



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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2016-07777

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2 September 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 11 August 2016 requesting the following information:

'Could you please let me know the history of HMS Houghton (ton class minesweeper)'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Department does hold limited information relating to HMS Houghton (M1211) and this is supplied below:

Coastal Minesweeper 'Ton' class
Built by Camper & Nicholsons at Gosport launched 22 November 1957
With HMS WILKIESTON visited Tourane 19-21 November 1961
Visited Bangkok in 1964
Visited Sok Kwu Wan in 1968
Arrived in UK after 16,000 mile voyage from Singapore 15 December 1969
Sold 29 January 1971 to H K Vickers and Sons Ltd
Broken up by 7 March 1975.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) I can confirm that a Foreign and Commonwealth Office document concerning HMS Houghton is held at The National Archives under the reference 'FCO 15/314':

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C5684554>

The National Archives can be contacted as follows:

Website: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

Post: The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

Their catalogue is available on the web so you may be able to search for the information you are looking for, although you will not be able to view any documents on the web. Alternatively, you may like to telephone them for assistance on: 020 8876 3444

If you decide to visit the National Archives you will either need to bring your Reader's Ticket, or if you do not possess one you will have to obtain one at the front desk. For this you will require some form of identification, a passport, driving licence etc. They do not charge for reader's tickets, they are free. Alternatively, you may consider employing a researcher to carry out the work for you. If you do decide to do this, then the National Archives will supply you with a list of independent researchers who will make a charge for their time. The National Archives do not carry out research on behalf of individual members of the public.

You may also wish to contact the Imperial War Museum as their collection is understood to include photographs of HMS Houghton when in company with HMS Wilkieston near Sarawak during the Indonesian Confrontation in 1964-65:

Their contact details can be found at www.mail@iwm.org.uk.

IWM London
Lambeth Road
London SE1 6HZ
United Kingdom
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7416 5000

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, Zone N, 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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section