



Ministry  
of Defence

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2015-05684

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[REDACTED]

29 June 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your communication of 25 June 2015 seeking the transcript of the Court Martial of Lt Geoffrey Pratt RN on 2 November 1931. Your enquiry has been considered as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) does not hold the information you have requested. In accordance with the Public Records Act the MOD is required to transfer records considered to be of historical interest to The National Archives for opening to the general public at the 30-year point except for records of particular sensitivity for national security or other reasons when the MOD is permitted to retain the records for a longer period. Consequently, if documentation of that age has survived, it will be held in The National Archives at Kew.

A search made on your behalf by the Department has confirmed that the information you seek is currently held in The National Archives under the reference ADM 156/103.

The National Archives can be contacted as follows:

Website: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>  
Post: The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

Their catalogue is available on the web so you may be able to search for the information you are looking for, but you will not be able to view any documents via the web so it will be necessary to visit there in person. Alternatively, you may like to telephone them for assistance on: 020 8876 3444

If you decide to visit The National Archives you will either need to bring your Reader's Ticket or, if you do not possess one, you will need to obtain one from the front desk. For this you will require some form of identification, a passport, driving licence etc. There is no charge for reader's tickets, they are free. Alternatively, you may consider employing a researcher to carry out the work for you. If you do decide to do this, then the National

Archives will supply you with a list of independent researchers who will make a charge for their time. The National Archives do not carry out research on behalf of individual members of the public.

Additionally, I have been able to locate in our records the outline details of the trial in the Court Martial Officers Book Volume 5 and a copy extract is enclosed with this letter.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section