

Ref: FOI2021/04340

12 May 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 22 April 2021 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

"Please can you provide me with the following information:

- 1. How many Berlin Airlift GSMs have been awarded since they were instituted?*
- 2. How many Berlin Airlift GSMs were awarded each year since this medal's institution?*
- 3. A full breakdown of how this medal was awarded by categories of eligibility*
- 4. How many groundcrew were awarded the Berlin Airlift GSM?"*

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD and I can confirm all information in scope of your request is held.

Records indicate that 74 Berlin Airlift General Service Medal's (GSM) have been awarded since they were instituted. A breakdown by year can be found in the table below:

Year	Total Issued
2015	34
2016	11
2017	11
2018	7
2019	7
2020	3
2021 (to date)	1

The medal was issued to one member of the Army, 71 members of the RAF, one member of the Royal Navy and one civilian.

No ground crew were awarded the Berlin Airlift GSM as the medal was only issued to air crew who met the criteria for the medal, which was; Air crew, service or civilian, who completed one operational sortie on the Berlin Airlift between the Western Zones of Germany to include Bases Schleswigland, Wunstorf and Celle and the city of Berlin to include Templehof Airport (American Base), RAF Gatow (British Base) and Tegal Airfield (French Base) between 25 June 1948 and 6 October 1949.

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