



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO

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The following awards were made on 27th April 1965.

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the undermentioned awards for Gallant and Distinguished Services in the Radfan Area of Southern Arabia:

### *Bar to Distinguished Service Order*

Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Heritage FARRAR-HOCKLEY, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.C. (251309), 3rd Battalion, Parachute Regiment, The Parachute Corps.

During the Radfan operations Lieutenant-Colonel Farrar-Hockley's battalion was called upon to perform an extremely difficult ten-mile advance into mountainous enemy territory, and then to attack and occupy an enemy base. This base was highly inaccessible and strongly defended. The whole operation was fraught with tactical and administrative difficulties and included two hard fought battles as well as several skirmishes. Largely due to the inspiration and exceptional leadership of its Commanding Officer, the performance of this battalion during this very testing period was admirable.

During the battle which developed in the enemy base, the helicopter in which Lieutenant-Colonel Farrar-Hockley was making a reconnaissance was brought down beyond our lines by enemy fire. Having with some difficulty rejoined his battalion, which by that time was pinned down, and although still under fire himself, he launched a well executed attack which finally drove the enemy from their position. This was only one example of the energy, drive and resource with which this officer inspired his battalion at this time. Whether personally leading patrols into enemy country, or by his own example drawing forth exceptional efforts from his men, or improvising ingenious methods of supply, Lieutenant-Colonel Farrar-Hockley's leadership and bravery were of a high order.

The services rendered by this gallant officer in furtherance of these operations were outstanding during this very difficult period.

### *Bar to the Military Cross*

Major Peter Frederick WALTER, M.B.E., M.C. (432312), 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment, The Parachute Corps.

Major Walter's company was given the difficult task of a long night march to the rear of a vital feature known as Cap Badge. At first light on 5th May 1964, the company was still on the ground short of the objective, but Major Walter pressed on vigorously.

Approaching the foot of the feature the company encountered and were engaged by a group of at least sixty dissidents in strong positions including fortified houses. Under Major Walter's leadership the company immediately attacked and defeated the dissidents, driving them out of their positions, killing at least twelve and wounding more. Major Walter personally took part in an assault on the main fortified house.

Though the enemy had been defeated some of them got into sniping positions in the hills above, inflicting casualties on the company. Major Walter quickly reorganised the company in the nearby village and fortified houses and engaged and silenced the snipers.

To avoid further casualties he was ordered to keep the company in the village until relieved from the high ground above. Until relieved he continued to control the fire of his company and to direct strike aircraft to neutralise the enemy.

Major Walter showed great resolution, leadership and dash in pressing on towards his objective and in attacking and defeating the enemy in their strong positions. Throughout the action he remained calm, and his general conduct led to an important victory over this group of dissidents.

### *Military Cross*

Major Alistair Archibald MATHIESON (407960), 4th Battalion Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps.

During the first phase of the operations in the Radfan area of South Arabia, Major Mathieson was in command of a mixed party of troops comprising his own Squadron of armoured cars, J (Sidi Rezegh) Battery, 3rd Royal Horse Artillery, a rifle platoon and a mortar section of 1 E. Anglian Regiment and a detachment of Royal Engineers. The role of this Force was to establish a gun area well forward to give guns the range necessary to cover further operations and at the same time to concentrate the attention of the enemy in that area while the main force made a surprise flanking movement.

Major Mathieson first had to ensure that the route was cleared from mines and then pass his force through a wadi which was held by the enemy. Having achieved a break in, the party had to establish their positions under the observation and fire of the enemy. Major Mathieson maintained his force in the position for three days and nights under constant fire. He himself commanded the escorts which daily brought water, food and ammunition to his men. When ordered Major Mathieson extricated his party, under fire, without loss.

By his outstanding leadership and gallantry, Major Mathieson completely achieved his aim and thereby