

BN 1/4

CONFIDENTIAL.Headquarters
28(Maori) BN.5 Oct. 41.SUBJECT:-HONOURS AND AWARDS - GREECE & CRETE.

The list of Honours and Awards for the campaign in GREECE and CRETE will shortly be published. It is probable that publication will be in two stages; "immediate" first; and "period" some time later. In the opinion of the G.O.C., who gave a great deal of personal consideration to the recommendations, a large number of acts of gallantry would in ordinary circumstances qualify for awards; but only a certain number could, on the allocation given to the Division, be included. Those Officers and men who were recommended for decorations, but who have been excluded from the forthcoming list for the reasons mentioned; or who possibly have received "mentions" instead of the decorations for which they were recommended, should wherever possible be considered by their Commanders in making recommendations for future Honours and Awards.

In finalising the list, the order of priority suggested by Units has been given the very greatest weight; and whilst a considerable responsibility rests on Commanders in nominating this order, it is of the greatest assistance to the G.O.C. A proportion of 33 1/3 % immediate and 66 2/3 % periodic, and a similar ratio of Officers to Other Ranks, has been taken as a guiding principle; but individual acts of great gallantry have been such as in some cases to upset this proportion. Similarly, it has not been possible to base the recommendations exactly upon the numerical strengths of Units, although this has been taken fully into account. The G.O.C. directs that this interim report be given, in view of the delay in publication of the list. There is reason to expect that in future, recommendations will be asked for, and lists published, at more frequent intervals than in the past.

Archives New Zealand = Archives New Zealand = Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Ref: 28 NZ (Māori) Battalion Diary, WAI 1 1664 DA 68/1/22, p. 47.