

Chapter 31

08 September 2017

Britain's General Service Medals to Canadians

Page

02	Naval General Service Medal	(1915 - 1962)
03	General Service Medal	(1918 - 1964)
04	General (Campaign) Service Medal	(1962 - 2000)
05	Accumulated Campaign Service Medal	(1994 - current)
07	South Atlantic Medal	(02 April 1982 and 12 July 1982)
09	Gulf War Medal	(02 August 1990 and 7 March 1991)



General Service Medal



Campaign Service Medal

GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL 1918-1962

GSM

TERMS

The equivalent of the Naval General Service Medal 1915-1962, the medal was instituted rather than issuing a separate medal for every small operation in which the British Army or RAF might be involved.



DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver medal, 36-mm in diameter.

OBVERSE

- a) The bear headed effigy of King George V;
- b) The crowned effigy of King George VI
- c) The crowned effigy of Queen Elizabeth II

REVERSE

The standing winged figure of Victory, holding a trident and placing a wreath on the emblems of the two Services on the reverse.

RIBBON

The purple ribbon is 32-mm wide, with a green centre stripe, 9-mm wide. The medal is always issued with a bar.

ISSUED

A handful of Canadians who served in the British Army or RAF, or served with these units on exchange from the Canadian Forces, received this medal.

SUPERCEDED BY

General Service Medal (1962-2000)

GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL 1962-2007 (CAMPAIGN SERVICE MEDAL - CSM)

TERMS



This medal replaces both the General Service Medal 1918-1962 and the Naval General Service Medal. The medal was instituted to avoid issuing a separate medal for every small operations in which the British Army, British Marines, Royal Navy or RAF might be involved.

DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver medal, 36-mm in diameter, with a crowned effigy of Queen Elizabeth II (Elizabeth II DIA GRATIA REGINA F.D.) On the reverse is a wreath and crown surrounding the words **FOR CAMPAIGN SERVICE**.

BARS

13 different bars were awarded to the medal. AIR OPERATIONS IRAQ was discontinued on 30 April 2003 with only the bar NORTHERN IRELAND still issued in 2013.

RIBBON



The purple ribbon is 32-mm wide with green edges. The medal is always issued with a bar.¹

ISSUED

A handful of Canadians (3 were gazetted) who served in the British Forces or served with the British Forces on exchange from the Canadian Forces, have received this medal.

SUPERCEDED BY

Discontinued on 31 December 1999 and replaced with the Operational Service Medal (OSM) **EXCEPT** for the Medal with Bar NORTHERN IRELAND.

¹ The Medals of Lieutenant-Colonel Nigel Whittaker, Commanding Officer of the British Columbia Dragoons

ACCUMULATED CAMPAIGN SERVICE MEDAL ACSM

TERMS

The ACSM is awarded for 1080 days aggregated service in those theatres for which the GSM (e.g. Northern Ireland, Air Ops Iraq), an Operational Service Medal (e.g. Sierra Leone or Afghanistan) or the Iraq Medal has been issued.

Separate criteria apply to Part-time members of the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) and Royal Irish (Home Service) Regiment.

Full details are laid out in DCI Gen 65/94 and, for the RAF, AP3392 Volume 4 Leaflet 2007 Annex B.



DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver medal, which is 36-mm in diameter.

OBVERSE

The crowned Jubilee head of Queen Elizabeth II, looking right, with the legend ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FID. DEF.

REVERSE

The words 'For Accumulated Campaign Service' set within a four-part ribbon surrounded by a branch of oak leaves with laurel and olive leaves woven through the motto ribbon.

BARS

Bears the design of laurel leaves. When the ribbon alone is worn, a silver rosette denotes award of the Clasp. An additional 1080 days is required for the award of the Clasp to the ACSM. More than 1 Clasp may be earned.

RIBBON

The 32-mm wide *purple* ribbon is flanked by *green* edges with a central narrow stripe of *gold* to denote excellence.

DATE

Instituted in 1994.

NOTE

The medal's original purpose was to reward those who had done multiple tours of duty in Northern Ireland but who would have only the General Service Medal 1962 with clasp *Northern Ireland* to show for their additional service.

This was the first British medal manufactured by private contractors as the Royal Mint had done all medals up to this time. ²



² Rear Admiral Tom Cunningham RN presents Captain Barnwell, Royal Marines with his Accumulated Campaign Service Medal
Captain L. Foden, Royal Marines holds his Accumulated Campaign Service Medal

SOUTH ATLANTIC MEDAL

Falklands War 1982

TERMS

Awarded for a minimum of 1 day service in the Falkland or South Georgia islands (within 35° and 60° South latitude or do at least one operational of Ascension Island) between 02 April and 14 June 1982). These personnel qualified for the rosette.

or

30 days continuous or accumulated time in the operational zone (between 7° and 60° South latitude) including the Ascension Island between 02 April and 12 July 1982 who qualified for the former are allowed to wear a silver rosette on the ribbon.



BAR

Those who served in the Falkland or South Georgia islands are allowed to wear a silver rosette on the ribbon.

DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver (cupro-nickel) medal, 36-mm in diameter.

OVERSE

The crowned Jubilee head of Queen Elizabeth II looking right with the legend ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FID. DEF.

REVERSE

The coat of arms of the Falklands Islands is in the centre with below it on a ribbon in small letters, the motto, DESIRE THE RIGHT. Around the top of the rim are the words SOUTH ATLANTIC MEDAL.

MOUNTING

A straight bar attached to the top of the medal.

RIBBON

The 32-mm wide ribbon has a central stripe of sea green flanked on each side by stripes of white with empire blue edges, shaded and watered (similar to the Atlantic Star). If a rosette was awarded, a rosette would be worn on the ribbon in undress.

NAMING

Around the rim in impressed capital letters.

ISSUED

Approximately 30,000 medals awarded.

DATES

Authorized in 1982.

3



³ HRH The Duke of York, KG, KCVO, CD (Prince Andrew) wears this as his first medal on his medal bar – He is the Colonel Commandant of the Queen's York Rangers and the Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada for the Canadian Forces

GULF MEDAL

TERMS

The medal alone was awarded to personnel for thirty days continuous service in the Middle East (in a defined area of operations, including Cyprus) between 2 August 1990 and 7 March 1991. Details on the medal with bar follow.

BARS

2 Aug 1990

Awarded to the members of the British Kuwait Liaison Team who were in Kuwait on this date.

16 Jan to 28 Feb 1991

Awarded for seven days continuous service between these dates in the designated Theatre of Operations (the actual ground war).

DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver (cupro-nickel) medal, 36-mm in diameter.

OVERSE

The crowned Jubilee head of Queen Elizabeth II, facing right, with the legend ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FID. DEF.

REVERSE

An eagle (RAF) and automatic rifle (Army) superimposed on an anchor (RN and Royal Marines) with the words THE GULF MEDAL around the top rim and the date 1990-91 around the bottom rim.

MOUNTING

A straight bar attached to the top of the medal.

RIBBON

The 32-mm wide *sand* ribbon has *dark blue* for the navy (outer edge), *red* for the army and *light blue* for the Royal Air Force edges. If a bar was awarded, a rosette is worn on the ribbon in undress.



NAMING

Around the rim in impressed capital letters.

ISSUED

Approximately 59,687 medals awarded British Servicemen

With Bar 2 Aug 1990: 66

With bar 16 Jan to 28 Feb 1991: 47,316

To civilians including Canadian, American, Australian, British, and New Zealand members of British Aerospace working at Dahrhan and Riyadh with the bar 15 Jan to 28 Feb 1991: 1,500

DATES

Authorized in 1992.

4



⁴ Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Travis, MVO, CD received this medal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Travis also received the American Bronze Star and is a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.