

*The Distinguished Service Order.*

Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) John Frederick Durnford-Slater (41090), Royal Regiment of Artillery (Instow, N. Devon).  
 Lieutenant Denis William Venables Patrick O'Flaherty (106695), Royal Regiment of Artillery (Portsmouth).

*The Military Cross.*

Lieutenant (temporary Captain) Peter Young (77254), The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (Cobham).  
 Lieutenant Graeme Delamere Black (106240) The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers) (London, N.W.8).

*The Distinguished Conduct Medal.*

No. 3384201 Lance-Sergeant Roy George Herbert, M.M., The Northamptonshire Regiment (Largs, Ayrshire).  
 No. 6341647 Corporal Ernest George White, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment (Gillingham).

*The Military Medal.*

No. 321375 Corporal Michael Benedict Fitzpatrick, Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps (Liverpool 3).

*War Office,*

3rd April, 1942.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in successful combined operations against the enemy at Vaagso and Maaloy:—

## ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS.

*Hussars.*

7880076 Lce.-Sergt. J. D. Allen.

## ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Lt. D. W. V. P. O'Flaherty, D.S.O. (106695).  
 826199 Sergt. G. Ramsay.

## INFANTRY.

*R. War. R.*

Lt. W. W. Etches (112866).

*R.S. Fus.*

3129241 Fus. D. H. Roderick.

*Inniskilling Fus.*

Lt. (temp. Capt.) E. W. Bradley (77384).

*R. Berks. R.*

5340675 Corpl. G. A. Fyson.

*A. & S.H.*

2982693 Pte. T. Verner.

## ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Capt. S. D. Corry, M.B. (119736).

*Air Ministry,*

3rd April, 1942.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the Enemy:—

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Group Captain Alfred Henry WILLETTs.

This officer is air adviser to the Chief of Combined Operations. He took part in the successful raid on Vaagso carried out by the three Services on the 27th December, 1941, and was responsible for the organisation of the air plan adopted for this combined operation. Group Captain Willetts flew in the leading Hampden bomber and much of the success which attended the operation may be attributed to his skill and devotion to duty.

Acting Wing Commander Russell John OXLEY, D.F.C. (37544), No. 50 Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of the leading Hampden bomber of a squadron selected to give direct air support in the combined operations on Vaagso. Perfect co-ordination was maintained and attacks were carried out, mostly below 300 feet, exactly as planned. In the face of opposition, Wing Commander Oxley himself attacked from only 100 feet, while his wireless operator and rear gunner machine-gunned the defences. His aircraft was hit several times by shell-fire and one shell jammed the rudder. Despite this, Wing Commander Oxley flew the damaged aircraft back to this country and made a safe landing. He displayed inspiring leadership, skill and courage throughout.

The following awards for gallantry in connection with the above mentioned operation have already been announced:—

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Wing Commander John Fraser Grant JENKINS, D.F.C. (72517), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. See London Gazette of 23rd January, 1942.

*Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer Henry Paul BRANCKER, D.F.C. (84026), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. See London Gazette of 23rd January, 1942.

The names of any personnel mentioned in despatches will be published in the Birthday Honours List, 1942.

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