



# Ministry of Defence

J9 FOI Secretariat  
Permanent Joint Headquarters  
Northwood Headquarters  
Sandy Lane  
Middlesex  
HA6 3HP  
United Kingdom

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

Reference: FOI2017/00064

Date: 20 February 2017

Mr Chris Cole

Email: [Chris@dronewars.net](mailto:Chris@dronewars.net)

Dear Mr Cole,

Thank you for your email of 3 January 2017 which requested the following information:-

*“Please can I request under the Freedom of Information Act*

*1) For each month between October and December 2016, and broken down between Iraq and Syria:*

*a) The number of a) Reaper b) Tornado, c) Typhoon missions flown;*

*b) The number of a) Reaper b) Tornado, c) Typhoon sorties with weapons released;*

*c) The number and type of weapons released by a) Reapers, b) Tornado, c) Typhoon*

*2) Please can you let me have the number of UK air strikes in a) Iraq and b) Syria per month from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 to 31 December 2016 broken down between Reaper, Tornado and Typhoon aircraft?*

*3) Please can you confirm if UK armed forces have utilised US unmanned aircraft since 1st September 2016 and if so, can you let me have monthly number of sorties/weapons releases?*

*Finally, can I ask for the following information only if it does not exceed cost limits? If it does, ignore the following request and only answer the above request as you have done previously.*

*4) Please can you tell me, for each month between 1st January and 31 December 2016 how many hours have UK a) Reapers, B) Tornado and C) Typhoon flown?”*

Your correspondence has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and the information requested can be found below.

With regards to your first question for the number of (a) Reaper (b) Tornado (c) Typhoon missions flown in Iraq and Syria for each month between October and December 2016:

	Oct-16			Nov-16			Dec-16		
	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total
Reaper MQ-9	30	1	31	28	1	29	26	0	26
Tornado GR4	26	0	26	27	0	27	20	3	23
Typhoon FGR4	24	1	25	20	5	25	23	2	25

The number of (a) Reaper (b) Tornado (c) Typhoon sorties with weapons released for the same time period is as follows:

	Oct -16			Nov - 16			Dec-16		
	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total
Reaper MQ-9	23	0	23	20	0	20	10	0	10
Tornado GR4	18	0	18	19	2	21	4	2	6
Typhoon FGR4	22	2	24	14	4	18	7	2	9

1c. The number and type of weapons released by: (a) Reaper (b) Tornado (c) Typhoon in Iraq:

	Oct-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	16	0	7	0	7	0	4
Typhoon FGR4	77	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	45	0	12	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

	Nov-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	12	0	10	0	7	0	0
Typhoon FGR4	34	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	46	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

	Dec-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	12	0	3	0	1	0	0
Typhoon FGR4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

The number of (a) Reaper (b) Tornado (c) Typhoon sorties with weapons released for the same time period in Syria:

	Oct-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoon FGR4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

	Nov-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoon FGR4	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

	Dec-16						
	PWIV	Hellfire	DMSB	GBU-12	EPWII	EPWIII	Storm Shadow
Tornado GR4	2	0	1	0	3	0	0
Typhoon FGR4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaper MQ-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

In response to your second question regarding the number UK air strikes in Iraq and Syria between September – December 2016:

	Sep-16			Oct-16			Nov-16			Dec-16		
	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total	Iraq	Syria	Total
Tornado GR4	13	1	4	18	0	18	19	2	21	4	2	6
Typhoon FGR4	12	0	12	22	2	24	14	4	18	7	2	9
Reaper MQ-9	20	2	22	23	0	23	20	0	20	10	0	10

In response to your third question regarding the number of UK military personnel who have used a US Reaper since September 2016 in Iraq or Syria, we can confirm that the number is zero.

In response to your fourth question regarding the number of hours flown as part of Op SHADER by (a) Reaper (b) Tornado (c) Typhoon between January – December 2016:

Month	Reaper	Tornado	Typhoon
Jan 16	944	897	613
Feb 16	705	921	632
Mar 16	701	667	694
Apr 16	784	565	600
May 16	846	610	625
Jun 16	1010	535	606
Jul 16	819	481	572
Aug 16	889	519	487

Sep 16	879	529	426
Oct 16	970	525	605
Nov 16	836	578	559
Dec 16	705	443	553

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.

Please note that the MOD regularly publishes information about RAF activity in Iraq and Syria at: - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-air-strikes-against-daesh>.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact this office in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,  
PJHQ J9 FOI Secretariat