

Mr. Garner displayed bravery of a very high order and a complete disregard of his own safety in going to the assistance of the young cashier and grappling with and then pursuing two offenders after he had been threatened with a shotgun.

William JOLLEY, Station Officer, Greater Manchester County Fire Service.

On 8th May 1979 the Greater Manchester County Fire Service were called to a serious fire at a large store.

On arrival at the scene it was evident that the fire had taken hold in a very short time and flames accompanied by a large volume of smoke were billowing from the second floor windows, while at the rear of the premises smoke was issuing from the windows, many people were caught on various floors and several women could be seen trapped behind bars at a second floor window.

A ladder was placed at the barred window and Station Officer Jolley climbed up and attempted to remove the iron bars by using a large axe on the masonry. When this proved unsuccessful, he cut through two of the bars with a compressed air saw and levered them upwards sufficiently to gain access. Despite the seriousness and intensity of the fire, Station Officer Jolley entered the building taking with him only a resuscitator set in order to provide some swift temporary relief to the six women he was attempting to rescue.

The smoke-logged room was by now filled by poisonous fumes and the women had great difficulty in breathing. The officer managed to calm and reassure them and was able to assist them on to the ladder and to a hydraulic platform cage which had then been positioned close to the ladder.

When the last woman had been removed to safety the Station Officer returned to the room to make sure that there was no-one else remaining. He decided to search further and opened the door of the general office giving access to the second floor shopping area which was by then burning fiercely. Crawling along the floor, he attempted to penetrate further but this proved impossible because of the heat, flames and smoke in the area. Before withdrawing, the officer waited and called several times in case there were any customers or staff still trapped, but no answer was given and nothing could be seen through the fire and dense blanket of smoke. Finally, when he was satisfied that he could give no further assistance and now severely affected by the effects of the heat and fumes he was forced to use the resuscitator himself before making his way back to the window.

Station Officer Jolley displayed bravery of a high order when, without the support of other personnel and at risk to his own safety he rescued the six trapped women and then, although suffering from the effect of heat and smoke, continued to search for other survivors.

YEUNG, Chun-hing, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

On 27th November 1979 Constable Yeung, who was on plain clothes duty in the customer area of a bank, saw two armed men enter. One of the men threatened the customers with a pistol, while his accomplice pointed a revolver at the counter staff.

Taking advantage of the ensuing pandemonium Constable Yeung moved to a point where he had a workable line of fire that would not endanger the lives or safety of the general public. He then drew

his service revolver, revealed his identity and ordered the criminals to surrender. One of the men immediately fired a round at the officer and dived for cover as Constable Yeung fired back. Meanwhile, the other gunman moved his position and the officer was caught in a cross-fire position. A close quarters exchange then followed between the Constable and the two gunmen; Constable Yeung holding his ground, firing a further five shots whilst facing a volley of fire from his adversaries. During this short-lived engagement the officer was hit in his right arm, but this did not prevent him from pressing the attack, firing alternately at both criminals until his ammunition was exhausted. Fortunately, as he fired his final shot, a bank guard opened an inner office door and he was able to take cover inside. Although wounded, on the point of collapse and virtually defenceless, he remained alert to the possibility of a follow-up attack and simulated an armed posture from behind the bank counter. It was only after he was sure that all danger had passed that he accepted first aid treatment and laid down his weapon.

One of the gunmen who was hit and badly wounded during the fight, managed to crawl towards the doorway but collapsed unconscious. His companion made an attempt to drag him away, then fled closely pursued by another police officer who had just arrived at the scene.

Constable Yeung displayed bravery and devotion to duty of a high order when, despite being caught in crossfire, wounded and singlehanded, he engaged two armed and desperate criminals simultaneously in an exchange of gunfire within confined premises.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Hazel, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Assistant, Nevins Supermarket, Rainford, Merseyside.

For services in foiling an attempted robbery.

Robert George BURNS, Joiner, East Sheen, London S.W.14.

James Wallace HAYES, Manager, A. Jones and Sons, Brighton, Sussex.

For pursuing and detaining two armed criminals who had robbed a jeweller's shop.

Paul Thomas CADY, Constable, Surrey Constabulary.

For services in attempting to detain a violent and drunken man who, by reckless driving, had deliberately committed a series of collisions and criminal damage.

Peter George CAPPER, Coastguard Officer, Aberdeen Maritime Rescue and Co-ordination Centre, H.M. Coastguard Service.

Richard John RAINFORD, Station Officer Grade I, Aberdeen Maritime Rescue and Co-ordination Centre, HM Coastguard Service.

For services leading to the rescue of the sole survivor of a small fishing vessel that had gone aground in conditions of darkness, poor visibility and heavy, icy seas.

Geoffrey Douglas CLARKE, Sergeant, Hampshire Constabulary.

John Edward SHEPHERD, Constable, Hampshire Constabulary.

For services in restraining and arresting a mentally unstable man.