



Policy Legacy FOI Team  
Headquarters 38 (Irish) Brigade  
British Forces Post Office 825

E-Mail: [38X-PolLeg-FOI-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:38X-PolLeg-FOI-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk)



Reference: FOI 2021/08296

Date: 26 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – INFORMATION RELATING THE GUN ATTACK AT [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] BELFAST ON THE 24/25 DECEMBER 1972**

Thank you for your email dated 26 July, I can confirm that your request on behalf of [REDACTED] 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 wish to request copies of the following documents in relation to the gun attack on a [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Belfast, on the 24/25 December 1972. [REDACTED]*

*The following reports are requested:*

- *Unit Incident Report,*
- *NI Report covering the period of his killing*
- *Weapons Intelligent Report collated by 39 Inf, Brigade Weapons intelligence Section*
- *Serious Incident Report*
- *Any other documents held in connection with this incident."*

I must advise that we do not hold information relating to the four points listed above. However, I can confirm that the MOD holds some information relating to the gun attack at [REDACTED], Belfast on the 24/25 December 1972. The information was located in one document and the relevant extract has been provided at Annex A.

Please note some of the information contained within the extract constitutes personal information, such as names and addresses. Under FOI(A) this information is exempt under Section 40 (2) by reason of the first condition under Section 40 (3) (a) (i), as disclosure would contravene data protection principles under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018). This is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test to be conducted in order for this information to be exempt from disclosure. Therefore, all personal information has been redacted.

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

Enc

Annex A – Extract from Daily Operation Brief 24/25 Dec 1972

Verbatim Extract from The Daily Operations Brief – Relating to a Gun Attack at [REDACTED], Belfast – 24/25 Dec 1972

Daily Operation Brief – 24-25 December 1972

39 Inf Bde

6.1 Queens (New Lodge/Unity)

- b. At 0040 hrs 4 shots were fired at the home of [Redacted] at [REDACTED], [REDACTED] possibly from a passing car. 1 shot entered the window of a living room but there were no casualties. RUC are investigating. He is a [Redacted] in a mixed area.