



Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

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E-mail: MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2024/21557

RFI: 172/24

Date: 9 December 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: FOREIGN NATIONAL ARRESTS.

We refer to your email dated 7th November 2024 to the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP), which was acknowledged on 11th November 2024

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your email you requested the following information:

On 26th October 2024 the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) posted on social media ('X' formerly Twitter) that they were working with BTP on Project Servator outside the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) and Reading Railway Station. Co-operation between these forces is to be welcomed. Aid between the two forces is permitted in legislation, most notably the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001.

I would like:

1. To know what specific legislation (Act and Section) was used on this occasion to permit:
 - a. BTP to operate outside AWE and,
 - b. MDP to operate at Reading Station.
2. To know whether a record was made of requests for assistance between forces and where this record is kept. I would like to see a copy of this record (redacted if necessary).
3. To know if any deployments occurred outside the railway property boundary at Reading Station. If so:

- a. **What legislation was relied on by BTP and MDP? (including the use of s31 (1) (g) Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003).**
- b. **Whether Thames Valley Police were aware of such a deployment and whether they had made a request for assistance from BTP and MDP. If such a request was made the terms of the request, where it is recorded and a copy of the request (redacted as necessary).**
4. **To see a copy of any guidance issued within MDP about requesting assistance from other Non Home Department forces (including those other than CNC and BTP).**

A similar request has been made to the British Transport Police.

A search for information has been completed and I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence Police do hold information in scope of your request.

1. **To know what specific legislation (Act and Section) was used on this occasion to permit:**

- a. **BTP to operate outside AWE and,**

Under Section 21 – Accessible by other means, please see the link below to the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987 – Section 2B where you will find the relevant information to answer this question.

- b. **MDP to operate at Reading Station.**

c.

Under Section 21 – Accessible by other means, please see the link below to the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987 – Section 2B where you will find the relevant information to answer this question.

2. **To know whether a record was made of requests for assistance between forces and where this record is kept. I would like to see a copy of this record (redacted if necessary).**

No information held

No this was continued professional development.

3. **To know if any deployments occurred outside the railway property boundary at Reading Station. If so:**

There were no deployments outside the footprint of the station.

- a. **What legislation was relied on by BTP and MDP? (including the use of s31 (1) (g) Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003).**

No applicable

b. Whether Thames Valley Police were aware of such a deployment and whether they had made a request for assistance from BTP and MDP. If such a request was made the terms of the request, where it is recorded and a copy of the request (redacted as necessary).

c.
No information held

No request was made for assistance from Thames Valley Police. Deployments are covered by the MoU between MDP and BTP with Thames Valley Police area.

4. To see a copy of any guidance issued within MDP about requesting assistance from other Non Home Department forces (including those other than CNC and BTP).

No information held.

If you are not satisfied with 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

MDP Secretariat and Freedom of Information Office