



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
Room 6303
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2023/09270

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

21 August 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 25 July 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

“1. Please supply any records in any medium which mention the excavation license concerning the 1943 Fairey Barracuda Torpedo Bomber (believed to be No. BV739).

<https://www.wessexarch.co.uk/news/rare-ww2-aircraft-lifted-sea>

I would like the above information to be provided to me as electronic copies or paper”

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 MOD and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held and can be found in the attached documents.

I should advise that it is MOD policy not to confirm the status of individuals who hold a rank lower than SCS1* or their military equivalents (Commodore, Brigadier, Air Commodore and above), unless they are employed by the Department in public-facing roles. I can, therefore, advise that some of the information in scope of your request has been redacted (black lined) under the exemption provided for at Sections 40(2) (Personal Data) of the FOIA.

Section 40(2) requires the Department to conduct a balancing exercise, this exercise involves balancing the rights and interests of individuals against the legitimate interests in disclosure, this is not the same as carrying out the public interest test associated with certain exemptions in FOIA.

The balancing exercise is carried out in order to decide whether the absolute exemption in section 40(2) is engaged. In particular, there is no assumption of disclosure in the legitimate interests test, as there is with qualified exemptions. The outcome of the balancing exercise lay in withholding the third-party personal data identified in the attached information.

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

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat

[REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 10 June 2019 10:24
To: [REDACTED] C1 (NAVY SEC-1 CHARITIES HERITAGE)
Cc: [REDACTED] D (DBS-JCCC Commem2 SO3); [REDACTED] C1 (DBS-JCCC OIC);
Subject: RE: 20190607-Recovery of a Fairey Barracuda

[REDACTED]
Fairey Barracuda BV739

Further to your email forwarded to me by [REDACTED] this is to confirm Licence 1874 was issued to Wessex Archaeology, initially for Fairey Barracuda RK556, as the Marine Management Organisation had issued a licence to them for installation of IFAZ cables and the aircraft was causing an obstruction. Recovery took place with Fleet Air Arm supervision who advised that it was, in fact, Fairey Barracuda BV739 which had ditched in shallow water and the pilot was OK. Therefore, Licence 1874 was cancelled and Licence 1878 issued retrospectively on 7 March 2019. Recovered items to go to the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing

Email: [REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]
Postal Address: Commemorations, JCCC, Rm G35, Innsworth House, Imjin Barracks, Gloucester GL3 1HW
Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/joint-casualty-and-compassionate-centre-jccc>

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From: [REDACTED] C1 (NAVY SEC-1 CHARITIES HERITAGE)
Sent: 07 June 2019 13:39
To: [REDACTED] (Air-COS-RAF Heritage Hd) [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC OIC)
Cc: [REDACTED] (NAVY SEC-DEPUTY COMD SEC)
Subject: 20190607-Recovery of a Fairey Barracuda

Both,

I have been made aware of this - <https://modgovuk.sharepoint.com/sites/defmet/Navy/Pages/rn-news-Torpedo-bomber-recovered-from-Solent-after-75-years.aspx>

Can you confirm that a license was granted for the recovery and the reasoning behind it in case I am asked any questions?

Who will be leading on the gifting of the parts to the Fleet Air Arm Museum?

Kind Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] NAVY SEC-1 Charities and Heritage | Navy Command Headquarters [Redacted]

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 07 March 2019 15:09
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
As Licence 1878 is now valid from today for one year, we are happy for you to submit everything in one go at the end of the full recovery later this year. But let me know if you need to discuss.

Regards

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 March 2019 14:36
To: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

I will forward the initial report based on last week's work to [REDACTED], as well as yourselves, with the returns form, and images/video of the work so far. I hope to have this with you sometime next week. There will then be a further report and returns form generated when we do the full recovery, probably in late April or May, again with the FAAM present to offer advice and guidance.

Best Wishes,

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist

Wessex Archaeology

[REDACTED]
<http://www.wessexarch.co.uk>



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enriching lives through heritage

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1) >
Sent: 07 March 2019 14:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED] Just thought I would forward this from [REDACTED] regarding final report for your information.

Regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 07 March 2019 14:05
To: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Subject: RE: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

Dear [REDACTED], thanks for letting me know. I note that the licence requests a copy of the report to be forwarded to me (which is kind), and so I look forward to reading that in due course, sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
County Archaeologist

Specialist Environmental Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department
Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD

[REDACTED] www3.hants.gov.uk/landscape-and-heritage/historic-environment.htm

Share your thoughts on our service here: <http://twitter.com/hantsconnect>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1) <
Sent: 07 March 2019 13:51
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
Retrospective Licence for Fairey Barracuda BV739

For your information, please find attached licence letter and licence for above aircraft.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing

Email: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Postal Address: Commemorations, JCCC, Rm G35, Innsworth House, Imjin Barracks, Gloucester GL3 1HW

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/joint-casualty-and-compassionate-centre-jccc>

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[REDACTED] is a company limited by guarantee registered in England, company number [REDACTED]. It is also a Charity registered in England and Wales, number [REDACTED]; and in Scotland, Scottish Charity number [REDACTED]. Our registered office is at [REDACTED]. If you have received this message in error, please send it back to us, and immediately and permanently delete it. Do not use, copy or disclose the information contained in this message or in any attachment.



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services
Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre
Imjin Barracks
Gloucester
GL3 1HW

Tel: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - by email

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: 7 March 2019

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Protection of Military Remains Act 1986

Further to your email of 4 March 2019 advising the recovery under Licence 1874 for Fairey Barracuda RK556 had taken place, however, Fleet Air Arm advised recovered wreckage in fact most probably belonged to Fairey Barracuda BV739.

Therefore, Licence 1874 has now been cancelled and Licence 1878 attached, issued for Fairey Barracuda BV739 retrospectively.

As referred to in our letter of 23 January 2019 sent with the issue of the previous licence:

- please provide the County Archaeologist: [REDACTED], email: [REDACTED], with a copy of your report.
- complete and return the enclosed Report of Items Removed form, with photographs if possible. Please note, a copy of the completed form will be sent to the relevant County Council for their information.
- please note that any items found belong to The Crown until it is agreed by us that they will be transferred to you. Paragraph 19 of the Notes for Guidance refers.

More help or explanation

Please contact us if you have any questions

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Licensing

Contact us:

Your reference:

Our reference: DBS/142/11

Commemorations & Licensing:

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

email external: [REDACTED]

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

This letter has been copied to:
Landowner
County Archaeologist
DIO
EOD
Enclosed:
Licence
Report of Items Removed form

04/14

JCCC 47

LICENCE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MILITARY REMAINS ACT 1986

To: [REDACTED]


- 1 The Secretary of State, pursuant to Section 4 of the Protection of Military Remains Act ("the Act"), hereby authorises you and anyone assisting you at your request, to do anything within the area described in the Schedule to this licence ("the Area"), which would otherwise be an offence under Section 2 of the Act.
- 2 The authority granted by this Licence is subject to the following limitations and conditions.
- 3 If at any time you, or anyone assisting you, discover human remains or unexploded ordnance within "the Area":
 - (a) the authority granted by this Licence shall have no further effect, and accordingly all work under this Licence must cease until an officer of the Ministry of Defence tells you that it is operative again.
 - (b) in the case of human remains:
 - (i) you must forthwith telephone the Ministry of Defence (01452-712612 6303/7330), or, if you fail to get an answer, you must inform the police as soon as possible thereafter;
 - (ii) the remains must be treated with due respect at all times.
 - (iii) the presumed identity of the remains is not to be divulged to anyone, except the Ministry of Defence or the police;
 - (iv) no steps are to be taken to trace and notify the next of kin;
 - (c) in the case of unexploded ordnance:
 - (i) you must forthwith inform the police;
 - (ii) you must on no account interfere with it.
- 4 A report of items recovered is to be rendered to the Ministry of Defence upon completion of the recovery operation.
- 5 **This licence takes effect from 0001 on 07 Mar 2019 and expires at 2359 on 06 Mar 2020 unless revoked.**


Licence No: 1878

LICENCE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MILITARY REMAINS ACT 1986

6. This Licence is given solely for the purposes of the Act and does not:
- (a) entitle you to enter any land;
 - (b) affect the rights of any person (including the Crown) as owner of anything found within "the Area", or as owner of the land within "the Area";
 - (c) entitle you to retain anything found within "the Area";
 - (d) constitute a licence or consent to do anything for which licence or consent is required under any other enactment.

THE SCHEDULE

An area of land having a radius of 100 metres around OS map reference: 



Issued on behalf of
the Secretary of State
for Defence

Licence No: 1878

Page: 2 of 2

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 07 March 2019 14:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
Just thought I would forward this from [REDACTED] regarding final report for your information.

Regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 March 2019 14:05
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

Dear [REDACTED], thanks for letting me know. I note that the licence requests a copy of the report to be forwarded to me (which is kind), and so I look forward to reading that in due course, sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
County Archaeologist

Specialist Environmental Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department
Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Share your thoughts on our service here: <http://twitter.com/hantsconnect>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 07 March 2019 13:51
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Retrospective Licence for Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
Retrospective Licence for Fairey Barracuda BV739

For your information, please find attached licence letter and licence for above aircraft.

Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing

Email: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/joint-casualty-and-compassionate-centre-jccc>

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[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 06 March 2019 16:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fairey Barracuda RK556

Sorry, more haste, less speed! Hold the list of items and images until the new licence is issued.

Regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 March 2019 15:59
To: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fairey Barracuda RK556

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you. Please note it is Fairey Barracuda BV739, not Fairey Battle BV739 . I will forward a list of items recovered and images from the diving to you shortly.

Best Wishes,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist

Wessex Archaeology
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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ANTIQUITIES
SCHEME

Record your archaeological discoveries with the Marine Antiquities Scheme <https://marinefinds.org.uk/>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1) [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 March 2019 15:53
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem2 503) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fairey Barracuda RK556

[REDACTED]

Thank you for this information. [REDACTED] and I have discussed. We will issue a new licence for the Fairey Battle BV739 and suitably amend our records for Licence 1874 to say it is not this aircraft. I will try and get that done for you tomorrow. And if you could then submit a Report of Items Recovered form to list recovered items, and any photos if possible, for the new Licence number.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Commemorations & Licensing

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/joint-casualty-and-compassionate-centre-jccc>

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 March 2019 15:17
To: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fairey Barracuda RK556

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

Following on from our conversation earlier concerning **Fairey Barracuda RK556, licence 1874, IFA2 National Grid Ventures**, I am writing to confirm that following advice from, and discussion with, the technical staff at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, who attended the site to observe and offer advice, that we believe that the initial identification of the aircraft must be revised.

It has now been identified as probably being serial number BV739, a Blackburn built Fairey Barracuda Mk II. This was delivered to 15 Maintenance Unit from the manufacturer at Brough on 15 July 1943 then allotted to 822 Squadron based at RNAS Lee-on-Solent (HMS Daedalus) that was forming up to be part of the 45th Naval Torpedo Bomber Reconnaissance Wing for service with the Far Eastern Fleet. On 29 September 1943 it lost power on take-off and ditched in shallow water, its pilot Sub Lieutenant DJ Williams was OK.

At this time, we have recovered the remains of the tail wheel and strut, and a push rod, found away from the main wreckage, due to concerns that they were at risk from a scallop dredger working in the area. These items are currently being held in a conservation tank at our Salisbury office.

Would it therefore be possible to revise the original licence, to take this in to account, or how would you like us to proceed, please? Diving operations are currently suspended on the site.

Best Wishes,

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist

Wessex Archaeology
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
<http://www.wessexarch.co.uk>



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Record your archaeological discoveries with the Marine Antiquities Scheme <https://marinefinds.org.uk/>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem1)
Sent: 04 March 2019 14:52
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DBS-JCCC Commem2 SO3)
Subject: Fairey Battle BV739

Thank you for advising us of the recovery and that FAA are sure the aircraft wreckage was not Fairey Battle RK556, but in fact was Fairey Battle BV739, piloted by Sub Lt D J Williams, who survived – so no casualties.

If you could reply with details and I will discuss with [REDACTED] on how to amend/re-issue licence to cover recovery.

Look forward to your reply.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/joint-casualty-and-compassionate-centre-iccc>

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[REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 July 2020 09:23
To: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Subject: RE: Return Form for Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

So I understand, I have been following the project on TV and in the media. It certainly has done a lot to raise the profile of both aviation archaeology and the Fleet Air Arms museum collection. It has been very rewarding, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
County Archaeologist
Specialist Environmental Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department
Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD

[REDACTED]
Share your thoughts on our service here: <http://twitter.com/hantsconnect>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Sent: 14 July 2020 08:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Return Form for Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
Thank you for your reply. The items go to the licensee but will be part of the Fleet Air Arm's re-build project.

regards

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 July 2020 15:50
To: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Subject: RE: Return Form for Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

Thank you very much, we will store this information as part of the SMR record, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
County Archaeologist

Specialist Environmental Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department

[REDACTED]

Share your thoughts on our service here: <http://twitter.com/hantsconnect>

From: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCC Commem1 E1) <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 13 July 2020 15:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Return Form for Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]

For your information as SMIR, return and letter re Licence 1878.

Regards

[REDACTED]

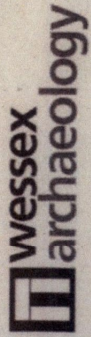
[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist



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Wessex Archaeology

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services
Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre
Imjin Barracks
Gloucester
GL3 1HW

[Redacted]

[Redacted] - by email
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Date: 13 July 2020

Dear Mr [Redacted]

Protection of Military Remains Act 1986

Thank you for sending in the Report of Items Removed form for Licence Number 1878 for Fairey Barracuda BV739.

Further to your email of 2 July 2020, advising the aircraft may possibly not be BV739, or LS473, but at present there is no concluding reference mark to confirm the serial number.

I have discussed with [Redacted] and it has been agreed we will keep this Licence for BV739 with ownership transferred to you. However, if Fleet Air Arm are able to positively identify the aircraft at a later date, then please advise us accordingly.

A copy of the form is enclosed for your information and we will keep the original as a reference document.

More help or explanation

Please contact us if you have any questions but hope this helps.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Licensing

Contact us:

Your reference:

Our reference: DBS/14/2/24

Commemorations & Licensing:

Contact Name: [Redacted]

email external:

[Redacted]

Contact Name: [Redacted]

Copy to:

SMR officer – David Hopkins

Enclosed:

Report of Items Removed – copy

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 July 2020 12:12
To: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCC Commem1 E1)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: License 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739 or LS473?

Good Morning [REDACTED]

I have recently emailed the team at the Fleet Air Arm Museum concerning this question. Currently they are shut down due the COVID19 restrictions and therefore work, beyond storage and conservation, is not currently occurring on the aircraft. However, the Curator of Aircraft [REDACTED] responded that their identification of the aircraft was still unconfirmed at this time, though based on the recovered components and detailing gleaned from them, they are steering away from it being BV739, or a Blackburn built Barracuda. Due to the predominantly Fairey referencing's on the parts (with some Boulton Paul and Westland components) they feel in all likelihood that it is a Fairey built aircraft. However, they are reluctant at this stage to definitely identify it as LS473, without a concluding reference mark, or some piece of archaeology that draws an absolute conclusion, in terms of a definitive serial number for the aircraft.

In light of this is there a way to close out the return, with an option to update it, as and when new information is found to alter/confirm the identification of the aircraft?

Best Wishes,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist



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Wessex Archaeology
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCC Commem1 E1)
Sent: 02 July 2020 09:29
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: License 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739 or LS473?

Can I ask if you can confirm the aircraft this Barracuda under Licence 1878, which we were advised might be LS473, so I can process the return for you. Look forward to your reply.

Regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Sent: 11 June 2020 13:36
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

[REDACTED]
Fairey Barracuda BV739 Licence 1878

Thank you for your email. We are all well and getting used to some new ways of working. Just looking at the notes for this. We received the return 12 March but advised Fleet Air Arm thought it might be LS473. So we were awaiting final confirmation of serial number for the Transfer of Ownership letter. You can confirm by email and we will then organise the letter for you.

Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Commemorations & Licensing
Imjin Barracks

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 11 June 2020 12:29
To: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Subject: Licence 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

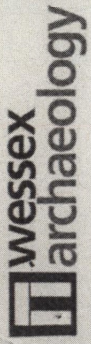
Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

I hope all is well with you and your colleagues during these difficult times?

We are currently putting together the archive on the Fairey Barracuda recovered from the Solent last year and we don't yet appear to have received the Transfer of Ownership letter for the licensee, or is this dependant on the final identification of the aircraft?

Best Wishes,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist



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Wessex Archaeology

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



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From: [Redacted] (DBS MilPers-JCC Commem1 E1) <[Redacted]>
Sent: 12 March 2020 15:16
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Return Form for License 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

Fairey Barracuda Lee on Solent

Thank you for the return form and highlighting it is possibly L5473 rather than BV739. We will leave it as BV739, and look forward to hearing from you further once you have completed your research to confirm which aircraft it is!

Very many thanks.

Regards

[Redacted]

Commemorations & Licensing

[Redacted]

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From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 March 2020 15:06

To: [REDACTED] (DBS MilPers-JCCC Commem1 E1)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Return Form for License 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

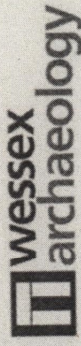
Please find attached the return form for license 1878 Fairey Barracuda BV739. Apologies for the delay in getting this to you, I have been away from work for a number of months.

I also have to inform you that the ongoing work being carried out by the Fleet Air Arm Museum, and from conversations with the Curator of Aircraft, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], their restoration manager, point to this being a different aircraft, whose loss position is indicated as being further offshore. Though no definitive evidence has confirmed this, there is a significant amount of evidence to indicate that the aircraft recovered is LS473, another MKII Fairey Barracuda, lost in similar circumstances to BV739, again with no casualties on the 06.01.44. The museum staff are hoping to definitively clear this up shortly.

Best Wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Marine Archaeologist



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Wessex Archaeology

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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