



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 24/03/2026

2026/252 - Arrests of United States service personnel

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Please provide the following information for the last five financial years (or calendar years if financial years are not recorded), relating to arrests made by your force:

The number of United States service personnel (including U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, or other U.S. Department of Defense personnel) who were arrested by your force.

For each arrest (or aggregated by year, if individual-level data cannot be disclosed), please provide:

The year of arrest

The offence type or nature of the alleged offence (e.g. violence, sexual offences, public order, drugs, driving offences, etc.)

The outcome, where held (e.g. charged, no further action, caution, transferred to another authority)

Please confirm, in relation to the arrests identified above:

Whether diplomatic immunity, consular immunity, or protections under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) were cited, applied, or relied upon in any case; and

If so, the number of cases where such immunity or protection was applied, aggregated by year if possible.

If your force does not record whether an arrested individual is a U.S. service person, please instead provide:

The number of individuals recorded as United States nationals who were:

Arrested, and

Charged by your force during the same period; and

For those arrests or charges:

The nature of the alleged offences (aggregated by offence type and year); and

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,
Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW
www.heddlugogleddcymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters,
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW
www.northwales.police.uk

Whether any form of diplomatic or international immunity or privilege was recorded as being applied.

Arrest Date	Reason Description	Outcome	Employer
Jun-22	Drive motor vehicle when alcohol level above limit (recordable)	Charged	US AIRFORCE

North Wales Police can neither confirm nor deny whether we hold any further information in relation to your request as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) does not apply by virtue of the following exemption:

s27(4) International relations

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) annually publish data on alleged serious and significant offences committed by individuals entitled to diplomatic or international organisation-related immunity in the UK. The latest available data (for 2024) can be found in the link below.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2025-11-19/debates/25111932000015/DiplomaticImmunityAllegedSeriousAndSignificantOffences2024>

However, the UK is mindful of the need to develop and maintain a robust relationship with other nation states, which can promote mutual interest in trade, defence, environmental issues, human rights and the fight against terrorism and international crime. Therefore to provide anything further to this publication, such as identifying a named country as one for which an arrested individual specifically cited, applied, or relied upon their diplomatic immunity, consular immunity, or protections under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), would be detrimental to the United Kingdom's (UK) relationship with that named state, and would in all likelihood result in other countries or international organisations reconsidering their affinity with the UK. In certain circumstances, such as where a single county is uniquely identified in a request, this risk also applies to the confirmation or denial that information is held.

Realisation of this harm affects the UK's international abilities relating to its overseas citizens, consular and commercial interests. It could also influence the sharing of information provided during political and diplomatic exchanges.

Therefore, confirming or denying any information is held relating to the citation, application or reliance on diplomatic immunity, consular immunity, or protections under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) by arrested US service personnel, could lead to a lack of trust and undermine law enforcement agreements with the US in the future. It would not be in the best interests of the public to disrupt relations between the UK and the US as a result of information of this nature being confirmed or denied as held.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring confirmation or denial S27

To confirm or deny any information was held regarding diplomatic immunity claimed by arrested US service personnel would allow the public to be better informed about matters concerning offences committed by those with the power to invoke diplomatic immunity. This could increase understanding on international matters and participation in the public debate of the issues raised. Disclosure would support the police's commitment to being open and transparent.

Factors against confirmation or denial S27

The effective conduct of international relations depends upon maintaining trust and confidence between Governments. To confirm or deny the requested data regarding diplomatic immunity is held, would identify specific cases and individual citizens of the United States of America, and therefore undermine the UK's relations with the US. Any disclosure of information could lead to a

lack of trust. If the United Kingdom does not maintain this trust and confidence, its ability to protect and promote UK interests through international relations will be hampered.

Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (1) of the legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 09/03/2026