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ADMIRALTY,

Whitehall, S.W.1.

6th May, 1949.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of outstanding services when H.M.S. AMETHYST was fired upon by Chinese military forces when proceeding to Nanking.

Bar to the Distinguished Service Cross :

Lieutenant Geoffrey Lee WESTON, D.S.C.,
 Royal Navy,

for gallantry and outstanding devotion to duty. Although dangerously wounded, he continued to exercise command of H.M.S. AMETHYST after the death of her Commanding Officer, until relieved in his command some 56 hours later. He refused to leave his ship until his relief had been ordered.

(These awards are made in advance of, and without prejudice to, any others which may be made after due consideration of all aspects of the incident).

Distinguished Service Medal :

Telegraphist Jack Leonard FRENCH, D/JX
 671532,

for outstanding devotion to duty. After the early hours of 21st April, he was the only Telegraphist left in H.M.S. AMETHYST, and from then onwards his efforts kept the ship in almost continuous communication with the outside world. He carried on single-handed, continuously and unsleeping, receiving and transmitting vital wireless messages with accuracy and speed for a considerable period before arrangements could be made to give him periods of rest.

Posthumous Mention in Despatches :

Lieutenant-Commander Bernard Morland
 SKINNER, Royal Navy,

for utmost gallantry and devotion to duty in command of H.M.S. AMETHYST until he succumbed to his wounds.

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