

The debris which had fallen from nearby buildings had also trapped three auxiliary firemen and a war reserve policeman.

Killbourn, in spite of the continual fall of masonry, led his men in clearing away the debris in an endeavour to rescue the victims. He was joined by Legg and Burley and with the help of other fire service personnel the four men were extricated.

Attempts were then made to rescue the people in the damaged shelter. Heavy bombing was still in progress and the buildings around had been badly damaged and were collapsing. Because of the danger, Legg ordered the men away and, at considerable risk to his own life, went into the crater and tried to find the entrance to the shelter. He began to remove some of the debris and to tunnel underneath. Burley and Killbourn then went down into the crater to help. Legg worked in a very cramped space and under extremely arduous conditions, but he persisted until he made a small opening through which he was able to crawl. He was then able to release seven of the casualties whom he passed to the men outside.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

Edward William Bailey, District Officer, London Fire Force, National Fire Service.

Throughout the period of heavy enemy air attacks, Mr. Bailey attended many fires and directed fire-fighting operations with marked efficiency. He showed good leadership and set a fine example to the men under his command. His courage and coolness in emergency and his devotion to duty have been outstanding.

On one occasion Mr. Bailey was injured but although in great pain continued to direct operations. Later, he was in a Fire Station when it was demolished by H.E. bombs. He directed the evacuation of the staff which, owing to the collapse of parts of the building, was carried out with extreme difficulty.

The cool, calm manner in which Mr. Bailey carried out operational duties, under conditions of great stress, did much to steady the remainder of the staff.

Sydney Frank Chandler, Station Officer, London Fire Force, National Fire Service.

Station Officer Chandler has, on many occasions, displayed efficiency and resource in dealing with difficult circumstances arising out of fires during air raids, particularly in relation to the disposition of appliances and the re-organisation of water supplies.

On one occasion a bomb exploded about thirty yards from where Chandler was working. The explosion completely demolished a building, a trailer pump was partly buried in the debris and three other appliances had to be temporarily abandoned. Chandler was blown over by the blast, but helped to remove eight injured men to a place of greater safety. His pluck and tenacity set a fine example to his men and enabled the fire fighting to continue unabated.

Miss Patricia Dewing, Driver, London Fire Force, National Fire Service.

During an air raid Driver Dewing was driving a staff car when a high explosive

bomb exploded about fifteen yards away, shattering the glass and severely damaging the vehicle. The roof of the car caught fire and Driver Dewing put this out with an extinguisher. Although bruised and suffering from shock, she procured another car and rejoined her Officer. The enemy attack was concentrated and lasted for some hours. High explosive and incendiary bombs were falling in the district most of the time. In addition to conveying vital messages during the height of the attack, Miss Dewing saved one building from fire by promptly removing two incendiary bombs from an upper floor.

On another occasion, when firemen were injured, she volunteered, regardless of the danger from falling bombs, to go into the street to give first aid. Afterwards, on her own initiative she fought a fire in a Fire Station and prevented the flames from spreading.

Driver Dewing has displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

Frank Goodman, Auxiliary Fireman,	} London Fire Force.
Miss Kathleen Prettejohn, Section Officer,	

During an air raid bombs demolished buildings. The explosion severely damaged two fire appliances of a stationary convoy and members of the crews were killed and injured.

Goodman, although his ear drum had been perforated by the blast and he was suffering badly from shock, immediately went to the assistance of his more seriously injured comrades. With the help of the uninjured members of the crews he worked unceasingly to remove the casualties and render first aid. Goodman then carried on fighting fires in the neighbourhood until he collapsed and had to be removed to a first-aid post for treatment.

Members of the Women's Auxiliary Fire Service who were manning the control room at a Fire Station were badly shaken by the explosion, but they immediately volunteered to go out into the street to help the injured firemen. Under the leadership of Section Officer Prettejohn they rendered first aid and, notwithstanding the danger to which they were exposed, remained until the last casualty had been removed by ambulance. Section Officer Prettejohn then went to the Secondary Control and carried out her duties there. Her coolness, courage and leadership were an inspiration to those who worked with her.

Matthew Keld, Ganger, London and North Eastern Railway.

Time bombs fell close to each other between railway lines and to get at them it was necessary first to remove 30 feet of track including three crossings and then a further 60 feet of track.

Keld collected a gang of twenty-two Permanent Way men and led them in the work of removing the sections of track. All the men concerned worked with the full knowledge that two unexploded bombs lay beneath them and all are deserving of great praise. It was, however, due to Keld's initiative, resource and leadership that the