



Ministry of Defence

Defence Business Services
Secretariat
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Ref: FOI2024/05345

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

15 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 27 March 2024 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

"Pursuant to the FOI Act, I would be grateful for advice on the full MEDAL ENTITLEMENT of Major (Technical Instructor in Gunnery) James Sawford, Royal Artillery (285609).

Major Sawford was born on 10 June 1921, and served in the Royal Artillery from 1936 to 1969. He died on 27 March 1979 - more than 25 years ago. As Major Sawford retired on retired pay, I understand that you have access to his date of death, recorded on his file, and therefore you shouldn't need a copy of his death certificate.

I am very happy to receive your advice of Major Sawford's full medal entitlement by email."

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

A search of the Department has now been conducted and I can confirm that all information in scope of the request is held and provided below.

Records show that the late Major Sawford was entitled to the following medals:
France and Germany Star
Defence Medal
War Medal

The medals were initially issued on 30 November 1948 and returned to stock on 28 January 1949. The medals were then re-issued on 11 December 1959.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Head of DBS Secretariat.

Head of DBS Secretariat