



Ministry
of Defence

J9 Secretariat
Permanent Joint Headquarters
(United Kingdom)
Northwood Headquarters
Sandy Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
HA6 3HP

Email: UKStratCom-PJHQ-J9-FOI-Mbx@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2021-02081

01 April 2021

Mr Iain Overton
request-723301-26b11b1f@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Overton,

Thank you for your email of 22nd February 2021 requesting the following information:

“1) The number of enemies killed in action (EKIA) and enemies wounded in action (EWIA) by RAF strikes in Iraq and Syria.

- The data broken down by aircraft type responsible for the strike (e.g. Typhoon, Tornado and Reaper) and by month, beginning from Jan 2019 up to the end of Jan 2021 if possible.

2) All allegations of civilian casualties from RAF strikes in Iraq and Syria received by the British government since Jan 2019 to the present day.

- For each allegation, please provide the date, location, and all other details available such as the numbers of civilians killed or injured.”

I am treating your correspondence 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 I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held.

The information regarding Enemy Killed in Action (EKIA) and Enemies Wounded in Action (EWIA) you have requested can be found at annex A. The total estimated 67 EKIA and 4 EWIA.

Your question regarding civilian casualties has been interpreted to focus on incidents that have occurred since January 2019. No allegations regarding incidents since January 2019

have been received. However, for completeness, a number of allegations regarding civilian casualties have been raised since January 2019 relating to the overall campaign. These have been investigated and no credible additional incidents of civilian casualties have been found. Details of the previously confirmed incident resulting in a civilian casualty (from date 26 March 2018) was made public via a statement to the House of Commons by the then Secretary of State, Gavin Williamson. This can be found at the link below:

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-05-02/HCWS665/>

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

2021	JAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		25	5	17	0	0	0	9	1	10	0	0	4	67	4

Please note that the Enemy Killed in Action (EKIA) and Enemy Wounded in Action (EWIA) figures above are all based on Subject Matter Expert examination of the evidence (mission reports and weapon system video). They cannot be guaranteed to be entirely accurate as no on-the-ground examination is possible owing to the circumstances of the operation.

The fact that the evidence on Enemy casualties is not exhaustive must not be taken to imply that Civilian casualties may have occurred. All attacks conducted by RAF assets are in strict accordance with Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) and appropriate Rules of Engagement (ROE), and are always planned and conducted with the expectation of zero civilian casualties.

As always, the data contained in this Air and Space Warfare Centre (ASWC) statement is believed to be complete and correct at the time of issue. The ASWC 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. ASWC 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.