

11 55 AM JK WL P FS

11 55 AM THE QUEEN DECORATES COLONEL CARNE.

WE AT HOME WERE THINKING A LOT ABOUT YOU ALL," SAID THE QUEEN TO LIEUT. COLONEL J. CARNE WHEN HE WENT TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE TODAY TO RECEIVE AT THE HANDS OF HIS SOVEREIGN THE VICTORIA CROSS.

"WHAT WERE CONDITIONS LIKE IN THE PRISON CAMP" THE QUEEN ASKED COLONEL CARNE.

IT WAS'NT SO BAD, MA'M' REPLIED THE COLONEL.

THE WORST PART WAS THE SAWFUL BOREDOM."

WEARING KHAKI SERVICE DRESS WITH THE RIBBON OF THE V.C., AND THE D.S.O. ON HIS TUNIC, THE 47 YEARS OLD, COLONEL LED A LONG LINE OF MEN AND WOMEN RECEIVING HONOURS AND AWARDS INTO THE WHITE AND GOLD STATE BALLROOM WHERE THE INVESTITURE WAS HELD. HE WON HIS V.C.. WHEN IN COMMAND OF THE FIRST BATTALION THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT--"THE GLORIOUS GLOUCESTERS -- DURING THEIR HEROIC STAND IN THE IMJIN RIVER BATTLE IN KOREA ON APRIL 1951. THE D.S.O., WAS AWARDED FOR SERVICES IN AN EARLIER ACTION.

11 58 AM ADD. CARNE.

THE QUEEN STOOD ON THE DAIS IN FRONT OF A GREAT GOLD AND CRIMSON CANOPY AT ONE END OF THE VAST ROOM.

STALWART MEMBERS OF THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD IN THEIR PICTURESQUE TUDOR UNIFORMS STOOD ON DUTY ON THE DAIS.

THE QUEEN WORE A SIMPLY CUT PALE CREAM COLOURED DRESS WITH A SMALL BLACK PATTERN ON IT. "THE VICTORIA CROSS" ANNOUNCED THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN, THE EARL OF SCARBOROUGH, STANDING WITH THE INVESTITURE LIST IN HIS HAND ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE QUEEN.

TO BE DECORATED---LIEUT. COLONEL. JAMES CARNE, THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT .

THE SIX FOOT-TWO COLONEL STEPPED FORWARD AND STANDING IN FRONT OF THE QUEEN BOWED.

THE QUEEN INCLINED HER HEAD IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND SMILED AT HIM. IT WAS A REASSURING SMILE COMING IN THE MIDST OF ALL THIS FORMALITY. THEN THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN READ THE CITATION.

"ON THE NIGHT OF THE 22ND-23RD APRIL 1951 AND THROUGHOUT THE THREE FOLLOWING DAYS LIEUT-COL. CARNE'S BATTALION WAS ATTACKED INCESSANTLY BY VASTLY SUPERIOR ENEMY NUMBERS AND WAS COMPLETELY CUT OFF. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE ENGAGEMENT LIEUT-COL. CARNE SHOWING COMPLETE DISREGARD FOR HIS OWN SAFETY, MOVED AMONG HIS TROOPS, INSPIRING THE UTMOST CONFIDENCE AND WILL TO RESIST. ON TWO OCCASIONS ARMED WITH A RIFLE AND GRENADES HE PERSONALLY LED ASSAULT PARTIES WHICH DROVE BACK THE ENEMY. HE GAVE AN EXAMPLE OF COURAGE AND COOLNESS AND SHOWED POWERS OF LEADERSHIP WHICH CAN BE SELDOM SURPASSED IN THE HISTORY OF THE ARMY."

THE QUEEN WITH THE V.C., IN HER HAND STOOD LISTENING TO THE CITATION.

WHEN THIS WAS FINISHED COLONEL CARNE STPPED FORWARD AND THE QUEEN LOOKING UP IN TO HIS FACE AND SMILING AT HIM, PINNED THE CROSS ON HIS TUNIC.

THEN SHE INVESTED HIM IN THE SAME MANNER WITH THE D.S.O.

FOR HALF A MINUTE OR SO THE QUEEN AND THE COLONEL STOOD TALKING WHILE MRS CARNE LOOKED ON PROUDLY FROM THE FRONT ROW OF THE SEATS IN THE BALLROOM.

AT THE END, SHAKING HANDS, THE QUEEN SAID 'I WISH YOU ALL VERY GOOD LUCK.'