



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0565-15

Thank you for your email of 15 June 2015 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

“Your response indicates that two visits were conducted to the US-run detention facility for third-country nationals at Bagram Airfield (the “US detention facility”). The first took place on 20 March 2014 and was conducted by MoD civilians and Provost Marshal (Army) personnel. The second took place on 12 July 2014 and was conducted by MoD civilians and a member of the British Embassy. I refer to these individuals below as “UK personnel” collectively.

In your response you state: “Section 40(2) has been applied to [the] names [of UK personnel] in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.”

In light of the above, I ask that you provide me with the following:

- 1. With relation to the 20 March 2014 visit, how many MoD civilians and how many Provost Marshal (Army) personnel visited the US detention facility?*
- 2. With relation to the 12 July 2014 visit, how many MoD civilians and how many British Embassy personnel visited the US detention facility?*
- 3. On each occasion, what military rank did military personnel hold and what civil service grade did civilian personnel hold?*

4. *On each occasion, what were the official job titles or official areas of responsibility of each individual?*

Your response further states: "Regarding question 3: the UK personnel were hosted by representatives of the Combined Joint Inter Agency Task Force 435. Section 27(1)(a) has been applied to the individuals' names because releasing the information would be likely to adversely affect relations with our allies."

In relation to the representatives of the US Combined Joint Inter Agency Task Force 435, I ask that you provide me the following:

1. *On each occasion, the number of individuals from US Combined Joint Inter Agency Task Force 435 who met with UK personnel;*
2. *On each occasion, the military rank or civil service grade (or equivalent civil service rank) of each individual from US Combined Joint Inter Agency Task Force 435 who met with UK personnel;*
3. *On each occasion, the official job titles or official areas of responsibility of each individual from US Combined Joint Inter Agency Task Force 435 who met with UK personnel."*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested. The answers to your questions are:

1. Two MOD civilians and three members of the military
2. Two MOD staff were accompanied by a single member of the Embassy's diplomatic staff
3. a) 20 March 2014: Senior Civil Service; the ranks of military personnel are not given but included at least one Colonel
b) 12 July 2014: The MOD staff were of Grade 6 and Grade 7; they were accompanied by an Embassy Second Secretary;
4. a) 20 March 2014: the individuals were responsible for UK policy on detentions, for broader UK operational policy and for advising HM Ambassador on defence policy issues
b) 12 July 2014: the individuals were responsible for advising UK military staff on defence policy; for advising HM Ambassador on defence policy issues, and for advising HM Ambassador on counter-terrorism matters.

The answers to the second set of questions you pose are:

1. The total is not held but at least one
2. The full details are not held but at least one Brigadier General
3. Section 27(1)(a) has been applied because releasing the information would be likely to adversely affect relations with our allies

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

Yours sincerely,

Pakistan and Afghanistan Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.