

not be blown up where it lay because of the proximity of dwellings.

Sergeant Major Hambrook summoned the assistance of an officer and these two then arranged for the complete evacuation from the area of everyone but themselves.

Because of the noise made by the pumping sets (which could not be stopped without the risk of immediate flooding and collapse of the shaft), it was impossible to use the electronic stethoscope. Therefore there would have been no warning if the clock had re-started ticking at any time during the operation.

After the fuse was immunised, the base plate of the bomb was removed. This revealed that the powder explosive filling had deteriorated to such an extent that some two gallons of nitroglycerine (an exceedingly unstable explosive) had been formed and that the remaining 200 lbs. of powder was floating in it as lumps or sticking to the casing. This combination could only be removed by hand. Apart from the extreme risk of explosion which could be caused by any small shock or friction, working conditions were made appalling by the fumes which cause constant retching and nausea. By the time the explosive had been removed Sergeant Major Hambrook had worked continuously for twenty-nine hours without rest or warm food, and had been exposed to extreme danger for eleven hours.

On 1st October 1969 Warrant Officer II Hambrook as second in command to his Squadron Commander was called to deal with a German Parachute Mine in London. This mine, which was found on a congested building site, contained over 1,500 lbs. of Hexamite explosive and was of a type normally fitted with any combination of detonating devices sensitive to light, sound and metal tools as well as containing a clockwork delay mechanism. It was decided that the devices could not be exposed and neutralised because of the prolonged risk to many people this procedure would cause. Therefore the explosive was removed by steam from the mine with the detonating systems still intact. This involved few people but greater risk: due to the uncertain effects of steam and extreme changes of temperature on the devices, any of which could have caused an immediate explosion.

Warrant Officer II Hambrook was required to assist in operating the steam generators and removing the explosive. He had to approach the mine at intervals never greater than half an hour throughout a period of some twelve hours.

On 11th December 1969 Warrant Officer II Hambrook was second in command of a team called to deal with a 500 kilogram German bomb at Fleet. This bomb was found to be fitted with a type 17 clockwork fuse and type 50 anti-disturbance fuse. This combination of fuses was specifically designed to kill Bomb Disposal personnel.

Warrant Officer II Hambrook and the Troop Commander together fitted a magnetic clockstopper and immunised both fuses. This task involved three hours of extremely dangerous work.

These are three examples of the skill, calmness and gallantry displayed by Warrant Officer II Hambrook.

His example has been an inspiration to other members of the Bomb Disposal Unit.

21st April 1970.

COMMANDS AND STAFF

REGULAR ARMY

Brig. W. M. INGLIS, C.B.E. (64533), late R.E., retires on retired pay, 20th Apr. 1970.

ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS

REGULAR ARMY

2nd Lt. L. M. BORWICK (483507), Scots Greys, to be Lt., 15th Apr. 1970.

2nd Lt. R. S. D. RIGGALL (483544), R.H., to be Lt., 15th Apr. 1970.

Special Reg. Commns.

Lt. P. A. SYKES (485611), 15/19 H., to be Capt., 15th Apr. 1970.

Lt. Edward Patrick Wake THRING (482977), 9/12 L., from Short Serv. Commn., to be 2nd Lt., 13th Mar. 1970, with seniority 14th Jan. 1969. To be Lt., 13th Mar. 1970, with seniority 3rd Dec. 1969.

Short Serv. Commns.

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be Lts., 15th Apr. 1970:

G. A. AWDRY (483189), R.H.
N. R. BRUNTON (483510), R.T.R.
R. H. TILLET (483558), 15/19 H.
N. C. WRIGHT (483564), 9/12 L.

2nd Lt. Charles Lambourn GARRARD (484994), R.T.R., from Res. of Offrs., to be 2nd Lt., 18th Mar. 1970, with seniority 23rd Apr. 1968.

TERRITORIAL AND ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

Lt. J. A. P. FORBES (450180), R. Wilts. Yeo., to be Capt., 1st Mar. 1970, with seniority 20th Aug. 1967.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY

REGULAR ARMY

Short Serv. Commns.

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be Lts., 15th Apr. 1970:

M. O'DONOGHUE (483538).
D. E. RADCLIFFE (483542).
A. B. TAYLOR-ROBERTS (483556).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Short Serv. Commn.

2nd Lt. D. W. MACFAUL (483535) from Active List, to be 2nd Lt., 15th Apr. 1970.

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

REGULAR ARMY

Capt. William Emlyn KENNERLEY (483420) from Short Serv. Commn., to be Capt. (Q.M.), 24th Mar. 1970.

Capt. (Q.M.) G. H. COLLINS, B.E.M. (475054), retires on retired pay on account of disability, 21st Apr. 1970.

Special Reg. Commns.

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be Lts., 15th Apr. 1970:

R. D. BARNETT (483569).
G. J. HARDWICK (483570).
P. B. PAGE (483540).

Short Serv. Commn.

2nd Lt. R. A. HYDE-BALES (483531) to be Lt., 15th Apr. 1970.

TERRITORIAL AND ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

Capt. (Acting Maj.) I. R. BRYCE (466061) to be Maj., 19th Mar. 1970, with seniority 1st Nov. 1967.

Lt. B. W. T. SPIERS (482435) is granted the acting rank of Capt., 1st Apr. 1970.

2nd Lt. S. HARLEY (488153) from T. & A.V.R., Gen. List, to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 6th Feb. 1970, with seniority 10th Aug. 1969.

2nd Lt. J. C. HUNNIFORD (485236) (on probation) resigns his commn., 1st Dec. 1969.

ERRATUM

In Gazette (Supplement) dated 3rd Mar. 1970, Page 2555 under CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS and above Anthony Raymond WAITSON (486342), Direct Entry insert, Short Serv. Commns.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

REGULAR ARMY

Capt. J. P. GOLDNEY (467375) retires, receiving a gratuity, 16th Apr. 1970.

Short Serv. Commn.

2nd Lt. E. H. SAMBELL (483546) to be Lt., 15th Apr. 1970.

TERRITORIAL AND ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

The undermentioned Capt. from T. & A.V.R., Category III, to be Capt., 1st Apr. 1969, with seniority on the dates shown:

N. R. REES (249707), 28th Aug. 1948.
W. T. NEWTON (415721), 6th Nov. 1954.
W. TYERS (445201), 2nd Oct. 1957.

Lt. G. BERRY (478002) to be Capt., 1st Mar. 1970.

Lt. N. D. ATKINSON (473673) is placed on the Unatt'd List, 1st Jan. 1970.

2nd Lt. M. R. J. DAVIES (485519) from T. & A.V.R., Gen. List, to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 12th Mar. 1970, with seniority 2nd Mar. 1968.

INFANTRY

GUARDS DIVISION

REGULAR ARMY

Capt. J. G. L. PUGH (472991), Gren. Gds., resigns his commn., 1st Apr. 1970.