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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
9th December 1969.

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 Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry:

Barbara Winifred Doreen, Mrs. BISHOP, Staff Nurse, St. Augustine's Hospital, Chartham, Kent.

Staff Nurse Bishop was told that a female psychiatric patient was on the roof of one of the buildings. When Staff Nurse Bishop arrived at the yard the patient was hanging by her arms from some pipes at the side of the building. Mrs. Bishop immediately instructed the boiler attendant to telephone for further assistance; meanwhile the patient had moved up on to the roof and thence on to a girder which joins the roof of one building to a pier rising from the roof of another building and spans an open space. The girder which is 4 inches wide rests on a parapet 18 inches wide, and stands up like a chimney 30 feet above ground level. Mrs. Bishop, when she saw this, obtained a ladder and climbed up to the level of the roof, ascended the sloping roof without aid of any appliance and with great difficulty climbed on to the parapet and tried to hold the patient who struggled wildly and threatened to jump—and take the Staff Nurse with her. Mrs. Bishop managed to hold her until help arrived. The Staff Nurse showed great courage and risked her life in climbing after the patient.

Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry, Civil Division:

Gwilym Goldsmith DAVIES, Coastguardsman, H.M. Coastguard, Broadwell Hayes, Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

Four teenage persons had been cut off by the tide and were stranded on a ledge near the foot of cliffs 150 feet high. The weather at the time was misty, overcast and raining, with a wind blowing in squalls; the sea was moderate with a heavy swell and night had fallen. A lifeboat was launched and the Coastguard Cliff Rescue Company was assembled and with Coastguardsman Davies in charge, made its way three miles overland to the scene of the incident. On arrival it was found that the lifeboat, with the aid of star shells, had located the stranded people and with its searchlight was illuminating the scene, but, owing to the sea conditions and rocky foreshore, was unable to effect a rescue. Coastguardsman Davies knowing that the ledge would be under 6 feet of water at high tide and therefore time was of the utmost importance, gave orders that he should be lowered down the cliff by the remainder of the Company. On reaching the level of the ledge he found that owing to an overhang it was not possible to get on to it and he had to be hauled back to the cliff top. From a different position he was again lowered, but the four teenagers each refused to put on the harness and swing out to Coastguardsman Davies. It thus became essential for him to get on to the ledge and to accomplish this it was necessary for him to swing like a pendulum about 20 feet out over the sea and, on the return swing, make a landing on the slippery surface of the ledge, over which the waves were now breaking. Despite being twice washed off the ledge, he succeeded in reaching the stranded people. The eldest youth was quickly fastened in the harness and Davies swung back out over the water with the lad and after being pulled up to the underside of the overhang, helped him to clamber

over it and then guide him up the cliff face. These actions were then repeated, but with even more difficulty, as one of the younger boys began screaming and had to be restrained before he could be persuaded to don the harness, while the other, who was swinging badly under the cliff overhang, would have smashed against the cliff face had not Davies caught hold of him and, with complete disregard for his own safety, jumped into the sea and supported him until the cliff top team, which by now had been reinforced, hauled them to safety. Coastguardsman Davies then put the harness on the girl, who was on a slightly higher part of the ledge, and together they were hauled to the cliff top, thus completing in a little over 50 minutes a most outstanding rescue. Owing to the loose and crumbling nature of the rock under the overhang the danger from falling rock was ever present.

Robert Anthony FIELDER, Leading Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

Michael Stanley RUFFELL, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

Leading Fireman Fielder and Fireman Ruffell were members of the crew of an emergency tender which was called to a fire at an Hotel. Having learned that a man was trapped at a sixth floor window at the far end of the rear of the building, Fielder and Ruffell scaled a high spiked gate and went up an external fire escape, along the ridge of a roof and on to a flat roof at first-floor level. They took with them a hook ladder and a lowering line. Fielder pitched the hook ladder to a second floor window and the two men began their ascent. Each of the double casement windows above them was slightly open. They inserted the hook of the ladder into the narrow gap of the second floor window, but found that the end of the hook could not engage properly, making it impossible to obtain a proper purchase for the ladder, which was not parallel to the wall and not securely attached. Leading Fireman Fielder mounted the ladder first, opened the window fully, climbed in and engaged the hook as well as possible. Fireman Ruffell joined Fielder inside the second floor window. Fielder lifted the ladder and engaged it as well as possible into the gap of the third-floor window. Thereafter Leading Fireman Fielder and Fireman Ruffell took turns at engaging the ladder and carrying the lowering line. The hook of the ladder could not be engaged with complete security at any floor level because a metal heater inside the window of each room stood several inches higher than the window sill, and the end of the hook rested on the top of the heater. Below the windows at the second, fourth and sixth floor levels, decorative brickwork protruded twelve inches and created a further hazard by forcing the head of the ladder out from the window sills above thereby reducing even more the length of hook which could be engaged. This caused the ladder to bow considerably when the men started the climb upwards from each window below this brickwork. When Leading Fireman Fielder and Fireman Ruffell entered the room on the sixth floor, they found a haze of smoke and the floor surround already blackened. The man in the room was an elderly foreigner. The corridor outside the room was very hot and heavily smoke-logged and Leading Fireman Fielder

decided that the man should be lowered by line. After securing the man to the line, they lifted him on to the window sill and then succeeded in lowering the man to the ground uninjured. This rescue was possible only because of the great courage and superb firemanship of Leading Fireman Fielder and Fireman Ruffell. Throughout the climb from the first to the sixth floors they were at considerable personal risk and, as experienced firemen, were fully aware of the great risks involved in using an inadequately secured hook ladder. Without thought for their own personal safety they showed great courage and tenacity in circumstances which they knew to be extremely dangerous.

John HOLGATE, Security Guard and Driver, Mitcham, Surrey.

Mr. Holgate and a Security Custodian drove in a security van to a bank to collect cash for a wages delivery. Holgate parked the van in front of the bank and after ensuring that the vehicle was immobilised, the two men entered the bank, where cash was collected and placed in canvas bags. Holgate went out with a bank messenger to make sure that there was no suspicious movement outside and then he and the Custodian both went to the van. As the Custodian was about to open the nearside front door of the van, there were two loud reports and he fell, shot in the right leg. Holgate saw two men a few feet away both carrying shot guns, approaching the van in crouching positions from different angles. He immediately turned, picked up the Custodian bodily and threw him into the van together with the cash bags and stood on the steps of the van facing the armed robbers. By this time one gunman was close to the van and he pointed his gun into the van apparently to shoot the Custodian who was lying unconscious on the floor. Without hesitation Holgate seized the barrel of the gun and at the same time kicked out at the gunman, who at that moment fired his weapon, hitting Holgate on the inside of the left knee. Although in considerable pain Holgate lashed out at the gunman with his baton, managing to strike him near the shoulder. Holgate then saw the other gunman apparently preparing to fire his shotgun and quickly went backwards into the van and slammed the sliding door shut. The first gunman fired again into the door of the van causing a hole about four inches in diameter and the Custodian was struck in the face by a number of pellets which penetrated the door. Holgate managed to lock the cash in the rear compartment of the van and he then informed his headquarters by radio of the attack. As he looked out of the front window of the vehicle he saw the two gunmen retreating but one of them fired another shot which hit the top of the front of the van. One of the gunmen was subsequently arrested.

Richard HONEY, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

William Buchanan LENNOX, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

John William Robert NOVAK, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

A young man, standing on the outside of a parapet of a bridge threatened to jump off. Constable Honey, Constable Lennox and Fireman Novak were among those who were called to the scene where the man was standing outside the parapet on a ledge about 8 inches wide,

threatening to jump to the roadway below, a distance of 92 feet. Several attempts were made to persuade the man, who was in a very distressed condition, to climb back on to the bridge but without success. The parapet of this bridge is surmounted by an open-work metal balustrade topped by a metal spindle with revolving spikes. The man who was showing signs of physical and mental deterioration, made an attempt to jump from the bridge. However, two people on the bridge managed to lean through the balustrade and grab the man by his clothing, but he immediately started to struggle out of his clothing and had he managed to do this there is no doubt that he would have jumped from the bridge. At this juncture Constable Honey climbed over the balustrade on to the ledge of the parapet and grabbed hold of the man, putting his left arm across his chest and pushing him backwards against the side of the bridge. He was followed immediately by Constable Lennox who supported him in his unstable position. At the same time Fireman Novak climbed over the balustrade at the other side of the man and put his right arm across him. The man was now struggling and kicking violently and the rescuers had great difficulty in retaining their foothold on the parapet and their handhold on the balustrade, both of which were wet and slippery. In the ensuing struggle each of the rescuers lost his foothold on more than one occasion. At one point, Constable Honey's legs were kicked from under him and, as he slipped, Lennox caught hold of his right wrist and held him until he had regained his balance. Eventually a rope was provided and whilst Constable Lennox supported Honey with a firm hold on his wrist, Honey and Fireman Novak each used his free hand and his teeth to tie the man. When they were satisfied that he was securely bound, he was moved a few feet along the ledge to a place where he could be hauled over the railings to safety. Police Constables Honey and Lennox and Fireman Novak put themselves at very serious risk in saving the young man's life. Although fully aware of the danger of falling or being dragged or thrown to their deaths, the three men were not deterred and showed great courage in restraining a man who was making a determined effort to jump.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Tauqir AHMAD, General Medical Practitioner, London, N.5.

For services when restraining a mentally deranged man armed with a knife.

Thomas ALDRED, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Robert ALLISON, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For services when arresting two armed criminals.

Michael David AYLWARD, Apprentice Electrician, Portreath, Redruth.

Donald BISHOP, Service Representative, Wigston, Leicester.

David Robert EVANS, Student, Portreath, Redruth.

Christopher JERVIS, Student, Redruth.

Charles Robert JOHNS, Salesman, Portreath, Redruth.

Brian James KING, Fitter, Pewsey, Wiltshire.

Kenneth Gordon PASCOE, Engineer, Camborne.

Peter TOPLISS (deceased), Fitter, Redruth.

For services when three children were swept off a sea wall by heavy seas.

Edward AYRES (deceased), Refuse Collector, London, W.10.

For attempting to rescue children from a burning house.

Gerald James FULLER, Leading Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

John Michael HUGHES, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

Peter Anthony MARS, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

Paul Brinley John STEPHENS, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

For rescuing persons from a burning six storey hotel.

Victor Charles David GELL, Carpenter, London, E.6.

For resisting an attempted armed robbery.

William Frederick JACKSON, Sergeant, Metropolitan Police.

David Louis CLARABUT, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For arresting a man armed with a loaded revolver.

Paul LEEDER, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

David REDPATH, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For services when arresting an armed criminal.

James Winston LUTHERBORROW, Constable 1st Class, New South Wales Police Force.

For arresting a bank robber armed with a shot gun.

Henry Frederick MASTERMAN, Plant Operative, Huddersfield.

For services when an explosion occurred in a chemical factory.

Ronald George ORMAN, Detective Constable, Thames Valley Constabulary.

David John DUTSON, Constable, Thames Valley Constabulary.

Geoffrey Edward THOMAS, Piece Worker, Littlemore, Oxford.

For services when an explosion occurred in a dwelling house.

Frank Walter Spence WANSTALL, Inspector, Thames Valley Constabulary.

Arthur Percival BINGHAM, Sergeant, Thames Valley Constabulary.

For services when dealing with a mentally deranged man, armed with a rifle.

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