

the side and escaped injury, but found himself trapped between two blockages formed by the fallen fireclay.

The alarm was raised immediately and Jones was quickly on the scene and took charge. He made an attempt to reach the trapped man from above but found that the fall completely blocked progress.

He returned to the bottom and climbed up the debris. About 15 yards up he found the fallen fireclay forming a complete blockage held by displaced props which had become loosely wedged across the face of the recess. In spite of the obvious risk involved, he decided to attempt to release this blockage from below and by means of chains and wire ropes was able to dislodge some of the props. This brought about a run of debris and cleared the blockage so that the deputy could descend to safety.

While the blockage was being cleared the props might have given way at any time and had they done so while the under-manager was beneath them he would have been most fortunate to escape with his life. He must have realised full well the grave risk he was running in his gallant efforts to save the deputy.

Frederick George LANE, Station Officer, London Fire Brigade. (Twickenham.)

Station Officer Lane was in charge of a pump-escape and pump which attended a fire in a three-storied terrace house in Paddington. Flames and smoke were coming from the house and he was informed that a baby was inside. Lane entered the building and heard screaming coming from above. He ran up the stairs through the heat and smoke and discovered an elderly man on the half-landing between the first and second floors. The smoke was so dense that it was impossible to see, but, by groping around, Lane was able to grasp the man who had partially collapsed. The man struggled violently and Lane had to remove him forcibly from the house.

Station Officer Lane then made two separate attempts to enter the front room where the baby was believed to be but was unable to effect an entry. Under cover of a hose reel jet he made a further attempt without success. He then had a ladder pitched to the first floor window and managed to enter the room, followed by a fireman. The room was hot and very smoky and at the first attempt Station Officer Lane did not find the child and had to withdraw to the window for fresh air. He then renewed the search and found the baby unconscious in its cot. He took it to the window and handed it over to a fireman. Both the rescued persons recovered, but there is little doubt that but for the promptitude with which Station Officer Lane acted, working under conditions of great heat and smoke, both these lives would have been lost.

Edward Brian MILLER, Salsman, Exeter.

While on patrol duties a Police Constable was informed that something had happened to a man in a sewer. The Constable immediately took off his helmet and tunic and went down into the sewer. He moved along it for a distance of about 40 yards and was then unable to see any further owing to the

darkness. He returned to the bottom of the manhole by which he had entered and called for a lamp. Miller heard the call and went into a nearby shop, obtained a torch and entered the sewer. The Constable then retraced his steps and had gone about 20 yards when he felt himself being overcome with gas and went down on his hands and knees and crawled back to the manhole.

Meanwhile Miller had passed the Constable and travelled about 70 yards along from the manhole, climbing over a service pipe which runs at right angles across the sewer, en route. He eventually found a man lying face downwards in the sludge at the bottom of the sewer. He turned him over and dragged him back to the bottom of the manhole where he was hauled up and artificial respiration applied.

Miller displayed determination and courage and persisted in his efforts although he knew the Constable had been affected by the gas.

Charles MUNENE, Headman, Kenya.

Headman Charles Munene, armed with a shot-gun, was living in his post with ten Home Guards armed only with spears and simis. A gang of approximately 30 terrorists with fire-arms attacked the post at about 10 o'clock at night, and set fire to it. The Home Guards sought refuge in the bush, but Headman Charles stood his ground in one of the houses, despite the fact that it was burning, and killed two of the terrorists and wounded others before making his own escape from the burning house to better cover nearby.

In the morning about a mile and a half away four other terrorists were found dead obviously as a result of wounds inflicted by the Headman. By his bravery Headman Charles Munene saved the lives of all his Home Guards and prevented the loss of any weapons.

MUTETI s/o Nzioka, Sergeant-Major, Kikuyu Guard, Kenya.

Sergeant-Major Muteti s/o Nzioka has been an outstanding force against Mau Mau from the early days of the Emergency and has always been a strong supporter of the Government.

Early in 1954, Muteti was moved to the notorious Rwathia area of Location 12. It was here that a Headman was killed in 1953 whilst trying to establish a Kikuyu Guard post. In this area also a District Officer, a Sergeant and four privates of the Kenya Regiment had been killed. The terrorist gangs have been most active and the whole local population have been infected heavily with the Mau Mau doctrine.

The situation was bad when Muteti arrived in the area but by his unbounded energy and courage two strong Kikuyu Guard posts were formed and maintained and are now both actively engaged in stamping out Mau Mau. The morale of the whole area has improved beyond all expectations.

Muteti has shown great courage in all his actions which have been carried out with complete disregard of danger. He was particularly outstanding in a recent action when his untried and newly formed Kikuyu Guards tracked a large and well armed gang