



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

21st January, 1944.

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 George Medal and 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:—

Captain Percival Arthur Browitt, Master, Merchant Navy.

Ronald Timmouth, Second Officer, Merchant Navy.

For brave conduct in hazardous circumstances.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Samuel Mitchell, Steeplejack, Healey, Rochdale.

An aircraft crashed on taking off, broke in two and burst into flames. Blazing petrol and oil spread rapidly around the wreckage.

Without hesitation, Mitchell climbed on to a wing and, although ammunition was igniting and exploding, he entered the aircraft. He lifted the injured and helpless pilot from his seat and passed him to others who carried him away to safety. Mitchell then walked through the burning fuselage looking for other members of the crew. Only when he was satisfied that there was no one else on board did he leave the aircraft. He then helped to remove other members of the crew who had managed to get clear of the aircraft when it crashed. Very shortly after he left the aircraft, it blew up. Mitchell's prompt and courageous action saved the life of the pilot.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Charles Stephen Hopkins, Police Sergeant, Sussex Police Force.

Edward George Percival Page, Police Constable, Sussex Police Force.

An aircraft crash-landed and caught fire. Sergeant Hopkins and Constable Page forced an entry into the rear gunner's turret to ascertain that no one was trapped in the fuselage. They then made every possible effort to locate the crew in the blazing machine but were handicapped by the terrific heat and continuous explosions of the ammunition and flares, and also by a tree trunk which had been mowed down and carried forward by the machine and had fallen on to the fuselage and caught fire.

An extensive search was made and the Sergeant and Constable did everything in their power to help the three survivors of the crew who were found away from the machine severely injured.

Sergeant Hopkins and Constable Page showed courage and devotion to duty without regard for their own safety.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when rescuing children from a burning house:—

William Henry Chester, Machine Setter, Lincoln.

Edwin Ernest Wing, Warden, Civil Defence Wardens Service, Lincoln.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
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21st January, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's New Zealand

Ministers, to give orders for the following award:—

Awarded the George Medal:—

Mervyn Lester Holden, Farmer, Pouaaw, Gisborne, New Zealand.

An aircraft crashed through a farm building, overturned and caught fire. Mr. Holden, who witnessed the crash from 300 yards away, immediately rushed to the blazing wreckage and attempted to extricate a man who was still attached to the aircraft by his harness. Holden, who was not acquainted with the release mechanism, cut away the harness with a sheath knife. Although still unable to move the man, and in spite of his own severe burns, he persisted in his efforts until eventually, with some assistance from the victim, who was recovering consciousness, he succeeded in releasing him.

By his courage and determination Mr. Holden saved the man's life.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
21st January, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards and for the publication in the London Gazette of the name of the person specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Percy Victor Tripp, Emergency Escape Servicelayer and Repair Party Leader, Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Light and Coke Company.

Ernest Alexander Webb, Mains Foreman, Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Light and Coke Company.

Mr. Tripp and Mr. Webb have shown outstanding coolness and courage during air raids. On many occasions their devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety have set a wonderful example to the Repair Parties.

In circumstances of great danger they have executed repairs and cut off gas supplies in heavily bombed districts, thus reducing the danger from fire.

COMMENDATION.

The individual named below has been Commended for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

Alfred George Webb, Messenger, Police Auxiliary Messenger Service, Grimsby.

The award to Alfred Fisher announced in Gazette No. 36312 of 4th January, 1944, page 71, is now dated 3rd November, 1943.

The names of the undermentioned are as now described and not as stated in Gazette No. 36312 dated 4th January, 1944:—

Albert Edward McLeod, page 72.
Benjamin Andrew Pettican, 73.

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