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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

22nd June, 1954.

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 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:—

Philip Francis GRIMWOOD, Farmer, South Kinangop, Kenya.

Mr. Grimwood was with his wife on his lonely farm in the South Kinangop area of Naivasha when it was attacked by Mau Mau gangsters.

The African quarters were set on fire and soon afterwards the gang, estimated to be 50 strong, attacked the farmhouse. They used automatic weapons, rifles and hand grenades, and they were well commanded and controlled by bugle and whistle calls. One hand grenade was thrown in to the kitchen and others were thrown on to the roof, while windows and doors were broken. Mr. Grimwood remained cool and prepared to defend his farm. Armed with a .300 rifle, he moved from window to window firing at the attackers. He killed two terrorists and probably wounded others and kept the gang at bay until a relief party arrived. As the gang retreated Grimwood attacked and succeeded in killing a third man.

By his courageous, calm and intelligent actions he saved the occupants of the farm, and the Africans in his labour lines, from being brutally murdered.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Miss Freda HOLLAND, Night Sister, Dellwood Maternity Home, Reading.

In the early hours of the morning a fire occurred at the Dellwood Maternity Home.

On being called by another nurse, Sister Holland entered the smoke filled first-floor nursery which was occupied by 15 babies. With complete disregard of her own safety, she fought her way through flames and suffocating smoke and started to carry the babies out of the nursery. Her rescue efforts involved frequent entry into the room, the floor of which was burning in places.

Although both her arms were burnt and her face scorched she persisted in her rescue work until she had removed all the babies and it was only then that she allowed the firemen to lead her away from the scene of the fire. Without thought of her own injuries she then went to the babies, who had been carried downstairs to safety, and attended to them until she was ordered to hospital.

Mallam IRMIYA, District Scribe, Numan Native Administration, Nigeria.

Mallam Irmiya volunteered to be lowered down a well about 30 feet deep in Borong Village in an attempt to rescue a mentally deranged man who had fallen into it. The man was armed with a knife and when Irmiya reached him he was immediately attacked and stabbed in the chest and face. After a struggle Irmiya was able to overcome the man, secure him and effect his rescue. Mallam Irmiya, who was severely wounded and disfigured, displayed courage of a very high order.

Ndiwa KIPKOSIO, Corporal, Kenya Police Force.

A routine patrol of seven constables with Corporal Kipkosio in charge came under fire in the Kiamarigi Ngandu School area. The Corporal ordered his men to ground taking

up all-round fire positions. Ndiwa quickly appreciated that his patrol had encountered a well armed gang and fired a short burst at the leader, hitting him in the throat. At this, some 200 men advanced slowly upon the patrol's position, exchanging fire as they did so. The police ammunition began to run low and one of the constables was killed. Although heavily outnumbered the patrol remained calm and waited for Ndiwa's instructions. The Corporal outlined the method of withdrawal and, allowing the enemy to crawl within about 10 yards of his position, he threw a grenade at them and during the confusion which followed, the patrol carried out his instructions and withdrew, suffering no further casualties.

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

Edward ANGLUM, Underforeman, Howards and Sons, Ilford, Essex.

When a fire occurred in a lauryl alcohol plant at Ilford, vessels containing hydrogen gas under high pressure and a tank of 2,500 gallons of lauryl alcohol were involved and the operators working the plant left immediately. One of them informed Anglum who was in another plant and he immediately rushed to the lauryl alcohol plant and tried to enter but the fire was too fierce. He turned off gas and hydrogen valves outside and helped another worker to slide a fire screen in front of the hydrogen vessels. He stationed a man in the shelter of a passageway and told him to play the water from the hose on him and under cover of this Anglum entered the shop and turned off the control valve which prevented any more hydrogen being fed to the circuit. He then helped to extinguish the burning alcohol.

Anglum's rapid and fearless action prevented a major explosion which would have resulted in loss of life and property.

Bert BULLETT, Fireman, Surrey Fire Brigade (Dorking, Surrey).

A fifteen year old boy was trapped by a fall of chalk in a cave at West Humber near Dorking. The caves are unstable and dangerous and when the Fire Brigade attempted to tunnel horizontally towards the boy this produced further falls and had to be abandoned. A vertical excavation was then undertaken by hand to a depth of six feet which exposed the boy's head and shoulders. In order to release the boy it was then necessary to tunnel parallel with his legs and body. These operations could only be carried out by hand and not more than one man could operate at a time. As the excavation deepened firemen had to be suspended head downwards by a line. Fireman Bullett took part in the sinking of the vertical shaft and undertook the freeing of the boy's legs and body. The operation took 2 hours and during this time Bullett was working in a confined space in which it was impracticable to take any effective steps, by shoring or other means, to safeguard the working conditions. Fireman Bullett acted with complete disregard of his personal safety and during the operation encouraged the boy and obtained from him the co-operation which assisted his final release.

William CARR, Backshift Overman, Hazlerigg Colliery, Northumberland, National Coal Board (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

While carrying out a pre-shift inspection at Hazlerigg Colliery, a deputy and a salvage worker encountered black-damp in a conveyor road. The deputy collapsed and the salvage worker began to feel the effects of the black-damp and ran out to the main road where he met and explained the situation to Carr.

Taking the precaution to leave open the entrance door to the district to increase the air supply Carr entered the conveyor road. He had gone only a few yards down the road when his flame safety lamp was extinguished by the gas and he had to return to the main road to relight it. He again went in search of the collapsed man but was forced to retreat because of the effects of the black-damp. He made three further attempts to reach the deputy but had to retreat on each occasion although on the last attempt he managed to attach a piece of belting to the man's leg. Going in again he dragged the man for a few yards by means of the belting and finally got him to the main road. Despite efforts to revive him, however, the deputy was found to be dead.

As an Overman, Carr knew the dangers he faced and that if he had collapsed in the conveyor road it would probably have been fatal.

IGERIA s/o Munyua, Driver, Kenya.

Igeria s/o Munyua was driving three passengers from Kandara towards Thika when the party was ambushed by a large gang. On being attacked Igeria took charge and ordered the party to take cover on the side of the road and to fire back at the gang. He then saw that one of the passengers was still in the car, presumably injured. Although under fire Driver Igeria returned to the car and carried the man to the side of the road where he found that he was dead. Igeria returned once more to the car, as the gang closed in, and recovered the man's rifle.

Realising the hopelessness of the position of the three men against a gang estimated to be 150 to 200 strong, Driver Igeria then ordered the party to withdraw.

KIOKO s/o Waita, Headman, Kenya.

Kioko accompanied by two Tribal Policemen and one Special Tribal Policeman, arrested a dangerous Kamba gunman in the Bahati Native Location, Nairobi. Immediately on making the arrest a Mau Mau gang fired on the party and all four men were wounded. Kioko was hit four times but in spite of this he continued to return the fire, killing two of the gang and severely wounding another.

Without Headman Kioko's brave example and self-discipline the four members of the security force would probably have been killed.

Thomas Weir Alexander (McSHANE), Constable, City of Glasgow Police Force.

Shortly after midnight a man and a woman were walking along a road in Glasgow when two men sprang out from the grass verge. One of the assailants caught the woman by the arms and pulled her away.

The other barred the man's path, pointed a pistol at him and fired at his feet, but without inflicting an injury. The man began to run, shouting for help, but was overtaken by his assailant and beaten on the head and face with the pistol until he collapsed.

Constable McShane heard the shot and cries for help and ran towards them. When he arrived on the scene the man with the pistol ran away holding the weapon in his right hand. The Constable chased him, overtook him and managed to obtain possession of the pistol. The man struggled violently but was overpowered and taken to the police station.

Constable McShane acted with courage and coolness in tackling a dangerous criminal armed with a loaded firearm which he had already used.

WANJONI s/o Wachira, Headman, Kenya.

MUTHUMI s/o Njekiri, Kikuyu Guard, Kenya.

Headman Wanjoni and an escort of four armed men were walking from Chui to Karunge Kikuyu Guard's Post when they were ambushed by an armed gang.

Headman Wanjoni ordered his men into firing positions and then personally controlled their fire upon the enemy, firing his own weapon at the same time. He continued to do this, inflicting casualties, until realising he would be cut off in the rear, he ordered his men to withdraw to the top of the valley giving covering fire himself as they did so. One of his men, Muthumi s/o Njekiri, was cut off from the rest of the party and set upon by a number of the gang armed with pistols and pangas. Muthumi fought them off with the butt of his rifle and then shot one and wounded others. These men withdrew but two of the enemy armed with .303 rifles shot at him from close range. Muthumi returned the fire and killed both of his attackers. The rifles dropped by these men were picked up by others who also started firing at Muthumi. He returned their fire and withdrew to where the rest of the Kikuyu Guard were waiting. Most of the enemy had meanwhile broken off the attack and were attending to their wounded and the Kikuyu Guard, hopelessly outnumbered, withdrew under Headman Wanjoni's direction, firing back at the enemy as they went.

Robert WILLIAMS, Launch Operator, Port Services Department, Trinidad.

When a severe storm struck the Port of Spain harbour, the schooner "Benevolence" which was moored alongside one of the jetties was being pounded against it. At the same time three barges dragged their anchors and prevented the Port Services small tug "Bear Cat" from approaching near enough to get a towing line to the "Benevolence".

The only means of getting a line to the schooner was by way of the barges as the tug would have been smashed if she approached any closer. Williams jumped into the heavy seas, taking a line with him,

managed to get on board one of the barges and re-entering the sea on the other side was able to pass the line to one of the schooner crew.

At the first attempt to pull off the schooner the tow line became fouled on one of the barges and Williams again jumped into the sea and managed to free the tow line thus allowing the schooner to be pulled off to a safe anchorage.

Williams displayed courage and resourcefulness.

QUEEN'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

James ABBOTT, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary. (Hindley.)

Harry DENNIS, Slipper Worker, Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

Charles HIGHTON, Grinder, Lea, Lancashire.

Eileen, Mrs. HOOTEN, Housewife, Hindley, Lancashire.

Philip HUNT, Textile Manager, Lea, Lancashire.

Peter SEDDON, M.M., Labourer, Leigh, Lancashire.

Brian SWINDLEHURST, Police Cadet, Lancashire Constabulary (Penwortham.)

Thomas WADESON, Sergeant, Lancashire Constabulary. (Leigh.)

Andrew WHIGHAM, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary. (Penwortham.)

For services when accidents occurred on frozen ponds in Lancashire.

Thomas Robert BARNARD (deceased), Assistant Conservator of Forests, North Borneo.

For services when armed bandits attacked the village of Semporna.

Leslie Charles James BROWN, Member, North Narrabeen Surf Club, Sydney.

Kenneth Robert HODGES, Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

James Herbert MASON, Member, North Narrabeen Surf Club, Sydney.

For services when two people were rescued from a sinking launch in shark infested seas.

John Frederick CASSIDY, Fireman, Middlesex Fire Brigade. (Southall.)

For rescuing a baby from a burning house.

Thomas Peace DROVER, Linesman's Mate, British Electricity Authority. (Melrose, Roxburghshire.)

For preventing sabotage by rendering harmless a time bomb.

Aubrey Whiting John FRUIN, Fireman, London Fire Brigade. (East Dulwich, S.E.22.)

For services when a fire broke out in a five storey building.

Nancy, Mrs. GRIMWOOD, Farmer's Wife, South Kinangop, Kenya.

For services during an attack by Mau Mau terrorists.

Stanley Johnson MANGING, Inspector, Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Police Force.

For re-capturing a performing bear which had escaped and attacked a woman.

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