

*War Office, January 24, 1905.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to signify His intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the undermentioned Officer, whose claims have been submitted for His Majesty's approval, for his conspicuous bravery in Thibet, as stated against his name:—

Corps.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
8th Gurkha Rifles	Lieutenant John Duncan Grant	<p>On the occasion of the storming of the Gyantse Jong on 6th July, 1904, the storming Company, headed by Lieutenant Grant, on emerging from the cover of the village, had to advance up a bare, almost precipitous, rock-face, with little or no cover available, and under a heavy fire from the curtain, flanking towers on both sides of the curtain, and other buildings higher up the Jong. Showers of rocks and stones were at the time being hurled down the hillside by the enemy from above. One man could only go up at a time, crawling on hands and knees, to the breach in the curtain.</p> <p>Lieutenant Grant, followed by Havildar Karbir Pun, 8th Gurkha Rifles, at once attempted to scale it, but on reaching near the top he was wounded, and hurled back, as was also the Havildar, who fell down the rock some 30 feet.</p> <p>Regardless of their injuries they again attempted to scale the breach, and, covered by the fire of the men below, were successful in their object, the Havildar shooting one of the enemy on gaining the top. The successful issue of the assault was very greatly due to the splendid example shown by Lieutenant Grant and Havildar Karbir Pun.</p> <p>The latter has been recommended for the Indian Order of Merit.</p>

*War Office,  
24th January, 1905.*

The following Despatches relating to operations in Northern Nigeria in 1903, have been received by the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

Government House, Nunguru,  
6th November, 1903.

Despatch relating to Field Operations.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith Colonel Morland's report on the suppression of the late rising or Jihad led by the ex-Sultan of Sokoto, who was deposed by Sir F. D. Lugard after the occupation of Sokoto in March, and who took the field against us in April, the rising being finally suppressed with the death of the Sultan and many of his fanatical followers, including the Magaji of Keffi, the murderer of Captain Moloney, at the capture of Burmi on the 27th of July.

2. During the continuance of these operations the great danger lay in the paucity of the numerous detachments, many of whom might have been cut up at any time had the enemy showed the same pluck and courage at the beginning as was shown at the latter stage, when they twice attacked, during the night, the walled town of Ashaka, where our troops were, and fought so well and died to a man almost in Burmi. This, however, could not well be avoided until orders got to the front suspending aggressive operations until Major Marsh could get up with reinforcements.

3. While deploring the loss of life, one must still bear in mind that, had these irreconcilables who came from all parts of Hausaland lived, they would have kept up that permanent unrest

and ferment which I trust will now be quite at an end.

4. The area over which the operations extended was a very large one. This, combined with the heavy rains, entailed great hardship on the officers and men, the former on many occasions having to live on native food, often being entirely without European provisions.

5. I cordially endorse and quite concur in the recommendations of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men, made by Colonel Morland as deserving a special recognition, and submit for the consideration of His Majesty's Government that the African General Service Medal with clasp Burmi, 1903, be issued to the officers and troops who participated in these operations.

6. In connection with the Civil Staff, I consider the services of Mr. C. Temple, Resident, Bautshi Province, worthy of special mention. Most of the fighting took place in his province, and his services during the operations were performed in an able and most satisfactory manner. His tactful handling of the natives prevented many of them from joining the enemy, especially the greater part of that fanatical sect the Tejani. He was continually with the various columns advising, supplying intelligence, and arranging for food supplies.

7. Mr. Granville's name was mentioned by Major Marsh, who spoke highly of the indefatigable manner in which Mr. Granville worked to get carriers and other necessities for the reinforcements when they were practically brought to a standstill at Loko in the Nassarawa Province.

8. The medical staff consisted of Dr. H. P. Lobb and Dr. W. J. Healey, who were devoted