



Ministry  
of Defence



FOI2021/06031

E-mail: [NavyStratPol-SECFOI@mod.gov.uk](mailto:NavyStratPol-SECFOI@mod.gov.uk)



21 June 2021

Dear ,

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 June 2021 in which you requested the following information:

'I am trying to research the history of Type 42 destroyers. My previous request was turned down because of its scale. I have therefore followed your instructions and will ask for a much more focused research items.

Please can you tell me the activities for the following:

HMS Birmingham between Oct 89 - Jun 90

Sep 93 - Dec 93

Oct 97 - Dec 98

HMS Cardiff

2001 – 2004'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. The ship movements for HMS BIRMINGHAM and HMS CARDIFF for the specified dates can be found at Annex A to this letter.

I should advise however; no recorded information is held on ship movements for HMS BIRMINGHAM for the period 31 December 1997 to July 1999 and HMS CARDIFF for the periods 1 January to 18 June 2001 and 16 September 2002 to 1 June 2003.

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). 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 [f.](#)

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

**HMS BIRMINGHAM Ship Movements**

**October 1989 – June 1990**

23 September – 19 October: Assisted Maintenance Period  
16 October: Discovery of defect on starboard shaft necessitated a docking period  
25 October 1989 – 7 March 1990: Docking and Essential Defect period  
6-29 March: Post docking trials  
2-6 April: Shakedown in the area off Portland  
9 April – 17 May: Basic Operational Sea Training  
18-20 May: Visit to Cherbourg  
20 May – 9 July: Assisted Maintenance Period and Summer Leave

**September – December 1993**

9 August – 6 September: Main summer leave  
6-13 September: Recovery training period, self-maintenance period  
13 September – 8 October: Assisted Maintenance Period  
8-19 October: Recovery training period  
20-21 October: Joint Service Defence Course Sea Day  
22-25 October: Period alongside in Portsmouth  
25-29 October: Shakedown and passage to Faslane  
1-12 November: Joint Maritime Course exercise  
12-15 November: Rosyth  
22 November – 10 December: Assisted maintenance period in dry dock  
10 December – 4 January 1994: Christmas leave

**October 1997 – December 1982**

October: Assigned duty as Fleet Ready Escort  
2-15 October: Alongside in Portsmouth  
15-17 October: Tasked with providing an escort to HMS Vanguard during her trials in the Northern Exercise Areas  
17 October – 21 November: On standby as Fleet Ready Escort  
24-28 November: Passage to Gibraltar  
29 November – 5 December: Gibraltar  
6-9 December: Firings of 4.5" gun  
10-12 December: Passage to Portsmouth  
12-15 December: Alongside in Portsmouth  
15-31 December: Christmas leave

**HMS CARDIFF Ship Movements**

**2001-2004**

18 June – 8 October: Deep maintenance and docking period in Portsmouth  
8 October – 23 November: Continuing maintenance following flooding up  
23 November – 7 December: Recovery trials period  
7-10 December: Devonport  
10-12 December: At sea, recovery trials period  
20 December: Fleet Date Inspection  
21 December – 7 January 2002: Main Christmas leave  
7-22 January: Preparations for Basic Operational Sea Training

22-25 January: Weapon training  
25-28 January: Le Havre  
28 January – 8 February: Weapon training  
8-11 February: Portsmouth  
11-15 February: Shakedown  
15-18 February: Devonport  
18 February – 27 March: Basic Operational Sea Training  
28 March – 14 May: Portsmouth, assisted maintenance period and Easter leave  
14-16 May: Passage  
16-19 May: Cardiff  
19-20 May: Passage  
20-23 May: Devonport  
23-27 May: Passage to the Mediterranean  
27 May – 7 June: NATO Exercise Dynamic Mix  
7-11 June: Gibraltar  
11-16 June: Passage  
17-27 June: Portsmouth  
27-29 June: Passage  
29-30 June: Leith  
1-11 July: Joint Maritime Course exercise  
12-14 July: Support to the Submarine Command Course in the Clyde exercise areas  
14-17 July: Passage  
17-22 July: Portsmouth  
22 July – 9 August: Portsmouth, assisted maintenance period  
9 August – 16 September: Main summer leave  
1-6 June 2003: Fleet time support period  
16-18 June 2003: Recovery training period  
23-25 June: Recovery training period  
27 June – 1 July: Bordeaux  
1-3 July: Passage  
3-8 July: Cardiff  
8-10 July: Passage  
10-14 July: Zeebrugge for Belgian Royal Fleet Review and Navy Days  
14-15 July: Passage  
15-18 July: Portsmouth  
19-25 July: Tasked with escorting HMS Invincible during her Operational Readiness Inspection  
25-27 July: Operational Sea Training  
27 July – 15 August: Portsmouth  
15 August – 8 September: Main Summer leave  
8-15 September: Portsmouth  
15-26 September: Training with Principal Warfare Officers  
27-28 September: Passage  
29-30 September: Benbecula range  
1-2 October: Passage  
2-6 October: Portsmouth  
6-10 October: Staff College Sea Days  
10-12 October: Portsmouth  
12-15 October: Self-maintenance period  
15-17 October: Passage  
17-22 October: Cardiff  
22-24 October: Passage  
24-27 October: Portsmouth

27 October – 30 November: Portsmouth, maintenance period  
1-4 December: Recovery training period  
8-12 December: Deck landing training with 702 Naval Air Squadron  
12 December – 5 January 2004: Portsmouth, Christmas leave  
5-9 January 2004: Portsmouth, self-maintenance period  
9 January – 6 February: Fleet time support period  
9-13 February: Recovery training period  
16-19 February: Shakedown  
20-25 February: Devonport  
25 February – 11 March: Deployment Operational Sea Training  
12-22 March: Portsmouth  
22-26 March: Training with Principal Warfare Officers  
26-30 March: Portsmouth  
30 March – 14 April: Leave  
15 April: Deploy to Atlantic Patrol Task (South)  
15-25 April: Passage  
25-27 April: Port visit, Mindelo, Cape Verde  
27-29 April: Passage  
29 April – 5 May: Port visit, Freetown, Sierra Leone  
5-8 May: Passage  
8-11 May: Port Visit, Tema, Ghana  
11-19 May: Passage  
19-20 May: Ascension  
20-27 May: Passage  
27 May – 1 Jun: Port visit, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
1-5 June: Passage  
6-12 June: East Cove Military Port, Falklands  
12-17 June: Patrol  
13-15 June: Port Stanley  
17-19 June: East Cove  
20-25 June: Exercise Purple Strike  
25 June – 8 Jul: East Cove  
8-15 July: Patrol  
15-19 July: East Cove  
19-23 July: Passage  
23-30 July: Contracted maintenance in Montevideo, Uruguay  
30 July – 4 August: Passage  
4-6 August: Patrol  
6-9 August: East Cove  
9-13 August: Patrol  
14-23 August: East Cove  
23-27 August: Patrol  
28 August – 1 September: East Cove  
1-10 September: Passage via Magellan Straits  
10-15 September: Port visit, Valparaiso, Chile  
15-20 September: Passage  
20-23 September: Port visit, Callao, Peru  
23 September – 4 October: Passage via Panama Canal  
4-8 October: Port visit, Antigua  
8-17 October: Passage  
17 October: Azores  
17-22 October: Passage  
22 October: Return to Portsmouth from APT(S)

22 October – 22 November: Post-Deployment Leave  
22 October – 4 December: Fleet time support period  
6-10 December: Deck landing training with 702 Naval Air Squadron  
10 December – 4 January 2005: Christmas leave