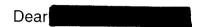


DBS/SEC/FOI:2016/02883

## **Ministry of Defence**

Defence Business Services Secretariat Room 6303 Tomlinson House Norcross Thornton-Cleveleys FY5 3WP

2.7 March 2016



Thank you for your email dated 12 February 2016, to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

"I'm looking for an information connected with the Arctic Emblem and I would like to ask my questions.

How many badges were presented to the veterans between 2006-2016? How many badges were awarded annual during that period of time? Who is the manufacturer of the Arctic Emblem? Who was a designer? Is that true that it was Cdr. E. Grenfell? Please, let me know a little more about the dimensions of the badge and diploma."

On 4 March 2016, you provided the following clarification:

"When I wrote "diploma" I was thinking about the Arctic Emblem paper slip which is attached to the badge."

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 of the information in scope of your request is held. Originally, the Arctic Emblem was issued by the Defence Services Secretary's office prior to the responsibility being transferred to the Ministry of Defence Medal Office (MODMO). The Defence Services Secretary's office recorded the number of Arctic Emblems issued on a database; however, when this database was transferred to the MODMO the figures were distorted. As such, an accurate breakdown of the number of Emblems issued by year is not held.

As of 9 March 2016, the total number of Arctic Emblems issued since its introduction in 2006 is currently 11,850; please note; in line with the Defence Statistic rounding policy, this figure has been rounded to the nearest five.

The contract for the supply of Arctic Emblems was awarded to Toye Kenning and Spencer Ltd, who may have used their supply partner Bonjet International Ltd to manufacture parts or all of the Arctic Emblems.

The Arctic Emblem was designed "by the Veterans for the Veterans". Cdr Grenfell was involved in the design and proposed the white star with the red dot in the centre of the Emblem.

The Arctic Emblem is star shaped and measures 22mm in diameter from each point to point of the star. The measurements of the diploma are 14.7cm in width and 21cm in length.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail <u>CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk</u>). 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, <a href="https://ico.org.uk/">https://ico.org.uk/</a>.

Yours sincerely,

A/Head of Secretariat