

assistance. Although he had seen his fellow officer shot down Constable Moffat did not hesitate to risk his own life to effect the arrest of a dangerous criminal.

Denis OLIVER, Staff Pilot, No. 5 Civilian Anti-Aircraft Co-operation Unit, Llanbedr.

Mr. Oliver was the pilot of a Firefly aircraft which crashed, due to engine failure, and immediately caught fire. Oliver succeeded in escaping from the aircraft without injury but saw that his observer was badly injured and unable to extricate himself from the wreckage. Oliver returned to the blazing aircraft and found that the rear hood of the observer's cockpit was jammed. He managed to open the centre hood and, by leaning over the fuselage fuel tank, he was able to reach into the flames and release the observer's safety harness. By this time the observer had lost consciousness, but Oliver dragged him forward to safety. Mr. Oliver was aware that the fuselage fuel tank would explode at any time but, nevertheless, with great courage and complete disregard of his own safety, he continued with the rescue operation. By returning to the aircraft, he sustained severe burns which necessitated lengthy hospital treatment, but his courage and calmness undoubtedly saved the life of the observer.

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

Bernard BRIDDON, Police Constable, Nottinghamshire Constabulary. (Newark.)

Two men who had escaped from Rampton State Institution, and who were known to be armed with a loaded shotgun, were reported to be approaching Newark on a stolen motor-cycle. Constable Briddon, who was on duty at a check point, saw the motor-cycle coming towards him and signalled to the driver to stop. The machine failed to stop and the driver attempted to elude the Constable by swerving the machine around him. Briddon grabbed the pillion passenger, which caused the motor-cycle to skid and the two men fell off the machine to the ground. Briddon recognised them as the escaped prisoners and closed with the one who had been driving the machine. At this point the pillion passenger undid his coat and pulled out from beneath it a sawn-off shotgun, at the same time stepping back a few paces. The Constable retained hold of the driver and went towards the man who was pointing the gun at him, telling him to drop the gun. He refused to do this but the Constable continued forward, took hold of the barrel of the gun and managed to get it away. Other Police Officers then arrived at the scene and the two men were taken into custody.

John Harwood CARR, Sergeant 3rd Class, New South Wales Police Force.

Alexander Robert EGOROFF, Constable 1st Class, New South Wales Police Force.

Sergeant Carr and Constable Egoroff were informed by a man that his wife had fired several shots at him with a .22 calibre rifle. They immediately left for the house and while approaching it a shot was fired at them by

the woman in the house from a distance of 100 yards. A further two shots were fired at them when they were about 80 yards from the house. The woman was informed of their identity and requested to put the firearm away. A further shot was fired and struck the ground in front of them. Sergeant Carr instructed Constable Egoroff to attempt to approach the house from the rear. Whilst the Constable was approaching the rear of the premises, the woman fired three shots in his direction. The woman then left the house and walked into the back yard of the premises carrying the rifle. She fired a further shot at the Sergeant which struck the ground in front of him. He again requested the woman to put the rifle down and commenced to walk towards her. When he was about 50 yards from her, she fired another shot at him but by this time Constable Egoroff had reached the rear of the premises and immediately the last shot was fired at the Sergeant, ran towards the woman. She swung around and fired a shot at the Constable when he was only about three yards from her. The Constable grappled with the woman and with the help of the Sergeant disarmed her. The last shot fired by the woman inflicted a minor wound to the Constable's right ear, as well as inflicting powder burns to his face.

Kenneth CORDNER, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary. (Brookeborough, Co. Fermanagh.)

An armed attack was made on Brookeborough Royal Ulster Constabulary Station by members of the Irish Republican Army. Sergeant Cordner was in charge of the Station and at 7 p.m. as he was in the act of opening the front door he was met by a burst of machine gun fire. He immediately closed the door, raised the alarm and directed his men to take up previously arranged positions. The Sergeant seized his sporting shot gun, rushed up the stairs, discharged both barrels at the raiders and then engaged them with rifle fire. Fire was then directed by the raiders at this window. The Sergeant moved into the next room in which a Bren gun was mounted and loaded. He fired this gun in the direction of the attackers. Heavy automatic fire was then directed against the window from which the Sergeant was firing, but notwithstanding this he held on to his position until the raiders withdrew in a lorry. During the attack, which lasted ten minutes, several grenades were thrown at the Station. Windows were smashed by the raiders' gun fire and the outside of the building covered with bullet marks. The lorry was found later with the bodies of two of the raiders. Sergeant Cordner acquitted himself with great distinction during the attack and proved a daring and gallant leader.

John Linton de GREFF, Farmer, Sminhay Farm, Marshwood, Dorset.

A man who had been digging a well in his garden was missing. A search was made and groans were heard coming from the well. The shaft of the well was 30 feet deep, but only 2 feet 6 inches wide. A neighbour descended the well by means of a ladder but when half-way down was obliged to