

charge and the fires which had broken out were quickly extinguished.

An attack with H.E. bombs followed a few minutes later and started fires in the oil tanks.

Mr. Tew worked without a break through four days and nights and handled a very grave and difficult situation with resource and courage.

Mr. Goodrich directed operations with coolness and his leadership and experience did much to help the auxiliary firemen, many of whom were at their first fire.

Firemaster Muir waded through oil and mounted a vertical steel ladder on to the top of a burning tank in order to have a clear picture of the situation. He organised the necessary measures for extinguishing this fire and showed leadership, energy and resolution throughout the attack.

Auxiliary Fireman Kerr displayed outstanding bravery. Standing waist deep in oil he played his jet on to the burning tanks at close range and repeatedly drove back the flames.

Fireman Tervit displayed great coolness and bravery. He manipulated a jet to keep flaming oil from being driven round a tank while two other jets were played on him to counteract the intense heat. During this operation the water was shut off but Tervit stood firm until it was restored and then waded through oil and extinguished the flames.

Mr. Cuthbert acted as assistant to Mr. Tew. He worked pumps, acted as fireman and generally helped wherever he was wanted. He showed great energy and resource.

Divisional Officer Hardie showed great devotion to duty. He despatched units to the various outbreaks of fire in the district and went on foot through the height of the raid to the Depot to arrange for reinforcements. His calmness set an example to the men under his direction.

Section Officer Crichton showed initiative in maintaining water supply in relay system and in organising petrol supplies and reliefs. He was in charge of a small party and frequently at considerable personal risk drove back the fires single-handed.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Miss Vera Anderson, Nurse, Nottingham.

Nurse Anderson was on A.R.P. duty in the basement of a building which received a direct hit.

H.E. bombs continued to fall on the building and the wreckage caught fire. Nurse Anderson, who was affected by blast from an explosion, fought a way through the flames and got a casualty to safety.

The raid was still in progress and she endeavoured to reach the Central Control Room. The direct route was made impassable by flames but she made a detour of half a mile and reached there, wet through and covered by dirt, but still carrying her first aid equipment.

She attended to a number of casualties but was soon forced to evacuate the post owing to fire. She arranged for the equipment to be moved to a nearby shelter and continued to deal with casualties as they arrived.

Nurse Anderson showed great resource and coolness and her heroic conduct was an example and inspiration to all around her.

Michael Barry, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Lambeth.

William Henry Bridle, Police Constable, "M" Division, Metropolitan Police.

A H.E. bomb demolished a building. Police Constable Bridle, without thought for his own safety, immediately searched the wreckage and found a man who was almost buried. He cleared sufficient rubble from the victim's face and arms for morphia to be administered. The Police Constable then made a hole about six feet deep and, with the assistance of Barry, formed a small tunnel in the debris leading to the trapped man. Bridle cut through some steel beds which were holding the casualty down, while Barry removed pieces of debris. Finally, after four and a half hours' work, which included sawing through the remains of a floor, they reached the casualty and released him.

Police Constable Bridle and Leader Barry were in grave danger from large overhanging blocks of concrete and steelwork, the collapse of which appeared imminent throughout. Gas was escaping, making the rescue work even more hazardous.

Thomas Yabsley, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Plymouth.

People were trapped in a dwelling-house damaged by enemy action. A vertical shaft was made in the wreckage by which Leader Yabsley reached the victims and ascertained their position. He then gave instructions for tunnelling operations and, although the building was liable to collapse; he again entered the hole. He comforted the casualties and remained with them until they were released six hours later. During the whole of this time Yabsley was in grave danger of being buried.

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

Bertie Andrews, Labourer, City Engineer's Department, Plymouth.

A building received a direct hit from a H.E. bomb and people were trapped. There was only room for one man to crawl into the wreckage and Andrews volunteered to go to the rescue of the trapped persons. By improvisation he shored up dangerously placed concrete and within an hour and a half he had rescued fourteen of the victims. Fires raged in the surrounding streets and high explosive bombs fell nearby but regardless of personal danger Andrews worked with tremendous energy for eight hours and was directly responsible for saving the lives of many people.

Arthur Diamond Boyd, Temporary Sergeant, Liverpool Fire Brigade Service.

A serious fire was caused by enemy action. Sergeant Boyd, who was in charge of a party of firemen, climbed to the apex of the roof of an adjoining building and from there directed operations. In spite of his precarious position and the danger of naphtha tanks exploding, of which he was fully aware, the Sergeant remained on the roof until the fire was under control and the building and its contents were saved.