



Ministry
of Defence

[REDACTED]
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment & ISTAR)

Maple 0a
#2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



[REDACTED]

Via:

[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
FOI2014/06581

Date: 27 November 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 30 October 2014 requesting the following information:

I have been following a previous FOI request that was issued by the MOD back in June 2012. This request is in relation to the wrist watches issued by the MOD to the various different military groups and divisions.

I am an avid collector of military watches from all eras, but more specifically modern warfare watches.

I therefore request the following information (under the freedom of information act):- please can you tell me what make and models of wrist watches are in current use by British Armed Forces, the dates they went into service, and how many of them are in service currently? Can you also tell me what sections the models are issued to within UK forces? As I previously understood from the old FOI request of this nature, there were two pulsar/seiko models for infantry and aviators, and one citizen eco drive 300m divers watch for divers and special forces. Are these still in use also?

Please can you confirm the above request, or as many parts of it as possible, in order to help me to accurately procure the same makes and models of watches that our boys and girls go to theatre wearing in the name of queen and country.

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found at annex A, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at section 23 (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 23(3) has been applied to some of the information because information relating to the Special Forces is exempt. Section 23 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

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, Defence Equipment & Support

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>.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment & ISTAR)

ANNEX A

| WATCH | NATO STOCK NUMBER | MAKE | MODEL | QUANTITY ISSUED SINCE THE IN-SERVICE DATE | IN-SERVICE DATE | WATCH ISSUED ¹ TO THE FOLLOWING SERVICES |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------|------------|---|-----------------|---|
| GENERAL SERVICE | 6645-99-605-2627 | SEIKO | PXD433 | 20,916 ² | 1999 | The general service watch is issued across all services as required. |
| AIRCREW | 6645-99-958-4756 | SEIKO | PX8307X1 | 2,286 | 2010 | Aircrew within all three services. |
| DIVERS | 6645-99-852-5953 | CITIZEN | BN0000-04H | 855 | 2009 | Diving units onboard naval ships, shore based naval diving units, Salvage and Mooring Team, Army Royal Engineer Dive Teams. |

¹ Watches are issued to units to manage rather than for personal issue.

² This watch has been in-service since 1999. It is only possible to provide accurate data regarding the number of watches that have been issued for the preceding five years. Therefore, the procurement figure has been used.