

These are an extract from the regulations relating to all campaign stars and medals for World War Two.

The Africa Star

26. General

The Africa Star is granted for operational service in North Africa during the period from 10th June, 1940, to the 12th May, 1943, inclusive. The whole of the area between the Suez Canal and the Straits of Gibraltar is included, together with Malta, Abyssinia, The Somalilands and Eritrea.

Land Service

- i. The qualification for army personnel is entry as part of the establishment into operational service in areas defined in para. 27.
- ii. The undermentioned categories are also eligible to qualify for the Africa Star by virtue of entry into operational service (i.e., a one-day qualification), between 10th June, 1940, and 27th November, 1941:-

Sudan Defence Force.

(Members of the full-time permanent Force, who served anywhere in the Sudan).

Combatant irregular Forces:-

Banda Bukr or Bukr Force. (Gedaref and Galabat area),

Banda Fung (Kurmuk area),

Frostyforce (Kassala Province Frontier area),

Meadowforce (the hills west of the littoral in the Port Sudan and Tokar districts),

Upper Nile Scouts (Upper Nile Frontier area),

(provided members of these Forces served continuously on a full-time basis).

Sudan Auxiliary Defence Force.

(Officers and warrant officers who commended Sudan Police and other military personnel in active operations against the enemy, whether or not they were actually paid from army funds.)

(Part-time service in, for instance, an anti-aircraft unit does not so qualify.

The service must have been service in command of a unit earning campaign stars).

- iii. The undermentioned categories are eligible to qualify for the Africa Star for 30 days' full-time operational service in the Sudan in areas shown in para. 27 (ii) (a), (b) or (c) during the period 10th June, 1940, to 27th November, 1941:-

Sudan Police, including Provincial and railway police (personnel embodied as part of the Sudan Defence Force).

Volunteers enrolled in the Sudan Auxiliary Defence Force (provided the volunteer personally served continuously on a full-time basis. The S.A.D.F. full-time paid units were the medical corps, the M.T. signals, interpreters and marine units).

27. Qualifying Land Areas

The qualifying areas for the Africa Star are:-

	From	To
(i) North Africa (troops under Allied Force Headquarters, and Middle East Command Excluding formations not West of the Suez Canal and Red Sea)	10.6.40	12.5.43
Malta	10.6.40	12.5.43
Abyssinia (including attacks on Moyale Elwak and Kassala)	10.6.40	27.11.41
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (see para.26(i), (ii))	10.6.40	27.11.41
Eritrea	10.6.40	27.11.41

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| The Solmalilands | 10.6.40 | 27.11.41 |
| Kenya (excluding Tanganyika territory and Uganda, except to troops who the G.O.C.-- in-C., East Africa is satisfied were called forward form Uganda for operations in Lake Rudolf Area). | 10.6.40 | 27.11.41 |
| (ii) Sudan (see para 26 (iii)) | 10.6.40 | 27.11.41 |
- a. Kassala Province South of a line drawn to the South of Suakin, Erkowit and Summit, and thence along the railway line to the Provincial boundary East of Atbara.
 - b. Blue Nile Province East of the white Nile, and South of a line drawn from just South of Jebelein Eastwards to Abu Na'ama and then North- East to the River Ramad; or
 - c. Upper Nile and Equatorial Provinces East of the Nile (excluding Nimule).

Notes.

- a. Service in West Africa is not a qualification.
- b. The conditions for a special award of the Africa Star for 30 days in the qualifying areas for visits, journeys and inspections are stated in Section I.

28. Airborne Service

- a. The qualification for airborne troops is entry into operational service in the qualifying area.
- b. Army personnel who saw service as aircrew will qualify by a sortie over North Africa or the Mediterranean.
 - i. The qualification for flying personnel posted or employed on air transport or ferrying duties during the qualifying period 10th June, 1940 to 12th May, 1943 (inclusive) will be:-
 - a. three flights over enemy occupied territory in Africa; or
 - b. three flights over operational land areas in Africa; or
 - c. three flights between Malta and Gibraltar, or between Malta and Egypt including three landings in Malta or Egypt.

29. Sea-going Service

- i. The qualification for army personnel posted for duty in sea-going vessels (para. 7). Subject to the rule relating to "casual entry", will be sea-going services: -
 - a. In the Mediterranean sea East of the straits of Gibraltar at any time between the 10th June, 1940 and 12th May, 1943, inclusive; or
 - b. In direct support of army operations in Abyssinia, Somaliland or Eritrea between 10th June, 1940 and 27th November, 1941; or
 - c. In Merchant Navy vessels that took part in the landing on the coast of Morocco between the 8th November, 1942 and the 12th May, 1943.
 - d. Service in ships based on Gibraltar will not be a qualification unless the ships were in the area of active operations in the Mediterranean.
 - e. There is no condition that the 1939-45 Star should already have been earned by six months' service before the Africa Star may be awarded.

30. Clasps

A clasp to the star may be earned for approved service with the Eighth Army or the First Army or on the staff of 18 Army Group Headquarters under the conditions stated below:-

- i. To qualify for the clasp "8th Army" personnel are required to have served between 23rd October, 1942 and 12th May, 1943, either:-
 - a. on the post strength of, or attached for duty to, a formation or unit which appeared on the Order of Battle of the Eighth Army; or
 - b. as a reinforcement in a forward camp in the Eighth Army area; or

- c. with the Eighth Army on duty from units or formations not appearing on the Order of Battle, as guards and escorts on convoys, or on the staffs of hospital trains which ran to the railhead.
 - d. The Eighth Army rear boundary during the period 23rd October, 1942, to 12th May, 1943, was as follows:- (Reference maps Egypt I/500,000 Sheets I, 2, 4 and 5.) From Coast at 488928 to all including E1 Hauwariya Sta 488917 - Mingar Anfigia 512881 - Ras Sulimaniya 520876 - thence South along 520 easting grid to 520770 - all excluding 473755 - cross tracks 863108 (purple grid) - including Qaret Anges 796142 (purple grid) - then West along 090 Northing grid (purple). The line described above starts from a point on the coast approximately 16 miles S.W. of the centre of Alexandria, thence it runs due South for about 6 miles, S.S.E. for 36 miles, then due South for 61 miles and S.W. for 40 miles. It then turns westwards, finally running due West on the 090 Northing grid line.
- ii. To qualify for the clasp "1st Army" personnel are required to have served either:-
 - a. in a unit or formation in Tunisia or Algeria between 8th November, 1942 and 31st December, 1942, both dates inclusive; or
 - b. in a unit of formation located forward of First Army rear boundary between 1st January and 12 May, 1943, both dates inclusive; or
 - c. in a unit or formation under the command of the First Army between 1st January and 12th May, 1943, including units or formations under command of First Army for local defence and administration, whether or not the unit or formation was on the First Army Order of Battle.
 - d. The First Army rear boundary during the period 1st January and 12th May, 1943, was as follows:- (Reference maps French North Africa, GSGS 4175, Sheets NJ 31 SW and SE. NJ 32-SW, N1 31-NW and NE, N1 32-NW.) Inclusive Zribet El Qued V 99 - exclusive E1 Quldja R 02-inclusive PT 1834 R 23 - inclusive PT 1600 R66 - inclusive La Meskiana M 90 - inclusive Dj Mesloulia N03 - inclusive PT 1110 N 06 - inclusive Nador M 88 - inclusive Ston De Nador M 89 - inclusive Bourdarouah G 80 - inclusive PT 308 H 21 - inclusive Munier H31 - inclusive Toustain H 32 - inclusive Le Tarf H 43 - inclusive Lac Melah H45.
 - iii. To qualify for the clasp "North Africa 1942-43" for service with 18 Army Group Headquarters personnel must have served on the staff of Field Marshall (then General) Sir Harold Alexander, at 18 Army Group Headquarters during the period 15th February, 1943, to 12th May, 1943, inclusive and must not already have qualified for either the 8th or 1st Army Clasp.
 - iv. The award of a clasp for army service will be denoted by emblems in the form of the Arabic "8" for personnel of the Eighth Army, an Arabic "I" for personnel of the First Army; and a silver rose for the staff of 18 Army Group Headquarters. The emblem will be worn on the ribbon when the Star itself is not worn.
 - a. The qualification for the award of the clasp "North Africa 1942-43" for service with the Royal Air Force is:-
 1. service in the Eastern Air Command (later re-designated the North- West African Air Forces) or Mediterranean Air Command at any time during the period 23rd October, 1942, to 12th May, 1943; or
 2. service in a unit with the Western Desert Air Force or Middle East Command stationed West of the boundary stated at (i)(d) during the period 23rd October, 1942, to 28th November, 1942 (1200 hrs) or West of the line of the Egyptian frontier from 28th November, 1942 (1200 hrs.) to 12th May, 1943; or
 3. service as aircrew in operations in support of the First and Eighth Armies, or in the cutting of Rommel's or Von Arnim's communications, or in the Defence of Malta, during the same period.

- b. The qualification for flying personnel posted or employed on air transport or ferrying duties during the qualifying period between 23rd October, 1942 and 12th May, 1943, will be:-
 - 1. Flights in close support of the 8th or 1st Armies; or
 - 2. A landing in Malta with supplies or reinforcements for the garrison.
- c. The award of this clasp for R.A.F. service will be denoted by a silver rose emblem, to be worn on the ribbon of the Africa Star when the star itself is not worn.
- d. The clasp "North Africa 1942-43" is granted to personnel of Naval units specifically engaged in cutting Rommel's or Von Arnim's communications; or for service as part of the Eighth or First Armies; or to army personnel posted for duty in sea-going vessels (para. 7), for service between 23rd October, 1942 and 12th May, 1943, in:-
 - 1. H.M. Ships in the Mediterranean or Levant Commands specified in Admiralty Fleet Orders.
 - 2. Mobile beach or port parties or permanent port parties, which operated on the coast of North Africa, West of El Alamein.
 - 3. Landing craft employed in ferrying stores for the First Army, which operated East of Bone.
 - 4. Merchant Navy vessels (see Appendix C) engaged in land troops, equipment, stores, etc., at ports or on the shores of North Africa.
 - 5. The award of this clasp for sea-going service will be denoted by a silver rose emblem, to be worn on the ribbon of the Africa Star when the star itself is not worn.
 - 6. Personnel who served on land, however, as part of the Eighth or First Armies will be awarded the clasp "Eighth Army" or the clasp "First Army" as the case may be, and will wear the appropriate emblem (but not the silver rose) on the ribbon.

Note.- Only one clasp, or emblem denoting the clasp, will be granted to any individual. In the event of double or treble qualifications, the clasp will be granted for the army or headquarters or service in which the individual first qualified, and the appropriate emblem will be worn on the ribbon.