

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to the undermentioned in recognition of service during the operations in the South Atlantic:

*Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct*

Second Officer Ian POVEY, Royal Fleet Auxiliary.  
 Chief Marine Engineering Mechanic (L) Alan Frank FAZACKERLEY, D093379J.  
 Chief Weapon Engineering Mechanic (R) William RUMSEY, D070938J.  
 Weapon Engineering Mechanic (R) 1st Class John Richard JESSON, D182970E.  
 Marine Engineering Mechanic (M) 1st Class Thomas Arthur SUTTON, D012657Q.  
 Acting Colour Sergeant David Alfred WATKINS, Royal Marines, P023317B.  
 Petty Officer Class 2 Boleslaw CZARNECKI, Merchant Navy.  
 Petty Officer Weapon Engineering Mechanic (R) Graeme John LOWDEN, D109859U.  
 Radio Operator (Tactical) 1st Class David Frederick SULLIVAN, D158457W.  
 Marine Paul Anthony CRUDEN, Royal Marines P040123Y.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Whitehall, London, S.W.1  
 11th October, 1982

ARMY DEPARTMENT

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of the undermentioned as Companions of the Distinguished Service Order in recognition of distinguished service during the operations in the South Atlantic:

*Distinguished Service Order*

Major Cedric Norman George DELVES (485712), The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.

Major Delves commanded D Squadron Special Air Service Regiment during a brilliantly successful series of operations carried out in South Georgia and the Falkland Islands. Both operations proved to be critically important to the conduct of the two campaigns.

In South Georgia, his soldiers had to operate in extremes of climate which bordered on the limits of survivability. In spite of the difficulties, Major Delves was able to insert the necessary surveillance patrols into his area of responsibility overlooking Stromness Bay. This was achieved in spite of one of his patrols becoming involved in two helicopter crashes, and another losing half its strength when it was scattered into the night by 100 mph katabatic winds.

On 21st April after the engagement of the enemy submarine SANTA FE, Major Delves led his men into the Cumberland Bay East and captured Grytviken employing two of his SAS troops. By his quick decisive action and personal display of courage, he was able to accomplish the fall of Grytviken without a single loss of life. The next day he ordered his remaining troop to go ashore in Stromness Bay and accept the surrender of the remaining enemy forces in South Georgia.

On the early morning of 15th May, Major Delves led his men in delivering a devastating blow to the enemy air capability on Pebble Island in the Falkland Islands. In a daring and well executed series of moves—described as a classic of its time—in which he was able to determine the layout of the enemy positions, he infiltrated the enemy defences and by skilful use of his own men and Naval gunfire, he and his men destroyed eleven aircraft on the ground and over a ton of explosive.

On 21st May only hours after his Squadron had received a most cruel blow when it lost a significant proportion of its number in a helicopter crash, Major Delves led his men out once again in order to carry out a deceptive raid onto the enemy position at Darwin. So successful was he in his aim of drawing off the enemy reserves from the real landing position, that the enemy were heard to inform their higher HQ that they were under attack from at least a battalion of men.

Following the successful establishment of the beachhead in San Carlos Water, Major Delves took his Squadron 40 miles behind the enemy lines and established a position overlooking the main enemy stronghold in Port Stanley where at least 7,000 troops were known to be based. By a series of swift operations, skilful concealment and lightning attacks against patrols sent out to find him, he was able to secure a sufficiently firm hold on the area after ten days for the conventional forces to be brought in. This imaginative operation behind the enemy lines provided our forces with psychological and military domination over the enemy from which it never recovered.

In all the operations described, Major Delves led his men, coolly directing operations when under intensive fire from the enemy. He was an inspiration to his men, and made a unique contribution to the overall success of operations in South Georgia and the Falkland Islands.

Major Christopher Patrick Benedict KEEBLE (475184), The Parachute Regiment.

In the early hours of 28th May 1982, the 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, of which Major Keeble was Second-in-Command, launched an attack on enemy positions in the area of the Darwin and Goose Green settlements on the Island of East Falkland. The enemy were thought to be entrenched in battalion strength. In the event they proved to be in far greater numbers, sited in depth with mutually supporting positions. At one stage the attack was held up by a number of well-sited enemy machine gun positions and almost founder. It was retrieved by the personal action of the Commanding Officer, who was killed at that time.

The loss of a Commanding Officer at such a crucial stage of the battle, when the outcome was uncertain, could have had a devastating effect upon the Battalion. However the speed and decisiveness with which Major Keeble assumed command and pressed forward with the attack was such that the Battalion gained renewed vigour and determination and drove the enemy from their positions. It was a display of leadership, tactical skill and determination of the highest order.

On several other occasions in the battle, which lasted some 36 hours, the outcome hung in the balance. Supporting fire from the two 81 mm Mortars and three 105 mm Guns, which was all that was available, was insufficient to neutralise enemy positions. Inspired by Major Keeble, the fighting spirit of the Battalion carried the day and by nightfall the enemy had been fought to a standstill and were confined to a small salient.

During the night and following morning Major Keeble, never loosening his grip on the battlefield, skilfully conducted negotiations for the release of the local inhabitants who were confined within the enemy position, and for the surrender of the entire enemy force, which numbered in excess of twice that of his own Battalion.

This remarkable victory, the first major encounter of the campaign on land, established a moral superiority over the enemy which was to affect all subsequent actions in the Falklands campaign.

Credit for this must fall to 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment and to the outstanding leadership displayed by Major Keeble at a moment of particular danger.

Lieutenant Colonel Hew William Royston PIKE, M.B.E. (472599), The Parachute Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Pike commands 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment. From the outset of Operation SUTTON on the Falkland Islands his Battalion showed great spirit and an unstoppable urge to close with and kill the enemy.

His Battalion was one of the two units that marched every foot of the way from Port San Carlos to Port Stanley. Despite the hard going and unpleasant weather, Lieutenant Colonel Pike's Battalion pressed on relentlessly.

On their arrival at the Mount Estancia position, overlooking Port Stanley, Lieutenant Colonel Pike instituted a highly successful patrol programme. This added immeasurably to our knowledge of the detail of the enemy positions. This was important in view of the absence of accurate air photographs of the objective.

In the ensuing night attack his Battalion's objective was Mount Longdon. This long craggy feature was infested with snipers and machine gun posts. Through a long night of close quarter battle, during which on several occasions the issue hung in the balance, Lieutenant Colonel Pike commanded his Battalion with consummate skill. Two of his companies took their bayonets to the enemy.

The dawn found Lieutenant Colonel Pike's Battalion in full possession of their objectives. However, for the ensuing 48 hours the Battalion was subjected to almost continuous harassing fire from 105 mm guns both by day and night.

Lieutenant Colonel Pike's cool example and inspiring leadership throughout the operation and particularly during the Mount Longdon battle, and its aftermath was outstanding.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Ian Eldon SCOTT (467628), Scots Guards

Lieutenant Colonel Scott was in command of 2nd Battalion Scots Guards when they captured Tumbledown Mountain on East Falklands by a battalion night attack on 13th June 1982 as a part of the plan to secure the vital ground on the approach to Port Stanley. Tumbledown Mountain was known to be held by the enemy in considerable strength. It was equally certain that this enemy had been alerted to the likelihood of a renewed British offensive because of the nature and timing of operations two nights previously.