



Ministry
of Defence



LLB(Hons)
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

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Defence Equipment & Support
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Via:

December 19th 2019 Our Ref: FOI2019/13567

Dear [redacted],

Thank you for your email of 17th December 2019 requesting the following information:

My Freedom of Information request is as follows.

Are Armed Forces personnel subjected to radiation exposure through use of the SA80 SUSAT scope?

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. I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and that under normal use of a serviceable Sight Unit Small Arms Trilux (SUSAT) there is no exposure risk to the user.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that, whilst the Trilux lamp used in the sight unit contains a small amount of tritium gas, there is no significant level of external radiation and no hazard can arise unless the lamp is broken. Breakage of the lamp and the release of the gas can only result from misuse of the equipment. Guidance on what to do in the event of breakage is available.

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). 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,

[redacted signature]

[redacted name]

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