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FRIDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY 1971

State Intelligence

Buckingham Palace,
12th February 1971.

This day had Audience of The QUEEN:

His Excellency Monsieur Alfred Rajaonarivelo, to present the Letters of Recall of his predecessor Monsieur Barthélémy Johasy and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Malagasy Republic.

17th February 1971.

This day had Audience of The QUEEN:

His Excellency The Hon. Jaime Zobel de Ayala, to present the Letters of Recall of his predecessor The Hon. Narciso G. Reyes and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of the Philippines.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
19th February 1971.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George:

(To be dated 5th February 1971)

To be an Ordinary Member of the Second Class, or Knight Commander of the said Most Distinguished Order:

The Right Honourable George Rowland Stanley, Earl of CROMER, M.B.E.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
19th February 1971.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Her Majesty's Australian Ministers, to approve

the award of the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Military Division) to the undermentioned:

(To be dated 8th February 1971)

No. 312878 Private John HALLS, Royal Australian Army Service Corps.

On 19th January 1970 Private Halls was a driver in a convoy of Army Vehicles moving towards Proserpine to assist in relief operations in the aftermath of Cyclone Ada.

At 0500 hours as the convoy was crossing one of many flooded creeks the leading vehicle was swept off the road and overturned by a surging flood wave. The driver of the stricken vehicle Private Kousoratis was swept downstream and Private Halls hearing his calls for help immediately and unaided dived into the floodwaters to assist him despite the darkness and an 8 to 10 knot current. Private Halls reached Private Kousoratis as he was swept into a flooded cane-field and assisted the exhausted Private Kousoratis to safety thus preventing a possible fatality.

Later at 1030 hours on the same day another driver Signalman Brinkworth was moving on foot ahead of the convoy testing depths when he also was swept away by a flood wave. Again without regard to his own safety Private Halls immediately and unaided dived into the floodwaters and tried to reach Signalman Brinkworth. Private Halls after swimming for approximately 150 yards was within 10 yards of Signalman Brinkworth when the latter went under the floodwaters for the last time. For another 30 minutes Private Halls continued to dive unsuccessfully for Signalman Brinkworth.

Both rescue attempts by Private Halls were spontaneous and at considerable risk to his own life. His outstanding courage gained him an enviable reputation with all members of the relief column.

No. 83794 Private Alphons SAIRE, Royal Australian Infantry.

Private Saire joined the Army on 5th June 1967 and on completion of his recruit training on 11th December 1967 he was posted to Second Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment as a rifleman.

During the period April-May 1970, B Company Second Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment conducted