



Ministry of Defence

Defence Business Services

Secretariat
Room 6229
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2023/04960

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

10 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 17 April 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

"I have a website which I created for the RMP Museum in Portsmouth (corpsofmilitarypolice.org) and I should like to obtain the medal rolls for RMP who served in Korea (British Korea Medal & UN Korea Medal) the rolls for RMP awarded for Malaya (GSM 1918, Clasp Malaya) and Cyprus (GSM 1918, clasp Cyprus) to include in my site. I apply for the above under the Freedom of Information Act."

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

A search has been completed and I can confirm that the MOD does hold hard copy medal rolls for Royal Military Police (RMP) who received the British Korea Medal & UN Korea Medal and the rolls for RMP awarded for Malaya (GSM 1918, Clasp Malaya) and Cyprus (GSM 1918, clasp Cyprus).

However, Section 40(2) of the FOIA has been applied to the information to protect personal information as governed by Data Protection Legislation. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) it may be helpful if I explain that unless an individual died in Service, you are required to provide a copy of a death certificate as proof of death in recognition of the MOD's duty of care to their next of kin. For a period of up to 25 years following the date of death, personal information (including medal record cards) relating to an individual will only be released to the next of kin, or to a third party with their consent. This is because if it cannot be proven or reasonably assumed that an individual is dead, the MOD must treat their data as personal data. However, if the date of birth of the individual was more than 116 years ago, the requirement to provide a death certificate will be waived, this is because it can be reasonably assumed that an individual is dead.

You may also wish to know about the records transfer project with the National Archives, as in time, the cards and rolls we hold are likely to be transferred. Further information can be found at the following link:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/news/mod-records-project/>

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)