



Policy Legacy FOI Team
Headquarters 38 (Irish) Brigade
British Forces Post Office 825

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Reference: FOI: 2019/02584

Date: 21 March 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – THE GEOGRAPHICAL CO-ORDINATES/LOCATIONS OF THE FORMER OBSERVATIONAL TOWERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Thank you for your e-mail dated 27 February, I can confirm that your request has been considered under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI(A)), and the process is now complete.

You advised the following:

"I am a final year architecture student at University College Dublin, and I am currently undertaking a thesis which concerns surveillance within landscapes.

I am writing to request under the Freedom of Information Act the geographical co-ordinates/locations of the former Observational Towers in Northern Ireland- particularly those in South Armagh- that were erected during the Troubles."

I can confirm that the MOD does hold some of the information that you have requested however the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 (Information accessible to the applicant by other means). We are not required to release information if it is reasonably accessible to you in another way. Please note that Section 21 is an absolute exemption therefore it is not subject to the public interest test.

Information that falls within scope of your request is published via the Conflict, Archive on the INternet (CAIN) website. Information relating to the observational towers is produced by the Independent Monitoring Commission (IMC) and can be viewed at the following link:
<https://cain.ulster.ac.uk/issues/politics/docs/imc/imcreports.htm>

The reports can also be found via www.gov.uk. Each report has been uploaded however I have been unable to locate the ninth report but the Tenth report onwards can be viewed at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-monitoring-commission-tenth-report>.

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 (email 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 FOI(A). 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 of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://lco.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

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