



Ministry  
of Defence

**Defence Business Services**

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Email: [DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk](mailto:DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk)

Ref: FOI2023/05649

30 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 3 May 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

*"I am requesting information on the medal entitlement for Horace Durdin 1639847 RAF.*

*The medal entitlement of a WW2 RAF serviceman who service in WW2, details of campaign medals and/or post war medals he is entitled to and if claimed prior to his death.*

*One of the post war medals that may be of relevance is if his service with AOSEA [ Air Operations South East Asia] from after the end of WW2 makes him entitled to the general service medal [GSM] with the clasp "South east asia 1945-1946". I am also requesting if this was claimed prior to his death.*

*If medals were issued, i am requesting you send a copy of the medal index card(s) for these [digitally via scan/photo]."*

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 and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

Based on the Service Record provided, Mr Durdin's medal entitlement is as follows:

- 1939-45 Star
- France and Germany Star
- War Medal

These were issued via fanfold 50289 on 20 June 1950, therefore we cannot provide a copy of a medal card. Fanfolds were issue voucher books used by the RAF to record the issue of WW2 medals instead of using individual medal cards.

With regards to the General Service Medal (GSM18), Mr Durdin is not eligible for this award. Although he was deployed with Air Command South-East Asia (ACSEA) he was not serving with a qualifying unit in Java and Sumatra, which is the requirement for the medal.

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 (or by e-mail using the following address [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk](mailto: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*

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)