



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2019/11768
Ref: FOI2019/12246

E-Mail: DSA-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk
01 Nov 2019

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 24 October requesting the following information:

“All near-misses but broken down by type of aircraft? (Eg. Military aircraft.)”

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 (MoD), and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. As stated in our previous response to FOI2019/11768 the search carried out by MoD only relates to near-misses (Airprox incidents) specifically involving military aircraft.

The information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at sections 21 (Reasonably Accessible by other means), of the FOIA and has been withheld. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Section 21 has been applied to the information as it is already reasonably accessible by other means. As per our previous response to FOI2019/11768, all reported Airprox incidents including those involving military aircraft can be found via the UK Airprox Board website at the link below.

<https://www.airproxboard.org.uk/home/>

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that once an Airprox incident relating to military aircraft has been recorded by the MoD it is also routinely reported to the UK Airprox Board which is the central repository for all Airprox incidents, both civilian and military, occurring within UK airspace.

The UK Airprox Board website above therefore contains the complete list of Airprox incidents that have taken place within UK airspace and can be interrogated by using the export feature found under the Airprox Index link (provided below) contained on the home page. Statistics can be downloaded into an Excel format and filtered by date, geographic area or aircraft type etc.

<https://www.airproxboard.org.uk/Reports-and-analysis/Airprox-Index-2000-2009/>

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 CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). 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.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

DSA Secretariat