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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
28th July 1964.

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 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 Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry:

John ELSON, Clerk, Sudbury, Middlesex, Branch, Midland Bank Limited. (Twickenham.)

Alan Michael NOTTLE, First Cashier, Sudbury, Middlesex, Branch, Midland Bank Limited. (Pinner.)

Geoffrey William PRATT, Manager, Sudbury, Middlesex, Branch, Midland Bank Limited. (Wembley.)

Two men, each armed with a pistol, entered a bank and closed the door behind them. Whilst one remained near the door on the public side of the counter, the other man who was masked, climbed on to the counter and ordered Mr. Nottle to move away. Mr. Nottle, after closing the till, backed away towards the counter door near the Manager's office. The gunman followed him and when he reached the Manager's office Mr. Nottle threw a cup of tea at him. The intruder then entered the office where Mr. Pratt was seated at his desk. When ordered out of the office Mr. Pratt, although threatened by the pistol, immediately pressed the alarm switch. The man fired a shot at Mr. Pratt which penetrated his neck. Although seriously injured Mr. Pratt attempted to dial 999 before he collapsed. The gunman meanwhile left the Manager's office and

went to the counter till which he tried to open. Mr. Nottle then threw an ash-tray at him which resulted in a shot being fired in his direction, the bullet penetrating a steel stationery cabinet. Mr. Elson, who was working at the back of the bank premises, on seeing the man brandishing the gun, threw an adding machine at him. It struck him on the head but did not stop him. The man then got back on to the counter, fired another shot at random which penetrated a wooden partition. The two men then hurried out of the bank without stealing any property and made good their escape. Mr. Pratt was taken to hospital in a critical condition and operated on immediately. Mr. Nottle and Mr. Elson, both of whom were fully aware that they were dealing with desperate gunmen, risked their lives when, in the face of imminent danger, they tried to impede one of the thieves by throwing objects at him.

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry:

Frank WHITE, Superintendent, Manchester City Police Force.

Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry, (Civil Division):

James Munro ADAMS, Constable, Manchester City Police Force.

Francis MATTHEWS; Masseur, Lower Kersal, Salford.

A man climbed on to the parapet of the 12th floor of a building and threatened to jump into the street. The Police and Fire Brigade were called and Superintendent White and Constable Adams made their way to a ledge about six feet away from the parapet. Adams made several attempts to get on to the parapet occupied by the man but each time he did so the man moved away and appeared about to throw himself from the building. The Superintendent and the Constable made repeated efforts to persuade