

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

Lt (Hon. Capt.) D G. BURRELL-DAVIS, T.D (100851) (now R.A.R.O.).

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

Maj L A. JAMES, T.D. (425661).

INFANTRY

SCOTTISH DIVISION

*B.W.*

Capt J. S M BINGHAM (64121), retired.

51 *Hghland*

Maj. K. M. WALKER, T.D. (470482).

ROYAL ARMY CHAPLAINS' DEPARTMENT

Rev K B FLENLEY, T.D., M.A. (121312), C F 3rd Cl.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Maj (Hon Col) R K. HANLIN, T.D., M B (47788), retired.

Capt. B L. J CHANNON, T.D. (166974)

CORPS OF ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Maj M L F FRANCK, T D (402100)

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon the following officers:

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY

Capt W EWING (69478), retired.

Capt. (Hon Maj) R. Q GURNEY (63751), retired

Capt. (Hon Maj.) J G WYNNE-WILLIAMS M B.E. (94878), retired.

Lt (Hon Capt) A J. S CARTMELL (95455), retired

Lt. (Hon Capt) J C PARKER, M C (91716), retired

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

Lt. (Hon Capt) D G BURRELL-DAVIS (100851) (now R A R O)

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

Capt. R. B. COMER (450278), retired.

INFANTRY

SCOTTISH DIVISION

*B W.*

Capt J. S M BINGHAM (64121), retired

QUEEN'S DIVISION

*Queens*

Capt (Hon Maj.) A. H. MUNROE (93177), retired

PRINCE OF WALES'S DIVISION

*R Wilts.*

Maj. T. S SYKES (413539)

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Capt. A. L. LEYLAND (457563) (now R.A.R.O.).

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Brig. (Actg Maj-Gen) J M. MATHESON, O.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., D P H. (69803).

Capt (Hon Maj) J C. BUCKLEY, M.B. (72403), retired.

CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

Capt (Hon Maj) C. L W. KAYE (38240), retired.

INTELLIGENCE CORPS

Capt A F HEPBURN (432461).

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Efficiency Decoration (Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve) upon the following officers:

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY

Maj. J. A. DAVIDSON (460657).

Maj G. SMITH (429457).

INFANTRY

QUEEN'S DIVISION

5 *R. Anghan*

Capt. P. B PRICE (442595).

*S.C.*

Maj K. S. G. HINDE (441225).

PRINCE OF WALES'S DIVISION

4 *Welch*

Maj T G. SNOOK (376898) now R.A.R.O

LIGHT DIVISION

*L.I (V.)*

Maj P. SHAW (443714).

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Capt. M. J WEBBER (451773)

Lt N L HARRIS (470705)

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Maj J T. S CHEESEMAN (333099)

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

Capt R V. BLEWETT (433769).

AIR FORCE DEPARTMENT

Whitehall, London S.W.1.

10th June 1969

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:

*Air Force Cross*

Flight Lieutenant Gerald Ralph HOWIE (2618146), Royal Air Force.

On 25th January 1969, Flight Lieutenant Howie was briefed, as captain of the 78 Squadron Duty Search and Rescue helicopter crew, to attempt the rescue of a watchman from a drilling barge, with a 40 foot gantry on the stern, in difficulties half a mile off Dubai Jetty. A number of attempts at rescue had been made by various vessels from Dubai but, due to the violent sea state, they had all proved abortive. With a visibility of five nautical miles, the vessel was quickly located and found to be dragging its anchor in breakers approximately 300 yards from a lee shore. The generally rough sea (sea state five) and the dragging effect of the one bow anchor caused the 80 foot barge to corkscrew violently and the gantry to gyrate furiously. The vertical movement of the bow was estimated to be twenty feet. With the barge lying head into wind, which at this time was gusting between 20 and 30 knots, Flight Lieutenant Howie found that, in the normal head-into-wind hover, the tail rotor of the Wessex helicopter was within feet of the top of the gyrating gantry and, due to the danger of collision and the lack of a visual reference on which to hover, the first attempt was abandoned. After consultation with his crew, Flight Lieutenant Howie decided to make a second attempt, this time hovering in the more difficult mode of 45 degrees out of wind, in order to keep the helicopter's tail and rotor away from the gantry. This attempt was abandoned when Flight Lieutenant Howie decided that, due to the gusty wind, the stability of his hover was insufficient to ensure the safety of his winchman. After explaining the danger and difficulties to his crew, and with their whole-hearted support, a third attempt was made. This time he managed to establish a hover at a much lower level, the winchman was lowered and the survivor winched aboard. The pilot's task was further complicated by the inability of the winch to compensate for the ship's vertical motion and this required him to make delicate and accurate adjustments to the aircraft's height on the instructions of the winch operator. Also, due to the wind strength and direction, he was forced to establish his hover with the barge behind the aircraft and out of his normal line of vision. During the whole operation Flight Lieutenant Howie demonstrated consummate captaincy and skill. Without his resource and courage, the rescue could not have been effected. The fact that both he and his crew are only part-time Search and Rescue operators,