



SUPPLEMENT TO
The London Gazette
of Friday, 6th February 1970

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY 1970

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Whitehall, London S.W.1.
10th February 1970.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Air Force Cross for gallantry to the undermentioned:

AIR FORCE CROSS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (NAVY DEPARTMENT)

Lieutenant-Commander Peter Charles MARSHALL, Royal Navy.

On 3rd December 1969, Lieutenant-Commander Marshall, in a Phantom aircraft operating from R.N. Air Station, Yeovilton, was engaged in air interception exercises over the sea north of Land's End.

At 18,000 feet a heavy blow struck the aircraft, immediately followed by severe vibration. The windscreen became opaque with a thick covering of hydraulic fluid and both engines appeared to have flamed out as their respective r.p.m. ran rapidly down.

Instinctively, Marshall thought that he had suffered a mid-air collision and prepared for immediate ejection. Relying on his experience, however, he decided to remain with the aircraft for a little while longer in an attempt to take stock of the situation. He found that the aircraft was still controllable although he was experiencing severe airframe buffeting.

The starboard engine was badly damaged by pieces of metal passing through it and debris had badly damaged the starboard intakes, punctured the wing leading edge flaps and ripped the fuselage skin.

Assessing the situation and assisted by another aircraft which joined him in the air, Marshall decided to attempt a return to Yeovilton, 130 miles away.

On the final approach to a landing extreme difficulty was experienced. Forward vision, due to the hydraulic fluid which still obscured his windscreen, was practically nil, while pronounced yaw and severe airframe buffet threatened to throw the aircraft out of control.

By his cool thinking and personal courage, Lieutenant-Commander Marshall brought his aircraft and observer safely back to base.

He took this decision in the full realisation of the great value to be gained from bringing the aircraft back for technical investigation. To have escaped by ejection and left the aircraft to crash would in this case have been the easier course.

At the risk of his life, he saved a valuable aircraft and also weeks of speculative investigation with the consequent disruption to all Phantom aircraft flying.

ROYAL NAVY

In pursuance of Her Majesty's pleasure Surgeon Captain P. B. NICOL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H., M.C.Path., R.N., has been appointed an Honorary Physician to The QUEEN from 1st February 1970, in succession to Surgeon Captain F. B. ELLIS, O.B.E., R.N.

Surgn. Capt. P. J. O'MEARA, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., to be placed on Retired List. 11th Feb. 1970.

Grant of 4-year Short Service Commission to the Reverend M. W. BUCKS, B.D., A.K.C., as Chapl'n on 18th Nov. 1969, with seny. 18th Nov. 1969, confirmed on completion of training. 9th Feb. 1970.

Cdr. J. R. H. McILWRAITH, to be placed on Retired List (own request). 14th Feb. 1970.

Lt. Cdrs. to be placed on Retired List (own request) on dates stated:

E. COPE. 14th Feb. 1970.

W. A. T. AVES. 21st Feb. 1970.

Lt. Cdr. (SD) F. RODGERS, to be placed on Retired List. 17th Feb. 1970.

Lts. promoted Lt. Cdrs. with seny. 1st Feb. 1970:

M. C. GORDON-LENNOX, R. P. JONES, O. M. WINDLE, C. S. STAFFORD, W. D. S. KAY-SMITH.

Lt. C. M. BARRETT, to be promoted Lt. Cdr. with seny. 16th Feb. 1970.

Actg. Lts. promoted Lts. on dates and with seny. stated:

J. E. V. MADGWICK. 11th Dec. 1969 (1st Nov. 1969).

R. J. TALBOT. 8th Jan. 1970 (16th Aug. 1969).

Lt. (SD) K. J. COOKSLEY, to be placed on Retired List. 16th Feb. 1970.

Lt. (SD) P. J. FORD, placed on Retired List (own request). 7th Feb. 1970.

Lt. (SL) A. E. S. ATKINSON, to be placed on Emerg'y List on completion of Short Service Commission for period of 4 years. 12th Feb. 1970.

Engr. Lt. (SD) S. D. HENLEY, placed on Retired List. 5th Feb. 1970.

Engr. Lt. (SD) L. V. ROWE, to be placed on Retired List. 13th Feb. 1970.

Engr. Lt. (SD) H. MIDDLETON, placed on Retired List (own request). 7th Feb. 1970.

Sub Lt. E. W. ELWELL-SUTTON promoted Lt. 1st Nov. 1969 with seny. 1st Nov. 1969.

Actg. Sub Lts. confirmed Sub Lts. on dates and with seny. stated: