



National Service (Fallen Friends - Roll of Honour)

27th July 1949 to 12th August 1951

by Stan Briggs

ROLL OF HONOUR

Between November 1949 and August 1951 while I served with the 71/ HAA Royal Artillery in Fayid, Egypt, six Royal Artillery soldiers were killed by an act of terrorism and are buried in Fayid or Moascar war cemeteries.

Army No	Rank	Name	Date Killed	Age	Regt	Buried
22184783	Gnr	RA Birch	06-06-51	19	80th LAA	Moascar
22207394	L/Bdr	L Briscoe	10-05-51	37	41st Field	Moascar
414082	2nd/Lt	DH Browning	17-02-51	19	R Artillery	Moascar
22307022	Gnr	L Carter	27-03-51	19	80th LAA	Moascar
22313918	Gnr	GR Harris	30-07-51	21	71st HAA	Fayid
22521819	Bdr	L C Hodgeman	10-05-51	27	41st Field	Moascar

Gunner Harris and I were members of the same Regiment. All of the above young men are interred in a war cemetery in Egypt, yet the MOD (Ministry Of Defense) say that the hostilities did not start until the 16th Oct 1951.

This means that six Royal Artillery Gunners lost their lives at the hands of terrorists, but do not qualify for an 'Official Campaign Medal' because they were killed BEFORE the 16th of October 1951 the MOD (Ministry Of Defense) official starting date of hostilities in Egypt.

They are in the same boat as thousands of National Servicemen who survived, myself included, who served our King and Country.

What were we doing at eighteen years of age in Egypt learning to fire a 303 rifle, a Sten Gun and a 3.7 HAA (Heavy Anti Aircraft) Gun with live ammunition if there was no emergency.

Why was I driving an Austin K5 3 ton lorry with an armed guard at midnight along the Treaty Road to stop insurgents stealing telephone wire?

I have only highlighted a small minority as other Regiments lost a lot of servicemen also. As I mentioned above, Gunner Harris and I served in the same Regiment, a good man and never to be forgotten ...

**"There but for
the grace of God go I"**



On behalf of those, myself and thousands of others who have been refused an Official Campaign Medal, I am taking my protest to my local MP, Ms Yvette Cooper.

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