

some of the trapped people and in order to prevent further falls of debris he crawled into the aperture he had made and supported the wreckage with his body. Smoke and fumes poured out of the hole. Bricks and earth were continually falling. The Constable refused to give up and he remained in this dangerous position for over an hour, until rendered unconscious. He was instrumental in rescuing many people.

John Eustace Cyril Hayman, Police Constable, City of London Police.

Police Constable Hayman has acted with consistent high devotion to duty and has displayed courage and initiative resulting in the saving of life and property.

He was instrumental in preventing a very serious fire when an oil bomb fell on a five-storey block of offices in the City. He tackled the fire on the fifth floor with a stirrup pump and, in spite of great danger and intense heat, continued his efforts until it was subdued.

On another occasion a large bomb caused considerable damage to a building and fires broke out in the debris. Constable Hayman, who had been thrown down by the blast, immediately took charge. There was a strong leak of coal gas and, although the fire was rapidly spreading and there was grave danger of an explosion, he searched in the building and succeeded in turning off the gas supply. He then organised a "human chain" and, with buckets of water and a stirrup pump, he went into the blazing building at great risk from falling burning timber, and brought the fire under control before the arrival of the Fire Service. During this incident enemy aircraft, which were being subjected to heavy anti-aircraft fire, were overhead the whole time.

On a further occasion, following the explosion of an H.E. bomb, Constable Hayman gave first aid to a severely wounded man whose life was saved by the Constable's knowledge and skill.

Miss Mary Sible Joyce Newman, Assistant Nurse, Southampton.

When an H.E. bomb struck two houses the four occupants of one were killed outright. In the other a man was blown out through the front door into the road. Nurse Newman attended to his injuries. A search was then made of the wrecked house and his son was found suspended almost upside down, and held by his ankles. He was in an extremely excitable condition, and, whilst rescue work was being attempted, Nurse Newman, in spite of debris falling all around, and in the presence of escaping gas from a fractured main, crawled into the aperture to comfort and quieten the casualty. Several times she almost collapsed in the poisoned atmosphere, but carried on and the boy was eventually released suffering from severe shock. Nurse Newman then applied first aid until an ambulance took him to hospital. By her actions and admirable coolness and courage she inspired others to continue with the rescue work.

Owen Edward Parsloe, Works Superintendent, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Bromley.

Walter Thomas Field, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Bromley.

Mr. Parsloe and Mr. Field accompanied a rescue party to a pair of semi-detached houses which had completely collapsed following the explosion of a bomb. On arrival it was learnt that there were six people in the house, two adults and four children. The first floor joists, with the debris from the roof on top, had fallen on to the occupants leaving a space of only two feet between the joists and the ground floor. The only means of entering was by tunnelling under the wreckage.

Mr. Parsloe entered the tunnel, and both he and Mr. Field placed jacks in position in order to raise the debris. Little could be done, however, in this direction without throwing weight on to the head of a boy trapped on the bed. It did, however, assist in the rescue of a woman, whose legs were pinned under the bed. This was effected by cutting through the bedstead with a hacksaw. The release of the boy was much more difficult, and it was necessary for both Mr. Parsloe and Mr. Field to crawl in on their stomachs and release the springs of the mattress in order to effect a rescue from underneath. This, however, let loose other debris. Field managed to wriggle through to the head of the bed and clear away the heap of bricks and plaster. A great risk was taken in carrying out this work as the joists supporting the wreckage appeared to be held up by the rubble. Field had to carry out the work, assisted by Parsloe, lying full length. Ultimately the child's head was freed, and he was pulled out by the ankles without any injury.

The work took about three hours, and owing to the precarious support of the debris over the tunnel, and the shattered condition of the party wall, there was danger throughout the whole operation of the persons working therein being buried.

Alister McWilliam Ross, Patrol Officer, Liverpool Auxiliary Fire Service.

A high explosive bomb dropped in the yard of a Grease Company. Drums of grease and a vat of tar were smashed open by the force of the explosion and set on fire. Within a minute or so the blazing tar and grease were flowing down the street capped by a wall of flame and threatening to spread to the high warehouses adjoining.

A pump turned out in charge of Patrol Officer Ross who gave orders for sand to be put down to dam the flow of tar.

Loud screams were heard coming from a school next to the burning premises, and Ross taking a heavy axe and covered by a water screen from one of the hoses, worked his way up the street to the school door. Breaking it open he found two women who had by this time become hysterical, and he had forcibly to drag them from the building, through the flames, to safety. This accomplished, he returned to the school to assure himself that there was no one else in the building. He then rejoined his pump crew.