

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY MILITARY SUB-COMMITTEE

The independent Advisory Military Sub-Committee (AMSC) was re-established in 2019 to offer advice to the Committee on the Grant of Honours Decorations and Medals (the HD Committee) on historic military medals claims, including cases which may not have been previously considered or where new evidence has emerged. The HD Committee is the principal body with responsibility for making recommendations on honours, awards and medals.

The first three recommendations of the re-established AMSC have been made for the following cases:

- **Retrospective Medallion Recognition for all those who participated In the British Nuclear Test Programme 1952 - 1991**
- **Request for Granting of a Clasp to the General Service Medal for Service on the British Commander-in-Chief's Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany (BRIXMIS), between 1946 and 1990**
- **Retrospective Medallion Recognition for Ground Crew involved in the Berlin Airlift**

The AMSC has an independent Chair, and independent Membership. It has considered all three cases carefully, including any submissions from relevant interested external parties. The AMSC's recommendation to the HD Committee for each of the three claims listed above was not to award a medal. The HD Committee has accepted this advice.

The process for introducing a new medal is extremely rigorous, and the bar is set high. This therefore means that requests for new military medals are approved relatively rarely.

As was reaffirmed in the independent Military Medals Review (2012), the key criteria for the award of a campaign medal in the UK remains "the exposure of deployed personnel to a significant degree of risk to life and limb, and to arduous conditions, in excess of what might be expected as part of normal service duties, whether deployed or in the home base". The AMSC concluded that, although the efforts of those involved in the campaigns should not be discounted, the cases listed above did not meet the level of risk and rigour which is generally required for the award of a campaign medal or clasp.

This decision in no way diminishes the contribution of veterans who served during these periods and contributed to the security of the United Kingdom and its Allies. The AMSC would like to thank campaign groups for their commitment to ensuring these cases are reconsidered through a formal process and for the evidence provided to the Sub-Committee.

More information regarding the role of the AMSC and the process of evaluation can be found in the Sub-Committee's [Terms of Reference](#).