



Ministry
of Defence



FOI2021/08124

E-mail: NavyStratPol-SECFOI@mod.gov.uk



29 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 20 July 2021 in which you requested the following information:

'Thank you for the information you have provided. I would like to refine my request to the month of May 1985, and in particular any exercises that may have taken place in conjunction with the United States Navy in the Atlantic Ocean and/or off the west coast of Scotland.'

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.

In response to your request, from the recorded information held, I can tell you that the First Mine Countermeasures Squadron, consisting of HM Ships Brecon, Dulverton, Chiddingfold and Cottesmore, were deployed to the United States(US) during May 1985 and undertook Exercise SOLID SHIELD with the US Navy on the US Atlantic Coast between Norfolk, Virginia, and Charleston, South Carolina between 3 May and 23 May 1985. The reporting does not give any more specific details.

The Department does not hold any further reporting on exercises with the US Navy in the geographical areas specified during May 1985.

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 <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section