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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

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

10th September 1968.

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

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

Edward Arthur HARRINGTON, Assistant Divisional Officer, London Fire Brigade. (London W.2.)

Assistant Divisional Officer Harrington was a member of the crew of a fire appliance which was called to an hotel where a young woman was standing on a ledge 60 ft. above ground level. She was in a highly emotional state and was threatening to jump to the ground. A turntable ladder was extended to the corner of the building and efforts were made to persuade the woman to re-enter the hotel. She refused to do so and broke away from a fireman who tried to assist her. Realising that considerable tact and patience would be required Harrington ascended the turntable ladder, which was at the maximum height for safe two-man working, and attached his safety belt to the trussing of the ladder so that he could reach her. He took hold of her arm but she resisted any attempt to move and, realising that she was too heavily built for him to hold if she slipped, he released his hold. After he had talked to the woman for more than an hour she agreed to come down the ladder and moved towards him. Before he could help her on to the ladder she changed her mind and began to retreat along the ledge by putting her hands on his shoulders and pushing herself away. Harrington grasped her around her waist, pivoted on his safety belt so that his back was to the ladder, and swung her round on to the ladder in front of him. She

started to scream and kick, and although he held her securely he was unable to descend. Another officer mounted the ladder and positioned himself in front of Harrington and the woman, to pin them to the ladder. They descended the upper extension of the ladder a few feet at a time but after that Harrington was no longer able to use the safety belt. The woman then became very violent. Every few feet during the descent she braced her feet on the ladder so that she could thrust upwards and the two officers had to use all their strength to prevent her, and themselves, from being thrown from the ladder. Harrington still had his back to the ladder, clasping the woman round the waist and lying back, as far as the angle of the ladder permitted, getting such purchase as was possible with his heels. The woman continued to struggle and kick and on reaching the ground was taken to a hospital.

Assistant Divisional Officer Harrington displayed qualities of tact, perseverance, strength and courage in a most difficult rescue.

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

Terence Alfred John PAGE, Station Sergeant, Metropolitan Police. (London N.6.)

Anthony Paul RICH, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

John David ROSS, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London W.1.)

Constables Ross and Rich arrested two men for being in possession of dangerous drugs and took them to a police station. On the way they had several times to restrain one of the men who on arrival at the police station was taken to the charge room by Constable Ross. When questioned the man put his hand into his pocket, pulled out a pistol and threatened to shoot. Ross ran from the room to get help. On hearing the shouting, Constable Rich looked into the charge room and saw the man pointing the weapon. He threw his truncheon at him but still covering the officer with the gun the man

backed out of the room. Meanwhile Constable Ross had told Sergeant Page what was happening and together they followed the man up some stairs to a first floor room which had two exits. Constable Rich had made his way there by an alternative route. As Sergeant Page and Constable Ross entered the room the man took aim and warned them he would shoot if they came any further. He then threatened to kill them if he was not let out. Sergeant Page signalled to Constable Ross and both officers drew their truncheons. Constable Rich, who was still guarding the other exit, did the same. After a few moments the man appeared to relax and the officers saw him lower the gun. Sergeant Page immediately shouted and the three officers rushed forward and jumped on the man who was then disarmed and placed in a detention room. The three officers were equally in peril and equally aware of the risk to which they were exposed in closing with a dangerously unstable man who was armed with a loaded weapon which to all appearances he was prepared to use.

*Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct :*

Anthony BENNETT, Security Man, Rochdale, Lancashire.

Maurice EDDISON, Security Man, Whitworth, Lancashire.

For rescuing two men from a gas filled cellar.

Richard Deacon BERRY, Electrical Fitter, South Western Region, Central Electricity Generating Board, Sonning Common, Oxfordshire.

For services when an accident occurred at an electrical Sub-Station.

David Johnston BURNS, Constable, Metropolitan Police, London N.W.10.

Patrick William SERGEANT, Roofing Specialist, London W.11.

William SHORTALL, Paint Sprayer, London W.11.

For services when the jib and counterbalance of a large crane collapsed and trapped two workmen.

John Harold CATHER, Bank Officer, Bellevue Hill, New South Wales.

Mervyn Philip COOPER, Detective Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

Brian Seymour FITZPATRICK, Constable First Class, New South Wales Police Force.

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

John Wallace HAMMOND, Constable, Huddersfield Borough Police.

For services when arresting a man armed with a shot gun.

Kenneth John McKNIGHT, Constable, New South Wales Police Force, North Turrumurra.

For disarming a mentally disturbed youth in possession of a loaded rifle.

John William MARKHAM, Postman Mail Driver, General Post Office, London S.E.5.

Thomas Edward TAYLOR, Postman, General Post Office, London S.E.13.

For services when a gang of armed men attacked a Sub-District Office.

Arthur Edward NICHOLLS, Divisional Officer, Grade III, London Fire Brigade, London W.1.

For services when a woman was rescued from a ledge of a building 60 feet above ground level.