

The final award & promotion has passed him by. Luckily I have been able to arrange for him to get another chance and he is being extracted from Middle East & getting command of a Field Maintenance Centre in the Western Desert. I'm afraid he has small chance of ever getting back to the Division but he may get a promotion in this way.

I am very glad you are getting a decent job in the Home Guard, very few can deserve some recognition as well. I should imagine that Pass is a letter perfect but maddening adjutant & should think Ripley would be short of confidence for a Ben commandant. They are all doubters doing a good job but I shudder to think of old Pass as adjutant. I hope the enemy know no more about the Army in N.Z. than we do, even the General has hardly any idea.

I've spent this afternoon largely socially - receiving the visit of the Gouernon. Our wives would have laughed to see us. We had the lounge all anxiously tidied & dusted, Bob Newson produced a table cover, the cook's Turkish coffee was carefully tested, we swept up & dusted chairs & got all ready so zealously. Then the Gouernon came up, we had everything worked out, grand of the presented arms, Band played General's Salute, to which he wasn't entitled, Bob met him at the door escorted him upstairs where I