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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

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

17th November, 1953.

The QUEEN 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, of a Bar to the British Empire 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 :—

James BROWN, Under-Manager, Horden Colliery, South Durham Division, National Coal Board. (Horden.)

Awarded a Bar to the British Empire Medal (Civil Division) :—

Walter MALT, B.E.M., Ploughman, Horden Colliery, South Durham Division, National Coal Board. (Horden.)

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division) :—

Joseph LAVERY, Deputy, Horden Colliery, South Durham Division, National Coal Board. (Horden.)

An explosion occurred at Horden Colliery and three workmen were overcome by noxious gases. Two recovered and informed the Agent, who, with the Manager and the Under-Manager, was making his way towards the source of the explosion. The Agent and Manager made one attempt to reach the missing workman, but had to retreat because of fumes. They were then joined by several other men and made

another attempt by a different route. They succeeded in locating the body but were all so badly affected by the fumes that they had to give up and retreat. The Agent collapsed after going some way and the others went for help. The Under-Manager, Brown, who in the meantime had summoned the rescue party, met the rest of the men as they came out, and learned of the collapse of the Agent. With Lavery and Malt he immediately went into the fumes in search of him. On finding the Agent they dragged him some way until they became so exhausted that they had to rest. Whilst Brown and Malt remained with him, Lavery went for help and returned with another workman. With the help of this fourth man they were able to drag the Agent the remaining distance to the fresh air where, with treatment, he revived.

If the determined effort to drag the Agent out of the fumes had not been made he would have died. Brown, Lavery and Malt were fully aware of the foul atmospheric conditions and the risks that they would have to run in attempting to make the rescue.

Awarded the George Medal :—

Dama DAGARTI, No. 8421, Escort Police Sergeant, Gold Coast Police Reserve.

Allasan BUSANGA, No. 4872, Escort Police Corporal, Gold Coast Police Reserve.

Lawrence Silvester DICK, Junior Nurse, Ministry of Health, Gold Coast.

A detachment from the Gold Coast Police Reserve stationed at Elmina Castle was called upon to extricate Local Authority Police who had encountered difficulty whilst attempting to execute warrants at a village to the west of Elmina. During the course of this operation the Police dispersed a hostile crowd with tear gas and seized an Asafo (War Company) drum which was said to have been beaten to a war rhythm.

At about 7.15 a.m. the next day, a large crowd, estimated at two thousand, was seen to be approaching Elmina Castle which commands the road and bridge over the mouth of a lagoon. The Officer Commanding the Police Reserve, together with Sergeant Dama Dagarti, Corporal Allassan Busanga and five recruit constables, armed only with batons, went to the bridge which spans the lagoon and threw a cordon across the western end. Almost at once persons in the crowd opened fire and the Commanding Officer was killed and a recruit constable mortally wounded. Corporal Allassan Busanga, who was standing next to the wounded man, immediately engaged the rioters with his baton and continued to do so until he himself received severe gunshot wounds in the head and body.

Mr. Dick, who was nearby, ran to the wounded then lying some ten yards from the rioters, who were still firing. He rendered first aid and obtained a Police vehicle and removed the casualties to Cape Coast Hospital.

Sergeant Dama Dagarti took command of the remaining recruits and with them engaged the rioters with batons. In a short space of time all four recruits received gunshot wounds which prevented them from taking further part in the action, but in spite of this Sergeant Dama Dagarti continued to engage the rioters single handed until reinforcements arrived.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Civil Division):—*

Rasul Bux son of Bali, Water Tenderer, Sugar Mill Boiler Station, Nausori, Fiji.

When earthquake shock occurred at Nausori, Rasul Bux, who was working at the sugar mill boiler station, temporarily left the building while it was swaying and completely filled by escaping steam from burst mains.

After only a few seconds he returned quickly and ascended a steep stairway and turned off the stop valves of six boilers. He was working in clouds of steam from broken pipes issuing at 80 pounds pressure. His prompt action confined the steam to individual boilers and brought safety valves into operation. Rasul Bux then shut the main steam valve which controlled the supply of steam from the boiler steam mains, shut down the fans and ascertained that the boiler feed pumps were working so that the boilers would not run short of water. It was not until he had completed this essential work that he paid any attention to his own safety.

His quick thinking and bravery brought a very serious situation under control and prevented possible loss of life.

Gilbert CLARK, Miner, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kelloholm, Dumfriesshire.)

Andrew McCLUSKIE, Miner, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kelloholm, Dumfriesshire.)

When an accident occurred at Fauldhead Colliery, a fall of roof displaced a number of props and a miner was trapped by a large stone. The dirt in the side of the roads prevented the full

weight of the stone bearing on him and McCluskie and Clark attempted to release the trapped man by levering the stone. The roof was in a dangerous state and gave every indication of further collapse. Attempts were made by other workmen to support the roof but before the miner could be pulled clear another fall occurred and McCluskie and Clark were trapped. They were eventually released.

Both men displayed courage and perseverance and risked their lives in the attempted rescue.

Ronald Rosslyn RANSON, Laboratory Steward, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Manningtree.)

Donald Victor RUMBLE, Senior Laboratory Assistant, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Dovercourt.)

Gordon Leslie YOUNGMAN, Ganger, Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd., Great Oakley, Essex. (Harwich.)

Floods inundated the Explosives and Chemical Products Ltd. Factory at Bramble Island, Great Oakley, and it became necessary to dispose of some 100 to 150 tons of damaged explosives. Rumble and Ranson were concerned with the scuttling at sea of a concrete barge loaded with about 150 tons of waste explosives in a dangerous condition. The cargo was in very bad shape after lying wet for nearly four months and during the loading it became apparent that the operation was going to be extremely hazardous.

The holds were filled with nauseating fumes and the cargo under its own weight gradually liberated quantities of nitro-glycerine. No alternative course was open but to continue the loading, and no alternative method of disposal was possible. Without regard for their own safety the two men carried out the operation with courage and determination.

Youngman was concerned with clearing the magazines which were in a dangerous condition. Nitro-glycerine was found to be exuding freely on the floors and the slate roof had collapsed in sections and was supported by some tons of explosive underneath.

The explosive was, in part, packed in fibreboard cases which had softened and burst open. Youngman cleared away the broken brickwork mixed up with explosive and dismantled a damaged magazine, despite the fact that large sections of wall were liable to fall on to the explosive at any moment.

Muthami WANGAI, Constable, Tribal Police, Kenya.

Tribal Police Constable Muthami Wangai was leading a Patrol consisting of another Tribal Police Constable and ten Kikuyu Guards in Aguthi Location, Nyeri District. The Patrol was moving along the road from the Kangaita Kikuyu Guard Camp to Mericho when it was suddenly attacked by a large and well armed Mau Mau gang, composed of approximately 50 men. Fire was brought to bear on the Patrol from the thick bush on both sides of the road. The members of the Patrol, acting on the orders

of Muthami Wangai, threw themselves down on the ground and returned the fire. Very little cover was available to them when the Mau Mau terrorists attacked down the road to their front. Muthami Wangai was wounded twice, but in spite of this he continued to lead his men and himself fired back most successfully, killing one terrorist and wounding another. By his excellent example, courage and leadership his Patrol was able to hold off the terrorists and, eventually, to disperse them into the bush.

Muthami Wangai inspired his men to fight this successful action when the odds were very much against them.

QUEEN'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Wilfred Arthur BAILEY, Principal Scientific Officer, Ministry of Supply. (Petts Wood, Kent.)

Francis Edward BALL, Principal Scientific Officer, Ministry of Supply. (Eltham, S.E.9.)

Walter John BATCHELOR, Leading Hand, Ministry of Supply. (Bromley, Kent.)

Arthur Alan Harris William GASTON, Laboratory Worker A, Ministry of Supply. (Shoreham, Kent.)

Thomas Howard QUARRY, Assistant Experimental Officer, Ministry of Supply. (Bromley, Kent.)

William Thomas WEEKES, Labourer I, Ministry of Supply. (Plumstead, S.E.18.)

Ernest Charles WILSON, Non-Technical Grade III, Ministry of Supply. (Plumstead, S.E.18.)

For services when disposing of defective ammunition following an explosion in a factory.

William BENNETT, Drawer, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

John HARPER, Drawer, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

James LYNN, Faceman, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

John McCALL, Drawer, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

James McCLUSKIE, Faceman, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

John McMURDO, Face Worker, Fauldhead Colliery, Scottish Division, National Coal Board. (Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire.)

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Frederick James BISHOP, Farm Worker, Nordelph, Norfolk.

Miss Barbara Mary KILBURN, Farm Worker, Nordelph, Norfolk.

For services when an aircraft crashed and caught fire.

James FLYNN, Inspector, London Transport Executive. (Walworth, S.E.17.)

For assisting the Police when two men violently resisted arrest.

Halkano GOLICHA, Corporal, Tribal Police, Kenya.

For services when armed raiders attacked a Tribal Police patrol.

Ishak Mirza KARI, Police Officer, Kenya Police Reserve.

For services when arresting an armed criminal.

Jimnah KIMORI s/o Gachehi, Headman, Kenya.

Dishon NYAMU s/o Gethu, Headman, Kenya.

WILLIAM s/o Njuka (deceased), Headman, Kenya.

For services during attacks by terrorists in East Africa.

Thomas PALMER, Head Wagonwayman, Horden Colliery, South Durham District, National Coal Board. (Horden.)

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Richard Daniel PAYNTER, Pilot, St. Ives, Cornwall.

For services when a ship ran aground in St. Ives Bay.

Timothy Edward TRAFFORD, Assistant Inspector, Kenya Police Force.

For services when attacking and dispersing a gang of terrorists.

Walter Thomas George WOOD, Driver, London Transport Executive. (Islington, N.1.)

For helping the Police to arrest a man.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

17th November, 1953.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Her Majesty's Australian Ministers, to give orders for the under-mentioned award of the George Medal and for the publication of the name of the person shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for valuable service in the air:—

Awarded the George Medal:

Clarence Robert HIBBERT, Senior Examiner of Airmen, Department of Civil Aviation, Commonwealth of Australia.

Hibbert was the captain of a Drovair aircraft en route from Wewak to Momote airfield, Manus Island.

When over the Bismark Sea a portion of the propeller on the port engine became detached and pierced the pilot's cockpit, smashing Hibbert's left foot and causing the subsequent failure of the remaining two engines. Despite his injuries Hibbert immediately brought the aircraft under control and transmitted the distress signal. Realising that he was physically unable to continue to pilot the machine he directed that he be removed from the cockpit and replaced at the controls by a qualified pilot who was a passenger in the aircraft. He then attempted to transmit further distress signals. When it became apparent that the machine would come down in the sea, he went to the rear of the aircraft to make the

vital preparations for this emergency and it was largely due to his efforts that the dinghy and its associated life saving equipment were successfully launched.

After the occupants had transferred to the dinghy, Hibbert although in great pain and weak from the loss of blood, continued to discharge his responsibilities as captain and was primarily responsible for the successful assembly and use of the emergency radio transmitter which greatly facilitated the subsequent search and rescue.

Throughout the whole operation Hibbert displayed qualities of leadership which, in

view of his severe physical injuries, were a continual source of inspiration to his companions. The courageous manner in which he devoted himself to his vital duties as captain of the aircraft was in keeping with the highest traditions of service in the air.

**QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR
VALUABLE SERVICE IN THE AIR.**

Thomas Peel DRURY, Examiner of Airmen,
Department of Civil Aviation, Common-
wealth of Australia.

For services when an aircraft came down
in the sea.

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