

up all-round fire positions. Ndiwa quickly appreciated that his patrol had encountered a well armed gang and fired a short burst at the leader, hitting him in the throat. At this, some 200 men advanced slowly upon the patrol's position, exchanging fire as they did so. The police ammunition began to run low and one of the constables was killed. Although heavily outnumbered the patrol remained calm and waited for Ndiwa's instructions. The Corporal outlined the method of withdrawal and, allowing the enemy to crawl within about 10 yards of his position, he threw a grenade at them and during the confusion which followed, the patrol carried out his instructions and withdrew, suffering no further casualties.

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

Edward ANGLUM, Underforeman, Howards and Sons, Ilford, Essex.

When a fire occurred in a lauryl alcohol plant at Ilford, vessels containing hydrogen gas under high pressure and a tank of 2,500 gallons of lauryl alcohol were involved and the operators working the plant left immediately. One of them informed Anglum who was in another plant and he immediately rushed to the lauryl alcohol plant and tried to enter but the fire was too fierce. He turned off gas and hydrogen valves outside and helped another worker to slide a fire screen in front of the hydrogen vessels. He stationed a man in the shelter of a passageway and told him to play the water from the hose on him and under cover of this Anglum entered the shop and turned off the control valve which prevented any more hydrogen being fed to the circuit. He then helped to extinguish the burning alcohol.

Anglum's rapid and fearless action prevented a major explosion which would have resulted in loss of life and property.

Bert BULLETT, Fireman, Surrey Fire Brigade (Dorking, Surrey).

A fifteen year old boy was trapped by a fall of chalk in a cave at West Humber near Dorking. The caves are unstable and dangerous and when the Fire Brigade attempted to tunnel horizontally towards the boy this produced further falls and had to be abandoned. A vertical excavation was then undertaken by hand to a depth of six feet which exposed the boy's head and shoulders. In order to release the boy it was then necessary to tunnel parallel with his legs and body. These operations could only be carried out by hand and not more than one man could operate at a time. As the excavation deepened firemen had to be suspended head downwards by a line. Fireman Bullett took part in the sinking of the vertical shaft and undertook the freeing of the boy's legs and body. The operation took 2 hours and during this time Bullett was working in a confined space in which it was impracticable to take any effective steps, by shoring or other means, to safeguard the working conditions. Fireman Bullett acted with complete disregard of his personal safety and during the operation encouraged the boy and obtained from him the co-operation which assisted his final release.

William CARR, Backshift Overman, Hazlerigg Colliery, Northumberland, National Coal Board (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

While carrying out a pre-shift inspection at Hazlerigg Colliery, a deputy and a salvage worker encountered black-damp in a conveyor road. The deputy collapsed and the salvage worker began to feel the effects of the black-damp and ran out to the main road where he met and explained the situation to Carr.

Taking the precaution to leave open the entrance door to the district to increase the air supply Carr entered the conveyor road. He had gone only a few yards down the road when his flame safety lamp was extinguished by the gas and he had to return to the main road to relight it. He again went in search of the collapsed man but was forced to retreat because of the effects of the black-damp. He made three further attempts to reach the deputy but had to retreat on each occasion although on the last attempt he managed to attach a piece of belting to the man's leg. Going in again he dragged the man for a few yards by means of the belting and finally got him to the main road. Despite efforts to revive him, however, the deputy was found to be dead.

As an Overman, Carr knew the dangers he faced and that if he had collapsed in the conveyor road it would probably have been fatal.

IGERIA s/o Munyua, Driver, Kenya.

Igeria s/o Munyua was driving three passengers from Kandara towards Thika when the party was ambushed by a large gang. On being attacked Igeria took charge and ordered the party to take cover on the side of the road and to fire back at the gang. He then saw that one of the passengers was still in the car, presumably injured. Although under fire Driver Igeria returned to the car and carried the man to the side of the road where he found that he was dead. Igeria returned once more to the car, as the gang closed in, and recovered the man's rifle.

Realising the hopelessness of the position of the three men against a gang estimated to be 150 to 200 strong, Driver Igeria then ordered the party to withdraw.

KIOKO s/o Waita, Headman, Kenya.

Kioko accompanied by two Tribal Policemen and one Special Tribal Policeman, arrested a dangerous Kamba gunman in the Bahati Native Location, Nairobi. Immediately on making the arrest a Mau Mau gang fired on the party and all four men were wounded. Kioko was hit four times but in spite of this he continued to return the fire, killing two of the gang and severely wounding another.

Without Headman Kioko's brave example and self-discipline the four members of the security force would probably have been killed.

Thomas Weir Alexander (McSHANE), Constable, City of Glasgow Police Force.

Shortly after midnight a man and a woman were walking along a road in Glasgow when two men sprang out from the grass verge. One of the assailants caught the woman by the arms and pulled her away.