

## **The Institution of New Campaign Medals in New Zealand and the United Kingdom- Part 2**

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### **Introduction and Summary of part 1**

The nature of campaign medals awarded to members of the New Zealand Defence Force has departed from the model formerly followed. Historically, members of the armed forces of the Crown in New Zealand had received medals instituted by the appropriate authorities in the United Kingdom. To a large degree this was because New Zealand rarely if ever embarked on military deployments apart from in consort with the United Kingdom.

In relatively recent years, with the introduction of New Zealand-based campaign medals, has come the practice of awarding campaign medals, often retrospectively, for operations which fall short of campaigns. This appears to be in pursuance of a deliberate policy of providing medals for each and every occasion when New Zealand servicemen are deployed operationally overseas, whether for a campaign or not.

The first part began with an outline of the procedures which lead to the institution of a new campaign medal or bar in the United Kingdom, and ended with a list of medals and bars which have actually been instituted since 1945.

In the second part of this article the actual overseas deployments of the armed forces of the Crown are listed, and the range of awards conferred analysed for underlying principles. The New Zealand medals and bars are then compared and contrasted with the British. Conclusions, if any, are then drawn.

### **Military Operations since 1945**

The following is a broad outline of the principal military naval and air operations undertaken by the British and New Zealand armed forces since the conclusion of the Second World War. Where a medal was conferred, the particular campaign medal awarded in each instance is noted.

Java/Sumatra 1945 [South East Asia 1945-48 bar to General Service Medal; South East Asia 1945-46 bar to Naval General Service Medal]

Greece 1945-47

India 1945-48

Palestine 1945-48 [Naval General Service Medal 1945-48, General Service Medal]

Minesweeping 1945-51 [Naval General Service Medal 1945-51]

Bomb and Mine Clearance 1945-53 [Naval General Service Medal, General Service Medal 1945-49]

Trieste 1945-54

Bomb and Mine Clearance 1945-56 [Naval General Service Medal]

Berlin 1945-94<sup>1</sup>

Germany 1945-<sup>2</sup>

Bomb and Mine Clearance Mediterranean [Naval General Service Medal]  
Corfu Straits 1946  
Suez Canal Zone 1946-54  
Aden 1947  
Northern Ireland 1947-48  
Gold Coast 1948  
British Honduras 1948  
China and Far East 1948-49 [General Service Medal, Naval General Service Medal- Yangtse 1949]  
Eritrea 1948-51  
Malaya 1948-60 [General Service Medal 1948-60, General Service Medal 1948-59 in Singapore, Naval General Service Medal]  
Somaliland 1949-51  
Malaya 1949-51 [General Service Medal]  
Gulf of Aqaba 1949-51  
Singapore 1950 [General Service Medal 1948-59]  
Korea 1950-53 [Korea Medal, UNO Medal]  
Gulf of Aqaba 1951  
Kenya 1952-56 [Africa General Service Medal]  
British Guiana 1953  
Cyprus 1954-59 [Naval General Service Medal, General Service Medal 1959]  
Singapore 1955-56 [General Service Medal 1948-59]  
Aden 1955-58 [Arabian Peninsula 1957-60 bar to General Service Medal, Naval General Service Medal]  
Suez Canal Zone 1956 [Near East 1956 bar to General Service Medal]  
Hong Kong 1956  
Bahrain 1956-57  
British Honduras 1957  
Togoland 1957  
Muscat and Oman 1957-59  
Jordan and Lebanon 1958  
Iceland Cod War 1958-59  
Gan 1959  
Bahamas Patrol 1959-73  
Cameroon 1960  
Jamaica 1960  
Bahrain 1961  
Kuwait 1961  
British Honduras 1962  
British Guiana 1962  
Brunei 1962 [1962 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Borneo 1962 [Campaign Service Medal]  
British Guiana 1963  
Zanzibar 1963  
Malaysia/Borneo 1963  
Swaziland 1963-66  
Cyprus 1963- [UNFICYP receive UNO Medal from 1964]  
Kenya 1964<sup>3</sup>  
Zanzibar 1964

Uganda 1964<sup>4</sup>  
Tanganyika 1964<sup>5</sup>  
British Guiana 1964<sup>6</sup>  
South Arabia 1964<sup>7</sup>  
Malaya 1964-66 [1964-66 Campaign Service Medal]  
Radfan 1964-67 [1964 Campaign Service Medal]  
Mauritius 1965  
Zambia 1965-66<sup>8</sup>  
Beira Patrol 1965-75<sup>9</sup>  
Oman 1965-77  
Hong Kong 1966  
Seychelles 1966  
Libya 1967  
Hong Kong 1967<sup>10</sup>  
Aden 1967 [South Arabia 1967 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Mauritius 1968<sup>11</sup>  
Anguilla 1969-71<sup>12</sup>  
Dhofar 1969-76<sup>13</sup> [1969-76 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Northern Ireland 1969 [bar to Campaign Service Medal from 1969]  
Iceland Cod War 1972-73  
Cyprus Emergency 1974<sup>14</sup>  
Iceland Cod War 1975-76  
Belize 1976-94<sup>15</sup>  
Anguilla 1977<sup>16</sup>  
Bermuda 1977<sup>17</sup>  
Rhodesia 1979-80 [Rhodesia Medal, and Zimbabwe Independence Medal]  
New Hebrides 1980<sup>18</sup>  
Gulf of Oman 1980-<sup>19</sup>  
Sinai 1981-93<sup>20</sup> [Multi-national Force and Observers Medal, but not approved for wear]  
Falkland Islands and South Georgia 1982 [South Atlantic Medal 1982]  
South Atlantic 1982-<sup>21</sup>  
Lebanon 1983-84<sup>22</sup> [1983-84 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Suez Canal Zone 1984<sup>23</sup> [Suez Canal- Mine Clearance 1984 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Yemen 1986<sup>24</sup>  
Persian Gulf 1986-89<sup>25</sup> [1986-89 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Namibia 1989-90<sup>26</sup> [UNTAG received UNO Medal]  
Liberia 1990<sup>27</sup>  
Kuwait-Iraq 1990-91<sup>28</sup> [Gulf Medal 1990-91; Kuwait 1991 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Saudi Arabia 1990-<sup>29</sup>  
Western Sahara 1991-93<sup>30</sup> [MINURSO received UNO Medal]  
Cambodia 1991-93<sup>31</sup> [UNAMIC 1991-92, UNTAC 1992-93 each received UNO Medal]  
Northern Iraq and Southern Turkey 1991<sup>32</sup> [1991 bar to Campaign Service Medal]  
Turkey 1991-<sup>33</sup>  
Kuwait-Iraq 1991-<sup>34</sup> [UNIKOM receive UNO Medal]  
Prevlaka Peninsula 1992-<sup>35</sup> [UNMOP receive UNO Medal]  
Yugoslavia 1992-<sup>36</sup> [UNPROFOR and other UNO forces receive UNO Medal; IFOR receive NATO Medal]  
Haiti 1993-<sup>37</sup>  
Georgia 1993-<sup>38</sup> [UNIMOG receive UNO Medal]

Rwanda 1994-95<sup>39</sup> [UNAMIR received UNO Medal]  
Angola 1995-<sup>40</sup> [UNAVEM receive UNO Medal]  
Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium 1996-<sup>41</sup> [UNTAES receive UNO Medal]

It can be seen that by no means all occasions when British servicemen are deployed abroad do they receive a campaign medal. Indeed, the conclusion appears to be that a medal will be awarded only where the hardship, real or potential, warrants this. This does not mean that fighting must ensue, but it does preclude the award of a medal in such a case as the German garrison. Only where there is general war will a separate medal be awarded, as Korea 1950-53, the South Atlantic 1982, and the Gulf War 1990-91.

Rhodesia was a special case, as this was an instance of a Commonwealth Monitoring Force, deployed in Operation *Agila*, to oversee the disarmament of terrorist forces in what is now Zimbabwe. It will be seen that in recent decades it has become common for servicemen to receive only United Nations medals. This tendency has had a profound affect both on the British, and the New Zealand, medals systems.

### **New Zealand Campaign medals since 1945**

Rather than list the occasions when New Zealand servicemen have been deployed abroad since 1945, it is more instructive merely to list the campaign medals and bars which have been instituted.

New Zealand Service Medal, Japan 1946-49<sup>42</sup>

Vietnam Medal 1964-68<sup>43</sup>

New Zealand General Service Medal 1992<sup>44</sup> "Sinai"<sup>45</sup> [from 1982; for the Multi-national Force and Observers]; "Kuwait"<sup>46</sup> [1990-91]; "Iraq"<sup>47</sup> [from 1991; UN Special Commission on Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction]; "Peshawar"<sup>48</sup> [1989-91; UN Mine Clearance Training Team, Pakistan]; "Somalia"<sup>49</sup> [from 1992; UN Task Force from 1993]; "Mozambique"<sup>50</sup> [from 1994; Mine Clearance programme, where no UN medal awarded]; "Cambodia"<sup>51</sup> [from 1994; Cambodian Mine Action Centre, Cambodia]; "Arabian Gulf"<sup>52</sup> [from 1995; Multi-national interception force]; "Malaya-Thailand border" [1960-64]; "Korea 1954-57"<sup>53</sup>, "Bouganville"<sup>54</sup> [from 1997; Bouganville Truce Monitoring Group].

Until 1992 New Zealand servicemen abroad were eligible for UN medals where approved, or, at least in the earlier years, for the appropriate bar of the British Campaign Service Medal, such as "Malay Peninsula" [1964-66] and "South Vietnam" [1962-64], the latter was instituted for Australia and New Zealand servicemen only, as Britain did not commit troops to the campaign. The absence of a New Zealand campaign medal did not present difficulties. Apart from the occasional contribution to UN missions, New Zealand rarely sent any forces abroad.

However, in 1992 the New Zealand General Service Medal was created. This is available in silver for wars, and in bronze for peacekeeping operations. The first bar was for Sinai, where troops participated in the Multi-national Force and Observers from 1982. The next was for Kuwait 1990-91, and was in silver. In total 66 were awarded to the RNZAF, 37 to the army, and 10 to the RNZN.

Although the award of a bar for service in the Sinai was made retrospectively, it was not in this respect that the award was important. It marked the departure from the long-standing tradition of awarding campaign medals for warlike operations rather than mere service abroad.

The creation of the New Zealand Service Medal, Japan 1946-49, was a more significant step. This was very much a post-facto recognition of service. In fact it illustrates the validity of the still-current policy of the HD Committee in the United Kingdom. The present Committee cannot put itself in the place of the Committee which made the original decision and which would have been able to take account of the views of the Government and of other interested parties at the time of the decision.

It is quite possible that no committee ever in fact considered the possibility of conferring a medal for the 12,000 servicemen who served in J-Force in Japan 1946-49. But is it appropriate for the current authorities to create a medal now, fifty years after the event? Service in an occupation force did not qualify for a campaign medal in the years immediately after the end of the Second World War. Why should be decide that a medal should now be awarded?

However, the royal warrant instituting the medal was signed by Her Majesty 3 November 1995. To be eligible, the servicemen must have served 28 days in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force. Because Her Majesty The Queen was not then Sovereign, the New Zealand coat of arms appears on the obverse, rather than the usual royal head. Unusually, the medal may be claimed by surviving relatives of the servicemen, such as grandchildren, cousins, or aunts.

Clearly, it is now the policy to go over the past fifty years of deployments, and create a medal, or a bar for the new New Zealand General Service Medal 1992, where no medal was conferred. Thus a medal for service on the Malaya-Thailand border, 1960-64, was approved by Her Majesty in October 1996, and K-Force, in Korea 1954-57, in 1998, for those who had not received either the United Nations Service Medal for Korea, or the Korea Medal<sup>55</sup>.

The current position is that it appears that the UN practice has been adopted. A bar will be created for any and every occasion when New Zealand servicemen are deployed abroad, excepting exercises. This is perhaps inevitable, in light of the prevalence of UN medals. But is unfortunate, as the standing of these medals is commensurate with the conditions of conferment. If they are granted too generously they become of little merit.

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1 <sup>1</sup>Garrison duty (army, a with a nominal RAF component).

2 <sup>2</sup>The British Army of the Rhine 1945-92.

3 <sup>3</sup>Troops sent to suppress a revolt.

4 <sup>4</sup>Troops sent to suppress a revolt.

5 <sup>5</sup>Royal Marines present 25 January to end March 1964 to suppress revolt.

6 <sup>6</sup>Troops sent to suppress revolt in May 1964.

7 <sup>7</sup>Troops sent to deal with incursions.

8 <sup>8</sup>Ten Javelin aircraft sent 3rd December 1965.

9 <sup>9</sup>From December 1965. The UN Security Council authorised the deployment 19 April 1966. Initially comprised an aircraft carrier, later two frigates/destroyers and Shackleton surveillance aircraft. Nine ships were required to keep one on station, yet over the time of the embargo only 30 vessels were intercepted.

10 <sup>10</sup>To deal with Chinese-inspired disturbances.

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- 11 <sup>11</sup>Shropshire Light Infantry sent to deal with disturbances prior to independence.
- 12 <sup>12</sup>Some 300 troops present 19th March till September 1969 due to secessionist moves.
- 13 <sup>13</sup>SAS, advisory team, Royal Engineers, RAF pilots. In total 24 British servicemen were killed, and 55 wounded, with a total of 187 killed, and 557 wounded.
- 14 <sup>14</sup>Turkish invasion 20th July to 16th August. Commando carrier HMS *Hermes*, two frigates, Near East Air Force (two Vulcan bomber, one Whirlwind helicopter, one Lightning fighter, one Hercules transport squadrons).
- 15 <sup>15</sup>Naval, military and air force garrison to deter Honduran aggression.
- 16 <sup>16</sup>A frigate sent to deal with disturbances.
- 17 <sup>17</sup>Some 260 troops sent December 1977 due to disturbances.
- 18 <sup>18</sup>Some 200 RM sent to suppress revolt 15th June to 19th August 1980, including 148 to Espirito Santo from 24th July to 18th August.
- 19 <sup>19</sup>Armillia Patrol, including Multi-national Interception Force in the Arabian Sea since 1990.
- 20 <sup>20</sup>Total 38 in 1985, 10 in 1992.
- 21 <sup>21</sup>A naval, military and air garrison.
- 22 <sup>22</sup>HMS *Hermes* and HMS *Illustrious* with 800 RM troops sailed 18th September 1983 for the Mediterranean. Royal Navy ships were offshore 8th February 1983 to 22nd March 1984.
- 23 <sup>23</sup>Mine damage occurred from 9th July 1984 in the Red Sea, Gulf of Suez. Mine clearance vessels from the United Kingdom, the United States of America, France, Italy (3), and Egypt, etc.
- 24 <sup>24</sup>HMY *Britannia*, HMS *Hydra* evacuated civilians from Yemen civil war. HMS *Newcastle* and HMS *Jupiter* assisted at a distance.
- 25 <sup>25</sup>Oil traffic mined, attacked by Iranians, Iraqis.
- 26 <sup>26</sup>Some 175 army signallers.
- 27 <sup>27</sup>Royal Navy frigate, tanker under the United States of America tactical command in early June.
- 28 <sup>28</sup>Total of 44,000 troops.
- 29 <sup>29</sup>Air forces.
- 30 <sup>30</sup>Only 15 observers.
- 31 <sup>31</sup>UNAMIC, UNTAC some 45 observers, 75 Royal Marines.
- 32 <sup>32</sup>Several thousand RM troops, aircraft proportionate, to protect Kurds.
- 33 <sup>33</sup>Aircraft to enforce an exclusion zone in Southern Iraq, to provide humanitarian airlift for northern Iraq. Also 30 army at Incirlik.
- 34 <sup>34</sup>Only 15 observers.
- 35 <sup>35</sup>Observers only.
- 36 <sup>36</sup>UNO 1992-95, NATO IFOR 1995-. Also national forces, NATO, WEU forces (under NATO from 20th December 1995). Military, naval and air forces, including RAF in Italy, RN in Adriatic.
- 37 <sup>37</sup>From 19th October 1993 UN sanctions were enforced by the United States of America and the United Kingdom patrolling a blockade.
- 38 <sup>38</sup>Only 10 observers.
- 39 <sup>39</sup>Some 600 troops 28th July 1994 to 1st December 1995.
- 40 <sup>40</sup>Some 649 troops with UNAVEM III.
- 41 <sup>41</sup>Only observers.
- 42 <sup>42</sup>SR 1995/244.

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43 <sup>43</sup>SR 1968/141; They also were eligible for the South Vietnam Campaign Medal, issued by the Republic of Vietnam, and approved by Her Majesty The Queen for wear by New Zealand forces 27 June 1966.

44 <sup>44</sup>SR 1992/101.

45 <sup>45</sup>SR 1992/102.

46 <sup>46</sup>SR 1992/103.

47 <sup>47</sup>SR 1994/73.

48 <sup>48</sup>SR 1994/74.

49 <sup>49</sup>SR 1994/75.

50 <sup>50</sup>SR 1995/246.

51 <sup>51</sup>SR 1995/246.

52 <sup>52</sup>SR 1996/54.

53 <sup>53</sup>SR 1998/193.

54 <sup>54</sup>SR 1998/192.

55 <sup>55</sup>Counter-signed 1 July 1998 by Hon Max Bradford, Minister of Defence.