

THE NATIONAL HONOURS ACT 1964 (1964 No. 5)

ARRANGEMENT OF ARTICLES

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L.N. 31 of 1966

The Honours (Police) Warrant 1966

Commencement : 1st October 1965

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by the National Honours Act 1964 and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I, Major-General J. T. U. Aguiyi-Ironsi, Head of the Federal Military Government, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, hereby make the following warrant :—

1.—(1) This warrant may be cited as the Honours (Police) Warrant 1966 and shall have effect as if it had been made on 1st October 1965.

(2) In this warrant—

“holder”, in relation to a police medal or clasp means a person who has been awarded that medal or clasp and has not been deprived thereof, or who having been awarded it or deprived of it, has had it restored to him ;

“police force” means the Nigeria Police Force or the Nigeria Special Constabulary ;

“police medal” means any medal established by article 2 below.

(3) In the case of a ribbon which in pursuance of this warrant is divided laterally into a number of divisions, references in this warrant—

(a) to the first of those divisions is a reference to the division which, when the ribbon is viewed from the front, lies to the left of all the other divisions ;

(b) to the second of those divisions is a reference to the division adjacent to the first division,
and so on from left to right.

Citation,
commence-
ment and
inter-
pretation.

Establishment, etc. of medals for police force.

2.—(1) There are hereby established for the police force the following medals, namely—

- (a) the Nigeria Police Cross ;
- (b) the Meritorious Service Medal ;
- (c) the Long Service Medal ;
- (d) the Special Constabulary Medal

(2) The number of Meritorious Service Medals awarded in any one year shall not exceed twelve (exclusive of medals issued for replacements under article 10 of this warrant) unless the Head of the Federal Military Government in exceptional circumstances deems it fit to exceed that number.

Eligibility for award of medals.

3.—(1) The Nigeria Police Cross may be awarded to any member of the police force for a most conspicuous act of gallantry in the course of duty.

(2) The Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the police force for long and devoted service characterised by exceptional ability and exemplary record.

(3) The Long Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the police force, other than a member of the Nigeria Special Constabulary, who is below the rank of assistant superintendent and has completed eighteen years continuous service with an exemplary record, that is to say, his conduct sheet shows that—

(i) he has not suffered any punishment during the period of twelve years immediately preceding the date of his recommendation for the award ; or

(ii) he has not suffered any punishment during the period of six years immediately preceding the date of his recommendation for the award and he has not suffered more than six punishments, during the whole period of his service.

(4) The Special Constabulary Medal may be awarded to any member of the Nigeria Special Constabulary who has completed nine years continuous service in the special constabulary without remuneration for such service, save that—

(i) no period of service as a whole time member of the Nigeria Police Force shall be included in the nine years period ;

(ii) the person must have been recommended for the award by the Inspector-General of Police as a diligent and devoted member of the special constabulary in the discharge of his duties during the nine years period ;

(iii) the person's service shall still be regarded as continuous even though there is a break in such service not exceeding a period of six months at any one time ;

(iv) a person transferred in his permanent work from one part of the Federation where he has been serving in the special constabulary to another part of the Federation where there is no such unit of special constabulary shall not be regarded as breaking the continuity of his service if he subsequently rejoins the special constabulary within a period of six months starting from the date when there is a unit of special constabulary which he could rejoin in that part of the Federation where he is working ;

(v) where the unit of special constabulary to which he is attached is disbanded and a new one is formed and he joins the newly formed unit within six months of its formation, his service in the newly formed unit will be regarded as continuous with his service in the disbanded unit.

4.—(1) If a person to whom the Nigeria Police Cross has been awarded under article 3 (1) above subsequently performs another act which, if he had not been awarded that medal, would have rendered him eligible for it, he may be awarded a bar to be affixed to the ribbon attached to the medal, and an additional bar may be awarded for every additional performance of such acts.

Award of bar or clasp for additional services.

(2) If a person to whom the Long Service Medal has been awarded under article 3 (3) above completes a total of twenty-five years service with an exemplary record as is mentioned in that article (including his service before the award of the medal), he may be awarded a clasp to be affixed to the ribbon attached to the medal, and he may be awarded a further clasp thereafter for any subsequent service completed with an exemplary record, not being less than five years of such service, from the date of the award of the last clasp.

(3) If a person to whom the Special Constabulary Medal has been awarded under article 3 (4) above completes another ten years service with an exemplary record after the award of the medal, he may be awarded a clasp to be affixed to the ribbon attached to the medal, and he may be awarded a further clasp thereafter for any subsequent service completed with an exemplary record, not being less than ten years of such service, from the date of the award of the last clasp.

5. The Head of the Federal Military Government shall not award a police medal, or a bar or clasp thereto to any person unless the Inspector-General of Police submits a recommendation for the award of a police medal or a bar or clasp thereto in respect of that person to the Federal Executive Council of the Federation, and the Federal Executive Council recommends that person to the Head of the Federal Military Government for the award.

Recommendation for medals, bars and clasps.

6.—(1) The Head of the Federal Military Government shall by notice in the Federal Gazette signify his intention of awarding a person a police medal, or a bar or clasp thereto.

Mode of awarding medals, etc.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) below a person shall be awarded a police medal or a bar or clasp thereto when he is presented with the medal, or bar or clasp by the Head of the Federal Military Government in person at an investiture held for the purpose.

(3) If in the case of any person it appears to the Head of the Federal Military Government expedient to dispense with the requirements of paragraph (2) above, he may direct that that person shall be awarded the medal, or bar or clasp in question in such manner as may be specified in the direction.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to the Federal Military Government or of such other officer as the Head of the Federal Military Government may determine, to establish and maintain a register in respect of each police medal and to enter in the register particulars of the persons awarded the medal or any bar or clasp thereto.

7.—(1) The Nigeria Police Cross—

(a) shall consist of a Maltese Cross of silver metal with the outer edges joined by coiled ring, having, on the obverse, in the centre, a shield similar to that forming part of the arms of the Federal Republic, the shield being surrounded by a laurel wreath and the uppermost arm of the cross having on it a representation of an eagle, and on the reverse, the words "FOR GALLANTRY" in the centre and "THE NIGERIA POLICE" at the upper arm of the cross; and

(b) shall have attached to it a ribbon one and a quarter inches wide divided laterally into five equal divisions of which the first shall be yellow, the second and fourth blue, the third, green with a red stripe one sixteenth of an inch wide running along its centre, and the fifth yellow.

(2) The Meritorious Service Medal—

(a) shall consist of a circular disc of silver-plated metal having, on the obverse, the arms of the Federal Republic, and on the reverse, in the centre, the emblematic design of the Nigeria Police Force surrounded by the words "NIGERIA POLICE FORCE FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE"; and

(b) shall have attached to it a ribbon one and a quarter inches wide divided laterally into three divisions of which the first and third shall be of equal size and shall be dark blue and dark green respectively, and the second, one eighth of an inch wide, shall be yellow.

(3) The Long Service Medal—

(a) shall consist of a circular disc of silver-plated metal having, on the obverse, the arms of the Federal Republic and, on the reverse, in the centre, the emblematic design of the Nigeria Police Force surrounded by the words "NIGERIA POLICE FORCE FOR LONG SERVICE"; and

(b) shall have attached to it a ribbon, one and a quarter inches wide, divided laterally into five equal divisions of which the first and fifth shall be dark green, the second and fourth dark blue and the third yellow.

(4) The Special Constabulary Medal—

(a) shall consist of a circular disc of silver-plated metal having, on the obverse, the arms of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and, on the reverse, in the centre, the emblematic design of the Nigeria Police Force surrounded by the words "NIGERIA POLICE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE"; and

(b) shall have attached to it a ribbon one and a quarter inches wide divided laterally into three divisions of which the first and third shall be of equal size and shall be dark green, and the second, one eighth of an inch wide, shall be yellow.

8. The holder of any police medal may, when not wearing the medal itself, wear on the left breast of his outer garment—

(a) a miniature reproduction of the medal (and of any bar or clasp thereto which has been awarded to him) of such size and pattern as may be approved by the Head of the Federal Military Government; or

(b) a piece of ribbon of the same width and design as the ribbon attached to the medal bearing, in the case of a person who has been awarded one or more bars or clasps to the medal, the corresponding number of miniature reproductions of the bar or clasp of such size and pattern as may be approved by the Head of the Federal Military Government.

Deprivation
and
restoration.

9.—(1) Subject to subsection (3) below, where a person who has been awarded the Nigeria Police Cross or bar thereto, or the Meritorious Service Medal, or the Long Service Medal or clasp thereto, or the Special Constabulary Medal or clasp thereto, has been convicted of a criminal offence, dismissed or removed from the Nigeria Police Force or the Nigeria Special Constabulary, as the case may be, for misconduct, the Head of the Federal Military Government may—

(a) by notice in the Federal Gazette deprive that person of that medal, or the medal and bar thereto where any bar has been awarded, or the medal and clasp thereto where any clasp has been awarded ;

(b) by the like notice restore any such medal, bar or clasp thereto to the person who has been deprived thereof in pursuance of this article ; and on the publication of a notice under this paragraph in respect of any person, the officer charged with the duty of maintaining the register established in pursuance of this warrant in respect of any medal, bar or clasp to which the notice relates shall forthwith strike out or re-insert the particulars of that person in that register, as the case may require.

(2) On the publication of a notice under paragraph (1) (a) above in respect of any person, that person shall forthwith deliver up every medal bar or clasp to which the notice relates, together with its ribbon, to, or in accordance with the direction of the Secretary to the Federal Military Government.

(3) No person shall be deprived of his police medal, bar or clasp on conviction of a criminal offence unless—

(a) the time for bringing an appeal against the decision has expired without such an appeal having been brought ; or

(b) such an appeal has been brought and abandoned or has been finally determined by the upholding of the conviction.

10. Where the Inspector-General of Police is satisfied after an inquiry that a police medal or bar or clasp awarded in pursuance of this warrant has been lost or destroyed, he may submit the report of such inquiry to the Federal Executive Council of the Federation who may recommend to the Head of the Federal Military Government that a replacement be issued to the holder of the lost medal, bar or clasp, and on such recommendation the Head of the Federal Military Government may authorize the issue of a replacement accordingly ; but except where the report of the inquiry shows that the loss or destruction of the medal, bar or clasp occurred while the holder was on duty or was due to circumstances beyond his control, a replacement shall not be issued until the cost thereof has been met by the holder.

Replacement
of lost
medal.

MADE at Lagos this 18th day of April 1966.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. T. U. AGUIYE-IRONSI,
*Head of the Federal Military Government,
Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria*