



Ministry of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2015/07147

E-mail: Army Sec-group@mod.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

Mr Carmen

E-mail address: Carmen [request-
285743-
bbba03c5@whatdotheyknow.com]

9 September 2015

Dear Mr Carmen,

Thank you for your email of 13 August in which you requested the following information:

"The MPGS are working under the working time directive of 48 hours average over 26 weeks. They, work a system of 4 on 4 off with an additional 5th day now factored in, making it 5 on 3 off. Could you explain how this now makes the MPGS working an average of 48 hours over 26 weeks as 5 on 3 off works out averaging between 53 and upwards hours per week over 26 weeks by my calculation?"

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

I am afraid that the information you requested is not held by the Ministry of Defence. However, under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information, I can tell you that the fifth working day, which you refer to in your request, is set aside specifically for training and other duties. Military Provost Guard Staff do not regularly work five days on and three days off, but may work in the fifth day if they are required to cover sick leave or annual leave for example, or to undertake training which may account for ten days per annum.

I should add that training days are eight hours in duration and not the normal 12 hour shift. If any staff are required to work above an average of 48 hours per week over a period of time, Time Off In Lieu can be sought from the Commanding Officer.

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 Information Rights Compliance team, 1st 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, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat