



SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette.

Of FRIDAY, the 15th of DECEMBER, 1916.

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FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER, 1916.

War Office,  
15th December, 1916.

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to confer the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned Officer and Man:—

Capt. (temp. Lt.-Col.) Bernard Cyril Freyberg, D.S.O., R. W. Surr. R. and R.N.D.

For most conspicuous bravery and brilliant leading as a Battalion Commander.

By his splendid personal gallantry he carried the initial attack straight through the enemy's front system of trenches. Owing to mist and heavy fire of all descriptions, Lieutenant-Colonel Freyberg's command was much disorganised after the capture of the first objective. He personally rallied and re-formed his men, including men from other units who had become intermixed.

He inspired all with his own contempt of danger. At the appointed time he led his men to the successful assault of the second objective—many prisoners being captured.

During this advance he was twice wounded. He again rallied and re-formed all who were with him, and although unsupported in a very advanced position, he held his ground for the remainder of the

day, and throughout the night, under heavy artillery and machine gun fire. When reinforced on the following morning, he organised the attack on a strongly fortified village and showed a fine example of dash in personally leading the assault, capturing the village and five hundred prisoners. In this operation he was again wounded.

Later in the afternoon, he was again wounded severely, but refused to leave the line till he had issued final instructions.

The personality, valour and utter contempt of danger on the part of this single Officer enabled the lodgment in the most advanced objective of the Corps to be permanently held, and on this point d'appui the line was eventually formed.

No. 16224 Pte. Herbert William Lewis, Welsh R.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty during a raid.

On reaching the enemy trenches Private Lewis was twice wounded, but refused to be attended to, and showed great gallantry in searching enemy dug-outs. He was again wounded and again refused attendance. At this point three of the enemy were observed

to be approaching, and Private Lewis immediately attacked them single-handed, capturing all.

Subsequently, during the retirement, he went to the assistance of a wounded man, and under heavy shell and rifle fire brought him to our lines, on reaching which he collapsed.

Private Lewis showed throughout a brilliant example of courage, endurance and devotion to duty.

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**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER**

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to appoint temporary Second Lieutenant Ian Vernon Pyott, Royal Flying Corps, a Companion of the Distinguished Service

Order, in recognition of conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in connection with the destruction of an Enemy Airship.

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**DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.**

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to award the Distinguished Conduct Medal to the undermentioned men in recognition of their distinguished service and devotion to duty during the Spring and Summer of last year in the Prisoners of War Camp at Gardlegen, Germany:—

No. 12672 Pte. W. T. D. Bristow,  
R.A.M.C. (frmly. R. Fus.).

No. 12673 Pte. L. J. Simpson, R.A.M.C.  
(frmly. R. Fus.).