



Ministry
of Defence

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22 September 2021

Mr C Cole
chris@dronewars.net

Dear Mr Cole,

Thank you for your email of 23rd August requesting the following information:

"In your response to my information request of 1 Oct 2019 [your ref: 2019/11238 (205)] you detailed that in July 2019, 3 Hellfire missiles were fired during 2 Reaper sorties in Syria. However, the details of these two strikes are not including on the MoD's 'Update: air strikes against Daesh' page (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-air-strikes-against-daesh>).

Please can I ask under the Freedom of Information act to confirm that that the strikes recorded in the Fol response took place, and for reports of the strikes at same level of details as usually provided by 'Update: air strikes against Daesh' page."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I am able to confirm that the details provided in our response dated 29 October 2019 to your FOI request of 1st October 2019 (FOI2019-11238 (205)) were correct based on information held at the time of publication. However, having discussed your question with colleagues across the Ministry of Defence it appears that the details relating to these strikes, while recorded correctly, were not passed to the team compiling the strike statements and were therefore omitted in error. Thank you for taking the time to raise this issue.

Based on our review I can confirm that the following strike statements will be published on the website in due course¹:

- Saturday 13 July 2019: a Royal Air Force Reaper, used Hellfire missiles to conduct a successful attack on a Daesh position some 35 miles south-east of Dayr az Zawr.
- Thursday 18 July 2019: the crew of an RAF Reaper tracked a Daesh terrorist on a motorcycle in eastern Syria, and a Hellfire missile was used to successful effect against the target.

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,

PJHQ J9 Secretariat

¹ Please note that although unlikely to change, the final details published may vary slightly.