



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

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Reference: FOI: 2019/12745

Date: 3 December 2019

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Dear [REDACTED]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – INFORMATION REGARDING GOLF AND ROMEO TOWERS  
ALONG NORTHERN IRELAND BORDER DURING THE TROUBLES**

Thank you for your e-mail dated 7 November, 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 am a 6<sup>th</sup> year masters of Architecture student at the University of Newcastle and am writing to you in an effort to gain access to any information you have regarding the Golf and Romeo towers constructed along the border of Northern Ireland during the Troubles. I would be interested in any photographs, technical drawings, plans, elevations, documents etc. which might aid my thesis research.*

*In addition to this, any aviation/piloting/military maps showing typical flight paths frequently used by aircraft flying from Bessbrook Mill to these hilltop structures would also be greatly appreciated."*

It has been estimated that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit and therefore under the terms of Section 12(2) of the Act, we are not obliged to comply. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and for central government this is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending three and a half working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting it. I have estimated that it would take one person 51 days to process your request.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Duty to provide advice and assistance), I can advise that information regarding former observational towers 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](http://www.gov.uk). Each report was uploaded but unfortunately 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 can provide us with the details of a particular tower that you may be interested in, we may be able to assist. If you would like us to carry out a further search, please submit a new request detailing what it is that you require. Please note that exemptions may apply.

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 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 <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

38 (Irish) Brigade FOI Team