

Finance and Corporate Services
Information Management

12 July 2011
FOIA reference: F0001179

Dear XXXX

I am writing in respect of your recent application of 28 June 2011, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

"I am researching the de Havilland Comet 1. I believe that after the official inquiry into the two Comet crashes into the Mediterranean in 1954 had presented its findings (in 1955) more wreckage was found by chance which pointed to a different location for the start of the fatigue failure. Although this has been referred to in the Press I can find no trace of it in the National Archives and I wondered if you might have inherited a file about it, perhaps from the Ministry of Supply".

Our response:

In assessing your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are able to provide the answer below.

The CAA has checked its records and can confirm that it does not hold any information relating to the incident you are referring to. You may wish (if you have not already done so) to contact the Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) who may be able to assist you further. I have provided contact details below.

Air Accidents Investigation Branch
Berkshire Copse Road
Aldershot
Hampshire
GU11 2HH
Tel: 01252 510300
Fax: 01252 376999
Email: enquiries@aaib.gov.uk

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Mark Stevens
External Response Manager

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House GW Gatwick Airport South Crawley West Sussex England RH6 0YR www.caa.co.uk
Telephone 01293 768512 rick.chatfield@caa.co.uk

Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
West Sussex
RH6 0YR

mark.stevens@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx

Should you wish to make further Freedom of Information requests, please use the e-form at <http://www.caa.co.uk/foi>.

Yours sincerely

Rick Chatfield
FoIA & EIR Case Manager

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.