



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
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*The War Office,
11th October, 1940.*

The KING has been pleased to approve of the award of The Victoria Cross to:—

Lieutenant (acting Captain) Eric Charles Twelves Wilson, The East Surrey Regiment (attached Somaliland Camel Corps).

For most conspicuous gallantry on active service in Somaliland. Captain Wilson was in command of machine-gun posts manned by Somali soldiers in the key position of Observation Hill, a defended post in the defensive organisation of the Tug Argan Gap in British Somaliland.

The enemy attacked Observation Hill on August 11th, 1940. Captain Wilson and Somali gunners under his command beat off the attack and opened fire on the enemy troops attacking Mill Hill, another post within his range. He inflicted such heavy casualties that the enemy, determined to put his guns out of action, brought up a pack battery to within seven hundred yards, and scored two direct hits through the loopholes of his defences, which, bursting within the post, wounded Captain Wilson severely in the right shoulder and in the left eye, several of his team being also wounded. His guns were blown off their stands but he repaired and replaced them and, regardless of his wounds, carried on, whilst his Somali sergeant was killed beside him.

On August 12th and 14th the enemy again concentrated field artillery fire on Captain Wilson's guns, but he continued, with his wounds untended, to man them.

On August 15th two of his machine-gun posts were blown to pieces, yet Captain Wilson, now suffering from malaria in addition to wounds, still kept his own post in action.

The enemy finally over-ran the post at 5 p.m. on the 15th August when Captain Wilson, fighting to the last, was killed.

*War Office,
11th October, 1940.*

The KING has been pleased to approve of the undermentioned awards in recognition of gallant conduct in action with the enemy:—

The Military Medal.

- No. 4382499 Sergeant Charles Thomas Ward, Royal Artillery.
- No. 3127750 Corporal Samuel Nestor, The Royal Scots Fusiliers.
- No. 2017035 Sapper Richard Walter Etchells, Royal Engineers.

*War Office,
11th October, 1940.*

REGULAR ARMY.

The undermentioned retire on ret. pay:—
Gen. Sir Charles Bonham-Carter, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C. (6465). 1st Oct. 1940.

Col. L. J. H. Gardiner (23175). 12th Oct. 1940.

Col. D. W. Cunningham (3309), is granted the hon. rank of Brig. 5th Sept. 1940.