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HONOURS AND AWARDS

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE  
 ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace,  
 London S.W.1  
 18th June 1974.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and for the following awards of the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Civil Division) 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:*

Reginald Ansell Willing, Emergency Service Officer,  
 Melbourne Harbour Trust

Mr. Willing with his diving crew, was called to a wharf in Melbourne Harbour where a vessel had sunk on its side with members of the crew trapped aboard. The whole of the after superstructure was submerged.

Mr. Willing entered the water and eventually located the fore-castle head door which was badly blocked with debris. He surfaced, entered the water a second time and located the stern door. He entered the vessel, and after losing his way twice and negotiating various obstructions and cargo, he found an air pocket some 9 inches deep. He removed his face piece and eventually heard a reply to his calls from within the hull. He established a guideline but then his light went out. He was also affected by the foul air, and had to retrace his route to the surface in total darkness.

He then dived for a third time without an airline, but became entangled in a tarpaulin. He placed a new underwater lamp in position, before returning to the surface, where he regained the airline and finally re-entered the air pocket. He worked in the vessel for a further two hours before returning to the surface in a distressed condition.

Mr. Willing recovered and re-entered the water a fourth time accompanied by another diver. When they reached the air pocket Mr. Willing's colleague remained there while Mr. Willing pushed his way on through heavy debris and found a crew member. After reassuring the man Mr. Willing led him back to the air pocket and the seaman was eventually brought to safety.

Mr. Willing displayed bravery and devotion to duty of a high order when, in spite of the hazards of floating cargo and debris and suffering from exhaustion, he entered the water no less than four times to save a man's life.

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

Edward George BAKER, Sergeant, Kent County Constabulary.

Sergeant Baker was called to a house where a man, who had consumed a large amount of alcohol, was threatening to commit suicide and to shoot one of the police officers already on the scene.

When Sergeant Baker arrived at the house the man was sitting on the floor and had placed a loaded shot gun between his legs with the barrel pressed under his chin. He had tied a string from the trigger to his ankle and another string from the barrel to his wrist, so that anyone attempting to take the firearm away would cause it to be fired and he would be shot.

Sergeant Baker talked to the man for some time and tried to calm him, but eventually he pointed the barrel of the gun at the officer's chest and placed his finger on the trigger. The man told the Sergeant that he would shoot him first and himself afterwards. He then raised the barrel of the gun towards Sergeant Baker's head. Realising the man was about to shoot, the officer leapt forward, grabbed hold of the barrel and threw himself on to him. Almost immediately the gun was discharged harmlessly into the wall, and with the help of other police officers the man was restrained and removed to hospital.

Sergeant Baker acted with conspicuous gallantry throughout this incident and showed a complete disregard for his own safety when he tackled and disarmed this over-wrought and dangerous man.

Michael Philip BROOME, Constable, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.

Ernest Frederick JONES, Sergeant, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.

In response to an emergency call Sergeant Jones went to a creek where a young boy was reported to be trapped on some tidal mud flats. There was a sewage works at the head of the creek from which effluent flowed through the mud flats to the river and land reclamation was also being carried out. The reclamation was being achieved by dumping tons of rubble on to part of the mud flats and the weight of this rubble had caused the soft mud to be