



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD,**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
 5th February, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to award the GEORGE CROSS to:—

Frederick DAVIES (deceased), Fireman,
 No. 34 (London) Area, National Fire Service.

Premises which consisted of a shop and house of five rooms caught fire. The N.F.S. were informed that two children were in the front room on the second floor. The escape was immediately slipped and pitched to the middle window of this floor. Before it was in position Davies ran up the escape.

At this stage flames were pouring from the windows on the second floor and licking up the front of the building. Upon Davies reaching the window he at once tried to enter but bursts of flame momentarily halted him. Undaunted, however, he climbed into the window with his back to the flames and entered the room. He was seen to endeavour to remove his tunic presumably to wrap it around and protect the children but his hands were now too badly burned for him to do so. During this time Davies was moving around the blazing room in an endeavour to locate the children, and after a short period he returned with a child in his arms whom he handed out of the window. He then turned back into the room to find the other child.

He was next seen to fling himself out of the window on to the escape, the whole of his clothing being alight. He was helped to the ground, the flames on his clothes were extinguished and he was conveyed to hospital suffering from severe burns. Later he died from his injuries.

The gallantry and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Fireman Davies was of the highest order. He knew the danger he was facing, but with complete disregard of his own safety he made a most heroic attempt to rescue the two children. In so doing, he lost his life.

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The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment 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 an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

William Alexander RAMSAY, Divisional Officer,
 National Fire Service (Port Fire Officer,
 Alexandria).

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

Aubrey John MAY, D.S.M., Company Officer,
 National Fire Service (Deputy Port Fire
 Officer, Alexandria).

During the operation of discharging a cargo of octane petrol from a tanker in Alexandria Harbour, Divisional Officer Ramsay was put in charge of special fire precautions. After three days on board the ship a sudden and unexpected underwater escape of petrol occurred. This was very shortly followed by a serious petrol fire in the harbour. Immediately he detected the smell of escaping petrol, the Divisional Officer sent a signal requesting the tanker be taken to sea. Shortly afterwards the petrol flashed on the water about 800 yards away from the ship and fire rapidly began to spread back to the vessel along the stream of petrol. Ramsay immediately proceeded in a small open motor boat to the fire and drove his boat backwards and forwards through the stream of petrol and strong concentration of high octane gases in