

C.S.

NAVAL AND MILITARY
(Defence Force)
(Medals)

1927.

No. 588/27

H. E. the Governor.

SUBJECT.

1927

22nd October.

MEDALS FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDS
DEFENCE FORCE.

Previous Paper.

~~164/25.~~

164/25

MINUTES.

Minute from H. E. the Governor of 22nd October 1927.

Draft Resolution

Extract from minutes of meeting of the Executive Council held
on the 25th of October, 1927.

His Excellency stated that he had been approached by the Honourable George Bonner and other prominent residents regarding the bitter feeling which existed in the Colony on account of the refusal of the Army Council to grant British War Medals to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers who served during the Great War and that he understood that it was the general wish of the people of the Colony that the matter should be revived and the Army Council petitioned to reconsider its decision.

The Council agreed that an earnest endeavour should be made to meet the wishes of the people in this matter and that as a preliminary step a resolution should be laid before the Legislative Council for adoption at its next meeting, embodying the purport of the petition which it was desired should be put forward.

G. H. Spence
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Note. At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th of November, 1927 a resolution in the terms of Red 2. was moved by the Hon. G. J. Zetton and seconded by the Hon. W. R. Gresham. The Hon. J. M. Ellis said that as an ex-service man he wished strongly

Subsequent Paper.

to support the revolution personally.

His Excellency stated that he also wished to add his support to the motion before the Council, and that he felt that

strong representations should be made

to the Secretary of State in this important

matter. He knew the slight ^{placed} upon the Colony

to be very deeply felt by the inhabitants

who had shown themselves so loyal to

the Empire during the Great War. The

resolution was carried

unanimously. ^{G.H. Brown}
Clerk of the Leg. Council

y^e Schibbal with a draft despatch

y^e.

18.11.27

Hon C.S

Thank you.

19.27.

A.H.

Despatch to Secy of S. No 242, of Nov 21st 1927. 3-16

Be from Officer Command Defence Force. of 21.11.27. 17-18-19.

Be from Hon. G. Bonner, of 22.11.27. 20-21

Despatch to Secy of S. No 252, of Nov 25th 1927. 22-25

Letter to Hon G. Bonner, 2/12/27. 26.

y 2.6.28
y 2.12.27.

- 27-28 S of S. Despatch No 44 of 12th March, 1928
- 29-35 L from Mr L. B. Freeston, of 12. 3. 28.
- 36-37 L to Mr L. B. Freeston, of 30. 4. 28.

O.C. Office For.

Page 199

J. M. [Signature]

8. 5. 28

38. Despatch to S. F. S. No. 135 of 17th May. 1928

Hon. Sec.

Seen

J. M. [Signature]

Capt

14. 5. 28

F. I. O. E.

to be laid before Legislative
Council at meeting on 22nd May?

G.R.B.

17.V.28 A.C.S.

Mr Treasurer $\frac{MCH}{22.5.28}$

Mr Col Jeyar $\frac{JNR}{25.5.28}$

Mr Mrd Jeyar $\frac{JNR}{28/5/28}$

To see

W. Jeyar

L.P. 5.2 P.

Letter from Mr. W. J. Tucker, (undated) 39.

P.A.
7/1/30

of C. Defence Force.

Will you please arrange
to send Mr. Tucker his badge.

G.R.B.
for C.S.
8.2.30

Hon. Col. Sec.

Private Tuckers badge could not be found
I have therefore got Watchmaker to put name
on an unclaimed badge, and enclose herewith.

W. Watson Capt
O/C F.I.D. Force
13.3.30.

Send the badge and state that
it was this badge that was issued
to the members of the F.I. Volunteer Corps
and with a medal.

jud
13/3

Letter to W. N. J. Tuckers 14. 3. 30

P.A.
jud
14. 3. 30

41 Letter from Mr Tuckers 20/4/30

P.A. 11/6/30

42 Despatch to S. of S. No. 137 of 4/7/32

O.C. Infuse Force.

Please see.

jud
5.7.32.

~~red 44~~
red 40

Hon. Col. Sec.

I wish to convey to His Excellency The
Commander in Chief on behalf of the 1914 men of
the Defence Force, their appreciation and grateful
thanks for the action taken by his letter of July 4th
date, to the Right Honourable The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

D. R. Watson Captain
Actg. O/C F.I.D. Force
July 11th 1932.

y. s.

Submitted.

ms

12. 7. 32.

Hon C. S.

Noted

ms
13-7-32

E. f.
7-7-32

ms
14. 7. 32

ms *15. 12. 32.*

ms *12. 10. 32*

ms *12/10/32*
ms *10/9/32*

43-44

Grant S. of S. Despatch No. 145 of 19/12/32

O.C. Def. Force.

Please note for

Stoppage of

[Signature]

13. 12. 32.

The Adjutant.

Please post a notice to effect that Army Council regret that they are unable to depart from former decision re War-medal. Notice in Canton, please.

[Signature]

15. 12. 32.

O.C. Defence Force

a notice to that effect has been published on the Notice Board in the Defence Force Club, please

[Signature]
16. 12. 32

P. A. *[Signature]*
16. 12. 32

From His Excellency the Governor

to The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

The Hon Mr Bonner spoke to me about medals to-day,
please bring up at next Council meeting. See me about it
before.

22 27
10

A.H.

2

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

This Council having in view the refusal hitherto made by the Army Council to grant British War Medals to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers who served during the Great War from the year 1914 onwards and the slight thereby cast upon the men who so served and upon the inhabitants of the Colony as a whole

Resolves

That steps be taken to approach the Secretary of State for the Colonies with the prayer that the Army Council may be moved, if possible, to re-open this question and to grant to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers above referred to British War Medals.

No. 242 of the 21st of November, 1927.

NOMINAL ROLL OF ALL RANKS WHO SERVED IN THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS VOLUNTEERS BETWEEN THE 16TH OF
AUGUST AND THE 31ST OF DECEMBER, 1914.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
Atkins, Richard	Private.
Allan, C. G.	Private.
Anderson, William	Private.
Aldridge, Louis	Private.
Aldridge, William	Private.
Aitken, Norman	Private.
Aitken, John	Private.
Andreasen, Christian	Private.
Allen, James, W.	Private.
Bennett, Henry E.	Sergeant.
Berntsen, F. G.	Private.
Bradbury, Robert.	Private.
Benton, Alfred W.	Private.
Barnes, Silvester	Private.
Barnes, Frederick	Private.
Bradbury, William	Private.
Berntsen, Alexander	Private.
Biggs, Herbert	Private.
Berntsen, Abner	Private.
Bonner, Harry	Private.
Barlas, William	Private.
Brundell, Arthur	Sergeant.
Browell, Sydney	Private.
Brechin, Gregor	Private.
Bender, Cristoph	Private.
Blythe, William	Private.

3

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
May, Horace	Private.
Mc.Daid, William Charles	Private.
Meirhofer, George	Private.
Moir, A. G.	Private.
Myles, William	Private.
Newman, Silas	Private.
Newnham, Frederick John	Captain.
Peck, W. S.	Private.
Robson, R. L.	Private.
Short, Archibald	Private.
Short, R. F.	Private.
Smith, A. C. E.	Private.
Smith, J. A.	Private.
Sollis, F. P.	Private.
Stephen, G. D.	Private.
Waterson, G.	Lieutenant.
Watson, George.	Private.
Whitlock, C.	Private.
Woodside, William.	Private.

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ENCLOSURE No. IV TO FALKLAND ISLANDS DESPATCH.

No. 242 of the 21st of November, 1927.

NOMINAL ROLL OF ALL RANKS WHO SERVED IN THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS VOLUNTEERS BETWEEN THE 1st OF
JANUARY, 1914 AND THE 11th OF NOVEMBER, 1918.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
Allan, Frederick	Private.
Atkins, William Maxwell	Private.
Aldridge, John James	Private.
Allan, Percy	Private.
Barnes, J. S.	Private.
Barnes, R. G.	Private.
Biggs, A. S.	Private.
Bonner, Frederic.	Private.
Brown, G. R. L.	Private.
Carey, Horace	Private.
Craddock, F. J.	Lieutenant.
Craig, W. V.	Private.
Davis, John.	Private.
Earle, W.	Private.
Ford, C. W.	Private.
Foster, Thomas Henry.	Lieutenant.
Gleadell, F. E.	Private.
Hardy, A. D.	Private.
Herelle, G. W.	Private.
Hollen, James.	Private.
Houston, James.	Lieutenant.
Hubbard, J. W.	Private.
Hutchinson, W. J.	Private.
Kiddle, D. J.	Private.
Lanning, Joseph.	Private.
Lackie, J.	Private.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
Biggs, Frederick	Private.
Biggs, Alfred	Private.
Butler, Joseph	Private.
Best, Edward	Private.
Crawford, Edward	Private.
Clifton, Richard	Private.
Carey, Charles W.	Private.
Clifton, Harry.	Private.
Clarke, James	Private.
Clifton, William	Private.
Clifton, William G.	Private.
Charbonier, C.	Private.
Conway, W. E.	Private.
Carey, Raymond	Private.
Currie, W.	Private.
Daprato, T. R.	Private.
Fleuret, B.	Private.
Etheridge, J. W.	Private.
Gleadell, E. R.	Private.
Griffiths, S. A.	Private.
Grierson, J. W.	Sergeant.
Goss, J. H.	Private.
Gleadell, Sydney	Private.
Goodwin, William	Private.
Biggs, Albert	Private.
Goddard, T. N.	Lieutenant.
Gleadell, James	Private.
Gleadell, Charles	Private.
Grant, Liguria	Private.
Grant, L.	Private.
Gleadell, E. J.	Private.
Gleadell, James	Private.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
Gaylard, Herbert	Private.
Goodwin, James	Private.
Gleadell, Frederick	Private.
Girling, W. C.	Lieutenant.
Gunner, Herbert	Private.
Hardy, Arthur.	Private.
Hardy, F. J.	Private.
Harries, John.	Private.
Hardy, Leslie	Private.
Hardy, Thomas.	Private.
Hewitt, David	Private.
Hookings, Alfred	Private.
Halliday, W.	Private.
Hutchinson, R.	Private.
Jones, Hugh.	Private.
Jones, Richard.	Private.
Kiddle, F. W.	Private.
Kiddle, A. L.	Private.
Kelway, George	Private.
King, Frederick.	Private.
Kirwan, Sydney	Private.
King, C. F.	Private.
King, Owen	Private.
Paice, Charles	Private.
Lehen, Joseph	Private.
Lees, David	Private.
Luxton, John	Private.
Lehen, Daniel	Private.
Lehen, C.	Private.
Lee, William	Private.
Lee, Edward	Private.
McNicoll, J.	Private.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
McGill, William	Private.
McKay, J. R.	Private.
Milne, John.	Private.
McKay, T.	Private.
Mercer, Alexander.	Private.
Montgomery, R.	Private.
McAtasney, W.	Private.
McAtasney, J.	Private.
McKenzie, A.	Private.
McLaren, Alexander	Private.
McAskill, Donald.	Private.
McKay, Gideon	Private.
McPhee, Alex.	Private.
Newing, Henry.	Private.
Newing, G. L.	Corporal.
Newing, Charles	Private.
Newman, Frederick	Private.
Poulsen, Henry	Private.
Peck, William	Private.
Pergolis, Henry	Private.
Pearce, A. H. B.	Captain.
Packe, Vere.	Captain.
Paulini, Harry	Private.
Parslow, W. T.	Private.
Pauloni, W. D.	Private.
Perry, G.	Private.
Riches, S. H.	Sergeant.
Reive, Robert.	Private.
Rumbolds, R.	Corporal.
Boyle, George W.	Private.
Roberts, Harry	Private.
Ryan, John.	Private.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
Summers, J. F.	Private.
Summers, E. N.	Private.
Smith, A. E.	Private.
Sword, Archibald	Private.
Summers, S. R.	Private.
Sedgwick, William.	Private.
O'Sullivan, D. J.	Sergeant.
Summers, Fred.	Private.
Simmons, Percy	Private.
Smith, Gerald T.	Private.
Scott, William	Private.
Spencer, E.	Corporal.
Summers, W.	Private.
Scott, J.	Private.
Shire, W.	Private.
Summers, Vincent.	Private.
Summers, Albert	Private.
Stokes, Gerald	Private.
Thompson, C. F.	Private.
Tucker, Norris	Private.
Tyler, James	Private.
Townsen, H. W.	Lieutenant.
Walker, T. P.	Corporal.
Watson, D. R.	Colt. Sergeant
Walsh, John	Private.
Waddup, Aubrey	Private.
Walsh, James L.	Private.
Watts, John	Private.
White, Frank	Private.
Wilkie, W.	Private.
Williams, Ralph.	Private.
White, Frederick	Private.
Wace, R. H.	Lieutenant.
Yates, John	Private.
Yates, Robert	Private.
Yates, Manuel	Private.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

21st November, 1927.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 242.

Sir,

Enclosure I.

I have the honour to transmit a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Legislative Council of this Colony held on the 15th of November, 1927, urging that the Army Council may be approached and, if possible, moved to re-consider favourably their previous decision not to award to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers who served in the Great War from the year 1914 onwards the 1914-1915 Star or other British War Medals. The resolution was proposed by Mr. G. J. Felton and seconded by Mr. H. H. R. Gresham; it was carried unanimously and is strongly supported by the official members.

2. I would explain that Mr. G. Bonner, M.E.C., represented this matter to me immediately on his return to the Colony in October last and begged me to do anything which might appear practicable to remedy the undoubted slight which has been put on the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers in this connection and which is still keenly felt by them and by the Colony as a whole. The question was also raised at a meeting of the Executive Council held on the 25th of October, 1927, when it was decided that an earnest endeavour should be made

to /

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

L. C. M. S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

to at the wishes of the people in the matter.

3. I must say that personally the claim made has my warm sympathy and I am sincerely anxious that such steps as are possible may be taken even at this date to mend the apparent injustice done to a loyal and staunch population of unmixt British descent who unhesitating in their isolation did all that was asked of them at the hour of trial to defend the inviolability of their shores and to uphold the honour of the British name. Furthermore it can never be forgotten that on the outbreak of war the whole corps volunteered to a man for service in any field of operations. I cannot indeed refrain from the reflection that the comparative insignificance and unimportance of the Falkland Islands may have been allowed to weigh unduly when the case has been previously reviewed and that had similar representations been made by some more influential and more insistent member of the Imperial Commonwealth they would not have been so easily disregarded. As these Islands have given their name to one of the most important naval engagements of the war it seems strange that it can be seriously maintained that the Colony was not a theatre of war. I am therefore constrained perforce to put forward in accordance with the principles on which our Empire stands a plea on behalf of the small and the weak for like treatment with the great and the strong. You will, I know, appreciate that a matter which seems little in itself in the wider sphere of the outside world assumes considerable proportions in an isolated Colony and it is hard to understand why

this /

this opportunity should have been neglected to encourage and foster the loyalty and esprit de corps of this small but gallant force who cheerfully choose to face the risk of bombardment and annihilation rather than to lower the flag they love so well.

4. I am aware that my predecessors have not been neglectful in this respect and that their representations have received the most sympathetic consideration both from you and from your predecessors and I have to crave your indulgence if I seem to exceed the bounds of importunity in reiterating them. I do, however, ask most respectfully but most fervently that you will be so good as personally to espouse this orphan cause and to win, if a way there be, for the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers just recognition and for yourself the undying gratitude of this lone Colony.

5. I annex for convenience of reference a copy of the memorandum prepared on this subject by Sir Douglas Young, K.C.M.G., and also full nominal rolls of all ranks who served in the Falkland Islands Volunteers between the 16th of August and the 31st of December, 1914, and of those who served only between the latter date and the 11th of November, 1913.

Enclosure II.

Enclosures III
and IV.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

ENCLOSURE No. 1 TO FALKLAND ISLANDS DESPATCH.

No. 242 of the 21st of November, 1927.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

This Council having in view the refusal hitherto made by the Army Council to grant British War Medals to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers who served during the Great War from the year 1914 onwards and the slight thereby cast upon the men who so served and upon the inhabitants of the Colony as a whole

Resolves

That steps be taken to approach the Secretary of State for the Colonies with the prayer that the Army Council may be moved, if possible, to re-open this question and to grant to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers above referred to British War Medals.

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ENCLOSURE NO. II TO FALKLAND ISLANDS DESPATCH.

No. 242 of the 21st of November, 1927.

COPY.

MEMORANDUM BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE FALKLAND
ISLANDS FOR THE AWARD OF WAR MEDALS TO THE FALKLAND
ISLANDS VOLUNTEERS.

On the outbreak of War the Falkland Islands Volunteer Force was mobilized by order of the Governor and guards established over the Government Wireless Telegraph Station and outposts on the heights and elsewhere. In November 1914 a 12 lb. Q.F. gun was landed from His Majesty's Ship Glasgow, and posted on Mt. William. After the arrival of H.M.S. Canopus further guns were mounted on shore, but were manned by the Navy until after the battle on the 8th December 1914.

During the earlier months of the War an attack on the Falkland Islands seemed extremely probable, at least to the inhabitants, and it is submitted that the claim of the Falkland Islands Volunteers to recognition stands on a very different footing to that of the Volunteer Forces of less remote Colonies protected by the Navy. The Governor and his Council decided in October 1914, that they would resist any attempt to land parties from a single cruiser, though in event of attack by a squadron they would be obliged to abandon Stanley and retire inland. Before leaving for Coronel Vice-Admiral Sir Christopher Cradock wrote to the Governor "I shall not fail to let them know at home officially what I have seen and think of your gallant precautions and plans for upholding our honour; would that all dependencies were the same."

On 8th December 1914, the smoke of Admiral Von Spee's squadron was first sighted by outposts of Falkland Islands Volunteers, and valuable information of the movement of the enemy's ships was reported by the outpost on Sapper's Hill.

The enemy ships approached to within about two miles of the Colonial Government Wireless Telegraph Station, with their guns trained on the Station and the Town of Stanley. The Falkland Islands Volunteers were at the time entrenched at the Station to resist the landing of an armed force from the ships. The fire from H.M.S. Canopus, over the direction in which the Volunteers were entrenched, caused the enemy ships to manoeuvre and subsequently to move off from the shore, when His Majesty's Ships under the command of Vice-Admiral Sturdee proceeded out of Port William and gave chase and battle.

Sir Doveton Sturdee wrote to the Governor after the battle "we wish to convey our thanks for the early warning of the approach of the enemy due to the good lookout kept at Sapper's Hill"; and the Admiral further informed the Governor personally that the report from this outpost had a very important influence on the subsequent engagement.

It is understood that the arrangements made for indirect fire from H.M.S. Canopus involved the use of the Falkland Islands Volunteers.

On all these grounds there appears to be sufficient reason for treating the Falkland Islands Volunteers as an exception to the rule against granting the British War Medal to Volunteers who did

not /

not serve oversea.

It is further submitted that the Falkland Islands might justly be considered to come within "a theatre of military operations", and the Falkland Islands Volunteers eligible for the award of the "British War Medal" and the "Victory Medal".

(SGD.) W. DOUGLAS YOUNG.

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Falkland Islands.

17th April, 1920.

Head quarters,
Defence Force,

Novr.21st, 1927

Men who served in the Defence Force between the
dates Jan.1st 1915 and Novr.11th 1918.

✓ Pte. William Maxwell Atkins, ✓ Pte. John Davis
✓ William Charles Mc.Daid George Watson
✓ Capt. Frederick John Newnham ✓ Lieut. F.J. Craddock
✓ Pte. G.R.L. Brown ✓ Pte. Thomas Henry Foster
✓ John James Aldridge G.W. Herelle
✓ J.S. Barnes R.L. Robson
✓ A.C.E. Smith D.J. Kiddle
✓ J.W. Hubbard Lieut. J. Houston
✓ Frederic Bonner ✓ Pte. F.E. Gleadell
✓ George Meirhofer R.F. Short
✓ W.J. Hutchinson A.G. Moir
✓ W.S. Peck Lieut. G. Waterson
✓ Horace May ✓ Pte. James Hollen
✓ Percy Allan W. Myles
✓ Archibald Short W.V. Craig
✓ G.D. Stephen C.W. Ford
✓ A.P. Hardy W. Earle
✓ William Woodside Silas Newman
✓ Joseph Lanning ✓ J.A. Smith
✓ Frederick Allan F.P. Sollis
✓ A. S. Biggs J. Lackie
✓ Horace Carey C. Whitlock
✓ R.G. Barnes

No.2

List of men who served in the ambulance section but did not take the oath.

- S.H.Hooley
- T.Reive
- Albert Lellman
- T.Mills
- J.Binnie
- L.Challen
- J.Watson
- G.Mc.Laren

A.B.King

3.

Men who served in the early months of the war but having been defaulters did not receive a badge.

- Cpl.W.Pearson
- Pte. H.Reckitts
- J.White

Mr C.S. please to S of S.
of promise to send up to exp
it will course all

San Carlos

Falkland Islands

The Hon.

The Colonial Secretary

24/27
" 22. 11. 27.

Stanley

Sir,
I shall be obliged if you will convey to His Excellency, The Governor, my opinions with regard to the Badge which has been given to the Falkland Islands Volunteers for their Services during the Great

War - (1) The Badge conveys no general indication that these men served their Country during the War -

(2) It has no ribbon attached and, I understand, it can only be worn on Civilian Clothes - & consequently is of little Value, as Britishers do not use

a rule wear silver ornamentation on their ordinary clothing.

The Falkland Islands Volunteers served their Country as faithfully as most Britishers did who fought in France or on any other front during the War.

If the Islands had fallen into the German hands, which might quite easily have happened in 1914, these Volunteers would have fought for their very existence, and probably all would have died fighting for their Country.

After the Falkland Islands Battle in 1914 - the whole force volunteered for service in any part of the Empire.

This request was not granted - They were told that their duty was here to defend the Islands in case of invasion -

Several men served under the Royal Navy here in Port Stanley and regularly relieved packet Boats - doing alternate

(2)

20

Duty with a crew from the 'Candorus'.
They were promised by the Captain
of the 'Candorus' that they would receive
a Medal when the war was over
in recognition of their services.

This promise was never fulfilled.
I consider the Islanders have been
very badly treated and that those who
served here as Volunteers are entitled to
the War Medal quite as much as those
who served in other parts - Guarding
the Empire Outposts - where no regular
fighting took place and in some cases
not even a shot fired -

I have the Honour, to be,

Sir,

Yours Obedt^l Servant

Geo. Boume

ENCLOSURE TO FALKLAND ISLAND DESPATCH No. 252

of the 25th November, 1927.

COPY.

San Carlos,
Falkland Islands,
22nd November, 1927.

Sir,

I shall be obliged if you will convey to His Excellency the Governor my opinions with regard to the Badge which has been given to the Falkland Island Volunteers for their services during the Great War.

(1). The Badge conveys no general indication that these men served their Country during the war.

(2). It has no ribbon attached, and I understand it can only be worn on civilian clothes, and consequently is of little value, as Britishers do not as a rule wear silver ornamentation on their ordinary clothing.

2. The Falkland Island Volunteers served their country as faithfully as most Britishers did who fought in France or on any other front during the war.

3. If the Islands had fallen into the enemies' hands, which might quite easily have happened in 1914, these Volunteers would have fought for their very existence and probably all would have died fighting for their Country.

HONOURABLE
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
STANLEY.

4. After the Falkland Islands Battle in 1914 the whole force volunteered for service in any part of the Empire. This request was not granted - they were told that their duty was here to defend the Islands in case of invasion.

5. Several men served under the Royal Navy here in Port Stanley and regularly relieved piquet boats doing alternate duty with a crew from the "Canopus".

6. They were promised by the Captain of the "Canopus" that they would receive a Medal when the war was over in recognition of their services. This promise was never fulfilled.

7. I consider the Islanders have been very badly treated and that those who served here as Volunteers are entitled to the War Medal quite as much as those who served in other parts, guarding the Empire outposts where no fighting took place and in some cases not even a shot fired.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) GEO. BONNER.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,

25th November, 1927.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 252.

Sir,

In continuation of my despatch, No. 242 of the 21st of November, 1927, transmitting a copy of a resolution passed by the Legislative Council of this Colony on the 16th of November, 1927, praying for the grant of British War Medals to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers who served during the Great War, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter received by the Colonial Secretary on the 24th of November, 1927, from Mr. G. Bonner, the unofficial member of the Executive Council, setting out in detail his view in the matter and the reasons for which he has been moved to press for re-consideration of the decision previously taken in this connection.

2. Mr. Bonner is well known to you personally and there is no necessity for me to stress the importance which in my opinion must be attached to such a representation on his part.

3. I would add that the grant of British War Medals to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers would come as a most timely gesture after the slur which has been cast upon this gallant body of men in the Falkland Islands Battle

Film/

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
L. C. M. S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

In duplicate.

24

Film, and would go far to remove the unhappy impression made thereby on the inhabitants of this Colony.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

588/27.

2nd December,

27.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd of November, 1927, relative to the badge granted to the Falkland Islands Volunteers in recognition of their service during the first months of the Great War, and the desirability of re-opening the question as to the eligibility of members of the Force for the grant of British War Medals, and to inform you that the necessary representations have been made in the matter to the proper authority and that a further communication will be addressed to you in due course.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Colonial Secretary.

THE HONOURABLE
GEORGE BONNER, M.E.C.,
SAN CARLOS SOUTH,
EAST FALKLAND.

COPY.

68/121/2374 (A.G.4 Medals)

THE WAR OFFICE,

LONDON S.W.1.

29th February, 1928.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.56875^{/28} dated 11th January 1928, forwarding a copy of a despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands regarding the claim of the Falkland Islands Volunteers to the award of the British War Medal. I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that they have, once more, given this matter their careful consideration, but in view of the fact that the services rendered by the Falkland Islands Volunteers do not fulfil the conditions of award of the British War Medal as laid down in Army Order 266 of 1919, they regret that they are unable to depart from their previous decision, as conveyed to you in War Office letter number as above dated 10th July 1923, that the medal can not be awarded.

I am to add, however, that the Council are not unmindful of the patriotism displayed by the Falkland Islands Volunteers in the hour of danger, and are fully cognisant of the valuable assistance they rendered to the Royal Navy, in the early days of the Great War, but as the threatened attack on the Islands did not materialise and the naval battle was fought on the high seas, the Volunteers on shore took no part in the battle.

I am, etc.,

(SGD.) A.E. WIDDOWS.

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

588/27
DUPLICATE



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 44

Downing Street,

12 March, 1928.

Red 3-16
Red 22-25

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No. 242 and 262 of the 11st and 25th of November, 1927, regarding the grant of the British War Medals to the members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers and to enclose a copy of a letter from the War Office from which you will observe that the Army Council regret that they are unable to depart from their previous decision that the medal cannot be awarded.

Fr. V. O. 29.2.28.
Red 27.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

GOVERNOR,

ARNOLD HOBSON, Esq., C.M.G.

etc., etc., etc.,

Downing Street,
18th December, 1923.

Dear Rowlands,

Sir James Masterton Smith has recently had a discussion with the Governor of the Falkland Islands regarding the claim of the Falkland Islands Volunteers to the British War Medal, which has formed the subject of official correspondence between the Colonial Office and the War Office (War Office No.68/121/2332 (S)).

In the course of their discussion the question naturally arose what treatment had been accorded to troops in other parts of the Empire whose service was of a similar kind to the service performed by the Falkland Islands Volunteers, i.e. in general terms garrison duty in their own country, and perhaps you would not mind letting me have brief answers to the questions set out below:-

1. Is it the case that troops, whose service during the war was confined to this country, are ineligible for the British War Medal?
2. If so, has this ruling been applied to troops present at the bombardment of Hartlepool and Scarborough?
3. If the answers to 1 and 2 are in the affirmative have troops present at the bombardment of Hartlepool and Scarborough been given any other special distinction on that account?
4. If the answer to 1 is in the affirmative, has this ruling been applied to Canadian, ^{Australian}/_{New} Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland troops whose service was confined to their respective Dominions?

5. Is it the case that all troops who served in India during the war are, by virtue of such service, entitled to the British War Medal?
6. If the answer to 5 is in the negative, are troops present at the bombardment of Madras eligible for the medal on that account?
7. If the answer to 5 is in the affirmative, has any special distinction been given to troops present at the bombardment of Madras?

It looks a formidable array of questions, but really I think you will be able to answer each one in a very few words.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) A.B. ACHESON.

COPY.

WAR OFFICE,

21st December 1923.

Dear Acheson,

Rowlands has passed to me your letter of 18th December, with the questionnaire about the medal for the Falkland Islands Volunteers.

The answers to your several Questions are as follows:-

1. Yes, with the exception of the personnel of Coast Defence Batteries actually engaged with hostile vessels of war.

2. These troops have received the British War Medal in accordance with the ruling regarding "exception" (as above).

3. No special distinction has been given.

4. Mr. Churchill, when Secretary of State, ruled that the Dominions might extend the grant of the British War Medal to those of their troops who had not left their "Home Dominion", but that, if extended, it was to be done entirely on the responsibility of the Dominion Government concerned. (N.B. It is believed that Australia have sanctioned this award to certain of their personnel who never left Australia, but that New Zealand, Canada and South Africa have not done so).

5. All white troops, yes.

6. The answer to 5 is in the affirmative but no natives have earned this medal solely on account of being present at the bombardment of Madras.

7. No.

I

A.B. ACHESON, ESQ.,
COLONIAL OFFICE.

I expect some of the above will be "used in evidence against us", but all these considerations were present in the minds of the "powers that be" when the decision in our letter of 10th July was sent to the Colonial Office.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) A.J. NEWLING.

Downing Street,

2nd January, 1923.

Dear Middleton,

You will remember our conversation a short time ago about the claim of the Falkland Islands Volunteers to the British War Medal. We agreed, I think, that the claim could not be pursued if it involved giving to these Volunteers a privilege denied to troops who performed similar services elsewhere.

I have since been in correspondence with the War Office and I find, as I rather expected, that troops, whose service during the war was confined to this country are not eligible for the Medal, with the single exception of the personnel of the Coast Defence Batteries actually engaged with hostile vessels of war.

India has been treated in the same way, that is to say, native troops who did not serve outside India have not been granted the Medal; I understand that no question arose over the bombardment of Madras, as the Coast Defences in India were manned by white troops, and all white troops who served in India have of course qualified for the Medal by virtue of service overseas.

As regards the rest of the Empire, the rule that troops, who did not proceed for service overseas from their home-country, are ineligible for the Medal, has been applied to all Colonies not possessing responsible government and has also been adopted by the self-governing Dominions of Canada, New Zealand and Newfoundland. The Governments of Australia and the Union of South Africa have not fallen into line, but we have no exact information regarding

regarding the extent to which they have diverged from the usual practice.

I believe I am right in saying that the Falkland Islands Volunteers were never actually engaged with hostile vessels of war and, in the light of the facts recorded above, I hardly think that the Secretary of State would find himself able to press their claims to the Medal with the War Office any further.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) J.E. MASTERTON SMITH.

SGD

56775/28.

Hon. C.S.
20/28.
4

Downing Street,
12 March, 1928.

My dear Governor,

We are writing officially informing you that the Army Council adhere to their previous decision that the British War Medals cannot be awarded to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers.

It has been suggested that you might be interested to see the enclosed copies of semi-official correspondence which passed on this subject in 1923 and I feel sure that you will agree that there is no possibility of the War Office altering their decision.

Yours sincerely,

L.B. Rees

Arnold
~~A.~~ HODSON, ESQ., C.M.G.

To Mr. Rowlands
18.12.23.

Fr. Mr. Newling
21.12.23.

To Sir J. Middleton
2.1.24.

30th April, 1928.

My dear Freeston,

*Revs
29 to 35*

I am much touched by the trouble you have taken in connection with our claim for the War Medal. The enclosures you forwarded me under cover of your letter, dated 12th March, were most interesting. I quite see the position and realize the difficulties raised by our application. Your letters were so nicely worded that I feel quite sure now no feeling of irritation will be left in this matter. I will have the contents of your despatches conveyed to the Officer Commanding the Defence Force.

I hear from Ellis that you are the proud father of a little girl. Please accept my best congratulations. I think you ought to be very thankful it is a girl and not a boy as the former, in my

L. B. Freeston, Esq.,

Colonial Office.

opinion, are much nicer, and when you are reduced to an armchair she will probably be a great comfort and help to you!

The whole Colony is full of excitement and keenness in connection with the team we are sending home to try and lift the Kolapore Cup. I do not think you can realize at home what a great event this is in the annals of this Colony. It is enormously good for our prestige and makes the people here feel that they are really a part of the Empire. I am sure if we are successful we shall all die of heart attack and be carried off the butts in stretchers!

I could write you pages and pages about different matters and problems which are cropping but I will not do so as I shall be meeting you soon in person.

With best wishes and again ever so many thanks for the sympathetic action you have taken which is deeply appreciated.

Yours very sincerely,

38
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

7th MAY, 1928.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 135.

96
Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 44 of the 12th of March, 1928, on the subject of the grant of the British War Medal to the Members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers, and to thank you for the action which you have been good enough to take in this connection.

2. I would add that although I am disappointed, naturally, that it has not been found possible to revise the previous decision in this matter, I fully appreciate the circumstances in which the War Office authorities find themselves placed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

L.C.M.S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

ARNOLD HODSON.

From

N J Tucker
North Street
Martock
Somerset
England

To

His Excellency
The Governor
Port Stanley
Falkland Isles.

Sir

I wish to bring to your notice my record of service in The Falkland Islands Volunteer Force, which I joined in August 1914. It has come to my notice that a medal has been issued to all men who served in the Force during the Great War.

I left Port Stanley for Europe in July 1917, & joined the Royal Flying Corps on arrival in England. I am in possession of a discharge paper, signed by Major Newham, the C. O. of the force at that time which gives me credit for Two Years & eleven months service, Ten months of which being full active service.

Should my service entitle me to the medal, I should be pleased to receive it, if you could forward one to the above address

Thanking You. I am Sir

Yours Truly
Norris Tucker (late)
Pte No 10

588/27.

40

14th March

30.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter in regard to your service with the Falkland Island Volunteers during the period 1914-17, and to state that no medal has been issued in respect of the services performed.

2. I am to enclose a badge which has been issued to all ranks who served during the War Period, and to request you will acknowledge its safe receipt.

I am,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W.S.
Colonial Secretary.

Mr. N.J. Tucker.
North Street,
Martock,
SOMERSET.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

4th July, 1932.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 137.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the previous correspondence terminated with Mr. (now Sir) Arnold Hodson's despatch No. 135 of the 7th of May, 1928, on the subject of the grant to the Members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers of the British War Medal.

2. If I may do so without appearing to be unduly importunate, I would bring to your notice that the Volunteers still have the matter in mind and that as recently as His Majesty's Birthday, the 3rd of June, last, I was requested publicly by Captain D. R. Watson, acting Commanding Officer of the Defence Force, to take it up on their behalf.

3. I have to enquire, therefore, whether circumstances have altered in any way since the matter was considered in 1928 so as to render it permissible again to approach the Army Council with a view to a revision of the previous decision.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

JAMES O'GRADY.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Copy.

68/121/2374 (A.G.4.Medals).

THE WAR OFFICE,

London, S.W.1.

28th October, 1932.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.96179/32, dated the 7th October, 1932, forwarding a copy of a despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, on the subject of the grant of the British War Medal to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that the circumstances under which a decision of the Council was conveyed in War Office letter, number as above, dated the 29th February, 1928, have not altered and it is regretted, therefore, that it is not possible to rescind this decision.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) A.E. WIDDOWS.

The Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
London, S.W.1.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No: 145.



Downing Street,

588/27

4th November, 1932.

Sir,

Red 42.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 187 of the 4th of July regarding the grant of British War Medals to members of the Falkland Islands Volunteers, and to enclose a copy of a letter from the War Office from which you will observe that the Army Council regret they are unable to depart from their previous decision that the medal cannot be awarded.

Wt. War Office.
28.10.32.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

able servant,

(Sd.) R. OUNLIFFE-LISTER.

GOVERNOR.

SIR JAMES O'GRADY, K.C.M.G.,

etc., etc., etc.

30
34



From
N J Tucker.
North Street
Mantock
Somt.

41

Sir.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th March N^o 588/27, with the F. I. V. badge enclosed in good condition. I Herewith wish to thank you for forwarding same

I am Sir

Yours Faithfully
Norris J Tucker

To

The Colonial Secretary
Pond Stanley
Falkland Islands.