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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
23rd April 1963.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the under-mentioned 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 :

Stewart Alexander WALKER, Sergeant, 2nd Class,
Queensland Police Force.

As a Police Constable approached a house occupied by a Polish migrant, a shot was fired through the door, killing the Constable almost instantly. An Army Officer who was passing hastened to the fallen Constable to render first aid. He then saw a rifle fired from a side window of the house. Soon afterwards, Sergeant Walker arrived. He procured a service revolver, went to the side of the house and ordered the man inside to drop his firearm. The man fired at him and the Sergeant returned the fire. The man moved away from the window from which he was firing and Walker then went up to the front door, where he was joined by the Army Officer. The man fired two more shots through the front door and when the door was kicked open fired another shot. Sergeant Walker then advanced through the open door. The man pointed his rifle at the Sergeant but before he could fire the Sergeant shot him in the leg and he fell to the floor. He was then overpowered and disarmed.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for
Gallantry (Civil Division) :*

Norman Eric BARTHOLOMEW, Constable, Metro-
politan Police. (London S.E.19).

Richard Ellis THOMAS, Constable, Metropolitan
Police. (London S.E.5).

Constables Thomas and Bartholomew went to a building site in Camberwell where a block of flats, 165 feet high, was under construction. Twelve feet from the building and attached at intervals to its side by steel ties was a builder's hoist of lattice-girder construction. The hoist was 200 feet high. On arrival the Officers saw a man on the scaffolding of the building about six floors up throwing planks of wood and other loose building materials at people in the road. The scene was illuminated by searchlights of the London Fire Brigade. The man climbed up the girder work to the top where he started swinging about on the side of the hoist and shouting. Thomas and Bartholomew entered the building and climbed the partly constructed stairway to the top floor. At this level there was a loading platform of scaffolding and planks extending 8 feet from the building alongside a girder 12 inches wide by 12 feet long. The man was clinging to the hoist some feet above this level. Constable Thomas walked out to the end of the girder, holding on to a scaffolding pole, and tried to persuade him to come down. Constable Bartholomew followed and sat down astride the girder to support Thomas. The man refused to come off the hoist but suddenly collapsed and fell but Thomas leaned out and managed to grab hold of his raincoat and to hold him in mid-air. Constable Bartholomew locked his legs around the steel tie and held Thomas around his waist to support him. Between them they managed to pull the man on to the loading platform and into the building. The two officers were in great danger during their efforts to get the man off the hoist. Had they fallen between the hoist and the building to the ground some 165 feet below they would almost certainly have been killed.

Garth Beresford COLLIER, Sales Representative, Kedron, Queensland.

Mr. Collier had halted his car in a line of traffic in a Brisbane city street when his attention was attracted by the screams of a woman whose bag had been snatched as she emerged from a nearby bank. Collier saw a man running along the street and immediately gave chase in his car. He caught up with the suspected bag snatcher in another street, alighted from his vehicle and called upon the man to stop. The latter ordered him away, saying that he was armed and would shoot. When Collier moved towards him the man fled with Collier in close pursuit. Catching up with the fugitive, Collier was again warned by him to keep away, otherwise he would be killed. Collier closed with the suspect who had a pistol in his hand. As the two men grappled the pistol was fired, the bullet passing between Collier's thumb and forefinger. A passerby then helped Collier to disarm and overpower the violently resisting man.

Donald Malcolm COWAN, Salesman, Great Lever, Bolton.

A fire broke out in the two downstairs rooms of a four roomed house. Three young children were in one of the rooms. The occupant of the upper rooms noticed smoke rising from the lower floor and on going downstairs found the two rooms were ablaze. She rushed outside, saw Mr. Cowan who was driving a lorry past the house, and told him what had happened. He immediately entered through the front door of the house but was beaten back by the flames which were coming from the living room into the small passage. Cowan quickly drove his lorry to the rear of the house, smashed the rear gate and door and gained entrance into the kitchen, which was filled with smoke. There Cowan found a young child lying on the floor and took it out into the yard. He rushed back again and crawled into the living room which was burning fiercely. He discovered another child lying on the floor inside the room, and dragged this child to the door where he handed it to another man. After taking this second child to safety, both men attempted to return to the living room, but by this time the heat was terrific. A wall collapsed, the windows broke and it became impossible to enter the room. After the Fire Brigade had extinguished the fire, the youngest child, aged 1 year, was found dead lying on a chair in the living room.

John Michael LAURENCE, Decorator, London W.C.2.

Police were called to a Gas Holder Station at Kennington Oval, where a boy had climbed to the top of the largest gas holder and was threatening to jump. The boy was sitting on the uppermost girder about 130 feet above the ground. The gas holder was filled almost to capacity and its top was 15 feet higher than the girder on which the boy was sitting. Mr. Laurence, realising the danger, made his way to the steel ladder running up the side of the gas holder and climbed to the top from where he saw the boy hanging on by one hand to the lattice work of a girder. Laurence walked along a narrow horizontal girder which projects from the top of the dome and lowered himself to the girder to which the boy was clinging. The boy was by then holding on by one hand with his

legs dangling below. Laurence stretched himself full-length along the girder and with one hand managed to reach down and grasp the boy's arm. Meanwhile a London Fire Brigade turntable ladder was put into position and extended but it was found to be some fifty feet too short. Fire Brigade Officers therefore climbed to the top of the gas holder and two of them got on to the girder and were able to support Mr. Laurence while he passed ropes around the boy. To do this he had to have both arms free and he gripped the girder with his legs. The boy was swung across the ten feet gap between the girder and the gas holder where Fire Brigade Officers then lowered him to the ground by a line. He was found to be unconscious and was taken to hospital. Mr. Laurence spent some twenty-five minutes in a precarious position on the girder.

Henry Thomas James LAWSON, Labourer, Banana, Queensland.

William Robert McCLINTOCK, Sergeant, 2nd Class, Queensland Police Force.

Alfred WILLETT, Senior Constable, Queensland Police Force.

At a farm near Biloela, Queensland, an inebriated employee stole his employer's rifle and menaced him with it. The man was disarmed but obtained another firearm, with which he opened fire. His employer although wounded in the leg, managed to notify the Police. Sergeant McClintock, Senior Constable Willett and a Constable commenced a search for the offender and at a nearby camp they were told that the armed man had been there and had stated that he would shoot any police who came near him. The wanted man had been seen carrying a rifle and was thought to be hiding behind a log near the creek. McClintock and Willett, who were armed with revolvers, commenced to search the area, moving across open ground to do so. Lawson, an occupant of the camp, and a Constable remained nearby. Suddenly shots were fired at the two police who were in the open and McClintock was hit in the face. Helped by Willett, the Sergeant began to crawl away. In the meantime, shots were fired at Lawson, who returned the fire with a shotgun. When Lawson saw the man moving towards McClintock and Willett, he fired his shotgun at him, forcing the man to retire behind cover, whilst the wounded man moved further away. Lawson continued to fire at the place where the gunman had taken cover and remained in the area whilst the police took the wounded Sergeant to hospital. The man eventually made his way to the huts and took his own life.

Joseph James LEE, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

In the early hours of the morning a seaman fell from the Georges Landing Stage at a point near to the Seacombe Ferry berth, and was swept by the force of the ebbing tide beneath the Princess Landing Stage. He could not swim, but managed to grasp the Staging and shout for help. The cries were heard by Constable Lee and a Sergeant and two other men. Lee removed part of his clothing for immediate action and with one of the others made his way to a point just south of the Floating Roadway and climbed down onto a Pontoon. By the beam of a hand torch directed between the water and the under part of the Stage, they saw the man hanging on to the Stage with both hands. Constable Lee

lowered himself into the water and a rope was tied under his armpits. A lifebelt with a rope attached was thrown into the water alongside the Constable. The Constable then ducked beneath the Staging, there being only about 18 inches between the water and the Stage at this time, and pulled himself along sideways towards the immersed man, whose head he could see some 15 to 20 yards away, towards the centre of the Stage. Lee edged himself along until he could reach the man with his left hand and gripping him commenced to make his way back. The men at the other end of the rope pulled slowly and firmly until both rescuer and rescued were pulled clear of the Stage.

Walter Frederick ROBINSON, Sub-Officer, Grimsby Fire Brigade.

A call was received to a fire in a motor fishing vessel lying in the Royal Dock Basin, Grimsby. During the course of the operations a fireman became unconscious and fell into the ship's engine room partially blocking the entrance hatch. Sub-Officer Robinson, wearing breathing apparatus, crawled over the unconscious man into the engine room. With great difficulty, because of the confined space, and in spite of the fact that the mouthpiece of his breathing apparatus had been dislodged, he succeeded in getting the unconscious man through the entrance hatch and supported him until he could be pulled out from above. Sub-Officer Robinson showed great courage in accepting the risk of being trapped in the engine room where he would undoubtedly have been overcome by the heat and lack of oxygen.

Jesse SOUTHALL, Lathe Hand, Lye, Stourbridge.

A fire broke out in a house and three young children were trapped in an upstairs room. Mr. Southall saw smoke coming from the house and with two other men tried to get in through the front door but the smoke and fumes drove them back. Southall obtained a wet towel and a flash light and with these was able to get upstairs to the children. Nothing could be seen because of the thick smoke but he groped around and felt one of the children on the bed and took her downstairs. He immediately went up again and searched blindly until he felt a baby on the floor and another child on the bed. He picked them up, took them downstairs and out into the street.

John Haigh Howe THATCHER, Constable, Southern Rhodesia Police Force.

JACONIAH, African Constable, Southern Rhodesia Police Force.

Harold Keith WARD, Reservist, Southern Rhodesia Police Force.

Two African children were trapped on an island by rising flood waters of the crocodile infested Shashe River. The children had taken refuge in a tree sixty yards from the river bank; the island was completely submerged and the river in full spate. Thatcher and Jaconiah attempted to rescue the children but were unsuccessful. They then went in search of help and returned at about 6 p.m. with three Europeans including Police Reservist Ward. Thatcher volunteered to swim across to the children and after a length of electric cable had been tied around his waist, he entered the flood waters. When only a short distance from the submerged island, the length of cable ran out and he had

to be pulled back to the shore. The cable was then extended by tying a length of garden hose-pipe to the end and Constable Thatcher once again entered the water. By this time it was dark. He succeeded in reaching the children and seizing one of them and holding him with both arms, he was dragged back to safety. Thatcher and the child were submerged for most of the return journey and on reaching the bank Thatcher was completely exhausted. Jaconiah then volunteered to bring the remaining child back. The cable was secured around his waist and he set off into the river. On nearing the tree where the child was taking refuge, the current proved too strong and he was swept down the stream. He had to be hauled back to safety. Ward then volunteered to attempt the rescue. The cable was fastened to him and he swam out into the river. This attempt was successful and Ward although submerged for most of the journey returned holding the child with both arms. Ward was also completely exhausted after the rescue. The three officers displayed great courage and disregard for their personal safety in effecting the rescue.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct :

Alan Vivian BIRD, Little Badminton, Gloucester.

Raymond BIRD, Little Badminton, Gloucester.

Christopher Charles ROBIN, Little Badminton, Gloucester.

For rescuing a member of the crew of an aircraft which crashed and caught fire.

LORINYOI s/o Nakewan, Corporal, Turkana Tribal Police, Kenya.

For services during raids by armed tribesmen on the Kenya Uganda border.

Eugene MARAIS, Schoolboy, Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia.

For rescuing a girl attacked by a crocodile in the River Zambezi.

Chimanga MWAMBA, Native Authority Constable, Chinsali District, Northern Rhodesia.

For services when attempting to avert a riot at Chilanga Sub-Court.

Elina, Mrs. NINEPENCE, Villager, Ndungo Village, Kabompo, Northern Rhodesia.

For rescuing a woman attacked by a crocodile in Kabompo River.

Samuel Harris PARK, Firemaster, Central Area Fire Brigade, Alloa. (Bridge of Allan).

For rescuing a fireman injured while fighting a fire in a warehouse.

Momodou SAMBA, Relief Signalman, London Transport Board. (London N.1).

For rescuing a man who had walked into the tunnel of the underground electric railway and was in danger of being electrocuted.

Ethel Maud, Mrs. WAGGOTT, S.R.N., Nursing Sister, Bank Hall Colliery, National Coal Board. (Burnley).

For services following an explosion in a mine.

George Alfred WALE, Street Trader, Quinton, Birmingham.

For resisting an attempt at armed robbery.

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23rd April 1963.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased on the advice of Her Majesty's Minister's of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland to give orders for the undermentioned award of the British Empire Medal.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for
Gallantry (Civil Division) :*

MUCHINWAYO alias JOHN, Electrician's labourer,
Gargwe Tribe, Penhalonga.

An electrician assisted by Muchinwayo was carrying out electrical repairs in a house. The two men were working inside the roof space when the electrician while holding some wires in one hand, gripped a conduit with the other and received a severe electrical shock which rendered him unconscious. Muchinwayo with great promptness and presence of mind and without considering the risk to himself, seized the wires and wrenched them from the conduit. In so doing he automatically cut the power and saved the electrician from being electrocuted. Muchinwayo acted bravely and promptly without regard for the consequences to himself.

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