



NINTH SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

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TUESDAY, 12 JUNE, 1945

**ADMIRALTY.**

*Whitehall,*

*12th June, 1945.*

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

The late Corporal (Temporary) Thomas Peck HUNTER, CH/X.110296, Royal Marines (attached Special Service Troops) (43rd Royal Marine Commando) (Edinburgh).

In Italy during the advance by the Commando to its final objective, Corporal Hunter of "C" Troop was in charge of a Bren group of the leading sub-section of the Commando. Having advanced to within 400 yards of the canal, he observed the enemy were holding a group of houses South of the canal. Realising that his Troop behind him were in the open, as the country there was completely devoid of cover, and that the enemy would cause heavy casualties as soon as they opened fire, Corporal Hunter seized the Bren gun and charged alone across two hundred yards of open ground. Three Spandaus from the houses, and at least six from the North bank of the canal opened fire and at the same time the enemy mortars started to fire at the Troop.

Corporal Hunter attracted most of the fire, and so determined was his charge and his firing from the hip that the enemy in the houses became demoralised. Showing complete disregard for the intense enemy fire, he ran through the houses, changing magazines as he ran, and alone cleared the houses. Six Germans surrendered to him and the remainder fled across a footbridge onto the North bank of the canal.

The Troop dashing up behind Corporal Hunter now became the target for all the Spandaus on the North of the canal. Again, offering himself as a target, he lay in full view of the enemy on a heap of rubble and

fired at the concrete pillboxes on the other side. He again drew most of the fire, but by now the greater part of the Troop had made for the safety of the houses. During this period he shouted encouragement to the remainder, and called only for more Bren magazines with which he could engage the Spandaus. Firing with great accuracy up to the last, Corporal Hunter was finally hit in the head by a burst of Spandau fire and killed instantly.

There can be no doubt that Corporal Hunter offered himself as a target in order to save his Troop, and only the speed of his movement prevented him being hit earlier. The skill and accuracy with which he used his Bren gun is proved by the way he demoralised the enemy, and later did definitely silence many of the Spandaus firing on his Troop as they crossed open ground, so much so that under his covering fire elements of the Troop made their final objective before he was killed.

Throughout the operation his magnificent courage, leadership and cheerfulness had been an inspiration to his comrades.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,*

*12th June, 1945.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

*To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Temporary Lieutenant (Special) Jean Henri COLEMAN, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant James William JEFFREY, R.N.V.R.

for courage, skill and outstanding devotion to duty shown whilst on special services.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's Australian Ministers, to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

*To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Temporary Lieutenant (Sp.) Francis Bernard Kington DRAKE, R.A.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant (Sp.) Lachlan de Salis NICOLSON, R.A.N.V.R.

for outstanding bravery, skill and initiative in the performance of hazardous operations.

#### ADMIRALTY.

*Whitehall,*

*12th June, 1945.*

The KING has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Distinguished Service Order and to approve the following awards:—

For gallantry, outstanding skill and devotion to duty whilst serving in H.M. Ships Rhyl, Rothesay, Brixham, Polruan, Stormoway, Hailstorm and Nebb, and Light Coastal Forces, in minesweeping operations over dense and shallow minefields in the opening up of Greek ports in the Gulf of Corinth:

*To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order:*

Acting Captain Alister Angus MARTIN, D.S.C., R.D., R.N.R.

*Third Bar to the Distinguished Service Cross.*

Temporary Acting Commander Norman Eyre MORLEY, D.S.C., R.N.V.R. (Tilford, Surrey).

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Lieutenant Andrew Hallam Calvert BOOTH, Royal Navy (Burlston, Dorset).

Temporary Lieutenant William Kenneth LEWIS, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant Charles Guy VAUGHAN-LEE, R.N.V.R. (Midhurst).

Temporary Lieutenant Gordon Murray Stewart RUSSELL, R.N.Z.N.V.R.

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Chief Engine Room Artificer David Edgar Sharp THOMAS, C/M.38779 (Wimbledon).

Petty Officer Stanley Gordon SUMMERS, P/JX.153094.

Petty Officer William WARDLE, D/J.6959C (Liverpool).

Petty Officer Telegraphist John Russell RICHARDS, D/JX.146718 (Splatt).

Petty Officer Engineman Robert LORIMER, S.A.51709 (Edinburgh).

Motor Mechanic John FORSYTH, P/MX.99669 (Glasgow).

Able Seaman William John GRAHAM, P/JX.366237 (Workington).

Able Seaman Leslie Thomas HARRISON, D/JX.196853 (Wigan).

*Mention in Despatches.*

Temporary Lieutenant Robert Henry Douglas BARKLIE, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant Richard Henry BEALE, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant Eric James SELBY, R.N.V.R. (Dartmouth).

Temporary Lieutenant Keith Hamilton WADE, R.A.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant (E) Samuel Fielding RAWLINSON, R.N.V.R. (Hull).

Temporary Lieutenant (S) George Ernest TERRILL, R.N.V.R. (Watford).

Acting Skipper Lieutenant John Richard CLARK, R.N.R., 2833 W.S.

Temporary Skipper William John SANDFORD, LT/TS.943 (Milford Haven).

Chief Engine Room Artificer William Henry CROSWELL, D/MX.48555 (Warrenpoint, Co. Down).

Acting Chief Engineman Thomas CRAIG, LT/KX.101861 (Aberdeen).

Acting Temporary Petty Officer Leonard Wilfred BISHOP, C/SSX.19593 (Birmingham).

Petty Officer Motor Mechanic Charles Albert George PEARCE, P/MX.126427 (Tottenham).

Stoker Petty Officer Ronald Arthur LANE, P/KX.79863 (Basingstoke).

Stoker Petty Officer William MURRAY, D/KX.77589 (Lochgelly).

Stores Petty Officer William George CRIMP, D/KX.79368 (Stonehouse).

Leading Wireman Ernest James COURSE, C/MX.92318 (East Ham).

Temporary Leading Signalman Francis Arthur LUCAS, D/JX.176003 (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

Able Seaman David Forbes SMITH, C/JX.393097 (Aberdeen).

Acting Able Seaman Stanley Joseph WARD, P/JX.510377 (London).

Stoker First Class Lionel SKELTON, P/KX.145968.

Seaman Harold ROSSITER, LT/JX.533495 (North Curry, near Taunton).

Seaman Robert WATSON, LT/JX.232073 (Saltcoats, Ayr).

For gallantry, determination and devotion to duty in carrying out a successful air operation in the face of heavy opposition:

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Lieutenant (A) George Frederick CORNISH, Royal Navy.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Acting Lieutenant-Commander (A) Michael THORPE, Royal Navy.

For skill, perseverance and great devotion to duty whilst serving in H.M. Ships Fly, St. Kilda, Albacore, Squall, Waterwitch, Cadmus, Nimbus, Stormoway, Acute and Brave, and Light Coastal Forces in arduous minesweeping operations along the West Coast of Italy:

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Acting Captain Geoffrey Noel RAWLINGS, D.S.O., Royal Navy (Salisbury).

Temporary Acting Lieutenant-Commander Adam Nicholson ROBERTSON, R.N.V.R. (Millport, Isle of Cumbrae).

Lieutenant (N) Arthur Rodney Barry STURDEE, Royal Navy (Kensington).

Temporary Lieutenant James Granville DIXON, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Lieutenant James McGregor ALEXANDER, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Skipper Charles William CHILVERS, R.N.R., 968 T.S. (Gorleston-on-Sea).

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Acting Chief Petty Officer George Howard MCKINLEY, D/JX.137287 (Polman).

Chief Engineman George William CARTWRIGHT, P/KX.98756.

Engine Room Artificer Third Class William Thomas SAWLE, D/SMX.56 (Truro).

Second Hand Ronald HALL, LT/X.19485A (Hull).

Petty Officer George Frederick CUSACK, P/JX.128966 (Godalming).

Petty Officer Telegraphist Ronald CONNELL, D/JX.134235 (Leeds).

Petty Officer Motor Mechanic George Albert SLATER, C/MX.76606 (Coventry).

Stoker Petty Officer Frederick Hirst MITCHELL, D/KX.78280 (Newton Abbot).

Leading Seaman Roy Pattinson DENT, C/JX.211216 (Blackburn).

Leading Wireman Leslie Arthur George NORRIS, C/MX.68830 (Hendon).

Able Seaman Walter John GAMBIER, P/J.44719 (Cambridge).

Signalman Arthur Richard COOKSON, LT/JX.309378 (Urmston).

Temporary Signalman Barry Walter STEVENSON, P/JX.204696 (Leicester).

Wireman Robert William Herbert DAWES, C/MX.96880 (New Malden).

*Mention in Despatches (Posthumous).*

Chief Petty Officer Engineman Stephen Arthur HOUSLEY, LT/KX.109644.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Lieutenant - Commander Douglas Stewart CAMPBELL, R.N.V.R.

Acting Lieutenant-Commander Kenneth Horder HIGSON, D.S.C., R.N.R. (Highcliffe, Hants).

Temporary Acting Lieutenant - Commander Peter Charles CRESSWELL, R.N.V.R. (Birmingham).

Temporary Sub-Lieutenant John Corden HEWETT, R.N.V.R. (Brighton).

Temporary Chief Skipper Vercial Frank EVERETT, R.N.R., T.S.243.

Shipwright Second Class Percy William KIRBY, C/MX.47856 (Gillingham).

Engine Room Artificer Third Class Ronald Frank PERRY, P/MX.61365 (Rothesay).

Petty Officer Daniel Dixon PETERSEN, D.S.M., P/X.8061C (North Shields).

Temporary Petty Officer Albert Tom THORNE, D/JX.146836 (Morton-Fitzwarren, Somerset).

Leading Radio Mechanic Vincent Richard Thomas WATKINS, P/MX.125057 (Cardiff).

Leading Signalman William Henry COTTINGTON, P/J.81918 (Eastbourne).

Temporary Leading Signalman James Henry STOTT, D/SSX.33018 (Shaw, Nr. Oldham).

Able Seaman Frank FOLKARD, C/JX.278555.

Able Seaman Patrick KENNEDY, D/JX.365105.

Able Seaman Ronald MAWSON, D/JX.255637 (Hitchin).

Able Seaman James WILSON, C/JX.353286 (Glasgow).

Seaman Leonard DERRICOTT, LT/JX.328049 (Langley, Nr. Birmingham).

For courage, audacity and skill shown whilst serving in H.M. Ships Minuet, Gulland, Twostep, Ailsa Craig and Hornpipe, and Light Coastal Forces, in an offensive sweep against enemy shipping:

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Temporary Acting Lieutenant-Commander William Bruce Thornton BATE, R.N.V.R. (Par, Cornwall).

Temporary Lieutenant Geddie Angus ANDERSON, R.N.V.R.

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Leading Seaman Albert Henry Charles GOLDSMITH, LT/JX.242304 (King's Lynn).

Leading Seaman George THOMSON, LT/JX.193161 (Cockenzie).

Telegraphist James MURPHY, D/JX.357913 (Birmingham).

Seaman Dennis Harold OLORENSHAW, LT/JX.376683.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Acting Lieutenant-Commander Henry LEGH DE LEGH, R.N.R. (Moreton, Cheshire).

Temporary Acting Lieutenant-Commander Geoffrey Oliver SPARKS, R.N.V.R. (Mill Hill).

Temporary Lieutenant Thomas Grange HORNSBY, R.N.R.

Temporary Lieutenant John Henry HAND, R.N.V.R. (Margate).

Temporary Lieutenant John William NYE, R.N.V.R.

Chief Engineman Herbert West AISTHORPE, LT/KX.116117 (Grimsby).

Chief Engineman James John EDMONDS, LT/KX.124933 (Hull).

Chief Engineman Charles Edwin KITCHING, LT/KX.98614.

Petty Officer Motor Mechanic William TAYLOR, P/MX.89947 (Faversham).

Engineman Wilfred McNALLY, LT/KX.102456 (Whitby).

Able Seaman Edward Burchinshaw HUGHES, D/SSX.29412 (Llanfairfechan).

Seaman John Vincent Joffre MCINTYRE, LT/JX.189869 (Scarborough).

Seaman Thomas Arthur STEPHENSON, LT/JX.281728 (Fleetwood).

For bravery, skill and great devotion to duty in damaging attacks against enemy shipping off the Coast of France:

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Temporary Lieutenant John William COLLINS, R.C.N.V.R. (Toronto).

Temporary Lieutenant Malcolm Campbell KNOX, R.C.N.V.R. (Montreal).

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Petty Officer Coxswain Herbert Leonard HARRISON, R.C.N.3193 (Orcadia, Sask.).

Petty Officer Ralph Ambrose HEMPHILL, Y.3341 (Picton, N.S.).

Petty Officer Motor Mechanic André JUCHLI, V.58735 (Edmonton, Alberta).

Leading Seaman Frederick George HUNTINGFORD, C/JX.315176 (London).

*Mention in Despatches.*

Temporary Lieutenant Leslie Raphael MCLERNON, D.S.C., R.C.N.V.R. (Montreal).

Temporary Lieutenant Robert Campbell SMITH, R.C.N.V.R. (Montreal).

Leading Seaman Jack Alsensas MCMAHON, R.C.N.3894 (Liverpool, N.S.).

Leading Seaman Alfred John PENNINGTON, C/JX.138418 (Strood, Kent).

Able Seaman Sydney James ANDERSON, V.31852 (Alberta).

Able Seaman Thomas Alton PARDO, V.4745 (Hamilton, Ont.).

For gallantry and promptness of action which saved his ship from serious damage in an air attack during invasion operations at Anzio:

*Mention in Despatches (Posthumous).*

Chief Yeoman of Signals Albert Edward SPENCER, P/J.90111.

For courage and outstanding devotion to duty:

*Mention in Despatches.*

Acting Leading Seaman Arthur George Elias BRIARD, D.S.M., C/JX.144881.

For outstanding skill and judgement in defending his ship during an air attack:

*Mention in Despatches.*

Leading Seaman Frederick Amos HUCKLE, C/JX.192473.

For vigilance and skill in defence against attacks by E-Boats:

*Mention in Despatches.*

Temporary Leading Seaman John Richard WILSON, D/SSX.24031.

For bravery and great devotion to duty whilst operating with the Allied Armies in North-West Europe:

*To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Malcolm GRAY, M.C., Royal Marines.

*The Military Cross.*

Captain (Acting Major) Patrick Henry Bligh WALL, Royal Marines.

Captain (Acting Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) Peter Walter James NEALE, Royal Marines.

*The Military Medal.*

Troop Sergeant Major Harwood Frederick George BEAVEN, R.M., Ply.X.458.

Sergeant William George DEACON, R.M., Ch.X.106276.

Corporal (Temporary) James Patrick SCULLION, R.M., Ch.X.104842.

The following corrections are made:—

In London Gazette Supplement No. 36979 of 13th March, 1945.

Page 1383:

For Mr. Frederick Stanley NICHOLLS, *Acting Warrant Mechanician*, Royal Navy.

Read Mr. Frederick Stanley NICHOLLS, *Warrant Mechanician*, Royal Navy.

In London Gazette Supplement No. 37079 of 15th May, 1945.

Page 2524:

For Corporal (Temporary) Walter THOM, Po.X.107028.

Read Sergeant (Temporary) Walter THOM, Po.X.107028.

In London Gazette Supplement No. 37110 of 5th June, 1945.

Page 2851:

For Lieutenant-Colonel John Edmund LEECH-PORTER, O.B.E., Royal Marines.

Read Lieutenant-Colonel (*Acting Colonel Commandant*) (*Temporary Brigadier*) John Edmund LEECH-PORTER, Royal Marines.

For Temporary Sergeant Hubert SUMPTION, R.M., Ply.X.100550.

Read Sergeant (*Temporary*) Hubert SUMPTION, R.M., Ply.X.100550.

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