

War Office, 11th September, 1942.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the VICTORIA CROSS to:—

No. 4458 Sergeant Quentin George Murray Smythe, South African Forces.

For conspicuous gallantry in action in the Alem Hamza area on the 5th June, 1942.

During the attack on an enemy strong point in which his officer was severely wounded, Sergeant Smythe took command of the platoon although suffering from a shrapnel wound in the forehead. The strong point having been overrun, our troops came under enfilade fire from an enemy machine-gun nest. Realising the threat to his position, Sergeant Smythe himself stalked and destroyed the nest with hand grenades, capturing the crew. Though weak from loss of blood, he continued to lead the advance, and on encountering an anti-tank gun position again attacked it single-handed and captured the crew. He was directly responsible for killing several of the enemy, shooting some and bayonetting another as they withdrew.

After consolidation he received orders for a withdrawal, which he successfully executed, defeating skilfully an enemy attempt at encirclement.

Throughout the engagement Sergeant Smythe displayed remarkable disregard for danger, and his leadership and courage were an inspiration to his men.

War Office, 11th September, 1942.

REGULAR ARMY.

Gen. Sir Walter K. Venning, G.C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., M.C., Col. D.C.L.I., Col. Comdt. A.C.C., A.D.C. Gen. (5928), retires on ret. pay. 11th Sept. 1942.

Col. (temp. Maj.-Gen.) R. L. McCreery, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.C. (13599), is granted the actg. rank of Lt.-Gen. 23rd Aug. 1942.

Col. (temp. Brig.) A. L. I. Friend, C.B.E., M.C. (20520), ret. pay (Res. of Off.), is granted the actg. rank of Maj.-Gen. 17th Aug. 1942.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Lt. (now Maj.) A. J. McMahon, M.B.E. (4686), ret. pay (late R.A.), is restd. to the rank of Capt. 28th July 1942.

Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) Stanley Frederick George WALDRON, D.C.M. (157905), (Emergency Commn.), to be Lt. (D.O.). 13th Apr. 1942.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) G. W. Harris (69235), to be Capt. (Qr.-Mr.). 11th Sept. 1942.

FOOT GUARDS.

I. G's.

Capt. T. W. Gimson (36648), to be Maj. 9th July 1942, with pay and allces. of Capt. from 9th July 1942 to 14th Sept. 1942, incl.

INFANTRY.

R. Fus.

Capt. S. Vickers (37364), to be Maj. 11th Sept. 1942.

R. Norfolk R.

Lt. A. L. Gordon (63577), to be Capt. 30th Aug. 1942.

N. Stafford R.

Capt. L. S. Ford (33685), to be Maj. 3rd Sept. 1942.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Lt.-Col. C. McQueen, M.C. (957), ret. pay, at his own request, reverts to the rank of Maj. whilst emp'd. during the present emergency. 7th Aug. 1942.

ROYAL ARMY PAY CORPS.

Ret. Offr. temp. re-emp'd.

Lt. H. C. V. Warnford, M.C. (168744), (late Foresters), to be Lt. & Paym. 10th Sept. 1942.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

The undermentioned Sisters resign their appts.:—

Miss D. A. L. Booth-Jones (206252). 18th July 1942.

Mrs. J. S. Hill (206091). 26th Aug. 1942.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

REGIMENTAL LIST.

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS.

K.D.G.

Lt. J. C. W. Delmege (50390), from Supp. Res. of Off., to be War Subs. Capt. 9th May 1942.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

The undermentioned Lts. (Qr.-Mrs.) from R.A. (T.S.S. Commns.), to be Lts. (Qr.-Mrs.), retaining their present seniority:—

C. W. H. Lumbard, D.C.M. (95047). 26th June 1942.

J. T. Blenkinship (95410). 1st July 1942.

INFANTRY.

Bedfs. & Herts. R.

Lt. G. C. C. Johnston (52216), from Supp. Res. of Off., to be War Subs. Capt. 1st July 1942.

ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS.

Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) H. J. Smith (96302), from R.A.S.C. (T.S.S. Commn.), to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) 31st July 1942, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

INTELLIGENCE CORPS.

Lt. J. S. A. Humphries (69312), from 11th H., to be Lt. 12th Sept. 1942, retaining his present seniority.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS, ETC.

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS.

War Subs. Lt. H. L. Hetherington (155086), from Durham L.I., to be War Subs. Lt. 12th Sept. 1942, retaining his present seniority.

The undermentioned to be Lts. (Qr.-Mr.):—

1st Aug. 1942:—

Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) F. J. Harvey (199516), from Gen. List, retaining his present seniority.

12th Aug. 1942:—

Actg. G.S.M. Arthur Oliver BASHFORD (241295).

R.T.R.

War Subs. Lt. C. M. Le Clair, M.C. (105954) resigns his commn. 31st Aug. 1942.

N. Yr. Horse.

War Subs. Lt. R. J. Adams (107424) resigns his commn. 8th Aug. 1942.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

The notifi. regarding 2nd Lt. A. A. M. T. Tait (170509) in Gazette (Supplement) dated 6th Feb. 1942, is cancelled.

Lt. and Paymr. G. H. Wills (154866), from R.A.P.C., to be Lt. 19th Aug. 1942, retaining his present seniority, and relinquishing the appt. of Paymr.

Exptl. S.M. Alfred John Alick GASCOIGNE (239303) to be 2nd Lt. 1st July 1942.

The undermentioned Cadets to be 2nd Lts. 19th Apr. 1942:—

Ronald Burton BALLINGER (243492). Patrick Campbell CARTWRIGHT (243493). Edgar Philip DUDLEY (243494). Peter Fisher EDGE (243495). George Atkinson GRAVES (243496). Mervyn JAMES (243497). George Edwin KNOTT (243498). Donald Edward Bovey MORRISON (243499). Victor Cyril LACEY (243500). William Eric Killon HUMPHREYS (243501). Geoffrey Garson SHEPPARD (243502). Henry James Watt SMITH (243503). Norman Lawrence WRIGHT (243504). Keith Creighton HALLIDAY (243505).

The undermentioned to be Lts. (Qr.-Mr.):—

15th May 1942:—

Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) W. G. Bishop (127635), from S. Stafford R., retaining his present seniority.

8th Aug. 1942:—

War Subs. C.S.M. Thomas James BISHOP (244405).

The undermentioned War Subs. Lts. relinquish their commns., on appt. to commns. in the R.A.F.V.R.:—

24th June 1942:—

E. R. Hill (134957).