

Although in great pain and without regard to his own safety he did more than his duty. His was an act of sustained bravery.

24090846 Corporal Victor Michael SULLIVAN, The Queen's Regiment.

On the night of 3/4 July 1970, the 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment were deployed in the Falls Road area of Belfast to deal with serious rioting. Corporal Sullivan's platoon was ordered to secure a road junction and he took post in a doorway. He came under fire from several gunmen in the street opposite and in spite of several near misses calmly continued his job of reporting the location of snipers so that they could be engaged by the platoon.

An hour later he again came under heavy fire from a quarter to which his post was completely exposed. Bullets struck the wall near him but he refused to leave the position until he had given his platoon commander a clear indication of the target which was then successfully engaged. Corporal Sullivan's coolness and presence of mind under fire were an inspiration to all, and his action undoubtedly saved the lives of comrades who were in a dangerously exposed positions.

#### MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Whitehall, London S.W.1.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of The Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to the undermentioned:

23984377 Lance Corporal Anthony Paul BAUTENBACK, The Queen's Regiment

On 18 May 1970, Lance Corporal Bautenback was with a Company of his Battalion in the Ardoyne area of Belfast where gangs of youths were hurling petrol bombs and other missiles at the troops. Repeated charges were made by the Company and for several hours Bautenback and his comrades were under a hail of missiles and several were injured.

Again on 2 June, the Company was deployed in a similar situation in the Crumlin area.

In both actions Lance Corporal Bautenback was always to the fore and by his quick, decisive obedience to orders and complete disregard for his own safety set a magnificent example to all ranks. He was personally responsible for arresting five ringleaders and the brave conduct of this young soldier, who had completed his recruit training only a few months earlier, was an inspiration to all.

Second Lieutenant Michael Newton CARTER (487463), Royal Regiment of Artillery

During rioting in Londonderry, which continued for some 48 hours from the evening of 26 June 1970, Second Lieutenant Carter commanded a troop of his Regiment with great effect. Although without sleep, often under severe strain and in considerable personal danger, he displayed high qualities of leadership and determination. At one time, on the second evening, he led a particularly gallant baton charge in which he was captured and severely beaten by the rioters before being rescued. Throughout the long action Second Lieutenant Carter displayed qualities outstanding in so junior an officer. He was a superb example and inspiration to all.

23782881 Sergeant James John DALTON, The Gloucestershire Regiment

On 3 July 1970, while commanding a platoon of his Battalion which came under fire in Belfast Sergeant Dalton sustained a deep cut in his right hand and a tendon of a finger was severed. During the next five hours, although in great pain, he continued to control his platoon in an exemplary manner. He refused on numerous occasions to be evacuated so that the wound could be tended.

Sergeant Dalton displayed outstanding conduct and personal bravery which had a most encouraging effect on the platoon. His endurance when in great pain, was in accordance with the highest traditions of the Service.

23889773 Corporal John Ievan DAVIES, The Gloucestershire Regiment

On 3 July 1970, Corporal Davies commanded a section of a Company of his Battalion holding back a rioting mob in Belfast. Time and again he led

his section against a fusillade of stones and, sometimes, grenades and played an outstanding part in the successful outcome of the action.

Later he was made responsible for a road junction which was under continuous and accurate fire. He organised his men in fire positions, put out the street lights, and then manoeuvred himself forward so that he could engage the sniper and neutralise his fire. This action required him to expose himself continually to the gunman's fire.

In both actions Corporal Davies showed outstanding courage and leadership and a complete disregard for his own safety. His exceptional steadiness was an inspiration to all.

24013561 Trooper Thomas William FISHER, 17th/21st Lancers

On the night of 3/4 July 1970, Trooper Fisher drove an armoured Saracen carrying men of the 2nd Bn. The Queen's Regiment in the Falls Road area of Belfast. When the vehicle came under heavy fire from snipers, Trooper Fisher engaged the gunmen with his submachinegun to such good effect that the infantry were able to dismount and deploy without suffering casualties. Fisher then manned the searchlight and continued to do so through the remainder of the night. On many occasions bullets aimed at the light came close to his head, but he remained at his post and gave invaluable support to the infantry.

Trooper Fisher's coolness and courage under fire reflected the greatest credit on himself and his regiment.

22567188 Warrant Officer Class I (acting) Gordon Francis GRIFFITHS, Royal Regiment of Artillery

On 28 May 1970, as a Battery Sergeant Major Griffiths led a squad against a gang of youths who had assaulted a middle-aged civilian in Londonderry. The gang escaped into a hostile crowd which turned on the soldiers. As the squad disengaged, one N.C.O. was knocked to the ground and the mob began to beat and kick him. Sergeant Major Griffiths turned back to help and was himself severely injured, sustaining a fractured skull and extensive bruises. Nevertheless, his action saved the N.C.O. from worse injury and delayed the onslaught of the crowd for sufficient time for reinforcements to arrive and for the injured men to be recovered.

His action was applauded by local people as an example of the manner in which the Army helped to protect peaceful people from lawless hooligans, and his conduct was an inspiration to the Regiment.

Lieutenant Christopher Gordon Fleet MITCHINSON (479301), The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).

On 3rd July 1970, Lieutenant Mitchinson, on duty in Grosvenor Road, Belfast, with a patrol of three soldiers, saw a hostile crowd force the crew and passengers off a double-decker bus. It was clear that the mob's intention was to drive the bus to Lower Falls, where a Company of The Royal Scots were under attack, and use it as a road block.

Without regard for his own safety, Lieutenant Mitchinson ran to the bus and boarded it. He was followed by about twenty of the mob who came between him and his three men. His first action was to force the man in the driving seat to leave by threatening him with his pistol. Then he was attacked by the angry crowd. Lieutenant Mitchinson fought free and, single-handed, evicted them from the bus. He then stood his ground for five minutes until help arrived.

His courageous and determined action marked the turning point of the action in Grosvenor Road. The rioters lost the initiative and order was quickly restored. Lieutenant Mitchinson set an outstanding example to all ranks of the effectiveness of swift action and unwavering determination.

23978271 Bombardier Geoffrey MURRAY, Royal Regiment of Artillery.

Lance Bombardier Murray, commanding a rifle section of his Regiment during rioting which began in Londonderry on 26th June 1970, consistently demonstrated qualities of leadership, courage and devotion to duty during a period of 48 hours in which he had under two hours' rest.