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THE CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE
 ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

6th October, 1953.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the George Medal to the undermentioned:—

Lieutenant-Commander Stanley Lawrence
 MCARDLE, M.V.O., Royal Navy.

Chief Petty Officer Wilfred WARREN,
 P/JX136660.

At about 1645 on 31st January, 1953, after the sinking of the M.V. PRINCESS VICTORIA in heavy seas in the North Channel, H.M.S. CONTEST was brought alongside a survivor clinging to a raft. He was obviously at the limit of his endurance and, as the raft surged ahead in the rough seas, he let go. Lieutenant-Commander MCARDLE, without a moment's hesitation, put a lifeline round his waist and dived into the water. He grabbed the man and brought him back to the ship's scrambling net. When Chief Petty Officer WARREN saw that Lieutenant-Commander MCARDLE was in difficulties, he at once put a line round his

waist and jumped into the water to help to rescue the exhausted man. The ship was rolling heavily and all three men were nearly swept under her.

The gallantry and presence of mind shown by Lieutenant-Commander MCARDLE and Chief Petty Officer WARREN, in the quite exceptional weather conditions, undoubtedly saved the man's life.

Colour Sergeant Oswald Bernard FALCONAR,
 Ply. X.1048, Royal Marines.

An aircraft, carrying part of 40 Commando, Royal Marines crashed in taking off at Luqa, Malta, on 17th May, 1953. The moment the aircraft came to rest, flames swept in through the open door and in a moment the aircraft was full of fire and smoke. Colour Sergeant FALCONAR was battling his way out when he heard a man cry out that he could not undo his safety belt. In this moment of terror, when seconds stood between life and death, Colour Sergeant Falconar went back and released the man's safety belt, thus undoubtedly saving his life. When both were clear of the aircraft, Colour Sergeant Falconar, in spite of his burnt hands, helped the man to tear off his burning clothing.

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