



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI 2021/00569

[REDACTED]

26 January 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your correspondence of 15 December 2020 requesting the following information:

"For the past few years I understand you've been in contact with [REDACTED] regarding the RAF information included in Whitaker's every year. I worked alongside [REDACTED] before the publication was sold to Rebellion Publishing last year (I've copied in [REDACTED], who's editing the 2021 edition).

This year I have been tasked with updating this section for Whitaker's 2021, and I am very much hoping you'd be able to supply me with the usual update regarding senior personnel. I don't think there should be much to change regarding the text, but if you could get back to me on any changes to senior staff that would be greatly appreciated.

Attached are the pages we included last year."

The attached pages that you mentioned in your request, have been attached at Annex A.

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, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

An updated list of senior appointments, correct as of 31 December 2020 has been attached at Annex B.

Under the heading "Constitution of the RAF" you may wish to know that 22 Group no longer use the bracketed Training suffix. You may also wish to reflect the role of 11 Group which formed in 2018 <https://www.raf.mod.uk/our-organisation/groups/no-11-group/>

Under the heading "RAF Equipment", the Lightning Aircraft has been incorrectly spelt as "Lightening".

The Commandant General for the Royal Auxiliary Air Force is now Air Vice-Marshal R Munro CBE TD VR DL. The Inspector of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force is now Group Captain JP White.

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

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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 must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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 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,

[Original signed]

Air Command Secretariat

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

In Order of Seniority as at November 2019

THE QUEEN

MARSHALS OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT, OM, GBE, AK, QSO, PC, *apptd* 1953

HRH The Prince of Wales, KG, KT, GCB, OM, AK, QSO, PC, ADC, *apptd* 2012

FORMER CHIEFS OF THE AIR STAFF

MARSHALS OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

Lord Craig of Radley, GCB, OBE, *apptd* 1988

Lord Stirrup, KG, GCB, AFC, *apptd* 2014

AIR CHIEF MARSHALS

Sir Michael Graydon, GCB, CBE, *apptd* 1991

Sir Richard Johns, GCB, KCVO, OBE, *apptd* 1994

Sir Glenn Torpy, GCB, CBE, DSO, *apptd* 2006

Sir Stephen Dalton, GCB, *apptd* 2009

Sir Andrew Pulford, GCB, CBE, *apptd* 2013

AIR RANK LIST

AIR CHIEF MARSHALS

Peach, Sir Stuart, GBE, KCB (*Chair of the Military Committee, NATO*)

Hillier, Sir Stephen, KCB, CBE, DFC, ADC (*pending retirement*)

Wigston, M., CBE, ADC (*Chief of the Air Staff*)

AIR MARSHALS

Young, J., CB, OBE (*Chief of Materiel (Air) and Air Member for Materiel*)

Evans, S., CB, CBE (*pending retirement*)

Stringer, E., CB, CBE (*Director-General Joint Force Development and Director Defence Academy*)

Knighton, R., CB (*Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff, Military Capability*)

Gray, S., CB, OBE (*Director-General Defence Safety Authority*)

Turner, A., CB, CBE (*Deputy Cdr Capability and Air Member for Personnel and Capability*)

Mayhew, G., CBE (*Deputy Cdr Operations and Air Member for Operations*)

AIR VICE-MARSHALS

Waterfall, G., CBE (*Chief of Staff (Operations), Permanent Joint HQ*)

Parker, G., CB, OBE (*Head of British Forces (USA) and Defence Attaché, Washington*)

Hedley, B., MBE (*pending appointment*)

Tunncliffe, G., CVO (*Deputy Commandant Royal College of Defence Studies*)

Bethell, K., CBE (*Director Combat Air, Defence Equipment and Support*)

Elliot, C., CBE (*Chief of Staff Personnel and Air Secretary*)

Russell, G., CB (*Director Helicopters, Defence Equipment and Support*)

Shell, S., OBE (*Director Military Aviation Authority*)

Rochelle, S., OBE, DFC (*Chief of Staff Capability, Air Command*)

James, W., CBE (*Air Officer Commanding No. 22 (Training) Group and Chief of Staff Training*)

Cooper, D., CBE (*pending appointment*)

Hart, M., CBE (*Head of Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre*)

Sampson, M., CBE, DSO (*Director Saudi Armed Forces Project*)

Valley, I., OBE (*Cdr Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Joint Forces Command*)

Moore, C. (*Director Service Operations, Information Services and Solutions*)

Stringer, J., CBE (*Chief of Staff, Joint Forces Command*)

Reid, A. (*Defence Medical Director, Joint Forces Command*)

Smyth, H., OBE, DFC (*Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Group*)

Ellis, J., (*Chaplain-in-Chief and Director-General Chaplaincy Service (RAF)*)

Jennings, T., OBE (*Director Legal Services (RAF)*)

Duguid, I., OBE (*Air Officer Commanding No. 11 Group*)

Ellard, S. (*Air Officer Commanding No. 38 Group*)

Gale, I., MBE (*Assistant Chief of the Air Staff*)

Gillespie, A., CBE (*Air Officer Commanding No. 2 Group*)

CONSTITUTION OF THE RAF

The RAF consists of a single command, Air Command, based at RAF High Wycombe. RAF Air Command was formed on 1 April 2007 from the amalgamation of Strike Command and Personnel and Training Command.

Air Command consists of three groups, each organised around specific operational duties. No. 1 Group is the coordinating organisation for the tactical fast-jet forces responsible for attack, offensive support and air defence operations. No. 2 Group provides air combat support including air transport and air-to-air refuelling; intelligence surveillance; targeting and reconnaissance; and force protection. No. 22 (Training) Group recruits personnel and provides trained specialist personnel to the RAF, as well as to the Royal Navy and the Army (*see also* Armed Forces Training and Recruitment).

RAF EQUIPMENT

AIRCRAFT

<i>Combat Training</i>	Lightning II, Typhoon FGR4 Embraer Phenom 100, Hawk T1, Hawk T2, 120TP Prefect, Texan T, Tucano T1, Tutor T1, Viking T1
<i>Surveillance</i>	P-8A Poseidon, MQ-9 Reaper, RC-135W Rivet Joint, Sentinel R1, E-3D Sentry AEW1, Shadow R1
<i>Transport</i>	Atlas, BAe146, C17 Globemaster III, C-130J Hercules, C17

HELICOPTERS

<i>Helicopters Training Transport</i>	Chinook, Griffin HAR2, Puma HC2 Airbus H135 Juno, Airbus H145 Jupiter Leonardo GrandNew
---------------------------------------	---

2 Defence

ROYAL AUXILIARY AIR FORCE

The Auxiliary Air Force was formed in 1924 to train an elite corps of civilians to serve their country in flying squadrons in their spare time. In 1947 the force was awarded the prefix 'royal' in recognition of its distinguished war service and the Sovereign's Colour for the RAuxAF was presented in 1989. The RAuxAF continues to recruit civilians who undertake military training in their spare time, with a standard minimum commitment of 27 days a year. With the amendments to the reserve service made under the Defence Reform Act 2014, reservists can now be employed to support the RAF across the full spectrum of military tasks. There are currently 27 squadrons with the RAuxAF, with a total establishment of just under 3,200 posts, with reservist posts being available in the majority of trades.

Air Commodore-in-Chief, HM The Queen
Commandant General, Air Vice-Marshal Lord Beaverbrook,
ADC

Inspector, Gp Capt. Gavin Hellard, ADC

PRINCESS MARY'S ROYAL AIR FORCE NURSING SERVICE

The Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service (PMRAFNS) was formed on 1 June 1918 as the Royal Air Force Nursing Service. In June 1923, His Majesty King George V gave his royal assent for the Royal Air Force Nursing Service to be known as the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service. The Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service (PMRAFNS) is committed to providing a skilled, knowledgeable and able nursing workforce to deliver high quality care, whilst being responsive to the dynamic nature of RAF Nursing in peacetime and on operations.

Patron and Air Chief Commandant, HRH Princess Alexandra,
The Hon. Lady Ogilvy, KG, GCVO
Matron-in-Chief, Gp Capt. Fionnuala Bradley

Data as at 31 Dec 2020

Previous Air Chief Marshals

HILLIER	Sir Stephen,	KCB, CBE, DFC	Retired
---------	--------------	---------------	---------

Air Chief Marshals

ACM	WIGSTON	Sir Michael	KCB, CBE, ADC	Chief of the Air Staff.
ACM	PEACH	Sir Stuart	GBE, KCB	Chairman of Military Committee, NATO

Air Marshals

Air Mshl	GRAY	SC	CB OBE	Director General Defence Safety Authority
Air Mshl	KNIGHTON	RJ	CB	Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff, Military Capability
Air Mshl	MAYHEW	GMD	CBE	Deputy Commander Operations/Air Member For Operations
Air Mshl	STRINGER	EJ	CB CBE	Director General Joint Force Development
Air Mshl	TURNER	AM	CB CBE	Deputy Commander Capability/Air Member for Personnel & Capability
Air Mshl	YOUNG	JA	CB OBE	Retiring 31 Jan 21

Air Vice-Marshals

AVM	BETHELL	KHR	CBE	Director Combat Air
AVM	BYFORD	M	QHDS	Chief of Staff (Personnel) and Air Secretary
AVM	COLMAN	NJ	OBE	Commander Joint Helicopter Command
AVM	DUGUID	I	CB CBE	Air Officer Commanding No. 11 Group
Chpln Chf	ELLIS	JR	QHC	Chaplain-in-Chief (RAF)/Director General Chaplaincy Services (RAF)
AVM	ELLARD	SD		Air Officer Commanding No. 38 Group
AVM	GALE	ID	MBE	Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Strategy)
AVM	GILLESPIE	AK	CBE	Air Officer Commanding No. 2 Group
AVM	HART	MP	CBE	Head Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre
AVM	HILL	R	CBE	Director Defence Support Transformation
AVM	JAMES	WAW	CBE	Retiring 31 Jan 21
AVM	JENNINGS	TN	OBE	Director Legal Services (RAF)
AVM	MADDISON	RC	OBE	Air Officer Commanding No. 22 Group
AVM	MARSHALL	AP	OBE	Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Group
AVM	MOORE	CJ	CBE	Defence Digital Director Service Operations
AVM	REID	ANC	CB QHP	Surgeon General
AVM	RUSSELL	GM	CB	Director Helicopters
AVM	SAMPSON	ME	CBE DSO	Director Ministry of Defence Saudi Armed Forces Projects
AVM	SHELL	SJ	CB CBE	Director Military Aviation Authority
AVM	SMEATH	MJ	CBE	Defence Attaché, British Defence Staff, Washington
AVM	SMITH	APT		Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Global Engagement & Military Strategy)
AVM	SMYTH	H	OBE	Director Space
AVM	STRINGER	JJ	CBE	Director Strategy, UK Strategic Command
AVM	TAYLOR	LS	OBE	Chief of Staff Capability
AVM	TUNNICLIFFE	G	CVO	Deputy Commandant, Royal College of Defence Studies
AVM	VALLELY	IF	OBE	Commander Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance
AVM	WALTON	CS	QHP	Director Defence Medical Personnel & Training

Retiring 12 Feb 21

--	--	--	--	--