

He commanded the first and the most hazardous convoy of over two hundred guerillas to Assembly Place Hotel. Because of the distance and initial delays, for reasons outside his control, he had to complete the last eighty kilometres of rough road through remote bush in the dark, and on several occasions during the journey his life was threatened. There were only four escorts to his party.

He successfully controlled a very hazardous situation at his Rendez-vous when two guerillas were shot by local Security Forces. It was by his immediate action and personal negotiation with the guerillas, the police and local civil authorities that reprisals were averted and the incident did not escalate.

Throughout the assembly phase he was often under direct threat to his life. He displayed a maturity and calm common sense beyond that expected of his rank and experience.

He successfully retained control of an incident when he was fired at by a farmer while talking to a group of armed guerillas by the roadside. The guerillas were subsequently persuaded by Captain Park to come into an Assembly Place.

As a junior commander throughout these, and many other smaller but potentially hazardous incidents, he retained the

trust and respect of the guerillas with whom he had to deal and he displayed personal leadership of a very high order. His calmness, clear thinking, decisive action and personal courage in hazardous situations were a consistent example to all and a major contributory factor in the success of the operation.

Ministry of Defence,
Whitehall, London S.W.1.
10th June 1980.

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

Lieutenant David Anthony HILL (505270), The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

Major (Local Lieutenant Colonel) Andrew Henry PARKER-BOWLES (465813), The Blues and Royals (Royal Horse Guards and 1st Dragoons).

For courage and devotion to duty while with the Commonwealth Monitoring Force in Rhodesia.

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