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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

20th June, 1950.

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 of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

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

Aris Victor ZACHARIADES, Divisional Officer, Serae Division, Eritrean Police Force.

Divisional Officer Zachariades accompanied a mixed force of police and armed tribesmen detailed to capture the supplies of a notorious bandit leader. The force captured part of the supplies together with one of the bandit's principal assistants. Information then revealed that a small party of bandits was encamped about three hours' march away. When the position was reached the force divided, Divisional Officer Zachariades taking charge of the party detailed to engage the attention of the bandits and draw their fire, while the remainder made a detour and attacked them in the rear. This ruse succeeded, nearly all the bandits being either killed or captured.

Divisional Officer Zachariades was outstandingly cool and determined under fire and the success of the operation was due largely to the example which he set.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Robert GIBSON, Van Driver, Glasgow.

A man entered the Alexandra Parade Branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland at Glasgow, presented an air pistol at the Bank Teller and demanded money. As his demands were not met he jumped on the counter and struck the Teller on the head with the pistol, jumped back to the public side of the counter and ran off. Gibson, who was driving a newspaper van, took up the chase and soon overtook the fugitive. Gibson left the van but the man drew a knife from one pocket and an air pistol from the other and ordered him back into the van, jumped in beside him and told him to drive on, all the time presenting the pistol at him. Gibson made the excuse that there was a block in the road straight ahead and drove to a police box at which two men were working.

The fugitive at once left the van whereupon Gibson caught him from the rear and threw him to the ground on his back. The man was still holding the pistol in his right hand but Gibson spreadeagled himself across the man and held on to each wrist. One of the workmen took the firearm from the man and called the police. The suspect continued struggling and bit Gibson on the right cheek and on the right thumb. The man eventually gained the upper position, drew a knife from his coat pocket and stabbed Gibson four times in the back. He