



THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO  
**The London Gazette**  
 OF FRIDAY, 12th DECEMBER, 1952

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 16 DECEMBER, 1952

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

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

*16th December, 1952.*

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:—

**GEORGE CROSS.**

**John BAMFORD**, Colliery Worker, Newthorpe, Nottingham.

A fire broke out in a house occupied by a man, his wife and six children, and in a very short time was burning fiercely. John Bamford and his father went downstairs and upon opening the living room door at the foot of the stairs the interior of the room burst into flames. Owing to the intense heat they were unable to get back upstairs to the rest of the family. They ran out through the front door, climbed on to the top of a bay window which gave access to a bedroom, opened the window and helped three of the children and the mother on to the flat roof. John Bamford and his father then climbed into the bedroom where they could hear the two remaining children, aged 4 and 6, shouting in the back bedroom, situated immediately above the seat of the fire. The bedroom doors at the head of the stairs were enveloped by flames. The father draped a blanket around himself and attempted to reach the children but the blanket caught fire and he was driven back. John Bamford then told his father to go to the back of the house while he got down on his hands and knees and crawled through the flames into the bedroom.

His shirt was completely burned upon him but nevertheless he snatched the two young boys from the bed and managed to get them to the window. He dropped the younger boy from the window into his father's arms but the elder boy struggled from his grasp.

Bamford could then have got out himself but he left the window and chased the screaming child through the flames across the room. He eventually managed to catch him and throw him from the window.

By this time Bamford was fast losing consciousness. He was terribly burned on the face, neck, chest, back, arms and hands but he managed to get one leg over the window sill and then fell to the ground.

John Bamford displayed courage of the highest order, and in spite of excruciating pain succeeded in rescuing his two brothers.

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*16th December, 1952.*

The QUEEN 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 those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation.

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

**Anthony Serle PUDNER**, Manager, Cable and Wireless Telecommunications Unit, Korea. (Ewell, Surrey.)

Pudner has been in command of the Cable and Wireless Telecommunications Unit in Korea, since November, 1950.

In his capacity as Manager, he has most loyally carried out his tasks in the battle area in a manner at times far beyond the call of duty. He also undertook a hazardous mission by sea with valuable wireless equipment.