

# THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO

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## TUESDAY, 21st OCTOBER 1958

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1. 21st October 1958.

The QUBEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:

### GEORGE CROSS

Henry William Stevens, Constable, Metropolitan Police (Kent).

Constable Stevens was on duty in plain clothes in a police car at Bromley, Kent, with two other police officers, when they received a police radio message to go to a dwelling house, where a burglar alarm system had given an alarm. They went to the house, and two of the officers entered the front garden to search while Constable Stevens went to the rear, which was separated from the road by a high fence. As the Officer reached the rear of the house, a man jumped from the fence, about 5 yards from him; the Constable immediately shouted that he was a police officer and called upon him to stop. The man, however, ran off and the Constable pursued him. After covering about 75 yards, the man turned and pointing a revolver at the Officer threatened to shoot him. Stevens continued running towards the gunman, who, when the Constable was close to him, fired the revolver, the bullet striking Stevens in the mouth, shattering his teeth and part of his jaw bone. In spite of these painful injuries, the Officer threw himself on the man and, wrenching the weapon from him, pinioned him against some railings. The man stopped struggling and intimated that he would yield, but suddenly broke away and ran back along the road. Although bleeding extensively from the mouth and in great pain Constable Stevens pursued the man, who after about 40 yards doubled back and tried to pass him. The Officer again

tackled the gunman, but was unable to prevent him from struggling free, leaving his jacket and coat in the Officer's hands. Stevens, almost on the point of collapse, continued the chase but after a short distance fell to the ground, exhausted. Mainly owing to the jacket and coat which Stevens had succeeded in retaining, the man was traced and later arrested.

Constable Stevens displayed courage of the highest order in disregarding a threat with a firearm, closing with a gunman after being shot in the mouth and, although seriously injured, continuing in his efforts to arrest the criminal.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned 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.

#### Awarded the George Medal

Reginald Herbert Blanchford, M.B.E., Area Commissioner, St. John Ambulance Brigade, Guernsey.

A fifteen year old boy was trapped in a most precarious position on a ledge some sixty feet from the bottom of the cliff at Bon Port, St. Martin's, which is about 200 feet high at this point. The cliff was in a highly dangerous condition with cracks in the crumbling granite face and huge masses of rock loosely poised and likely to fall at the slightest touch. Blanchford knew that any attempt at rescue might result in death or injury from an avalanche of rock and insisted on undertaking the descent alone. He was lowered from the top of the cliff, the configuration of which was