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**TUESDAY, 8 OCTOBER, 1957**

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

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

*8th October, 1957.*

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

*To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

**Arnold Eric HUGHES**, Cargo Supervisor, Esso Petroleum Company, Ltd. (Liverpool.)

Two men were overcome by petrol vapour in the pump-room of a coastal tanker which was loading motor spirit. Mr. Hughes was on a vessel about 500 yards away and hearing that something was wrong he immediately boarded the tanker and helped members of the crew to bring up from the pump-room the Chief Engineer and Third Engineer who had been overcome by a heavy concentration of petrol vapour, caused apparently by a leak. Mr. Hughes made his way down the ladder and helped to haul up the Chief Engineer. He then went below again to search for the second man in the dimly lit pump-room, about 15 feet below main deck level, and found him lying unconscious but alive about 10 feet from the ladder. Although he was feeling the increasing effects of the fumes, Hughes succeeded with great difficulty in securing a rope around the unconscious man. He then dragged him on to the foot of the ladder and gave the signal for him to be hauled out. Hughes was by that time so much affected by the fumes he was obliged to come up on deck to recover. Other difficulties

arose and it was not until Mr. Hughes had been down into the pump-room yet again and fastened another rope around the man that it finally became possible to haul him up.

Mr. Hughes persisted over a period of an hour and forty minutes in his three rescue attempts with the utmost determination and without regard for his own safety.

*To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

**Captain James Henry DAVIES**, Master, Port Services Tug, Trinidad.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

**David Frederick Alfred BLOOM**, Assistant Superintendent, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

**Ronald Godfrey COX**, Chief Fire Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

One night a wooden schooner with a cargo of 8,000 gallons of highly inflammable fuel caught fire in the Port of Spain harbour. The schooner was anchored in a heavily congested part of the port area, about fifty feet from the seawall against which two ships were tied. At the time there were not less than a dozen ships in this small part of the port. The Port Services fire tug, under the command of Captain Davies, took off the crew of the schooner and commenced fire fighting operations. The Police launch under the command of Assistant Superintendent Bloom then went alongside the tug and Mr. Bloom went on board. A few minutes later, the Chief Fire Officer, Mr. Cox, went aboard the burning vessel with a fire crew and assumed command of operations. At this stage of the incident the probability of the schooner blowing up with its hazardous cargo made it imperative that the ship should be moved at once from the crowded anchorage to some safer place where an explosion would cause less loss

of life and less general damage. Accordingly the Port Services tug accompanied by the Police launch with the fire crew, towed the schooner towards some waste land about three-quarters of a mile away. It was two hours after sunset and there was no moon. The operation was carried out with great skill and complete disregard of personal danger, but after towing the schooner for over half an hour the Port Services tug had to retire, due to shallow water, when the schooner was about a hundred yards from land. Mr. Bloom, however, used his launch and crew to push the schooner further in-shore, as near as possible to the selected point. At this stage the intensity of the fire was increasing very rapidly. The schooner finally went aground about twenty-five yards from the shore. As the tide turned there was a danger that she might move out of the range of the fire equipment which had by this time been set up as close as possible to the beached vessel, but Mr. Bloom managed to pass a rope from her stern to a post some thirty yards away in order to hold her. The Chief Fire Officer and Mr. Bloom boarded the schooner where the former set a foaming branch pipe into the forward hatch. About two hours later the Chief Fire Officer returned again to the burning ship which he still found to be in a highly dangerous state. He re-arranged the branch pipe and went back to the shore. He made a further inspection of the schooner a few hours later and decided that the risk of an explosion and a major fire had passed. Fire operations continued until 2.30 a.m. when the fire was extinguished. During the whole of the operation Mr. Cox and Mr. Bloom were in the gravest danger of being killed immediately had the schooner with its highly dangerous cargo blown up. Their calm and cool leadership was quite outstanding and their actions throughout were the biggest factor in preventing what might well have been a major disaster.

Captain Davies, without hesitation, took his tug alongside the burning schooner and commenced fire fighting operations. He knew of the imminent danger of an explosion and that, had such an explosion taken place, his tug and his crew would almost certainly have been obliterated in the subsequent blaze. Notwithstanding this knowledge he not only persevered in towing the schooner away from the harbour, but remained with it until his tug grounded.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

ATHUMANI s/o Ramadhani, Constable, Tanganyika Police Force.

A Government Veterinary Officer, accompanied by Constable Athumani and a party of 22 Masai and Waarush tribesmen, went in search of a lion which had killed a cow and mauled a Masai. The lion had been wounded with a spear and the party followed the blood spoor which led them to the undergrowth in which the lion was concealed. Three shots were fired to force the lion to break cover. The party moved forward cautiously, but quite suddenly the lion sprang and started to maul the Veterinary Officer. All the Masai and Waarush tribesmen ran away. Constable Athumani could not fire at the lion, which was on top of the

Officer and was chewing his leg. Using the butt of his rifle as a club Athumani dealt three blows on the head of the lion with all his strength. The lion released the Veterinary Officer and seized Constable Athumani by the right arm, but he struggled violently and the lion released him and ran off.

There is no doubt that by attacking the fully grown lion, which had been maddened by injuries, Constable Athumani saved the life of the Veterinary Officer.

John Christopher STRICKFUSS, Constable 1st Class, Queensland Police Force, Cannon Hill, Brisbane.

Early one morning, Constable Strickfuss was at home when he heard the sound of rifle shots coming from a house nearby. He went into the roadway and saw smoke coming from the house. He ran back to his own home, obtained a garden hose and returned to the burning building. He was familiar with the layout of the building and ran towards the water tap at the front, intending to connect his garden hose to the tap. When he was six or seven yards from the house about five rifle shots were fired at him in quick succession. The shots passed slightly behind him. Although himself unarmed the Constable did not hesitate but continued towards the front of the building, ran up the steps and took up a position on the small landing giving access to the front door. He tried to open the door, but it was locked. He then looked through the window and saw a man, holding a rifle, coming towards him. The Constable crouched down below the level of the window sill. There were more rifle shots, a pause, and a single shot. The Constable then ran to the rear of the house. The kitchen door was closed but regardless of the danger Strickfuss quickly opened it and entered the kitchen. There he saw the dead bodies of a woman and three children heaped together on the kitchen floor. The body of a man was lying on the floor near the doorway with a rifle underneath his body. The Constable beat out the fire about the bodies and saw a baby lying face downwards on the floor and alive. The hair on the child's head was smouldering and there was a bullet wound in its foot. Strickfuss smothered the fire and carried the child from the building.

Constable Strickfuss showed great devotion to duty and courage in the face of extreme danger and his prompt action saved the life of the baby.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Alexander FORSYTHE, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary, Londonderry.

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

Maud MUSSELWHITE, Woman Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary, Londonderry.

Constable Forsythe and Woman Sergeant Musselwhite, in plain clothes, were on night duty in the dock area of Londonderry. They were paying special attention to electric transformers, cranes, goods sheds and buildings which were all likely targets for attack by terrorists. At about 11 p.m. the two

police officers saw three men acting suspiciously. One was carrying a paper parcel and they all made their way towards an electric rectifier on the quay. While Woman Sergeant Musselwhite telephoned the police control room, Forsythe followed two of the men who walked hurriedly to the electric rectifier and disappeared behind it. The Constable ran to the rectifier and saw one man holding a piece of fuse which was protruding from a brown paper parcel, and the other holding a lighted match to the end of the fuse. The Constable drew his revolver and jumped in on the two terrorists. He ordered them to lie on the ground, face downwards. He then grabbed the end of the lighted fuse with his hand and put it out. At this point, Woman Sergeant Musselwhite returned and she stood by while the Constable thoroughly searched his two prisoners. Having satisfied herself that Constable Forsythe could cope with his prisoners, Woman Sergeant Musselwhite searched the area for any suspicious characters. On her way back to the Constable and just as she had reached the rectifier there was a terrific explosion. All lights in the dock area went out, but Constable Forsythe held on to his prisoners and Woman Sergeant Musselwhite patrolled the area until a police car arrived a few minutes later. The parcel which the two terrorists had with them at the electric rectifier contained 15 lbs. of gelignite and a 9ft. 2 ins. length of fuse, with a detonator attached to the end. One end of the fuse was charred and burned for about half an inch.

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

Brendan Thomas BULLARD, Constable, Metropolitan Police Force.

John KAY, Constable, Metropolitan Police Force.

Thomas Charles William THOMPSON, Constable, Metropolitan Police Force.

In the early hours of the morning, Constables Bullard, Kay and Thompson were on duty in a police car driven by Kay when they saw two men acting suspiciously. Thompson and Bullard left the car to keep observation on them and saw a large unlit, black saloon car, containing four men, pull out from behind some stationary lorries then drive quickly away. The police car followed and the driver of the saloon car, which had been stolen, drove at a very fast speed across Tower Bridge. The police car continued the pursuit at speeds varying from 70 to 80 miles per hour, through many streets of South East London. At one point the rear doors of the stolen car were opened and iron bars were brandished by the occupants, and from time to time the car swerved violently to the offside. After a hazardous chase of nine miles, the stolen car was stopped. As Police Constables Thompson, Bullard and Kay got out of their car they were attacked by four men armed with iron bars. A violent struggle took place in the course of which Bullard and Kay were knocked unconscious by vicious blows on their heads with the iron bars. Although Thompson was dazed by a similar

blow in the mouth, he assisted his more seriously injured colleagues as best he could. A second police car then appeared and the four men ran away through the courtyard of a nearby block of flats. After a search three of the men were arrested. Constables Bullard, Kay and Thompson knew they were outnumbered and that the criminals were armed with iron bars. The officers showed great courage and determination in attempting to make the arrest.

John CONNOR, Conductor, Scottish Omnibuses, Ltd. (Edinburgh).

Douglas Maitland TOCHER, Sergeant, Edinburgh City Police Force (Edinburgh).

A man heard what appeared to be sounds of someone moaning coming from a small stone building behind a wall at the side of a road. The building was blocked up apart from a small jagged hole measuring 22 inches across by 15 inches high in one of the end walls, approximately 4 feet from the rising ground beneath, on the outside of the building. The man saw two hands gripping the edge on the inside of the building and detected a very strong smell of gas. He tried to grasp the hands and saw that a boy was trapped inside and partially overcome by fumes. He tried to pull the boy clear but without success and, as the effects of the fumes were becoming more apparent, he ran to a nearby garage and obtained the assistance of Mr. Connor, who vaulted the wall separating the building from the footpath and crawled through the hole. He reached ground level on the inside, about 6 feet below the hole, and at once detected the strong fumes. Groping about in the darkness he found the body of a boy lying on the floor. The boy was semi-conscious and, picking him up, Connor pushed him head first through the opening from where he was pulled to safety. By this time Mr. Connor was beginning to feel the effects of the fumes and experienced a choking sensation. It was not without difficulty that he managed to pull himself up to the hole and regain the outside. At this stage it was not believed that there was any other person trapped inside but Sergeant Tocher and a Constable went to the building and the Sergeant examined the interior through the hole. He heard a grunting sound and thought that he saw the form of a boy lying in the darkness below. He discarded his tunic and, after tying a handkerchief over his nose and mouth, was forced through the opening. He found the body of the boy lying unconscious near the hole. He picked him up and hoisted him out head first through the opening to other police officers. Sergeant Tocher then searched the building and found five fire extinguishers scattered on the floor, three of which had been discharged. The extinguishers were passed outside by Sergeant Tocher, who, after ensuring that there was no one else inside, endeavoured to get out through the hole. By this time the effects of the fumes had begun to tell on him and he experienced great difficulty in raising himself the six feet from floor level. A large stone was pushed through the hole for him to stand on. With this aid he managed to reach the lower edge of the opening. His arms were seized and

he was pulled through to the outside where he collapsed.

Fully aware of the heavy concentration of fumes, Mr. Connor and Sergeant Tocher entered the confines of the building, faced with a drop of six feet on the inside and uncertain as to how they would find a way out. Both men displayed considerable determination and courage in effecting the rescue of the boys.

**Stanley Peter DALE**, Constable, Bradford City Police Force.

Shortly after midnight Constable Dale saw a man in the doorway of a factory office. He went towards the man who then ran into the yard of the works. The Constable followed him as he ran towards a mill dam. The man did not stop and disappeared into the dam. Dale got to the edge and by stepping on to some debris about 5 feet from the edge, obtained an old door, crawled towards the intruder and tried to pull him on to the door. The weight caused the door to sink but Dale, although handicapped by the suction caused by the oily substance in the dam, managed to get the man on to the debris and then to the yard. The man then suddenly turned upon Dale, struck him on the side of the head with his fist and broke away. The Constable chased him, there was a struggle, and his assailant broke away again. He was chased once more by the Constable who was able to detain him until assistance arrived.

**Dennis Norman DOWDING**, Constable, Bristol Constabulary.

Constable Dowding was on duty one night when he saw a man driving a van which was not displaying obligatory lights. When the van stopped at a junction the Constable went to the nearside door and saw another man in the passenger's seat. The Constable asked the driver to pull around the corner and stop. As the van was driven around the corner the driver accelerated quickly. Dowding jumped on the running board and repeatedly asked the driver to stop the vehicle. He would not do so and continued to drive at speeds between 20 and 40 miles per hour. On numerous occasions he swerved towards lamp standards on the nearside of the road in an endeavour to knock the Constable from the vehicle and the passenger hit the officer's hands in an effort to make him release his hold. As the van approached a roundabout the passenger placed his feet against the door of the vehicle, and as it flew open he fell from the vehicle, taking the Constable with him. A fight ensued and the driver also left the van and attacked the Constable. Eventually the men were taken into custody and Constable Dowding was conveyed to hospital suffering from lacerations to the face and concussion. Constable Dowding acted with gallantry and devotion to duty.

**John Richard HARRIS**, Constable, Metropolitan Police Force, Elstree, Herts.

A Police Constable and two other officers were on plain clothes duty at an Underground Railway Station when they saw four youths leave the forecourt of the Station and loiter in a shop doorway near some unattended cars. In view of their suspicious

behaviour they were stopped by the three police officers and questioned. Being unsatisfied with the explanations given, the officers searched the youths, who were found to be in possession of two torches and two pairs of gloves. They were then told that they would be arrested, whereupon one of them broke away and ran off with Constable Harris in pursuit. After some distance the youth turned, pointed a revolver at the Officer, who was several yards away from him, and threatened to shoot him. Harris ducked but continued to run at the youth, who then fired at him, the bullet passing to the right of his head. The youth ran on across the road but after a further chase Constable Harris tackled him and after a struggle managed to gain possession of the revolver. With the assistance of another officer the youth was then arrested. The revolver, cocked ready for re-firing, was loaded with three live shotgun cartridges which had been cut down in length to fit. Constable Harris did his duty without regard for his personal safety.

**IYUMBU** s/o Ikumbu, Peasant, Maswa District of the Lake Province, Tanganyika.

A Police Constable armed with a rifle and 50 rounds of ammunition, ran amok during the night and killed 36 people in the space of less than 12 hours in the area of Malampaka, Maswa District, Lake Province. A few mornings later Iyumbu reported to the Police that the demented man had visited his house in search of food. Iyumbu was asked to send information quickly and try and keep the man with him should he come again. At 1 a.m. the next day the man reappeared at the house. He was still armed. He was again given food and Iyumbu sent his wife to report to the Police. He engaged the man in conversation for nearly two hours until help arrived. Iyumbu then ran out of the house into which a Police Superintendent threw a smoke bomb. The house was destroyed by fire and the Police Constable, in trying to evade capture, received wounds from which he subsequently died.

Iyumbu lives within two miles of the scene of the original batch of murders, in an area through which intensive searches took place among a terrorised population. He was, therefore, well aware of the risks he ran and undoubtedly his courageous and public-spirited action at great personal risk was a major factor in the ultimate capture of the Constable.

**Spencer Maconochie VIBART**, Constable, Plymouth City Police.

Constable Vibart was parading to go off duty at midnight, when a call was received to the effect that a gunsmith's premises had been entered, and a man had been seen running away. The call was immediately attended to by another wireless crew and Constable Vibart left the building to walk to his home. On his way he saw a man acting in a furtive manner endeavouring to conceal something inside his jacket. The Constable caught up with the man who suddenly turned, pointed a pistol at the Constable and threatened to shoot him. The Constable had an attaché case in his hand

and he threw this at the gunman and at the same time went for him in a rugby tackle. There was what appeared to be a click of the fall of the hammer of the pistol but no report, and a struggle ensued. The man broke away and ran off. Vibart pursued him and caught up with him. He turned and threw the pistol at the Constable but it missed. There was a further struggle and with assistance the man was overcome and arrested. The pistol was found to be unloaded.

Francis WISENER, Sergeant, Ulster Special Constabulary, Clough, County Antrim.

James PATTON, Constable, Ulster Special Constabulary, Clough, County Antrim.

Robert PATTON, Constable, Ulster Special Constabulary, Clough, County Antrim.

One night two explosions occurred in the north part of County Antrim which were undoubtedly caused by terrorists. One of the explosions demolished an automatic telephone exchange in Dunloy village, and the other caused serious damage to a similar exchange at Loughguile. An Ulster Special Constabulary patrol with Sergeant Wisener in charge received instructions to go to a cross-road and examine an automatic exchange there. On arrival at the exchange a Constable saw a pile of fresh grass lying on the doorstep. He pushed the grass aside and saw a suitcase underneath. On moving this slightly he heard a ticking sound. He reported to Sergeant Wisener, who immediately climbed over the fence, picked up the suitcase and carried it away from the front of the exchange for a distance of about 10 yards. He then went to a nearby telephone kiosk to report the matter. Meanwhile Special Constable J. Patton climbed over the fence and handed over the suitcase to his father, Special Constable R. Patton, who carried it along the road for a distance of about 30 yards leaving it at the side of the road. Not being satisfied that it was then sufficiently far from the exchange he returned, lifted the case, and carried it another 70 yards up the road, leaving it in a position where no material damage would be caused if it exploded. The suitcase was found to contain a time bomb consisting of 13½ lb. gelignite and a five volt battery. Knowing that other exchanges had been blown up on that night and that the timing apparatus in the suitcase had not stopped, the Sergeant and the two Constables took a calculated risk and showed a most commendable sense of duty.

*Queen's Commendations for Brave Conduct* :—

James AINSWORTH, Fruiterer, Cannon Hill, Brisbane.

Frederick James GANTER, Warehouseman, Cannon Hill, Brisbane.

"For services during a shooting incident when seven persons lost their lives."

William Edward ALLEN, Constable, Wakefield City Police, (Wakefield.)

"For arresting a man armed with a knife."

William ARMSTRONG, Sailor, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Rolsan BARCLAY, Corporal and Assistant Coxswain, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

Lewis BENTO, Chief Engineer, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Egbert BERMENT, Station Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Theophilus BESS, Sailor, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Fitz Herbert BROWN, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Arthur BYAM, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Leroy CLARKE, Apprentice, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Percy COX, Third Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Samuel COX, Coporal and Assistant Coxswain, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

Bertie DANIEL, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Elphinstone DASENT, Sub Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Vincent DE FREITAS, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Carlton DRAYTON, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Cyril Beresford ELCOCK, Constable, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

Joseph ETIENNE, Station Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Richard GILL, Watchman, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Dudley GRANSAUL, Fireman, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

St. Clair GRANT, Corporal and Assistant Coxswain, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

Adolphus HAZZARD, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

David JADOO, Fireman, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

James Thompson MACKENZIE, Superintendent, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

St. Hill MARTINEAU, Boatswain, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Leonard MELVILLE, Sailor, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Richard NANTON, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Randolph NICHOLAS, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Sylvan NOEL, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Cecil PASCALL, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Edwin RICHARDS, Sailor, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Robert Carlisle SPOONER, Second Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Volunteer Fire Services.

Evans STEWART, Constable, Marine Branch, Trinidad and Tobago Police Force.

Thomas TRIM, Sailor, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

Galican WALCOTT, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

Geoffrey WINT, Fireman, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services.

"For services when the schooner "May Olive" with a cargo of 8,000 gallons of highly inflammable petroleum products, caught fire in Port of Spain harbour."

Neville William BEALE, Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

"For endeavouring to arrest an armed criminal."

Daniel McNEILL (deceased), 3rd Engineer, s.s. "Pass of Drumochter", Bulk Oil Steamship Company, Ltd.

"For attempting to rescue the Chief Engineer overcome by petrol fumes in the pump room of a tanker."

Moustafa ALI, Constable, Cyprus Police Force, Nicosia.

"For services when arresting a terrorist about to throw a bomb."

Bertram Roy PEARN, Sergeant, Cornwall County Constabulary, (Tregoney.)

Reginald John HAWKINS, Constable, Cornwall County Constabulary, (St. Cleer.)

"For services when a man was gored by a bull."

Alan ROBERTS, Deckhand, Steam Trawler "Saon", (Grimsby.)

"For rescuing a deckhand, washed overboard by heavy seas."

Jack ROBINSON, Constable, West Riding Constabulary, (Harrogate.)

"For stopping a runaway horse."

Ronald Albert SMITH, Constable, City of London Police Force, (London, S.W.9.)

"For rescuing a man from drowning."

Robert TURNBULL, Chief Officer, m.v. "Gannet", General Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., (Hatch End, Middlesex.)

Brian Noel SIMMONS, Carpenter, m.v. "Gannet", General Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., (Seaford, Sussex.)

Bernard James Charles STEVENS, Able Seaman, m.v. "Gannet", General Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., (Rayleigh, Essex.)

Joseph Frank TANSLEY, Able Seaman, m.v. "Gannet", General Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., (London, S.E.10.)

John Malcolm WARMAN, Able Seaman, m.v. "Gannet", General Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., (London, S.E.10.)

"For rescuing the crew of a vessel which foundered in heavy seas."

Frederick John Michael WHITE, Constable, Cornwall County Constabulary, (Bude.)

"For arresting a criminal armed with an iron bar."

Gwyn WILLIAMS, Farm Worker, Glanmychudd Farm, Llantrisant, Glamorgan.

"For services when a man was attacked by a bull."

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