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

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

17th May, 1955.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments 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 Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Peter Archibald Falcon AYLETT, Superintendent, Fao Terminal, Basra Petroleum Company, Iraq.

As a result of a violent electric storm, six of the twelve storage tanks in the Basra Petroleum Company's Terminal became ignited. Each of these tanks holds 17,000 tons of highly inflammable petroleum and with six of them on fire there was every possibility of a major disaster and considerable loss of life.

Mr. Aylett was the Superintendent in charge of the Terminal at the time. He immediately took charge of the situation, organised the men who were available and issued decisive orders which went far to calm their fears. He then personally led the assault on the first tank. Mr. Aylett, by his presence of mind, leadership, splendid example and complete disregard of his personal safety averted what might well have been a tragedy.

Neville Alastair POWELL, District Officer, Kenya.

Mr. Powell and a section of the Embu Guard Combat Unit were following up a gang in the Mt. Kenya Forest and, after

discovering a hide, saw several terrorists taking cover behind a fallen tree. The gang opened fire on the patrol which was caught in a small clearing. The Guard took cover but the terrorists were armed with precision weapons and Mr. Powell realised that if the patrol was pinned down for any length of time, considerable casualties would be inflicted upon them. He therefore made his way round the fallen tree and attacked the enemy from a flank. He killed one immediately whereupon the terrorists turned their fire upon him. A second terrorist was then killed by Mr. Powell and the remainder fled. Both Mau Mau killed were in possession of 303 rifles and both were subsequently recognised as leading terrorists. By his action Mr. Powell was responsible not only for saving the patrol from further casualties but for the recovery of two precision weapons, two home made guns and a quantity of ammunition.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Allan Leslie PAMPLING, Motor Driver, R.A.F. Station, Horsham St. Faith. (Norwich.)

Pampling was working on a 2,000 gallon aircraft refueller in the garage at the R.A.F. Station, Horsham St. Faith. He was under the vehicle, which was standing over an inspection pit, when there was a violent explosion and the tanker burst into flames. He was badly burnt and his clothing caught fire. He scrambled out of the pit and attempted to extinguish his burning clothing. In the meantime the tanker wheels caught alight. In the same garage were five similar tankers filled with jet aviation fuel and Pampling knew that these might explode if the fire spread. Although his clothes were still burning and he was suffering excruciating agony from burns on his legs, Pampling jumped into the cab of the blazing vehicle and drove it out of the garage to a piece of waste ground where he unhooked the prime mover from the blazing tanker and drove

away. On completing this task he became unconscious. By his courageous action Pampling prevented a serious explosion and saved the five other vehicles from possible destruction. In so doing he sustained serious injuries to his face, hands and legs.

PASKALI s/o Banda, First Class Warder, Prison Service, Tanganyika.

Paskali was off duty when he saw and recognised an escaped convict. The escapee recognised Paskali and ran away. Paskali chased the man for some time around the native quarters in the town, and the convict's attempts to elude Paskali included climbing on to the roof of a house. Paskali followed and the chase went on until he got within easy reach of the man when he saw he was armed with a large open knife. Paskali was unarmed but he grabbed a stick from a passer-by and tackled the criminal. During the struggle which ensued Paskali was stabbed three times in the back and twice in the arm. A Police askari then arrived and the convict was taken into custody. Warder Paskali knew the escapee was a dangerous criminal who would stop at nothing, but without regard for his personal safety he tackled the man and was responsible for his recapture.

Anthony James Arthur RIVERS, Lampman, British Transport Commission, Western Region. (Dudley.)

Rivers was carrying out his duties at Cradley Heath and Cradley Passenger Station when he heard unusual sounds to the rear of a passenger train. Upon investigation he found a woman on the line close to the level crossing struggling to release her right foot which had become wedged between the stock rail and a check rail on the Main line. Rivers endeavoured to release her foot, but without success, and seeing a train nearing the Station on the Main line, he lifted the woman as far as he could away from the track and took a penknife from his pocket with the intention of cutting her shoe loose but before he was able to do this the train was upon them. He had the presence of mind to realise that to save the woman's life it would be necessary to sacrifice her foot, and he held her by the shoulders as far away from the line as possible as the train rushed by. The woman's right leg was severed below the knee and Rivers sustained a fractured pelvis and injury to right knee and multiple bruises and abrasions.

Rivers without hesitation took what action he could to save the woman's life and knowingly accepted serious risk of personal injury. There is little doubt that if the woman had remained in her original position she would have been killed.

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

Victor George CONLAN, Stripper, Harlow, Essex.

Conlan was cycling across the forecourt of some flats with the intention of calling upon his parents, when he heard the sound of shots. The shots came from the direction of his parents' flat and hearing someone scream he dropped his bicycle and ran towards the

stairs. As he reached the bottom he saw a man on the stairs behind two people. He saw him push them aside and then turn round and fire at them with a small gun which he was holding in his right hand. The gunman ran to the bottom of the stairs and pushed Conlan to one side but Conlan grappled with him and they fell to the floor. The man got up and fired at Conlan but missed. He then ran out of the buildings and although Conlan chased him he was unable to catch him.

Conlan saw the shooting and deliberate wounding, but did not hesitate to tackle the assailant single handed with the full knowledge that the man was armed with a lethal weapon.

Norman Hugh DALE, Able Seaman of Yard Craft, H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth. (Gosport.)

Dale was in charge of a barge of high explosives when two aircraft flares in a box caught fire. The box was resting on its end against another box at the bottom of a working space which was about 6 ft. by 15 ft. The flames were spurting out of the top end of the box and were playing on the sides of the barge. Other boxes containing flares were lying in the bottom of the working space. With complete disregard of his own safety Dale entered the hold of the lighter, passed a line through the handle of the smouldering box of flares and heaved it overboard. The working space was enclosed on two sides by ammunition and Dale's action averted an explosion and possible injury or loss of life.

John Charles HUGHES, Dock Worker, National Dock Labour Board, Great Yarmouth.

A man fell between a quayside and a ship, striking his head in the fall. Hughes dived into a gap between the side of the quay and the swaying ship and although the ship's movement threatened to crush both men, Hughes managed to bring the man to safety.

The river is dangerous at this point and the man would almost certainly have drowned if Hughes had not acted as he did without regard for the risks involved.

Edward Richard JONES, Collier, Great Mountain Nos. 1 and 2 Colliery, Carmarthenshire, National Coal Board. (Llanelly.)

A man was working on the conveyor face at Great Mountain Nos. 1 and 2 Colliery, when the roof over the roadhead supports collapsed, trapping him from his waist down. Jones, a collier and first-aid attendant, was quickly on the scene and crawled past the fall to the trapped man who was conscious but could not move due to the weight of debris on him, which was causing him considerable pain. There was also a loose stone, about two tons in weight, threatening to fall from right above him.

Jones sent for morphia and more first-aid equipment and while this was coming, helped other men to erect a covering of wood flats to try and break the fall of the large stone or other smaller ones which might come away from the ragged roof. When the morphia arrived he crawled back to the trapped man and gave him an injection. He then instructed the men to cover

him in with his patient, although he knew this would bar all means of escape until they were released. They were rescued after two hours.

Jones exposed himself to grave danger during the time of the rescue operations and must have been aware that had a further fall occurred he would have incurred serious injury.

Myra, Mrs. O'SULLIVAN, Housewife, Bedford, Middlesex.

A fire broke out in a small ground floor room of a dwelling house in which there were three children aged 3 years, 2 years and 7 months. The mother found the room full of smoke and was unable to gain entry. She called for help and Mrs. O'Sullivan entered the house and saw smoke coming from the first door on the left. She went in and saw the baby in the pram at the back of the door. She picked up the baby and gave it to the mother who was standing just outside in the hall. Mrs. O'Sullivan then went back into the room but had to come out because of the flames and smoke. She could not see the other two children.

After she had recovered her breath she dashed back into the room which was full of flames and smoke and found the two children lying on the floor close to a gas fire which was alight. She dragged the two children across the room and out into the hall and then carried them outside where she applied artificial respiration.

Mrs. O'Sullivan displayed courage and presence of mind in her efforts to save the children but unfortunately all three died.

Frederick George SPILLETT, Laboratory Worker, Grade B, Leading Hand, Explosives Research and Development Establishment, Ministry of Supply. (Waltham Abbey, Essex.)

While work was being carried out at the Ministry of Supply Establishment, Waltham Abbey, to clear a fallen tree, one of the workmen came into contact with a live wire which had caught in the branches. Spillett, who was on duty at the time and working nearby, immediately went to his assistance.

At first he tried unsuccessfully to release the workman with his hands, receiving a severe shock in the process. However, this did not deter him, and fully realising the risks he was running, he threw his whole body against the man and managed to knock him loose from the wire. This was so successful that the only injuries sustained by the workman were light burns on the hand. Spillett, however, suffered considerable shock as a consequence of his gallantry.

Jack Allenby SPOONER, Lorry Driver, Ipswich.

Spooner saw two small children standing at the window of a house which was on fire. He went to the back of the building, forced the gate and then, finding the back door locked, kicked it down and entered the house. Led by the children's crying he found one of them in the hall. He took this child to the back door, handed it outside, and then returned for the second child whom he also brought out. Whilst effecting the rescue of the second child part of the ceiling

collapsed and cut Spooner's head but he shielded the child with his body. Spooner then entered the house a third time and brought out a pram which contained the youngest child. Spooner's prompt and brave action saved the lives of the three children.

Mikaeli TEBULO, Underground worker, Nkana Mine, Rhokana Corporation Ltd., Northern Rhodesia.

Mikaeli Tebulo was on duty underground at the Mindolo Shaft of the Nkana Mine. In order to place a blasting charge, his companion, a Boss Boy had to climb on to a ledge and secure himself by a safety chain designed to prevent him from falling into the ore pass. After placing the blasting charge in position and lighting the fuses the Boss Boy found that he was unable to unhook his safety chain clasp. Mikaeli Tebulo tried unsuccessfully to help his companion to undo the chain and was instructed by him to withdraw to a place of safety. He withdrew but believing that if he returned he might be able to save the Boss Boy's life, he did so and made further efforts to unhook the safety chain clasp. Although he was instructed once more to retire, he refused to leave his companion and when the blasting charge exploded he sustained superficial injuries, but the Boss Boy was unharmed. Mikaeli Tebulo showed outstanding bravery in going to the assistance of his companion. He must have been fully aware that he was risking his own life in doing so.

QUEEN'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Arthur BATEMAN, Detective Sergeant, Grimsby Police Force.

For services when an armed criminal was arrested.

Winifred Enid, Mrs. BLUNT, Mombasa, Kenya.

For services when a man was attacked by a wounded buffalo.

Peter Nigel BUCKLEY, Agricultural Student, Woodbury, Exeter. (Exmouth.)

For rescuing a man attacked by a bull.

Jack HOUSTON (deceased), Electrician, Bridgetown, Western Australia.

For attempting to rescue a boy from a fence electrified by a broken power line.

Bangali KAMARA, Store-boy, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

David Theophilus MBOYAWA, Constable, Sierra Leone Police.

For services when tackling a madman armed with a knife.

KARIUKI s/o Ituru, Headman, Mwerua Location, Kenya.

For services during operations against Mau Mau terrorists.

David Kyle McCUBBIN, Able Seaman, R.A.S.C. Vessel "Malplaquet". (Stranraer.)

Peter MYLCHREEST, Able Seaman, R.A.S.C. Vessel "Malplaquet". (Liverpool.)

For rescuing a man who had fallen between the wall of a dock and the side of a ship.

James MARSH, Manager, Newtown Colliery, Lancashire, National Coal Board. (Clifton, near Manchester.)

John DEMPSEY, Deputy, Newtown Colliery, Lancashire, National Coal Board. (Kearsley, near Manchester.)

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Robert PATERSON, Sergeant, Glasgow City Police Force.

Alexander Couper INNES, Constable, Glasgow City Police Force.

For rescuing two women trapped in a tenement building when the roof collapsed during a gale.

James SMITH, Leading Fireman, Prestwick Airport Fire Service, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. (Kilmarnock.)

Thomas McKendrick GIBSON, Fireman, Prestwick Airport Fire Service, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. (Kilmarnock.)

For services when an aircraft crashed and was destroyed by fire.

David Arthur TOMLINSON, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London, E.C.1.)

For attempting to stop a motor car driven in a dangerous manner.

George Henry WOODS, Sub-Officer, Caernarvonshire Fire Brigade. (Conway.)

Robert WILLIAMS, Fireman, Caernarvonshire Fire Brigade. (Conway.)

For rescuing a man from a burning house.

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