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The War Office, 4th January, 1957.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Malaya:—

Military Cross.

Lieutenant Ernest Malcolm Clive Douglas TAYLOR (430458), The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

On 23rd October, 1956, Lieutenant Taylor was sent with his platoon to intercept a party of terrorists who had been seen near Bahau. It was thought that they would cross the R. Seriting and Lieutenant Taylor's instructions were to patrol this stream. He split up his platoon into small patrols and ambush parties, himself taking command of a patrol of four men.

After he had been patrolling for about half-an-hour he heard sounds of chopping in the jungle near the river. With one Iban tracker he went forward to investigate, leaving the remainder of the patrol to cover him. He crept cautiously forward through thick jungle and a swamp and so skilful was his movement that the enemy was not alerted. From the sound of the chopping he judged that the enemy was moving towards him.

Lieutenant Taylor continued his stalk until, finally, he saw eight armed terrorists approaching him at a distance of about ten yards. He and the Iban, however, had not been seen by them. Determined to get into the best possible fire position, he crawled forward through the jungle until he was only about five yards from the enemy. He then opened fire and himself killed two and severely wounded one terrorist. The Iban wounded and disabled another.

The other members of the patrol rushed forward and a sharp engagement ensued with the remaining terrorists who, however, were able to escape, although they abandoned their packs and a large quantity of food. The wounded terrorists were captured.

Lieutenant Taylor's skilful jungle craft in this operation enabled him to achieve complete surprise. His determination and personal courage were entirely responsible for its success. His example will long be an inspiration to his platoon and to the remainder of the company.

Military Medal.

21131076 Lance Corporal (acting) AMARBAHADUR RANA, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles.

On the 6th October, 1956, a Coy. 2nd Bn. KED Gurkha Rifles was engaged in anti-terrorist operations in the Kuala Pilah District of Negri Sembilan. The company had to lie up for twenty-four hours in the vicinity of a bandit camp

and, at 1400 hrs., an assault party, led by Lance Corporal Amarbahadur Rana moved forward to within sixty yards. Here it remained in constant danger of detection by the bandits, who were moving freely in and around their camp, until 0200 hrs. on the 7th October when the party, after a nerve wracking approach in total darkness, through thick jungle, entered the camp. The bandits opened fire at point blank range with shot guns and automatic weapons but thanks to Amarbahadur Rana's courage and leadership the terrorists were quickly subdued, two of their number being killed. Inspired by Amarbahadur Rana's example the whole assault party acquitted themselves in the highest tradition of their Regiment.

The War Office, 4th January, 1957.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of an act of bravery at Famagusta, Cyprus:—

Queen's commendation for brave conduct (posthumous)

23225818 Lance Corporal Bryan David George WELSH, Corps of Royal Military Police.

At Famagusta on the 21st March, 1956, three bombs were thrown by Eoka terrorists, at a vehicle, in which Lance Corporal WELSH, with other members of the Military Police, was travelling. One bomb fell into the rear of the vehicle where it almost immediately exploded. Another Lance Corporal who was in the rear of the vehicle with WELSH, seeing the smoking fuse, shouted a warning before being blown out of the vehicle and severely wounded. The men in the front portion were both slightly wounded, Lance Corporal WELSH was killed. His body was found with his right hand blown off and his arm burnt and charred. At the Inquest the conclusion was reached that WELSH, seeing the bomb close behind the front seats, instead of trying to escape, seized the bomb to throw it out in an heroic attempt to protect his companions. His action probably saved the lives of the two men in the front seats.

The War Office, 4th January, 1957.

REGULAR ARMY.

Col. (Temp. Maj.-Gen.) J. W. HACKETT, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. (52752), late R.A.C., to be Brig., 24th Sept. 1956.

The undermentioned Offrs. to be Supernumerary to Establishment, 31st Dec. 1956:—

Brig. R. B. P. Wood, D.S.O. (34961), late R. Tks.