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Officers Of Defence Services

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Knighthood For Major-General Duigan

His Excellency the Governor-General has announced that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confer the following honours on officers and warrant-officers:—

Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (K.B.E.):—

Major-General John Evelyn Duigan, C.B., D.S.O., N.Z.S.C., Chief of the General Staff, New Zealand Military Forces.

Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (C.B.E.):—

Colonel Owen Herbert Mead, D.S.O., N.Z.S.C., A.D.C., Adjutant-General, New Zealand Military Forces.

Group Captain Leonard Monk Isitt, R.N.Z.A.F., A.D.C.

Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.):—

Lieutenant-Colonel Albert Edward Conway, N.Z.S.C., Director of Mobilization, New Zealand Military Forces.
 Major James McKay, V.D.

Wing Commander Hugh Bartholomew Burrell, R.N.Z.A.F.

The Reverend George Trevor Robson, M.C., Chaplain, New Zealand Naval Forces.

Lieutenant Herbert Albert Haynes, R.N. (rtd.).

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (M.B.E.):—

Mr. Alfred James Harvey, Commissioned Gunner, Royal Navy.

Squadron Leader Ivan Edward Rawnsley, R.N.Z.A.F.

Flying Officer Albert Tom Giles, R.N.Z.A.F.

Squadron Sergeant Major Charles Ethelbert Howell.

Staff Sergeant Major William Leonard Glanville, New Zealand Permanent Forces.

Regimental Sergeant Major Frank Allan Wetherall, R.N.Z.A.F.

Warrant Officer James Edward Duncan, R.N.Z.A.F.

Air Force Cross:—

Squadron Leader H. N. C. Ramsbottom-Isherwood, R.A.F.

Squadron Leader J. F. Moir, R.A.F.

Flight Lieutenant J. R. Maling, R.A.F.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Sir John Duigan

Major-General Sir John Duigan has been in command of the military forces in New Zealand since 1937. In March that year he was appointed General Officer Commanding the New Zealand Forces, a title subsequently changed in October the same year, on the reorganization of the defence system, to Chief of the General Staff.

A New Zealander, born in 1883, he has been 40 years a soldier. His distinguished military career includes experience of almost every sphere of army work.

He first saw active service in South Africa, serving two years with the Second Brabants Horse, and the Second Kitchener's Scouts. For three months he held a commission in the Tenth New Zealand Contingent.

He returned to New Zealand after the war, and joined the Permanent Forces as a cadet in 1903. In September, 1905, he received his commission, and in 1909 was promoted to captain. He was then instructor for signalling and engineer services in Wellington, a position he retained till 1912. Afterward he was ap-

pointed General Staff Officer, and from June, 1915, by which time he had attained the rank of major, till November, he was General Staff Officer of the Auckland Military District.

In December, 1915, he was appointed to command the New Zealand Tunnelling Corps, with which he served till early in 1917. After being attached for a short time to the divisional headquarters of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, he was transferred to headquarters of the



Sixth Army Corps of the British Armies in France. At the latter end of 1917 he acted as General Staff Officer for the New Zealand Infantry Reserve Brigade. Subsequently he was appointed instructor at the Senior Officers' School, Aldershot.

The British War Office then sent Major Duigan to the United States, to carry out important propaganda work in connexion with the Liberty Loan. Toward the end of the war he was appointed temporary lieutenant-colonel, and on his return to New Zealand he was made chief infantry instructor at Featherston camp. For the first seven months of 1919 he was again General Staff Officer for the Auckland district, and was confirmed in his temporary ranking. In August he became chief staff officer of the Northern Command, and in the ten years that followed he made an outstanding reputation for his energy and administrative ability. His specialty of military engineering was of importance in view of the growing mechanization of army methods.

He had been awarded the D.S.O. in 1919, his work in the field having also won mention in dispatches.

In 1930, on the retirement of Colonel H. R. Potter, Colonel Duigan was appointed Officer Commanding the Northern Command. In 1936 he was named aide de camp to the King, in succession to Colonel F. Symon.

On the retirement of Sir William Sinclair-Burgess in March, 1937, Colonel Duigan was appointed his successor as General Officer Commanding the New Zealand Military Forces, with the rank of major-general, which position he has held since. His term of office has twice been extended by the Government, in recognition of the value of his services.

Colonel Mead.

Colonel O. H. Mead, C.B.E., was born in Blenheim in 1892, and educated at Marlborough College. He served in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the



Great War, rising from the rank of lieutenant to major in March, 1917, and later lieutenant-colonel. He held the command of the First, Second and Third Battalions of the Canterbury Regiment till his return to New Zealand in November, 1919. In the same year he became

a captain in the New Zealand Staff College. He was at the Staff College, Canada, for two years, and was attached to the War Office, London, in 1920. He subsequently held the position of Adjutant-General, New Zealand, and Second Member of the Army Board at Army Headquarters, Wellington. In November, 1925, he was appointed officer commanding the New Zealand Military District, Auckland, and in the year he became Adjutant-General, Army Headquarters, Wellington.

Group Captain Isitt.

Group Captain L. M. Isitt served with the New Zealand Brigade and with the Royal Flying Corps during the Great War. He was transferred to the New Zealand Staff Corps in November, 1919, and to the Royal New Zealand Air Force on its formation in 1923. For some



was officer commanding the New Zealand Air Base, Auckland, but in April he was transferred to Air Headquarters, Wellington, where he became a member for personnel. He was promoted to Group Captain in July, 1938, and recently appointed the representative of the New Zealand Government on the supervising board set up by the Empire air training organization in Canada.

Squadron Leader Rawnsley.

Squadron Leader I. E. Rawnsley, M.B.E., was appointed chief instructor of the Wellington Aero Club in 1930, and before that was instructor at Hawke's Bay Aero Club, to which he was appointed in September, 1928. He is a Wellingtonian, and was a member of Wellington College and Victoria University College. He has served



New Zealand Territorial Air Force since its inception. He has also served on a mission in the Royal Air Force in Egypt, his air experience, extending over 20 years, he has flown some 20,000 hours, and has won a number of prizes in pageant and air competition.

Wing Commander Burrell.

Wing Commander Hugh Bartholomew Burrell served in the air throughout the war and was in Canada on an official mission for the Air Ministry in the Armistice. He returned to New Zealand in 1919, serving as flying instructor at the New Zealand Air Force, and later superintendent of the