UK Armed Forces Operational deaths post World War II

INTRODUCTION

1. This Official Statistic provides summary information on the number of in-Service deaths among UK Armed Forces personnel which occurred as a result of a British, United Nations (UN) or North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) medal earning Operation since World War II. This report is updated annually at the end of March and six weeks after the end of each continuing or new medal earning Operation.

2. This report provides information on deaths for each medal earning Operation since World War II for UK Armed Forces personnel on a tri-Service basis and include both regular and reservist personnel. This data does not include members of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, Merchant Navy or MOD civilians.

3. This report is being released to advise MOD and the public of the loss of life to UK Armed Forces as a result of Operations. This report has been developed in response to requests from the public for information to populate local war memorials and for use at public addresses during the Remembrance Day period. By releasing this information it contributes to the MOD's commitment to release information where possible.

4. The information shown has been compiled from data held by Defence Statistics on 24 February 2015.

5. Details of the data sources and the methods used to collect and analyse the data and additional information are described in the section 'Data Sources & Methods'.

KEY POINTS

6. Since the last release of this publication on 4 November 2014, there have been no further deaths among UK regular Armed Forces personnel in medal earning theatres.

7. Since the end of World War II, 7,145 UK Armed Forces personnel have died as a result of Operations in medal earning theatres.

8. The largest number of deaths among UK Armed Forces personnel in one Operation was the loss of 1,443 lives in Malaya between 16 June 1948 and 31 July 1960.

9. The second largest number of deaths occurred as a result of Operations in Northern Ireland where 1,441 UK Armed Forces Personnel died between 14 August 1969 and 31 July 2007.

10. The third largest number of UK Armed Forces deaths as a result of a medal earning Operation was the United Nations led campaign in Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954 which resulted in the loss of 1,129 UK Armed Forces personnel.

11. NATO and United Nations led Operations in Cyprus and the Balkans are ongoing, with the loss of three and 72 UK Armed Forces personnel to date respectively.

12. At 24 February 2015, 453 UK Armed Forces personnel have died as a result of Operations in Afghanistan.

DATA SOURCES & METHODS

Data Sources
15.   For data prior to 1984, Defence Statistics (Health) have access to the Armed Forces Memorial (AFM) database owned by the Defence Business Services (DBS) Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC, formerly the single Service casualty cells). The AFM database was created in order to identify Service personnel whose names were to be, and continue to be engraved on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. The AFM database records the deaths of all personnel who have died in Service since 1st Jan 1948, and for those in Palestine only from 1st August 1945 to 31st August 1948.

16.   For data since 1984, Defence Statistics (Health) receive weekly notifications of all regular Armed Forces deaths from the JCCC. Defence Statistics (Health) also receive cause of death information from military medical sources in the single Services. At the end of each calendar year, Defence Statistics (Health) cross-reference the medical information it holds against publicly available death certificate information available from the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC), an Executive Non Departmental Public Body (ENDPB).

Data Coverage
17.   The information on deaths presented here are for all regular and reservist UK Armed Forces personnel only who have died as a result of an Operation in a medal earning theatre. Members of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, Merchant Navy and MOD civilians have not been included.

18.   Operational deaths have been defined as a 'theatre of Operation where there is or has been the award of a British Operational medal or where there is or has been the award of a UN or NATO medal'. This is in accordance with the inclusion criteria for the Armed Forces Memorial, further details are available at : http://www.veterans-uk.info/afm/index.htm

19.   Only those medal earning theatre's where a death has occurred have been presented. Brief descriptions of these Operations can be found at Annex A along with a full list of all medal earning theatres for UK Armed Forces personnel at Annex B.

20.   The majority of theatres presented where a death has occurred were awarded the General Service Medal (GSM) or the Operational Service Medal (OSM). A full list of medals awarded can be found at Annex C.

21.   Operations which involved UK Armed Forces personnel but for which a Foreign and Commonwealth medal was awarded are not included in this publication.

22.   The data presented is for all causes of death; Hostile action (a battle casualty who is killed outright or dies of wounds received in action), accidents, natural causes, assaults, coroner confirmed suicide or open verdicts and cause not known.

23.   The data presented is not limited to those personnel who died specifically in the theatre of Operation. It also includes those personnel who may have been aeromedically evacuated from a theatre of Operation and subsequently died whilst in-Service as a result of injuries sustained in that theatre, for example in a hospital in the UK. For Operations in Northern Ireland, data also includes those UK Armed Forces personnel who were targeted outside of Northern Ireland as a result of the troubles, such as the 1989 bombing at the Royal Marines School of Music in Deal, England.

24.   A breakdown of deaths into those caused by hostile action deaths and other causes is only available for the following theatre's of Operation since 1984: Gulf 1, Balkans, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, and pre 1984, for Northern Ireland only. This is because for deaths prior to 1984, Defence Statistics (Health) use the AFM database which was created in order to identify Service personnel whose names were to be, and continue to be engraved on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire and not for statistical purposes. Whilst the name and Service number of each individual is validated, this database is not historically regarded as a validated source of fatality information due to it being populated manually from Service files. Therefore all causes of deaths have been provided without further breakdown for those Operational theatre's prior 1984 (excluding Northern Ireland).

Methods

25.   For deaths prior to 1984, Defence Statistics (Health) uses the AFM database and specifically the 'Theatre' field to identify all those personnel who died as a result of Operations in a medal earning theatre.

26.   For deaths since 1984 and for Northern Ireland and Falklands deaths only, the 'Conflict marker' field on the Defence Statistics (Health) Deaths database is used to identify deaths which occurred as a result of Operations in medal earning theatres. This field is derived by using the JCCC and former single Service casualty cells 'Operation' field as completed on the weekly notification.

27.   In 2013, Defence Statistics produced a validated dataset of deaths as a result of the troubles in Northern Ireland, using a number of internal and external sources of information. Prior to this, figures for deaths as a result of Operations in Northern Ireland were produced in the Ministry of Defence publication: UK Defence Statistics 2008. These figures were sourced from the Police Service of Northern Ireland and not the Ministry of Defence and therefore do not match those presented in this report due to differing inclusion criteria.

28.   It must also be noted that the Ministry of Defence do not have any control of figures produced on unofficial websites commemorating those who lost their lives as a result of Operations in medal earning theatres. It is entirely possible figures presented in this report differ from those sources due to varying anomalies in inclusion criteria.

Strengths and weaknesses of data presented in this notice

29.   A strength of this publication is that considerable validation is undertaken against military and public records for deaths post 1984 to ensure that the information provided is complete and accurate and users of this publication should be confident that the numbers of fatalities presented are accurate.

30.   For deaths prior to 1984, Defence Statistics (Health) use the AFM database which was created in order to identify Service personnel whose names were to be, and continue to be engraved on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire and not for statistical purposes. Whilst the name and Service number of each individual is validated, this database is not historically regarded as a validated source of fatality information due to it being populated manually from Service files.

31.   The information presented in this publication has been structured in such a way to release sensitive deaths information into the public domain in a way that contributes to the MOD accountability to the British public but which doesn't compromise the Operational security of UK Armed Forces personnel by revealing detail on individual incidents such as mechanism; nor that risk inadvertently revealing individual identities and therefore breaching the rights of the families of the deceased personnel (for which the MOD has a residual duty of care). Defence Statistics are regularly asked to release information such as date of death, location of death, deaths within a unit or rank held by the deceased, however, these requests are assessed on a case by case basis to ensure the information presented is aggregated to a level to ensure individual's cannot be indentified and Operational security is not compromised.

REVISIONS

32.   In preparing this document, Defence Statistics will continually carry out a review of the data recorded on in-Service deaths as a result of Operations in medal earning theatres among UK Armed Forces personnel to ensure the highest accuracy of information and that all cases of deaths attributable to an Operation are recorded.

33.   Any future revisions to previously released data will be made and republished with the revision annotated with an 'r' in the relevant table of data.

RESULTS

34.   **Table 1** presents the number of UK Armed Forces deaths by medal earning theatre since World War II. The numbers presented are broken down by deaths as a result of hostile action and other causes of deaths which include accidents, natural causes, assaults, coroner confirmed suicide or open verdicts and causes not yet known, where this level of detail is available (see paragraph 22 for a further explanation).

35.   The majority of operational theatres presented where a death has occurred were awarded the General Service Medal (GSM) or the Operational Service Medal (OSM). A full list of medals awarded can be found at Annex C.

Table 1: UK Armed Forces Operational deaths post World War II by medal earning theatre and cause, 3 September 1945 to 24 February 2015 numbers

Medal Theatre	Date	Total deaths	of which Hostile action [7]	of which Other causes [8]
All theatres		**7,145**	-	-
Palestine (GSM)	3 Sep 1945 to 30 Jun 1948	754	-	-
Malaya (GSM)	16 Jun 1948 to 31 Jul 1960	1,443	-	-
Yangtze (NGSM)	20 Apr 1949 to 31 Jul 1949	45	-	-
Korea[1] (UN)	27 Jun 1950 to 27 Jul 1954	1,129	-	-
Canal Zone (GSM)	16 Oct 1951 to 19 Oct 1954	405	-	-
Kenya (AGSM)	21 Oct 1952 to 17 Nov 1956	95	-	-
Cyprus (GSM)	1 Apr 1955 to 18 Apr 1959	358	-	-
Near East (Suez) (GSM)	31 Oct 1956 to 22 Dec 1956	24	-	-
Arabian Peninsula (GSM)	1 Jan 1957 to 30 Jun 1960	60	-	-
Congo (ONUC)	10 Jul 1960 to 30 Jun 1964	2	-	-
Brunei (GSM)	8 Dec 1962 to 23 Dec 1962	7	-	-
Borneo (GSM)	24 Dec 1962 to 11 Aug 1966	140	-	-
Cyprus[2] (UNFICYP)	27 Mar 1964 to present	3	-	-
Radfan (GSM)	25 Apr 1964 to 31 Jul 1964	13	-	-
South Arabia (GSM)	1 Aug 1964 to 30 Nov 1967	160	-	-
Malay Peninusla (GSM)	17 Aug 1964 to 11 Aug 1966	39	-	-
Northern Ireland[3] (GSM)	14 Aug 1969 to 31 Jul 2007	1,441	*722*	*719*
Dhofar (GSM)	1 Oct 1969 to 3 Sep 1976	25	-	-
Rhodesia	1 Dec 1979 to 20 Mar 1980	5	-	-
South Atlantic (Falklands)	2 Apr 1982 to 21 Oct 1982	237	-	-
Gulf 1 (GSM)	2 Aug 1990 to 7 Mar 1991	45	*24*	*21*
Air Operations Iraq	16 Jul 1991 to 30 Apr 2003	5	*0*	*5*
Cambodia (UNAMIC/UNTAC)	1 Oct 1991 to 30 Sep 1993	1	*0*	*1*
Balkans[4,5]	1 Jul 1992 to present	72	*13*	*59*
Sierra Leone (OSM)	5 May 2000 to 31 Jul 2002	5	*1*	*4*
Afghanistan[4,6] (OSM)	11 Sep 2001 to present	453	*404*	*49*
Iraq	20 Jan 2003 to 22 May 2011	178	*135*	*43*
Libya	19 Mar 2011 to 31 Oct 2011	1	*0*	*1*

Source: Defence Statistics (Health)

1. Includes: Korea Medal 2 July 1950 - 27 July 1953 and Korea medal (UN) 27 June 1950 – 27 July 1954.
2. As at 31 December 2014 as sourced from the Armed Forces Memorial database received at the end of each calendar year.
3. Amended from previous releases of information in UK Defence Statistics, Parliamentary questions and Freedom of Information requests due to Defence Statistics (Health) validation exercise on all Northern Ireland deaths.
4. As at 24 February 2015. As part of an ongoing commitment to report deaths for all medium scale and contingent Operations, deaths as a result of these operations are published quarterly in: UK armed forces and UK civilian operational casualty and fatality statistics: financial year 2014/2015
5. Includes: the Former Yugoslavia (NATO FRY) 1 July 1992-31 December 2002; Sarajevo Airlift (UN) 3 July 1992 – 12 January 1996; Georgia (UNOMIG) 23 August 1993 to present; Kosovo (NATO) 13 October 1998 – 31 December 2002; Kosovo (UNMIK) 10 June 1999 to present; Macedonia (NATO) 1 June 2001 – 31 December 2002 and Balkans (NATO) 1 January 2003 to present. To identify which deaths occurred on specific Operations relating to activities in the Balkans, individual Service records would need to be examined, as such MOD presents the information under the overarching category 'Balkans'.
6. Includes deaths on Operation VERITAS, Operation HERRICK and Operation TORAL.
7. A battle casualty who is killed outright or dies of wounds received in action.
8. Deaths due to: accidents, natural causes, assaults, coroner confirmed suicide or open verdicts and cause not known.

36.   **Table 1** shows, the largest number of deaths among UK Armed Forces personnel in one medal earning Operation was the loss of 1,443 lives in Malaya between 16 June 1948 and 31 July 1960. The British Army was deployed to Malaya when the British Government declared a state of emergency following the formation of the Malay Races Liberation Army.

37.   The second largest number of deaths occurred as a result of Operations in Northern Ireland where 1,441 UK Armed Forces Personnel died between 14 August 1969 and 31 July 2007. Operation Banner was the operational name for the British Armed Forces operation in Northern Ireland. British troops were initially deployed at the request of the Unionist government of Northern Ireland to support the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC). After the 1998 Belfast Agreement, the operation was gradually scaled down. Its role was to assert the authority of the Government of the UK in Northern Ireland.

38.   The third largest number of deaths as a result of a medal earning Operation was the United Nations led campaign in Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954. At the end of The Second World War the Korean peninsula had been divided into North and South Korea. In June 1950 North Korean Communist forces invaded South Korea. An American led UN-approved coalition, including a British Commonwealth Brigade, was deployed to support the South against the North's Chinese backed communist forces.

39.   NATO and United Nations led Operations in Cyprus and the Balkans are ongoing, with the loss of three and 72 UK Armed Forces personnel to date respectively.

40.   At 24 February 2015, 453 UK Armed Forces personnel have died as a result of Operations in Afghanistan.

41.   Operations in Afghanistan, the Balkans and Cyprus are ongoing and therefore the number of deaths presented in **Table 1** is correct as at 24 February 2015. This report will be updated six weeks after the end of each Operation. In the meantime, as part of Defence Statistics ongoing commitment to report casualties from all medium scale Operations and contingent Operations which are of political and media interest, deaths as a result of these Operations are published quarterly on www.gov.uk.

42.   **Figure 1** presents the number of UK Armed Forces deaths by geographical location.

43.   **Table 2** and **Figure 2** presents the number of UK Armed Forces deaths by year and medal earning operation.

44.   The highest number of deaths to occur in a single year was in 1951, when 829 personnel lost their lives in Operations in Malaya, Korea and the Canal Zone.

45.   **Table 2** shows that since 1945, 1968 is the only year where no UK Armed Forces personnel have lost their lives as a result of a medal earning Operation.

46.   To provide context to the information presented in **Tables 1-2 and Figures 1-2**, in the past 25 years (between 1990 and 2014), 20% of all UK Armed Forces in-Service deaths have occurred whilst on Operations (1,007 out of 5,132 deaths). The highest number of deaths in a single year within this latest 25-year period was in 2010, where 55% (103 out of 187 deaths) were the result of Operations in Afghanistan. The lowest percentage of operational deaths for a single year during this period was in 1997, when 7% of all in-service deaths were the result of Operations (12 out of 165 deaths). The 'Deaths in the UK regular Armed Forces' National Statistic published on www.gov.uk provides further details on all causes of death among UK regular Armed Forces personnel.

Figure 1: UK Armed Forces Operational deaths post World War II by medal earning theatre and location, 3 September 1945 to 24 February 2015, numbers

358 Cyprus Apr 1955 – Apr 1959

1,441 Northern Ireland Aug 1969 – Jul 2007

72 Balkans Jul 1992 - Present

754 Palestine Sep 1945 – Jun 1948

160 South Arabia Aug 1964 – Nov 1967

1,129 Korea Jun 1950 – Jul 1954

453 Afghanistan Sep 2001 – Present

45 Yangtze Apr 1949 – Jul 1949

3 Cyprus Mar 1964 – Present

24 Near East (Suez) Oct 1956 – Dec 1956

1 Cambodia Oct 1991 – Sep 1993

1,443 Malaya Jun 1948 – Jul 1960

1 Libya Mar 2011 – Oct 2011

25 Dhofar Oct 1969 – Sep 1976

13 Radfan Apr 1964 – Jul 1964

178 Iraq Jan 2003 - May 2011

45 Gulf 1 Aug 1990 – Mar 1991

60 Arabian Peninsula Jan 1957 – Jun 1960

140 Borneo Dec 1962 – Aug 1966

405 Canal Zone Oct 1951 – Oct 1954

5 Sierra Leone May 2000 – Jul 2002

5 Air Operations Iraq Jul 1991 – Apr 2003

2 Congo Jul 1960 – Jun 1964

95 Kenya Oct 1952 – Nov 1956

39 Malay Peninsula Aug 1964 – Aug 1966

7 Brunei Dec 1962

7 Rhodesia Dec 1979 – Mar 1980

237 Falklands Apr 1982 – Jul 1982

Source: Defence Statistics (Health)

See Table 1 footnotes

Figure 2: UK Armed Forces Operational deaths post World War II by medal earning theatre and year, 3 September 1945 to 24 February 2015, numbers

Source: Defence Statistics (Health)

Notes:
1. Includes: Korea Medal 2 July 1950 - 27 July 1953 and Korea medal (UN) 27 June 1950 – 27 July 1954.
2. As at 31 December 2014 as sourced from the Armed Forces Memorial database received at the end of each calendar year.
3. Amended from previous releases of information in UK Defence Statistics, Parliamentary questions and Freedom of Information requests due to Defence Statistics (Health) validation exercise on all Northern Ireland deaths.
4. As at 24 February 2015.
5. Includes: the Former Yugoslavia (NATO FRY) 1 July 1992-31 December 2002; Sarajevo Airlift (UN) 3 July 1992 – 12 January 1996; Georgia (UNOMIG) 23 August 1993 to present; Kosovo (NATO) 13 October 1998 – 31 December 2002; Kosovo (UNMIK) 10 June 1999 to present; Macedonia (NATO) 1 June 2001 – 31 December 2002 and Balkans (NATO) 1 January 2003 to present. To identify which deaths occurred on specific Operations relating to activities in the Balkans, individual Service records would need to be examined, as such MOD presents the information under the overarching category 'Balkans'.
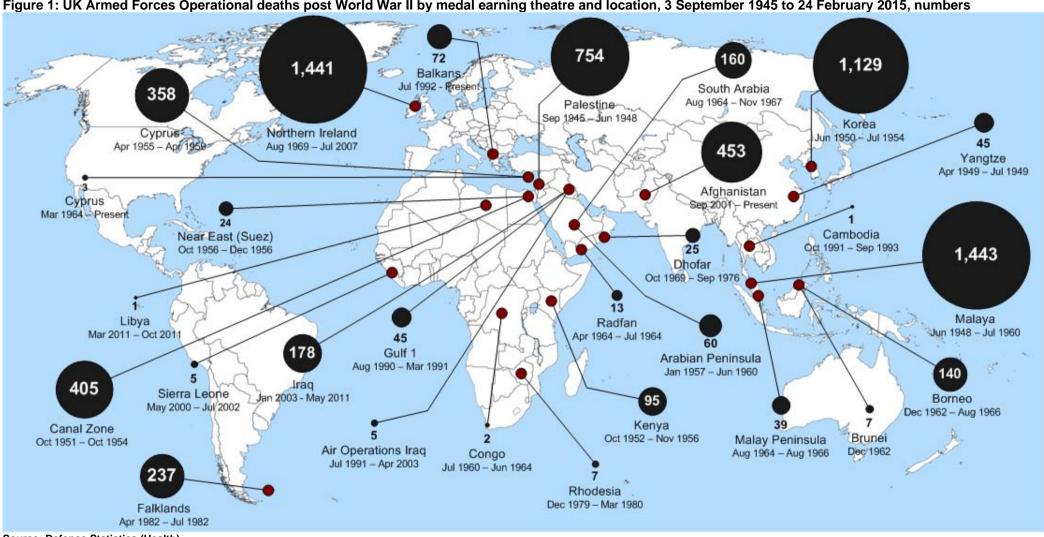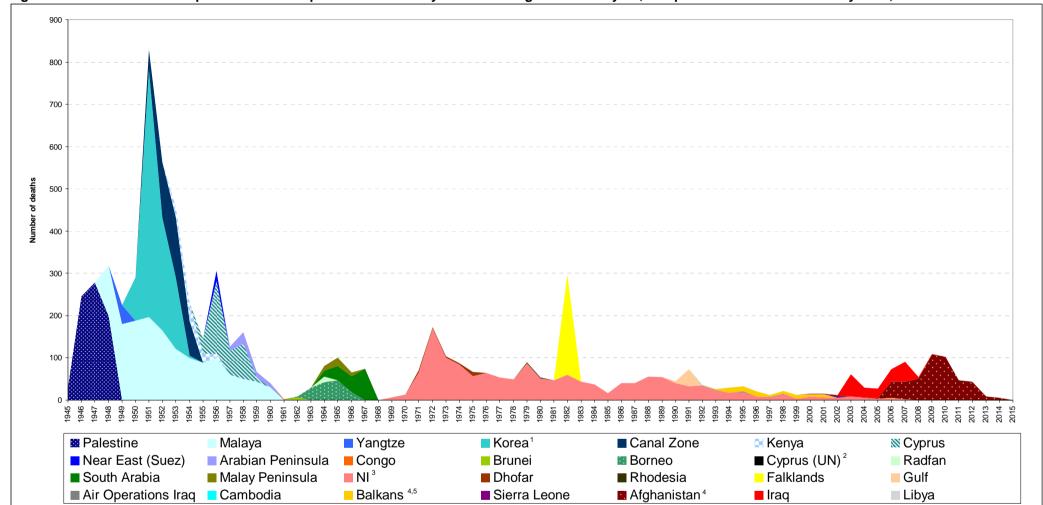
Table 2: UK Armed Forces Operational deaths post World War II by medal earning theatre and calendar year, 3 September 1945 to 24 February 2015, numbers

Year	All	Palestine	Malaya	Yangtze	Korea[1]	Canal Zone	Kenya	Cyprus	Near East (Suez)	Arabian Peninsular	Congo	Brunei	Borneo	Cyprus (UN)[2]	Radfan	South Arabia	Malay Peninsula	NI[3]	Dhofar	Rhodesia	Falklands	Gulf	Air Operations Iraq	Cambodia	Balkans[4,5]	Sierra Leone	Afghanistan[4]	Iraq	Libya
All	7,145	754	1,443	45	1,129	405	95	358	24	60	2	7	140	3	13	160	39	1,441	25	5	237	45	5	1	72	5	453	178	1
1945	30	30																											
1946	246	246																											
1947	279	279																											
1948	318	199	119																										
1949	225		180	45																									
1950	290		188		102																								
1951	829		197		584	48																							
1952	566		165		267	132	2																						
1953	456		121		170	143	22																						
1954	229		99		6	82	42																						
1955	145		89				21	35																					
1956	306		101				8	173	24																				
1957	127		60					57		10																			
1958	161		50					83		28																			
1959	67		44					10		13																			
1960	39		30							9	0																		
1961	2										2																		
1962	9										0	7	2																
1963	29										0		29																
1964	81										0		43	0	13	14	11												
1965	100												47	0		34	19												
1966	66												19	0		38	9												
1967	74													0		74													
1968	0													0															
1969	7													0				7	0										
1970	13													1				12	0										
1971	71													0				65	6										
1972	173													0				170	3										
1973	104													0				101	3										
1974	87													0				84	3										
1975	67													0				57	10										
1976	64													0				64	0										
1977	54													0				54											
1978	49													0				49											
1979	90													0				87		3									
1980	53													0				51		2									
1981	47													0				47											
1982	297													0				60			237								
1983	44													0				44											
1984	37													0				37											
1985	16													0				16											
1986	40													0				40											
1987	40													0				40											
1988	56													0				56											
1989	55													0				55											
1990	45													0				40				5							
1991	73													1				32				40	0	0					
1992	36													0				35					0	1	0				
1993	26													0				23					1	0	2				
1994	30													0				18					0		12				
1995	33													0				19					2		12				
1996	21													0				9					0		12				
1997	12													0				7					1		4				
1998	22													0				14					1		7				
1999	12													0				3					0		9				
2000	15													0				9					0		5	1			
2001	15													0				7					0		7	1			
2002	12													0				6					0		0	3	3		
2003	61													0				9							0		0	52	
2004	29													0				5							1		1	22	
2005	27													0				3							0		1	23	
2006	73													0				4							1		39	29	
2007	91													0				2							0		42	47	
2008	55													0											0		51	4	
2009	109													0											0		108	1	
2010	103													0											0		103	0	
2011	48													1											0		46	0	1
2012	44													0											0		44		
2013	9													0											0		9		
2014	6													0											0		6		
2015	0																												

Source: Defence Statistics (Health)

See Table 1 footnotes

ANNEX A – QUALIFYING MEDAL EARNING THEATRE DESCRIPTIONS[1]

Palestine (GSM) 3 Sep 1945 to 30 Jun 1948
British Armed Forces were deployed in Palestine in response to a campaign by Jewish underground groups against British forces and officials in Mandatory Palestine between 1939 and 1947. Tensions arose between militant Jewish underground organisations and the British mandatory authorities following publication of the MacDonald White Paper of 1939, which proposed restrictions on Jewish immigration and independence for Palestine with an Arab majority after 10 years. Tensions within Palestine rose towards the end of WW2 and the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

Malaya (GSM) 16 Jun 1948 to 31 Jul 1960
In the period after the Second World War the Malayan Communist Party, backed by China, sought to overthrow the British Administration in Malaya and to establish a communist republic. Following the formation of the Malay Races Liberation Army, the Federal Government declared a state of emergency following which substantial British Forces were deployed to defeat the insurgency.

Yangtze (NGSM) 20 Apr 1949 to 31 Jul 1949
In 1949 Chinese Communist People's Liberation Army were involved in a protracted Civil War with Chiang Kai- Shek's Kuomintang Nationalist forces. On April 20th PLA forces shelled the Royal Navy sloop HMS Amethyst as she made her way up the Yangste towards Nanking. The ship was trapped for three months 100 miles upriver under periodic bombardment before making a night-time escape on 30th July. Earlier attempts by other ships to assist her escape had all failed.

Korea (UN) 27 Jun 1950 to 27 Jul 1954
At the end of The Second World War the Korean peninsula had been divided into North and South Korea. In June 1950 North Korean Communist forces invaded South Korea. An American led UN-approved coalition, including a British Commonwealth Brigade, was deployed to support the South against the North's Chinese backed communist forces.

Canal Zone (GSM) 16 Oct 1951 to 19 Oct 1954
In October 1951, the Egyptian government pulled out of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936, the terms of which granted Britain a lease on the Suez base for a further 20 years. Britain refused to withdraw from Suez and this resulted in a steady escalation of hostility towards Britain and increasing acts of sabotage and violence against British troops stationed in Egypt.

Kenya (AGSM) 21 Oct 1952 to 17 Nov 1956
Kenya was put under a state of emergency from October 1952 to December 1959, due to the Mau Mau rebellion against British colonial rule.

Cyprus (GSM) 1 Apr 1955 to 18 Apr 1959
In 1955 the guerilla movement, EOKA, led by Colonel Georgios Grivas, sought the unification of Cyprus under Greek rule which led to an escalation of guerrilla attacks on the island's Turkish minority population and British Forces and property. A state of emergency was declared, following which Field Marshal Sir John Harding was appointed Governor of the island.

Near East (Suez) (GSM) 31 Oct 1956 to 22 Dec 1956
In 1956, President Gamel Abdel Nassar decided to nationalise the Suez Canal after an offer by Britain and the United States to fund the building of the Aswan Dam was withdrawn. French, British and Israeli forces then invaded Egypt. British troops were deployed primarily to regain Western control of the Suez Canal but were withdrawn under intense American diplomatic pressure.

Arabian Peninsula (GSM) 1 Jan 1957 to 30 Jun 1960
Historic disagreements about land and associated oil rights, and resentments over the Sultan's authority led Imam Ghalib and his brother Talib to rebel against the Sultan of Muscat. After initial setbacks, in 1955 the Sultan called for assistance from UK forces. It was not until British Special Forces were deployed that the rebels were dislodged from their territory in the Jebel Akhbar mountains

Congo (ONUC) 10 Jul 1960 to 30 Jun 1964

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[1] Source: Medal Office, Defence Business Services, Ministry of Defence

Opération des Nations Unies au Congo, abbreviated to ONUC, was a United Nations peacekeeping force established after the United Nations Security Council Resolution 143 of 14 July 1960. The formation of troops was a response to the Congo Crisis.

Brunei (GSM) 8 Dec 1962 to 23 Dec 1962
British Forces were deployed by air and sea following an attempted coup against the Sultan of Brunei led by the North Kalimantan National Army which enjoyed strong covert support from Indonesia. The coup was successfully suppressed.

Borneo (GSM) 24 Dec 1962 to 11 Aug 1966
The Indonesian–Malaysian confrontation erupted into a violent conflict which stemmed from Indonesia's opposition to the creation of Malaysia. Initial Indonesian attacks into East Malaysia relied heavily on local volunteers who had been trained by the Indonesian Army, however, when the infiltration forces became more organized, the British responded in 1964 by launching their own covert operations into Indonesian Kalimantan, under the code name Operation Claret.

Cyprus (UNFICYP) 27 Mar 1964 to present
UN Security Council Resolution 186 recommended the formation of UNFICYP on 4 Mar 1964 following inter-communal fighting between the Greek and Turkish communities on Cyprus. The Force became operational on 27 Mar 1964 as a joint civilian/military security corps and remains ongoing today.

Radfan (GSM) 25 Apr 1964 to 31 Jul 1964
This uprising was thought to be a result of the Federation of South Arabia preventing the collection of tolls from passing camel caravans resulting in a loss in income and led to local Qutaibi inhabitants attacking the British on the Aden to Mecca caravan route, which passed through Dhala. This conflict led to the deployment of British troops.

South Arabia (GSM) 1 Aug 1964 to 30 Nov 1967
This campaign is related to the Radfan Campaign, because both were Egyptian-inspired attempts to end not only the British presence in Aden but also the embryonic Federation of South Arabia. This three year long campaign was to see numerous terrorist attacks on both civilian and military targets.

Malay Peninusla (GSM) 17 Aug 1964 to 11 Aug 1966
This campaign was an extension of the conflict in Borneo where British and Malaysian troops were operating against Indonesian insurgents. In 1964, the Indonesian President decided to attack the Malaysian mainland. Parachute landings were made in Johore while other troops managed to land across the Malacca Straits from Indonesian Sumatra. Between November 1964 and March 1965 there were five attempts to establish guerrilla groups in Johore, all of which failed.

Northern Ireland 14 Aug 1969 to 31 July 2007
Operation Banner was the operational name for the British Armed Forces operation in Northern Ireland from August 1969 to July 2007. British troops were initially deployed at the request of the Unionist government of Northern Ireland to support the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC). After the 1998 Belfast Agreement, the operation was gradually scaled down. Its role was to assert the authority of the Government of the UK in Northern Ireland.

Dhofar (GSM) 1 Oct 1969 to 3 Sep 1976
The Dhofar Rebellion was launched in the province of Dhofar against the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman. British troops were deployed alongside Omani and Iranian forces, which led to the defeat of the rebels.

Rhodesia 1 Dec 1979 to 20 Mar 1980
Operation AGILA was the multi-national force tasked with keeping the peace between 22,000 guerrilla fighters and the Rhodesian forces during the ceasefire in the run-up to the 1980 elections.

South Atlantic (Falklands) 2 Apr 1982 to 21 Oct 1982
On 2 April 1982, Argentinean forces invaded the British overseas territory of the Falkland Islands. A UK Task Force was swiftly dispatched to regain the islands sovereignty. British forces landed on 21 May 1982 and after a series of engagements culminating in the liberation of Port Stanley, the Argentineans surrendered on 14 June 1982.

Gulf War (GSM) 2 Aug 1990 to 7 Mar 1991
The first Gulf War (2 Aug 1990 to 28 Feb 1991), codenamed Operation Desert Shield, encompassed operations leading to the build-up of troops and air power for the defence of Saudi Arabia. Operation Desert Storm (17 Jan 1991 to 28 Feb 1991) was a war waged by coalition forces from 34 nations led by the United States against Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

Air Operations Iraq 16 Jul 1991 to 30 Apr 2003
1991 witnessed the start of coalition air patrols over the Northern Iraqi No-Fly Zone designed to protect Iraq's Kurdish minority. The RAF contributed detachments of Jaguars, Harriers and Tornados to this operation over a period of nearly twelve years. In August 1992, the RAF based a detachment of six Tornado GR1s at Dhahran in Saudi Arabia to contribute to the maintenance of the Southern No Fly Zone, which was created to protect the Iraqi Shiite community. This detachment was later moved to Prince Sultan air base, Al Kharj.
In late 1997, Iraq's failure to comply with the requirements of the United Nations Special Commission on disarmament led to the dispatch of carrier-borne Harrier GR-7s and more GR-1s were deployed to Ali Al Salem air base, Kuwait, from where twelve aircraft eventually participated in Operation Desert Fox in December 1998. Soon afterwards, the Saudi commitment was taken over by Tornado F-3s. Tornado GR1s and GR4s operating from Ali Al Salem continued to patrol the Southern No Fly Zone until 2003.

Cambodia (UNAMIC/UNTAC) 1 Oct 1991 to 30 Sep 1993
The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) was a United Nations peacekeeping operation in 1992–93. The UN deployed to Cambodia to help maintain the ceasefire and provide experience in training the civilian population in how to avoid injury from land mines and booby traps.

Balkans 1 Jul 1992 to present
The NATO intervention in Bosnia and Herzegovina comprised of a series of actions undertaken by NATO to establish and then preserve peace during and after the Bosnian War. NATO's intervention began largely as political and symbolic, but gradually expanded to include large-scale air operations and the deployment of approximately 60,000 soldiers under Operation Joint Endeavour.

Sierra Leone (OSM) 5 May 2000 to 31 Jul 2002
The UK began a military intervention in Sierra Leone in May 2000, codenamed Operation Palliser, following the outbreak of the Sierra Leone Civil War. The Civil War had erupted in early May 2000 when the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) advanced on the country's capital, Freetown, which prompted the British government to dispatch an Operational Reconnaissance and Liaison Team to prepare to evacuate foreign citizens. On 6 May 2000 the RUF blocked the road connecting Freetown to the country's main airport Lungi. The next day, British soldiers began to secure the airport and other areas essential to the planned evacuation.
British Forces subsequently assisted the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and the Sierra Leone Army (SLA). The Sierra Leonean government eventually signed a ceasefire with the RUF that obliged the latter to enter the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process. By September 2001, when the British training teams were replaced by an international force, the DDR process was almost complete. British forces continued to be involved in Sierra Leone by providing the largest contribution of personnel to the international training team and advising on a restructuring of the country.

Afghanistan 11 Sep 2001 to present
NATO and Allied forces intervened in the ongoing Afghan civil war following the September 11 attacks, with the aim of dismantling al-Qaeda and preventing it having a safe base of operation in Afghanistan by removing the Taliban from power.

Iraq 20 Jan 2003 to 22 May 2011
A joint resolution of the US Congress, known as the Iraq Resolution, led to the 2003 invasion of Iraq under the authority of the UN Security Council Resolutions 678 and 687, essentially to use all necessary means to compel Iraq to comply with its international obligations. Prior to the invasion, the US and UK indicated that Iraq was developing weapons of mass destruction, which presented a world-wide threat. As a consequence, on 8 September 2002, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1441, which effectively provided Iraq with a final opportunity to comply with its obligations and disarm. Resolution 1441 strengthened the mandate of the UN Monitoring and Verification Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and led, ultimately, to a combined NATO invasion on 19 March 2003.

Libya 19 Mar 2011 to 31 Oct 2011

On 19 March 2011, a multi-state coalition began a military intervention in Libya to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973, which authorised the creation of a No-Fly Zone in response to the Gaddafi regime's efforts to suppress the mass uprising sparked by the so-called Arab Spring. The British contribution, codenamed Operation Ellamy, principally consisted of RAF air power and naval forces, which enforced the accompanying arms embargo. All operations were conducted under NATO command from 31 March 2011. The conflict in Libya ended in late October 2011, following which NATO confirmed it would end operations on 31 October 2011.

ANNEX B – LIST OF QUALIFYING MEDAL EARNING THEATRES FOR THE ELIZABETH CROSS

Theatre	Dates
UK & Pacific (Minesweeping 45/51) (Navy)	09-May-45 to 30-Sep-51
UK (Bomb & Mine Clearance GSM)	09-May-45 to 30-Sep-53
Palestine (GSM)	03-Sep-45 to 30-Jun-48
Malaya (GSM) (Singapore)	16-Jun-48 to 31-Jan-59
Malaya (GSM) (Malaya)	16-Jun-48 to 31-Jul-60
Yangtze (NGSM)	20-Apr-49 to 31-Jul-49
Korea Medal	02-Jul-50 to 27-Jul-53
Korea Medal (UN)	27-Jun-50 to 27-Jul-54
Canal Zone (GSM)	16-Oct-51 to 19-Oct-54
Kenya (AGSM)	21-Oct-52 to 17-Nov-56
Bomb & Mine Clearance (Med) (GSM)	01-Jan-55 to 31-Dec-60
Cyprus (GSM)	01-Apr-55 to 18-Apr-59
Near East (Suez) (GSM)	31-Oct-56 to 22-Dec-56
Arabian Peninsula (GSM)	01-Jan-57 to 30-Jun-60
Congo (ONUC)	10-Jul-60 to 30-Jun-64
Brunei (GSM)	08-Dec-62 to 23-Dec-62
Brunei (GSM) (Navy)	08-Dec-62 to 20-Dec-62
Borneo (GSM)	24-Dec-62 to 11-Aug-66
Cyprus (UNFICYP)	27-Mar-64 to present
Radfan (GSM)	25-Apr-64 to 31-Jul-64
South Arabia (GSM)	01-Aug-64 to 30-Nov-67
Malay Peninsula (GSM) (All services)	17-Aug-64 to 12-Jun-65
Malay Peninsula (GSM) (Navy)	17-Aug-64 to 11-Aug-66
Malay Peninsula (GSM) (RAF)	13-Jun-65 to 11-Aug-66
Northern Ireland (GSM)	14-Aug-69 to 31-Jul-07
Dhofar (GSM)	01-Oct-69 to 03-Sep-76
Rhodesia Medal	01-Dec-79 to 20-Mar-80
South Atlantic Medal (Falklands)	02-Apr-82 to 14-Jun-82
South Atlantic Medal (Falklands) (Ascension Island)	02-Apr-82 to 12-Jul-82
Lebanon (GSM)	07-Feb-83 to 09-Mar-84
Gulf of Suez (GSM Mine Clearance)	15-Aug-84 to 15-Oct-84
Gulf (GSM)	17-Nov-86 to 28-Feb-89
Peshawar (UNOCHA)	1989 to 1990
Namibia (UNTAG)	01-Apr-89 to 31-Mar-90
The Gulf Medal	02-Aug-90 to 07-Mar-91
Kuwait (GSM)	08-Mar-91 to 30-Sep-91
Iraq/Kuwait (UNIKOM)	01-Apr-91 to 06-Oct-03
Western Sahara (MINURSO)	10-Apr-91 to present
Northern Iraq & South Turkey	06-Apr-91 to 17-Jul-91
Air Operations Iraq (RESINATE SOUTH)	16-Jul-91 to 18-Mar-03
Air Operations Iraq (RESINATE NORTH)	16-Jul-91 to 30-Apr-03
Cambodia (UNAMIC/UNTAC)	01-Oct-91 to 30-Sep-93
Former Yugoslavia (NATO FRY)	01-Jul-92 to 31-Dec-02
Sarajevo Airlift (UN Special Service)	03-Jul-92 to 12-Jan-96
Georgia (UNOMIG)	23-Aug-93 to present
Rwanda (UNAMIR)	01-Oct-93 to 31-Mar-96
Angola (UNAVEM 3)	01-Feb-95 to 01-Jun-97
Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL)	01-Jun-98 to 31-Dec-02
Kosovo (NATO)	13-Oct-98 to 31-Dec-02
East Timor (UNAMET/UNTAET)	07-Jun-99 to present
Kosovo (UNMIK)	10-Jun-99 to present
Congo (MONUC)	30-Nov-99 to present
Sierra Leone (OSM)	05-May-00 to 31-Jul-02
Ethiopia/Eritrea (UNMEE)	15-Sep-00 to present
Macedonia (NATO)	01-Jun-01 to 31-Dec-02
Afghanistan (OSM)	11-Sep-01 to present
Balkans (NATO)	01-Jan-03 to present
Iraq Medal	20-Jan-03 to 22-May-11
Democratic Republic of Congo (OSM)	14-Jun-03 to 10-Sep-03

ANNEX C – QUALIFYING MEDAL ABBREVIATIONS

AGSM	– Africa General Service Medal
GSM	– General Service Medal
MINURSO	– Mission des nations unies pour le referendum dans le Sahara Occidental
MONUC	– Mission des Organisation des Nations Unies en République démocratique du Congo
NATO	– North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NATO FRY	– North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Former Republic of Yugoslavia
NGSM	– Naval General Service Medal
ONUC	– Operation des Nations Unies au Congo
OSM	– Operational Service Medal
UN	– United Nations
UNAMET	– United Nations Assistance Mission in East Timor
UNAMIC	– United Nations Advanced Mission in Cambodia
UNAMIR	– United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda
UNAVEM	– United Nations Angola Verification Mission
UNFICYP	– United Nations Force in Cyprus
UNIKOM	– United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observer Mission
UNOCHA	– United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNMEE	– United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
UNMIK	– United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNOMIG	– United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia
UNOMSIL	– United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UNTAC	– United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNTAET	– United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
UNTAG	– United Nations Transition Assistance Group