



SUPPLEMENT TO

The London Gazette

of Tuesday, 6th April 1965

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

FRIDAY, 9TH APRIL 1965

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Western Malaysia during August and September 1964.

MILITARY CROSS

Captain (Q.G.O.) AITABAHADUR LIMBU (423659), 1st Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Captain (Q.G.O.) Aitabahadur Limbu has been the Senior Gurkha Officer of B Company, 1st Battalion 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles for 18 months, almost all of which he has spent on active service. Throughout three separate periods of operations (once in the Second Division of Sarawak, once in the Tawau area of Sabah, and more recently in the Labis area of Johore) Captain Aitabahadur Limbu has been a tower of strength in his company and a continued source of inspiration to all who have been under his command.

During the month of September 1964, whilst operating in the Labis area in Malaya, he became involved in an action that once again demonstrated the very high standard of calmness and operational efficiency that he has made his own. He also displayed highly commendable initiative, courage and determination. On the morning of 23rd September 1964, he accompanied his company commander (Major R. M. Haddow) in the follow up of a group of enemy paratroopers in a difficult iron mining area near Bukit Bujang to the north of Labis. Whilst trying to reach a favourable assault position, the enemy opened fire, and in the ensuing fire fight, Major Haddow was killed. Captain Aitabahadur Limbu did not falter. Even with the loss of his superior officer and, still not knowing for certain where the enemy were or how many of them were hidden ahead of him, he probed forward with great skill and marked control. By this time, he realised that his Support Platoon Commander with a further five men had arrived on the scene, but had got opposite him, so that the hidden enemy were now between the two groups. Controlling the battle with his shouted command, Captain Aitabahadur Limbu ordered one group to give covering fire whilst the other closed on the enemy, thus enabling them to reach a position from which the final assault took place; this he led with great determination resulting in the total elimination of the enemy party. To have controlled and won such a difficult fire fight, having just seen his company commander killed and having picked up the reins in so tragically unexpected circumstances, is a measure of the calibre of Captain

Aitabahadur Limbu. By accounting for these paratroopers, he crushed the last stubborn element of opposition in the Labis area and operations folded up soon afterwards.

Thus for a period of 14 months on operations, first as a company Second-in-Command and then, in tragic circumstances, as a company Commander, Captain Aitabahadur Limbu has borne himself most commendably. He displayed great personal control and courage on Major Haddow's death and brought his company through a demoralising loss and a most difficult situation to a successful conclusion.

MILITARY MEDAL

21139646 Sergeant MANBAHADUR TAMANG, 1st Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Sergeant Manbahadur Tamang has a total of 14 years service. Of this, he has spent 8 years on active service during the Emergency in Malaya and eighteen months on operations in Eastern Malaysia prior to operations in the Labis area of Malaya. During the whole of this period, he has displayed outstanding leadership and a marked disregard for his own personal safety. During the period that he has been engaged on operations with C Company 1st Battalion 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles in the Labis area of Johore, in September 1964, Sergeant Manbahadur Tamang has, by his astute and tireless leadership of a platoon, been able to hunt out, contain, and eliminate all Indonesian infiltrators in the area in which he has been operating.

On 8th September 1964, he was personally responsible for mounting an immediate action, with only a handful of men, which resulted in the death of an armed Indonesian parachutist, under extremely dangerous and geographically difficult circumstances. Whilst they were in a position in the Bukit Merah, Labis area, the Indonesian parachutist was seen by a sentry, who fired. The Indonesian made good his escape into thick undergrowth and swamp. Sergeant Manbahadur Tamang immediately mounted a follow up, using only the 4 men available to him, and within minutes had placed them so judiciously as to cover every avenue of escape, from what was a considerable area. He then caused the Indonesian to expose himself, by drawing the enemy's fire on to himself, thus allowing a member of the cordon to locate and kill the Indonesian.

During subsequent operations in the area of Ayer Panas, and in the jungle, during the period 8th September 1964 and 25th September 1964, his conduct and leadership has been an example to his platoon and the rest of his Company. He played a personal and prominent part in the capture of at