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TUESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 1979

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

HONOURS AND AWARDS

**ARMY DEPARTMENT**

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.  
 13th February 1979.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the posthumous award of the George Cross to:

Captain Robert Laurence NAIRAC (493007), GRENADEIER  
 GUARDS.

Captain Nairac served for four tours of duty in Northern Ireland totalling twenty-eight months. During the whole of this time he made an outstanding personal contribution: his quick analytical brain, resourcefulness, physical stamina and above all his courage and dedication inspired admiration in everyone who knew him.

On his fourth tour Captain Nairac was a Liaison Officer at Headquarters 3 Infantry Brigade. His task was connected with surveillance operations.

On the night of 14/15 May 1977 Captain Nairac was abducted from a village in South Armagh by at least seven men. Despite his fierce resistance he was overpowered and taken across the border into the nearby Republic of Ireland where he was subjected to a succession of exceptionally savage assaults in an attempt to extract information which would have put other lives and future operations at serious risk. These efforts to break Captain Nairac's will failed entirely. Weakened as he was in strength—though not in spirit—by the brutality, he yet made repeated and spirited attempts to escape, but on each occasion was eventually overpowered by the weight of numbers against him. After several hours in the hands of his captors, Captain Nairac was callously murdered by a gunman of the Provisional Irish Republican Army who had been summoned to the

scene. His assassin subsequently said "He never told us anything".

Captain Nairac's exceptional courage and acts of the greatest heroism in circumstances of extreme peril showed devotion to duty and personal courage second to none.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.  
 13th February 1979.

**ERRATUM**

Supplement to the *London Gazette* No. 47710 dated 12th December 1978, page 14921:

*For*: 23710093 Warrant Officer Class 2 Alan Paul CAMPBELL, The Parachute Regiment.

*Read*: 23710093 Staff Sergeant (Acting Warrant Officer Class 2) Alan Paul CAMPBELL, The Parachute Regiment.

Ministry of Defence,  
 Whitehall, London S.W.1.  
 13th February 1979.

**ERRATUM**

Supplement to the *London Gazette* No. 47710 dated 12th December 1978, page 14922:

*For*: 24026924 Sergeant Kenneth Barry WALLWORK, The Cheshire Regiment.

*Read*: 24026924 Sergeant Kenneth John WALLWORK, The Cheshire Regiment.

LONDON

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