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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

1st August, 1950.

The KING has been graciously pleased to award the GEORGE CROSS to:—

Robert George TAYLOR (deceased), Newspaper Advertising Representative, Bristol.

Two men entered a sub-branch bank and by threatening the cashier and bank guard with a revolver stole a sum of money and escaped. The alarm was raised and the two men ran off over open land. Taylor took up the chase, caught up the man who was carrying the gun and attempted to close with him. The criminal turned and fired point blank into Taylor's face, inflicting fatal injuries.

Without any regard for the hazards, Taylor intervened out of a desire to help in the preservation of law and order and gave his life in a gallant attempt to apprehend an armed and desperate criminal.

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1st August, 1950.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following 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.

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

John Charles COOPER, Superintendent of Police, Eritrea Police Force.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
 (Civil Division):—*

Albert William PAYNE, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Eritrea Police Force.

Serious riots occurred between Copts and Mohammedans in Asmara, Eritrea, in the course of which more than 40 lives were lost and much damage to property occasioned. Superintendent Cooper was in charge of the police force in Asmara and at once went to the affected area and put in hand measures necessary to suppress the disorders. He displayed personal courage of a high order leading a succession of police detachments against mobs armed with hand grenades and firearms. Assistant Superintendent Payne personally led parties of police to the scenes of the worst disorders, quelling them as they arose, and dealing effectively with the rioters. Remaining on duty throughout the four days during which the riots lasted, he set a splendid example of courage, determination and devotion to duty which played a large part in the eventual pacification of the area.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Leslie Robert COLQUHOUN, D.F.C., D.F.M., Civil Test Pilot, Vickers Armstrongs Ltd., Supermarine Works. (Chilbolton, Hampshire.)

Colquhoun was carrying out high speed tests on the first production of an aircraft and in the course of one of these tests, at a very high speed, the outer portion of the starboard wing folded up and remained vertical. The ailerons were virtually locked and control was almost lost, but the pilot found that by the use of full left rudder and by maintaining a speed in excess of 200 knots he could retain some measure of control.

He would have been fully justified in abandoning the aircraft, but he realised the importance of investigating the cause of the