



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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FOI 2017-10094

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15 January 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your email of 17 October 2017 in which you requested the following information:

'I would like to know how many times Southern Diving Unit 2, in Portsmouth, were called to action from October 1, 2016 to October 1, 2017.

As part of this, could I have a brief summary of:

- * When and where the team deployed
- * A short description of the incident
- * What action the team undertook'

Your enquiry is being treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

As explained in the interim reply to you of 14 November 17, a search was completed within the Ministry of Defence and information in scope of your request is held, however, consideration of the information following a public interest test, has confirmed that some of the information falls within the scope of the qualified exemptions under Section 24 – National Security and Section 26 – Defence - of the Act. The Department is permitted to withhold information where the engagement of an exemption is considered justified.

Section 24(1) of the Act is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security and information is exempt if its disclosure would bring harm to national security. It is likely that some of the information when pieced together with other information already in the public domain could identify vulnerable areas within the UK and undermine the effectiveness of current and future measures to protect the country. On balance, it has therefore been concluded that the public interest lies in withholding some of the information under the exemption at section 24(1) of the Act.

Under Section 26(1)(a) and (b) of the Act, information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of any relevant forces. It is likely that some of the information requested would reveal operational practices and techniques which might compromise current or future operations and risk the capability, effectiveness or security of our

Armed Forces. On balance, it has therefore been concluded that the public interest lies in withholding some of the information under the exemption at section 26(1)(a) and (b) of the Act.

Under Section 31(3) law enforcement the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds some information in the scope of your request, which if held would be exempt under section 31. Disclosure of such information could compromise the interaction between the military and civil powers. On balance, it has therefore been concluded that the public interest lies in neither confirming nor denying whether the MOD holds some information in scope of your request. This should not be used as an indication that such information is or is not held

The Department is able to provide you with some information which can be found in the Annex attached to this letter.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat- FOI Section

Southern Diving Unit October - December 2016

Date	Area	Identification	Render Safe Procedure
Oct16	Thorney Island	3 x High Explosive Bombs	Dem in Situ
Oct16	Southampton	1 x Inert Shell	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct16	Hastings	1 x 500lb Air Dropped Bomb (WW2)	Dem in Situ
Oct16	Cleethorpes	1 x Mortar	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct16	Havant	1 x 4" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Oct16	Brighton	1 x Mortar	Dem in Situ
Oct16	Lydd	1 x Mooring Buoy (Inert)	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct16	Portsmouth (QEC)	1 x 6" Projectile	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Oct16	Portsmouth(QEC)	3 x Small Arms, 3 x Anti-Aircraft	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Oct16	Worthing	1 x Hand Grenade (Inert)	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct16	Worthy Down Camp	1 x Practice Bomb (Head)	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct17	Chichester	1 x Projectile	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Isle of Wight	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Isle of Wight	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Chichester	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Poole	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Bournemouth	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Poole	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Wimbourne	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Havant	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Warminster	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Farnham	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Surrey	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Langstone Hbr	70 x 9mm Small Arms Ammunition	Picked Up (RTU)
Nov16	Poole	2 x 4" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Southampton	3 x Projectiles	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Bognor Regis	1 x 4" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Waterlooville	Gunpowder	Picked Up (RTU)
Nov16	Portsmouth (QEC)	1 x Anti-Submarine Mortar	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Nov 16	Portsmouth (QEC)	1 x 500lb Air Dropped Bomb (WW2)	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Nov16	Isle of Wight	1 x Fused Cannon Ball	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Gosport	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Nov16	Shoreham on Sea	1 x 3" Projectile, 20 x .5" Carts	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Gosport	1 x 3" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Nov16	Southampton	1 x Air Burst Fuse	Picked Up (RTU)
Dec16	Gosport	1 x 3" Solid Shot Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Dec16	Portsmouth(QEC)	2 x Cannonball, 1 x Mortar,	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Dec16	Portsmouth	1 x Anti-Personnel Round	Picked Up (RTU)
Dec16	Portsmouth (QEC)	1 x Anti-Submarine Mortar	Dem near IOW (Solent)
Dec16	Southampton	Various Small Arms Ammunition	Picked Up (RTU)
Dec16	Gosport	1 x Smoke grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
Dec16	Southampton	3 x 3" Projectiles	Dem in Situ

Southern Diving Unit January 2017 to October 2017

Date	Area	Identification	Render Safe Procedure
Jan17	Portsmouth	Dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNP)	Dem in Situ
Jan17	London	1 x SC 50 Air Dropped Bomb	Dem in Situ

Jan17	Poole	1x1" Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Jan17	Norfolk	1x3" Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Jan17	Shoreham by Sea	7xProjectiles	Dem in Situ
Jan17	Havant	1x30mm Practice Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Jan17	Havant	1x3" HE Projectile	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Chichester	1x2" Stokes Mortar	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Portsmouth	5xProjectiles 1xCannonball	Dem Browndown Range
Feb17	Havant	1x3" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Browndown Range	1x3" Solid Shot (SS)	Picked Up (RTU)
Feb17	Wareham	1x3" Phosphorous Flare	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Portsmouth	1 x Armstrong Round	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Portsmouth	1 x SC 250	Dem in Situ
Feb17	Portsmouth	1x5" Projectile 9x 40mm Rounds	Dem at Bracklesham Beach
Feb17	Portsmouth	2x2" Projectiles 1x8" Nose Cone	Dem in Solent
Feb17	Southampton	1x2" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Mar17	London	1x SC 500	Dem in Situ
Mar17	Solent	2x Projectiles	Dem in Solent
Mar17	Hunstanton	3x3" Projectiles 5xSolid Shot	Dem in Situ
Mar17	Gosport	100x12.7mm Rounds	PUCA
Mar17	Portsmouth shipping Channel	1 x (UK) A (MK) 12 Influence Ground Mine (practise) (490kg)	Moved to Solent, controlled Dem
Mar17	Southampton	2 x 3" Solid Shot projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Mar17	Milford on Sea	1 x Spigot Mortar	Dem in Situ
Mar17	Folkestone Harbour	1 x Possible Mine (Non ordnance)	N/A - non Ordnance
Mar17	Portsmouth Harbour nr Kings Stairs	1 x 4.5" Naval Projectile, 1 x 3"Phos Flare	Transported to Mining Ground, Controlled Dem
Apr17	Milford on Sea	5 x Spigot Mortar	Dem in Situ
Apr17	Lymington Police Station	Various Flairs / Shot gun carts	Picked Up (RTU), Disposal at Lydd Pyro burn.
Apr17	West Stoke Farm, Nature Reserve	1 x 2" Mortar	Dem in Situ
Apr17	Lydd Range, Foreshore	8" Naval Shell	Dem in Situ
Apr17	Southampton	4" HE Projectile	Dem in Situ
Apr17	Southampton	1 x No. 36 Mills Grenade	Dem Browndown Range
Apr17	East End, Lymington	1 x Possible Projectile	N/A - non Ordnance
Apr17	Emsworth	1 x Empty 3" Projectile FFE	Picked Up (RTU)
Apr17	Dredger 2NM south of Shoreham	1 x Empty 3" Projectile FFE	Picked Up (RTU)
Apr17	HMNB Ports, 100m SW Kings Stairs, Dredger	1x4" HE Projectile, 1 x 20mm Container (Approx. 50 within)	Transported to Mining Ground, Controlled Dem
Apr17	Southampton	Livens Chemical Mortar	Transported to Portland Down
Apr17	Southend	2" AA projectile	Dem in Situ
May17	Brentmoor	1x2" mortar	FFE
May17	Dover	Royal Flying Corp 230lb Thin cased Mk1 Bomb	Dem in Situ
May17	West Sands, Selsey	2 x 4" HE Projectile	Dem in Situ
May17	Waterlooville	Projectile Nose Fuse FFE	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Isle of Wight	0.5kg Gun Powder	Picked Up (RTU), Disposal at Lydd Pyro burn.
May17	HMS Excellent	2 Smoke Flares	Picked Up (RTU), Disposal at Lydd Pyro burn.
May17	Dover	Mooring Base Plate of Buoyant mine	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Southampton	Projectile Nose Fuse FFE	Picked Up (RTU)

May17	Whitstable Beach	1x 5" Projectile 5kg NEQ	Dem in Situ
May17	Fratton Police Station	1x 5" Projectile 5kg NEQ	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Seaford	2 x Inert Mills Grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Dredging vessel, NE Langstone Hbr	1 x 12" Projo Solid Shot	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Gosport	Non Ordnance (piece of wood)	Picked Up (RTU)
May17	Selsey	Possible Ordnance	N/A non Ordnance
May17	Southampton	Toy Grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
Jun17	Dover	700kg German Ground mine	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Hertfordshire	Possible Ordnance – Aircraft Fuel Tank	N/A non Ordnance
Jun17	Havant	1 x 4" SS 1 x 4" HE Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Salisbury	Possible Hand Grenade	N/A non Ordnance
Jun17	Havant	1 x Possible Projectile	N/A non Ordnance
Jun17	Ramsgate	GG German Mine	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Ramsgate	GY Mine	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Ramsgate	8" HE Projectile, 3" SS Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Ramsgate	Mine Charge Casing	Picked Up (RTU)
Jun17	Ramsgate	6" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Brighton	Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Brighton	Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jun17	Tollesbury	Possible Ordnance	N/A Non Ordnance
Jun17	Ramsgate	Possible GC German Mine	Non Ordnance
Jun17	Marchwood	Hotchkiss Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jul17	Bournemouth	Non – Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Jul17	Southend on Sea	Mortar	Dem in Situ
Jul17	Solent	Drill sea fox round	Picked Up and Returned
Jul17	Cowes	Torpedo Engine Section	Picked Up (RTU)
Jul17	Hayling Island	2 x smoke canisters	Picked Up (RTU)
Jul17	Portsmouth	Inert Grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
Jul17	Margate	1 x Possible Mine	Nothing Found
Jul17	Albion Wharf	1 x 2" Projectile	Dem at Aggregate Yard
Jul17	Southend	2 x Mortars	Dem in Situ
Jul17	Marchwood	2" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Jul17	Emsworth	Possible Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Jul17	Bracklesham Beach	3 x Projectiles	Dem in Situ
Jul17	IOW	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Southampton	Shot Gun Cartridges	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Southampton	3 x Solid Shot	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Poole	Solid Shot Cannonball	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Gosport	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Wimbourne	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Aug17	Southend	1x2" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Aug17	Cleethorpes	2 x Spigot Mortars	Dem in Situ
Sep17	Wiltshire	1x3" Projectile	Dem in Situ
Sep17	Southampton	1 x Drill Grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
Sep17	Dorchester	Stick Incendiary	Dem in Situ
Sep17	Southampton	Mortar	Dem at Browndown
Sep17	Bridport	1 x Grenade	Dem at Browndown
Sep17	Warsash	3 x Solid Shot	Picked Up (RTU)
Sep17	Cosham	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Sep17	Swanage	1x3" Solid Shot	Picked Up (RTU)
Sep17	Clacton-On-Sea	German GC Ground Mine	Dem in Situ
Sep17	West Wittering	Non Ordnance	Picked Up (RTU)
Sep17	Winchester	3" Rocket	Dem in Situ

Oct17	Portland	Mk 8 Drill Torpedo	Dem in Situ
Oct17	Marchwood	2x2" Projectile	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct17	South Downs	1 x Hand Grenade	Picked Up (RTU)
Oct17	Sandwich Bay	Items not found	N/A
Oct17	Brighton	1x2" Mortar	Dem in Situ

Please note acronyms used:

AA – Anti Aircraft

BME – Bomb Making Equipment

Dem In Situ – Demolished in Situation

FFE – Free From Explosives

GC - (German and then model number)(All German historical mines were given an alphabetical number in sequential order that each type was discovered by the Allies, i.e GA, GB, GC, GD, GE, etc)

GG – as GC Above

GY – as GC above

NEQ – Net Explosive Quantity

PUCA – Pick Up and Carry Away

QEC – Queen Elizabeth Carrier dredging operations

RTU – Return to Unit