

of the Cross shall be made and reported through the usual channel to the Senior Naval, Military or Air Force Officer Commanding the Force, who shall call for such description, conclusive proof as far as the circumstances of the case will allow, and attestation of the act as he may think requisite, and if he approve he shall recommend the grant of the Decoration to Our Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Our Principal Secretary of State for War or Our Principal Secretary of State for Air as the case may be, who shall submit to Us the names of every one so recommended whom they shall consider worthy: in the case of their being no British or Indian Officer, then the Political Officer attached to the Force shall, after obtaining conclusive proof of the act of bravery as far as is possible, if he approve, submit the recommendation to Us through the proper channels.

*Ninthly*: It is ordained that in the event of any unit of Our Naval, Military or Air Forces, consisting in the case of Our Navy of a squadron, flotilla or ship's company, or of a detached body of seamen or marines; or in the case of Our Army of a regiment, squadron, battery or company, or of a detached body of soldiers; or in the case of Our Air Forces of a squadron or other body of airmen, having distinguished itself collectively by the performance of an act of heroic gallantry or daring in the presence of the enemy in such a way that the Flag, General, Air or other Officer in Command of the Force to which such an unit belongs, is unable to single out any individual as specially pre-eminent in gallantry or daring, then one or more of the personnel comprising the unit shall be selected to be recommended to Us for the award of the Victoria Cross in the following manner:—

(a) When the total personnel of the unit does not exceed 100, then one officer shall be selected for the Decoration by the officers engaged; and in like manner one warrant officer or petty officer or non-commissioned officer of the unit shall be selected by the warrant officers, petty officers or non-commissioned officers engaged, and one seaman, marine, private soldier, or aircraftman shall be selected by the seamen, marines, private soldiers or aircraftmen engaged:

(b) When the total personnel of the unit exceeds 100 but does not exceed 200 then the number of seamen, marines, private soldiers or aircraftmen to be selected in the manner described in (a) shall be increased to two;

(c) When the total personnel of the unit exceeds 200 in number, the number of Crosses to be awarded in accordance with these provisions shall be the subject of special consideration by Our Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty or by one of Our Principal Secretaries of State for submission to Us;

(d) The selection to be by a secret ballot in such manner as shall be determined in accordance with the foregoing provisions by the Officer directing the selection to be made;

(e) The death of any person engaged shall not be a bar to his selection;

(f) The names of the persons recommended in accordance with these provisions shall be submitted to Us in the manner laid down in the Eighth Clause of this Our Warrant.

*Tenthly*: It is ordained that every recipient of the Cross, not being or ranking as a Commissioned Officer and in the case of Our Navy and Our Marines, not being or ranking with a warrant officer, and not coming within the Eleventh Clause of this Our Warrant, shall from the date of the act by which the Decoration has been gained, be entitled to a special pension of ten pounds a year, and each additional Bar conferred under the Seventh Clause of this Our Warrant on such recipient shall carry with it an additional pension of five pounds a year.

*Eleventhly*: Every Indian Officer of Our Indian Army of rank junior to that of Second Lieutenant who shall have received the Cross shall, from the date of the act by which such Decoration has been gained, be entitled to a special pension of five hundred and twenty-five rupees a year, and each additional Bar conferred on such Indian Officer shall carry with it an additional pension of one hundred and fifty rupees a year. In the case of a Warrant or Non-Commissioned Officer or soldier of Our Indian Army aforesaid We ordain and award a special pension of one hundred and fifty rupees a year, with seventy-five rupees a year additional for each additional Bar. On the death of a recipient of the Cross to whom this clause applies, the pension shall be continued to his widow until her death or remarriage.

*Twelfthly*: It is ordained that reproductions of the Cross known as a Miniature Cross which may be worn on certain occasions by those to whom the Decoration is awarded shall be half the size of The Victoria Cross and that a Sealed Pattern of the said Miniature Cross shall be deposited and kept in the Central Chancery of Our Orders of Knighthood.

*Thirteenthly*: It is ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, by an Order under Our Sign Manual and on the recommendation to that effect by or through our First Lord of the Admiralty or one of Our Principal Secretaries of State to cancel and annul the award of The Victoria Cross to any person, together with any pension appertaining thereto not already paid, and that thereupon his or her name in the Register shall be erased; but that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to restore the Decoration when such recommendation has been withdrawn and with it such pension as may have been forfeited.

*Fourteenthly*: It is ordained that notice of cancellation or restoration in every case shall be published in the London Gazette.

*Lastly*: We reserve to Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors full power of annulling, altering, abrogating, augmenting, interpreting or