



SUPPLEMENT TO

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
25th March 1966.

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

Major John Frank ELLIOTT (409402), Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

During the period November 1964 to December 1965 in Aden, Major Elliott personally investigated no less than 189 reported incidents involving bombs, booby traps, grenades and other explosive devices. Altogether 309 potentially lethal objects were dismantled by Major Elliott and of these 154 proved to contain explosives in one form or another and were all disarmed by him. In many instances the devices were home made, contained crude but potentially effective anti-lifting mechanisms or the explosives were decomposed and volatile.

Although every one of the incidents investigated by Major Elliott required courage and exceptional devotion to duty, two must be specifically mentioned.

On 16th June 1965, a terrorist blew up part of the Middle East Command Officers' Mess. Major Elliott was called, and suspecting the presence of further explosives, cleared the building, and working by torchlight found and disarmed three further explosive time charges. This highly dangerous task was rendered even more hazardous by the darkness and more nerve wracking by the presence of the dismembered body of the terrorist, who had been blown up by his own bomb, in the area in which he had to work. Major Elliott refused help, however, until he had made the area safe.

In the early hours of 29th August 1965, he was called to the scene of an explosion in a residential area. A search revealed two more explosive charges which he disarmed. Bloodstains in the area of the explosion suggested that the culprit had injured himself and Major Elliott instigated a search of the area. His investigation eventually led him to a locked room in a nearby house. He had the door broken down and a wounded terrorist was hiding within. The arrest of this man, which would not have taken place but for his alertness and determination, led to a major round up of terrorists in Aden and a sharp reduction in their activities.

Throughout the year Major Elliott has risked his life almost daily with calmness, courage and complete disregard for his own safety far above the normal course of duty.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the undermentioned award in respect of Gallant and Distinguished conduct in Aden:

Distinguished Flying Cross

Lieutenant Thomas William DRIVER (480488), Army Air Corps (formerly 22300209 Warrant Officer Class II).

During the period from August 1964 to November 1965, Company Sergeant Major Driver has carried out some 550 sorties totalling over 300 hours flying, in the Radfan and Yemen border area, in what can only be described as hazardous and dangerous conditions.

Throughout this time Company Sergeant Major Driver has never for one moment faltered.

His courage, willingness and enthusiasm to undertake any task however adverse the conditions, and quite without regard to his own fatigue after long periods in the air has secured for him a very special position in the minds of the British and Federal Units operating in the Radfan.

He has, on numerous occasions, carried out casualty evacuations in difficult flying conditions and lifted in landing zone marking parties in areas in which dissident gangs were known to be operating.

On 19th July 1965, whilst on passage between Awabil and Dhala his helicopter was fired on. Without regard to his own safety he descended and ascertained the exact location of the dissidents and immediately passed the information by radio to the operational Headquarters. As a result of his courage and initiative on this occasion the Federal Forces despatched to the area were able to inflict heavy casualties on the enemy including 9 killed. During this same action he was able by skilful flying to give valuable information to the Federal Battalion concerned and with complete disregard for his own safety evacuated two of their own casualties from the forward area during the course of the day.

Company Sergeant Major Driver's sustained efforts over this long period have been in the highest traditions of the service and reflect the greatest credit on the Army Air Corps.

25th March 1966.

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS

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REGULAR ARMY

Lt. D. M. BROOK (463818) to be Capt., 24th Mar. 1966.