



Ministry
of Defence



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DE&S Secretariat (LD & SE)

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Defence Equipment & Support
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18 October 2017
Our Reference: FOI2017/09203

[REDACTED]
Thank you for your email dated 26 August 2017. You asked:

Could you please tell which department within the Ministry of Defence is responsible for the control of the Victoria Cross metal at Donnington. Please also confirm that the metal is the property of the Ministry of Defence; if not the Ministry of Defence, who owns it? Please let me know the appointments, at desk-level, responsible for control of the Victoria Cross metal and which chain of command they would report through, giving the appointment titles at one, two and three star level. Which appointment is responsible for liaison with Hancocks?

Could you please let me know how often, and when, Hancocks have been supplied with metal from Donnington since 1945. If possible, please give details of dates and the weights supplied on each occasion.

Has there been any other source of metal for the manufacture of Victoria Crosses since 1945?

I am treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

The Victoria Cross metal is the property of the Crown. The Logistics Delivery Operating Centre, Defence Equipment & Support (DE&S), part of the MOD is responsible for the storage and access to the Victoria Cross metal. Within DE&S the Chain of Command is:

Chief Executive Officer, Chief of Material (Land) (3*), Director Logistics Delivery (2*), Head of Programme Management (1*), Head of Establishment DE&S Donnington. Hancocks would seek access to the metal through the office of the Head of Establishment.

MOD does not hold information on '*...how often, and when, Hancocks have been supplied with metal from Donnington since 1945.*'

There has been no other source of metal used to create the Victoria Cross since 1945.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours Sincerely,



DE&S Secretariat