



Defence Business Services

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Ref: FOI2022/09976

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26 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 August 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), in response to my letter of 25 August 2022 seeking further information about the award of the General Service Medal (GSM) with clasp for the Campaign in Dhofar Oman.

You requested the following information:

" I am really surprised, at the number of Total medals of GSM 1962 medals issued, in the Army, as at the time I was there in March-June 1973, there were only 27 members of the RA Cracker Bty and an average of 30 From Soundrangers.

As we did a 3 month tour, times this figure by 4 =228 a year for 7 years = 1596

The SAS were at Sqn strength so 240 a year x7 = 1680.

The REs had a Sqn for about 2 years so approx 640 in the 2 years, and then only a handful of REME and Royal Signals, and RAC troop.

I estimate that there were less than 4000 during the total war, unless you are counting the SAS who were there before the War!

Do you have a breakdown of those Regiments, year by year?

This would be helpful, as I am trying to compile a Historical record of all those in the Army who served in the 'secret War' before it fades into oblivion!"

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 MOD and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. I must first apologise, as my reply of 25 August 2022 was inaccurate, the figure had been inflated due to the fact that there are duplicate sheets for many of the medal rolls which had unfortunately been included in the original count. The numbers have now been recounted taking into account the duplicate sheets and the figure is 2,594.

The numbers on the manual medal rolls are provided by regiment below, it was not possible to count them year on year as the years were not recorded in any consistent pattern.

Regiment Name	From medal roll
Royal Engineers	641
Royal Signals	293
Royal Artillery	433
Grenadier Guards	9
Royal Horse Artillery	15
Intelligence Corps	55
Army Catering Corps	77
Royal Army Veterinary Corps	8
Royal Army Medical Corps	175
Royal Corps of Transport	127
Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	184
SAS	251
SASC	1
Royal Army Ordnance Corps	32
Royal Army Pay Corps	23
Royal Armoured Corps	17
Army Physical Training Corps	1
Royal Army Education Corps	2
Light Infantry	5
Cheshire	2
Green Howards	1
Kings Own Scottish Borderers	2
Gordon Highlanders	1
Black Watch	1
Royal Green Jackets	5
Devon & Dorset	4
Scots Guards	7
Irish Guards	1
Welsh Guards	3
Coldstream Guards	1
Royal Irish	2
Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	1
Para	3
Gurkhas	1
Anglian	2
Kings Own Borderers	1
PWO	2
Royal Hampshire	2
DWR	1
DERR	1
QO Highlanders	1
Queens	2
RRF	2
AAE	2
QLR	1
RHF	2
RRW	1
Unknown or unspecified	190
	2594

Please see a breakdown by regiment for awards of the GSM with Clasp Dhofar post 2005 held on the Medal Office Database which still stands at 171. The ones titled CLASP TO GSM 1962 – DHOFAR are where the individual already held the GSM 1962 with a different clasp that would have been earned prior to the Dhofar conflict, so only the clasp was issued. The ones titled GSM 1962 – DHOFAR are where the individual had not been previously issued the GSM 1962 so was issued the GSM 1962 with clasp Dhofar.

It is not possible to break the RAF into units, they are recorded as RAF on the database and on the Joint Personnel Administration System.

GSM 62 DHOFAR Post 2005 issues by Regiment			
Award	Service	R/C/B/T	
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	13/18H	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	ACC	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	CHESHIRE R	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	GREN GDS	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	INT CORPS	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	PARA	3
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	PARA (SAS)	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	R SIGNALS	6
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RA	19
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RAMC	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RAPC	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RCT	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RE	16
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	REME	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	SAS	7
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	STAFF	2
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	W G'DS	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	WELSH	1
CLASP TO GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ROYAL AIR FORCE	ROYAL AIR FORCE	32
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	ACC	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	GREN GDS	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	LG	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	R SIGNALS	5
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RA	4
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RAMC	3
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RAOC	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RCT	3
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RE	10
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	RGJ	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	SAS	2
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	STAFF	1
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ARMY	Unknown	4
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	CIVILIAN	CIV	2
GSM 1962 - DHOFAR	ROYAL AIR FORCE	ROYAL AIR FORCE	30
Rows 1 - 171 (All Rows)			171

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 black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat