

BOER WAR MEDALS

Thomas Lesslie 1877-1963

The **Queen's South Africa Medal (QSA)** was awarded to military personnel who served in the Boer War in South Africa between 11 October 1899 and 31 May 1902. Units from the British Army, Royal Navy, colonial forces who took part (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, India and South Africa), civilians employed in official capacity and war correspondents. The QSA (without bar) was also awarded to troops who guarded Boer prisoners of war at the POW camp on the island of St. Helena. Troops on the Mediterranean islands were awarded the Queen's Mediterranean Medal, and some personnel on troopships got the Transport Medal.

The QSA was the medal issued to all who served in South Africa up to the end of the war in May 1902. This included those such as the New Zealand 10th Contingent who arrived in Durban in May 1902, and did not fight. The requirements for the King's South Africa Medal meant that few were issued



Clasps

There are twenty-six different clasps added to the medal indicating each action and campaign of the Second Boer War. A "state" clasp was issued for service within that state when no "battle" clasp was issued to the recipient for a specific action within the same state. This meant a QSA medal could not carry both a "state" clasp and a "battle" clasp for actions within the same state. Recipients could not get both the



"Defence" and "Relief" clasps for Mafeking, Kimberley or Ladysmith. The "Rhodesia" clasp was not issued with the "Relief of Mafeking" clasp, nor were the "Cape Colony" and "Natal" clasps issued together (except for Pte. Wingell, a Royal Marine attached to the Army).

State Clasps

- ORANGE FREE STATE – 28 February 1900 – 31 May 1902
- TRANSVAAL – 24 May 1900 and 31 May 1902

