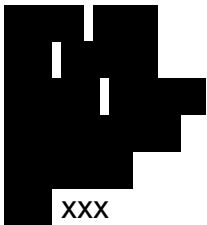




Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/00620



Reply to: [REDACTED]

10 February 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 16 January 2017 requesting the following information:

"I would like to make an FOI request for the following information please:

- a) Defence Council Instructions and other official notices regarding the award and qualification criteria for the British 1991 Gulf Medal;
- b) Defence Council Instructions and other official notices regarding the award and qualification criteria for the related Saudi Liberation of Kuwait Medal and the Kuwaiti Liberation medal;
- c) All correspondence between MOD and British Aerospace, and MOD and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office regarding the award of the British 1991 Gulf medal to British Aerospace staff;
- d) All correspondence between MOD and British Aerospace, and MOD and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office regarding, the award of the Saudi Liberation of Kuwait and Kuwaiti Liberation medal to British Aerospace staff;
- e) Records and correspondence showing the number of British Gulf medals both with and without clasp prepared by MOD and sent to British Aerospace for distribution;
- f) Records and correspondence showing the numbers of each of the Saudi and Kuwaiti medals sent by MOD to British Aerospace for distribution;
- g) Records and correspondence between MOD and British Aerospace, and MOD and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office describing how the allocation and distribution of the Saudi and Kuwaiti medals to British Aerospace would be managed;
- h) Records and correspondence showing the number of British (with and without clasp), Saudi and Kuwaiti Medals prepared and distributed to British Civilian organisations and contractors, including the name of each organisation, contractors company, and the location at which the medals were earned;
- i) The number of British, Saudi and Kuwaiti medals returned by British Aerospace to MOD having not been distributed, along with the date of returns and the fate of the returned medals;
- j) Finally, confirmation from MOD that British Aerospace staff awarded the 1991 Gulf medal with 16th Jan to 28th Feb 1991 clasp, are entitled to receive the Saudi and Kuwaiti Liberation medals."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act).

I must advise that this request is exempt under Section 12 of the FOI Act because it has been calculated that action to provide the information requested would exceed the cost limit set by the FOI Act. The FOI Act does not require the department to create data in

order to release it under the Act, and in this case we would need to review 200 Medal cases. The time and cost it would take to conduct this action would take us over the cost allowed under the FOI Act, therefore Section 12 applies to this request.

Section 12 of the FOI Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, public authorities are required to provide the requester with advice and assistance especially where a request for information exceeds the appropriate cost limit. Therefore I can advise you that it is Part (e) of this request which exceeds the cost limit. You may wish to consider re-phrasing your request without Part (e), however the request might still be subject to other exemptions.

Please note that the Saudi and Kuwaiti medals relating to this FOI are not UK medallic awards. The medals were gifts from the Saudi and Kuwaiti governments, and whilst they can be accepted, Her Majesty has never granted permission for either of them to be worn.

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, Ground Floor, Zone D, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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 FOI 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,

Defence People Secretariat FOI