



THIRD SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

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TUESDAY, 10 JUNE, 1941

War Office,
10th June, 1941.

His Majesty The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned officer:—

Second-Lieutenant Premindra Singh Bhagat, Corps of Indian Engineers (serving with Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners).

For most conspicuous gallantry on active service in the Middle East. During the pursuit of the enemy following the capture of Metemma on the night 31st January-1st February, 1941, Second-Lieutenant Bhagat was in command of a section of a Field Company, Sappers and Miners, detailed to accompany the leading mobile troops (Bren Carriers) to clear the road and adjacent areas of mines. For a period of four days and over a distance of 55 miles this officer in the leading carrier led the Column. He detected and supervised the clearing of fifteen mine-fields. Speed being essential he worked at high pressure from dawn to dusk each day. On two occasions when his carrier was blown up with casualties to others and on a third occasion when ambushed and under close enemy fire, he himself carried straight on with his task. He refused relief when worn out with strain and fatigue and with one ear-drum punctured by an explosion, on the grounds that he was now better qualified to continue his task to the end.

His coolness, persistence over a period of 96 hours and gallantry, not only in battle, but throughout the long period when the safety of the Column and the speed at which it could advance were dependent on his personal efforts, were of the highest order.

War Office,
10th June, 1941.

REGULAR ARMY.

Maj.-Gen. F. W. Barron, C.B., O.B.E. (414), ret. pay (Res. of Off.), remains on full pay 1st to 28th June 1941 incl.

Maj.-Gen. (actg. Lt.-Gen.) H. C. B. Wemyss, C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (14202), to be temp. Lt.-Gen. 10th June 1941.

The undermentioned Cols. (actg. Maj.-Gens.), to be temp. Maj.-Gens.:—

B. O. Hutchison, C.B., C.B.E. (4670). 8th June 1941.

C. J. S. King, C.B.E. (5219). 9th June 1941.

Lt.-Col. (temp. Col.) C. O. Olliver (18214), from R.A., to be Col. 21st Feb. 1941, with seniority 1st Feb. 1941. (Substituted for the notifi. in the Gazette of 25th Apr. 1941.)

COMMANDS AND STAFF.

The undermentioned relinquishes his appt.:—

Maj.-Gen. F. W. Barron, C.B., O.B.E. (414), ret. pay (Res. of Off.), as an Insp. 1st June 1941.

ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS.

R.T.R.

Maj. A. B. Woodgate, D.S.O., M.C. (10302) (late R.T.R.), at his own request, reverts to the rank of Capt. whilst empld. during the present emergency. 3rd Mar. 1941.