



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
Navy Command Headquarters
MP 1-4, Leach Building
Whale Island
PORTSMOUTH
PO2 8BY

Ref. 2016/07673

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]

Facsimile [MOD]: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Via Email: [REDACTED]

22 August 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 August 2016 requesting this information:

'Do Marines trained in the use of sharpshooter rifles still deploy as a normal Marine, but just carrying a specialist weapon?'

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

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that the information requested is held. Use of the Sharpshooter Rifle (L129A1) is not a Royal Marine specialisation as such and the weapon can be allocated to Marines operating as Riflemen within a section or small team. The deployment of Royal Marines with the Sharpshooter Rifle is mission-specific so, for example, they can, if required, also be detached and used to provide fire support or overwatch similar to the role of a sniper.

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://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section