



# Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2016/11188

E-mail: DBS-Secretariat@mod.uk

Mr Arthur Boyd  
request-372512-  
f7efdf64@whatdotheyknow.com

19 December 2016

Dear Mr Arthur Boyd

Thank you for your email of 20 November requesting the following information:

*“1. The number of participants who were later awarded a War Pension for DDT poisoning and-  
2 . The numbers from each of the three services individually.”*

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

I am writing to confirm that Ministry of Defence holds some the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because the information is contained in individual's War Pension claims case files and to extract information in scope of your request would involve the identification of over 22,000 Nuclear Testing Veterans files from a holding of around 144,000 war pension files, which we estimate would take at least 152 days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that it is possible that an on-going war pension may have been awarded for medical conditions associated with exposure to DDT. The Ministry of Defence may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. For example, if you can provide a list of medical conditions which you wish the Ministry of Defence to search for.

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](mailto: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,

Sandra Lloyd  
A/Hd DBS Secretariat