



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**North Africa Joint Unit**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
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London SW1A 2AH

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10 January 2018

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1173-17**

Thank you for your email of 08 December 2017 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*(1) on what date(s) and via what source(s) the FCO became aware of reports that the Libyan Coastguard had threatened and/or fired upon search and rescue vessels in the Mediterranean.*

*(2) on what date(s) the FCO raised concerns over these incidents with the Libyan authorities; and in what form these concerns were raised, and by whom.*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold some limited information that is relevant to your request, but does not hold records of precise dates of meetings.

The FCO works closely with the Libyan Navy Coastguard and takes all allegations against them seriously. I can confirm that Her Majesty's Ambassador to Libya and his team frequently engage with the Libyan Navy Coastguard and keep up a regular tempo of scrutiny which is proactive not reactive. For instance, over the last six months, we have followed up with the senior Coastguard personnel about incidents reported in the media, including with Commodore Abdalh Toumiyah, Head of Libyan Coastguard. This included raising concerns with Commodore Abdalh Toumiyah following reports of shots being fired at search and rescue vessels in September 2017.

Yours sincerely,

North Africa Joint Unit



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