

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 470/16

Date of Receipt.

Governor's Office.



From		SUBJECT.	DEF/FID/1#20
Secretary of State for the Colonies.		SERVICES RENDERED BY LOCAL AND VOLUNTEER FORCES IN COLONIES.	
No.	Date.	Army Council desirous of securing particulars of any individual s or units specially deserving recognition.	
Circular (b)	7th Sept., 1916.		

Colonial Secretary's Record No.

1113/16

MINUTES.

Minute to the Colonial Secretary.

27. 11. 16

Registered Number of last Despatch.

Desp. to Sec of State No 13 of 17. 1. 17.

D.

No. next Despatch

P.I.V.F.

Headqtrs.

7 April 1916.

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I have the honour to transmit for the information of His Excellency a report of the field exercises carried out on the 30th ultimo furnished by Captain Allen, C.B., R.M. of H.M.S. Kent.

I have also attached a report of the exercises as carried out by this Force.

F. J. Newsham Capt.
Commandant.

H.S./ Transmitted

C. A. Conduley es.
7.4.16.



Downing Street,

7th September, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Army Council have recently addressed to Commands abroad a circular letter in which they express their appreciation of the valuable and onerous services which have been rendered to the Empire by local forces, in localities where no actual fighting with the enemy has taken place, and indicate their desire that such services should receive due official recognition.

2. In this connexion the Army Council point out that the following categories are involved :—

(a) Local and Volunteer Forces in the Colonies ;

(b) Individuals who have rendered valuable services in connexion with the above forces ;

and they have requested that the names both of units and of individuals of the above-mentioned categories in each Command whose services have been such as to deserve special recognition may be submitted, together with a brief statement of particulars in each case, for consideration.

3. I request that you will consider whether in the territory under your administration there are any cases such as described above, i.e., of any individuals or units whose services appear to be specially deserving of recognition. If so, I shall be glad to receive particulars for submission to the Army Council.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering

the Government of

the
Falkland Islands.

an.
M. P. 470/16.

Honourable Colonial Secretary,

Please refer to the Officer Commanding
the F.I. Volunteer Force the annexed Circular Despatch
of 7th September, 1916, from the Secretary of State for
any report he may have to make in connexion therewith.

W.
Governor.

27th November, 1916.

BRITISH MAKE

470/16

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 13.

Government House, Stanley.

17th January, 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Secretary Bonar Law's Circular(b) despatch of the 7th September, 1916, and to say that while the several members of the Falkland Islands Volunteer Force are loyal to duty, ready to take their places when called on, and that their services deserve appreciation, it does not appear to me that the services rendered to the Empire by the Force or by any individual have been of such an onerous nature as to deserve special recognition.

7th December, 1916.

2. I enclose a copy of the report made to me by Captain F. J. Newham, the Officer Commanding the Volunteer Force.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

Douglas Young
Governor.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

ENCLOSURE

TO

FALKLAND ISLANDS DESPATCH

No. 13.

of the

17th January, 1917.

Falkland Islands Volunteer Force.

Headquarters, Stanley.

7th December, 1916.

His Excellency

The Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Sir,

In connection with the Circular Despatch of 7th September from the Secretary of State I have the honour to forward my report.

1. The more strenuous work of the Falkland Islands Volunteer Force occurred previous to my arrival in the Colony. I have therefore referred the point as regards that period to Lieutenant Goddard whom I found Acting O.C. and I embody his report.

2. Shortly after my taking over the command the batteries were dismantled and all the members of the Force were released to resume their civil occupations until their services were further required with the exception of one man who was retained at Headquarters to keep the armoury and equipment in due order. There has been in consequence small opportunity for services especially deserving of recognition.

3. The circumstances of the Force are peculiar in that the members, though technically on active service, are engaged solely in civil duties and consequently draw no military pay, while, on account of the restricted population, calling out the Force resulted in total disorganization of the town and interruption of works which were of urgent importance. It has therefore been necessary to reduce military duties to the minimum

compatible with maintaining the Force in efficiency.

4. Lieut. Goddard has recorded

(a) "the good work performed by the Signalling Section under the direction of Signaller Sergeant Barnes, during November and December, 1914."

I am informed that the approach of the German fleet was descried first by Ptes. Conway, Butler and Andreason forming the outpost on Sapper Hill, and the information was transmitted to H.M.S. Canopus, while these privates share equally in the honour of forwarding to the same quarter the information as to the change of course made by the hostile colliers.

After Sergt. Barnes proceeded^d to the front in 1915 the Signalling Section maintained their efficiency under Signaller Corporal Etheridge when called out in March last to preserve communication between the outposts and H.M. Ships in Port William.

(b) "the very valuable services rendered by Sergeant Grierson in the training and disciplining of recruits from September 1914 to January, 1915".

I accept Lieut. Goddard's recommendation in default of personal experience since Sergt. Grierson has been in camp almost continuously since my arrival.

5. I am confident that the Force as a whole would give a good account of itself if put to the test. As indicative of the spirit of the men I may mention that when the possibility arose last February of a German raider visiting this Coast the whole of the men on parade stepped forward in response to my call for volunteers to perform nightly guard duties, in addition to their ordinary daily work.

6. I desire to mention the services of

- (a) Company Sergeant D. R. Watson, who has spared no pains in assisting in the maintenance of the efficiency of the Force;
- (b) Sergeant A. Brundell, late sergeant of the Norfolk Regiment, whose experience has been valuable and who has readily responded to any call made on his services.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

(SD) F. J. Newnham, Capt.
Commandant.