



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence Business Services  
Room F10, Innsworth House  
Imjin Barracks  
Innsworth  
Gloucester  
GL3 1HW

Ref: FOI2015/02339

E-mail:

[DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk](mailto:DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk)

[REDACTED]

Email: [request-252313-5dc2e8af@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-252313-5dc2e8af@whatdotheyknow.com)

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 27 February 2015 to the Ministry of Defence requesting the following information:

*"...in regard to the OSM Sierra Leone op Barras 19 September 2000 and op Maidenley 15 July 2000 would you please advise if a soldier qualified for these medals by taking part in those operation and was discharged before they were issued would he still be entitled to claim them or is there a criteria that he must still be serving. That is discharged before the medal was progamated. Would this leave the ACSM 2011 as the only campaign medal to have a still serving criteria attached to it?"*

As requested 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 all the information in scope of your request is held and is included below.

Service personnel who served on Op MAIDENLY (15 July 2000) and Op BARRAS (10 September 2000), and were discharged prior to the institution of the Operational Service Medal Sierra Leone with Rosette on 21 June 2002, would still be entitled to claim it. Therefore, and in common with all campaign medals, it is not a condition of eligibility that a person must still be serving at the time they apply in order to claim, and receive the award.

Equally, whilst the eligibility criteria for the Accumulated Campaign Service Medal 2011 require an applicant to have been in the Service on 1 January 2008, personnel who have left the Service can still apply and receive the award.

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 [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,



Acting Assistant Head of Defence Business Services Secretariat

