



THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO
The London Gazette
 OF FRIDAY, 16th NOVEMBER, 1951
 Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER, 1951

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

20th November, 1951.

The KING has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned awards:—

GEORGE CROSS.

George Campbell HENDERSON (deceased), Sub-Officer, Gibraltar Dockyard Fire Service.

Sub-Officer Henderson was in charge of the first fire appliance sent to fight an ammunition fire on board a lighter alongside the naval armament vessel "Bedenham". In spite of the great heat and intensity of the fire which, he must have realised, was virtually out of control and would cause a violent explosion of ammunition at any moment, Sub-Officer Henderson managed single-handed to direct a jet of water into the lighter from a position on board "Bedenham", immediately alongside and above the blazing lighter. "Bedenham" had by this time been abandoned but Henderson remained at his place of duty alone doing what he could to prevent the explosion although he must have known that his chance of survival was slight. He was killed when the ammunition blew up.

Sub-Officer Henderson displayed courage of the highest order in the face of almost certain death.

AWANG anak RAWANG, Iban Tracker, Johore, Federation of Malaya.

During operations against the bandits in Malaya a section of a platoon of the Worcestershire Regiment was ambushed by about 50 of the enemy. The leading scout was killed instantly and the Section Commander fatally wounded. Awang anak Rawang was hit through the thigh bone and at the same time a soldier, moving behind him, was hit

below the knee, the bullet completely shattering the bone. Awang anak Rawang, although wounded and lying exposed under heavy rifle and automatic fire, collected his own weapons and that of the soldier and dragged him into the cover of the jungle. In view of the impending bandit attack Awang, completely disregarding his own wound, took up a position to defend the injured man. There he remained, firing on every attempt made by the bandits to approach, and successfully drove off several attacks. Ultimately Awang was again wounded, the bullet shattering his right arm and rendering further use of his rifle or parang impossible. Despite loss of blood from his undressed wounds, he dragged himself over to the wounded soldier and took a grenade from the man's pouch. He resumed his position on guard, pulled out the pin of the grenade with his teeth and with the missile in his left hand defied the bandits to approach. So resolute was his demeanour that the bandits, who had maintained their attacks for some forty minutes, and who were now threatened by the other sections, withdrew.

The coolness, fortitude and offensive spirit displayed by Awang anak Rawang were of the highest order. Despite being twice severely wounded he showed the utmost courage and resolution to continue the fight and protect the injured soldier.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

20th November, 1951.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned 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.

Awarded the George Medal :—

John OAK, Mill Scaler, Albion Steelworks, Briton Ferry, Neath.

During the passage, on power driven rollers, of red hot 70-foot steel bars from the floor of a rolling mill to the cooling shed, one of the bars flew off at a tangent, crashed into a telephone cabin and set it on fire. A workman who was in the cabin was wedged by the bar against the side of the wall. It severed one of his legs and severely burnt his body.

Oak saw the accident happening and without the slightest hesitation dashed to the cabin and tried to pull the man out. Owing to the confined space in the cabin and the intense heat of the red hot bar, Oak failed to secure and maintain a grip on the injured man and was driven back by the flames. Three times Oak tried to enter the cabin and failed but despite the conditions he made a fourth and successful attempt and dragged the man to safety. Oak's clothes were in a very greasy condition and at any moment they might have burst into flames. There was also the risk of coming into contact with the bar which would have caused severe burns.

Oak displayed outstanding courage and by his determination and complete disregard of personal safety saved his fellow workman from being burnt to death.

Awarded the George Medal :—

Juan Manuel CRUZ, Chargeman of Labourers, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

James KEEN, Naval Armament Supply Officer, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

Michael ORFILA, Police Constable, Gibraltar Police Force.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Anthony BALLANTINE, Assistant Surgery Attendant, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

Vicente PISARELLO, Foreman, Garrison Workshops, Gibraltar.

During the unloading of the naval armament vessel "Bedenham" at the Ordnance Wharf, Gibraltar, a small explosion in the ammunition lighter alongside the ship caused an intense fire. Keen at once went to the scene and volunteered to help the Fire Brigade. He took up a post near the burning ship and regardless of the risk gallantly helped in the attempt to extinguish the fire. In a very short time, however, it increased in intensity and a major explosion took place. The ship blew up and Keen was severely injured. He showed devotion to duty of an extremely high order in remaining alongside the burning ammunition ship helping to fight the fire.

At the time of the explosion Police Constable Orfila was on duty about 100 yards away. He immediately ran to the Gun Wharf where the "Bedenham" was unloading, went inside and opened an essential fire valve. He then saw a survivor from the lighter who had been badly injured and helped him to an ambulance. The main

explosion then occurred. Orfila was flung to the ground and the ambulance was wrecked. The Constable managed to get the injured man out of the damaged vehicle and took him to a place of safety. Orfila displayed courage and resourcefulness.

Cruz who was in charge of a party of men working on the "Bedenham", helped an injured man to an ambulance and then returned to the burning ship to give what assistance he could in fire fighting. When the explosion occurred he was injured but returned to duty after first aid treatment. The conduct of Cruz in going to the assistance of the wounded man in the face of great danger and subsequently returning to the fire, was exemplary.

Attendant Ballantine was on duty in the Dockyard Surgery when the first explosion occurred. He went at once to the scene and helped a wounded man from the water close to the fiercely burning lighter. He was injured by the main explosion but continued to treat and evacuate casualties. He displayed gallantry and fortitude in his attention to others despite his own injuries.

Foreman Pisarello was in charge of the R.E.M.E. workshops 200 yards away from "Bedenham". He immediately ordered the fire alarm to be sounded then made sure that his men were at their fire stations. His rapid appreciation of the situation and prompt action, which saved his men from serious injury, were most praiseworthy. When the main explosion occurred he was blown under the chassis of a lorry where he remained unconscious for half an hour. On reviving he returned at once to supervise the fire party in preventing the spread of some small fires nearby.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

John Cecil DILLON, Sergeant, St Helena Police Force.

A visitor leaving a ship which was 1,000 yards away from the wharf at St. Helena, stepped from the gangway into a small rowing boat. He overbalanced, fell into the water and began to drift towards the open sea. Dillon, who was on duty at the time as ship police officer, immediately leapt into the sea and grasped the man who, unable to swim, struggled with his rescuer. Despite a strong current and the encumbrance of clothes and boots, Dillon supported the man until a rowing boat reached them and they were hauled aboard.

Dillon showed promptitude and bravery in effecting the rescue.

James C. FRENCH, Riveter, Furness Shipbuilding Company, Ltd., Billingham, Co. Durham. (Stockton-on-Tees.)

In the engine room of a new ship under construction a staging three planks wide, had been erected 40 feet above the floor to form working platforms on all four sides. A stage rigger on one of the top platforms of the staging was moving a plank which stretched across the room from one side to the other when it slipped off the edge of the platform. The plank fell and carried him with it but he managed to grasp a similar plank 5 feet below, and hung on by his hands from the

middle of it. French, who was working nearby, immediately walked along the plank, which was 9 inches wide, until he reached the man. He then went on to his knees and with one hand he held on to the rigger's arm and crawled across the plank pulling or lifting the man and then hoisted him to the safety of the platform.

French acted promptly and bravely as there was not only the danger of slipping but the possibility of the plank tilting over and plunging both men to the floor nearly 40 feet below.

Robert Leo LAMONT, Constable, Birmingham City Police.

Cameron MURRAY, Constable, Birmingham City Police.

A Police Constable was shot and seriously injured by an armed man who escaped.

Police Constables Murray and Lamont joined the search for the suspect.

Later in the morning they saw a man whose figure resembled that of the assailant and, keeping him under observation, followed him down an entry at the side of some bomb damaged property. Although they knew the criminal was armed and desperate the two Constables stopped and questioned the man. After a few questions he pulled out an automatic pistol and pointed it at the Constables who immediately closed with him and, after a struggle, disarmed and handcuffed him.

The two officers showed courage and determination in dealing with a criminal whom they knew to be armed and who had already shot and injured another constable.

John Edward TANNER, Lorry Driver, Bethnal Green, London.

A fire broke out in a house and a woman was trapped on the second floor. Tanner went through the ground floor passage and up the staircase, the lower part of which was alight, through fire and thick smoke, and reached the second floor landing. He found the woman and helped and encouraged her down the smoke-filled staircase on to the first floor landing. They managed to get into the front room and Tanner pulled the frame bodily out of the window to give relief from the heat and smoke. He assisted the woman out of the window on to a ledge and then to safety.

Tanner displayed bravery and determination in dangerous circumstances.

George Rees THOMAS, Dumper Driver, Cwmann, Cardigan.

Thomas was working on the top of the screens at Alltgoch Quarries when a diesel oil tank exploded. The surrounding plant started burning furiously and one of his fellow workers was suddenly enveloped in flames and fell from the oil tank platform to a hollow pit 10 feet beneath him. The pit was ablaze and flames shot upwards to a height of 10 feet. Flames were also pouring downwards from the exploded oil tank and from rubber conveyor belts nearby.

Thomas immediately climbed down from the top of the screens and joined two other persons near the pit. Several buckets of

water were thrown on the flames and as soon as conditions permitted Thomas entered the pit. Owing to the roaring fire which engulfed other exits the only means of egress from the pit was around a girder and by a steep earth bank and he carried the injured man by this difficult route to the side where he was lifted out.

Thomas showed coolness and promptitude and acted with no thought of self in trying to save the life of his fellow worker.

Sidney Charles TILLMAN, Boiler Operator, Ford Motor Company, Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.

An extra high pressure boiler in a power house failed, owing to the rupture of the first steam return tube. Within a few seconds the boiler room became an inferno of fuel-ash, steam, hot mud and boiling water, reducing visibility to almost nil.

The atmosphere was further charged with blast furnace gas blown into the boiler room from the burners, producing a terrifying and dangerous situation as a result of which a major disaster might have followed.

Tillman, who was operating an extra high-pressure boiler on full load at the time of the explosion, was isolated between the Boiler Control panel and the boiler front. Flames, blast furnace gas and steam surrounded him and mud and scalding water were falling around him from a height of 70 feet. It was essential that the boiler should be safely and quickly shut down and the feed water diverted to another boiler in order to prevent a further explosion.

Tillman covered up his head and operated his boiler until he had brought it safely to rest, continually removing mud and dust from the dials and instruments in order to maintain control.

The courage and devotion to duty he displayed were an inspiration to the boiler house staff.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Alfredo BANDA, Ambulance Driver, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

David Stewart HUTCHEON, 1st Class Master of Yard Craft, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

Cecil Neville KNOWLES, Chageman of Skilled Labourers, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

Alfred McGRAIL, Fireman Driver, City Fire Brigade, Gibraltar.

Francis Joseph PARODY, Surgery Attendant, H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar.

For services when an explosion occurred in an ammunition lighter.

Peter BATTERSBY, Sergeant, Liverpool City Police.

For rescuing a boy from drowning.

Thomas Reginald BUCKINGHAM, Senior Second Officer, s.s. "Queen Elizabeth". (Newport, Monmouthshire.)

For rescuing a man who had fallen overboard.

Alu CHUKWU, Court Messenger, Afikpo, Nigeria.

For attempting to arrest an armed criminal.

Michael EVANS, Sergeant, Singapore Volunteer Special Constabulary.

William LINTON, Sergeant, Singapore Volunteer Special Constabulary.

Anthony Koon Hin NEO, Corporal, Singapore Volunteer Special Constabulary.

Sinna PALANIANDY, Chief Inspector, Singapore Volunteer Special Constabulary.

For rescuing persons from the attack of a hostile mob in Singapore.

Harold HARDCASTLE, Foreman Fitter, Halkyn Metalliferous Mine, Flintshire.

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Magnus PITTER, Barber, Spanish Town, Jamaica.

Stephen RANGER, Labourer, Gregory Park, Jamaica.

Clinton WHITE, Labourer, Spanish Town, Jamaica.

For services during flooding in St. Catherine, Jamaica.

Thomas Bryce SOMERVILLE, Constable, Birmingham City Police.

For attempting to arrest an armed man.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1951

Price Sixpence net