



SUPPLEMENT TO

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TUESDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER 1963

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

10th September 1963.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the George Medal to the under mentioned:

565 Shawish (Sergeant) Ali BIN BATTI, Trucial Oman Scouts.

On 2nd May 1963, Shawish Ali Bin Batti was in charge of the transport of a convoy going from Sharjah to Buraimi. During the night there were widespread and exceptional storms. At daybreak on the 3rd May the convoy moved out of a wadi to higher ground but two large vehicles became immobilised by the difficult going.

Six men were attempting to extricate one of the vehicles when a fast running spate of flood water quickly rose to the height of the vehicle cab.

Appreciating the sudden danger of the situation Ali Bin Batti, having made fast the end of a rope, waded some twenty yards through the raging torrent with the water up to his neck. He climbed on to the first vehicle and threw the remainder of the rope to the men on the second vehicle. By now both vehicles were almost submerged but, with the aid of the rope, all were able to make their way to safety. Almost immediately afterwards both the heavy vehicles were swept away and smashed to pieces.

The six men undoubtedly owe their lives to the prompt reaction and great bravery of Shawish Ali Bin Batti.

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

10th September 1963.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Military Division) to the undermentioned:

21146614 Sergeant BHIMRAJ Rai, 2nd Battalion 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles.

On the 31st August 1962, Typhoon Wanda struck Hong Kong causing havoc and destruction, hundreds of people losing their lives. One of the areas hardest hit was the fishing village of Tai Po in the New Territories.

At the height of the typhoon, Sergeant Bhimraj led a rescue team of twenty Gurkha soldiers to assist the few local police. Due to the enormous waves lashing over the sea wall and the 140 m.p.h. winds, it was impossible to survive unaided, so the small rescue team roped themselves together and under

Sergeant Bhimraj's calm, determined command they worked without a stop from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. They succeeded in carrying hundreds of terrified men, women and children to safety.

Each time a family was evacuated the rescue team had to enter the highly dangerous waters where small boats and junks were breaking up as they were hurled against the sea wall. The fisherfolk then had to be extricated by force as they had become virtually paralysed with fear and exhaustion. Time and again the rescue team were all but swept away, but under Sergeant Bhimraj's fearless leadership and despite the fact that he and some of his men received painful injuries from flying debris, they continued against almost impossible odds.

Sergeant Bhimraj's skill and bravery undoubtedly led to the saving of many lives.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

10th September 1963.

The QUEEN has directed that the appointment of John Sydney Noel POUNDS, late Major (293009) (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel), Royal Army Educational Corps, to be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire dated 1st June 1953, shall be cancelled and annulled, and his name erased from the Register, in consequence of him having been convicted by Court Martial and dismissed from Her Majesty's Service.

WAR OFFICE

10th September 1963.

REGULAR ARMY

Brig. J. E. S. STONE, C.B.E. (58134), late Inf., retires on retired pay, 9th Sept. 1963.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

The undermentioned Offrs. having attained the age limit for liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of Offrs. on the dates shown:

Lt.-Gen. Sir William P. OLIVER, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., O.B.E., D.L. (18260), late Inf., 8th Sept. 1963.

Brig. W. L. STEBLE, O.B.E. (32152), late Ft. Gds., 7th Sept. 1963.