

Quarterly UK Armed Forces and UK Entitled Civilian Operational Casualty and Fatality Statistics 6 August 2014 - 31 March 2015

Statistical release

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The Background Quality Report for this publication can be found here.

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Summary

This quarterly release provides statistical information on the number of UK Armed Forces personnel and UK Entitled Civilians, who died, were injured or became ill on Operations SHADER (Iraq and Syria), GRITROCK (Ebola crisis in West Africa) and TORAL (Afghanistan). The next publication will be released on 16 July 2015 including numbers up to 30 June 2015.

An additional section is provided on the total number of patients treated at the UK military facility, Kerry Town Treatment Unit, in Sierra Leone. The number of UK Service Personnel and the number of UK Entitled Civilians admitted to the Treatment Unit are also presented.

Key Points

Between 6 August 2014 to 31 March 2015 (2014/15) there were **71** UK Service personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Operations of which (**None** were Battle Injuries (BI), **20** were Non Battle Injuries (NBI), **51** were Natural Causes including Disease (NC)). **42** of these were sustained within the latest quarter (Q4).

Of the injuries/illnesses recorded within this quarterly statistical release:

- **10** UK Service Personnel sustained an injury on Op SHADER between Q2-Q4 in 2014/15.
- 31 UK Service Personnel sustained an injury on Op GRITROCK in Q4 2014/15.
- 5 UK Service Personnel sustained an injury on Op TORAL in Q4 2014/15.
- No UK Entitled Civilians had an injury or illness whilst on an Operation.
- None died as a result of deployment on Operations.
- Three UK Service personnel were Very Seriously Injured/III (VSI) or Seriously Injured/III (SI).
- 14 were aeromedically evacuated out of the operational theatre.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were:

- **59** patients admitted to the Kerry Town Treatment Unit.
- 17 patients were diagnosed with Ebola, of which 8 subsequently died. One UK Service personnel was diagnosed with Ebola and has been discharged, none were UK Entitled Civilians.

Introduction

MOD is committed to publishing casualty and fatality information on all medium scale operations and any which are deemed to be of high interest to the public.

This statistical bulletin replaces the Casualty and Fatality statistics previously reported.

This quarterly report provides statistical information on the number of UK Armed Forces personnel and UK Entitled Civilians, who died, were injured or became ill on Operations SHADER (Iraq and Syria), GRITROCK (Ebola crisis in West Africa) and TORAL (Afghanistan). This report covers the time period 6 August 2014 (the start of Operation SHADER) to 31 March 2015 (the latest data available).

		2014	2015					
August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
		Op SHADER						
		from 6 Aug 2014						
		Op	GRITROCK					
		froi	m 15 Sept 2014					
			•			•	•	
				Op TORAL				
				from 1 Dec 2014				

This report has been provided in response to the increasing number of requests for information about UK Service Personnel deployed on current operations. The MOD are committed to making information on Operational Casualties public but have to draw a line between how much information is provided regularly in the public domain and information which compromises operational security of UK Armed Forced personnel or which risks breaching an individual's right to medical confidentiality.

This report has been published to support the MOD's commitment to release information wherever possible.

Numbers for Operations GRITROCK and TORAL will be updated quarterly, numbers for Operation SHADER will be updated bi-annually

Contents

Summary page 1

Introduction page 2

Overall Results page 3

Op SHADER Page 4

Op GRITROCK page 5

Kerry Town Treatment Unit (KTTU) page 6

Op TORAL page 7

Methodology page 8

Glossary & Definitions

Supplementary tables containing all data presented in this publication can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/govern ment/statistics/modnational-and-officialstatistics-by-topic

Results

OVERALL

UK Service Personnel

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were 42 UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Operations^a, ten were NBI and 32 were NC (Table 1).

Between 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015:

- None died as a result of Operations (Table 1).
- There have been **three** casualties listed as VSI or SI (Table 1a)
- Of the ten NBI, **one** was listed as SI and **nine** were Unlisted (UL) casualties.
- Of the 32 NC, two were listed as SI, one was listed as an Incapacitating Illness (III), **25** were UL and **four** were Unknown^b.
- **14**° UK Service personnel have been aero-medically evacuated from Operations.

Table 1: UK Service Personnel who died, sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Operations¹ by financial year and guarter, 6 August 2014 to 31 March 2015, Numbers²

		Survivors				Fatalities				
Quarter/Year of Injury/Death	All Casualties and Fatalities	All	Battle Injury	Non Battle Injury	Natural Cause	All	Hostile Killed in Action	Action Died of Wounds	Died on Operations	
2014-15	71	71	0	20	51	0	0	0	0	
6 August - 30 September (Q2)	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
1 October - 31 December (Q3)	28	28	0	10	18	0	0	0	0	
1 January - 31 March (Q4)	42	42	0	10	32	0	0	0	0	

Source: Initial NOTICAS (JPA) and Aeromedical Evacuation Control Centre (AECC) database

UK Civilians

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were no UK Civilians who died as a result of deployment on Operations.

During the latest guarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were two UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or illness whilst on Operations.

Includes Operations SHADER, GRITROCK and TORAL.

² In the survivors section, the year refers to the financial year in which the injury occurred. In the fatalities section, the year refers to the financial year in which personnel died. It is therefore possible for an individual to be injured in one financial year and die in a subsequent financial year. If a casualty previously recorded as a surviving casualty subsequently dies from their wounds/injuries, they will only be recorded in the fatalities section.

3 6 August 2014 (start of Op SHADER) to 31 March 2015

^a Includes Operations SHADER, GRITROCK and TORAL.

^b Not all casualties will have an Initial NOTICAS raised and therefore the severity classification is unknown.

^c The injury/natural cause for which a casualty is being aeromedically evacuated may have occurred in a previous quarter.

OPERATION SHADER

The MOD is providing military support to the US led Coalition to defeat Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq and Syria. This support includes training Kurdish forces, beginning with the use of UK gifted machine guns, and gifting and delivering over 320 tonnes of weapons, ammunition and other military equipment. Since the Parliamentary vote, the RAF has flown successful strikes and provided valuable intelligence and surveillance.

UK Service Personnel

Between 6 August 2014 (start of Op SHADER) and 31 March 2015 there were ten UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op SHADER, seven were NBI and three were NC (Table 2).

During the 6 August 2014 to 31 March 2015:

- None died as a result of Op SHADER (Table 2).
- One^d was listed as VSI or SI (Table 2a).
- Of the seven NBI, one was listed as SI, one was listed as III, four were UL casualties and **one** was Unknown^e.
- Of the three NC. one was UL and two were Unknown^e.
- Six[†] UK Service personnel were aero-medically evacuated from Op SHADER (Table

Table 2: UK Service Personnel who died, sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op SHADER by financial year (Bi-Annually), 6 August 2014 to 31 March 2015, Numbers

Ri-Annual/Year of Injury/Death			Survivors				Fatalities				
	Bi-Annual/Year of Injury/Death 1	All Casualties and Fatalities		Battle	Non Battle Injury	Natural Cause		Hostile Action		Died on	
	Di Anniau Tour of mjary/Douth		All	Injury			All	Killed in	Died of	Operations	
								Action	Wounds	Operations	
	2014-15	10	10	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	
	6 August - 31 March (Q2/Q3/Q4)	10	10	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	

Source: Initial NOTICAS (JPA) and Aeromedical Evacuation Control Centre (AECC) database

UK Civilians

During the time period 6 August 2014 and 31 March 2015 there were no UK Entitled Civilians who died as a result of Op SHADER.

During the time period 6 August 2014 and 31 March 2015 there were no UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op SHADER.

¹ In the survivors section, the year refers to the financial year in which the injury occurred. In the fatalities section, the year refers to the financial year in which personnel died. It is therefore possible for an individual to be injured in one financial year and die in a subsequent financial year. If a casualty previously recorded as a surviving casualty subsequently dies from their wounds/injuries, they will only be recorded in the fatalities section.

² 6 August 2014 (start of Op SHADER) to 31 March 2015

^d Numbers from the data sources will not sum to total number of personnel who sustained an injury or illness for a number of reasons including: individuals may appear in more than one of the data sets and will be counted in each data source but only once in the total; not all personnel will have an initial NOTICAS raised.

^e Not all casualties will have an Initial NOTICAS raised and therefore the severity classification is unknown.

^f The injury/illness for which a casualty is being aeromedically evacuated may have occurred in a previous quarter.

OPERATION GRITROCK

The current Ebola crisis in West Africa is beyond the capacity of national authorities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) alone. The MOD is assisting the Department for International Development in providing a key component in the UK's response. MOD involvement is enabling Western standard medical care for Ebola and non-Ebola (disease and non battle injury) patients, whilst taking the necessary measures to contain a wider outbreak.

UK Service Personnel

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were 31 UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op GRITROCK, four were NBI and 27 were NC (Table 3).

During the 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015:

- None died as a result of Op GRITROCK (Table 3).
- **Two**^g were listed as VSI or SI (Table 3a).
- Of the four NBI, all were UL casualties.
- Of the 27 NC, two were listed as SI, one was listed as III, 23 were UL casualties and **one** was Unknown^b.
- Eight^h UK Service personnel were aero-medically evacuated from Op GRITROCK (Table 3b).

During the 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015, one casualty was initially listed as UL but their status changed to VSI three hours later when Ebola was confirmed as the diagnosis. Another casualty suspected to have Ebola was initially listed as SI, this status changed to UL a day later when Ebola was ruled out as the diagnosis'. The listing provided in this publication is only the initial listing for each casualty and not any subsequent listing.

Table 3: UK Service Personnel who died, sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op GRITROCK by financial year and quarter, 15 September 2014 to 31 March 2015, Numbers¹

		Survivors					Fatalities				
Quarter/Year of Injury/Death	All Casualties and Fatalities	All	Battle Injury	Non Battle Injury	Natural Cause	All	Hostile Killed in Action	Action Died of Wounds	Died on Operations		
2014-15	51	51	0	10	41	0	0	0	0		
15 September - 30 September (Q2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
1 October - 31 December (Q3)	20	20	0	6	14	0	0	0	0		
1 January - 31 March (Q4)	31	31	0	4	27	0	0	0	0		

Source: Initial NOTICAS (JPA) and Aero-medical Evacuation Control Centre (AECC) database

UK Civilians

In the survivors section, the year refers to the financial year in which the injury occurred. In the fatalities section, the year refers to the financial year in which personnel died. It is therefore possible for an individual to be injured in one financial year and die in a subsequent financial year. If a casualty previously recorded as a surviving casualty subsequently dies from their wounds/injuries, they will only be recorded in the fatalities section.

2 15 September 2014 (start of Op GRITROCK) to 31 March 2015

⁹ Numbers from the data sources will not sum to total number of personnel who sustained an injury or illness for a number of reasons including: individuals may appear in more than one of the data sets and will be counted in each data source but only once in the total; not all personnel will have an initial NOTICAS raised.

The injury/illness for which a casualty is being aeromedically evacuated may have occurred in a previous quarter.

The NOTICAS system is initiated very early in the patient's admission, the classification of a casualty will change as time progresses. The initial signal listing may in some cases be followed by an updated less serious listing if the case appeared worse on admission than transpires.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who died as a result of Op GRITROCK.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or illness whilst on Op GRITROCK.

Kerry Town Treatment Unit (KTTU)

The British Ebola treatment facility opened on the 5 November in Kerry Town, near the Sierra Leone capital Freetown. The Kerry Town complex includes an 80 bed treatment centre managed by Save the Children and a 12 bed centre staffed by UK military medics specifically for health care workers and international staff responding to the Ebola crisis. This section focuses only on those patients admitted to the 12 bed Health worker treatment centre run by the UK military.

Table 4: Patients Admitted to the Kerry Town Treatment Unit in Sierra Leone, 5 November 2014 to 31 March 2015, by Type of Disease and Financial Year and Quarter, Numbers

	Number of Patients	Type of Disease					
Quarter/Year Admitted	Admitted	Ebola Virus	Other 1	Unknown ²			
2014-15 3	102	41	41	20			
Alive	82	22	40	20			
Deceased	20	19	1	0			
5 November - 31 December (Q3)	43	24	13	6			
1 January - 31 March (Q4)	59	17	28	14			

Source: Kerry Town Treatment Unit (KTTU), Medical Audit Form (MAF)

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) **59** patients have been admitted to the KTTU, of which **17** were diagnosed with the Ebola virus.

Of the 17 Ebola patients, **eight** patients have subsequently died of their illness whilst in the facility and **nine** patients have been discharged.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were **two** UK Service personnel admitted to the KTTU for conditions other than Ebola and **one** admitted with Ebola. There were **no** UK Service personnel who died at the KTTU.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were **two** UK Entitled Civilians (employed by the MOD) admitted to the KTTU for conditions other than Ebola. There were **no** UK Entitled Civilians (employed by the MOD) who died at the KTTU.

^{1 &#}x27;Other' diseases for example include Malaria, Shigella and E Coli.

² Type of disease not identified.

³ 5 November 2014 (date KTTU opened) to 31 March 2015

OPERATION TORAL

The UK's post 2014 contribution to operations in Afghanistan under the NATO RESOLUTE SUPPORT MISSION. Casualty and fatality statistics for Operations VERITAS and HERRICK in Afghanistan (Oct 2001 to Dec 2014) have been published by MOD on a monthly basis since 2006, these are available on Gov.uk.

UK Service Personnel

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were five UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op TORAL, two were NBI and three were NC (Table 5).

During 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015:

- **None** died as a result of Op TORAL (Table 5).
- None^j were VSI or SI (Table 5a).
- Of the two NBI, all were UL casualties.
- Of the three NC, two were UL casualties and one was Unknown^b.
- **Two**^k UK Service personnel were aero-medically evacuated from Op TORAL (Table 5b).

Table 5: UK Service Personnel who died, sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op TORAL by financial year and Quarter, 1 December 2014 to 31 March 2015, Numbers¹

			Sur	vivors		Fatalities				
Quarter/Year of Injury/Death	All Casualties and Fatalities	All	Battle Injury	Non Battle Injury	Natural Cause	All	Hostile Killed in Action	Action Died of Wounds	Died on Operations	
2014-15	10	10	0	3	7	0	0	0	0	
1 December - 31 December (Q3)	5	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	
1 January - 31 March (Q4)	5	5	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	

Source: Initial NOTICAS, Aeromedical Evacuation Control Centre (AECC) database and JPA

UK Civilians

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were no UK Entitled Civilians who died as a result of Op TORAL.

During the latest quarter, 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 (Q4, 2014/15) there were no UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op TORAL.

In the survivors section, the year refers to the financial year in which the injury occurred. In the fatalities section, the year refers to the financial year in which personnel died. It is therefore possible for an individual to be injured in one financial year and die in a subsequent financial year. If a casualty previously recorded as a surviving casualty subsequently dies from their wounds/injuries, they will only be recorded in the fatalities section.

2 1 December 2014 (start of Op TORAL) to 31 March 2015

¹ Numbers from the data sources will not sum to total number of personnel who sustained an injury or illness for a number of reasons including: individuals may appear in more than one of the data sets and will be counted in each data source but only once in the total;

not all personnel will have an initial NOTICAS raised.

^k The injury/illness for which a casualty is being aeromedically evacuated may have occurred in a previous month.

Methodology

This section provides a brief summary of the methodology and data sources; more detailed information is available in the background quality report for this bulletin.

Overall Operational Casualties:

The Overall figures for the number of casualties and fatalities on Operations are compiled from multiple data sources used to report on Operational Casualties and deaths.

A Casualty will only be counted once for their injury or illness in this section, even if they appear in all datasets. If a casualty was previously recorded as a surviving casualty subsequently dies from their wounds/injuries, they will only be recorded in the fatalities section.

For each Operation:

The overall figures for the number of casualties and fatalities from the multiple data sources used to report on Operational deaths and casualties. A Casualty or fatality will only be counted once for their injury or illness in this section, even if they appear in all datasets.

Data series on (i) Initial Notification of Casualty (ii) Number of UK Service Personnel Aeromedically Evacuated are provided in the supplementary tables.

UK Entitled Civilians

This section provides the number of UK entitled Civilians who have sustained an injury or illness on Operations and the number of UK entitled Civilians who have died as a result of Operations.

For Operation GRITROCK:

An additional section is provided on the number of patients treated at the UK military treatment facility within the Kerry Town Treatment Unit in Sierra Leone. The number of UK Service Personnel and the number of UK Civilians admitted to the Treatment Unit are also presented.

Operational Casualty and Fatality Data (see Background Quality Report for more information on each data source)

Data on Operational Casualties are compiled by Defence Statistics from the following data sources: Initial Notification of Casualty (NOTICAS), Aeromedical Evacuations and Medical Audit forms from the Kerry Town Treatment Unit (KTTU).

Data on Operational Fatalities are compiled by Defence Statistics from the following data sources: Initial Notification of Casualty (NOTICAS), weekly notifications of deaths for UK entitled civilians on Operations and all regular Armed Forces deaths from the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Cell; Notification from Permanent Joint Headquarters (PJHQ) at the time of death for all Operational deaths; Additional information on cause of death from military medical sources in the single Services.

Glossary of Terms, Abbreviations and Definitions

ВΙ **Battle Injury** A Battle Injury includes those wounded as a result of hostile action. This includes injuries sustained whilst avoiding direct or indirect fire. Also described as 'wounded in action'. **NBI Non-Battle Injury** A Non-Battle Injury is any injury that is not caused by a hostile act and includes any accidental injuries such as sports injuries, road traffic accidents etc. NC **Natural Causes** Natural Causes includes illness, disease and pregnancy. **NOTICAS** Notification of Casualty Notification of Casualty (or NOTICAS) is the name for the formalised system of reporting casualties within the UK Armed Forces. The NOTICAS reports raised for casualties contain information on how seriously medical staff on operations judge their condition to be. **VSI** Very Seriously Injured/III Where the patients condition is of such severity that life or reason is imminently endangered. SI Seriously Injured/III Where the patient's condition is of such severity that there is cause for immediate concern, but there is no imminent danger to life or reason. Ш Incapacitated Injury/Illness Any illness or injury (including battle casualties) which does not warrant classification of VSI or SI but renders then physically and/or mentally incapacitated. UL **Unlisted casualty** An individual whose illness or injury requires hospitalisation but whose condition does not warrant classification as VSI, SI or III. HA **Hostile Action** Hostile action includes deaths categorised as Killed in Action or Died of Wounds. Killed in Action KIA 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 Died of Wounds** A battle casualty who dies of wounds or other injuries received in action, after having reached a medical treatment facility. This only includes those who have died of wounds whilst under the care of Defence Medical Services. **DOP Died on Operations** A casualty who died whilst deployed on, or as a result of operations but is not KIA or DOW. Includes operational accidents, road traffic accidents, assaults, suicides and deaths as a result of natural causes. **AECC Aero-medical Evacuation Control Centre** Aeromedical Evacuation (AE) is the medically supervised movement of patients to and between medical treatment facilities by air transportation. See Background Quality Report for further information on Aeromed Evacuations. **JPA** Joint Personnel Administration JPA is the personnel administration system used by the UK Armed Forces. It is the single authoritative source for demographic information for personnel.

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation

KTTU Kerry Town Treatment Unit

PJHQ Permanent Joint Headquarters Permanent Joint Headquarters is the British Tri-Service

Headquarters from where all overseas military operations are

planned and controlled.

ISIL Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

Also known as Isamic State, Da,esh or ISIS.