



SUPPLEMENT  
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*Department of National Defence, Ottawa.  
2nd April, 1946.*

THE CANADIAN ARMY.

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

No. H.6008 Warrant Officer Class II (Company-Sergeant-Major) John Robert OSBORN, Canadian Infantry Corps.

At Hong Kong on the morning of the 19th December, 1941, a Company of the Winnipeg Grenadiers to which Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn belonged, became divided during an attack on Mount Butler, a hill rising steeply above sea level. A part of the Company led by Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn captured the hill at the point of the bayonet and held it for three hours when, owing to the superior numbers of the enemy and to fire from an unprotected flank, the position became untenable. Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn and a small group covered the withdrawal and when their turn came to fall back Osborn, single-handed, engaged the enemy while the remainder successfully joined the Company. Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn had to run the gauntlet of heavy rifle and machine gun fire. With no consideration for his own safety he assisted and directed stragglers to the new Company position, exposing himself to heavy enemy fire to cover their retirement. Wherever danger threatened he was there to encourage his men.

During the afternoon the Company was cut off from the Battalion and completely surrounded by the enemy who were able to approach to within grenade throwing distance of the slight depression which the Company were holding. Several enemy grenades were thrown which Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn picked up and threw back. The enemy threw a grenade which landed in a position where it was impossible to pick it up and return it in time. Shouting a warning to his comrades this gallant

Warrant Officer threw himself on the grenade which exploded killing him instantly. His self-sacrifice undoubtedly saved the lives of many others.

Company-Sergeant-Major Osborn was an inspiring example to all throughout the defence which he assisted so magnificently in maintaining against an overwhelming enemy force for over eight and a half hours, and in his death he displayed the highest qualities of heroism and self-sacrifice.

*War Office, 2nd April, 1946.*

REGULAR ARMY.

Lt.-Col. (temp. Brig.) R. I. JONES, O.B.E. (11580), R.I.A.S.C., to be Col., 30th June 1945, with seniority, 8th May 1944.

Col. J. E. ELLCOME (10267), late R.A.M.C., retires on ret. pay, 30th Mar. 1946.

Col. R. G. LOCHNER, M.C. (22282), retires on ret. pay, 31st Mar. 1946, and is granted the hon. rank of Maj.-Gen.

Col. J. M. HAMILTON, D.S.O. (1719), retires on ret. pay, 31st Mar. 1946, and is granted the hon. rank of Brig.

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS.

10th H.

Lt.-Col. C. B. C. HARVEY, D.S.O. (18516), retires on ret. pay, 3rd Apr. 1946, and is granted the hon. rank of Brig.

Nottinghamshire Yeos.

Lt.-Gen. H. B. D. WILLCOX, K.C.I.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (4694), to be Col., 8th Feb. 1946, vice the late Lt.-Gen. Sir Douglas BROWNRIFF, K.C.B., D.S.O.

R.T.R.

Capt. (Qr.-Mr.) J. NOEL, D.C.M. (62728), to be Maj. (Qr.-Mr.), 1st Apr. 1946.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Lt. (War Subs. Lt.) Sidney George BRIGHTY (190438) from Emerg. Commn., to be Lt., 28th Feb. 1945, with seniority, 1st Aug. 1938. (Substituted for the notifi. in Gazette (Supplement), dated 27th Feb. 1945.)

The undermentioned Maj. to be Lt.-Cols.:—  
1st Jan. 1946:—

War Subs. Lt.-Col. G. R. ROWBOTHAM, C.B.E. (6300).

2nd Jan. 1946:—

L. C. AITKEN, O.B.E. (17880).