

Fourthly: It is ordained that the Distinguished Service Cross shall be awarded in recognition of an act or acts of exemplary gallantry during active operations against the enemy at sea. It may be awarded to members, of any rank, of:

- (a) Our Naval, Military and Air Forces; or
- (b) Our Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service; or
- (c) the Merchant Navy

on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence or of the appropriate Minister of State for the other Realms and Territories of which We are Queen.

It is further ordained that members, of any rank, of a Foreign Naval, Military or Air Force or those of Commonwealth States of which We are not Queen who have been associated with operations of Our Naval, Military and Air Forces shall be eligible for the award of the Distinguished Service Cross on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence with the agreement of the appropriate Minister of State of the said Foreign country or Commonwealth State.

Fifthly: It is ordained that the Decoration may be awarded posthumously.

Sixthly: It is ordained that in the event of a person who has been awarded the Decoration again performing such an act or acts as would have entitled him or her to the Distinguished Service Cross if he or she had not already received it, such further act or acts shall be recorded by a Bar attached to the ribbon by which the Decoration is suspended and for every further act an additional Bar shall be added. A rose Emblem denoting the award of each Bar shall be worn on the ribbon when the ribbon only is worn.

Seventhly: It is ordained that the Distinguished Service Cross shall not confer any individual precedence but shall entitle the recipient to the addition after his or her name of the letters "DSC".

Eighthly: It is ordained that the names of those upon whom We may be pleased to confer this Decoration shall be published in the *London Gazette*, and that a Register thereof shall be kept in the office of Our Secretary of State for Defence.

Ninthly: It is ordained that reproductions of the Distinguished Service Cross and Bar, known as a Miniature Cross, which may be worn on certain occasions by those to whom the Decoration is awarded, shall be half the size of the Distinguished Service Cross and Bar respectively and that a sealed pattern of the said Miniature shall be kept in the Central Chancery of Our Orders of Knighthood.

Tenthly: It is ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, by an Order under Our Sign Manual and on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence to cancel and annul the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to any person and that thereupon his or her name shall be removed from the aforementioned Register: but that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to restore the Decoration when such recommendation has been withdrawn.

It is further ordained that notice of cancellation or restoration in every case shall be published in the *London Gazette*.

Lastly: We reserve to Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors, full power of annulling, altering, abrogating, augmenting, interpreting or dispensing with these rules and ordinances, or any part thereof, by a notification under Our Sign Manual.

Given at Our Court of St James's this Twenty-ninth day of July, Two Thousand and Two, in the Fifty-first Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.

Geoff Hoon

17 September 2002

THE MILITARY CROSS

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these Presents shall come:

GREETING!

WHEREAS His late Majesty King George V did, by a Warrant under His Sign Manual dated 28th December 1914, institute a Decoration to be called the Military Cross; and by Warrants under Sign Manual dated 23rd August 1916, 25th June 1917, 6th November 1920 and 5th February 1931 did amend and consolidate the regulations governing the said Decoration;

AND WHEREAS His late Majesty King George VI, by Warrants under His Sign Manual dated 21st August 1939 and 14th April 1943, and We, by Warrants under Our Sign Manual dated 24th September 1953 and 1st August 1980, did further amend the regulations governing eligibility for the Military Cross;

AND WHEREAS We deem it expedient to amend the regulations further to allow members of any rank in Our Armed Forces to receive the said Cross;

NOW, THEREFORE, We do declare that the regulations promulgated in the aforementioned Warrants in respect of the Military Cross shall be abrogated, cancelled and annulled; and in substitution thereof We by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, are graciously pleased to make, ordain and establish the following rules and ordinances, which shall from henceforth be inviolably observed and kept.

Firstly: It is ordained that the Decoration shall be designated and styled "The Military Cross".

Secondly: It is ordained that the Decoration shall consist of a Cross having on each arm the Imperial Crown and bearing in the centre the Royal Cypher; that the reverse of the Cross shall be plain and bear the rank, name and Service, Regiment or Corps, customarily appropriate to the recipient and the date of award; that the Cross shall be suspended by a ring from a bar; and that the whole shall be in silver.

Thirdly: It is ordained that the Decoration shall be worn on the left breast suspended on a watered ribbon one-and-a-quarter inches in width of white with a purple stripe.

It is further ordained that in the official list showing the order in which Orders, Decorations and Medals are to be worn it shall be placed immediately after the Distinguished Service Cross.

Fourthly: It is ordained that the Decoration shall be awarded in recognition of an act or acts of exemplary gallantry during active operations against the enemy on land to all members, of any rank, of Our Naval, Military and Air Forces on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence or the appropriate Minister of State of the other Realms and Territories of which We are Queen.

It is further ordained that members, of any rank, of a Foreign Naval, Military or Air Force, or those of Commonwealth States of which We are not Queen who have been associated with operations of Our Naval, Military and Air Forces shall be eligible for the award of the Military Cross on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence with the agreement of the appropriate Minister of State of the said Foreign country or Commonwealth State.

Fifthly: It is ordained that the Decoration may be awarded posthumously.

Sixthly: It is ordained that in the event of a person who has been awarded the Decoration again performing such an act or acts as would have entitled him or her to the Military Cross if he or she had not already received it, such further act or acts shall be recorded by a Bar attached to the ribbon by which the Decoration is suspended and for every further act an additional Bar shall be added. A rose Emblem denoting the award of each Bar shall be worn on the ribbon when the ribbon only is worn.

Seventhly: It is ordained that the Military Cross shall not confer any individual precedence but shall entitle the recipient to the addition after his or her name of the letters "MC".

Eighthly: It is ordained that the names of those upon whom We may be pleased to confer this Decoration shall be published in the *London Gazette*, and that a Register thereof shall be kept in the office of Our Secretary of State for Defence.

Ninthly: It is ordained that reproductions of the Military Cross and Bar, known as a Miniature Cross, which may be worn on certain occasions by those to whom the Decoration is awarded, shall be half the size of the Military Cross and Bar respectively and that a sealed pattern of the said Miniature shall be kept in the Central Chancery of Our Orders of Knighthood.

Tenthly: It is ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, by an Order under Our Sign Manual and on the recommendation of Our Secretary of State for Defence to cancel and annul the award of the Military Cross to any person and that thereupon his or her name shall be removed from the aforementioned Register: but that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to restore the Decoration when such recommendation has been withdrawn.

It is further ordained that notice of cancellation or restoration in every case shall be published in the *London Gazette*.