

He was affected by coal gas from a broken pipe and had to be brought out but returned after fifteen minutes and protected the child from falling masonry and prevented it from being choked with dust. Mr. Hughes remained for three hours, in a very cramped position, well knowing that any further collapse of debris might be fatal to him. The child was finally rescued alive and a short time afterwards the wreckage collapsed.

Robert Morland, Divisional Officer, Liverpool Auxiliary Fire Service.

Throughout the enemy air attacks on Liverpool, Divisional Officer Morland has been in charge of a Division which has borne the brunt of intensive raids. He has displayed outstanding fire-fighting abilities with total disregard of his own safety.

On one occasion the region surrounding the Divisional Headquarters was subjected to very heavy bombing and a fierce fire broke out in an adjoining building. Morland remained at his post until a wall fell on the Station and partially demolished it, thereby cutting off communications. He at once established a secondary Headquarters and by very prompt and carefully thought out action enabled effective control to be maintained over the raid conditions.

Divisional Officer Morland has shown courage and ability and has set a splendid example to his men.

Awarded the George Medal:—

John Miller Bennion, Section Officer, Liverpool Auxiliary Fire Service.

Bombs struck a building, setting fire to an armoury.

Section Officer Bennion went into the burning room and removed the cases of exploding ammunition which were nearest to the fire. With assistance he then removed the remaining boxes of rifle ammunition and hand grenades and thereby saved the building from destruction.

Bennion displayed a very high degree of courage and his coolness and determination were a magnificent example to his men.

William John Cox, }
Police Sergeant, } " E " Division,
George Murdoch Rosie, } Metropolitan Police.
Police Sergeant, }

A high explosive bomb damaged a house, the two upper floors collapsed and a fire broke out at the back of the building.

Sergeants Cox and Rosie climbed through a ground floor window and found a man pinned underneath a large boulder and considerable debris. The Sergeants were well aware that any movement of the boulder would probably cause a complete collapse of the house, but the officers began to remove the rubble with their hands and, after half an hour, were successful in liberating the victim. Owing to the confined space he could not be carried out and the rescuers had to drag him to safety. The whole structure of the house collapsed shortly after the rescue had been effected.

Cox and Rosie displayed great courage and devotion to duty in the face of extreme danger.

Leonard Findlay, M.D., M.B., B.Ch., Medical Superintendent Mill Road Infirmary, Liverpool.

Dr. Findlay displayed outstanding courage and devotion to duty when the Mill Road Infirmary was badly damaged during an air raid.

Although badly shaken and severely burned he immediately organised rescue work and personally led parties of volunteers to release persons trapped under the wreckage. He worked without ceasing throughout the night and following day and refused to have his own wounds treated until he had accounted for all his patients and staff.

Under his cool and courageous direction many lives were saved and all the patients evacuated to other hospitals.

John Ernest McKenning, }
Police Constable, } " B " Division,
Reginald Ivor Oakes, } Metropolitan Police.
Police Constable, }

A high explosive bomb fell on a building and wrecked the interior. A landing had collapsed on to the ground floor, leaving a chasm 12 feet across and 40 feet deep. Cries for help were coming from a room on the opposite side.

Oakes and McKenning obtained a nine inch plank and carried it up a badly damaged exterior iron staircase to the second floor where it was passed over the gap and they crossed to the other side. By climbing through an opening in the wall about seven feet from the floor Oakes reached the room where four people were trapped. He helped them to climb through on to the plank and across to the other side.

The scene of the rescue was immediately over the centre of the bomb crater and the whole of the surrounding portions of the building were liable to collapse. Throughout the operations heavy gunfire shook the building and debris was continually falling.

The Constables showed outstanding courage and resourcefulness.

Jasper Martin, Police Sergeant (Reserve of Pensioners), " V " Division, Metropolitan Police.

A H.E. bomb caused extensive damage to a house and a man and his mother were trapped underneath a partially demolished staircase. The remains of this staircase were precariously supporting the mass of debris from the upper part of the house and a dividing wall was liable to collapse at any moment. Sergeant Martin crawled into the wreckage and succeeded in extricating the injured man. He then re-entered the hole in an attempt to rescue the woman. He discovered that she was pinned down by masonry and, after ascertaining that she was dead, he crawled out of the debris, reaching safety just before the wall collapsed on to the staircase.

Sergeant Martin showed great courage in twice entering the wreckage, being fully aware of the danger to himself.