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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
14th May 1968.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned 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.

Awarded the George Medal:

Alan Gerald Lewis-Ashley, Guard, Security Express Ltd. (Waltham Abbey, Essex).

John Reeves, Guard, Security Express Ltd. (Beckenham, Kent).

Mr. Lewis-Ashley and Mr. Reeves were members of the crew of a security van sent to collect valuables from a council office. The two men entered the building and collected two bags containing cheques, postal orders and cash which were attached securely to a body chain worn by Lewis-Ashley. As they left the building and walked towards the waiting van, Lewis-Ashley heard a shout, a shot was fired and a man rushed between himself and the van. Lewis-Ashley dashed forward and managed to reach the van and throw one bag safely into it. The man then shot Lewis-Ashley in the thigh and he fell into the van. The armed man snatched the remaining bag which was dangling on the body chain and made good his escape. Meanwhile Reeves was engaged in a fierce struggle with two other members of a gang of five, and succeeded in knocking one of them to the ground. A shot had been fired at Reeves which missed its target: he had also been sprayed with tear gas. Lewis-Ashley, now safely in the van, saw the man attacking Reeves and although wounded in the thigh, went to his aid. Picking up a riot stick he followed Reeves, who, by now, was chasing the robbers into an adjoining street, and on turning the corner saw a man running to-

wards the getaway car. However a member of the public drove his own car along the pavement and succeeded in hitting the man with his front bumper. Reeves then caught up with the man and struggled to hold him down until Lewis-Ashley struck the man with the riot stick and knocked him unconscious.

Miss Marion Young, Pupil Nurse, Dundee.

A soldier entered the needlework room of St. John's School, Dundee and threatening the girl pupils, all in the 14-15 age group, with a shot gun, forced them and their teacher to barricade, with tables and sewing machines, the two doors forming the only access to the room, and to draw the curtains along the window wall of the classroom. Thereafter, he herded the pupils and their teacher into a small fitting-room situated at one end of the classroom. Before sending a pupil to the headmaster to warn him that he did not want to be disturbed, the man fired a shot at the barricaded door, slightly injuring a teacher from the adjoining classroom who had come to investigate the disturbance. In the hour that followed the man continued to fire shots at the door. The headmaster and other teachers pleaded with the man to release the girls, and these pleas were reinforced by the police and others, but all their entreaties met with gunfire. In the course of conversation the man said he was acquainted with Miss Young and the teacher persuaded him to ask those outside the classroom to bring Miss Young to see him and in return secured a promise from him that if Miss Young came, he would set the children free. The police brought Miss Young to the school where she was made fully aware of the circumstances. Without hesitation she volunteered to go into the room and to do what she could to pacify the man and to persuade him to give himself up. In view of the reaction to earlier attempts at assistance this was a most courageous act. Miss Young entered the classroom and the man was persuaded to release the school children without further