



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT  
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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
12th March, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

*To be Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Eric Shaw, Works Chemist, Manchester.  
Walter Fleetwood, Divisional Officer, No. 27 (Manchester) Area, National Fire Service.

A dangerous fire broke out at a chemical works. Mr. Shaw took charge of the fire-fighting operations until the arrival of the National Fire Service, and entered the burning building to undertake the dangerous task of isolating material liable to explode.

Divisional Officer Fleetwood, who displayed a masterly grasp of the situation, gave a very fine lead to the men working with him. Shaw and Fleetwood showed great courage and, by their prompt actions, prevented the fire from reaching more alarming and disastrous proportions.

Rex Alfred Warburton, B.Sc., Chemist, Imperial Chemical Industries (Explosives) Ltd.

Mr. Warburton, in the course of his work, discovered an outbreak of fire. He immediately raised the alarm, fitted his smoke respirator and attempted to enter the affected building. In the high concentration of smoke, he lost all sense of direction and, in groping around to locate a fire bucket, his hand came into contact with a box full of smoke bombs. Although the box was very warm he carried

it out and then returned to the hut. On hearing ignitions take place in the box which he had previously carried out, he went back and poured water over it. He re-entered the hut, inside which the visibility was nil, but he could hear a sizzling sound and moved towards its source. Six pots of chemicals were burning on a shelf. With his hand he swept these into a bucket of water which he was carrying. Moving to the right he found more pots on fire on another shelf; these were dealt with in the same way. At that moment flames shot up in another area and these he also extinguished. He continued searching, in the dark, until sure that there was no further danger from fire.

Mr. Warburton showed initiative and courage, being fully aware that in the building was a quantity of explosive which might have ignited at any moment.

*To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Charles Richards, Divisional Officer, No. 21 (Carmarthen) Area, National Fire Service.

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

John William Edmunds Jones, Senior Company Officer, Regional H.Q. (Cardiff), National Fire Service.

A fire broke out in a ship conveying a cargo including munitions, twelve hours before its arrival in port. All efforts of the Master and crew to check the fire proved of no avail. A call for assistance was made to the National Fire Service but operational fire-fighting was not feasible until the ship arrived in harbour.

Richards displayed great initiative and leadership and was responsible for the prompt attendance of reinforcing fire appliances and special equipment. At considerable personal risk, wearing breathing apparatus, he entered