



## SUPPLEMENT

TO

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### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
20th June, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders 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 the persons shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct in Civil Defence.

#### *Awarded the George Medal:—*

Thomas Montague William Henwood, Police Constable, Birmingham Police Force.

Police Constable Henwood has shown outstanding bravery and initiative during enemy air attacks on Birmingham.

On one occasion he went to a wrecked house where two persons were trapped. Henwood began to move the debris and, after working for about half-an-hour, he succeeded in releasing a woman. During this time high explosive bombs fell nearby and part of the wall of another house collapsed close to him. Despite this, he continued his efforts and rescued another casualty. Owing to the dangerous condition of the surrounding buildings, Police Constable Henwood allowed no one to work with him and it was by his efforts alone that the two persons were rescued.

William Mason, Process Hand, Salford.

During an air raid a time bomb penetrated a storage well containing 500 gallons of oil. In order to facilitate the removal of the bomb it was necessary for the oil to be pumped from the well.

Mason immediately volunteered his services and commenced operations from a pump house situated about twelve feet from the well. He completed the work and an hour later the bomb exploded, demolishing the pump house in which he had been working.

Mason knew that the bomb might explode at any moment, and he carried out a hazardous task with commendable courage.

Robert Reginald Matthews, Temporary Acting Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.

Whilst Sub-Officer Matthews was engaged with his crew in extinguishing an outbreak of fire a high explosive bomb dropped near to the spot at which they were at work. One of them was killed and others including Matthews were seriously injured. Although also suffering from the effect of blast, and while enemy aeroplanes were still overhead, Matthews continued to superintend the work of getting all the injured men away to hospital. He displayed great fortitude and unselfishness and repeatedly requested that others should receive treatment before himself. When the extent of his injuries was ascertained he was taken to the hospital.

Matthews displayed outstanding courage and endurance.

Cyril Leopold Meyrick Rogers, Section Officer,  
Croydon Auxiliary Fire Service.

A H.E. bomb demolished a house and the wreckage caught fire. Section Officer Rogers, at great personal risk, made an attempt to enter, but had to withdraw owing to the smoke. He instructed one of the crew to play the hose round him and although gas was escaping and there was a grave danger of the debris collapsing on him he then managed to make his way into the wrecked building.

Working in a very confined space and supporting the debris with his back, he was able to pass a man through a very narrow opening to safety. He continued and after working for an hour and a half released two women Rogers emerged from the wreckage and collapsed exhausted, wet through and suffering from severe muscular strain.

Section Officer Rogers showed great courage and perseverance in effecting these rescues.

Carl Taylor, Auxiliary Fireman, Beckenham  
Auxiliary Fire Service.

A trailer pump unit was returning from a fire when a high explosive bomb fell about twenty feet behind the towing vehicle. Fragments pierced the petrol tank and ignited the petrol, and the vehicle was instantly enveloped in flames. Two firemen on the running boards were killed. The driver of the vehicle, Auxiliary Fireman Taylor, managed to open the door and escape, but although suffering badly from shock and other injuries he immediately went back and by an almost superhuman effort, managed to drag a badly injured fireman from the vehicle and carry him to a place of safety.

Taylor displayed great courage in going back into the flames, risking his own life to save that of his comrade.

James Henry Wheeler, Senior A.R.P. Warden,  
Liverpool.

High explosive bombs demolished houses and a woman and child were trapped.

Mr. Wheeler began to remove debris whilst a prop was held under a wall to prevent it falling. The wreckage of the adjoining house was on fire and there was a serious escape of gas.

Wheeler worked his way into a recess formed by the roof rafters. Any false movement would have been disastrous, for the rafters and the wall would have fallen on him. Smoke was pouring into the recess but, on his hands and knees, with a handkerchief over his mouth, he continued working for nearly an hour and rescued a woman and a little boy. Wheeler, on leaving the wreckage, collapsed but recovered and entered other badly damaged houses to continue rescue work.

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

Charles Leslie Ball, Police Constable, Coventry  
Police Force.

George McKay, Police Constable, Coventry  
Police War Reserve.

During a severe air attack Ball with McKay, acting as driver, were despatched

in a car to a very heavily bombed area. The journey was most hazardous and the situation in the district was serious. Police Constable Ball initiated action in rendering first aid to injured and getting them away in ambulances.

The Constables went from one incident to another, rescuing many persons from wrecked dwelling houses and getting the casualties to shelter.

The two men performed their duties during the raid with conspicuous courage and were the means of obtaining most timely assistance for many injured and trapped citizens.

George Frederick Barratt, Police Messenger,  
Coventry.

Police Messenger Barratt, who was in the lower corridor of a building when it received a direct hit from a H.E. bomb, was blown by the blast for some distance. When he recovered he immediately made his way to report to the Main A.R.P. Control Centre and was sent out with a message. On the way he was blown off his cycle by blast. He remounted and continued his journey but ran into some broken telephone wires and sustained injuries to his neck. He delivered the message and returned with the reply. First aid treatment was obtained for him and although he was badly shaken again he went out through the rain of falling bombs to deliver other vital messages.

Cyril George Boneham, }  
M.M., Detective }  
Superintendent, }  
Edward William Cowpe- }  
Pendleton, Detective }  
Inspector, }

Coventry Police  
Force.

A Police Station was partly demolished and a number of Police Officers were trapped. Fire had broken out, overhanging heavy pieces of masonry were liable to collapse and bombs were still falling nearby. Detective Superintendent Boneham and Detective Inspector Pendleton promptly organised the work of rescue and, with complete indifference to personal safety in most dangerous conditions, led those under them in the gallant work which resulted in the saving of twelve officers and men.

Thomas Bradley, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

A man and woman were buried under debris in the cellar of a demolished house.

Warden Bradley cleared a way to the trap door leading to the cellar. Bombs fell nearby but he carried on without thought for his own safety and, after about ninety minutes, was successful in cutting a way through the trap door. Gas pipes had been fractured and there was a very strong escape of coal gas in the cellar.

Bradley released a woman and then burrowed a passage through six feet of debris to where a man was pinned down by masonry. He was able to release the victim's head and the Rescue Party eventually brought him out.

Warden Bradley, by his brave action, saved the lives of two people.

Percival Fletcher, Member, First Aid Party, Plymouth.

When a First Aid Post was hit by a H.E. bomb, Fletcher entered the collapsed building and was largely responsible for the release of the trapped personnel. He set an example to the whole unit by his courage, cheerfulness and tirelessness.

Eric William Godfrey, A.R.P. Warden, Bristol.  
Frank Woods, Bristol.

During an air raid a house was partially destroyed and a man and a woman were trapped under the stairs.

To reach them Woods crawled beneath a considerable amount of debris and with his hands removed woodwork and bricks.

He was assisted by Godfrey and eventually the victims were released.

Both men were in danger of being buried under the debris through which they were digging, and they showed much courage in effecting the rescue.

Emmanuel Graham, Special Constable, Birmingham Special Constabulary.

Throughout enemy air raids on Birmingham, Special Constable Graham has shown courage and determination in carrying out duties assigned to him. He has driven regularly through the streets, while raids were in progress, conveying police and rescuers to incidents where their services were required. Graham has also helped to rescue people trapped in demolished buildings and has consistently displayed perseverance and devotion to duty.

Arthur Hill, Orderly Sergeant,  
Arthur Saunders, Orderly Private, } Hospital Train,  
Bristol.

Sergeant Saunders and Private Hill were on night duty when a hospital train was set on fire by enemy action. The coaches of the stationary trains on either side of them were blazing, making a target for the bombers which were dropping H.E. and incendiary bombs. Despite this they immediately proceeded to remove the stores and blankets.

Later in the raid they were informed that a man was lying injured some 500 yards away on the railway line. They immediately procured a stretcher and ran to the spot, at times having to fall flat to escape blast from falling bombs. They found the man unconscious and, with great difficulty, negotiating numerous obstacles, carried him to a station, a distance of more than a quarter of a mile.

Having completed this hazardous and dangerous journey, they made their way back to the hospital train and resumed their valuable work of saving the equipment.

Alfred William Jackson, Inspector, Police Reserve of Pensioners, "N" Division, Metropolitan Police.

Inspector Jackson has displayed outstanding initiative and leadership throughout the whole period of intense enemy air activity. By his coolness and courage he has set a splendid example to the men under him.

Sergeant Frederick Alfred Lane, Royal Marine Police Special Reserve.

Constable William Henry Evans, Royal Marine Police.

During an air raid Sergeant Lane organised a fire-fighting party and as a result of his courageous efforts a serious fire was averted.

Constable Evans showed courage and initiative when incendiary bombs fell on dangerous material and he saved much valuable property.

Howard George Miles, Police Messenger, Police Auxiliary Messenger Service, Coventry.

During a severe enemy air attack Police Messenger Miles rendered great assistance by delivering urgent and important messages. He dealt with many incendiary bombs and, at grave risk to himself, helped to rescue a baby who was trapped in the wreckage of a house. Miles showed courage and devotion to duty.

George O'Connell, Driver, St. John Ambulance Brigade, Bristol.

During an air raid Driver O'Connell, with complete disregard of his own safety, made many journeys through badly bombed areas taking casualties to hospital.

Although himself wounded he continued to render invaluable assistance.

Alfred Leslie Poretta, Police Auxiliary Messenger, Coventry.

During an air raid Police Messenger Poretta was blown some distance by the blast of a bomb. Although suffering from the effects of this shock, he immediately made his way through the debris and reported to the A.R.P. Control Room. During a particularly violent spell of bombing he volunteered to take an urgent message for the Casualty Services. This journey took over an hour to accomplish. On numerous occasions he has delivered messages in circumstances of great danger.

Charles Ernest Rudge, Senior }  
A.R.P. Warden. } Birmingham.  
Charles William Bowker, }  
A.R.P. Warden. }

Geoffrey Canning, Police Constable, Birmingham Police Service.

A man was trapped and buried in the wreckage of a demolished house.

Rudge and Bowker were joined by Canning and the three men started digging and sawing through heavy furniture, wooden joists, and a staircase to get to the casualty. After about an hour they reached the man, who was trapped by the legs. Bowker and Canning continued sawing through the debris and Rudge supported the victim until he was released three hours later. During this time bombs were dropped nearby and brickwork fell from overhanging parts of the roof.

The Wardens and the Constable worked bravely and well and by their continued efforts saved the man's life.

Herbert Ruffle, Member, City and Marine Ambulance Brigade, Bristol.

As a result of enemy action a building collapsed and people were trapped. Mr. Ruffle, with great difficulty, managed to enter

a small hole and reach the casualties. With help he released six persons, who were passed through the opening to safety.

Mr. Ruffle was in grave danger from a thirty foot wall which was liable to collapse but he worked unceasingly and with complete disregard of his own safety.

Charles Frederick Ward, Police Sergeant, Birmingham City Police.

For brave conduct in hazardous circumstances.

Walter Derrick Wilson, Divisional Staff Officer, Coventry Special Constabulary.

During enemy air attacks on Coventry Divisional Staff Officer Wilson has driven small parties of Police, from one incident to another. He has displayed great initiative, leadership and courage and has inspired Special Constables and Regular Police alike by his utter indifference to his personal safety.

#### COMMENDATIONS.

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

Herbert George Adams (deceased), Officer in Charge, A.R.P. Casualty Bureau, Bristol.

William Collister, A.R.P. Messenger, Plymouth.

Eric Warden Copson, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

Albert James Davies, Constable, Royal Marine Police.

Carmen Peter Dinambro, Mobile Unit Driver, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Bristol.

Tommy Flint, Member, Works Fire Brigade, Leeds.

Joseph William Bettles Hall, Constable, Royal Marine Police.

James Hamilton, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

Alfred James Hayward (deceased), Royal Marine Police.

Edward Hill, A.R.P. Messenger, Plymouth.

Albert Royal Lee, Leader, Departmental A.R.P. Squad (Junior Executive Officer), Supreme Court of Judicature.

Rosina, Mrs. Llovd, Ambulance Attendant, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Plymouth.

Arthur Pain, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

Bernard Newton Blvth-Palk (deceased), Junior Assistant to the A.R.P. Controller, Plymouth

Thomas Francis Pooley, A.R.P. Messenger, Plymouth.

Thomas Powell, Constable, Royal Marine Police.

Samuel John Priddle, Works Foreman, Bristol.

John Henry Prothero, Assistant Clerk of Works, Public Works Department, Birmingham.

Thomas Edward Ramskill, Ambulance Driver, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Bristol.

Gerald Edward Holman Rice (deceased), Constable, Royal Marine Police Special Reserve.

John Savory, Window Cleaner, Lowestoft.

Percy Shurmer, Member, Voluntary Sector Fire Party, Birmingham.

Willis Godfrey Smallwood, Constable, Royal Marine Police Special Reserve.

Harold Smith, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

Cyril Walter Tart, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.

George Thomas, Member, First Aid Party, Bristol.

Miss Marie Louise Thornton, Health Visitor, Public Health Department, Bristol.

Miss Nora Gertrude Tudball, Ambulance Attendant, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Bristol.

Raymond Williams, Member, Voluntary Sector Fire Party, Birmingham.

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*St. James Palace, S.W.1.  
20th June, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders 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.

For services, in dangerous conditions, to a wounded airman whose machine had crashed and caught fire:—

Joan, Mrs. Lay, Leader, First Aid Party, Aldringham.

Miss Florrie Mower, Member, First Aid Party, Aldringham.

Amy, Mrs. Spall, Member, First Aid Party, Aldringham.

For brave conduct in hazardous circumstances:—

William Albert Webb, Temporary Driver, Admiralty Outstation.

#### LONDON

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