



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO
The London Gazette
of Friday, 11th July 1969

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 15TH JULY 1969

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

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

15th July 1969.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders 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.

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

James DOCHERTY, Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.

Sub-Officer Docherty was a member of the crew of a fire appliance called to a house fire. When the appliance arrived flames were coming from the first floor window and smoke from the second floor window, at which three people could be seen. An escape ladder was pitched to the second floor and Sub-Officer Docherty climbed through the heat and smoke to the window, where two men and a woman were standing on a dressing table. Sub-Officer Docherty grabbed the ankles of one of the men to direct his feet on to the ladder, but owing to the intense heat from below, the man withdrew. At a second attempt Sub-Officer Docherty succeeded in pulling the man, through the window on to the ladder, pinning him to it with his body. After turning the man so that he was facing the ladder, Docherty passed him between his legs and a fireman brought him to the ground. Sub-Officer Docherty then took a jet up to the second-floor window where he found that the other man and the woman had fallen across a bed near the window. Aware that he would not get them out without assistance and in order to protect the man and woman from the fire, Docherty positioned his body through the window and directed a jet on to the fire which had reached the doorway. Further

appliances arrived and a Station Officer ascended the ladder and, with Docherty, entered the room and passed the man out to other firemen on the ladder. Firemen wearing breathing apparatus broke through into the bedroom and helped to get the woman out to the ladder. In the extremely hazardous conditions. Sub-Officer Docherty acted with great courage and determination.

Peter Laidlaw LAWSON, Sergeant, Metropolitan Police.

Clive Lester ARNOLD, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

A man who was estranged from his wife went to her home and when she refused to go back with him he became abusive, shook her by the neck, and threatened to murder her, the children and any others who had helped her. The eldest daughter went to a neighbour's house and shortly afterwards the man went there, demanded the return of his daughter and threatened to shoot the three occupants one of whom then telephoned police. Sergeant Lawson and Constable Arnold, went to the house from which screams could be heard and after repeated knocking the door was opened by the man who threatened to kill the officers if they entered. Arnold forced the door open and on entering the house the two officers saw the man standing in a room holding his wife in front of him with his left arm around her neck. In his right hand he held a pair of long bladed scissors with the points on the woman's neck. Both Officers threw themselves at the man who after a struggle released his wife. He then appeared to go berserk. He still held the scissors in his right hand and he made an outward sweep of his arm and brought the scissors towards Lawson's side. Arnold was able to parry this and subsequent blows but was only able to reduce their force. Sergeant Lawson was then stabbed, collapsed and fell unconscious to the floor. Constable Arnold continued the struggle until other officers came to his assistance and the man was overpowered and arrested.