



Ministry of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Ref. 2020/05191

[REDACTED]

10 August 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 1 May 2020 asking for information about the deployment of RAF Tornado aircraft over Nigeria in 2014. Specifically you requested the following information:

"Can you please advise the number of RAF Tornado's deployed to Nigeria in 2014, the nature of the mission and operational tasks they were assigned.

Also please confirm the number of sorties undertaken by the detachment, whether they received tanker support from non UK assets and number of weapons, if any, released."

Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you which was caused by the effect on resources and necessary changes to ways of working resulting from the Corona virus.

I am treating your correspondence as requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search of our paper and electronic records for the information you requested, and I can confirm that information within the scope of your request is held.

From late August to mid October 2014 as part of the international effort to locate and retrieve the abducted Chibok schoolgirls in North East Nigeria, three RAF Tornado GR4 aircraft were deployed to Chad. Our records indicate that during the course of the deployment 56 Tornado sorties were undertaken including transit from the UK. The aircraft were unarmed and were tasked with locating the missing schoolgirls. They did not receive air to air refuelling tanker support from other nations.

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.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


Secretariat 3a1
Air Command