



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI2020/11196

E-mail: People-Sec-FOIMailbox@mod.gov.uk

23 October 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5 October 2020 requesting the following information:

"I am looking for the following information regarding personnel imbedded in other nation's forces, under the Freedom of Information Act. Please can you provide me with the following information:

1. A list of all the gallantry medals awarded for "heroism in action" for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, **excluding the names of the individuals they were awarded to.**
 - a. Please include the following details for each award: the **reason** given for each award and the **location** of the service member when they completed the action related to the award."

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. FOIA exemption Section 21(1) has been applied to the information that you have requested because it is publicly available on the London Gazette website.

The Operational Honours Lists were published in the London Gazette at the following links and contain details of awards issued by the UK and foreign governments:

- 2016 – Operational List 45 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/61529/supplement/6084>
- Operational List 46 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/61739/supplement/22386>
- 2017 – Operational List 47 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/61908/supplement/8516>
- Operational List 48 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/62052/supplement/17280>
- 2018 – Operational List 49 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/62283/supplement/8434>
- Operational List 50 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/62477/supplement/21275>
- 2019 – Operational List 51 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/notice/3244629>
- Operational List 52 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/62841/supplement/21590>
- 2020 – Operational List 53 <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/62959/supplement/6563>

Please be aware that the MOD does not hold any information as to which foreign units the UK Service personnel were embedded with when the action took place, or the location they would have been in, nor can we give the reason the awards were made.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that if you require further information about the issuance of these awards it may be useful to contact the relevant countries via their London-based Embassies. They may also have an official journal of public record which fulfils a similar function to the London Gazette.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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, 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 normally 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