

of the enemy the Police Lieutenant threw two hand grenades and in doing so was wounded in the arm and face. Despite these wounds he very gallantly urged his men on to continue the fight. Samad bin Baba, the Police Bren Gunner, who was behind a high bank, was unable to see the enemy. With great gallantry he climbed on top of the bank and in full view of the bandits and under heavy fire, sprayed them with his Bren gun. Eventually this small Police party forced the bandits to withdraw. The offensive spirit displayed by all ranks was undoubtedly the result of the outstanding courage and excellent leadership of Lieutenant Wadge and the conduct of Samad bin Baba was an inspiring example of bravery and devotion to duty.

WAN HASSAN bin Wan Awang, Lance-Corporal, Federation of Malaya Police Force.

Wan Hassan received information that bandits were near Kampong Reka, to the North of Lubok Bongor, and at once set out in a motor boat with a force of five Constables and three Home Guards. When the party had gone some distance upstream they came under very heavy fire from the right bank. One Constable was badly wounded and fell overboard and two others were slightly wounded. The whole party, except Wan Hassan, left their arms and ammunition, took refuge in the river and retreated downstream. The engine of the boat failed and fire from the bandits prevented Wan Hassan from starting it again. He then jumped overboard and started to tow the boat which drifted on to a sandbank. Wan Hassan waded ashore and as he did so, a bandit came from an ambush position and called on him to surrender. He replied by opening fire with his Sten gun and the bandit fell badly wounded. Wan Hassan then jumped back into the river and although under heavy fire, pushed the boat off the sandbank and managed to tow it to a small island. He eventually reached the police station where he rallied 21 Home Guards and returned to the scene, rescued a wounded Constable and recovered from the river bed a rifle, fifty rounds of ammunition and three full Sten gun magazines.

Throughout the operation Lance-Corporal Wan Hassan displayed courage of a very high order in the face of overwhelming numbers and heavy fire power.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Anthony Hart PIERCY, Constable, Lincolnshire Constabulary (Horncastle).

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

Walter SAVAGE, Sergeant, Lincolnshire Constabulary (Horncastle).

Jack Arthur MAYES, Constable, Lincolnshire Constabulary (Horncastle).

A man, who had threatened to shoot his wife, took his rifle and some ammunition and as his wife ran out of the house shot at her. The shot narrowly missed her face and struck the wall ahead of her. As she took cover behind a low wall another shot passed over her head and struck a wooden

door on the opposite side of the street. She then ran into the town and took refuge in another house.

The man made his way to the house and attempted to gain entry. He fired shots at the lock of the front door but, failing to gain access, went to the back of the house where he fired further shots at the lock of the back door. Sergeant Savage then arrived on the scene and tried to reason with the man but the latter pointed his rifle at the Sergeant and ordered him to keep back. The man then ran away and fired a shot at the Sergeant which missed him and struck the wall above his head.

Constable Mayes joined the Sergeant and the two police officers moved into the confined space between the outhouses and the rear of the houses, with a view to getting near enough to the man to restrain him. He again pointed the rifle in their direction however, and fired two more shots, one of which caught the Sergeant a glancing blow on his left thigh causing a superficial wound. The other shot hit Constable Mayes in the leg. The two officers continued to move forward and the man ran through the house into the street with the officers in pursuit.

Constable Piercy entered the street and saw the man approaching with the rifle held near his hip. He walked to within a few yards of the armed man, who then pointed the rifle towards him and threatened to shoot him. The Constable ignored the threat however and took two or three more paces towards the man, who then fired and the bullet passed over the Constable's left shoulder. As the man brought the rifle to bear again Piercy jumped forward, brought him to the ground and restrained him until assistance came.

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

Leslie Noel JENNINGS, Works Foreman, Stoke-on-Trent.

George Henry SMITH, Quarry Foreman, Stoke-on-Trent.

At a sand and gravel quarry where a hole 25 feet in depth and 3 feet in diameter had been sunk for well-blasting, a workman descended a ladder in order to receive canisters of Ammonal Explosive as they were being lowered to him by means of a rope from the surface. As soon as he had reached the bottom, the ladder was withdrawn and his mate began to lower the canisters. On receiving the second canister he collapsed at the bottom of the hole. His mate, after obtaining assistance, lowered the ladder and descended to his aid. Shortly afterwards he called for help and collapsed on top of the first man. An excavator driver then went down but soon felt the effects of the poisonous gas which had accumulated and tried to climb out. He was unable to reach the top and Smith helped him up the ladder and out of the hole. Smith then went back down the ladder and succeeded in getting a rope around the unconscious body of one of the men and guided him up the ladder as he was being hauled up and out of the shaft. By this time Jennings had arrived and he descended