



From: [REDACTED] Coldstream Guards



ARMY

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Your Reference:

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Date: 22 Feb 00

Dear Colonel Romy

MFO MEDAL

Reference:

A. Your DO dated 15 Feb 00

[REDACTED] is away at the moment but asked me to reply to your letter concerning the MFO medal on his behalf.

I passed your paper to SO1 H&A DS Sec and to my surprise had a very quick reply from him as I gather he looked at the same case for another officer (also in Upavon) and so has recently been in touch with the FCO regarding this medal. He tells me that although your paper is very comprehensive, it does not raise any points that have not been discussed before.

When the case for giving the MFO medal was originally made, the FCO ruled that because the MFO did not have a 'head of state' it was not classed as a foreign country and therefore the medal could not be accepted. As far as the FCO is concerned nothing has changed so there is still no case to accept the Medal. The UN and NATO are different organisations to the 'MFO' as they



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

both have 'heads'. As you point out there are scores of people who have served in Sinai who cannot wear the medal but the fact that our allies wear the medal has no bearing on the case.

When (and if) the humanitarian/peacekeeping medal is introduced, it will be for any *new* operations and not for past operations. Nor is there any question of issuing another medal or clasp to the GSM - the conditions service with the MFO would not have reached the basic criteria for a clasp to our GSM 1962 and certainly would not be deserving of a British Operational/War medal.

I am sorry to say that as with the 'Suez medal' the FCO has no intention of resurrecting the case for the wearing of the MFO medal. I am therefore advised that you will not make any further headway in this matter.

Law's eye

Copy to

SO1 PS12(A)*
SO1 (H&A) DS Sec*

Other

