



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
14th March, 1941.*

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 the Medal of the said Most Excellent Order, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

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

Sydney Lawrence, Superintendent, Salford Police Force.

...When the city of Salford suffered heavy and sustained attack from enemy aircraft, Superintendent Lawrence showed outstanding zeal, efficiency and devotion to duty.

He was indefatigable in his efforts to cope with the various incidents and at no time did the situation get out of hand. By his personal example of grit, coolness and cheerfulness, he did much to minimise the effects of the raid.

He organised voluntary fire parties and successfully effected the evacuation of members of the public from areas affected by unexploded time bombs and serious fires.

Superintendent Lawrence performed his duties in particularly difficult circumstances and was at all times an inspiring leader.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Harry Brooks, Police Sergeant, Warwickshire Constabulary.

High explosive bombs completely demolished four large houses leaving nothing but a heap of debris. Police Sergeant Brooks forced his way through a small hole underneath the wreckage to rescue a little girl. In order to get her out the sergeant had to wriggle through on his back, but he brought her to safety practically unharmed.

He returned immediately into the hole and, twenty minutes later, he came out again with the girl's mother who was only slightly injured.

Brooks continued working and, some hours later, he located another victim who was eventually rescued. The Sergeant again crawled under tons of masonry to release another girl. He continued his rescue work until the remainder of the casualties were extricated.

During the whole of the time rescue operations were in progress, there was a very strong escape of coal gas, and fires were burning in the grates of the houses. Brooks showed conspicuous courage throughout the night with complete disregard for his own life.

Clifford Dunning Bruce, A.R.P. Plotting Officer, Bristol.

Throughout the enemy air raids on Bristol, Mr. Bruce has voluntarily undertaken the dangerous work of examining all reported time bombs with a view to furnishing his Headquarters with accurate information concerning them. He has visited and reported on a large number of bombs and, in the course of this work, he has experienced many narrow escapes and has shown outstanding courage. The information given by him has been of the greatest value.

David Lionel Grigg, Police Sergeant, "P" Division, Metropolitan Police.

A German aeroplane crashed on two dwelling houses demolishing both and burying the residents. Four persons were rescued, slightly injured. Shortly afterwards, four more bombs were dropped nearby, only a few yards from the Police and Rescue Parties, causing them to suspend operations for a few minutes. When the rescue work was resumed, it was discovered that a number of bombs, several of which were still attached to parts of the machine, were amongst the debris. Two more persons were trapped underneath and it was necessary to remove the bombs before they could be extricated.

Police Sergeant Grigg volunteered to carry the bombs from the wrecked houses and removed three of them from the wreckage. He was about to return for a fourth when it was suspected that one or more were about to explode. Nevertheless, Grigg again entered the wreckage and removed the bomb.

The Sergeant then crawled beneath the debris and located one of the trapped victims, who was eventually rescued.

Grigg, who had no special knowledge of bombs, showed great courage and devotion to duty.

John James Jones, Senior Refinery Fireman, National Oil Refineries' Fire Services.

Bombs, dropped on an oil tanker, started fires in a tank and on deck. All the ship's tanks were in a gassy condition and therefore liable to explode.

Fireman Jones and a volunteer party, assisted by members of the jetty staff and some of the ship's personnel, boarded the ship and extinguished the fire in the tank. There still remained a rope fire on the fo'c'sle head which was not readily accessible. Fireman Jones made a hazardous climb up the damaged structure, without ladders, on to this deck and put out the fire by means of water passed up in buckets from the sea. It was an extremely dangerous climb in the dark with bombs dropping and a heavy barrage overhead. Jones showed great courage and saved the tanker from destruction.

Daniel Crawford Logan, M.B., Ch.B., Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and Resident Hospital Medical Officer, Clayponds Emergency Hospital.

Mustapha Kamill, House Surgeon, Clayponds Emergency Hospital.

A time bomb penetrated the roof of the Diphtheria Block at the Clayponds Hospital, coming to rest among debris on the floor of the bathroom, without exploding.

Dr. Logan and Dr. Kamill, who had experienced the results of previous bombings on the hospital, arranged for the evacuation of the patients. They carried out their duties with coolness and courage, regardless of any danger to themselves, and prevented the possibility of great damage being done to the hospital buildings and to the houses of people adjoining. There is no doubt that by their initiative and devotion to duty, Drs. Logan and Kamill saved many lives.

William Shutt, Auxiliary Fireman, Birmingham Auxiliary Fire Service.

During an air raid a large fire broke out in some old four-storey buildings. The crews could make little progress owing to three gas mains which were burning at various parts of the premises.

Auxiliary Shutt volunteered to enter the buildings and attempt to cut off the gas. Under extremely dangerous conditions he worked in the building for about forty minutes. Heavy girders, machinery and walls were continually falling and the fire was blazing fiercely. He advanced through the burning buildings and was successful in partially reducing the gas jets in two places.

He was finally brought out in an exhausted condition, but insisted on remaining with the crews until the conflagration was brought under control.

Frederick Victor Walker, Senior Examiner, Ministry of Aircraft Production.

William Harry Yoxall, Inspector, Ministry of Aircraft Production.

The day following the heavy air raid on Coventry, a time bomb was found to be embedded in a Factory workshop. Mr. Yoxall, together with Mr. Walker, volunteered to investigate the actual position and ascertain the danger.

The bomb was discovered in the entrance to an underground concrete shelter. By their subsequent actions they prevented further damage to the building.

George Frederick Waters, Group Engineer, Surrey.

Mr. Waters advises the local authorities on the recognition and confirmation of reported time bombs, and supervises the arrangements for any special assistance required by the Bomb Disposal Sections.

In most of the cases personal inspections have been made by Mr. Waters and he has undoubtedly risked his life every day carrying out his duties.

George Herbert Whelton, Station Superintendent, London Power Company, Limited.

As the indirect result of enemy action, an explosion occurred in a switch and transformer house. A heavy air raid was in progress and bombs were being dropped in the locality. As a result of the explosion, a serious fire broke out.

Mr. Whelton personally connected the fire extinguishing apparatus, having to traverse areas awash with burning oil, and eventually the fires on ground level were brought under control. The roof of the transformer house had become involved, and Mr. Whelton, at extreme risk, climbed into the roof and along the supporting steelwork to deal with the outbreak locally. It was necessary for him to make three attempts before the roof fire was finally extinguished.

But for this prompt and courageous action, there is little doubt that the fire in the roof would have attained serious proportions and would probably have attracted intensive bombing from the raiders still overhead.

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

Herbert H. Atkins, Fitter, Hants and Dorset Motor Services, Ltd.

During a heavy air raid on Southampton, numbers of incendiary bombs fell on the Omnibus Company's premises. At the same time they were struck by a high explosive bomb. Atkins and another fitter on duty, immediately tackled the fires. A bomb exploded, severely injuring the other fitter. Atkins removed him to a place of safety, returned, and for seven hours entirely alone, dealt with the incendiaries that continued to fall.

High explosive bombs also fell from time to time but Atkins loyally carried out his duties with complete disregard for his personal safety. His prompt action saved the garage and the vehicles from destruction.

Henry Harper Downward, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

During heavy air raids on Manchester, P. C. Downward has shown courage and tenacity in dealing with incendiary bombs. With little regard for his own safety he has dealt very efficiently with a number of fires. His conduct, general bearing and devotion to duty have been an inspiration to other members of the Police Force.

James William Fawell, Leader, Fire-fighting Service, James Pitkin & Co. Ltd., London.

During an intensive raid on the City, a particularly fierce fire broke out in a factory stored with timber and furniture. Fawell arranged for two hoses to be brought from the street, through a courtyard, and over the roof. These were played on the fire all night and the surrounding works were saved.

It was entirely due to Fawell's initiative, in very dangerous conditions, that the fire was prevented from spreading.

William Hanlon, War Reserve Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

High explosive bombs demolished several houses. Hanlon immediately attempted to release a man trapped in wreckage up to his neck, with his legs held by cross beams. He tunnelled underneath the victim, working continuously for two and a half hours, with debris falling about him, before he succeeded in effecting the rescue.

Although Hanlon sustained minor bruises, he continued to help the rescue squads in extricating other trapped people, remaining on duty for a period of forty hours.

Archibald Idwal Jones, Police Constable, Salford Police Force.

This constable has shown exceptional keenness and zeal during enemy air raids. His work has been an outstanding example of courage and initiative.

He has been responsible for extinguishing many incendiary bombs and incipient fires and showed great courage and entire disregard of personal danger when assisting at rescue a number of casualties trapped in a demolished house.

Albert Frederick McCann, A.R.P. Post Warden, Woolwich.

McCann was present during a period of very heavy bombing and was in control at all the incidents that occurred. He has shown extreme devotion to duty and personal heroism, and has given great encouragement to his Wardens.

Tom Newton, Devon.

A floating mine was being washed through a harbour entrance and appeared likely to ground close to some cottages. Mr. Newton took a long oar and, with complete disregard of his own safety, guided the mine out, passing it along outside the breakwater and fending it off. When he had found a suitable place, he beached the mine and reported it to the authorities.

The mine had all its horns intact which made it specially dangerous. Had the mooring rope fouled, or the mine struck against the breakwater, it might have blown up and killed the people in the cottages.

Frederick Charles Parker, A.R.P. Warden, Woolwich.

When bombs of a very heavy calibre were dropped, one of the effects was to operate electric switches in twenty houses, lighting them up brilliantly. Warden Parker and his colleagues, in the middle of an intense barrage and falling bombs, ran to the scene, extinguished the lights, rescued trapped people and rendered first aid.

Warden Parker then organised the clearing of the area and showed great initiative and ability in dealing with a very difficult and dangerous problem.

Edward Russ, Sergeant, Salford Special Constabulary.

Throughout the raids on Salford, Sergeant Russ was continually in action. A house was demolished by a high explosive bomb and two persons in an Anderson shelter were buried under the debris. Russ obtained help

to raise a mass of the wreckage and then crawled underneath and brought the two victims to safety.

He assisted at other incidents and, when a number of houses was wrecked, he gave valuable aid in the work of rescue. His disregard of danger had a very reassuring effect on the people concerned.

Sergeant Russ worked untiringly and showed great devotion to duty.

Francis John Taylor, Police Constable, Salford Police Force.

During a raid a large explosive bomb fell about forty yards from Constable Taylor, blowing him to the ground and completely demolishing five houses. Although feeling the effects of the blast, he removed people from the debris and carried them into his own Anderson shelter nearby. He then helped to recover bodies from the wrecked houses. Later, he searched for an unexploded bomb, and, having found it, evacuated people in the district to rest centres. He returned to give valuable assistance at a works fire.

At another demolished house he excavated some six feet of debris and located a child. During the whole of the raid Constable Taylor showed indefatigable energy and coolness.

Leslie Thomas, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.

Incendiary bombs were dropped in large numbers by enemy planes and fires were started.

P.C. Thomas showed courage and initiative in dealing with conflagrations in works premises and, by his prompt action, saved important buildings from destruction. Throughout, he was in continual danger from high explosive bombs which were dropped in the neighbourhood.

Albert Walters, District A.R.P. Warden, Woolwich.

Warden Walters has personally supervised most of the incidents in his district, which has been heavily attacked.

He has set a wonderful example of devotion to duty during heavy barrages, while in considerable personal danger from bombs and falling buildings.

The fact that so many major incidents in his district have been successfully dealt with, is due very largely to his efforts and to the fine example he has shown to the Wardens.

Edwin Frederick John Whybrow, A.R.P. Warden, Woolwich.

Warden Whybrow, at considerable personal risk and when bombs were still falling, rescued a man from a shelter in which he was buried. He afterwards located two persons who were underneath their wrecked home and tended them until the Rescue Party arrived. He also helped to rescue a woman who was trapped in the pantry of her house which had been hit by a H.E. bomb. Whybrow has set a fine example of devotion to duty without thought for himself.

James Buxton Wiles, Police Constable, Salford Police Force.

During a heavy air raid Constable Wiles showed exemplary coolness and initiative.

Although blown down by blast from a H.E. bomb he searched in the debris of some demolished houses and found an Anderson shelter which had been completely buried under the wreckage. The shelter was crushed, but, after much labour, he recovered four people, three of whom have survived. After attending to the casualties, Wiles continued his search and, although the debris was burning, he rescued a woman and a dog. Wiles showed untiring energy and devotion to duty.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been brought to notice for brave conduct in Civil Defence.

George Robert Abel, Charge Engineer, Stepney Borough Council.

Miss Georgina Nelly Adams, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

Leonard Allen, Blacksmith, Birmingham.

Reginald Arthur Anderson, A.R.P. Messenger, Woolwich.

Joseph William Armitage, Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.

George Walter Baker, Chief Engineer, Hatfield.

William Henry Benstead, Police Inspector, Berkshire Constabulary.

Albert Francis Conway, Officer, Company Fire Brigade, Standard Telephone & Cables Limited.

Thomas Frederick Ellis, Station Officer, London Fire Brigade.

John Evans, A.R.P. Warden, Swansea.

Leslie Clive Fisher, Service Manager, Cardiff.

William Ford, A.R.P. Sector Warden, Birmingham.

Dennis Horace Albert Gay, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

David Gumbley, Fitter's Mate, Birmingham.

James Gumbley, Millwright, Birmingham.

Alan Henry Harden, Machinist, Birmingham.

Frederick John Hopcroft, M.C., A.R.P. Warden, Swansea.

Charles Jowett, Works Foreman, Bristol.

Henry William Kenneth Kelly, Acting Scientific Officer, Admiralty.

Edward Albert Kraft, A.R.P. Warden, Woolwich.

Frank Leech, Police Constable, Salford Police Force.

Jane Hay, Mrs. McFall, A.R.P. Ambulance Attendant, Woolwich.

Sheila Margot Amy McKechnie, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.

Edith May McNamara, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.

Leslie Michael McSweeney, Police Constable, Birmingham Police Force.

George Charles Henry Matthews, Police Constable, Birmingham Police Force.

Richard Denis Gabbett Moore, Junior Station Inspector, Metropolitan Police.

James William Morgan, Firewatcher, Thos. Baxenden & Company Ltd., London.

William Edward Morgan, Firewatcher, Thos. Baxenden & Company Ltd., London.

- Robert Stanley Parsons, Fitter Driver, Stepney Borough Council.
- Joyce Victoria Payne, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Samuel John Peters, Head A.R.P. Warden, Swansea.
- David Frederick Ernest Pink, A.R.P. Post Warden, Woolwich.
- Robert Procter, Inspector, Salford Police Force.
- Samuel Proctor, Sergeant, Manchester City Police.
- Albert Edward Richardson, Station Officer, London Fire Brigade.
- William Edward Robinson, War Reserve Constable, Salford Police Force.
- Kenneth Thomas Rogers, Clerk, Birmingham.
- Arthur John Roles, Senior Fireman, London Fire Brigade.
- Frederick Raymond Shelton, Roof Observer, A.R.P. Organisation, Standard Telephones and Cables Limited.
- George Edward Smithers, Officer, Company Fire Brigade, Standard Telephones and Cables Limited.
- Norman Thompson, B.Sc., Ph.D., Temporary Experimental Officer, Admiralty.
- Stanley Tilley, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Dudley.
- Albert Max Vetterlein, Despatch Rider, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Reginald Whitmore, Fitter, Hants & Dorset Motor Services Ltd.
- Alfred Sidney Ernest Willis, Despatch Rider, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- William Henry Willson, Firewatcher, Thos. Baxenden & Company Ltd., London.

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