

on to release him. Despite intense danger to his own life, Lance Corporal Reid managed to drag Bombardier York from the vehicle, and using his own hands, extinguished Bombardier York's burning clothes. He then dragged Bombardier York out of the line of fire and arranged for his evacuation. Only then did Lance Corporal Reid have his own burns attended to.

Throughout this incident, Lance Corporal Reid acted with exemplary courage, speed and calmness in the most dangerous of circumstances. Rather than seek cover, and under fire, he risked the flames and exploding ammunition to free his comrade. Bombardier York himself said, as he was awaiting evacuation, that without Lance Corporal Reid he would have certainly burnt to death. Lance Corporal Reid's was a selfless action of conspicuous gallantry.

M.M.

24358846 Sergeant Nicholas Mark SCOTT,

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars.

Following the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars' breakout into Iraq, Sergeant Scott's Squadron advanced in contact throughout the afternoon of 25 February. As night fell, the Squadron came into contact with an extensive enemy position. In pitch darkness, with driving rain and a blinding sand-storm, Sergeant Scott, with two other tanks, advanced almost blind into the enemy position. He moved 2,000 metres forward of the Squadron and, with great courage and skill, probed into the flank of the enemy. As a result of this action he was able to provide information about the strength and disposition of the enemy force which proved vitally important to the planning of the Brigade attack which was mounted later that night.

Some three hours later, under still worsening weather conditions, Sergeant Scott was again among the forward tanks attacking into the depth of the enemy defence. Quite unexpectedly, an enemy armoured counter-attack was detected. At this stage visibility was so poor that tanks were colliding; it was impossible to locate minefields or enemy strong-points and ranging onto targets was extremely difficult. Closed down in his tank, Sergeant Scott felt his way forward in order to close with the enemy armour. In a tense situation, with remarkable speed, he worked his way into a position between the remainder of his Squadron and the advancing enemy tanks from where he was able to direct and steady the Squadron's fire. Sergeant Scott's confident fire control was of inestimable value in the destruction of the enemy counter-attack.

The Squadron remained in contact with the enemy throughout the following morning. Sergeant Scott continued to play a leading role in the battle, fighting his tank efficiently and aggressively. At one point he was engaged by an armoured car at a range of 1,500 metres; he calmly turned his tank on the enemy vehicle and destroyed it with a single shot.

Sergeant Scott is an outstanding Non Commissioned Officer of personal courage and leadership who played a most significant role in the success of the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars' battles.

M.M.

Six Military Medals were awarded to Members of the Special Air Service Group.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL, LONDON S.W.1

29th June 1991

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Air Force Medal to the undermentioned in recognition of distinguished service during the operations in the Gulf:

Air Force Medal

A.F.M.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (ARMY DEPARTMENT)

24322774 Staff Sergeant (now Warrant Officer Class 2)
Mark William TORPY,

Army Air Corps.

Staff Sergeant Torpy is the 659 Squadron Army Air Corps Qualified Helicopter Instructor. Since September 1990, Staff Sergeant Torpy has been responsible for the flying training of 659 Squadron Army Air Corps on both Operation Granby one and the subsequent deployment on Operation Granby one point five. This has involved training the Squadron to an exceptionally high level of technical expertise, specifically for desert operations. To achieve this he has shown great courage, exceptional skill and professionalism.

The British Army had no previous experience of using Night Vision Goggles in the desert, which is recognised as an extremely dangerous environment. However, Staff Sergeant Torpy pioneered many new techniques, including night formation flying at very low level with no lights. This dangerous, but crucial, life saving task was considered necessary for the evacuation of casualties of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers whose operations carried them well forward of the Divisional front line. In addition, he built a comprehensive aircrew operations facility for the Squadron in the field.

His skilful planning, forethought, clear orders, constant supervision and, above all, his example, inspired other pilots to perform tasks previously considered far beyond their capabilities. Staff Sergeant Torpy's exceptional tour of duty in an extremely hazardous environment has been a combination of great daring and enthusiasm. It has been tempered by the sound advice of a totally dedicated and professional pilot and instructor, who has given uniquely outstanding service.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL, LONDON S.W.1

29th June 1991

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Queen's Gallantry Medal to the undermentioned in recognition of gallantry during operations in the Gulf: