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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

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 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, for Gallantry:

Robert John ALLEN, Manager, Westminster Bank, Ltd., Hove. (Brighton.)

A man wearing a scarf covering the lower part of his face, entered a branch of the Westminster Bank at Hove pointed an automatic pistol in the general direction of the staff and demanded money. He repeated his demand in a loud voice and ordered the staff to stand up and move into a corner of the bank. Mr. Allen, hearing the shouting, went out of his office into the staff side of the bank, whereupon the man shouted to him to stand still. The gunman again demanded money but Mr. Allen sidled over to the middle desk underneath which was fixed an alarm which is connected to the police station. Despite threats from the man, Mr. Allen leaned over and pressed the button and then lunged across the counter and tried to grab the pistol but the man stepped back. Seeing his attention was diverted the Manager dived through the glass door at the far end of the counter with the object of seizing the man who however, turned and ran from the bank followed by Mr. Allen and members of the staff. While one of the staff chased the criminal on foot, Mr. Allen stopped a passing car and went to the railway station to give the alarm. When the man arrived at the station he was detained and later arrested.

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

Joseph GARDNER, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Edward MURPHY, Ambulance Driver, Liverpool.

An accident occurred in the extension of a ventilation shaft and it was reported that an injured man was lying at the bottom of the tunnel shaft, 150 feet from the surface, having fallen there from a moveable hanging wooden platform which was suspended 30 feet from the bottom of the shaft. Constable Gardner went to the scene and decided to descend the shaft by the quickest possible method. This was by means of a steel bucket 3 feet in diameter and four feet in depth, which was suspended over the centre of the shaft by a surface crane. Gardner was lowered to the bottom of the shaft. He found the injured man lying on two duck boards suspended across the sump which contained 18 inches of mud and water. Both his legs were fractured and his arms were dislocated and Gardner realised it would be very difficult to remove him to the surface. He called for assistance and Murphy came down in the bucket with special equipment. In view of the cramped conditions, both men stepped into the sump. Two boards were placed over the rim of the steel bucket but it was impossible to secure them to the bucket in any satisfactory way, and it was obvious that the injured man would have to be accompanied to the surface in order to steady this improvised stretcher, and also to negotiate it past the various obstructions. Gardner and Murphy therefore both climbed on to the bucket. As it ascended the bucket had a tendency to swing, being built on a hinge for tipping purposes and there was considerable danger of the three men being tipped out of the bucket to the bottom of the shaft. The surface was reached after about 30 minutes and the injured man conveyed to hospital.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct :

Miss Sheila BAKER, Children's Nurse, Holsworthy, Devon.

For rescuing children from a burning bungalow.

Louis FRANCE, Constable, Worcestershire Constabulary. (Kidderminster.)

For arresting a youth armed with a shot gun who had attempted to rob a shop.

John Walter PASCOE, Farm Worker, Mullion, Cornwall.

For rescuing a man from drowning.

David William PATRICK, Cashier, Westminster Bank, Ltd., Hove. (Brighton.)

For services when an armed man attempted to rob a bank.

Edward Joseph RICE, Constable, Birmingham City Police.

For arresting a criminal on the roof of a five storey building.

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