



Defence Business Services

[REDACTED]
Head DBS Secretariat
Oak West Level 1
MOD Abbey Wood North
Bristol BS34 8QW

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2020/05160

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
28 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 30 April 2020 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), seeking the information requested below:

“What information dose the mod and british army hold on me from my service in germany with the naafi

Why was the 148th Reg EPI RLG(v) based in grantham disbanded and what was its TRF?”

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

I should first explain that this reply addresses only your first question regarding records of service held. Your second question has been forwarded to Army Secretariat, who will provide you with a separate response, if they have not already done so.

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD for the information requested. I should explain, however, that as your request relates to personal data, and in order not to breach Data Protection principles, the Department, under section 40(5B)(a)(i) of the FOI Act, is unable to confirm or deny whether any information is held within the scope of your request. This is because if held, this information would be exempt under Section 40(2) of the FOIA in line with Data Protection Legislation. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test. This should not be taken as conclusive evidence that any information in scope of your request does or does not exist.

Notwithstanding the above, under Section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance), you do have the right to request access to personal data held by the Department under the Data Protection Act 2018 and as such I have passed your request to the Department’s Subject Access Request (SAR) Team who will contact you to take this request forward.

As I am sure you will appreciate, however, in order to protect our staff and customers during the COVID-19 crisis, only a reduced number of staff are currently able to attend the office in person and are currently unable to process SARs. Officials have been working together with the Trades Union to ensure there is a safe system of work in place to enable as many staff as possible to safely to return to the office. I am pleased to say that protocols have been agreed and small numbers of staff are currently testing the return to work safety protocols and as confidence increases, numbers will increase. While it is too early to give a definitive timeframe, staff are in

the process of assessing outstanding workloads and developing a recovery programme to return to business as usual as soon as possible. Therefore, I would ask for your patience and understanding during this time.

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.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 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

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat