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TUESDAY, 12TH MAY 1970

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

12th May 1970.

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:*

Philip Patrick SMITH, Captain, Bristow Helicopters Ltd., Great Yarmouth.

Captain Smith took off in a Wessex 60 helicopter to attempt to evacuate the crew of the drilling rig Constellation which was being towed to Holland for repairs and which was encountering very rough seas and high winds. Captain Smith, flying through heavy snow, sleet and showers on a pitch black night, located the Constellation and, in spite of the deck rolling and pitching and the hazard presented by the raised legs of the rig towering some hundred feet above, was able to land on the rig (tail first in order to keep the aircraft into wind) and evacuate 11 of the 19 men on board to the rig Britannia, some thirty miles away. Conditions deteriorated and Captain Smith set off again to complete the evacuation. The Constellation was now rolling and pitching and shipping water into the machinery compartments. Captain Smith again landed his helicopter on the flight deck, took on board the remaining 8 members of the crew and evacuated them to the rig Britannia. The rig Constellation subsequently capsized and sank. Captain Smith, with great

skill and airmanship twice landed his helicopter on a pitching and rolling flight deck despite obstruction hazards and in extreme weather conditions.

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

Alun David CHALK, Constable, Nottinghamshire Combined Constabulary.

Police officers were called to business premises late at night when an audible alarm began to operate. One policeman climbed on to the roof at the point where access had been gained and disturbed the offender who made off over the roof tops away from the attacked premises. Constable Chalk, who had seen the man on the roof top gained access to the roof from an attic window. Chalk recognised the burglar and shouted his identity to the other officers. When making towards him, along the apex of the roof, the man threw a piece of masonry which struck Chalk a severe blow behind the left ear, causing a head wound. The officer, nevertheless, closed with the man who struggled violently, punching Chalk about the head and body. Constable Chalk at this time was still slightly dazed by the blow he had received and he lost his grip on the roof. He slipped down the side and came to rest between the eaves of two roofs. The burglar then jumped on to a flat roof some ten feet below and Chalk again gave chase, closed with the criminal, who became very violent, and during the struggle both men fell. On being overpowered the man assured Chalk that he would give no further trouble, but when allowed to stand up he immediately reverted to violence. Chalk managed to restrain him until the arrival of other officers, whereupon the prisoner was taken to the police station. Chalk lost consciousness shortly after this and was taken to hospital where he was treated for concussion, a head wound, facial abrasions and a bruised chest.