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5B.

The Commandin Officer Seven Aviation Regiment Airfield Camp Netheravon 27th June, 1973

Dear Sir, ...

Dornoch Air-Strip - Proposed landing 1st July,1973 1530 hours

A Sergeant O'Brien today telephoned from Belfast intimating that a V.I.P. wished to land at Dornoch Air-Strip at 1530 hours and depart at 1600 hours on 1st July,1973. Unfortunately the line was very bad and the conversation a little stilted. The Sergeant asked if there were any fire appliances that might be available in view of the V.I.P being involved. No name was given. It appears that the aircraft to be used would be a Beaver type weighing approximately 5,0000bs. Registration not given.

Dernoch air-Strip is licenced as an Ordinary Licensed airfield and accordingly fire appliances are only required under the licence for scheduled air flights. If the fire squad is to be available it will require to call out the Burgh Squad for this purpose when they are normally off-duty - the 1st July being a Sunday. The Town Council would require to pay the men double time for the time involved. Accordingly I would be obliged if you would look into this matter and let me know by telephone on Friday, 29th June, 1973 if you are prepared for this special facility. I should add that private aircraft land at their own risk on payment of a landing fee of 30p per 1,000lb aircraft landing weight. The pilot is to be a Sergeant O'Brien and he told me to write to your Regiment regarding payment of the account. It could well be that the person telephoning was not Sgt. O'Brien but only giving the name of the pilot.

I do not know what connection you have with Belfast, but would like the matter clarified before the weakend.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

From: Major WP Duthoit, STAFFORDS





Second in Command
7 Regiment Army Air Corps
Airfield Camp
Netheravon
Wilts

Netheravon 201 Ext 0100

Town Clerk and Chamberlain Royal Burgh of Dornoch

2 Jul 73

Dear Mr Trowbridge

LANDING AT DORNOCH AIRSTRIP 1 JULY

Further to our conversation of 2 July. The registered number of the aircraft was XP 819 and the AUW 5000 lb. The aircraft was a DHC Beaver.

I have as promised spoken to the Headquarters in Northern Ireland and they have undertaken to let you have the details for the landing/take off planned for 7 July in good time. It is confirmed that it will not be necessary for fire appliances to be in attendance.

Please forward bills for landing fees to the above address in due course.

Yours faithfully