



Ministry of Defence

Quarterly UK Armed Forces and UK Entitled Civilian Operational Casualty and Fatality Statistics 6 August 2014 – 30 June 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 15 October 2015 including numbers up to 30 September 2015. This publication will also include the bi-annual update for Op SHADER.

A 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 30 June 2015 there were **82** UK Service personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Operations of which **None** were Battle Injuries (BI), **26** were Non Battle Injuries (NBI), **56** were Natural Causes including Disease (NC). **11** of these were sustained within the latest quarter (Q1).

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

- **Six** UK Service Personnel sustained an injury on Op GRITROCK in Q1 2015/16.
- **Five** UK Service Personnel sustained an injury on Op TORAL in Q1 2015/16.
- **No** UK Entitled Civilians had an injury or illness whilst on an Operation.
- **None** died as a result of deployment on Operations.
- **One** UK Service personnel was Very Seriously Injured/III (VSI).
- **Eight** were aeromedically evacuated out of the operational theatre during Q1 2015/16.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were:

- **17** patients admitted to the Kerry Town Treatment Unit.
- **One** patient was diagnosed with Ebola and subsequently died. This patient was not UK Armed Forces personnel or a UK Entitled Civilian.

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 30 June 2015 (the latest data available).

| 2014 | | | | | 2015 | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|
| August | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June |
| Op SHADER from 6 Aug 2014 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Op GRITROCK from 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 Forces 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/government/statistics/mod-national-and-official-statistics-by-topic>

Results

OVERALL

UK Service Personnel

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **11** UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Operations^a, **six** were NBI and **five** were NC (Table 1).

Between 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015:

- **None** died as a result of Operations (Table 1).
- There has been **one** casualty listed as VSI (Table 1a).
- Of the six NBI, **one** was an Unlisted (UL) casualty and **five** were Unknown^b.
- Of the five NC, **one** was listed as VSI and **four** were UL.
- **Eight**^c 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 quarter, 6 August 2014 to 30 June 2015, Numbers²

| Quarter/Year of Injury/Death | All Casualties and Fatalities | Survivors | | | | Fatalities | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | | All | Battle Injury | Non Battle Injury | Natural Cause | All | Hostile Action Killed in Action | Action Died of Wounds | Died on Operations |
| All | 82 | 82 | 0 | 26 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014-15 ³ | 71 | 71 | 0 | 20 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2015-16 ⁴ | 11 | 11 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 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 |
| 1 April - 30 June (Q1) ⁵ | 11 | 11 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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

¹ 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 From 6 August 2014 (start of Op SHADER)

⁴ Numbers exclude Op SHADER

⁵ Numbers exclude Op SHADER

UK Civilians

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Civilians who died as a result of deployment on Operations.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or illness whilst on Operations.

^a Includes Operations SHADER, GRITROCK and TORAL.

^b Not all casualties will have an Initial Notification of Casualty (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^f** UK Service personnel were aero-medically evacuated from Op SHADER (Table 2b).

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, Numbers¹

| Bi-Annual/Year of Injury/Death ¹ | All Casualties and Fatalities | Survivors | | | | Fatalities | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | | All | Battle Injury | Non Battle Injury | Natural Cause | All | Hostile Action Killed in Action | Action Died of Wounds | Died on Operations |
| 2014-15 ² | 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

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 From 6 August 2014 (start of Op SHADER)

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.

^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 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **six** UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op GRITROCK, **one** was NBI and **five** were NC (Table 3).

During the 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015:

- **None** died as a result of Op GRITROCK (Table 3).
- **One^g** was listed as VSI (Table 3a).
- The severity classification of the NBI casualty is Unknown^h.
- Of the five NC, **one** was listed as VSI and **four** were UL casualties.
- **Threeⁱ** UK Service personnel were aero-medically evacuated from Op GRITROCK (Table 3b).

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 30 June 2015, Numbers¹

| Quarter/Year of Injury/Death | All Casualties and Fatalities | Survivors | | | | Fatalities | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | | All | Battle Injury | Non Battle Injury | Natural Cause | All | Hostile Action Killed in Action | Action Died of Wounds | Died on Operations |
| All | 57 | 57 | 0 | 11 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014-15 ² | 51 | 51 | 0 | 10 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2015-16 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 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 |
| 1 April - 30 June (Q1) | 6 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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

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 From 15 September 2014 (start of Op GRITROCK)

UK Civilians

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who died as a result of Op GRITROCK.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or illness whilst on Op GRITROCK.

^g 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.

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

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

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.



Figure 1: The Kerry Town Treatment Centre in Sierra Leone near the capital Freetown.

Source: Royal Navy
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Table 4: Patients Admitted to the Kerry Town Treatment Unit in Sierra Leone, 5 November 2014 to 30 June 2015, by Type of Disease and Financial Year and Quarter, Numbers

| Quarter/Year Admitted | Number of Patients Admitted | Type of Disease | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | | Ebola Virus | Other ¹ | Unknown ² |
| All | 125 | 43 | 55 | 27 |
| 2014-15 ³ | 108 | 42 | 43 | 23 |
| 2015-16 | 17 | 1 | 12 | 4 |
| Alive | 104 | 23 | 54 | 27 |
| Deceased | 21 | 20 | 1 | 0 |
| 5 November - 31 December (Q3) | 43 | 24 | 13 | 6 |
| 1 January - 31 March (Q4) | 65 r | 18 r | 30 r | 17 r |
| 1 April - 30 June (Q1) | 17 | 1 | 12 | 4 |

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

¹ 'Other' diseases for example include Malaria, Shigella and E Coli.

² Type of disease not identified.

³ From 5 November 2014 (date KTTU opened)

r indicates a revision as a result of more up to date information received by Defence Statistics from Op GRITROCK

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) **17** patients have been admitted to the KTTU, of which **one** was diagnosed with the Ebola virus. The Ebola patient subsequently died of their illness whilst in the facility.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **two** UK Service personnel admitted to the KTTU for conditions other than Ebola. There were **no** UK Service personnel who died at the KTTU.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **11** 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.

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 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **five** UK Service Personnel who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op TORAL, all of which were NBI (Table 5).

During 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015:

- **None** died as a result of Op TORAL (Table 5).
- **None**^j were VSI or SI (Table 5a).
- Of the five NBI, **one** was UL and **four** were Unknown^k.
- **Five**^l 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 30 June 2015, Numbers¹

| Quarter/Year of Injury/Death ¹ | All Casualties and Fatalities | Survivors | | | | Fatalities | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | | All | Battle Injury | Non Battle Injury | Natural Cause | All | Hostile Action Killed in Action | Action Died of Wounds | Died on Operations |
| All | 15 | 15 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014-15 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2015-16 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 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 |
| 1 April - 30 June (Q1) | 5 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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

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 From 1 December 2014 (start of Op TORAL)

UK Civilians

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who died as a result of Op TORAL.

During the latest quarter, 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015 (Q1, 2015/16) there were **no** UK Entitled Civilians who sustained an injury or had an illness whilst on Op TORAL.

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

^l 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

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| BI | 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. |
| III | Incapacitated Injury/IIIness | 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. |
| KIA | Killed in Action | 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.