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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

3rd October 1980.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards of the Queen's Gallantry Medal and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Brave Conduct.

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

David Frank CHESWORTH (Deceased), lately Chief Accountant, Pillar Engineering Ltd., London S.W.1.

On the evening of 6th November 1979, Mr. Chesworth heard screams coming from a nearby house.

Although it was late and he was about to retire, he quickly dressed and went outside into the road where he saw a man attacking three women. The women, who lived in the house opposite, were a mother and daughter and a second daughter who was the estranged wife of the man who was assaulting them.

Seeing the extremely violent attack the man was making on the women, Mr. Chesworth unhesitatingly intervened, attempted to save them and managed to free the wife from her husband's grip: the women then ran to his house for shelter and locked themselves inside. In spite of warnings that the assailant had a knife Mr. Chesworth continued to grapple with him and in so doing was stabbed several times in the shoulder with a Commando knife. The attack carried on to the point where he was stabbed in the groin and this blow severed his femoral artery. Severely wounded he collapsed from loss of blood but by this time the police, who had been alerted by the neighbours, arrived at the scene and disarmed the man. Mr. Chesworth was taken to hospital but subsequently died a week later as a result of the serious injury he had received. Mr. Chesworth displayed gallantry of a very high order when alone, unarmed and without consideration for his own safety, he intervened and faced this mentally unstable man to protect the lives of the three women who had called for his help.

- Robert Leonard FLEMING, lately Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
- David LEATHEM, lately Reserve Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
- For gallantry in Northern Ireland.
- Gordon GARNER, Accountant, Catford, London S.E.6.

On 10th May 1979, three men who had earlier been behaving suspiciously in a supermarket returned to the shop, approached the Manager, threatened him with a shotgun and ordered him to open the safe which contained a large amount of cheques and cash. Meanwhile, a fourth man ordered a young cashier to hand over the money from her till: when she refused the man produced a handgun and held it to her back while he attempted to open the drawer. The girl resisted him and screamed to attract attention, this alerted the other criminals and they started to move towards the exit still covering the Manager with the gun.

Mr. Garner, who was a customer in the store, was close to the checkout area when the cashier raised the alarm. Seeing that the girl was in obvious danger and, regardless of the fact that the man then menaced him with the handgun and told him not to move, he ran at the man and delivered a well-aimed kick. The gunman leaned forward in obvious pain and fired his shotgun, fortunately the bullet travelled towards the floor. Mr. Garner then further attacked the man with the handgun and a second man who was attempting to escape through the exit: grappling with both of them. In an effort to deter Mr. Garner the man with the shotgun fired his weapon over the heads of the group and the four men ran from the store chased by Mr. Garner until he lost sight of them among the crowd of shoppers.