

At about 7.15 a.m. the next day, a large crowd, estimated at two thousand, was seen to be approaching Elmina Castle which commands the road and bridge over the mouth of a lagoon. The Officer Commanding the Police Reserve, together with Sergeant Dama Dagarti, Corporal Allassan Busanga and five recruit constables, armed only with batons, went to the bridge which spans the lagoon and threw a cordon across the western end. Almost at once persons in the crowd opened fire and the Commanding Officer was killed and a recruit constable mortally wounded. Corporal Allassan Busanga, who was standing next to the wounded man, immediately engaged the rioters with his baton and continued to do so until he himself received severe gunshot wounds in the head and body.

Mr. Dick, who was nearby, ran to the wounded then lying some ten yards from the rioters, who were still firing. He rendered first aid and obtained a Police vehicle and removed the casualties to Cape Coast Hospital.

Sergeant Dama Dagarti took command of the remaining recruits and with them engaged the rioters with batons. In a short space of time all four recruits received gunshot wounds which prevented them from taking further part in the action, but in spite of this Sergeant Dama Dagarti continued to engage the rioters single handed until reinforcements arrived.

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

Rasul Bux son of Bali, Water Tenderer, Sugar Mill Boiler Station, Nausori, Fiji.

When earthquake shock occurred at Nausori, Rasul Bux, who was working at the sugar mill boiler station, temporarily left the building while it was swaying and completely filled by escaping steam from burst mains.

After only a few seconds he returned quickly and ascended a steep stairway and turned off the stop valves of six boilers. He was working in clouds of steam from broken pipes issuing at 80 pounds pressure. His prompt action confined the steam to individual boilers and brought safety valves into operation. Rasul Bux then shut the main steam valve which controlled the supply of steam from the boiler steam mains, shut down the fans and ascertained that the boiler feed pumps were working so that the boilers would not run short of water. It was not until he had completed this essential work that he paid any attention to his own safety.

His quick thinking and bravery brought a very serious situation under control and prevented possible loss of life.

Gilbert CLARK, Miner, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kelloholm, Dumfriesshire.)

Andrew McCLUSKIE, Miner, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kelloholm, Dumfriesshire.)

When an accident occurred at Fauldhead Colliery, a fall of roof displaced a number of props and a miner was trapped by a large stone. The dirt in the side of the roads prevented the full

weight of the stone bearing on him and McCluskie and Clark attempted to release the trapped man by levering the stone. The roof was in a dangerous state and gave every indication of further collapse. Attempts were made by other workmen to support the roof but before the miner could be pulled clear another fall occurred and McCluskie and Clark were trapped. They were eventually released.

Both men displayed courage and perseverance and risked their lives in the attempted rescue.

Ronald Rosslyn RANSON, Laboratory Steward, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Manningtree.)

Donald Victor RUMBLE, Senior Laboratory Assistant, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Dovercourt.)

Gordon Leslie YOUNGMAN, Ganger, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Harwich.)

Floods inundated the Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd. Factory at Bramble Island, Great Oakley, and it became necessary to dispose of some 100 to 150 tons of damaged explosives. Rumble and Ranson were concerned with the scuttling at sea of a concrete barge loaded with about 150 tons of waste explosives in a dangerous condition. The cargo was in very bad shape after lying wet for nearly four months and during the loading it became apparent that the operation was going to be extremely hazardous.

The holds were filled with nauseating fumes and the cargo under its own weight gradually liberated quantities of nitro-glycerine. No alternative course was open but to continue the loading, and no alternative method of disposal was possible. Without regard for their own safety the two men carried out the operation with courage and determination.

Youngman was concerned with clearing the magazines which were in a dangerous condition. Nitro-glycerine was found to be exuding freely on the floors and the slate roof had collapsed in sections and was supported by some tons of explosive underneath.

The explosive was, in part, packed in fibreboard cases which had softened and burst open. Youngman cleared away the broken brickwork mixed up with explosive and dismantled a damaged magazine, despite the fact that large sections of wall were liable to fall on to the explosive at any moment.

Muthami WANGAI, Constable, Tribal Police, Kenya.

Tribal Police Constable Muthami Wangai was leading a Patrol consisting of another Tribal Police Constable and ten Kikuyu Guards in Aguthi Location, Nyeri District. The Patrol was moving along the road from the Kangaita Kikuyu Guard Camp to Mericho when it was suddenly attacked by a large and well armed Mau Mau gang, composed of approximately 50 men. Fire was brought to bear on the Patrol from the thick bush on both sides of the road. The members of the Patrol, acting on the orders