



Policy Legacy FOI Team  
Headquarters 38 (Irish) Brigade and Northern Ireland  
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British Forces Post Office 825



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Date: 17 December 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – STATISTICS FOR WOMEN WHO SERVED IN THE ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT (UDR) AND ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT (R IRISH) FROM 1973**

Thank you for your e-mail dated 20 November, I can confirm that your request has been considered under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI(A)), and the process is now complete.

You asked the following:

***“I am a post graduate student at Queens and hoping to research the role of women in the Ulster Defence Regiment and Royal Irish Regiment from 1973. I am having trouble finding statistics for this, could you help? It is simply the numbers who served, and if you had figure on the numbers killed or injured it would also be helpful. If you were able to point me in the right direction i would be very grateful.”***

I can confirm that the MOD does hold some of the information that you have requested however the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 (Information accessible to the applicant by other means). We are not required to release information if it is reasonably accessible to you in another way. Information relating to statistics can be viewed at the following link:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116142443/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/publications/UK-defence-statistics-compendium/2000/2000.pdf>

UK Defence Statistics Publications 2000 – Page 84

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116144921/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/publications/UK-defence-statistics-compendium/2006/2006.pdf>

UK Defence Statistics Publications 2006 – Page 142

During Op BANNER four Greenfinches were killed, they were all full-time members of the UDR, their names are as follows:

Private Eva Martin was a member of 6 UDR, she was the first female UDR soldier killed on 2 May 1974.

Lance Corporal Jean Leggett was a member 2 UDR, she was killed on 6 April 1976.

Private Margaret Hearst was also a member of 2 UDR, she was killed on 8 October 1977.

Corporal Heather Kerrigan was a member of 6 UDR, she was killed on 14 July 1984.

You also requested the figures of those injured. I can confirm that information relating to those injured (records start at 1980) can be viewed at the following website however please note that the figures are not broken down to show gender.

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116144905/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/publications/UK-defence-statistics-compendium/2002/2002.pdf>

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 (email [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.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 FOI(A). 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 of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

38 (Irish) Brigade FOI Team