



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Reference: Army HQ/Sec/10/03/74250
FOI2014/08528

E-mail: Army Sec-group@mod.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

Request-221243-
3bdc0815@whatdotheyknow.com

13 January 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mails of 11 December 2014 where you requested information about:

I would be very grateful if you could also kindly advise how many rest days the MPGS are awarded over a 26 week period, and how many rest days full time servicemen are awarded over the same 26 week period.

Are the MPGS required to work one standby day in Uniform as stated in paragraph 15 or your response or are they simply required to remain contactable as stated in Army HQ/Sec 10/03/73266 Dated 23 June 2014.

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

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act gives an applicant the right to access recorded information held by public authorities at the time the request is made and does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information held. Following a search of our recorded information I have established that the information you have requested is not held by the MOD. To be helpful in accordance with Section 16 of the Act, I can confirm that for the second part of your request, the correct answer is that on the standby day, (not including the first day after completing the four day working shift) is considered a working day and accounted for as such. This day will be in working dress. MPGS soldiers can, on this day, be used to cover leave, courses and Adventurous Training, providing that they do not exceed Working Time Regulations for Service personnel. This day acts as the chain of command contingency plan should there be a requirement for extra manning. Members of the MPGS are, therefore, at work in uniform.

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. Providing the applicant with all the information requested.

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,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

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