



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO
The London Gazette
 of Monday, 20th January 1975
 Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 21st JANUARY 1975

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

HONOURS AND AWARDS

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Whitehall, London S.W.1.
 Tuesday, 21st January 1975.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The QUEEN'S Gallantry Medal for service in Cyprus in July 1974:

PO24406F Corporal James William HALL, Royal Marines.

40 Commando R.M., of which Corporal Hall was a member, was deployed to Cyprus during the night of 20th-21st July in order to defend part of the Sovereign Base area some five miles north of R.A.F. Akrotiri. All ranks were ordered to avoid confrontation with the Turkish and Greek Cypriot Forces but some bands of Greek Cypriot Guerillas, armed with automatic weapons, were taking independent action, not only against Turkish Cypriots but also against Greek Cypriots belonging to other factions.

The Section commanded by Corporal Hall came under fire and one Marine was wounded. Corporal Hall stood up and faced the guerillas, at great personal risk, and warned them to stop firing. He ordered his Section to stand up to indicate that they were not prepared to return the fire. Corporal Hall had informed the guerillas that his troops were English, but they would not allow him to render first aid to the wounded Marine nor to radio for assistance. They withdrew, however, after removing the Marines' weapons and equipment.

By his actions throughout this incident Corporal Hall acted in accordance with the highest traditions of the Service. He showed great personal courage in standing up in full view of the armed guerillas and his leadership was an inspiration to his Section. His action and example helped to defuse a very tense situation and probably pre-empted many other incidents of a similar nature.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to the undermentioned for service in Cyprus in July 1974.

Lieutenant Commander Peter Gordon LANG, Royal Navy.
 Lieutenant Robert Hugh KERR, Royal Navy.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air to the undermentioned for service in Cyprus in July 1974.

Lieutenant Ian McKECHNIE, Royal Navy.

ARMY DEPARTMENT

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
 21st January 1975.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The Queen's Gallantry Medal for service in Cyprus to the undermentioned:

Captain Simon John MacMillan BARNETSON (472485), The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).

On 20th July 1974 it became necessary to evacuate Service families from Limassol due to the worsening situation in the town. By mid morning there was heavy fighting in Limassol between the Greek Cypriot National Guard and the Turkish Cypriots and plans were made to effect a temporary ceasefire so that Service families could be withdrawn during the lull in fighting.

Captain Barnetson was ordered to escort an officer into the Turkish Cypriot Quarter of Limassol so that he could negotiate with the local commander. On the outskirts of the town Barnetson and the officer agreed to drive into the town without their arms. Unarmed and with complete disregard of personal safety, Captain Barnetson pressed on into the Turkish Cypriot quarter where fighting was raging. Their vehicle was ambushed and a burst of automatic fire held the radiator. Undeterred by the obvious danger and with great coolness and presence of mind, Captain Barnetson delivered his charge and successful negotiations were completed with the local Turkish Cypriot Commander.

After hurriedly getting a new vehicle once again Barnetson escorted the officer into the outskirts of Limassol to co-ordinate ceasefire negotiations with the local Commander.

Throughout his escort task Captain Barnetson displayed exceptional fearlessness in the face of danger and by his

coolness and dogged determination played a considerable part in the achievement of a temporary truce at no loss to life.

Lieutenant Roderick Charles LEIGH (489195), 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars.

On 20th July 1974, during the fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots in Limassol following the landing of Turkish forces in Cyprus, 3rd Troop, The Parachute Squadron, Royal Armoured Corps, led by Lieutenant Leigh, were deployed on the interface between the two factions as part of the British Contingent of the United Nations Force in Cyprus. At about 1030 hours Lieutenant Leigh led his troop along the interface in full view of both sides in order to maintain the United Nations presence, drawing small arms, machine gun and mortar fire from both sides as he did so. When one of his troop vehicles was damaged by mortar fire, Lieutenant Leigh engaged a dominant Greek-Cypriot machine gun position to allow the vehicle to be withdrawn under escort and as he did so he again drew heavy fire from surrounding Greek-Cypriot positions.

Later that morning, during attempts to negotiate a ceasefire, a British Officer, cut off by fire when he attempted to leave the Turkish Cypriot District Office, was eventually evacuated by Lieutenant Leigh who positioned his ferret scout car as near as possible to the Office, and then escorted the officer on foot to the vehicle. Throughout this short action both Leigh and the officer were frequently fired upon from several directions by Greek Cypriot National Guards.

In order to improve the execution of the ceasefire it was necessary to arrange a further meeting between the District Officer and a United Nations Liaison Officer. Leigh was informed that there was heavy firing in the location of the chosen rendezvous and an alternative rendezvous was to be made. Leigh made three trips in the open, under fire, to arrange the meeting at the new rendezvous. Throughout this action both Leigh and his Non-Commissioned Officer commander of the second ferret in the half troop, were constantly fired upon both during their dismounted sorties and when mounted in their scout cars.

Throughout the day Lieutenant Leigh consistently and coolly exposed himself to fire from both sides but resolutely and courageously continued with his duties until they were thoroughly and satisfactorily completed. His disregard for his own safety was a fine example and his perseverance did much to contribute to the eventual arrangement of peace in the area.

22980251 Warrant Officer, Class 1, David NICHOLSON, Corps of Royal Military Police.

Warrant Officer, Class 1, Nicholson was the senior member of the Royal Military Police, based in Famagusta during the period 20th to 22nd July 1974, when over 4,000 dependants and tourists were evacuated into the Sovereign Base Area.

On 21st July he displayed great personal bravery and calmness during an extremely dangerous phase of the operation. Early that morning, on his own initiative, he made a personal reconnaissance of the area scheduled for evacuation and discovered that it was the scene of a fierce fire fight. Later, after armoured personnel carriers had been called forward to evacuate the people living in the area, Nicholson allotted himself the role of guide. To carry out this task he rode in the lead Saracen with the top half of his body completely exposed so as to be able to guide the driver. In all he made three runs into the area ferrying out families. The last two of these runs were made in the face of uninterrupted cross fire, but at no time did Nicholson move from his exposed position. On arrival at the houses to be evacuated he moved about calmly in full view of both opposing sides comforting, directing and assisting the families into the Saracens.

There is no doubt that his personal bravery and coolness were the prime reasons which enabled the operation to be carried out with only one casualty.

Whitehall, London S.W.1.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for service in Cyprus to the undermentioned:

23963097 Sergeant Robert BURNETT, Royal Corps of Signals.

23905149 Sergeant Ian MACDONALD, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards.

24000989 Lance Sergeant Robert Arthur SMITH, Coldstream Guards.

24131562 Lance Corporal Michael WOOD, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers.

AIR FORCE DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

21st January 1975.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The Queen's Gallantry Medal for service in Cyprus to the undermentioned:

Acting Squadron Leader Richard Alec CHASEMORE (150833), Royal Air Force.

W4027962 Acting Flight Sergeant William Barker OLDROYD, Royal Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Chasemore was posted to Royal Air Force Nicosia as Officer Commanding Provost and Security Services Detachment on 1st December 1972. Flight Sergeant Oldroyd was posted as Senior N.C.O. in charge of the Provost and Security Services Detachment, Nicosia, on 24th June 1974. Early on Saturday, 20th July 1974, Turkish Forces landed in Cyprus and commenced an attack from the air, on troops and vehicles at Nicosia International Airport. On the morning of 21st July 1974, Flight Lieutenant Chasemore and Flight Sergeant Oldroyd were on duty in the Headquarters of the Provost and Security Services (Near East Air Force) Detachment Offices at R.A.F. Nicosia. At that time the building was also housing the R.A.F. Nicosia ground operations room. During a heavy raid by ground attack aircraft on the International Airport Installation, the Deputy Defence Commander was advised that a grass fire caused by the attack threatened a nearby bulk fuel installation on the other side of the Royal Air Force boundary fence. As the airfield fire vehicles were not available, the Deputy Defence Commander instructed Flight Sergeant Oldroyd to take the available hand fire extinguishers and douse the fire. Flight Lieutenant Chasemore, noting the situation, immediately joined the Flight Sergeant and they drove as near as possible to the scene of the fire. After lying prone under fire from aircraft equipped with rapid firing cannon, they succeeded in dousing the burning area. If this fire had not been extinguished, the bulk fuel store would almost certainly have exploded and, as a consequence, severely damaged the ground operations room, killing or injuring the personnel inside and destroying the control organisation of the Station. By their determination and disregard of danger, Flight Lieutenant Chasemore and Flight Sergeant Oldroyd saved others in a perilous situation and behaved in the highest traditions of the Service.

Flight Lieutenant Edward Harold COSTICK (582668), Royal Air Force.

In May 1972, Flight Lieutenant Costick was posted to Royal Air Force Akrotiri as Officer in Charge of the Explosives Servicing Flight of the Weapons Engineering Squadron. He was given the secondary duty of Officer in Charge of Explosive Ordnance Disposal at Royal Air Force Akrotiri, with responsibilities throughout the island if required. After the Turkish air attacks in Northern Cyprus, Flight Lieutenant Costick and his two bomb disposal teams were called upon for many Explosive Ordnance Disposal tasks. Two of these in particular exemplify the diverse and hazardous nature of the work. In the first, Flight Lieutenant Costick was called into Famagusta to deal with two large unexploded bombs. One was located in mud and rested under a church. The other was located on the 6th floor of a large hotel. The first bomb in mud had to be dealt with by feel alone and could have been in a dangerous state. Flight Lieutenant Costick was undeterred by the danger and quickly cleared the bomb for safe removal. The second bomb, lying precariously across two beds in the hotel, was fused and in a highly dangerous state. Regardless of the risk to his life he began to extract the fuse. Although he is fully trained in Explosive Ordnance Disposal techniques he was not familiar with the type of fuse on this bomb. Nevertheless by skill and brilliant improvisation he safely extracted the fuse of the bomb in a calm and efficient manner and thus prevented considerable extra damage to property and danger to personnel. Following this task Flight Lieutenant

Costick was asked to clear Nicosia International Airport of unexploded bombs and other devices so that repair work could safely begin. He commanded a small team in this task which took seven days of very long hours work. During the whole of this operation he was working under arduous and hazardous conditions, often under the menace of the opposing guns of the Turkish Army and the National Guard. He finally gave safe clearance of the runway, taxi tracks and aircraft servicing platforms after safely disposing of two large unexploded 750 lb. bombs, ten 275 aerial rockets and a large variety of other explosive objects. Flight Lieutenant Costick's devotion to duty and the exemplary manner in which he performed his hazardous duties brought great credit to the Service and were in the finest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

Whitehall, London S.W.1.

21st January 1975.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards for service in Cyprus:

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air

Flight Lieutenant Michael Gordon LLOYD (4233481), Royal Air Force.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

G4244214 Sergeant John Edward BIGGIN, Royal Air Force.
J4171301 Corporal David CLEAVER, Royal Air Force.
N4271676 Corporal John MARSHALL, Royal Air Force.

LONDON

Printed and published by HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE: 1975

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

Price 12p net

ISBN 0 11 656470 9

