Queens Commendation (QC) Bruce Allan Wynyard

367808. Gunner. Royal NZ Artillery. 161 Battery RNZA

NZ Gazette

CITATION

Gunner Wynyard enlisted on 12th August 1964 and served with 1st Battalion, The Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, in Malaya and in Borneo.

In August 1967 he transferred to the Royal New Zealand Artillery for service in Vietnam.

On 4th October 1967, a fire spread to an ammunition bay on the gun position of 161 Battery, Royal New Zealand Artillery at Nui Dat. The propellant charge bags in some cartridges igniting detonating the primers and a dangerous situation developed in which an explosion was imminent.

Gunner Wynyard ran to the fire and, from a position on the parapet of the ammunition bay directly above the blaze, attempted to extinguish it with sandbags which he threw on to the blazing ammunition. As a result the fire was brought under control allowing other soldiers to approach and extinguish it completely.

Gunner Wynyard's initiative, calmness and bravery and his complete disregard for his own safety prevented a disastrous accident, with almost certain loss of life, and reflect great credit upon himself, his Regiment and the New Zealand Army.