

Headquarters Surgeon General Secretariat

HQ Surgeon General

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5 February 2013

Dear Mr Pritchard,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 1 February 2013, in which you asked for the following information:

• the names of all adjuvants used in the drug cocktail that were given to British service personnel of the 1st Gulf War of 1990-1.

Under section 21 of the FOI Act, information is exempt from release if it is reasonably accessible to the applicant by another means. The information that you request is already in the public domain, in a 1997 paper entitled "Background to the use of Medical Countermeasures to protect British forces during the Gulf War (Operation Granby)". This is available in the National Archive, and can be accessed online at:

http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20051114233904/http://mod.uk/issues/gulfwar/info/medical/mcm.htm

I would draw your attention in particular to Paragraphs 48-73, which describe the use of the pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine as an adjuvant to the anthrax vaccine.

Yours sincerely,

HQ Surgeon General Secretariat 1

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 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 Head of Corporate Information, 6th 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 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.gov.uk.