

SUPPLEMENT TO

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TUESDAY, 4TH JANUARY 1972

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

4th January 1972.

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

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order for Gallantry:

Instructor Lieutenant Alexander Dunn, Royal Navy.

On 18th June at 1020 the annual Plymouth to Fowey race was run. Weather conditions were not good but acceptable—wind WSW Force 3, seas

good but acceptable—wind WSW Force 3, seas moderate, with drizzle.

Instructor Lieutenant Dunn was in a whaler with a crew of four sailors under training. By 1200 the weather was deteriorating—wind freshening, seas increasing and boats had difficulty going to windward. The crew were suffering from sea sickness and wetness. Weather conditions continued to worsen. By 1400 Lieutenant Dunn was off Downderry, wind was Force 7, large seas were running and the whaler was shipping a lot of water. After failing to obtain assistance and because the morale of the crew was by this time very low, he decided to run back to Plymouth rather than continue towards Looe.

Running under mizen and jib, good progress was made until, a mile off Rame Head, a rogue sea capsized the whaler. The crew had previously been instructed to stay with the boat in this eventuality, but by now three of them were in poor physical condition, panicking and incapable of making any controlled physical effort. Conditions were extremely head very heavy seas were running and tumbling the trolled physical effort. Conditions were extremely bad, very heavy seas were running and tumbling the whaler over and over on its beam ends. During this period Lieutenant Dunn, without any regard to his own safety and by outstanding leadership, skill, personal effort and tremendous physical exertion, kept his crew together either near or on the upturned boat. His achievement was all the more magnificent in view of the complete lack of experience of three of the crew, their very feeble physical state and the terrible conditions.

After 30-40 minutes help arrived from a helicopter and rescue launch. It was only by virtue of Lieutenant Dunn's unflagging determination and physical effort in helping them into the helicopter

that the four young men were rescued from the upturned whaler. Regrettably, two of the young men died during or immediately after rescue, but had it not been for Lieutenant Dunn's single-minded, unselfish efforts all four may well have been lost.

ARMY DEPARTMENT

4th January 1972.

COMMANDS AND STAFF

REGULAR ARMY
Col. J. VEVERS, O.B.E. (257633), late R.E.M.E.,
retires on retired pay, 1st Jan. 1972.
Col. D. A. K. LEGGE, C.B.E. (67109), late Inf.,
retires on retired pay, 4th Jan. 1972.

PROMOTIONS

REGULAR ARMY

Commands and Staff The undermentioned Cols, and Lt.-Cols, to be Brigs., 31st Dec. 1971, with seniority 30th Jun.

E. M. Turnbull, O.B.E. (204255), late L.G. I. H. Baker, M.B.E. (393064), late R.A.C. P. C. Bull (229182), late R.A.C. P. B. CAVENDISH, O.B.E. (349894), late R.A.C. R. G. LAWSON, D.S.O., O.B.E. (393195), late R.A.C. L. M. Barker (307633), late R.A. D. C. BLOMFIBLD-SMITH, M.B.E. (151342), late R.A.

D. C.

tte R.A.
H. W. D. COTTAM, O.B.E. (94738), late R.A.
I. C. LAMBIE, M.B.E. (362020), late R.A.
P. F. AYLWIN-FOSTER (343949), late R.E.
C. P. CAMPBELL (357612), late R.E.
J. D. WALKER, O.B.E. (293553), late R.E.
D. B. ALEXANDER-SINCLAIR (364585), late Inf.
C. N. BARKER, M.B.E., M.C. (95654), late Inf.
A. N. BREITMEYER (278635), late Ft. Gds.
P. J. BUSH, O.B.E. (321578), late Inf.
G. B. CURTIS, O.B.E., M.C. (237626), late Inf.
A. P. W. MACLELLAN, M.B.E. (335162), late t. Gds.

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