

SUMMARY
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES'
RECORDS DECISION PANEL, 24 JUNE 2014

Mixed Service Registration Cards held by The Ministry of Defence (MOD)

(394 boxes – 16,000 registration cards)

The Panel considered the selection of registration cards of employees of the Mixed Service Organisation (MSO), a civilian arm of the British Army of the Rhine. MSO employed former prisoners of war, concentration camp inmates, forced labourers and displaced citizens who were left in the Western sectors of occupied Germany at the end of the Second World War. The cards cover the period ca1946 up until ca1984 and include photo ID, next of kin and medical information.

The Panel approved the selection of these registration cards.

Personal Effects Files (Polish Forces) held by The Ministry of Defence (MOD) (c11,000 files)

The Panel considered whether The National Archives should take administrative files relating to the UK Government's attempts to identify the next of kin of Polish Servicemen who had been killed in action in the Second World War. Where possible, the UK Government has already forwarded the Servicemen's personal effects and papers to their next of kin. In 2002 11,000 unclaimed items were returned to the Polish Government. MOD has no ongoing business use for these associated case files.

The Panel agreed that these records did not fit with The National Archives' collection policies and that MOD may choose to gift them to an alternative repository.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on **31 July 2014 at 1.00 pm**