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TAPES BEFORE 0030 B.S.T. (i.e. FOR MORNING PAPERS) ON  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1942  
THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREPACING  
ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE EMBARGO

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS IN LIBYA

Sixteen decorations have been awarded to officers and men of the Royal Armoured Corps for gallantry in the Libyan campaign between May 27 and June 30, 1942.

In actions during the withdrawal Axis troops had good reason to remember the punch and tenacity of purpose of the Royal Armoured Corps while all British units co-operating with them bear witness to the accuracy of their fire and their readiness to face any odds.

MAJOR-GENERAL LUMSDEN

It was due to the successful leadership and gallantry under severe fire of their Commander, Major General Herbert LUMSDEN, who won a bar to the D.S.O. at Knightsbridge, that the 1st Armoured Division was able to extricate itself from a serious position in that area.

MAJOR WITHERIDGE

On May 30 in the Bir Harmat region, confronted by an overwhelming number of anti-tank guns the squadron commanded by Major George WITHERIDGE, then reduced to nine Grant tanks, went forward against the enemy's guns, inflicting heavy casualties. When only four tanks remained they were ordered to withdraw but by the squadron's gallant action the troops on our flank units were saved very heavy casualties.

Major Witheridge has been awarded the D.S.O.

LANCE-CORPORAL BROWN

Lance-Corporal John Alexander BROWN of Bedford, was badly wounded in the face and received multiple flesh wounds. When a high explosive shell hit his tank, he called for the tank First Aid Kit and gave first aid to his companions, after which he beat out with his own hands four fires which had begun in his tank.

Not until the fires were out did Lance-Corporal Brown consent to have his own wounds and burns dressed.

For this sacrifice and devotion to duty Lance-Corporal Brown was awarded the Military Medal.

LIEUT. SCOTT

Instrumental in allowing the Guards Brigade to carry out their orderly withdrawal from Knightsbridge was the bravery of Lieutenant Peter Marriott Raleigh SCOTT.

/West

West of Hagiag ol Raml on June 13-14, his regiment was attacked by enemy infantry and anti-tank guns. Lieutenant Scott's tank was knocked out and he was wounded.

Despite this he recovered his whole crew and then re-organized the rest of the squadron.

On the previous day Lieutenant Scott with six Grant tanks was holding the extreme left of the line when a determined attack by 22 enemy tanks was made against his small force. He held his ground, personally accounting for at least two and probably more enemy tanks.

When his other half squadron arrived, the enemy withdrew, thus failing to reach the escarpment which was a key point at that time.

Lieutenant Scott has been awarded the Military Cross for his gallantry during these two engagements.

WAR OFFICE