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FRIDAY, 11TH OCTOBER 1974

State Intelligence

HONOURS AND AWARDS

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.

11th October 1974.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to the Royal Victorian Order:

(To be dated 15th August 1974)

To be a Dame Grand Cross :

Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark Phillips.

(To be dated 15th August 1974)

To be a Commander :

Captain Mark Anthony Peter PHILLIPS, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards.

(To be dated 15th August 1974)

To be a Member of the Fourth Class :

Miss Rowena BRASSEY.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.

11th October 1974.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to award the Royal Victorian Medal (Gold) to the undermentioned:

(To be dated 6th October 1974)

Edwin STUART.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.

11th October 1974.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased on the advice of Her Majesty's New Zealand Ministers, to approve the award of the George Cross to the undermentioned:

(To be dated 26th September 1974)

Awarded the George Cross

H537931 Sergeant Murray Ken HUDSON (Deceased),
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

On 13th February 1974 while supervising a live grenade practice, Sergeant Hudson suddenly became aware that the NCO in his grenade throwing bay had accidentally, and perhaps unknowingly, armed the grenade he was about to throw. Sergeant Hudson immediately ordered the man to throw the grenade, but there was no reaction. The Sergeant was then seen to quickly grasp the NCO's throwing hand in both his hands and attempt to throw the grenade over the front parapet of the throwing bay. He was within inches of success when the grenade exploded killing both men.

As an experienced soldier, Sergeant Hudson would have realised immediately that once the grenade became armed there was less than four seconds to detonation. While he must have been aware of the great risk involved he took no action to safeguard himself, but instead attempted to dislodge the grenade from the NCO's hand and throw it over the parapet.

Sergeant Hudson displayed devotion to duty and courage of a very high order when, with a complete disregard for his own safety, he attempted to save the life of a fellow soldier.