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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
6th April 1965.

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 brave conduct.

To be an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry:

Peter John ROMBAUT, lately British Honorary Vice-Consul, Stanleyville. (London N.6.)

During the months of rebel occupation of Stanleyville from August to November 1964, Mr. Rombaut displayed a consistently high degree of courage, energy and tact on behalf of the British community and others. He was tireless and resourceful in ministering to their material needs and in sustaining their morale and it was certainly thanks to him that they were saved from the worst excesses of the rebel regime. In particular it was on his personal initiative that a group of ten British missionaries at a station some distance down river from Leopoldville were eventually rescued. His conduct during a prolonged period of extreme tension and, at times, physical danger, was of the highest order.

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

Henry Martindale BULLOCK, Sergeant, County Borough of Blackburn Police.

The police were called to a block of flats in course of erection where a man was seen seated on tubular scaffolding on the tenth floor with his feet dangling in mid-air threatening to jump if anyone came near to him. Sergeant Bullock entered the flats and mounted the steps to the tenth floor. It was apparent that the man had

got into his precarious position by walking along a plank and out on to the steel scaffolding. At this time the man was about four feet past the end of the wooden plank, but still sitting on the steel bar. Sergeant Bullock knelt on the plank as near as possible to him and for the next fifteen minutes engaged him in conversation. The Sergeant crawled nearer and suddenly grabbed hold of the man's left arm. There was a struggle but the Sergeant succeeded in pulling him from the steel scaffolding, on to the wooden plank and finally into the building.

Alfred Edward HAMSHAW, Leading Fireman, London Fire Brigade. (London S.W.8.)

The fire brigade was called to a fire in a terraced house of 4 floors and basement. The first floor was well alight and smoke and flames were coming out of the windows at the front of the building. The crew was informed that a woman was trapped in the front room on the top floor and Hamshaw gave instructions to pitch an escape to a window on this floor. Despite the volume of fire issuing from the first floor windows Hamshaw, after asking for a jet to be got to work to cover him, immediately ascended the escape. His progress was impeded by the heat and smoke and a jet of water was directed from the street into the fire at the windows and this reduced to some extent the volume of heat and smoke emerging. With difficulty Hamshaw continued his ascent and reached the top of the escape. As he arrived at the head of the escape he felt a great upsurge of heat around him. Nevertheless he persisted in his efforts at rescue and, leaning to his right from the escape, he smashed the glass in the lower sash window. He felt inside the window for the woman but the heat was intense and he was forced to withdraw his hands, realising that it was hopeless to continue with the attempted rescue. Hamshaw's right hand was severely burned and he was by now in a very distressed condition, having virtually lost the use of both hands. He started to descend the escape, using his elbows to steady himself, and was safely brought to ground level. He was then conveyed to Hospital.

Thomas Ralph PAXTON, Sergeant, Cambridge City Police. (Stapleford.)

On 25th September 1964, Sergeant Paxton, and two Constables were called to a school where a man, armed with a knife, had locked himself in a cupboard and threatened to kill anyone who attempted to arrest him. The man, who was obviously mentally disturbed, came out of the cupboard and walked towards Sergeant Paxton brandishing the knife. The Sergeant made a grab for him but the man broke away and dashed down the stairs. Upon reaching the bottom of the stairs, Sergeant Paxton reached out to grab the man but he twisted out of the way of the Officer, lunged forward and stabbed him in the ribs. Realising he had been stabbed the Sergeant stepped backwards and picked up a protective shield which had been placed against the wall, and again approached the man who was trying to open the door. The Officer felt three or four blows hit the shield and then saw the door start to open. Despite his wounds Paxton grabbed the man around the neck and with the help of the Constables disarmed him. Sergeant Paxton even though wounded acted without regard to his own safety in overpowering this dangerous mentally sick man.

Leslie Douglas Guy PERRY, Sergeant, Southend-on-Sea Constabulary. (Leigh-on-Sea.)

A report was received by the police that a man known to be in possession of a shotgun was acting suspiciously in a car. A patrol car containing Sergeant Perry and two Constables was directed to the scene. Upon arrival the officers saw a man get out of the driving seat of the car carrying a shotgun in the firing position. He backed towards a fence with the gun pointing towards the patrol car. Sergeant Perry left the police car and went towards the man, and as he did so the man pointed the shotgun directly at the Sergeant and threatened to shoot him. One of the Constables then got out of the car. At this the man then pointed the gun at the Constable and Sergeant Perry took the opportunity to close

with the man and attempted to wrest the gun from him. Other officers arrived at the scene and after a very violent struggle the man was disarmed and arrested.

Queen's Commendation for brave conduct :

John Allan BECKETT, Constable, Southend-on-Sea Constabulary. (Leigh-on-Sea.)

For services when helping to arrest a man armed with a shotgun.

John Columb BLACK, Labourer, Belfast.

James GRAY, Labourer, Belfast.

William JOHNSTON, Fireman, Belfast Fire Brigade.

For services when three men were overcome by foul gases while working underground in a sewer.

Thomas COOGAN, Lorry Driver, Middleton, Lancashire.

Christopher Anthony JONES, Constable, Manchester City Police. (Denton.)

For rescuing a drunken and violent man who had climbed on to scaffolding on the face of a building in the course of erection.

Ian Bruce GOODSSELL, Constable, 1st Class, New South Wales Police Force.

Maxwell John Jesse SEYMOUR, Constable, 1st Class, New South Wales Police Force.

For disarming and arresting an intoxicated man armed with a shotgun.

John Henry LAST, Constable, Cambridge City Police.

For services when assisting in the arrest of a mentally affected man, armed with a knife.

Michael Kenneth PAGETT, Ganger, Oakengates, Shropshire.

For services when two men were overcome by fumes in an underground chamber.

Hugh McKenzie SUTHERLAND, Constable, West Suffolk Constabulary. (Monks Eleigh.)

For disarming a man armed with a shotgun.

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