

Letter to William James Noakes, 45RM Commando  
from Captain John Day  
about the award of his Military Medal



Captain J.E. Day,  
HQ Commando Group,  
Matapan Camp,  
TOWYN,  
Wales.

DO/JD.26.

28th March 1946.

Dear *Noakes*

Very many thanks for your letter. I hope by now that you are the proud father of a young Bill Noakes.

With regard to your MM. I am enclosing a copy of the citation. As you may know you were originally put up for it at the Gully in January 1945 but for some unknown reason it was turned down. I put it up again at the end of the War and that is how you got it.

Any idea you may have about not deserving it you can put right out of your head. I would not have put it up nor would Colonel Gray have passed it unless we were sure you deserved it. A lot of chaps were put up from all Troops and only the best were forwarded.

I have had several letters from ex 'B' Troop including Aylett and Sinclair, saying how very pleased they were that your award came through.

We all were pretty windy and nervous at times and it's nothing to be ashamed of. You never let me or your men down and I know they thought a great deal of you.

Most men who write to me miss the old comradeship. It's just something that does not happen in civilian life nor even in the Service in peacetime. I hope one day we shall have a reunion so that we can all listen to Bob Aylett telling us about 40 !

The very best of good luck to you. If you've had a son you'd better christen him Butcher !

Yours *Sincerely*

*John Day*

Mr W.J. Noakes MM  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]