



Ministry  
of Defence

**Defence Business Services**

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

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

Ref: FOI2023/11308

[REDACTED]

28 September 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 14 September 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

*"a copy of the WWII Medal Card for William Francis Charles Starnes, born the 21st June 1910 and died in service on the 29th September 1942. William Starnes was an Able Seaman and RN Gunner, who died on the torpedoed SS Baron Ogilvy.  
Service Number: C/JX 311787"*

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 of the information in scope of your request is held.

A copy of the medal card requested for Mr William Starnes can be found enclosed at Annex A.

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,

[REDACTED]

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)

MEDAL CARD FOR MR WILLIAM STARNES

SURNAME <b>STARNES</b>		CHRISTIAN NAMES <i>William Francis Charles.</i>	RANK or RATING and O.N. <i>Acting Able Seaman C/JX 311787.</i>	D.N.A. WILLS No. <i>9207/42</i>
PERSON ENTITLED		<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             PRIZE FI           </div>	D.D. <i>29. 9. 1942.</i>	
			CAUSE <i>Killed - enemy action</i>	
		SHIP <i>President III SS. Baron Ogilvy.</i>		
		PERIOD OF SERVICE	RIBBONS ISSUED	
<i>Glendower</i>		<i>1. 10. 41 - 12. 1. 42</i>	1939-45 STAR ✓	
<i>President III</i>		<i>13. 1. 42 —</i>	ATLANTIC ✓	
			AIR CREW EUROPE	
			AFRICA	
			PACIFIC	
			BURMA	
			ITALY	
			FRANCE & GERMANY	
			DEFENCE	
			WAR MEDAL ✓ <i>han</i>	