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DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2020/05006

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E:Mail: 21 May 2020

Dear Mr

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 April 2020 to the Ministry of Defence, requesting the following information:

"Through the Freedom of Information Act, I seek any, and all, information regarding the exhumation and subsequent re-burial of Canadian sailors associated with the activity of #87 Graves Concentration Unit"

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

I am writing to confirm that the MOD has conducted a search for the requested information and no information in scope of the request is held.

However, under Section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance) I can advise that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), which is an independent organisation that represents the Commonwealth nations, has advised that the requested information regarding Canadian remains would be held by the relevant Canadian Authority.

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,

**Defence Business Services Secretariat**