



Ministry  
of Defence

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██████████

Our Reference:  
FOI2018/15350  
Date:  
13 December 2018

Email: ██████████

Dear ██████████,

Thank you for your email of 20 November 2018 requesting the following information:

***"Seddon Atkinson chassis number 81901***

***I need to obtain a form MOD654 (or anything else you think may help!), so that I can obtain a vehicle registration document for the above lorry. It is a Seddon Atkinson Tractor unit supplied to the MOD on the 26th March 1987 for use by the US Air Force. It's Military registration number was 87B3735, I hope you can help or suggest who may be able to."***

I have also linked to this request the following additional information (extracts) you provided in your e-mails of 23 November 2018, 4 and 7 December 2018:

***Below is the details for all other vehicles built for the MOD and delivered at the same time. The registration numbers were supplied to Seddon Atkinson from the MOD. I hope you can help, as I understand there is no other way to get this vehicle registered for the road.***

***Detail for your vehicle only (extracted from the list of seven vehicles delivered that day):***

<b>CHASSIS</b>	<b>REG NO</b>	<b>MODEL</b>	<b>BUILD DATE</b>	<b>DELV'D DATE</b>
81901	87B3735	T24R30	06/02/1987	26/03/1987

***"I have further information that may help. Mine was one of 7 lorries ordered from Seddon Atkinson under order number FVE 22A/356. The MOD640 number was 0620437. Seddon Atkinson are adamanty the registration number was 87B3735, has this was the registration number used by the USAF on a warranty claim."***

***"I've just been informed it was at Alconbury & also one called Burtonwood..."***



***"I bought it from Ernest Thorpe transport, Sheffield. They were big buyers of ex MOD Seddon Atkinsons. This one was a batch in a batch of 3 identical ones they bought some 20 years ago! They did have the release documents but never registered them for the road as they were working internally at the steel works."***

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held for the vehicle or the contract or 640 number it was delivered under.

We are, therefore, not able to issue a MOD654 for this vehicle as we cannot find any record of its disposal. However, under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note I can confirm that MOD did purchase a number of Tractor units from Seddon Atkinson and we do recognise the format of Contract FVE 22A/356 as that of an MOD Contract reference and that the registration number 87B3735 adheres to the format used for USAF vehicles in the UK.

We approached the United States military who advise that they no longer hold any information on the vehicle in question, or how/when it was disposed of/sold. Such records would have only been retained for seven years, which is similar to the retention period of records within the MOD. As you state that the vehicle was originally sold over 20 years ago (and the then buyer did hold the release documents, but did not register the vehicle), it is perhaps not surprising that we no longer hold the information.


I suggest that you now contact the DVLA to seek to register the vehicle.

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.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.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

  
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