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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

> St. James's Palace, S.W.1. 17th December, 1946.

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

Violette, Madame SZABO (deceased), Women's Transport Service (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry).

Madame Szabo volunteered to undertake a particularly dangerous mission in France. into was parachuted She France in 1944, and undertook April, the task In her execution of the with enthusiasm. delicate researches entailed she showed great presence of mind and astuteness. She was twice arrested by the German security authorities but each time managed to get away. Eventually, however, with other members of her group, she was surrounded by the Gestapo in a house in the south west of France. Resistance appeared hopeless but Madame Szabo, seizing a Sten-gun and as much ammunition as she could carry, barricaded herself in part of the house and, exchanging shot for shot with the enemy, killed or wounded several of them. By constant movement, she avoided being cornered and fought until she dropped exhausted. She was arrested and had to undergo solitary confinement. She was then continuously and atrociously tortured but never by word or deed gave away any of her acquaintances or told the enemy anything of any value. She was ultimately executed. Madame Szabo gave a magnificent example of courage and steadfastness.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD. St. James's Palace, S.W.1. 17th December, 1946.

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

- То be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:-
- Gerald James WRIGHT, Burma Civil Supplies Board, Lashio, Burma.

In April, 1942, Wright and his family who were prevented by the Japanese from leaving Namkhan, took refuge at Myanchoung in the Kachin Hills. In May, several British officers and a platoon of Indian troops entered Myanchoung, after an engagement with the Japanese. Wright at once rendered first aid to several wounded in the party although he knew that the Japanese would shortly enter the village. On three other occasions Wright sheltered British troops at great risk to himself. He concealed one party for 18 months, cared for the sick and wounded and organised their escape. He was arrested by the Japanese and kept in captivity for six months. During this time he was tortured but did not reveal the whereabouts of any of the troops he had befriended. Wright showed courage without regard for self.

- KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.
- Patricia, Mrs. Friend, British resident in Monte Carlo.

For special services during the enemy occupation of France.

William Reynolds (deceased), Hotel Manager, Brussels.

For special services during the enemy occupation of Belgium.

The appointment of Miss Lalita Hensman announced in Gazette No. 37771 of 29th October, 1946, page 5307 is now dated 18th May, 1946.

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