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for Business  
Innovation & Skills

Export Control Organisation  
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Our ref: FOI2016/04685

23rd March 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 24 February where you requested the following information:

*Under the freedom of Information Act, I am requesting information related to an export licence provided by you for the export of small arms ammunition to Saudi Arabia in 2013.*

*According to information disclosed by the UK government to the EU for its most recent arms export report (year 2013), the UK granted a brokering licence for the export of 3.9m euro of ML3a ammunition from Bosnia to Saudi Arabia. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=OJ:C:2015:103:FULL&from=EN>*

*I am requesting further information relating to the nature of the ML3a ammunition. In particular I would like to know:*

- 1) The caliber of the ammunition*
- 2) It's type - for example, whether it is ammunition for a firearm, mortar etc.*
- 3) The quantity of ammunition exported.*

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I am writing to advise you that, following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that this Department holds information falling within scope of your request.

In relation to points (1) and (2) of your request I can confirm that the trade control licence application was for ammunition described as:

- 5.56mm x 45mm 4 Ball M855 - 1 Tracer M856 Linked Ammunition (line 1)
- 7.62mm x 39mm Ammunition Ball M67 (line 2)

In relation to point (3), you should note that the application, as referred to in the EU Annual Report 2013, was for a Standard Individual Trade Control Licence (SITCL) not an export licence. A trade control licence does not authorise the export of goods from the UK, given that it concerns a transaction taking place between two overseas countries. Instead a trade control licence concerns the licensable involvement of a UK person or entity in such an overseas transaction. The Department does not hold quantity data on the value or volume of actual exports or trading activity. It only holds data based on details completed on the application form by the applicant. Therefore, in so far as we can answer point 3, in this particular case, the quantity of ammunition specified on the trade control licence was 5299200 items (line 1) and 9500400 items (line 2) respectively.

### **Appeals procedure**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit:

Information Rights Unit  
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
Email: [FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk)

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Export Control Policy Unit, Export Control Organisation