



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Our Ref: FOI2017/02896

Telephone [MOD]: 020 7218 9000

E-mail: DDC-
SecretariatParliamentary@mod.uk

E-mail: [REDACTED]

13 March 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 2 March 2017 requesting the following information:

I am requesting access to and copies of any correspondence between Ministry of Defence public relations officials regarding Sebastian or Sebestyén Gorka. This information may include-- but is not limited to -- his service in the British Territorial Army Reserves.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has been conducted and I can confirm we do hold information within the scope of your request. The information requested is attached. Names have been redacted in accordance with Section 40(2) in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

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, 2nd Floor, 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 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 www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

DDC Secretariat Parliamentary

From: DDC-PR-News SO1 Army [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 March 2017 10:52
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

[REDACTED]

As discussed:

An Army spokesperson said:

“Under section 40(5)(a) the Ministry of Defence (MOD) neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any information in scope of your request. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.”

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SO1 News (Army)
Defence Directorate of Communications (DDC)
Ministry of Defence
[REDACTED] | Main Building | Whitehall
London | SW1A 2HB
Civ: [REDACTED] | Mil: [REDACTED]
Mob: [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2017 17:35
To: DDC-PR-NewsEquip CO2 [REDACTED]
Subject: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing on behalf of our Washington Correspondent to confirm the following information about Sebastian Gorka, who we understand served with the Territorial Army in the 1990s. I'm looking for confirmation on a few points:

- Can you confirm that Sebastian Gorka served with the 22 Intelligence Company of the Territorial Army from 1990 to 1992?
- What were his exact dates of joining and leaving?
- What was his rank and type of commission?
- Where was he stationed?
- Did he travel with the Territorial Army over this period. If so, where?

Many thanks thanks for your help. It would be really helpful if we could confirm this information by lunchtime tomorrow.

Best wishes,

--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Sunday Times, 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF
www.thesundaytimes.co.uk

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From: APC-Sp-ParlBus-Mailbox (MULTIUSER)
Sent: 02 March 2017 07:58
To: DDC-PR-News SO1 Army [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

[REDACTED]

Good morning – I have attached my previous response from 31 January but I can give you an update.

Gorka is now Deputy Assistant to the US President and we have now received 3 Freedom of Information enquiries asking for his service details (at least two of which are from journalists). The official, FOI-compliant answer is as follows:

Under section 40(5)(a) the Ministry of Defence (MOD) neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any information in scope of your request. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.

Further to your previous enquiry, [REDACTED]

If you need anything further, please let me know.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | SO3 APC Support – Parliamentary & Disclosures iHub,
Army Personnel Centre, MP 527, Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street, Glasgow
G2 8EX
DTN: [REDACTED]
DII(F): apc-sp-parldiscl-ihub-so3@mod.uk | Mailbox: apc-sp-parlbus-mailbox
(MULTIUSER)
[MS Web](#)

From: DDC-PR-News SO1 Army [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2017 18:18
To: APC-Sp-ParlBus-Mailbox (MULTIUSER)
Subject: FW: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

Hi,

I apologise; you have done this for me already but I have deleted your answer.

[REDACTED]

Please let me know [data law and all of that] which of these questions we would be capable of and allowed to answer

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- Where was he stationed?

- Did he travel with the Territorial Army over this period. If so, where?

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SO1 News (Army)
Defence Directorate of Communications (DDC)
Ministry of Defence
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Civ: [REDACTED] Mil: [REDACTED]
Mob: [REDACTED]

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From: DDC-PR-NewsEquip CO2 [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2017 18:07
To: DDC-PR-News SO1 Army [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

[REDACTED]

Enquiry from my friend at The Sunday Times [REDACTED]. Can you help? For lunch tomorrow.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Communications Officer | Equipment
Ministry of Defence
[REDACTED] | Main Building | Whitehall
London | SW1A 2HB
Civ: [REDACTED] | Mil: [REDACTED]
Mob: [REDACTED]

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[Defence in the Media blog](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2017 17:35
To: DDC-PR-NewsEquip CO2 [REDACTED]
Subject: The Sunday Times - Sebastian Gorka enquiry

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Best wishes,

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Sunday Times, 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF

www.thesundaytimes.co.uk

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