



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Our Reference: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated [REDACTED] in which you requested the following information:

Please could you tell me the operations/deployments that have been in receipt of the Operational Allowance from 2010-2016. Please could you tell me if those deployed in Sudan and Syria are in receipt of the OA

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. A review of our data holdings has been completed, and I can confirm that the MOD does hold some information within the scope of your request; this is provided in the annex at the end of this letter.

Under Section 23(5) (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any additional information in scope of your request, which if held would be exempt under Section 23. Section 23 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a Public Interest Test.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely,

Defence People

Operational Allowance

The aim of Operational Allowance (OA) is to recognise the significantly increased and enduring nature of the danger in Specified Operational Locations, over and above that compensated for within the X Factor. Between 2010 and 2016, OA was payable to eligible Service Personnel assigned to Specified Operational Locations, the geographical boundary of which may have included personnel serving on RN ships in specified waters or those flying over or into those locations as follows:

Locations qualifying for Operational Allowance during the period 2010-16.
• Afghanistan
• Central African Republic
• Chad
• Egypt
• Iraq
• Mali
• Mauritania
• Niger
• Nigeria
• Pakistan
• Somalia
• Somaliland
• South Sudan
• Sudan
• Syria

