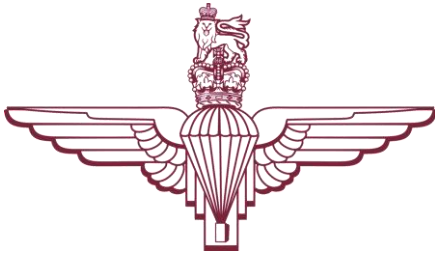


**From: Lieutenant General J G Lorimer DSO MBE**



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Reference: RHQ\_01\_15\_02\_25

The Parachute Regiment

Date: 25 February 2015

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### **OPERATIONAL AWARD – LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA LEAKEY**

I am delighted to announce that Her Majesty The Queen has been graciously pleased to award 30014428 Lance Corporal Joshua Mark Leakey, of The Parachute Regiment, the Victoria Cross for displaying exceptional valour on operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan on the night of the 22nd August 2013. The citation for the award is attached.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Lance Corporal Leakey on this hugely well deserved award. His actions displayed bravery, selflessness and professionalism of the highest standard. His conduct was in the very best traditions of The Parachute Regiment.

Lance Corporal Leakey's actions were undoubtedly in accord with the Regiment's watchwords of *professionalism, resilience, discipline, versatility, courage and self-reliance*, as highlighted in the Regimental Charter. But, the famous words of our second Colonel Commandant probably sum it up best:

*'They have shown themselves to be as tenacious and determined in defence as they are courageous in attack. They are, in fact, men apart – every man an Emperor'.*

Utrunque Paratus!



Attachment:

1. Citation for Lance Corporal Leakey