



Ministry of Defence

Defence Business Services

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

Ref: FOI2023/04334

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

2 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 30 March 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

"Apart from my duties as a Medway Councillor I am the Chair of Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council in Kent. We as a council are looking to erect a memorial stone for the fallen of our parish since 1945 (second world war) we have in our village a listed war memorial to the fallen of two world wars. Can you assist me in pointing out the right direction to assemble such information."

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.

The MOD only holds records on fatalities from 1948, with the exception of fatalities on operation in Palestine where MOD records are held from 1945. Details on deaths which occurred in the UK Armed Forces between 3 September 1939 and 31 December 1947 are held by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). Further information about the CWGC can be found at: <https://www.cwgc.org/>.

From 1 January 1948 to 9 April 2023, one member of the UK Armed Forces who died in service was identified as having a birthplace of Hoo St Werburgh Parish, (villages of Hoo or Chattenden) recorded on their death certificate.

Last name: BARNES
First name(s): Peter Charles
Rank: AC2
Service: Royal Air Force
Service Number: 2714195
Squadron: RAF Bridgnorth
Date of Birth: 19/09/1932
Age: 21
Date of Death: 11/03/1954
Cemetery Name: St Werburgh Cemetery
Cemetery Address: Hoo, Kent

Under Section 16 of the FOI (Help and Assistance) I should confirm that the MOD uses an individual's place of birth to answer requests of this type as this is tangible and not subject to change. The individual's place of birth is recorded from the information provided on the Armed Forces Memorial database or the death certificate as well as historic administrations systems and the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system

For data prior to 1984, information is gathered using the Armed Forces Memorial (AFM) database. The AFM database was created to identify Service personnel whose names were and continue to be engraved on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. The AFM database records the deaths of all personnel who have died in Service since 1st Jan 1948, and for those who were killed or who died in Palestine from 1st Aug 1945 to 31st Aug 1948. Please note, the AFM database is not regarded as a validated source of historical fatality information, therefore, it cannot be guaranteed to be 100% complete or accurate due to it being populated manually from Service files.

The AFM roll of honour can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/search-armed-forces-memorial-roll-of-honour>

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



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