



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-02828

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** USE OF SEMTEX BY IRA

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

***Ref Semtex used by IRA during the Troubles i.e. from 1969 to 1998.***

How many IRA bombings where there were fatalities was the semtex used to make up the bombs came from Libya?

#### Question 2

Please state how many bombings where the Semtex used came from Libya and the date of the atrocities?

#### Answer

The format in which the PSNI stores information means it is not possible to conduct a straightforward search in order to ascertain whether the information you have requested is held.

Searching for any such information would involve extraction of staff to be redirected from current work to complete a search for all the information you have requested. To do this would impact on the PSNI's ability to deliver front line policing, which would also impact on the wider community.

It is therefore considered the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Regulations 2004, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450. Consideration would also have to given to the application of any relevant Part II exemptions.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Due to the nature of your request, it is possible that if relevant information was identified, some or all of it may be sensitive, and therefore subject to an exemption under Part II of the Act.

#### Section 16 Duty to provide advice and assistance

The PSNI website, annual statistics section, [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk) does retain Bombings from 1999 – 2009 and Deaths due to the Security Situation 1999 – 2009.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this decision please do not hesitate to contact 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@psni.pnn.police.uk).

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.