



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
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Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: ArmySec/03/05/FOI2019/12620

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

6 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 4 November in which you asked for the following information:

According to a BBC report in July 2019 the Ministry of Defence carried out an investigation into an incident where soldiers were filmed using a Jeremy Corbyn poster for target practice.

I would like to receive a copy of the final report produced at the end of the investigation.

As you will be aware from my previous letter of 28 November, the MOD holds information in scope of your request, which can be found attached. All of the requested information falls within the qualified exemption provided for at Section 30 (investigations). Some of the information falls within the scope of the qualified exemptions provided for at Section 26 (Defence) and Section 38 (Health and Safety) of the FOIA. These exemptions are subject to public interest testing. Information can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 30 (Investigations) applies to all of the information you have requested, however it has been decided to release the information not covered by any other exemptions, as the balance of public interest is for disclosure.

Section 26(1)(b) has been applied to some of the information because it contains details which are operationally sensitive and would prejudice the capability and effectiveness of our armed forces. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that, overall, the public interest is best served in not releasing details that would prejudice the security of UK personnel serving abroad and which would provide tactical advantage to our enemies.

Section 38 (Health and Safety) has been applied to some of the information because it has been concluded that some of the information requested would if released be likely to endanger the physical or mental health and safety of one or more individual. The balance of public interest was therefore found to be in not releasing these details.

Section 40 (Personal Information) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the answer to a recent Parliamentary Question confirmed that at no time on any live firing activities are Service personnel encouraged to use images of public figures as targets. The full answer is available here:

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240577/>

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

Army Secretariat

Investigation Reference No: 08005/19

37 Sect. 3 Inv Coy
 SIB Regt RMP
 Goojerat Bks
 Colchester
 Essex
 CO2 7NZ

Tel No: [REDACTED]

Date: 12 April 2019

OC, 37 Sect, 3 Inv Coy, SIB Regt RMP.

SERVICE POLICE CASE REFERRAL

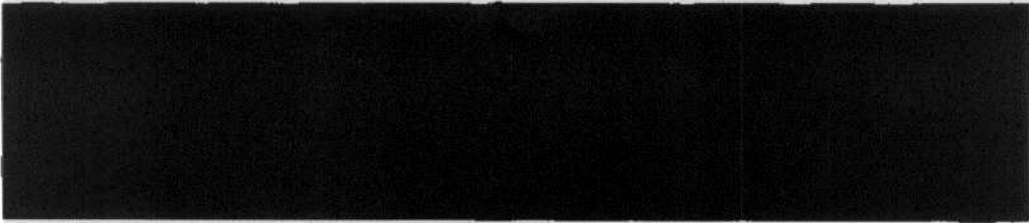
(The specific case(s) detailed below are referred to the action addressee(s) in accordance with s116(3) AFA 06)

Person Referred: Details: [REDACTED]
 Born: [REDACTED]
 Unit: [REDACTED]

| Case(s) | Offence(s) | Type of Offence | Evidential Sufficiency Test passed? | Referred to | Early Case Referral? |
|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| [REDACTED] | | | | | |

Person Referred: Details: [REDACTED]
 Born: [REDACTED]
 Unit: [REDACTED]

| Case | Offence | Type of Offence | Evidential Sufficiency Test passed? | Referred to | Early Case Referral? |
|------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| [REDACTED] | | | | | |



Person Referred: **Details:** [Redacted]
 Born: [Redacted]
 Unit: [Redacted]

| Case | Offence | Type of Offence | Evidential Sufficiency Test passed? | Referred to | Early Case Referral? |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| [Redacted] | | | | | |

Person Referred: **Details:** [Redacted]
 Born: [Redacted]
 Unit: [Redacted]

| Case | Offence | Type of Offence | Evidential Sufficiency Test passed? | Referred to | Early Case Referral? |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| [Redacted] | | | | | |

DOWN GRADED

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE PERSONAL

Handling Instruction: Investigative Material Limited Circulation

Person Referred:

Details:

Born:

Unit:



| Case | Offence | Type of Offence | Evidential Sufficiency Test passed? | Referred to | Early Case Referral? |
|------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | |

Case Synopsis

1. **Background to investigation.** On Wed 3 Apr 19, information was received from SIB Regt RMP, outlining the details of an alleged incident concerning conduct prejudicial to good order and service discipline. It would appear that on Tue 2 Apr 19, a video had been posted onto social media, which purports to be members of 3 PARA, att 1 RGR currently deployed on Op TORAL, shooting at a target depicting an image of the Rt.Hon. Jeremy Corbyn MP.

2. **Scenario and Key evidence.** An investigation was initiated by the unit whilst in theatre and the soldiers depicted in the video were identified by , as currently being deployed on Op TORAL. The range where this incident is alleged to have taken place was identified as being within the New Kabul Compound (NKC), and it was established that it was being utilised to practice against insider threat and although the range is equipped with several targets of public figures these are intended to test the firers judgement and accuracy.

provided a statement, in which he detailed how he initially identified the four soldiers involved in the incident.

Targets of Jeremy Corbyn and Theresa May were recovered. The target depicting Mr Corbyn had shot markings.



3. **Suspect interviews**



X

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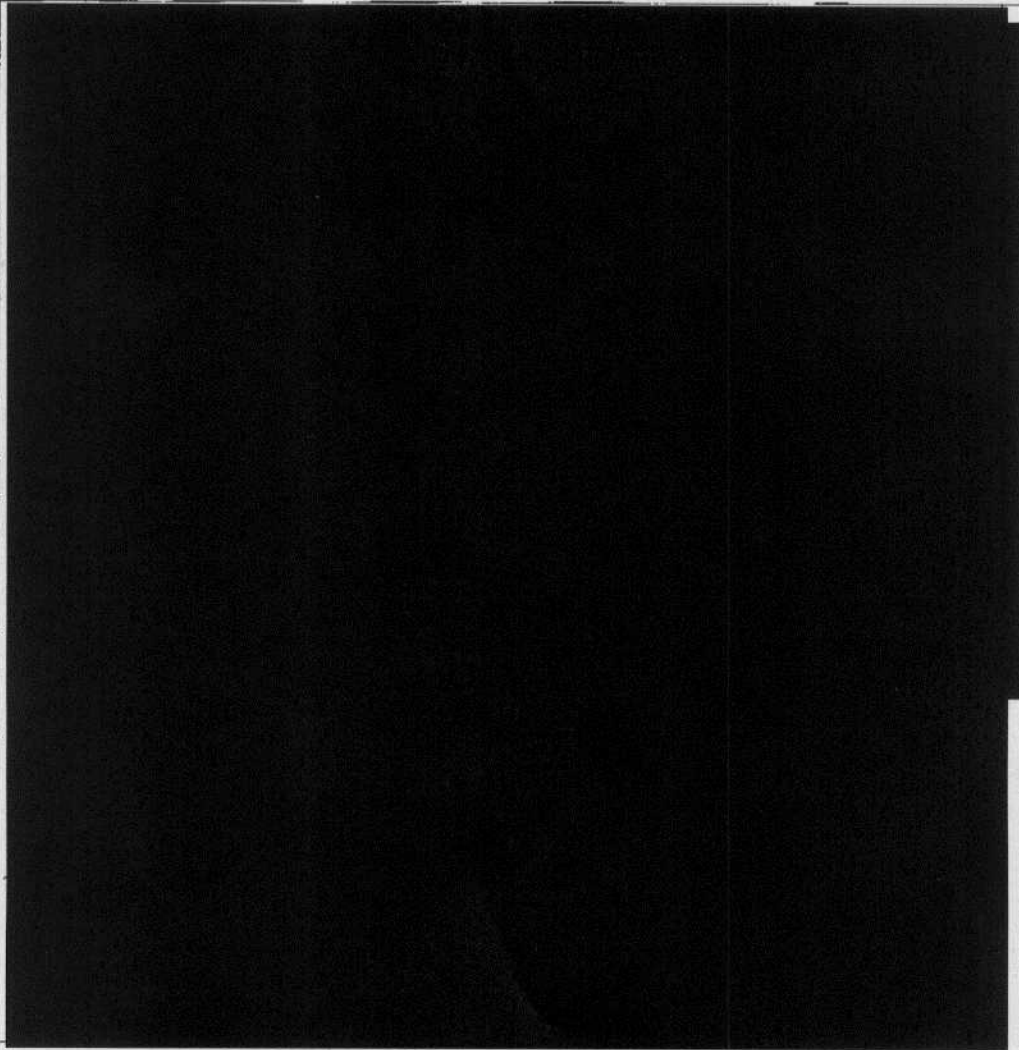
OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE PERSONAL

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Handling Instruction: Investigative Material Limited Circulation



Supplementary Information

4. **Victim Management.** A Victim Needs Assessment was not conducted.

5. **Visually Recorded Evidence.** VRE has been recovered in this case. The footage shows 4 servicemen dressed in MTP, wearing maroon berets, firing on a range, as the camera pans around it appears that some of those servicemen were aiming shots at a target depicting an image of the Rt.Hon. Jeremy Corbyn MP.

6. **Details of previous convictions.** [REDACTED]

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|---|------------|
| Other Relevant Information | |
| 7. Security Standing Orders. | [REDACTED] |
| 8. Security Concerns | [REDACTED] |
| 9. Disclosure Officer. The disclosure officer in this case was [REDACTED], RMP (SIB) as detailed on the Service Police Disclosure Form 6C attached to this report. | |

| Lead Investigator | Supervising Officer |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| SSgt RMP (SIB) | Capt AGC (RMP) |