information within the scope of your request is held.

The information held that you have requested can be found below:

1. What type of aircraft was it?

The aircraft was a C-17 Globemaster.

2. Why was it flying in UK airspace, specifically over Exeter City Centre?

The approach to the runway at Exeter Airport meant that the aircraft had to pass over Exeter.

3. To which country does the aircraft belong?

The aircraft is part of the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force aircraft fleet.

4. Under whose command was the aircraft operating?

The aircraft was operating under the command of Number 99 Squadron who are based at RAF Brize Norton.

5. What operation, if any, was the aircraft involved in?

The aircraft was undertaking training and was not involved in operations.

6. Where did the aircraft take off from and land?

The aircraft commenced its training task at RAF Brize Norton and returned there upon completion of its training task.

Section 16 of the FOIA requires the department to help and assist where possible. The aircraft was operating in UK airspace in accordance with Military Aviation Authority (MAA) regulations. All military flying has to be undertaken in accordance with MAA Regulatory Article (RA) 2330. MAA regulatory Articles can be found at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maa-regulatory-publications>

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,



Air-DRes Sec 1a
HQ Air Command