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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
29th June 1965.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:

GEORGE CROSS

Michael Joseph MUNNELLY (deceased),
Journalist, London S.E.24.

Fourteen youths had been drinking at Kentish Town and had travelled in a van to Regents Park Road to a flat where two of them had been invited. They were in an extremely rowdy mood shouting and swearing. The fourteen were refused entry to the flat and some of them immediately attacked the occupier. Others went to a dairy opposite and from crates left outside began to bombard the flat with milk bottles, resulting in all the windows being broken, also the window of the shop next door. Some of the youths were attacking the occupier of the flat, some were throwing dozens of bottles and all were shouting, swearing and milling about. Although there were several onlookers, it appears they were all too frightened to interfere. In an endeavour to protect his property, the dairyman went into the street where he was immediately attacked by being butted, kicked and knifed in the groin. Michael Joseph Munnelly, his brother and a friend were the occupants of a third floor flat and hearing the noise of breaking glass and shouting, looked out of the window and saw the dairyman was on the ground being kicked. All three men decided they must go and help him and ran to the street. They detained two men but Munnelly was hit on the head by some person and released the man he was holding. The van, which had left the scene, then returned and was followed into the next turning by Munnelly's friend who in an attempt to stop the van banged on the side. The van stopped and he grabbed a youth who was sitting next to the driver. This resulted in a cry for help, the rear door of the van opened and several of the youths attacked him until they had kicked him

senseless. Munnelly immediately went to his rescue. Bottles were thrown at him, he was kicked and received a fatal stab wound in his lower left abdomen. The youths then fled. Munnelly and the others were mere onlookers who could have stayed in the safety of the flat but without thought for themselves they went to the assistance of the dairyman. Munnelly saw his friend being attacked with knives and immediately went to his rescue. Within a few minutes he was dead. He had given his life to save that of his friend.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
29th June 1965.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:

GEORGE CROSS

Brian SPILLETT (deceased), Detail Fitter,
Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire.

A fire broke out at a house, the home of a man and his wife and their child and the grandfather. The fire had reached an advanced stage when the family were aroused and it was only with great difficulty that the wife and child and the grandfather escaped. The father was still in the house when Mr. Spillett, attracted by shouting, came from his house a few doors away. He arrived only partly dressed. When he reached the door of the house both downstairs and upstairs were a mass of flames. Mr. Spillett enquired whether everyone was out of the house and on learning the father was still in it on the first floor, he ran straight into the flames. Attempts to hold him back were brushed aside. Mr. Spillett reached the first floor but was unable to rescue the father. By now the inside of the house was a blazing inferno and he only managed to escape himself by jumping through a first floor window. He was found some time later in the garden of an adjoining house, very extensively burnt and with other serious

injuries. He died in hospital a week later. Mr. Spillett sacrificed his life in an effort to save that of a neighbour.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

29th June 1965.

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 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:

Hugh Christopher Henry MEREWETHER, Deputy Chief Test Pilot, Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd. (Chilwood, Surrey.)

Mr. Merewether was carrying out a flight test of an aircraft which included diving the aircraft at supersonic speed and reducing power abruptly during the dive to investigate engine behaviour under exacting conditions. A supersonic dive was commenced from 42,000 ft. over the sea in the Isle of Wight area. On reaching approximately 28,000 ft. a complete engine failure occurred, followed rapidly by intensive vibration, explosive noises and a strong smell of burning in the cockpit, indicating that the engine was breaking up internally. Although he was aware that at any moment the aircraft could burst into flames, Mr. Merewether determined, in the highest traditions of test piloting, to stay with the aircraft and land it if it was humanly possible to do so. A layer of cloud covered the coast but he headed in the direction of R.A.F. Thorney Island and, after seeing the airfield momentarily through a gap in the clouds, he executed a superbly judged forced landing. A fire in the aircraft was subsequently extinguished. Mr. Merewether would have been fully justified in abandoning the aircraft when partial engine disintegration was evident; he knew that if he did so the cause of failure might never be discovered. As it was his great achievement in getting the aircraft back on the ground for examination resulted in the fault being found within three days, enabling evaluation trials to continue. This incident demanded not only outstanding ability but also coolness and courage in the face of considerable personal danger. By his calm acceptance of the risks and his skill in saving this aircraft he has made an invaluable contribution to a project of high national and international significance.

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

Captain Norman James ATKINSON, Mooring Master, Kuwait Oil Company, Ahmadi, Kuwait.

Captain Frank Harvey WALTON, Mooring Master, Kuwait Oil Company, Ahmadi, Kuwait.

A Liberian tanker was nearing completion of loading alongside the pier at Mina al Ahmadi,

when a fire occurred on board. The first flash killed two and incapacitated all the deck officers, the Chief Engineer and the deck crewmen. After a second flash had caused burns to a group of firefighters it was decided to tow the vessel away from the pier in view of the limited success of the firefighting efforts and the danger of explosion. All firefighting personnel left the ship and Captain Atkinson and Captain Walton boarded the burning vessel to take charge of the towing operation. They released the moorings and a tug commenced the tow, while other tugs stayed alongside and continued to fight the fire. When about 1½ miles north of the pier there was a renewed flare up and Captains Atkinson and Walton decided to release the tow and anchor. The anchor gear proved faulty and the starboard anchor and chain were lost, whilst the port anchor chain fouled in the hawse pipe. Meanwhile the towing tug had received instructions to tow the burning vessel 5 miles out as an explosion of the full cargo of oil on board could still have endangered the pier and other tankers in the port. By this time, there was no steam available to work the deck machinery, so Captain Atkinson with Captain Walton handled a towline on board from a tug. An additional tug had also arrived on the scene and was connected in the same manner. The line to one of the tugs parted, fatally injuring one of her crew, but Captains Atkinson and Walton were able to reconnect the tow and towing was resumed. Other tugs alongside continued to fight the fire. The deck fire was extinguished and the crews from two tugs boarded the ship and put out the fire in the accommodation. At noon the vessel was brought to anchor five miles off the pier. Captain Atkinson and Captain Walton were alone for nearly three hours on a vessel momentarily expected to explode and by their actions averted the possibility of a major disaster.

Awarded the George Medal:

Donald SMITH, Writer, London N.W.1.

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

William Eirwyn Thomas GRIFFITHS, Dairyman London N.W.1.

Fourteen youths had been drinking at Kentish Town and had travelled in a van to Regents Park Road to a flat where two of them had been invited. They were in an extremely rowdy mood shouting and swearing. The fourteen were refused entry to the flat and some of them immediately attacked the occupier. Others went to a dairy opposite, and from crates left outside, began to bombard the flat with milk bottles, resulting in all the windows being broken, also the window of the shop next door. Some of the youths were attacking the occupier of the flat, some were throwing dozens of bottles and all were shouting, swearing and milling about. Although there were several onlookers, it appears they were all too frightened to interfere. In an endeavour to protect his property, the dairyman, Mr. Griffiths, went into the street where he was immediately attacked by being butted, kicked and knifed in the groin. Mr. Smith and his friend were the occupants of a third floor flat and hearing the noise of breaking glass and shouting, looked out of the window and saw Mr. Griffiths was on the ground being kicked. Smith

decided they must go and help him and ran to the street. The van, which had left the scene, then returned and was followed into the next turning by Smith. In an attempt to stop the van, Smith banged on the side and the van stopped. He grabbed a youth who was sitting next to the driver. This resulted in a cry for help, the rear door of the van opened and several of the youths attacked Smith until they had kicked him senseless. Smith was a mere onlooker who could have stayed in the safety of his home, but without thought for himself went to the assistance of Griffiths who exposed himself to great danger in an attempt to prevent further trouble.

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

Derek Brian CALLOW, Milk Roundsman, Woking.

A fire broke out in a first floor bedroom occupied by an elderly lady. Attempts had been made to enter the room but the dense smoke had prevented the would-be rescuers from reaching the occupant. Mr. Callow then entered the house, went to the bedroom and groped his way to the bed. He was almost overcome with the heat and smoke and had to come out. He then tore down a curtain in a downstairs window, soaked it in water and ran back upstairs. He covered his head with the curtain, crawled in the room, got to the bed and half carried and half pulled the woman to the floor. He then picked her up and carried her on to the landing.

William James CLARKSON, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Robert DICK, Driver, Liverpool Corporation Passenger Transport. (Huyton.)

Leslie Wyn EDWARDS, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Brian FELTON, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Harold William LEWIS, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

A woman who had been suffering from a nervous disorder, and had been drinking heavily during the evening, was seen to climb over the railings of a river wall and jump into the river. She was wearing a heavy fur coat. Constables Felton and Clarkson who were on duty nearby, ran along the river wall and saw the woman floating in the water about 10 yards away. Both Constables took off their uniform caps, jackets and boots, and jumped into the water, the surface of which was then about 20 feet from the top of the wall. The water and the side of the river wall are heavily contaminated at this point with mud, slime and waste oil. The officers swam to the woman and supported her in the water. They were then joined by Mr. Dick, who had jumped into the water shortly after the officers. He assisted in supporting the woman who commenced to scream and struggle violently. They swam with her to the wall and eventually found a ringbolt attached to the wall about 4 feet from the surface of the water, which they grasped, and supported the woman between them. A crowd of persons, many of whom were of the hooligan element, gathered at the top of the wall. Some of them shouted and jeered at the rescuers, threw cups and other missiles and poured hot tea on them, which had been obtained from a nearby coffee stall. Constable Clarkson was struck by a cup, but fortunately was not injured. Constable Edwards, saw his colleagues struggling

with the woman in the water. He removed his jacket and boots and then jumped into the water to help support the struggling woman. Constable Lewis, hearing shouts and screams, went to the south side of the river removed his jacket and boots and dived in from the landing stage. He swam to the river wall and assisted in supporting the woman. There is little doubt that but for the action of Constables Felton, Clarkson, Edwards, Lewis, and Mr. Dick, this unfortunate woman would have drowned. They entered a tidal river on a cold night and risked their lives by continuing to retain their hold on her, despite her maniacal efforts at self destruction, and in the face of the shameful conduct of a number of hooligans, whose actions could well have prevented her rescue. In spite of the fierce struggles of the drowning woman and the considerable obstruction caused by the actions of hooligans, they persisted in their rescue efforts and with great courage and tenacity retained their hold upon her.

Cyril Charles CROSSINGHAM, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (Mitcham, Surrey.)

A man became mentally ill, assaulted his wife and children and then went berserk, brandishing a carving knife in each hand and threatening anyone who went near him. The Police were called and tried to reason with the man who was standing in the doorway. He charged at the officers, however, and threatened to kill them and his children. He then rushed back into the house, slamming and bolting the front door. As it was believed that three children were still in the house officers tried to gain access from the back. Constable Crossingham, stayed near the front door and after trying unsuccessfully to open it through the broken window he managed to kick the door open. Holding a dustbin lid as a shield to protect himself the officer advanced on the man who was in a small lobby still brandishing the knives. The man kicked at the lid, knocking it to one side, and lunged at Crossingham with one of the knives, which struck the officer near the right breast pocket and was deflected into his armpit. The officer stumbled backwards, dropping the dustbin lid and was pulled away by another officer. At the same time two constables rushed at the man knocked him off balance and forced him into a corner and after a violent struggle succeeded, with the help of Crossingham and other officers, in disarming him. Constable Crossingham acted with great courage in making the initial move that was so vital in effecting the capture.

Stanley Charles FULLER, Constable, Somerset Constabulary. (Weston-super-Mare.)

Information had been received that a group of criminals intended to break into a grocery store at Weston-super-Mare. Constable Fuller and three other Constables were detailed to keep observation on the store. At 8.50 p.m., a knock at the side door of the building was answered by the Storekeeper who was faced with a man holding a shot gun. Constable Fuller immediately tackled the armed man and brought him to the floor. The other intruders were overpowered and arrested.

John Thomas HODGSON, Overman, Silksworth Mine, County Durham, National Coal Board.

During a night shift at the Silksworth Mine three men were employed on withdrawing waste edge supports. There was a sudden fall of stone

from the roof which dislodged the supports and one man was trapped in a sitting position behind a conveyor-belt drum box with his leg trapped under a fallen roof bar and partly buried by rock. Overman Hodgson quickly arrived on the scene and immediately took charge of rescue operations. Realising that great slabs of stone which were hanging over the trapped man would fall if orthodox methods of support were tried, he directed two men to steady them on each side whilst he himself, sprawled across the drum box, supported the centre. Hodgson then sent for a lifting jack by means of which the roof bar was eventually raised and the man released. Hodgson instructed the others to jump to safety and then he released his hold and scrambled back over the conveyor in a working height of only 4ft. 6ins. The whole roof above the place where the man had been trapped immediately collapsed filling the space where the men had been working to rescue him.

John Anthony HUGHES, Draughtsman, Bangor.

Albert Eli JONES, Engine Driver, British Railways Board. (Chester.)

Whilst travelling as a passenger on the Rhyl to Chester train, hearing gun shots and noticing a youth with a sawn off shotgun threatening other passengers, Hughes, with complete disregard for his own safety, approached the youth and assisted by Driver Jones grappled with the gunman in a successful attempt to disarm him. In the subsequent struggle the youth also drew a knife with which he threatened Hughes, who took the knife from him.

John Kenneth LANE, Sergeant, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

Thomas EVERETT, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

Three men, one of them carrying an automatic pistol, committed a robbery in the West End of London and then made off in a stolen Jaguar car. A passing car followed them picking up Constable Everett on route. When the two cars reached Piccadilly the driver of the Jaguar lost control of the vehicle which mounted the pavement and knocked down a pedestrian and finally stopped near the traffic lights at Piccadilly Circus where the three occupants scattered. Constable Everett ran after one man down Lower Regent Street, while Station Police Sergeant Lane, who was on duty in the vicinity, also joined in the chase. The pursued man who was carrying a gun threatened a taxi driver and a private motorist in an effort to escape. As the officers closed the gap the gunman turned and threatened them with the gun but Lane continued running at him and knocking him to the ground fell over with him. The other officer went to his aid and the criminal who had struggled violently throughout was finally disarmed.

John Francis PUDDEFOOT, Sergeant, Glamorgan Constabulary. (Bridgend.)

Intruders were seen on the roof of an upstairs flat. The police were called and Sergeant Puddefoot climbed on to a high wall where he saw a man armed with a shot gun. The man was agitated and threatened to shoot if the Sergeant came nearer. Sergeant Puddefoot was

completely exposed but stepped across from the wall to the roof and slowly advanced. After further reasoning by the Sergeant the man stood up and surrendered.

Norman WILKINSON, Constable, Kingston-upon-Hull City Police Force.

A call was received by the Police to the effect that a man was threatening to shoot his wife. Two police officers went to the house and were informed that the man was on the upstairs landing and in possession of a shot gun. Constable Wilkinson then arrived at the house and took charge. He led the three other officers up the staircase and when near the top was confronted by the man holding the shot gun, which was both loaded and cocked. The man ordered the officers to get out and threatened to shoot if they refused. A shot was then fired and Constable Wilkinson fell back into the arms of the officer following. He was taken to hospital where it was found that there was a pellet lodged behind each of his eyes and for some time it was feared he had been completely blinded. Later, after treatment, it was found that Wilkinson had lost the sight of one eye. The man was arrested as he tried to leave the house. Although he knew the danger of being shot Wilkinson took the lead in making the approach up the staircase.

John William WOOLLEY, Constable, Bucks County Constabulary. (Brill.)

On receiving a report that a man had gone berserk at a house Constable Woolley rushed to the scene and on arrival found the man in the garden and in possession of a double barrel shot-gun. The man was completely mad and put the gun to his shoulder and pointed it at Woolley threatening anyone who came near. Woolley spoke to him and tried to subdue him and eventually got close enough to take the gun away. Whilst the Constable was hiding the gun the man went into his house and got a long handled axe and started to smash up the room and hack up the mantelpiece. Woolley tried to reason with him and managed to get the axe. Woolley then had difficulty in keeping the man away from two cut throat razors and a bill hook. The house was badly damaged and all the windows broken; a cooker and refrigerator had been torn out. Woolley managed to call a doctor and an ambulance and the man was taken to hospital.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct :

John Laurence AKRIGG, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

Jeffrey HERRINGTON, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

For services when arresting an armed and dangerous criminal.

Walter APPLEBY, Waste Drawer, Silksworth Mine, County Durham, National Coal Board. (Sunderland.)

Harry Spoons COOPER, Waste Drawer, Silksworth Mine, County Durham, National Coal Board. (Sunderland.)

For services when a man was trapped by a fall of roof in a coal mine.

Noel BUTTIMORE, Station Officer, Bath Fire Brigade.

Colin George RIDGEWAY, Sergeant, Bath City Police.

For services when attempting the rescue of the occupants of a car crushed under a cement lorry.

Arthur Ernest Edward CAINES, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (Carshalton.)

Kenneth David GRAHAM, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (Carshalton.)

For services when a mentally deranged man, armed with carving knives went berserk.

William Merchant FOSTER, Woking, Surrey.

For attempting to rescue a woman from a burning house.

Alan Victor GAY, Constable, Glamorgan Constabulary. (Bridgend.)

John Edward MCGLYNE, Detective Constable, Glamorgan Constabulary. (Bridgend.)

For services when arresting two youths armed with shot guns.

Charles Seymour HARRIS, Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

For apprehending an intoxicated man armed with a shotgun.

MAHANGOO, Rice Farmer, Tiger Island, Essequibo, British Guiana.

For rescuing a woman from drowning in the Essequibo River.

David Michael THOMAS, Constable, County Borough of Brighton Police.

Bernard Alfred William VOUSDEN, Constable, County Borough of Brighton Police.

For services when a woman attempted to throw herself off the roof of a block of flats.

William WHYTE, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London N.4.)

For stopping a runaway horse and cart in a busy thoroughfare.

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