



**Name:** Terry Allen  
**Alias:** Ted Gover  
**Birth Name:** Edward Albert Govier  
**Born:** 1924-06-18  
**Died:** 1987-04-08 (Age:62)  
**Nationality:** United Kingdom  
**Hometown:** Islington, London, United Kingdom  
**Stance:** Orthodox  
**Height:** 5' 2" / 157cm  
**Boxing Record:** [click](#)

Allen was a clever boxer who won the Flyweight Championship of the World during his career; He began his career using the name Edward Govier; After going AWOL from the British Navy during World War II, he swapped ID cards with a person named Terry Allen; He eventually was arrested and sent to Egypt to serve out the remainder of World War II

He defeated such men as Rinty Monaghan, Jimmy Gill, Norman Tennant, Honore Pratesi, Vic Herman, Eric Marsden, Jimmy Pearce, Dickie O'Sullivan and Mickey Jones

Terry Allen (born June 18, 1924, in Islington, England, died April 8, 1987) was an English flyweight boxer of heritage. During his career, he became British, Commonwealth, European and World flyweight champion. Allen's father was a professional boxer. Allen's mother died when he was two, and he was raised by his grandmother. Six of his cousins were also professional boxers.

He started boxing when he was nine and won a schoolboy championship. During his amateur career, he won 102 out of 107 contests. He had his first professional fight in September 1942, at the age of eighteen. He beat Jim Thomas on points over six rounds at Caledonian Road Baths, Islington.

He then proceeded to win his first thirty-two fights. In 1942, during the Second World War, he joined the Royal Navy, and while stationed at Alexandria, Egypt, he fought and won fifteen bouts, between May 1944 and December 1945.

His first defeat was in May 1946 against Alex Murphy by a knockout in the sixth round at Harringay Arena. He continued to win the vast majority of his fights, until, in September 1949, he challenged Rinty Monaghan, for his British, Commonwealth, European and World flyweight

titles. The fight in Monaghan's hometown of Belfast, and the result after fifteen rounds was a draw.

Shortly after this fight, Monaghan retired, relinquishing his titles, and in April 1950, Allen fought Honore Pratesi of France for the vacant European and World flyweight titles. The fight was held at Harringay Arena and Allen won on points over fifteen rounds to gain both titles.

In August 1950, he defended his World title against Dado Marino of the United States. In October 1950, Allen lost his European title when he defended it against Jan Sneyers of Belgium in Nottingham. Sneyers won on points, but the British crowd thought that Allen had won, and booed the decision.

In June 1951, Allen fought Vic Herman for the British flyweight title vacated by Rinty Monaghan. The fight was in Leicester and Allen won on points.

In November 1951, Allen had a re-match with Dado Marino for the World flyweight title. The fight was in Honolulu, and Marino won again by a unanimous decision.

In March 1952, he fought against Teddy Gardner for the British, Commonwealth and European flyweight titles. The fight was held in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Gardner won on points to take all three titles. Shortly afterwards Gardner retired leaving the titles vacant.

In October 1952, Allen fought for the vacant British flyweight title, against Eric Marsden. He won the title when the fight was stopped in the sixth.

In October 1953, he had another shot at a World title when he fought Yoshio Shirai, in Tokyo. Unfortunately for Allen, the Japanese won a unanimous decision.

In February 1954, Allen defended his British title against Eric Marsden, who he had beaten previously. He won again, this time on a disqualification in the fifth round.

Allen's last fight was an unsuccessful challenge for the vacant European flyweight title. He fought Nazzareno Giannelli, in Milan, Italy, but the Italian won on points.

#### Retirement

Allen had worked as a barrow boy at the beginning of his boxing career, and after retiring, he was able to open his own vegetable business in Islington market.

# Boxing News September 3, 1952

## GETS CHANCE FOR REVENGE

A CAPACITY crowd of 5,000 saw Terry Allen earn the right to again meet holder, when he battled his way to a Middlesbrough (7-12-15), in the final British title eliminating contest over twelve rounds.

Pearce, with an advantage in reach which he used to good effect in the second half, gave a good account of himself, but Allen's speed was the decisive factor and the Middlesbrough boy just failed to turn the tables.

The Londoner was always a shade faster to the punch. Pearce, however, was the crisper hitter and with a little more confidence in the early rounds might well have realised his schoolboy ambition to fight for a British crown.

Allen comfortably took the opening three rounds with his faster punching and more experienced inside work. Refusing to be shaken out of his stride by his opponent's fierce attacks. Pearce settled down to counter with strong straight lefts and also showed a willingness to "mix it" whenever they got close. which was often.

## TOE-TO-TOE SESSION

Allen in an all-out last round effort put everything he knew into action and a grand toe-to-toe slamming session had the large crowd on their feet throughout the round. Allen moved straight to the attack in the opening round, but Pearce neatly countered with a short right high to the head. Pearce was shaken near the end of the round as Allen landed a strong right swing.

Terry took the initiative again in the second, but Pearce was the first to score with a left to the face. Allen continued to move in at speed and caught his man with a good left to the body.

Back-peddalling hastily to get clear of a swinging left as Allen attacked, Jimmy failed to dodge a further left as his opponent pressed forward. Twice Allen rushed his man to the ropes. but though he took no serious punishment Pearce looked a little anxious

## CROWD YELLING

Just before the bell, however. Jimmy had the crowd yelling wildly as he attacked and scored with a right to the face.

In the fourth Allen again attacked with two-fisted rushes. but. Pearce, gaining confidence, was ready and stopped him short with a solid punch or two to the body.

Pearce moved back from a powerful body blow as they came up for the fifth and was almost caught off balance. He recovered smartly, however, and scored with a left to the face, before another speedy attack by Terry resulted in a hard close-quarter exchange.

Pearce came out for the next round with a two-handed swinging attack, but with first-class ringcraft Allen dodged clear. Jimmy twice caught Allen with his guard down and scored rapidly to the face with both hands.

In a grand toe-to-toe session in the seventh, Pearce scored with a good uppercut which shook the Londoner more than a little. but in a later exchange on the ropes, Pearce was the recipient of a similar blow.

Allen attacked with flicking lefts in the eighth. Pearce then landed a right to Allen's face and took a two-handed shower in reply.

Pearce won the ninth, scoring with two good lefts and then beat a hasty retreat from a powerful Allen rush. Quickly coming back. Jimmy shook his man with a straight right to the face.

For all Allen's speed. Pearce gave as much as he received in the following round, countering well with straight blows to the body. Firmly standing his ground in the eleventh, Pearce stopped Allen in the centre of the ring with his right. Allen did most of the attacking. while Pearce boxed well on the retreat.

### **FIERCE LAST ROUND**

Terry went all out in the final round and fierce shoulder-to-shoulder sessions often had to be separated by the referee. Keeping up the fast pace, Allen launched attack upon attack and the round ended as they slammed it out in the middle of the ring. : .