

life was in very considerable danger, for it was impossible to shore up the collapsing adjoining wall as the strain would have been taken by the debris under which he was working.

Throughout the whole operation Matthews proceeded in a cool, calm and efficient manner, and apart from the fact that he saved this man's life he set a brilliant example to the members of the other A.R.P. services engaged in the locality.

Charles Roger Middleton, Refinery Manager, Messrs. "Shell" Refining & Marketing Company Ltd.

James McNaughton Imrie, Chief Engineer, Messrs. "Shell" Refining & Marketing Company Ltd.

During an air raid the enemy dived and dropped a bomb on a tank containing 2,000 tons of benzine. The bomb fell through the roof and the tank was soon burning rapidly. In view of the position of the hole in the roof and the fact that the manhole was closed, it was impossible to get a Foamite nozzle into the tank.

Whilst the tank was still burning and bombing still going on, Mr. Middleton mounted a ladder and threw a rope round the handrail, by means of which he "shinned up" the side of the tank on to the roof and placed the Foamite nozzle through the hole that had been made by the bomb. Later on, since Mr. Middleton was unable to ascend a second time because the soles of his shoes had been burnt through, Mr. Imrie did the same thing with another nozzle, and the fire was rapidly put out with the saving of a great deal of petrol.

All this work was carried out whilst bombing was still in progress.

Awarded the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service.

William Maxwell Scott, Officer in charge, A.R.P. Stretcher Party Depot, Hornsey.

A house was demolished by a direct hit from a bomb and the wreckage was in an extremely dangerous condition as it had not settled down. Some of the inner walls were tottering and the upper woodwork of the house was resting on these walls. Cries were heard from underneath the wreckage from persons who were trapped.

A Stretcher Party was quickly on the scene under the leadership of Mr. W. M. Scott. He promptly summed up the situation and in spite of grave personal peril crawled under the wreckage and rendered First Aid to the injured persons.

During the time Mr. Scott was engaged on this work enemy aircraft was repeatedly passing overhead. Coal gas was leaking from the fractured mains and Scott suffered rather badly from the inhalation of the fumes.

COMMENDATIONS

Those named below have been brought to notice for brave conduct in connection with Civil Defence:—

George Hencher Bateman, A.R.P. Officer, Mitcham.

Thomas Idris Goold, A.R.P. Warden, Port Talbot.

Arthur C. Mitchell, A.R.P. Warden, Paddington.

Frederick Charles Newman, Sub-Divisional Inspector, Royal Marine Police.

Emlyn Pillage, Constable, Royal Marine Police.

William Varcoe, Patrol Officer, Coulsdon and Purley Auxiliary Fire Service.

Charles Osborne John Weekes, A.R.P. Warden, Port Talbot.

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