



SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

Of TUESDAY, the 16th of MAY, 1944

**Published by Authority**

*Registered as a newspaper*

THURSDAY, 18 MAY, 1944

*War Office, 18th May, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the VICTORIA CROSS to:—

Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) Henry Robert Bowreman Foote, D.S.O. (31938), Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps (Edgbaston, Birmingham).

For outstanding gallantry during the period 27th May to 15th June, 1942.

On the 6th June, Lieutenant-Colonel Foote led his Battalion, which had been subjected to very heavy artillery fire, in pursuit of a superior force of the enemy. While changing to another tank after his own had been knocked out, Lieutenant-Colonel Foote was wounded in the neck. In spite of this he continued to lead his Battalion from an exposed position on the outside of a tank.

The enemy, who were holding a strongly entrenched position with anti-tank guns, attacked his flank. As a further tank had been disabled he continued on foot under intense fire encouraging his men by his splendid example. By dusk, Lieutenant-Colonel Foote by his brilliant leadership had defeated the enemy's attempt to encircle two of our Divisions.

On 13th June, when ordered to delay the enemy tanks so that the Guards Brigade could be withdrawn from the Knightsbridge escarpment and when the first wave of our tanks had been destroyed, Lieutenant-Colonel Foote re-organised the remaining tanks, going on foot from one tank to another to encourage the crews under intense artillery and anti-tank fire.

As it was of vital importance that his Battalion should not give ground, Lieutenant-Colonel Foote placed his tank, which he had then entered, in front of the others so that he could be plainly visible in the turret as an encouragement to the other crews, in spite of the tank being badly damaged by shell

fire and all its guns rendered useless. By his magnificent example the corridor was kept open and the Brigade was able to march through.

Lieutenant-Colonel Foote was always at the crucial point at the right moment, and over a period of several days gave an example of outstanding courage and leadership which it would have been difficult to surpass. His name was a by-word for bravery and leadership throughout the Brigade.

*War Office, 18th May, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the posthumous award of the VICTORIA CROSS to:—

Captain (temporary Major) Charles Ferguson Hoey, M.C. (71106), The Lincolnshire Regiment (Vancouver).

In Burma, on the 16th February, 1944, Major Hoey's Company formed part of a force which was ordered to capture a position at all costs.

After a night march through enemy held territory the force was met at the foot of the position by heavy machine-gun fire.

Major Hoey personally led his Company under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire right up to the objective. Although wounded at least twice in the leg and head he seized a Bren gun from one of his men and firing from the hip, led his Company onto the objective. In spite of his wounds the Company had difficulty in keeping up with him, and Major Hoey reached the enemy strong post first where he killed all the occupants before being mortally wounded.

Major Hoey's outstanding gallantry and leadership, his total disregard of personal safety and his grim determination to reach the objective resulted in the capture of this vital position.