



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
Room 6303
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2022/13257

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

[REDACTED]

1 December 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 10 November 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

“As per the Medal Roll for the entitlement of Near East Medals and Clasps issued to the Parachute Regiment for the General Service Medal (1918-62) issued for service in Egypt in 1956.

Based on the medal roll for the General Service Medal with clasp Near East and records held within the MOD Medal Office database pertaining to the Parachute Regiment, the number of recipients is 1285.

Please provide confirmation of the number of medals issued with "G Thomas" impressed on them per the roll as issued no other details are requested.”

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, however under section 40(5) of the FOIA the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any information in scope of your request.

The fact that Section 40(5) of the FOIA has been cited should not be taken as an indication that the information you have requested is or is not held by the Department. The terms of this exemption of the FOIA mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for us to reveal whether or not the information is held.

I am therefore unable to release details of the number of medals issued with “G Thomas” impressed upon them, based on the medal roll for the General Service Medal with Clasp Near East and records held within the MOD Medal Office pertaining to the Parachute Regiment.

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 solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat