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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and for the following awards of the George Medal and the British Empire Medal:—

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

Flying Officer Rolf John Olaf Doehler (Can/C.5630),
Royal Canadian Air Force.

Awarded the George Medal.

Flight Lieutenant Robert James McCombe
(Can/C.2201), Royal Canadian Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Ewart John Adyn Lindsay
(Can/C.8721), Royal Canadian Air Force.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Military Division).*

Can/R.71924 Sergeant John Aubrey CAMPBELL, Royal
Canadian Air Force.

Can/R.73792 Leading Aircraftman Clive Anthony
Grey SNELLING, Royal Canadian Air Force.

Can/R.118153 Leading Aircraftman Peter Paterson
WILKINSON, Royal Canadian Air Force.

One night in July, 1943, the bomb load of an aircraft, which was standing in the dispersal area, detonated and the wreckage caught fire. Soon a second aircraft caught fire and its bomb load also exploded.

Flying Officer Doehler was proceeding to the scene immediately after the first aircraft had exploded, when the second aircraft blew up and he was thrown to the ground. He immediately got up and went towards an aircraft which had not caught fire and taxied it to safety.

Assistance to injured personnel was rendered by Flight Lieutenant McCombe, an armament officer, who had, on a previous occasion, displayed great calmness in directing fire fighting operations on an aircraft which was blazing near to a 4,000 lb. bomb and by Flight Lieutenant Lindsay, a medical officer, who had previously displayed great courage in dragging the body of an air gunner from a blazing turret. Flight Lieutenants McCombe and Lindsay proceeded to the first aircraft after it had exploded and found that several airmen, who had been standing under the wing, had been seriously injured and burned. During their successful efforts in rescuing two airmen, both officers were thrown to the ground by an explosion in the second aircraft. Flight Lieutenant Lindsay then took the rescued airmen to

hospital, while his companion remained and took the remaining injured personnel into his own car. While the car was being drawn away a bomb exploded and two large fragments were hurled through the doors of the car. Flight Lieutenant McCombe remained unperturbed only thinking of the safety of those he had rescued.

Sergeant Campbell was proceeding to the scene of the first explosion when the second aircraft blew up and he was thrown to the ground. Undaunted, he went on and helped to start the engines of a nearby bomber which had not been caught by the flames and while this aircraft was being taxied away he went to a second aircraft and after its engines had been started assisted the pilot in negotiating obstructions while the aircraft was being taxied to safety. During this time an explosion occurred and Sergeant Campbell was knocked down again. Still undeterred, he helped to put out fires on the runway.

Leading Aircraftman Snelling was thrown to the ground by the explosion in the second aircraft while he was proceeding to render assistance at the first aircraft when it had blown up. Regaining his feet he ran to an aircraft which was untouched by fire and taxied it away after having started its engines himself.

Leading Aircraftman Wilkinson proceeded to the scene when he heard the first explosion and helped a wounded man to safety. The fire had spread to the second aircraft and, disdaining the risk of explosion of its bombs, this airman led 3 other men to rescue another injured man lying near the first aircraft. As the party were leading the rescued man away from the conflagration the second aircraft exploded and all were thrown to the ground but they were able to save their comrade and reached safety as a third explosion occurred.

Awarded the George Medal

Acting Squadron Leader Peter Guy OTTEWILL
(46451), Royal Air Force.

One day in June, 1943, a Beaufighter aircraft crashed into an ammunition store when taking off and immediately caught fire. Both occupants of the aircraft were stunned and unable to get out unaided. Despite the bursting of the aircraft's war load of ammunition (which included cannon shells), the 30,000 rounds of ammunition which were exploding in the store and the grave danger of the petrol tanks exploding, Squadron Leader Ottewill, accompanied by 2 others, went to the scene of the accident in an endeavour to rescue the crew. Squadron Leader Ottewill, ignoring a burning petrol tank, jumped on to the wing and after opening the front hatch, he succeeded in releasing the pilot and dragged him clear. Squadron Leader Ottewill then returned and rescued the observer who was in