

Ian Peter HYDE, Police Lieutenant, Federation of Malaya Police Force.

Police Lieutenant Hyde was leading a jungle squad patrol on the Badak Mati Hills in Province Wellesley when he encountered three armed bandits in a jungle clearing. The Lieutenant immediately opened fire with his carbine, killing one bandit outright and wounding the other two while they were running away.

The patrol went in pursuit of the two bandits and the Lieutenant, who was in the lead, saw one of the wounded bandits lying on the ground with a grenade in his hand, which he was about to throw at the patrol after having withdrawn the pin. With great presence of mind and complete disregard of his personal safety, Hyde threw himself on the man, closing his hand over that of the bandit, thus preventing the lever of the grenade from flying off. With his free hand he then unscrewed the base plug and removed the detonator and rendered the grenade harmless.

By his actions throughout the short engagement, Police Lieutenant Hyde set an outstanding example to his men and displayed cool, calculated courage.

Samion bin Abdullah, 2nd Class Police Constable, Federation of Malaya Police Force.

A Police Escort Section, consisting of ten men under the command of a Police Lieutenant, in two armoured police vehicles, was ambushed by a greatly superior number of bandits from prepared positions on the hillside overlooking the road near the village of Raub in the State of Pahang.

Constable Samion bin Abdullah was the Bren Gunner in the second vehicle which came to a standstill in the centre of the ambush positions, the driver having been wounded in the first outburst of fire. The stationary vehicle was subjected to concentrated fire and all the occupants, including Samion bin Abdullah, were wounded.

Constable Samion engaged the enemy with his Bren gun while the wounded left the vehicle and took shelter in the ditch by the roadside. He continued to fire his gun, even after his commanding officer had been killed by his side, until he had expended all his ammunition.

The Constable then took shelter in the ditch, armed with the pistol of the wounded driver. Together with his three wounded comrades, Samion resisted all demands by the bandits to surrender and kept up such a stubborn resistance until relief arrived that the bandits did not press home their attack.

By his courage and determination Constable Samion undoubtedly prevented further casualties and losses of arms.

Edward George WALTERS, Fuel Technician, Margam Works, Steel Company of Wales, Ltd. (Aberavon, Glamorganshire).

A fitter was working on a gas main four foot in diameter carried on steel structures thirty-five feet above ground level. His neck came in contact with a bare live electric wire from which he received a shock which so locked his muscles that he was unable to release himself.

Walters, climbing after him, saw the wires, realised what had happened and without a thought for his own safety immediately went to the man's aid and put his arms around him, claspng him firmly to the structure to prevent him falling to the road below. Walters received severe shocks while holding the weight of the man's body and was in continual danger of being thrown off the structure, but he retained his hold.

Two other men climbed up the structure and one succeeded in short circuiting the wires so that the circuit fuse was blown. The other helped Walters to hold the fitter who, released from the effects of the electric current, fought furiously in a semi-conscious condition and gave his helpers a dangerous task in keeping him from falling. Eventually he was lowered to the ground with ropes.

Walters acted with promptness and courage, risking electrocution and serious injury in his efforts to save his workmate.

William Arthur WATERTON, A.F.C., Chief Test Pilot, Gloster Aircraft Company, Ltd. (Gloucester).

Chief Test Pilot Waterton was making a test flight in a prototype jet all-purpose fighter and, whilst travelling at high speed at the height of about 3,000 feet, elevator flutter developed and both elevators became detached from the aircraft. This left the pilot with practically no control of his aircraft in pitch. Waterton climbed the aircraft to 10,000 feet and experimented with what was left of the control, the paramount factor in effecting a safe landing. He found that it was possible to retain some control down to a speed roughly half as fast again as the normal landing speed. Knowing that a crash would put back seriously the development and production he decided to land the aircraft despite having at his command an ejector seat and parachute. He landed the machine heavily owing to the lack of control and the undercarriage gave way.

After the crashed aircraft came to rest, fire broke out and Waterton found great difficulty in freeing himself owing to a jammed hood. Eventually he did get out of the wreck. By then the flames had reached the area of the cockpit but despite this he climbed back into the fuselage and salvaged the automatic records relating to the original aerodynamic and structural failures.

The behaviour of Chief Test Pilot Waterton was exemplary and beyond the call of duty and his courage was outstanding.

Ernest George WRIGHT, Assistant Superintendent, Kenya Police Force.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Wright, with 40 men was about to enter a tribal village in the Marsabit District to search for illegal firearms. His entry was repulsed with heavy rifle fire from the shelter of the village and an engagement was entered into with between 250 and 300 armed tribesmen. The engagement continued for seven hours and during this time Wright commanded his men with gallantry of the highest order. Although his Force was heavily outnumbered and its position had become most dangerous he continued the attack and courted extreme danger in order to rescue