

Ahmed Hussain, Assistant Station Master, Burma Railways.

When the important railway junction of Thazi was bombed, Mr. Hussain remained at his post and assisted the Military Movement Control Officer in keeping trains running, which enabled men, of the Chinese and British Armies, and large quantities of stores to be moved to the Irrawaddy and to the Southern Shan States. The continued bombing of this junction and the spread of rumours, owing to the breakdown in telephone and telegraphic communications, caused most of the railway staff to leave their posts, but Mr. Hussain remained staunch. Even when the town was evacuated and the railway junction was being bombed throughout the day, he returned in the evening to render what help was possible. His quite outstanding devotion to duty and cool courage under fire were exemplary.

Daramand Khandury, Sanitary Inspector, United Provinces States, India.

Mr. Khandury rendered splendid service in the main Indian Refugee Camp near Imphal. When staffs had been sorely depleted, he assisted and fed the refugees then marching on foot to the railhead. At the end, when the mortality rate rose steeply, he spent his days in burying corpses, a task from which so many shrank. He laboured far into the night loading refugees into lorries and performing any task that required to be done. The long, loyal and unselfish service of Mr. Khandury was quite remarkable in an organisation in which ungrudging service was so freely given.

Terence Alfred O'Leary, Assistant Foreman, Burma Railways.

Mr. O'Leary remained at his post at Toungoo until the town was evacuated. During many air raids he displayed outstand-

ing coolness and efficiency, working for long hours both day and night as required. On one occasion he displayed outstanding courage in entering a smouldering railway wagon to ascertain the contents, thought to be high octane spirit. In so doing he did not hesitate to risk his life and set a very fine example to the staff.

Isaac Abraham Pillay, Postmaster, Pyinmana, Burma.

Mr. Pillay remained at his post until the final evacuation. For most of the time he was without assistance and worked the telephone and telegraph system single-handed.

The arrival of Chinese troops added considerably to Mr. Pillay's responsibilities. Had he failed to discharge them, military operations would have suffered considerably. Pyinmana was ruthlessly bombed by the Japanese but neither air raids, fires nor rifle fire upset Mr. Pillay who showed exemplary courage and devotion to duty.

Pandit Chedi Rampathak, Guard, Burma Railways.

Mr. Rampathak was employed on the Pegu-Martaban branch of the Burma railways and remained at his post during the whole of the military operations in that area. When many of the staff absconded he worked in any capacity required and, on many occasions, without his assistance it would have been impossible to have marshalled and despatched trains required by the military authorities. Frequent bombings and machine-gunning failed to shake his determination. On one occasion after an air raid, he ran to a wagon, containing ammunition in danger of catching fire, and helped to move it away by hand. His services throughout the campaign were in the highest degree meritorious.

He displayed courage and great devotion to duty.

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