



Navy Command

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Mr P Ashby
Via E-Mail: Request-7346-91805e34@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Ashby

Thank you for your correspondence received 30 January 2009 requesting a list of the holders of the First Sea Lord post. Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Unfortunately we are unable to provide a list from 1828 (when the post was first established) to 1904 as this information is not held centrally, however I am pleased to attach a list from 1904 to the present day.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-xx@xxx.xx). 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 unhappy 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 investigate the case until the 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.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Wayne Cadman

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

FIRST SEA LORDS – to date (Feb 09)

Note – those in italics are deceased

Admiral Sir Jonathon Band GCB ADC	7/2/06 -
Admiral The Lord West GCB DSC ADC	17/9/02 – 7/2/06
Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh GCB ADC	16/1/01 – 17/9/02
Admiral The Lord Boyce GCB OBE ADC	8/10/98 – 16/1/2001
Admiral Sir Jock Slater GCB LVO ADC	10/7/95 – 8/10/98
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Benjamin Bathurst GCB ADC	2/3/93 – 10/7/95
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald GCB ADC	25/5/89 – 2/3/93
Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Staveley GCB ADC	2/3/85 – 25/5/89
Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse GCB GBE ADC	1/12/82 – 2/8/85
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach GCB ADC	6/7/79 – 1/12/82
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin GCB MVO DSC ADC	1/3/77 – 6/7/79
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore GCB DSC ADC	2/3/74 – 1/3/77
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Michael Pollock GCB MVO DSC ADC</i>	13/3/71 – 2/3/74
<i>Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB</i>	4/7/70 – 13/3/71
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Michael Le Fanu GCB DSC	13/8/68 – 4/7/70
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Vary Begg GCB DSO DSC</i>	28/2/66 – 13/8/68
<i>Admiral Sir David Luce GCB DSO OBE</i>	9/8/63 – 22/2/66
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Caspar John GCB</i>	23/5/60 – 9/8/63
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Charles Lambe GCB CVO</i>	1/5/59 – 23/5/60
<i>Admiral of the Fleet The Earl Mountbatten of Burma KG GCB OM GCSI GCIE GCVO DSO PC ADC DCL LLD DSc</i>	18/4/55 – 1/5/59
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roderick McGrigor GCB DSO</i>	20/12/51 – 18/4/55
<i>Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Fraser of North Cape GCB KBE</i>	6/9/48 – 20/12/51
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Cunningham GCB MVO</i>	10/6/46 – 6/9/48
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Cunningham KT GCB OM DSO LLD</i>	15/10/43 – 10/6/46
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound GCB OM GCVO</i>	15/6/39 – 15/10/43
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Backhouse GCB GCVO CMG ADC</i>	17/11/38 – 15/6/39
<i>Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Chatfield GCB KCMG CVO LLD</i>	21/3/33 – 17/11/38
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Frederick Field GCB DCMG</i>	30/7/30 – 21/1/33
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Charles Madden GCB OM GCVO DSO PC DCL LLD</i>	30/7/27 – 30/7/30
<i>Admiral of the Fleet The Earl Beatty of the North Sea GCB OM GCVO</i>	1/11/19 – 30/7/27
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Rosslyn Wemyss GCB KCMG MVO</i>	10/1/18 – 1/11/19
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Jellicoe GCB OM GCVO</i>	4/12/16 – 10/1/18
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Jackson GCB GCVO FRS</i>	27/5/15 – 4/12/16
<i>Admiral of the Fleet 1st Baron Fisher of Kilverstone GCB OM GCVO</i>	30/10/14 – 27/5/15
<i>Admiral HRH Prince Louis of Battenburg GCB GCVO KCMG PC</i>	9/12/12 – 30/10/14
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Francis Bridgeman GCB GCVO</i>	5/12/11 – 9/12/12
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir Arthur Wilson VC GCB OM GCVO</i>	25/1/10 – 5/12/11
<i>Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fisher GCB OM GCVO</i>	20/10/1904 – 25/1/10