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FRIDAY, 20TH AUGUST 1965

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry in Southern Arabia:

MILITARY CROSS

Lieutenant Martin PROUDLOCK (474039) Royal Regiment of Artillery.

On the night of 18th-19th March 1965, Lieutenant Proudlock was the Gun Position Officer of a Section of 28 Light Battery Royal Artillery, deployed in the Wadi Abad in Beihan State, near the Yemen border. The section was in support of 2nd Battalion Federal Regular Army.

At approximately 0030 hours on 19th March 1965, four rocket launcher bombs landed within the gun position. At the same time, the position came under accurate machine gun and rifle fire from two areas; the first 200 yards to the East, the second 600 yards to the South.

Lieutenant Proudlock was awakened by the sounds of firing and immediately ordered the gunners to take post on the guns. Despite the fact that accurate small arms fire was still being brought to bear, and vehicles and sangars were being struck by bullets, led by Lieutenant Proudlock, the gunners ran to serve the guns.

In order to bring fire to bear on the enemy position to the South, Lieutenant Proudlock ordered one gun to be manhandled out of its sangar into the open. From a position behind the gun he directed the engagement of the enemy position by direct fire. The enemy fire was silenced and the enemy retreated up a wadi. Indirect fire was then ordered by Lieutenant Proudlock along the likely line of retreat.

The first phase of this action had lasted fifteen minutes. During this period Lieutenant Proudlock had shown great initiative, courage and leadership in beating off a determined attack on his position and causing casualties to the enemy.

Shortly afterwards, the Federal Regular Army company on the Neqd Abad came under small arms, rocket launcher and mortar fire. The Forward Observation Officer deployed with the Federal Regular Army company called for fire and received a very quick and accurate response from the guns which silenced the enemy, caused casualties and forced him to withdraw.

Throughout the action which lasted for an hour and a half, Lieutenant Proudlock a young and relatively inexperienced officer, showed great presence of mind and courage under fire. Having successfully repelled a well co-ordinated, close range attack on his position he then produced timely and accurate artillery support of his infantry in the best traditions

of the Royal Regiment. His conduct was an inspiration to his men in what was undoubtedly a difficult and dangerous situation.

20th August 1965.

REGULAR ARMY

Maj.-Gen. W. A. ROBINSON, C.B., O.B.E., Q.H.S., M.D. (50009), late R.A.M.C., retires on retired pay, 20th Aug. 1965.

Brig. J. P. DOUGLAS, O.B.E., M.B. (58983), late R.A.M.C., to be Maj.-Gen., 20th Aug. 1965.

Col. A. MACLENNAN, O.B.E., M.B., (63253), late R.A.M.C., to be Brig., 20th Aug. 1965.

Lt-Col. R. R. CROOKS (85563) from R.E., to be Col., 9th June 1965, with seniority 19th Aug. 1964.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Brig. W. P. T. ROBERTS, C.B.E. (38423), late R.A., having attained the age limit for liability to recall, ceases to belong to Res. of Offrs., 20th Aug. 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Col. G. S. H. DICKER, C.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L. (194982), late R. Signals, from Active List, T.A., to be Col., 1st Aug. 1965.

ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS

Scots Greys

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Class III

Capt. I. S. WHEATLEY (428990) from A.E. Res. of Offrs., to be Capt., 8th July 1965.

14/20 H.

REGULAR ARMY

2nd Lt. Jeremy Fleming Ashworth HOPE (474359), from Short Serv. Commn., R.A.C., to be 2nd Lt., 8th June 1965, with seniority 24th May 1965.

15/19 H.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Lt. C. F. W. WYATT (460973) from A.E. Res. of Offrs., to be Lt., 16th July 1965.

17/21 L.

REGULAR ARMY

Lt. J. H. W. HANMER (455349) to be Capt., 19th Aug. 1965.

R.A.C.

REGULAR ARMY

Short Serv. Commn.

7955892 W.O. Cl. I Norman Leonard CHESHER (478786) to be 2nd Lt., 12th July 1965. To be Lt., 12th July 1965.