



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services

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

Ref: FOI2025/16647

Email: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

Alan Owen
info@labrats.international

05 August 2025

Dear Mr Owen,

Thank you for your email of 5 July 2025 to the MOD requesting the following information:

“The number of applications for the Nuclear Test Veterans medal.

The number of approvals for the Nuclear Test Veterans Medal.

The number of medals despatched for the Nuclear Test Veterans.

The number of applications denied...

The number of overseas medals awarded / denied by country...broken down by veteran and next of kin.”

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 all the information in scope of your request is held and is shown at Annex A below.

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,

Defence Business Services

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)

NUCLEAR TEST VETERANS DATA

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Australia	0	344	21	0	6	0	371
Next of Kin	0	122	7	0	4	0	133
Veterans	0	222	14	0	2	0	238

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Austria	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Belgium	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Canada	0	47	4	0	0	0	51
Next of Kin	0	18	2	0	0	0	20
Veterans	0	29	2	0	0	0	31

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Cyprus	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Denmark	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Fiji	0	80	0	0	0	0	80
Unknown (Managed via Fiji)	0	53	0	0	0	0	53
Next of Kin	0	27	0	0	0	0	27
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
France	0	12	1	0	0	0	13

Next of Kin	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Veterans	0	10	0	0	0	0	10

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Germany	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Guernsey	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	3	0	0	0	0	3

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Hong Kong	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Italy	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Jersey	0	7	1	0	0	0	8
Next of Kin	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Veterans	0	5	0	0	0	0	5

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Malaysia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Malta	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Next of Kin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	2	0	0	0	0	2

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
New Zealand	1	137	9	0	3	0	150

Next of Kin	1	65	3	0	3	0	72
Veterans	0	72	6	0	0	0	78

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Peru	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Republic Of Ireland	0	11	1	0	0	0	12
Next of Kin	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
Veterans	0	5	1	0	0	0	6

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
South Korea	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
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	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Turkey	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Next of Kin	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
UK	1	4623	182	13	60	3	4882
Next of Kin	1	2091	128	10	57	0	2287
Veterans	0	2532	54	3	3	3	2595

	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
USA	0	17	1	0	0	0	18
Next of Kin	0	9	1	0	0	0	10
Veterans	0	8	0	0	0	0	8

Totals	Approved	Despatched	Rejected	Under Assessment	No Response from Applicant	Returned	Total Number of Applications Received
Unknown (Managed via Fiji)	0	53	0	0	0	0	53
Next of Kin	2	2353	144	10	64	0	2573
Veterans	1	2909	77	3	6	4	2998
Grand Total	3	5315	221	13	70	4	5624

Notes:

1) Data extracted as at 17 July 2025

2) Cases that have been 'Rejected' include not only those where official documented evidence can be located to validate entitlement, but also because there are closer Next of Kin in accordance with the MOD Medal policy, or because evidence determined that the Nuclear Test the Service person supported was not a UK or one of the US Operational tests that are covered within the qualifying criteria

3) 53 cases cannot be identified as to whether the medal was issued to the veteran or their next of kin, as they were managed by the British High Commission in Suva, Fiji, as per the agreement with the Fijian authorities and the UK Ministry of Defence

4) An error was identified with the data extracted on 14 April 25. 1 x Fiji case was incorrectly reported as Republic of Ireland. This has been corrected in the above figures.