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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

*15th March, 1949.*

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 George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, 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.

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

Hugh McINTYRE, lately Osteopath and Radiologist, Singapore. (London, S.W.1.)

For services to fellow internees in Singapore during the enemy occupation.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Harold Boyden RYLETT, Foreman, Colliery Explosive Co. Ltd., Earlestown, Lancashire.

An explosion occurred in a hut in which there were approximately 1,000 detonators. The wooden roof was set alight and there was great danger of further explosions.

Rylett immediately ran to the hut and saw three girls lying injured on the floor and two others staggering out of the door. He assisted the latter two into the yard and returned in an attempt to rescue the other girls. Although fully aware of its dangerous contents he entered the hut and brought out two of the injured girls. Rylett then went back for the third girl but before he could reach her a second explosion occurred, the blast of which dazed him and injured his left leg. In spite of his injuries he was able to reach the girl and move her to a place of safety.

Refusing medical attention until all the injured had been treated, Rylett threw water over the fire until it was finally extinguished. He was then taken to hospital.

Rylett displayed complete disregard of his own safety and risked his life in his efforts to effect the rescue of those injured in the explosion.

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

William Henry John BUDGEN, Constable, Oxfordshire Constabulary. (Banbury.)

Four men were seen to enter the railway sidings at Banbury late at night and the police were notified. Police Constable Budgen, who was off duty and in plain clothes, went to the scene with another officer and saw three men, two of whom were carrying large cartons. Upon seeing the officers the men dropped the cartons and ran off, one going to the left and the other two to the right. The other officer followed the two men who jumped into a river and disappeared into the darkness. Constable Budgen pursued the other man for some distance when he suddenly turned and struck the Constable across the head with what afterwards was found to be a police truncheon. The Constable closed with the man who struggled violently. He broke away on three occasions and repeatedly hit the Constable on the head with the truncheon. Eventually Budgen, notwithstanding that he was in a condition bordering upon exhaustion through loss of blood, brought the man to the ground and was able to secure his legs with a belt and his hands with a tie. At this stage the other officer arrived on the scene and the man's arrest was finally effected. Police Constable Budgen displayed courage and devotion to duty in effecting the arrest of a desperate and dangerous criminal.

Shariff bin OMAR, Fireman, s.s. "Morib".  
(Government of the Federation of Malaya.)

In order to trace a pipe, two Chinese drivers removed a tank manhole door on the steam hopper "Morib", which was lying in Port Swettenham, and entered the tank. They were immediately overcome by fumes.

Shariff bin Omar was informed and went to the tank where he found that a third man, who had entered in an endeavour to rescue the others, had also been overcome. Shariff bin Omar, without thought for himself, entered the tank and secured a heaving line to the three unconscious men who were then pulled out, but he himself was overcome by gas.

Meanwhile, a rescue party arrived on board the "Morib", a member of which, after donning a smoke helmet, entered the tank and succeeded in passing Shariff bin Omar up to the manhole so that he could be pulled out.

Shariff bin Omar showed considerable courage in entering the tank without protection after three men had been overcome by fumes.

James Alfred SPENCER, Fetter, Listerhills, Bradford.

A fire broke out in a house and a child was trapped in a bedroom on the first floor which was in flames. An attempt was made to put out the fire but without result. One of the occupants then ran into the street and called for help. Spencer, who was passing, entered the house and tried to reach the bedroom door but owing to intense heat he was forced to abandon his attempt. He returned to the street and climbed a fall pipe to the bedroom window and entered the room which was full of smoke. At first he could not find the child and returned to the window but was assured that the child was there. He then made a further search and found the boy under the bedclothes. He carried him to the window, climbed out and descended the fall pipe.

He then assisted in trying to control the fire until the arrival of the Fire Brigade. Spencer showed courage and determination in effecting the rescue of the child.

#### KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Robert BINNS, Fireman, Rochdale Fire Brigade.

For services when a fire occurred in a cotton mill.

Charles BOLLANS, Under-Manager, Welbeck Colliery, Nottinghamshire.

Frank RILEY, Deputy, Welbeck Colliery, Nottinghamshire. (Warsop).

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Bernard BRANKIN, Packer, Glasgow.

For services when a fire occurred in a tenement house.

Regina, Mrs. CAPEL, Telephone Operator, Singapore Civil General Hospital.

Miss Dorothy JACOBS, Telephone Operator, Singapore Civil General Hospital.

For services in Singapore during military operations prior to 3rd September, 1945.

Isaac CHAPPLE, lately Miner, Blyth, Northumberland.

For rescuing a boy from drowning.

Charles Latham POTTER, Police Constable, Blackpool Borough Police Force.

George Swan WRIGHT, Police Constable, Blackpool Borough Police Force.

For services when arresting an armed criminal.

Herbert WORDSWORTH, Police Sergeant, Yorkshire, West Riding, Constabulary. (Royston, Barnsley).

For services when arresting an armed criminal.

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