



Ministry
of Defence

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30 July 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 27 July 2014 requesting information on HMS Duncan's visit to Belfast on Sunday 27 July 2014. Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you are seeking. I should explain that HMS Duncan's visit to Belfast on 27 July 2014 was an informal one. In such instances where the visit is not a formal one, i.e. it does not coincide with an important International, National or Civic Event being held in the country or port to be visited, then Procedure Bravo arrangements are adopted.

Ships entering and leaving the harbour under Procedure Bravo are not required to "Clear Lower Deck". In respect of uniform for this procedure, are 1C caps with chinstraps down. Hands required to handle ropes, wires or fenders are to wear No 4's (formally No 8's) with caps; these hands are to be a sensible minimum and are to be fallen in as separate bodies in parts of the ship.

With new ships, in particular Type 45s, much of the traditional deck is now enclosed and procedures on entering and leaving harbour sometimes require moderation to meet their particular circumstances. However, units should strive to look clean, neat, tidy and seamanlike at all times in the best traditions of the Service.

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 me 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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.