

# C. S. O.

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SUBJECT :

Issue of a Memorial Scroll to the next-of-kin  
of members of His Majesty's Forces.

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CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

## DESPATCHES AND TELEGRAMS.

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CIRCULAR  
36076/18/47



THE CHURCH HOUSE,  
GREAT SMITH STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

25th November, 1947.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty the King has given commands for the issue of a Memorial Scroll to the next-of-kin of members of His Majesty's forces who died as a result of service in the World War 1939-45, to the next-of-kin of members of the Merchant Navy whose death would qualify their dependants for benefits under the Merchant Navy War Pensions Schemes, and to the next-of-kin of members of the Civil Defence, Police and Fire Services whose death was due to injury by enemy action when on duty.

2. I enclose a specimen of the Scroll, with a memorandum of the arrangements for its issue in this country. I shall be glad if you will consider whether the issue of the Scroll is appropriate in the case of deceased members of the local forces, police and civil defence services under your administration. If so, you should furnish me with nominal rolls giving the descriptions to be printed on the Scrolls in accordance with paragraph 7 of the memorandum. Arrangements will then be made in due course for the necessary overprinting and the supply of the Scrolls.

3. The system here in respect of next-of-kin of those who served in United Kingdom Forces is that, unless pension is being paid, a notification of the address is required. A Press announcement was issued explaining this. It may be advisable for you to obtain all the addresses of next-of-kin before you apply for Scrolls. For a certain proportion of cases there may be no next-of-kin, or no notification of address, and the Scrolls will not be required.

4. As it is necessary to restrict the description to be printed on the Scrolls to a maximum of 6½ inches for each of the two lines, nominal rolls should be accompanied by a list of acceptable abbreviations of rank and of regiments or services, which could be used, if necessary, by the printers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

*A. C. Jones*

The Officer Administering  
the Government of

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Enclosure in Circular despatch dated 25th November, 1947.

#### Memorandum of arrangements for issue of Memorial Scrolls

The distribution of the Memorial Scrolls in the United Kingdom is to be undertaken by the Ministry of Pensions. Where the next-of-kin of a deceased member of the Forces, Merchant Navy or Civil Defence, Fire or Auxiliary Police Services is in receipt of a pension from the Ministry of Pensions, no application for the Scroll will be necessary.

Where the next-of-kin of those who died in the circumstances described in the reply above are not in receipt of a pension from the Ministry of Pensions they may apply for the Scroll to the Ministry of Pensions, Norcross, Blackpool, Lancashire.

Where members of the Police Service died as a result of injury through enemy action on duty and the next-of-kin are in receipt of a Police Pension, the Scroll will be issued to the next-of-kin without application.

One or two years must elapse before the consideration of applications and the issue of the Memorial Scrolls can be completed.

## 2. Entitlement

(i) *Pension in issue*.—Where the widow or parent of a deceased member of the Forces or of the Merchant Navy is in receipt of a pension under the Royal Warrant or Order, the issue of a Memorial Scroll will be automatic.

(ii) *Widow re-married*:—

(a) *With children in receipt of allowances*.

The Memorial Scroll will be issued automatically.

(b) *Without children*.

The Memorial Scroll will be issued only on application.

(iii) *Widow who has died*:—

(a) *With surviving children*.

The Memorial Scroll will be issued to the guardian.

(b) *Without children*.

Any application from the next-of-kin will be considered.

(iv) *Widow in mental hospital*:—

(a) *With children*.

The Memorial Scroll will be sent to the guardian of the children.

(b) *Without children*.

Await application.

(v) *Widow whose name has been removed from pension list*.—Await application.

(vi) *Dispensing Warrant or Special Sanction cases*.—Issue on same lines as Royal Warrant or Order cases unless there are special circumstances.

(vii) *Awards reduced on account of negligence or misconduct*.—Issue as in (i).

(viii) *Alternative recipients*.—Where both parents are alive and pension is being paid not to the father but to the mother, the Memorial Scroll will be sent to the mother.

## 3. Entitlement. Foreign nationals

(i) Scrolls will be issued in respect of Foreign nationals who served in the United Kingdom Armed Forces as members of these Forces.

(ii) Scrolls will not be issued in respect of Foreign nationals who served as members of Allied Forces.

(iii) Next-of-kin of Allied nationals who served in the British Forces by virtue of their membership of an Allied Force, will not be eligible. There would in such circumstances be no payments by the Ministry of Pensions to the next-of-kin. In cases of doubt the criterion will be whether the Ministry of Pensions has accepted responsibility or would accept responsibility for pension or other compensation.

(iv) *Polish Resettlement Corps*.—The Ministry of Pensions pay pensions in respect of deceased members of the Polish Resettlement Corps, in some particulars a Corps of His Majesty's Forces. Scrolls however will not be issued in respect of these. This will be an exception to the rule in subparagraph (iii) above.

## 4. Entitlement. Asiatic, African and West Indian nationals including Lascars and Chinese.

Some of those deceased were British subjects, other foreign, and for some the nationality was not determined.

(i) *Royal Navy*.—The dependants of those whose death was due to war service were granted compensation by the Admiralty at the rates laid down in the Ministry of Pensions War Pensions Schemes for Chinese and Indian seamen of the Merchant Navy. The Ministry of Pensions have no record of these, and in most cases the present addresses are not known, as they received a lump sum. The Admiralty will furnish a list of the awards to the Ministry of Pensions who will issue the Scrolls on application.

(ii) *Merchant Navy*.—It is proposed that the Scroll should be issued to the next-of-kin whenever the Ministry of Pensions have admitted liability and have paid, or are paying, compensation, i.e., gratuity or pension.

## 5. Civil Defence, etc., services. Death due to injury by enemy action when on duty.

(i) For those next-of-kin who, in accordance with Form D.M.1, paragraph 2, have claimed the Defence Medal on Form D.M.2, paragraph D (a), a request has been made to local authorities to send particulars to the Home Office or the Scottish Home Department.

(ii) The resulting Home Office and Scottish Home Department record, imperfect as it is, of posthumous awards of the Defence Medal granted because death was due to injury by enemy action when on duty will be furnished to the Ministry of Pensions.

6. *Professional Policemen. Death due to injury by enemy action when on duty.*

Pensions in respect of professional Police are not paid by the Ministry of Pensions. The Home Office and the Scottish Home Department will obtain the necessary particulars from Police Authorities and transmit these to the Ministry of Pensions. That Department will arrange for issue of the Scrolls.

7. *Descriptions to be printed on the Memorial Scrolls.*

(i) The description must always be fitted into two lines. The Christian names of deceased cannot be shown in full. It will not be possible to show more than the initials of Christian names.

(ii) Letters properly shown after the name to indicate the grant of Honours, Decorations and specified Medals will be inserted in the description. The grant of Mentions in Despatches, King's Commendations, and Foreign Honours will not be shown in any way.

(iii) After printing, the Scrolls will be returned by the printers to the Ministry of Pensions for examination before despatch by that Department.

(iv) For women the wording in the Scroll itself is slightly altered. There will be a separate printing for this purpose.

8. *Covering slip.*

A white slip, octavo or smaller, bearing the words

" The enclosed Scroll is sent by Command of the King "

will accompany each Scroll.

This will probably be in copper plate style on good paper. There would be no name on the slip and no address of origin or date.

9. *Envelopes.*

The Memorial Scrolls are to be posted flat in envelopes strengthened with cardboard. The envelopes for issue will bear the words at the top " On His Majesty's Service ". In the left-hand lower corner will appear the printed frank " Ministry of Pensions " in an oval surrounding the Royal Arms. In the left-hand lower corner below this frank a black triangle will be printed so that on the return of any undelivered envelopes to the Ministry of Pensions Registry, they may readily be identified. The first order for these envelopes will be for 250,000. More will be required later.

10. *Despatch of the Scrolls to next-of-kin resident outside the United Kingdom.*

The following sub-paragraphs have reference only to next-of-kin who would be pensioned by the United Kingdom. They have no reference to next-of-kin of deceased members of, for instance, Canadian or Australian Forces.

(i) *Eire.* Next-of-kin resident in,

The Scrolls for issue to residents in Eire will be sent in parcels to the Ministry of Pensions Office in Dublin. They will be despatched from that office, postage being pre-paid, and Eire postage stamps used. The envelopes will however bear the mark " British Ministry of Pensions ".

(ii) *Canada, Newfoundland and U.S.A.* Next-of-kin resident in,

Scrolls will be forwarded in parcels to the Ministry of Pensions representative in Ottawa for despatch.

(iii) *Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, Colonial Empire.* Next-of-kin resident in,

Scrolls will be forwarded to the usual Ministry of Pensions overseas Paying Agent for despatch.

(iv) *Foreign Countries.* Next-of-kin resident in,

Scrolls will be forwarded to the appropriate British Consular Officer for despatch.

11. *Acknowledgment of applications.*

Following is the draft of the letter which the Ministry of Pensions will send in acknowledgment of applications received after the issue of the notice.

Ministry of Pensions,  
Norcross,  
Blackpool,  
Lancs.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter requesting the grant to you of a Memorial Scroll in respect of the late.....

Your claim will be very carefully considered and when a decision is reached a further communication will be sent to you.

The Minister has asked me to explain that the work of preparing and issuing Memorial Scrolls, and the enquiries necessary in the consideration of applications from next-of-kin not in receipt of pensions, will involve a considerable amount of labour and time, and some months may elapse before a decision can be reached.

Perhaps in the meantime you would be good enough to inform us on a postcard of any change of address, marking the notification " Memorial Scrolls ".

Yours faithfully,

12. *Refusal of applications.*

Following is the draft of the letter which the Ministry of Pensions will send when it is necessary to refuse applications.

Ministry of Pensions,  
Norcross,  
Blackpool,  
Lancs.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Your application for the grant to you of a Memorial Scroll in respect of the late.....  
.....  
has been carefully considered.

I have to explain that the Memorial Scrolls are granted only in respect of those men and women who died in circumstances which would have entitled their next-of-kin to consideration for a pension under the Royal Warrants, Orders in Council, Orders, Schemes, etc., administered by the Minister of Pensions.

These conditions are not satisfied in your case and it is regretted that the grant of a Memorial Scroll cannot be authorized.

Yours, faithfully,

13. *Dominions and India.*

The Canadian and New Zealand Governments issue a silver Memorial Cross and may not therefore require a Scroll in addition. The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia have made enquiries as to cost, etc., and it is possible that they may wish to make an issue of the Scroll. It is assumed that if there were to be any issues to the next-of-kin of deceased Dominion subjects trained under the Commonwealth Air Training Scheme they would be made by the Dominion Government concerned. The Union of South Africa and India have not intimated as yet that they will require copies of this Scroll.

14. *General.*

It is proposed to print 250,000 Scrolls at first for the United Kingdom issue including Colonial Forces. It is expected that the overprinting and issue of these may be completed in two years.





This scroll commemorates  
 Lt.-Colonel R. C. M. Brown, O.B.E., M.C.  
 Royal Engineers

held in honour as one who served King and Country in the world war of 1939-1945 and gave his life to save mankind from tyranny. May his sacrifice help to bring the peace and freedom for which he died.

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SAVING TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

E.I. Ref: 0592.

4th May, 1948.

No. 53.

1. ~~Your Circular Despatch 36076/18/47 of 25th November, 1947.  
Memorial scroll World War 1939-45.~~

~~I have considered the question and in view of local  
circumstances do not consider issue of scroll appropriate.~~

*CANCELLED*

~~E.I. Ref: 0592/5.~~

GOVERNOR.

4th May, 1948.

No. 63.

1. ~~Your Circular Despatch 36076/18/47 of 25th November, 1947.  
Memorial scroll World War 1939-45.~~

~~The only death directly due to war service was that of a  
local gunner drowned on active service whose relatives, I  
understand, would regard the scroll less as a consolation  
than as a reminder of their loss.~~

~~3. While other casualties to the Falkland Islanders  
occurred they cannot properly be attributed directly to  
war service and award appears inappropriate.~~

GOVERNOR.

*PN  
27.5.48*



On Active Service

- Enn. H. R. Biggs
- X Lieut. W. Barlas (Part time)
- X Pte. E. A. Deckett (S) (Part time)

- Enn. L. W. Summers (original in service) (5)
- Enn. John McKay (T.B.)

On Part-time Service (Stanley Camp)

- St. Pte. W. T. Aldridge
- C. " A. Hall (S)
- C. " J. Hollen
- St. " E. D. Hills
- St. " J. Anderson
- C. " A. A. D. McCallum
- C. " J. B. Morrison
- St. " H. J. Jennings
- C. " Smith, J. (11)
- C. " Smith, R. H. T.
- St. " Ryan, J.

Royal Navy

- B. C. McLaughey (post-war)
- A. Pedersen (3)
- E. L. G. Roberts (Scots?)

Merchant Navy

- W. C. Hancock
- J. W. Kendall (3)
- G. L. Belts