



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/5134



17 May 2016

Dear ,

Thank you for your e-mail of 13 May 2016 which amended your previous request of 27 April asking for information about drop tanks being jettisoned by fast jets.

You originally requested the following information:

"1) Have RAF fast jet aircraft ever jettison external fuel drop tanks during a) OP HERRICK b) OP ELLAMY c) OP Shader (from 2014 to February 2016)?

2) If so how many drop tanks were jettisoned?

3) Were any of the drop tanks jettisoned during OP HERRICK cleaned up/removed afterwards?

Your e-mail of 13 May reduced the scope of your request:

"....I would then wish to cancel my request for Op Herrick but still wish to ask about drop tanks jettisoned during Op Ellamy and Op Shader. If you cannot answer for Op Shader, just Op Ellamy please, for the whole duration of the operation."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am writing to tell you that the MOD holds information on the subject you have requested.

The number of occasions drop tanks were jettisoned on Operations ELLAMY and SHADER and the number of drop tanks involved is given in the table below:

| Operation | Occasions | Drop Tanks |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| ELLAMY | 3 | 6 |
| SHADER | 2 | 4 |

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,


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