

### Policy Legacy FOI Team Headquarters 38 (Irish) Brigade British Forces Post Office 801

E-Mail: 38X-PolicyLegacy-FOI-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk



Reference:	FOI: 2019/02329	
Date:	9 May 2019	

Dear

#### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – INFORMATION RELATING TO THE MURDER OF SGT THOMAS JAMISON ON 8 MARCH 1990

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 asked for the following:

"I wish to request copies of the following hard copy documents in relation to the murder of Sergeant Thomas Jamison on 8 Mar 1990 in Donaghmore, Co Tyrone. The following reports are requested:

- Unit Incident Report (Increp) issued by Bn HQ 8 UDR
- ATO request for the clearance of the vehicle driven by Mr Jamison
- NI Report covering the period
- Weapons Intelligence Report collated by personnel from 3 Inf Bde WIS
- Serious Incident Report covering the whole incident from Initial Report to final clearance."

I can confirm that the MOD holds some information relating to the incident which resulted in the death of Sgt Jamison. As requested please find attached at Annex A, a copy of a Unit Log Sheet that provides the ATO request for clearance of the vehicle driven by Mr Jamison and some NI Reports. Please note that all information that is redacted using a black box represents information that has been redacted under a Freedom of Information exemption. Information that is redacted using a white box represents information outside the scope of your request.

Some of the information located falls within the scope of Section 26 (Defence) of the FOI(A), as its release would or would be likely to prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of any relevant forces. Section 26 is a qualified exemption and we have conducted a public interest test to determine whether the information should be released or withheld. The factors for this public interest have determined that whilst disclosure would demonstrate openness and transparency, this is outweighed by the detrimental effect disclosure would have in revealing the capabilities of military operational planning by compromising the methodologies and practices employed in the gathering and analysis of information. I have therefore concluded that the public interest supports withholding some information under Section 26.

All Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) cases remain open and if new evidence comes forward the PSNI will reinvestigate. Release of these documents must be carefully considered under Section 31 (Law Enforcement) of the FOI(A).

I have completed this consideration through a public interest test including consultation with the PSNI who have advised that release of some of the information could adversely impact on any

investigative process and may jeopardise any future prosecutorial process. On this basis I am withholding some of the information under Section 31 of the FOI(A). I appreciate that this incident took place 29 years ago and the passage of time can be a factor in diminishing the applicability of exemptions to information. However, in this instance the passage of time is less relevant as the PSNI continue to investigate Troubles-related murders and the overall balance is in favour of partial exemption.

In addition, some of the information falls within the scope of Section 38 (Health and Safety) of the FOI(A), as its release could endanger the physical or mental health of any individual or endanger the safety of any individual.

Section 38 is a qualified exemption and we have conducted a public interest test to determine whether the information should be released or withheld. The factors for this public interest have determined that whilst disclosure would demonstrate openness and transparency this is outweighed by the detrimental effect disclosure could have on those mentioned in the documents, or their family members and friends. I have concluded that whilst disclosure may be of historical interest, the health and safety of individuals must be considered especially where release would be likely to endanger, the physical or mental health of any individual. Some information has therefore been redacted under Section 38 of the FOI(A).

Additionally, some of the information contained within the disclosure constitutes personal information, such as names and addresses. Under FOI(A) this information is exempt under Section 40 (2) by reason of the first condition under Section 40 (3) (a) (i), as disclosure would contravene data protection principles under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018). This is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test to be conducted for this information to be exempt from disclosure. Therefore, all personal information has been redacted.

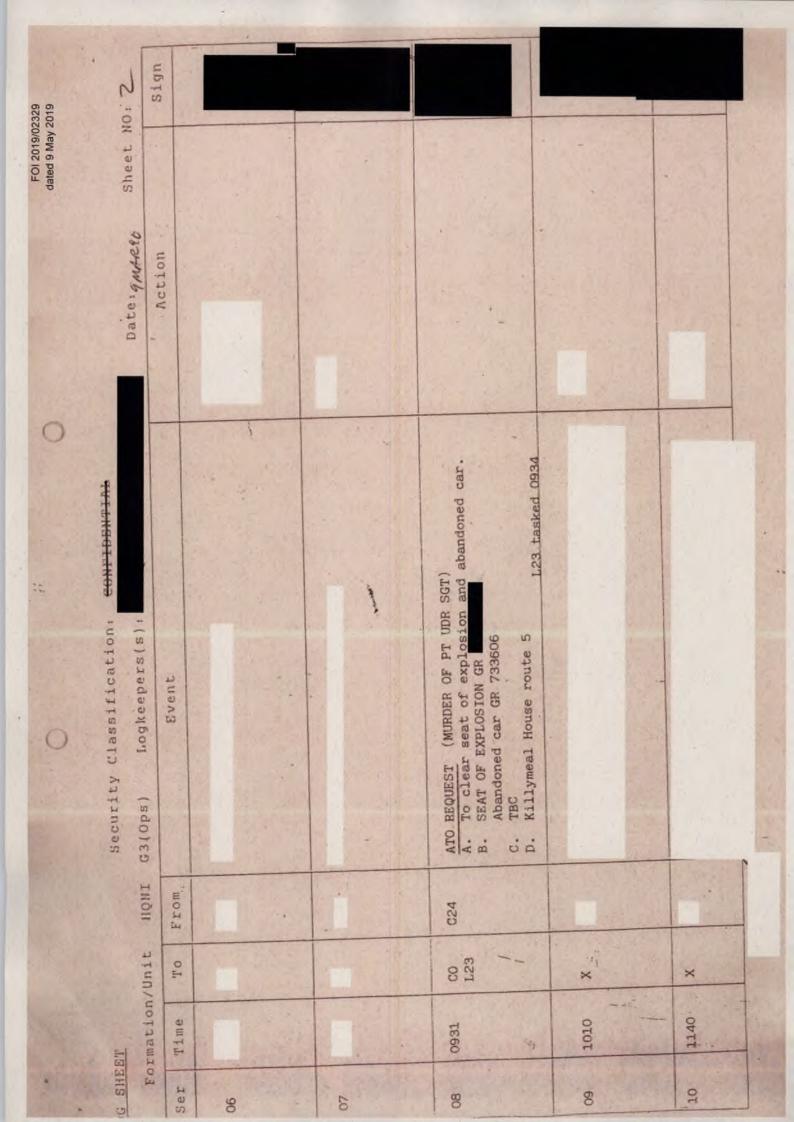
If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance

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 <u>CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk</u>). 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 and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <a href="https://ico.org.uk/">https://ico.org.uk/</a>.

Yours sincerely

38X Brigade FOI Team



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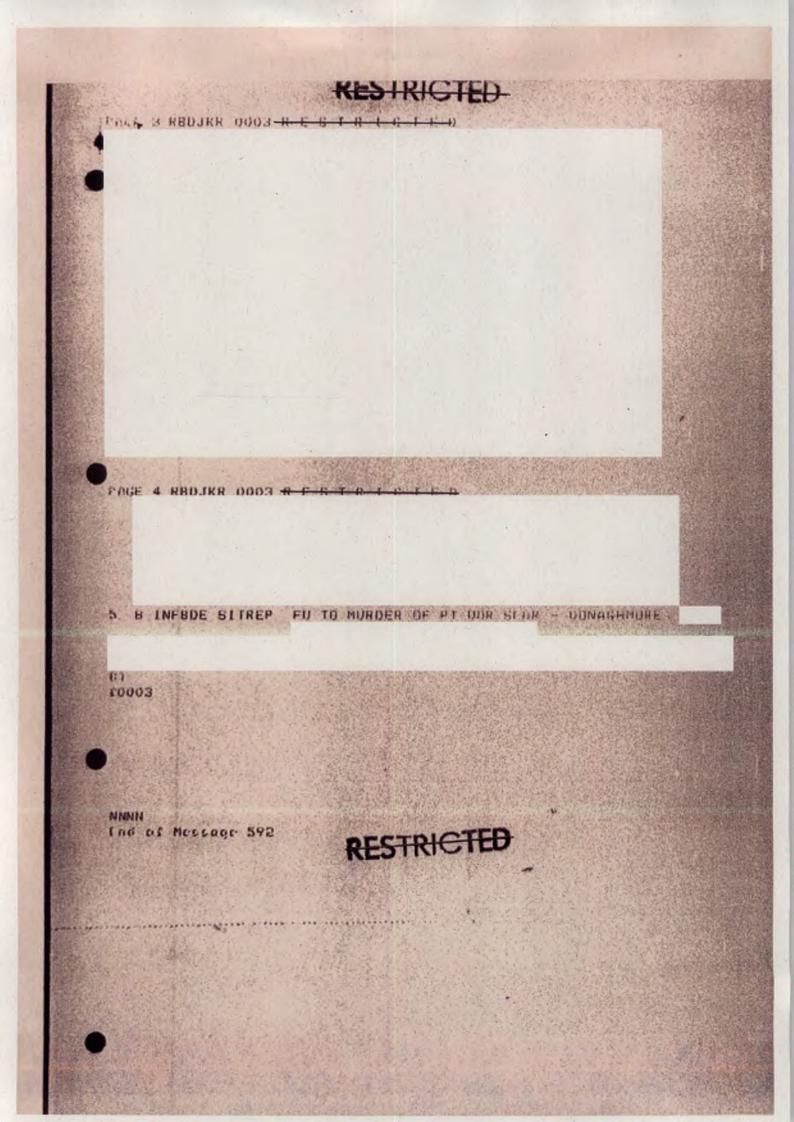
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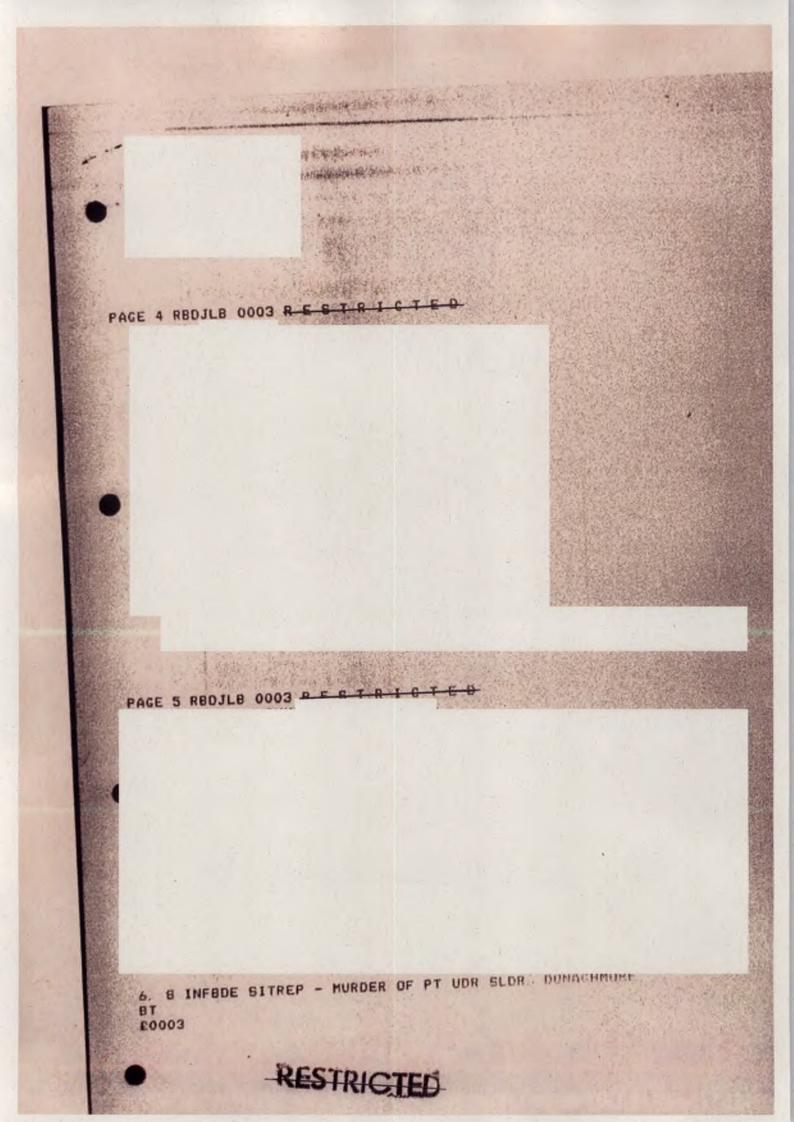
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