



The Operational Service Medal

*Service in the Democratic Republic of Congo between
14 June 2003 – 10 September 2003*

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Defence
by Command of Her Majesty
October 2006*

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The Operational Service Medal

Service on Operation CORAL from 14 June 2003

1. The Committee on the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals has had under consideration the need for recognition of service in the Democratic Republic of Congo between 14 June 2003 – 10 September 2003, 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 ‘Democratic Republic of Congo’ 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 ochre in colour.
4. The qualifying criteria for the Operational Service Medal with ribbon ‘Democratic Republic of Congo’ shall be service on, or in support of Operation CORAL within the geographic boundaries of the Ituri Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
5. Personnel eligible for the award of the Operational Service Medal will be eligible for a clasp ‘DROC’ for wear with the ribbon of the medal. Those who qualify for the clasp will be permitted to wear a distinguishing rosette on the ribbon when no medal is worn.
6. The qualifying period for the award of the Operational Service Medal ‘Democratic Republic of Congo’ shall be:
 - i. A minimum of 25 days continuous service between 14 June 2003 – 10 September 2003.
 - or
 - ii. 5 missions; a mission is described as a flight operating in support of Operation CORAL between Entebbe – Bunia – Entebbe.
7. Eligible personnel are:
 - i. Regular or Reserve members of the United Kingdom Armed Forces on the attached or posted strength of any unit or formation committed to Operation CORAL.
 - ii. United Kingdom Armed Forces serving with foreign forces engaged directly on, or in support of, Operation CORAL are eligible for the award of the Operational Service Medal if they satisfy the qualification criteria.
 - iii. Regular or Reserve Foreign and Commonwealth personnel serving as members of the United Kingdom Armed Forces on the attached or posted strength of any unit or formation committed to Operation CORAL.

- iv. Foreign and Commonwealth military personnel serving on exchange with United Kingdom Armed Forces committed to Operation CORAL.
 - v. Ministry of Defence civilians who meet the qualification criteria.
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 'Democratic Republic of Congo' and clasp 'DROC'. 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 'Democratic Republic of Congo' and clasp 'DROC'.
9. The Operational Service Medal with ribbon 'Democratic Republic of Congo' for subsequent operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo may be taken into use following Her Majesty's approval of re-defined Regulations.
10. The award of the Operational Service Medal with ribbon 'Democratic Republic of Congo' and clasp 'DROC' will be made as soon as possible to those who have qualified.



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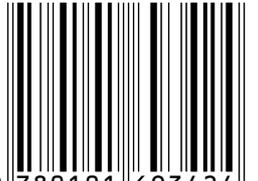
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