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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.  
 18th March 1966.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the George Medal to the undermentioned in recognition of gallant conduct in Malacca:

Captain Michael Drummond HALL (458126), Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

During the night of 28th October 1965, Captain Hall and the duty Ammunition Technician went to Malacca in response to a call for assistance by the Malacca Police to deal with an Indonesian sabotage device. This was in fact the 23rd occasion that Captain Hall had been called out to deal with such devices in the past six months.

On arrival, Captain Hall was shown the device which was lying on the concrete floor of a garage near the centre of the town. It was at once apparent to him that this was an entirely new and highly dangerous type of bomb. It was found to be built up in a metal box, which made it impossible to ascertain the components. Captain Hall decided that for the safety of all Bomb Disposal personnel in the Far East, it was necessary to make every endeavour to discover the workings of the bomb. This could only be done by the extremely hazardous operation of cutting sections away from the box with infinite care and rendering safe each component part as it was discovered. In spite of the care that had to be taken, no time could be wasted owing to the likelihood of a timing device.

Captain Hall ordered the whole area to be cleared for a distance of two hundred yards and then arranged with the Police Inspector that he should come forward for a briefing and photographs be taken of each stage of the procedure, so that no knowledge of this type of bomb would be lost if it were to explode whilst being dismantled.

For the next two and a half hours under extremely difficult lighting conditions, Captain Hall and his assistant lay on their stomachs and cut away sections of the metal box dismantling the bomb piece by piece. Two mechanical anti-handling devices were gradually exposed and were made safe. It was at this stage that the removal of another TNT block exposed part of an electrical circuit, indicating the presence of a timing mechanism or an electrical anti-lift device. With the introduction of this new complication, Captain Hall decided to attempt to reduce the explosive content of the charge to minimise the destructive and lethal effects should the device function on a timed basis. After a further hour of intense and concentrated effort, an extremely delicate electrical

anti-handling device was made safe, the timing device neutralised and the bomb completely dismantled. The bomb contained 7 pounds of TNT, two hand grenades and incendiary material.

Throughout the whole operation Captain Hall acted calmly and deliberately, fully realising all the time that one slip of the hand or false move would mean instant death not only to himself but also to his assistant.

Captain Hall's gallantry has ensured that the effect of this new and highly ingenious type of terrorist sabotage activity can now be minimised and that Bomb Disposal personnel throughout the Far East now know all the dangers of this particularly fiendish device.

19042950 Warrant Officer Class II Brian James Crawford REID, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

During the night of 28th October 1965, Warrant Officer Reid, the duty Ammunition Technician, went to Malacca to assist his officer in dealing with an Indonesian sabotage device which they had been requested to disarm by the Malacca Police.

On seeing the device, it was quite apparent to him that this was an entirely new and highly dangerous type of bomb. It was found to be built up in a metal box which made it impossible to ascertain the components, but it was necessary, for the safety of all Bomb Disposal personnel in the Far East, to make every attempt to discover the workings of the bomb. This could only be done by the extremely hazardous operation of cutting away sections from the box with infinite care and rendering safe each component part as it was discovered. In spite of the care that had to be taken, no time could be wasted owing to the likelihood of a timing device. As the chances of dismantling the bomb successfully were considered slight, Warrant Officer Reid was given the opportunity to retire to a safe place. This he firmly refused to do, despite the fact that he had dismantled several other time bombs and was fully aware of the dangers of this particularly ingenious device.

For a period of two and a half hours under extremely difficult lighting conditions, sections of the metal cover were cut away and the bomb dismantled piece by piece. Two mechanical anti-handling devices were gradually exposed and were made safe. It was at this stage that it was thought that the most dangerous part of the operation was over, but the removal of a TNT block exposed part of an electrical circuit, indicating the presence of a timing mechanism or an electrical anti-lift device. Despite the increased danger, Warrant Officer Reid continued to give invaluable assistance until after another hour of intense and concentrated effort, an extremely delicate electrical