

## OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDALS 2000

19 January 2016

### TERMS

Replacing the General Service Medal (except for the award of the GSM with Clasp for Northern Ireland) on 01 January 2000, the OSM will be issued for a series of campaigns and unlike the GSM will have a distinctive ribbon for each campaign.

### BARS

A bar may be issued (not for Sierra Leone) which signifies the medal was awarded in a more dangerous area or period of the conflict.

### DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver medal, 32-mm in diameter.

### OBVERSE

The high crowned effigy of Queen Elizabeth with the legend starting at the top: ELIZABETH II DE GRA TIA REGINA FID.DEF.

### REVERSE

The Union Flag, surrounded by the inscription FOR OPERATIONAL SERVICE and the four major points of the compass, with four Coronets: Royal (top left), Naval (top right), Astral 9 Royal Air Force (bottom right) and Mural-Army (Bottom left).

### RIBBON

To date, all the ribbons have had a red centre (army) which is flanked on each side by stripes of royal blue (navy), light blue (air force) and the outer edge in a specific colour depicting the landscape of the particular country of operation.

### DATES

Effective 01 January 2000.



## OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL CAMPAIGNS (to 2009)

### OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL SIERRA LEONE

#### TERMS




Awarded for service on any of 5 operations in Sierra Leone or the Joint Operational Area which included Senegal, Gibraltar and offshore support ships such as the RFA Argus.

Awarded for either 14, 21, 30 or 45 days continuous or accumulated service required between certain specified dates on either Op Palliser, Op Basilica or Op Silkman. Also awarded to those deployed on Op Maidenly or Op Barras on specified dates ranging from 1999 to 2002.

#### BAR

There was no clasp issued but a large 'South Atlantic' (Falkland War) type rosette is worn on the medal itself for operational service within Sierra Leone. A smaller rosette is worn on the ribbon in undress.

#### RIBBON

The red ribbon (army) is flanked by three stripes of royal blue (navy), light blue (air force) and green (landscape of Sierra Leone). 

#### ISSUED

43 Canadian Forces members were awarded this medal as per Canada Gazette of 11 October 2003. They were part of the British led Operation PALLISER from 7 May 2000 and 15 June 2000 to take control of the airport at Lungi, patrol Freetown and ensure the flow of supplies to the UNAMSIL forces. Colonel Tom Tarrant was the senior officer of the Canadian Forces contingent.

The British-led International Military Advisory Training Team (IMATT) had Canadian Forces Members operated from November 2000 to 15 February 2013 with 10 at a time normally serving with the team. The British Forces withdrew on 31 March 2013.

**DATES**

For service between 1999 and 2002.

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Thomas Tarrant commanded the Canadian group and is shown below wearing his medal ribbon after his Canadian Forces decoration ribbon. General Sir Richard David Richards, Chief of the British Defence Staff, served in Sierra Leone and is shown wearing his ribbon (2nd row 3rd ribbon). Lieutenant-General Sir James Bucknall wearing an MID on his OSM for Sierra Leone