

GENERAL THOMAS J. STEWART MEDAL - is awarded to members of the armed forces of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 100% attendance and excellence in drill, including summer training camp, during any one calendar year.

The bronze five pointed star pendant, 1-3/8" in diameter, one point down, features the bust of General Stewart in relief within a 3mm band on which is the circumscription GENERAL THOMAS J. STEWART MEDAL 61-65. On each ray of the star is a keystone in relief on which, also in relief, are the dates, 1775, 1812, 1846, 1898, and 1917. The end of each ray ends in a three leaf clover on which is indented a five pointed star.

The reverse side has a keystone in the center with the Adjutant General's Seal, all in relief, within a 3mm band with the indented circumscription DRILL ATTENDANCE at the top, and 100% DUTY at the bottom. On four rays are oak leaves, the bottom ray having the letters PNG.

COMMENDATION RIBBON - a ribbon award only, it is awarded for active state service within the boundaries of the Commonwealth during any emergency war or peace, to members of the Pennsylvania National Guard when their service records indicate that they were a member of and present in an organization or unit that was mobilized during said emergency under orders of the Governor.

The ribbon is of standard U.S. service ribbon dimensions with five gold and four dark blue alternating center stripes (each 1/16") flanked by dark blue (13/32") stripes.

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THE LATEST WINNER OF THE VICTORIA CROSS - A short mention of the latest award of the Victoria Cross was made on p. 14 of the July issue. Mr. Robert Ruman has sent us this more complete account, as follows:

Last June, Lance-Corporal Rambahadur Limbu, was flown from Singapore to London for an appointment with Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace. He was to be invested with Britain's highest award for valour, -- the Victoria Cross.

Lance-Corporal Rambahadur, 2nd Battalion, 10<sup>th</sup> Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, was awarded the V.C. for his actions on 21 November, 1965; in a hillside battle in Sarawak, Malaysia.

His company discovered and attacked a platoon strength force of Indonesians near the border. Advancing up a knife-edged ridge with his support group, they were spotted by a sentry who opened fire, wounding a man to his right. Rushing forward, he reached the sentry's position and quickly killed him. He then left the comparative safety of this position, and returning to his group, led them to another position from which to direct fire on the enemy.

Leaving his group to inform his platoon leader of his intentions, he braved heavy fire in crossing open ground to his platoon leader's position. At this moment, both his men were seriously wounded. For the next 20 minutes, Lance-Corporal Rambahadur, returned to his advanced position under intense fire, and carried both men to safety.

After this rescue operation, he recovered the light machine gun left by his wounded comrades, gave support to the prolonged assault on the position, while in doing so, killing four more enemy soldiers as they attempted to recross the border.

Lance-Corporal Rambahadur is the 1344<sup>th</sup> individual to win the Victoria Cross since its inception in 1856. This is also the first V.C. won by the 10<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles.

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NEW AWARDS FOR MALAWI - In July 1966 it was announced in Zomba, capital of Malawi, that the President, Dr. Hastings Banda, had instituted the Order of the Lion of Malawi and a number of medals.

E. H. O'Toole

The Queen's Medal for Egypt 1882 bore on the reverse a Sphinx with the date 1882 below the figure, and for this medal three clasps were awarded - "ALEXANDRIA 11th July", which was a Naval award - "TEL-EL-KEBIR", generally speaking an Army award, but a Naval Detachment was present and also a Battalion of Royal Marines specially sent from England. The third clasp was "SUAKIM 1884", which was given to troops already holding the 1882 medal who were employed in the operations from Suakim in 1884.

The medal for Sudan 1884-86 was similar to that for Egypt 1882 but bore no date under the Sphinx. This medal had ten clasps covering operations up to 1889.

The object of this article is to show the various combinations of clasps that were won by:

#### The Royal Highlanders - The Black Watch

This Regiment was one of the few that could claim five clasps to the 1882 medal. Also in the Regiment were medals with four, three or two clasps that one must say are not common.

There are three medal rolls for the Regiment. The first covers the issue of the 1882 Medal and clasp "TEL-EL-KEBIR" containing the names of 30 Officers and 736 Other Ranks who received the medal and clasp "TEL-EL-KEBIR", and the names of 3 Officers and 25 Other Ranks who received the Medal only.

The second roll is for the actions from "SUAKIM 1884", and those Officers and men who had already received the 1882 medal were able to add two further clasps. Four clasps were issued to the 1882 medal for these operations - "EL-TEB", "TAMAAI", "EL-TEB/TAMAAI" and "SUAKIM 1884".

For those men who had not the 1882 medal the only clasps issued were Battle Clasps as they were not entitled to the clasp "SUAKIM 1884". An abstract from this roll produces the following:

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB" - 4 Officers and 9 Other Ranks.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "TAMAAI" - 6 Other Ranks.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAI" - 13 Officers and 279 Other Ranks.

1884 Medal and Clasp "EL-TEB" - 2 Officers and 92 Other Ranks.

1884 Medal and Clasp "TAMAAI" - 2 Officers and 5 Other Ranks.

1884 Medal and Clasp "EL-TEB/TAMAAI" - 2 Officers and 291 Other Ranks.

1884 Medal without Clasp - 1 Officer and 1 Other Rank.

The third Roll is that which covers the actions on the Nile and the clasps are "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN" - "ABU KLEA". One man in the Regiment had the clasp "SUAKIM 1885" - this was a three clasp medal the others being "EL-TEB/TAMAAI" and "THE NILE 1884-85".

#### Five Clasp Medals

To earn five clasps to the 1882 medal it was essential that the holder already had "TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" and one of those for the early 1884 battles so six combinations are available.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". One Officer only received this combination.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "TAMAAI" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". No member of the Regiment received such a medal and clasps.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAI" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". One Officer received a medal with this group, and 4 Other Ranks.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". One Officer and 50 Other Ranks were entitled to these Clasps.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". One man only received this combination.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". 9 Officers and 156 Other Ranks received this group of clasps.

#### Four Clasp Medals

To earn four clasps to the 1882 medal it was necessary for the Officer or man to hold the 1882 medal but not necessarily the clasp for TEL-EL-KEBIR and the following groups of clasps are found:

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85". 14 Other Ranks had this group of clasps.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85". Only one man earned this group.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85". One Officer and 41 Other Ranks had this combination.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". Four Other Ranks had this group of clasps.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". None in the Regiment had such a group.

1882 Medal - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". This group was awarded to one man only.

1882 Medal - "SUAKIM 1884" - "TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". No one in the Regiment had this group.

1882 Medal - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". 2 Other Ranks earned this group of clasps.

There were no awards to groups similar to the last three, but with ABU KLEA for KIRBEKAN.

#### Three Clasp Medals

Although there are fewer clasps to be won, a great many more combinations might be earned and only those that were actually issued are noted:

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "SUAKIM 1884" - "EL-TEB/TAMAAT". One man only received this group.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". One Officer and 13 Other Ranks had this group.

"TEL-EL-KEBIR" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". 2 Other Ranks only qualified for these clasps.

The following groups for three clasps are all on the undated Medal of 1884.

"EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". One Officer and 35 Other Ranks.

"TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". 2 Officers and 4 Other Ranks had this group.

"EL-TEB/TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "KIRBEKAN". 3 Officers and 156 Other Ranks had this group.

"EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". One man only had this group.

"EL-TEB/TAMAAT" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "ABU KLEA". 5 Other Ranks received this group of clasps.

"EL-TEB" - "THE NILE 1884-85" - "SUAKIM 1885". One man was the only one to get "SUAKIM 1885".