

Defence Equipment and Support Secretariat Building H9, H Site Ministry of Defence Ploughley Road Lower Arncott Bicester OX25 1NZ



Email: DES SEC-PolSec LE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk

Email:

Our Reference: FOI2018/14663 Date:

19 December 2018

Dear

Thank you for your email of 19 November 2018 requesting the following information:

"I refer to my previous request, FOI2018/03829, can I please have a copy of email threads by inter MOD department offices which relate to this request please.

The Arid DPM, also know as the 'New Desert DPM' which was a three tone blend, can you tell me the maker of the material please and also who supplied the webbing material for the PECOC programme for the PLCE/Trial webbing systems?"

I am treating your correspondence 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 I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

We have found six email threads concerning your previous request, FOI2018/03829, and I attach the threads as requested; personal details have been redacted in adherence to Section 40(2) (Personal Information) of the FOIA.

In the earlier response to FOI2018/03829, my colleague informed you that "According to our records there was no Arid DPM material trialled during the PECOC programme, but a Hybrid material was part of the trial. The companies that supplied Hybrid DPM samples were Seyntex NV (Belgium) and CQC Ltd.". These two companies were the prime contractors and they also supplied the webbing to MOD as sourced from M Wright & Sons Ltd. We have no additional information on this.

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).

Defence Equipment & Support

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

Defence Equipment and Support

From Sent: 20 March 2018 13:42 Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o Hi You could, but I think we need to be careful here - there's a potential catch in what they've said. The answer from STSP is effectively in three parts; they've stated that there wasn't an Arid DPM, but have confirmed what hybrid they think the correspondent is referring to; they've confirmed the two companies that supplied that hybrid; and they've speculated as to where the companies sourced their materials from. If pushed, I'm not sure we could definitively prove that last part. My advice would be to reply to direct and include elements of what said, but caveat it as "There wasn't an Arid DPM, tested, but there was XXX. The companies that supplied XXX were YYY and ZZZ." And then, as additional information, you could say that the team believe that the two companies sourced their materials from the two names listed, but that we can't confirm that at this point in time, and suggest that that information under the "being helpful" clause, but that it may also be prudent to leave it out and let the correspondent go direct to the two companies looking for more information. What do you think? Best regards, (BSc (Hons)) | Land Equipment Operating Centre Headquarters | Corporate Services Group MOD Abbey Woo Bristol | BS34 8JH MOB: Unlisted Ministry of Defence **Defence Equipment & Support** From: Sent: 20 March 2018 13:38 Subject: FW: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o Hi as is for him to draft an answer and get it out the way? Shall I just send this back to Kind regards,

| Land Equipment | Corporate Services

| Bristol | BS34 8JH

MOD Abbey Wood

From: Sent: 20 March 2018 13:34 To: Cc: Subject: FW: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o PSB for an answer from the team. It is the best we can do. Regards COS | Soldier, Training and Special Programmes Bristol | BS34 8JH MOD Abbey Wood, Ministry of Defence **Defence Equipment & Support** From: Sent: 20 March 2018 13:26 To: Cc: Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o The material used for the PECO trial samples was a Hybrid DPM material, a cross between the Woodland DPM and Desert DPM. The samples were produced by Seyntex NV in Belgium as well as CQC Ltd, It is most likely that these companies would have sourced the Main material from Cortman Textiles Limited in Preston, Lancashire and the webbing from M Wight & Sons Ltd in Loughborough. Regards, Soldier, Training and Special Programmes | DE&S Abbey Wood | Bristol | BS34 8JH Please new mobile number | Mob: Mil: | Civ: From: Sent: 20 March 2018 12:15 To: Subject: FW: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o

An FOI ref PECOC trials. Do we have the info for them? I tried to bat it off by asking for more info but this one is persistent!

The FOI:

Can you please advise who produced and supplied the Arid DPM camoflage print in Condura as part of the PECOC (Personal Equipment, Common, Operating, Programme).

The Arid DPM was trialled within the PECOC programme and Cordura was used by CQC to make Webbing, Osprey Vests, Bergens and Daysacks for the trial.

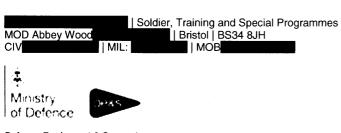
I have a number of these items but unfortunately all slashed when released by the MOD. I am trying to source the Arid DPM Material to make repairs to these items.

I have contacted various Textiles company's as well as CQC and nobody can advise who produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the PECOC trial.

Can you please advise which textile company produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the MOD PECOC trial?

Slightly obscure! No date for return but any thoughts would be useful.

Thanks



Defence Equipment & Support

From:

Sent: 19 March 2018 09:20

To:

Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o

Hi ,

We have had a reply back regarding the FOI on Arid DPM camouflage print. Please could you see the response below and see if this makes more sense to you or if more information is still needed.

I haven't copied in as I thought it wise to check with you first.

If you are able to answer the question, please could you let and I have the reply by CoP Mon 9th April.

I'm working from home today, but is in office if you need to speak to us any further today.

Many thanks,

The Arid DPM was trialled within the PECOC programme and Cordurc was used by CQC to make Webbing, Osprey Vests, Bergens and Daysacks for the trial.

I have a number of these items but unfortunately all slashed when released by the MOD. I am trying to source the Arid DPM Material to make repairs to these items.

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Cordura for the PECOC trial.

Hi

Can you please advise which textile company produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the MOD PECOC trial?

Kind regards, | Land Equipment | Corporate Services | Bristol | BS34 8JH MOD Abbey Wood From: Sent: 09 March 2018 16:39 To: Cc: Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o The question is not very specific and is inaccurate I think. We don't have Arid DPM and the materiel is cordura. PECOC does not exist anymore either. What happens if we need more info? This could be a question about a sample provided during the old PECOC project or they may be asking the question about a current piece of equipment but calling it the wrong thing. for info, this may come our way. Regards | Soldier, Training and Special Programmes Bristol | BS34 8JH MOD Abbey Wood | MOB: Ministry of Defence Defence Equipment & Support From: Sent: 08 March 2018 13:34 To: Cc: Subject: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o

We've spotted this – not officially with us as yet, so no deadline date, but could you confirm if this would sit within STSP?

Can you please advise who produced and supplied the Arid DPM camoflage print in Condura as part of the PECOC (Personal Equipment, Common, Operating, Programme).

Many thanks,

Kind regards,



| Land Equipment | Corporate Services | MOD Abbey Wood, | Bristol | BS34 8JH | CIV | MIL:



Sent: 20 March 2018 15:06 То Cc: Subject: Re: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM Thank you. I'll draft a reply and circulate for comment. Regards | DE&S Secretariat | LD SE MOD Abbey Wood, #2043 | Maple 0a | Bristol | BS34 8JH CIV: | MIL: Ministry of Defence **Defence Equipment & Support**

From

Sent: 20 March 2018 14:48

To: Cd

Subject: RE: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM

Hi ,

We've had a response back from the team regarding the FOI below

There wasn't an Arid DPM, tested, but there was a Hybrid DPM material. The companies that supplied the sample materials were Seyntex NV (Belgium) and CQC Ltd.

As additional information, the team believe that it is most likely that these companies would have sourced the Main material from Cortman Textiles Ltd in Preston, Lancashire and the webbing from M Wright & Sons Ltd in Loughborough, however we can't confirm that at this point in time and suggest that you may want to include that information under the "being helpful" clause, but that it may also be prudent to leave it out and let the correspondent go direct to the two companies looking for more information.

Hope that makes sense!

Kind regards,

Land Equipment MOD Abbey Wood, CIV: MIL	Corporate Services Bristol BS34 8JH	
Ministry deas		
From:		
Sent: 14 March 2018 15:52		
То:		

Subject: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM

.

Cc:

Please see the reply from below which was very quick!

This is now a new FOI with a reply date of 16 April. The new request looks straight forward so presumably won't take too long to research. I would be grateful if you would set the ball rolling.

Regards

| DE&S Secretariat | LD SE

MOD Abbey Wood, #2043 | Maple 0a | Bristol | BS34 8JH

CIV:

| MIL:

Ministry
of Defence



Defence Equipment & Support

Sent: 14 March 2018 15:06

To:

Subject: Re: Request for information - Ref: FOI2018/03549

Thank you for your reply.

The Arid DPM was trialled within the PECOC programme and Cordura was used by CQC to make Webbing, Osprey Vests, Bergens and Daysacks for the trial.

I have a number of these items but unfortunately all slashed when released by the MOD. I am trying to source the Arid DPM Material to make repairs to these items.

I have contacted various Textiles company's as well as CQC and nobody can advise who produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the PECOC trial.

Can you please advise which textile company produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the MOD PECOC trial?

Yours sincerely,



----Original Message----

Dear ,

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

The Ministry of Defence requires further information in order to determine whether it holds any information within the scope of your request. You asked about 'Arid DPM camouflage print in Condura' and refer to the 'PECOC (Personal Equipment, Common, Operating, Programme).'

In the case of the former, the MOD has not used Arid DPM camouflage and the material concerned is Cordura; in the case of the latter, the PECOC programme is no longer running. It is not clear if your request is referring to a product that was related to the PECOC programme, or is a reference to a wrongly named current product.

Once you have clarified your request, I will be pleased to consider it again.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not

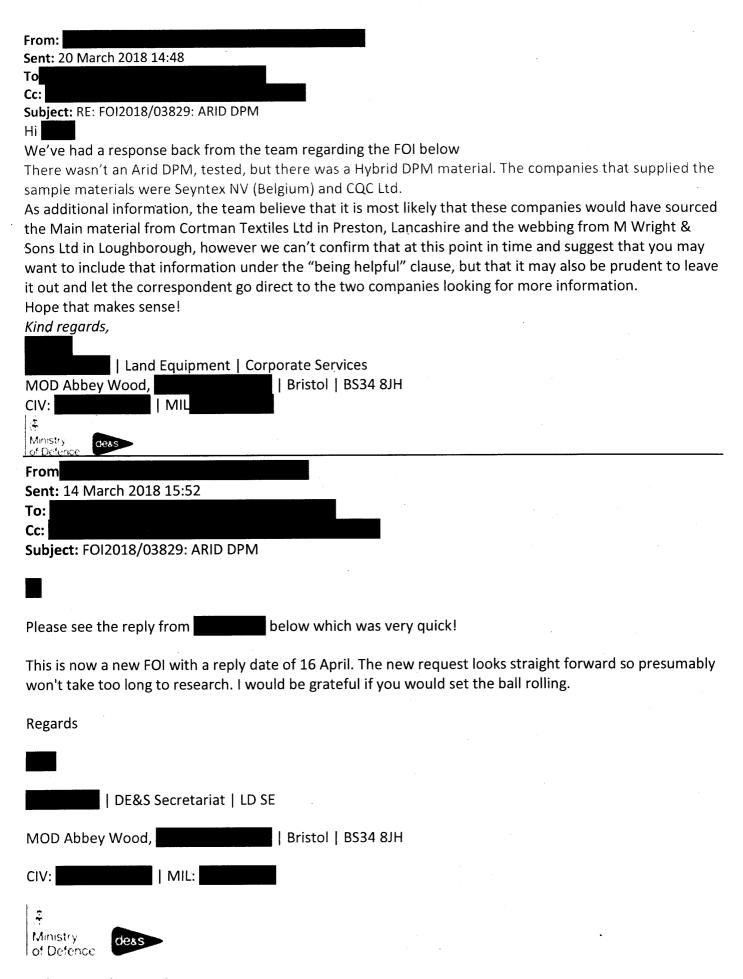
possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [email address]). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely,
Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/officers
For more detailed guidance on safely disclosing information, read the latest advice from the ICO: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/ico-guidance-for-authorities
Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.
If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

From: **Sent:** 23 March 2018 15:50 Cc: Subject: Fw: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM Thank you. Please find attached my proposed draft reply for approval. I assume that the company names can be released? I would be grateful for a reply by close of play Wednesday 4 April. Regards | DE&S Secretariat | LD SE | Bristol | BS34 8JH MOD Abbey Wood, MIL: Ministry l of Defence

Defence Equipment & Support



Defence Equipment & Support

From:

Sent: 14 March 2018 15:06

To:

Subject: Re: Request for information - Ref: FOI2018/03549

Dear correspondence@mod.ecase.gsi.gov.uk on behalf of

Thank you for your reply.

The Arid DPM was trialled within the PECOC programme and Cordura was used by CQC to make Webbing, Osprey Vests, Bergens and Daysacks for the trial.

I have a number of these items but unfortunately all slashed when released by the MOD. I am trying to source the Arid DPM Material to make repairs to these items.

I have contacted various Textiles company's as well as CQC and nobody can advise who produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the PECOC trial.

Can you please advise which textile company produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the MOD PECOC trial?

Yours sincerely,



----Original Message----

Dear

Thank you for your email received on 8 March 2018 requesting the following information: Can you please advise who produced and supplied the Arid DPM camoflage print in Condura as part of the PECOC (Personal Equipment, Common, Operating, Programme).

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

The Ministry of Defence requires further information in order to determine whether it holds any information within the scope of your request. You asked about 'Arid DPM camouflage print in Condura' and refer to the 'PECOC (Personal Equipment, Common, Operating, Programme'..'

In the case of the former, the MOD has not used Arid DPM camouflage and the material concerned is Cordura; in the case of the latter, the PECOC programme is no longer running. It is not clear if your request is referring to a product that was related to the PECOC programme, or is a reference to a wrongly named current product.

Once you have clarified your request, I will be pleased to consider it again.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [email address]). 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.

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Yours sincerely,

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:	
Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be put copyright policies:	olished on the internet. Our privacy and
https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/officers	
For more detailed guidance on safely disclosing information, reachttps://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/ico-guidance-for-author	
Please note that in some cases publication of requests and respo	nses will be delayed.
If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your we organisation's FOI page.	eb manager to link to us from your

From:			
Sent: 26 March 2018 12:11			
To: Cc: Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM came	ouflage print-o		
Hi			
Many thanks, I'll get this one squared away. Have	e an Easter egg on	me!	
	1		
Best regards,			
(BSc (Hons)) Land Equipment Operating Cer MOD Abbey Wood Bristol BS34 8JH CIV: MIL: MOB: Unlisted	ntre Headquarters Cor	pcrate Services Group	
Ministry deas			
Defence Equipment & Support			
			•
From:			
Sent: 26 March 2018 12:10 To:			
Cc:			
Subject: RE: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM came	ouflage print-o		
Hello ,			
nello,			
No, I don't think releasing the names will cause a	ny issues, so conte	ent for those details	s to be released.
Many Thanks,			
Soldier, Training & Special Programmes D	CC		
	BS34 8JH		
CIV: MIL:		•	
PLEASE NOTE: MY E-MAIL ADDRESS WIL			
EDOM THE	E 4 STH ILLINIE WIT	THE MODNET	BOLL OUT

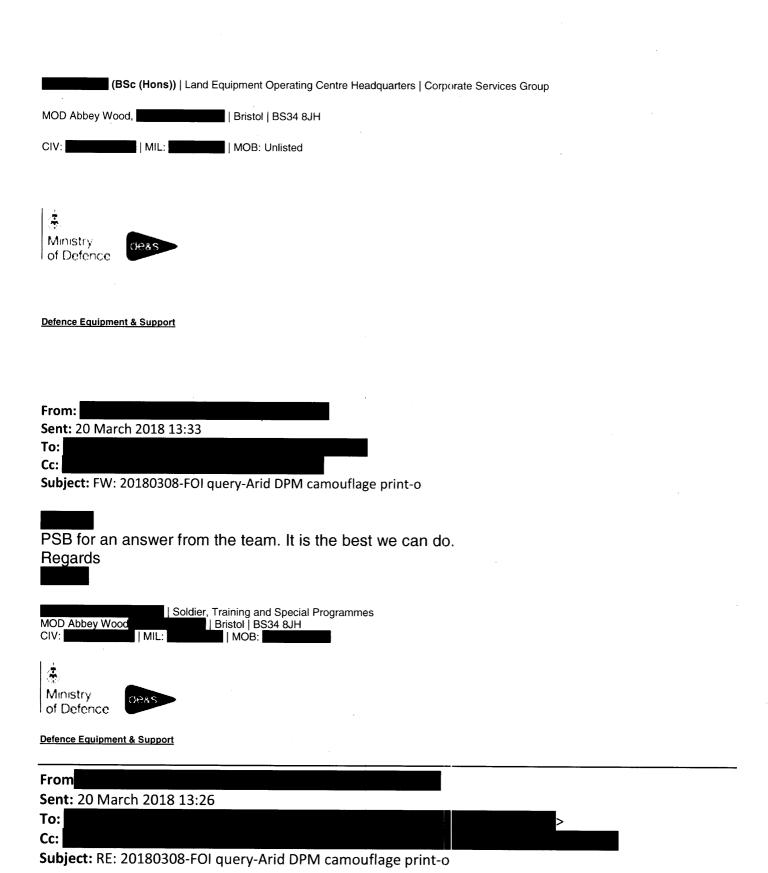
Ministry of Defence

Defence Equipment & Support

From Sent: 26 March 2018 11:59
To: Cc: Subject: FW: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o
Good morning
Apologies for coming to you directly, but I've just seen an out of office message from and it looks like is out of office as well. PolSec are happy with what we sent them in response to the question on the Hybrid DPM supplied for the PECOC trials, but asked me to confirm that there are no issues with releasing the names of Seyntex NV or CQC Ltd (and their participation in the PECOC trials) into the public domain. I've done some searching on Google to see if I could find any press releases or anything similar that might confirm if it's already in the public domain, but ironically all I can really find are entries on eBay for people selling off ex-PECOC trials items secondhand.
Do you think releasing their names and association with the trials is likely to cause any problems? It's long enough ago that I suspect it isn't possible to confirm what confidentiality, but I did notice that at least one company – PRI International – talk about their participation and down-selection in the trials on their company page.
Best regards,
(BSc (Hons)) Land Equipment Operating Centre Headquarters Corporate Services Group MOD Abbey Wood, Bristol BS34 8JH CIV: MIL: MOB: Unlisted
Ministry deas of Defence
Defence Equipment & Support
From: Sent: 26 March 2018 11:42 To: Cc: Subject: Re: 20180308-FOI query-Arid DPM camouflage print-o
Good morning ,

Thank you for the information you sent through - PolSec have put together a draft response, but I've been asked to check that there are no issues around releasing the names of Seyntex NV or CQC Ltd and their participation in the PECOC trials into the public domain? The advice the correspondent is going to get is that they need to contact Sentex NV/CQC to find out who supplied them with the material, which will hopefully cut down on follow-up requests.

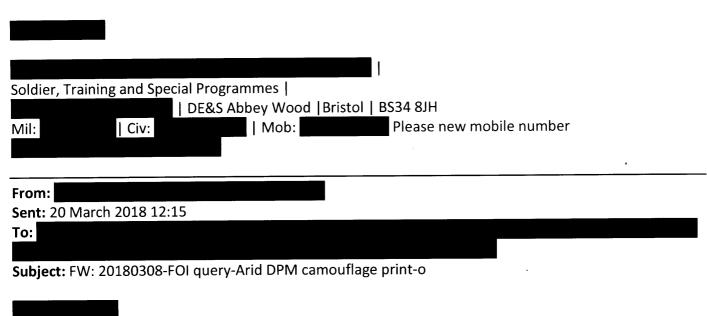
Best regards,



The material used for the PECO trial samples was a Hybrid DPM material, a cross between the Woodland DPM and Desert DPM.

The samples were produced by Seyntex NV in Belgium as well as CQC Ltd, It is most likely that these companies would have sourced the Main material from Cortman Textiles Limited in Preston, Lancashire and the webbing from M Wight & Sons Ltd in Loughborough.

Regards,



An FOI ref PECOC trials. Do we have the info for them? I tried to bat it off by asking for more info but this one is persistent!

The FOI:

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Can you please advise which textile company produced the Arid Dpm Cordura for the MOD PECOC trial?

Slightly obscure! No date for return but any thoughts would be useful.

Thanks



Sent: 19 March 2018 09:20

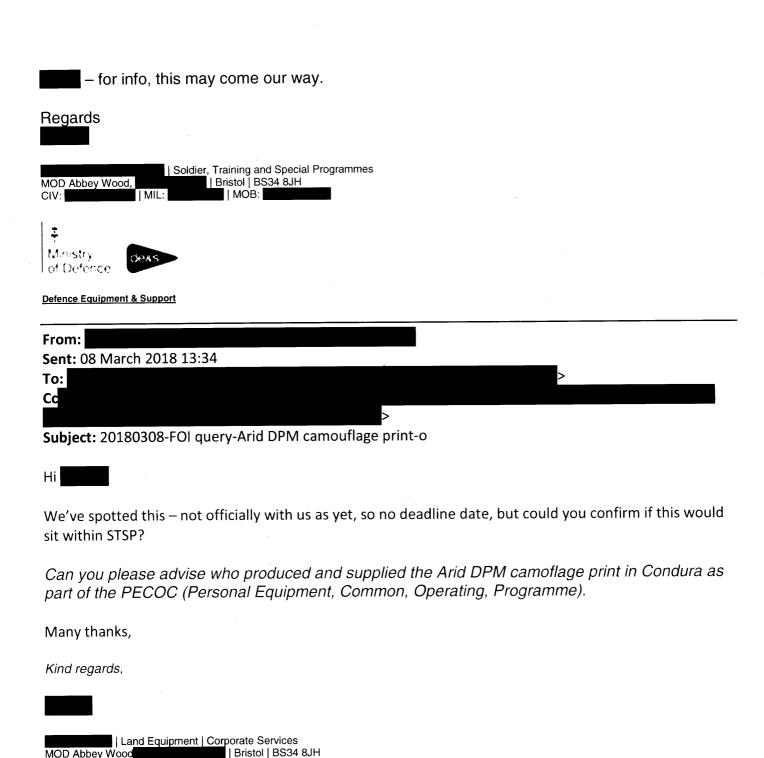
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I'm working from home today, but is in office if you need to speak to us any further today.
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Land Equipment | Corporate Services

MOD Abbey Wood
CIV: | Bristol | BS34 8J

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The question is not very specific and is inaccurate I think. We don't have Arid DPM and the materiel is cordura. PECOC does not exist anymore either. What happens if we need more info? This could be a question about a sample provided during the old PECOC project or they may be asking the question about a current piece of equipment but calling it the wrong thing.



From: Sent: 26 March 2018 13:16 To: Subject: Re: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM Thank you. Regards | DE&S Secretariat | LD SE **MOD Abbey Wood** | Bristol | BS34 8JH | MIL: * Ministry of Defence **Defence Equipment & Support**

From

Sent: 26 March 2018 12:56

To:

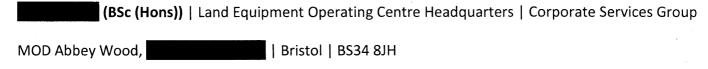
Subject: Re: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM

Good afternoon

I've spoken with up in the DCC team and she doesn't believe there should be any issue with releasing the company claims, so I'm content with the response. I did note that when I went hunting on Google to see what was in the public domain linking the companies to the PECOC programme, the hits largely revolved around people selling purportedly ex-trials samples/items on eBay!

Best regards,





CIV: | MIL: | MOB: Unlisted



Defence Equipment & Support

From: Sent: 23 March 2018 15:49

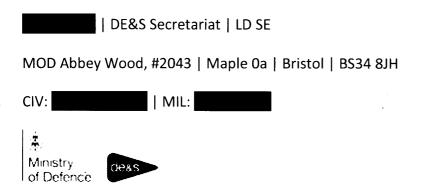
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To:	
Cc:	
Subject: RE: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM	
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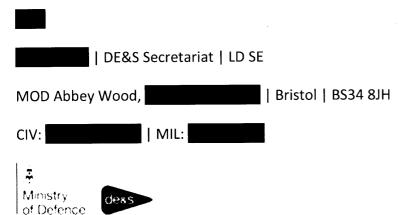
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From:
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To:
Cc:
Subject: FOI2018/03829: ARID DPM

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This is now a new FOI with a reply date of 16 April. The new request looks straight forward so presumably won't take too long to research. I would be grateful if you would set the ball rolling.

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Defence Equipment & Support

From:

Sent: 14 March 2018 15:06

To:

Subject: Re: Request for information - Ref: FOI2018/03549

Dear correspondence@mod.ecase.gsi.gov.uk on behalf of

Thank you for your reply.

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Yours sincerely,	
Please use this email address for all rep	olies to this request:

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/officers

For more detailed guidance on safely disclosing information, read the latest advice from the ICO: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/ico-guidance-for-authorities

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.	
If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.	our