



Ministry of Defence

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30 September 2015

Dear XXXXXX,

Thank you for your email dated 24 September 2014, where you requested the following information:

- ‘1) How were the names for the SCOUT SV family Ajax (Ares, Atlas, Argus, Apollo) derived and
- 2) Is there an Army committee or senior officer in charge of naming UORs and future British army vehicles?’

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act gives an applicant the right to access recorded information held by public authorities at the time of the request made and does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless recorded information is held.

Following a search for recorded information, I have established that some information is held, which I believe is relevant to your questions. In order to be helpful, in accordance with Section 16 of the Act, I can tell you that each of the individual variants is named after a Greek god or hero, whose character reflects the role of the vehicle:

Variant	Name	Meaning
Recce/Strike	AJAX	Greek hero notable for strength and courage
APC	ARES	Greek God of war
Command and Control	ATHENA	Greek Goddess of intelligence, battle strategy and wisdom
ES Recovery	ATLAS	God who carried the world
ES Repair	APOLLO	God of healing
Engineer Recce	ARGUS	All seeing giant

In response to your second question I can tell you that there is no specific process for the naming of Army vehicles.

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Yours sincerely,

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Army Secretariat