



CABINET OFFICE

The Operational Service Medal

Service on Operation VERITAS from 11 September 2001

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Defence
by Command of Her Majesty
September 2003*

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THE OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL

Service on Operation VERITAS from 11 September 2001

1. The Committee on the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals has had under consideration the need for recognition of service on discrete operations within Operation VERITAS from 11 September 2001, inclusive, to a future date to be decided in due course, with special regard to the hardships and dangers which have accompanied duty there.
2. Their recommendations have been duly submitted to The Queen, who has graciously approved the award of the Operational Service Medal with ribbon “Operation VERITAS” for specified service, as described below.
3. The ribbon will be the basic ribbon as set out in the Royal Warrant of the Operational Service Medal with the outer stripe on each side being buff in colour.
4. Eligible personnel are Regular or Reserve members of the Armed Forces, or stipulated members of foreign Armed Forces, under command of the UK Joint Task Force Commander on the attached or posted strength of any unit or formation committed to Operation VERITAS or one of the qualifying discrete operations as defined in the Regulations issued in the relevant Defence Council Instruction.
5. The qualifications for the Operational Service Medal with ribbon “Operation VERITAS” will be service on or in support of one of the discrete operations within the Joint Operational Area, which is defined as:
 - (i) Zone One, the geographical boundary of Afghanistan
 - or
 - (ii) Zone Two, which encompasses the specific areas of:
 - (a) Islamabad and Karachi, Pakistan.
 - (b) Seeb and Thurmrait, Oman.
 - (c) Termez, Uzbekistan.
 - (d) Al Udeid, United Arab Emirates.
 - (e) Muharraq and Manama, Bahrain.
 - (f) Prince Sultan’s Air Base, Saudi Arabia.
 - (g) Camp Doha, Kuwait.

- (h) Mombassa, Kenya.
- (i) British Indian Ocean Territories, Diego Garcia.
- (k) Dubai.

6. Those who have served in Zone One and certain personnel who have served in Zone 2 who qualify to receive the Operational Service Medal with ribbon “Operation VERITAS” will be eligible to wear a clasp ‘AFGHANISTAN’ on the ribbon.

7. The qualifying periods for the award of the Operational Service Medal (with or without clasp) reflect the relative levels of difficulty and danger and the aims and nature of each operation and will be:

a. Medal with Clasp ‘AFGHANISTAN’.

(1) Zone 1. 21 days continuous service between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 or 30 days continuous service for service commencing on or after 1 March 2002.

or

(2) Operations Bleed, Determ, Scow, Damien or Larva. 5 days continuous service in Zone 1 between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 or one air sortie (take off and land) in Afghanistan between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 for CH 47 Chinook or C130 Hercules aircrew only or 21 days continuous service for service commencing on or after 1 March 2002.

or

(3) Aircrew in Zone 2. 21 days continuous service in Zone 2 **plus** 6 take offs and landings or 6 sorties over Afghanistan for service between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 or 30 days continuous service **plus** 8 take offs and landings in Afghanistan for service commencing on or after 1 March 2002.

b. Medal Without Clasp.

(1) Zone 2. 21 days continuous service in Zone 2 between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 or 30 days continuous service for service commencing on or after 1 March 2002.

or

(2) Operations Bleed, Determ, Scow, Damien or Larva. 14 days continuous service in Zone 2 between 11 September 2001 – 28 February 2002 or 21 days continuous service for service commencing on or after 1 March 2002.

8. If qualifying service is brought to an end before the completion of the specified qualifying period on account of death, wounding or other disability due to operational service, the reduced period of service will be sufficient qualification for the award of the Operational Service Medal with ribbon 'VERITAS'. The grant of a British Honour, Decoration or Medal of the status of a Mention-in-Dispatches or a Queen's Commendation, or above for services on operations during the qualifying period, not reaching the qualifying requirement, will also qualify for the Operational Service Medal with ribbon 'VERITAS'.

9. The award of the Operational Service Medal with ribbon 'VERITAS' will be made as soon as possible to those who have qualified.



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ISBN 0-10-159392-9



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