



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: FOI 18-11-2013-093507-002 correspondence dated: 15 November 2013

[REDACTED]

Date: 20 November 2012

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 15 November 2013 requesting the following information:

"For use in an academic research project, I would like to access monthly battle death statistics between Jan 1987 and Dec 2012. I simply would like to know the number of battle-related deaths of servicemen in any conflict or operation in each month for the period."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is provided in **Table 1 of Annex A** to this document.

Background notes

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering deaths in the UK Armed Forces and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk

Defence Statistics (Health) compiles the Department's authoritative deaths database for all **UK Armed Forces personnel who died whilst in Service** going back to 1984. Information is compiled from several internal and external sources from which we release a number of internal analyses and external National Statistics Notices.

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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd 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.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Annex A to FOI 18-11-2013-093507-002

Table 1: UK Armed Forces¹ hostile action² action deaths as a result of operations³ by month, 1 January 1987 to 31 December 2012, numbers

Month	All	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All	699	11	39	28	18	38	8	9	10	0	4	1	0	0	1	2	0	40	11	21	48	73	52	107	95	43	40
January	50	1	2	0	1	7	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	2	4	1	6	6	2	2
February	60	0	3	2	0	17	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	3	6	15	4	1
March	71	1	2	3	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	5	3	3	12	6	9
April	43	2	3	0	4	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	0	1	11	3	1	3	1	3
May	64	1	4	1	2	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	9	6	3	12	7	4	5
June	79	3	7	1	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	3	10	12	4	16	6	4
July	74	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	13	4	21	15	3	3
August	78	0	14	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	3	0	7	10	2	19	6	3	3
September	59	1	1	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	8	6	4	8	6	2	5
October	32	0	0	3	6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	6	4	1	4
November	52	0	0	4	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	6	1	7	12	2	7	1
December	37	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	9	9	3	4	0

Notes:

1. Figures are for tri-Service regular and reservist personnel including the Ulster Defence Regiment and The Royal Irish Regiment Home Service.
2. Hostile action includes deaths categorised as Killed in Action (KIA) and Died of Wounds (DOW) where;
KIA is a battle casualty who is killed outright or who dies as a result of wounds or other injuries before reaching a medical treatment facility.
DOW is a battle casualty who dies of wounds or other injuries received in action, after having reached a medical treatment facility.
3. Deaths for operations in Northern Ireland, Gulf 1, Balkans, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Iraq.