



Ministry of Defence

J9 FOI Secretariat

Permanent Joint Headquarters (United Kingdom)
Northwood Headquarters
Sandy Lane
Northwood
Middlesex
HA6 3HP

E-Mail: PJHQ-J9-FOI-Group@mod.gov.uk

Reference: FOI [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

10 October 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your letter of 15 August 2018 which requested the following information:

"For each calendar month between and including January 2017 and July 2018, and disaggregated for sorties carried out within (or attacks that ultimately struck targets within) Iraq and Syria:

- 1. The number of (a) Reaper MQ-9; (b) Tornado GR4; (c) Typhoon sorties and associated weapons (type and number) released by airframe type.*
- 2. The number of civilians adjudged to have been injured or killed by such individual attacks."*

Your correspondence has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and we can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information requested can be found below.

1a. For each calendar month from January 2017 to July 2018, the number of Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon sorties:

Year	Sorties Flown	SYRIA			IRAQ			Total
		REAPER	TORNADO	TYPHOON	REAPER	TORNAD O	TYPHOO N	
2017	Jan	29	14	82	31	91	20	267
	Feb	30	22	74	21	66	24	237
	Mar	36	38	108	16	60	4	262
	Apr	32	4	84	11	96	14	241
	May	54	13	95	11	87	9	269
	Jun	74	53	85	4	45	14	275
	Jul	59	67	105	14	41	5	291
	Aug	65	64	92	8	28	15	272
	Sep	63	56	94	5	44	7	269
	Oct	65	10	102	8	92	5	282
	Nov	46	20	84	7	64	12	233
	Dec	55	44	98	8	60	4	269
2018	Jan	64	75	74	4	17	12	246
	Feb	31	70	78	12	10	10	211
	Mar	64	78	92	8	20	14	276
	Apr	45	64	88	3	16	4	220
	May	46	70	89	10	12	7	234
	Jun	55	80	100	5	19	4	263
	Jul	20	19	28	0	8	0	75
	Total	933	861	1652	186	876	184	4692

Please note, the records are focused on sorties flown and weapons released. We do not record all cases of entry into Syrian airspace by RAF Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon aircraft. For Reaper, all missions recorded as entering Syrian airspace will have transited through (and possibly operated in) Iraq due to the basing location of this platform. For Typhoon and Tornado, we record some Syrian airspace entry cases and these might be for transit or to reach their area of operation in Iraq; this is not synonymous with weapon release.

1b. For each calendar month from January 2017 to July 2018, the associated weapons (type and number) released by airframe type:

Iraq

Year	Month	Reaper		Tornado			Typhoon	Total
		AGM-114	GBU-12	DMSB	PWIV	EPW3	PWIV	
2017	Jan	31	1	5	12	2	21	72
	Feb	5	0	9	23	0	17	54
	Mar	1	1	0	40	0	64	106
	Apr	2	0	12	24	0	4	42
	May	0	0	31	64	0	21	116
	Jun	2	0	27	37	0	37	103
	Jul	0	0	12	23	0	22	57
	Aug	0	0	6	15	0	24	45
	Sep	0	0	11	38	0	23	72
	Oct	0	0	3	13	0	2	18
	Nov	0	0	2	6	0	9	17
	Dec	0	0	3	6	0	0	9
2018	Jan	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	Feb	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Mar	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	Apr	0	0	2	5	0	3	10
	May	0	0	0	5	0	1	6
	Jun	3	0	0	0	0	9	12
	Jul	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Total	44	2	123	312	2	262	745

Syria

Year	Month	Reaper		Tornado				Typhoon	Total
		AGM-114	GBU-12	DMSB	PWIV	EPW2	SS	PWIV	
2017	Jan	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	5
	Feb	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Mar	0	0	0	2	4	0	2	8
	Apr	3	0	0	0	0	0	18	21
	May	3	0	0	0	0	0	24	27
	Jun	9	0	5	16	0	0	24	54
	Jul	6	0	4	19	0	0	45	74
	Aug	0	0	0	18	0	0	57	75
	Sep	17	2	2	4	0	0	18	43
	Oct	20	0	0	4	0	0	7	31
	Nov	3	2	0	4	0	0	5	14
	Dec	14	0	0	4	0	0	1	19
2018	Jan	50	8	4	8	0	0	20	90
	Feb	13	2	2	9	0	0	16	42
	Mar	19	0	0	0	0	0	7	26
	Apr	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
	May	0	0	0	11	0	0	21	32
	Jun	13	0	0	3	0	0	3	19
	Jul	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Total	171	14	18	103	4	8	272	590

3. The number of civilians judged to have been injured or killed by such individual attacks:

As announced in a written statement to parliament by the Secretary of State for Defence on 02 May 2018, the number of civilians judged to have been killed by UK airstrikes over Syria and Iraq is one. During a strike to engage three Daesh fighters, a civilian motorbike crossed into the strike area at the last moment and it is assessed that one civilian was unintentionally killed. We reached this conclusion after undertaking routine and detailed post-strike analysis of all available evidence. We have not seen evidence that our strikes have resulted in further civilian casualties. There are limits on any further details that can be provided given ongoing operations and consequent national security issues.

The data contained in this statement is believed to be complete and correct at the time of issue. The MOD operational activity databases are frequently reviewed and any errors and omissions are corrected. It is therefore possible that future statements might not match this statement exactly. The MOD regrets any difficulty that this may cause but emphasises that our aim is to ensure that our records are as complete and correct as possible.

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,

PJHQ J9 FOI Secretariat

