



# Ministry of Defence

## J9 FOI Secretariat

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E-Mail: [PJHQ-J9-FOI-Group@mod.gov.uk](mailto:PJHQ-J9-FOI-Group@mod.gov.uk)

Reference: FOI 2018/09401

Mr C Cole  
[chris@dronewars.net](mailto:chris@dronewars.net)

13 August 2018

*Dear Mr Cole,*

We refer to your email of 16 July 2018 which requested the following information:

- 1) *For each month between April and June 2018, and broken down between i) Reaper, ii) Tornado, and ii) Typhoon:*
  - a) *the total number of missions undertaken by these aircraft on Operation Shader*
  - b) *the number of those missions entering Syria*
  - c) *the number of those missions entering Iraq*
- 2) *For each month between April and June 2018, the number of sorties with weapons released by a) Reaper, b) Tornado, c) Typhoon, broken down between Iraq and Syria?*
- 3) *For each month between April and June 2018, the number and type of weapons released by a) Reapers, b) Tornado, c) Typhoon, broken down between Iraq and Syria?*
- 4) *The number of UK air strikes in a) Iraq and b) Syria per month from 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018 broken down between Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon aircraft?*
- 5) *Please can you tell me, for each month between 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018, how many hours have UK a) Reapers, b) Tornado and c) Typhoon flown on Operation Shader?*
- 6) *Whether the UK has utilised any US Reapers on operations?*

You clarified that you had meant to request the number of UK air strikes in Iraq and Syria per month from 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018 broken down between Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon aircraft. You also clarified that you had meant to request how many hours Reapers, Tornado and Typhoon have flown on Operation Shader from 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018. We have provided the data for these months as you requested.

Your correspondence has been treated 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 we can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information requested can be found below.

1) In response to your question on the number of missions in Syria and Iraq by aircraft type, between April and June 2018, please see the tables below:

	Syria			Iraq			Total
	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	
<b>Apr</b>	45	32	44	3	8	2	134
<b>May</b>	46	35	43	9	6	4	143
<b>Jun</b>	55	40	50	5	7	2	159
<b>Total</b>	146	107	139	17	21	8	436

Please note, we do not provide the record of all cases of entry into Syrian airspace by RAF Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon aircraft. This is impacted by the basing location of aircraft and therefore which air space it has transited through to reach its destination.

2) In response to your question on the number of sorties with weapons released by aircraft type, please see the table below:

Sorties with Weapon Releases	Iraq			Syria			Total
	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	
<b>Apr</b>	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
<b>May</b>	0	4	1	0	6	8	19
<b>Jun</b>	1	0	4	7	2	3	17
<b>Total</b>	1	7	7	7	8	11	41

3) In response to your question on the number and type of weapons released in Syria and Iraq by aircraft type, please see the tables below:

**Iraq**

Weapons Released	Reaper	Tornado		Typhoon	Total
	GBU-12	DMSB	PWIV	PWIV	
<b>Apr</b>	0	2	5	3	10
<b>May</b>	0	0	5	1	6
<b>Jun</b>	3	0	0	9	12
<b>Total</b>	3	2	10	13	28

**Syria**

Weapons Released	Reaper		Tornado	Typhoon	Total
	GBU-12	AGM-114	PWIV	PWIV	
<b>Apr</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>May</b>	0	0	11	21	32
<b>Jun</b>	0	13	3	3	19
<b>Total</b>	0	13	14	24	51

4) In response to your question on the number of UK air strikes in Iraq and Syria per month from 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018 broken down by Aircraft Type, please see the table below:

**Iraq**

	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Total
<b>Apr</b>	1	2	0	3
<b>May</b>	3	1	0	4
<b>Jun</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	4	3	0	7

## Syria

	<b>Tornado</b>	<b>Typhoon</b>	<b>Reaper</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Apr</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>May</b>	3	6	0	9
<b>Jun</b>	1	4	5	10
<b>Total</b>	4	10	5	19

5) In response to your question on the total hours flown by aircraft type, please see the table below:

<b>Total hours flown by Aircraft Type</b>				
<b>Aircraft Type</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Typhoon</b>	549	580	586	1715
<b>Tornado</b>	434	483	495	1412
<b>Reaper</b>	627	708	823	2158
<b>Total</b>	1610	1771	1904	5285

6) Whether the UK has utilised any US Reapers on operations?

No US Reapers were utilised by the UK.

The data contained in this statement is believed to be complete and correct at the time of issue. The MOD operational activity databases are frequently reviewed and any errors and omissions are corrected. It is therefore possible that future statements might not match this statement exactly. The MOD regrets any difficulty that this may cause but emphasises that our aim is to ensure that our records are as complete and correct as possible.

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](mailto: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.

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Yours sincerely,

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16 November 2018

*Dear Mr Cole,*

We refer to your email of 16 July 2018 which requested the following information:

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  - a) *the total number of missions undertaken by these aircraft on Operation Shader*
  - b) *the number of those missions entering Syria*
  - c) *the number of those missions entering Iraq*

- 2) *For each month between April and June 2018, the number of sorties with weapons released by a) Reaper, b) Tornado, c) Typhoon, broken down between Iraq and Syria?*
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	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	
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Sorties with Weapon Releases	Iraq			Syria			Total
	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon	
<b>Apr</b>	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
<b>May</b>	0	4	1	0	6	8	19
<b>Jun</b>	0	0	4	7	2	3	16
<b>Total</b>	0	7	7	7	8	11	40

3) In response to your question on the number and type of weapons released in Syria and Iraq by aircraft type, please see the tables below:

**Iraq**

Weapons Released	Reaper		Tornado		Typhoon	Total
	GBU-12	AGM-114	DMSB	PWIV	PWIV	
<b>Apr</b>	0	0	2	5	3	10
<b>May</b>	0	0	0	5	1	6
<b>Jun</b>	0	0	0	0	6	6
<b>Total</b>	0	0	2	10	10	22

**Syria**

Weapons Released	Reaper		Tornado	Typhoon	Total
	GBU-12	AGM-114	PWIV	PWIV	
<b>Apr</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>May</b>	0	0	11	21	32
<b>Jun</b>	0	16	3	4	23
<b>Total</b>	0	16	14	25	55

4) In response to your question on the number of UK air strikes in Iraq and Syria per month from 1st April 2018 to 30 June 2018 broken down by Aircraft Type, please see the table below:

**Iraq**

	Tornado	Typhoon	Reaper	Total
<b>Apr</b>	1	2	0	3
<b>May</b>	3	1	0	4
<b>Jun</b>	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	4	5	0	9



## **Syria**

	<b>Tornado</b>	<b>Typhoon</b>	<b>Reaper</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Apr</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>May</b>	3	6	0	9
<b>Jun</b>	1	4	5	10
<b>Total</b>	4	10	5	19

5) In response to your question on the total hours flown by aircraft type, please see the table below:

<b>Total hours flown by Aircraft Type</b>				
<b>Aircraft Type</b>	<b>Apr 18</b>	<b>May 18</b>	<b>Jun 18</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Typhoon</b>	549	580	586	1715
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