

operation he was in constant danger of being battered against either the trawler or the rocks, but, without hesitation, he coolly and repeatedly returned to the grounded vessel, managing to reach her 9 times and on each occasion uplift one member of the crew and transfer him to the lifeboat. The whole operation took 45 minutes and, despite the difficult conditions, was completed without mishap. Master Air Loadmaster Barwell showed complete disregard for his personal safety, and his courage, resolution and skill enabled him to rescue the trawlermen from a most perilous situation.

*Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air*

Flight Lieutenant Charles Raymond Victor TAYLOR (4049162), Royal Air Force.

For his courage, composure and presence of mind, as navigator and winch operator of a helicopter sent from Royal Air Force Lossiemouth, on 21st December 1974, to rescue the 9 man crew of a Belgian trawler, aground on rocks, and being pounded by heavy seas, about 25 yards

from the base of a 600 foot vertical cliff on the island of Hoy, Orkney. The south-west wind was 20 to 25 knots, gusting to 40 knots. Because of the trawler's superstructure, the aircraft could not hover lower than 50 feet and the winchman had to be lowered by Flight Lieutenant Taylor 9 times, but, despite the risk of the aircraft being driven against the cliff by a gust of wind, or the winchman being battered against the vessel or the rocks, the operation was completed without mishap, in 45 minutes.

Squadron Leader David Charles LOTT (608057), Royal Air Force.

In recognition of his courage and determination, on 19th December 1974, in saving his Harrier Aircraft after it had struck a large flock of birds, at a height of 400 feet, causing the engine to surge. Showing outstanding coolness and professionalism, he climbed to 1,500 feet with his residual speed and, after the jet pipe temperature had cooled sufficiently, successfully relit the engine and landed at a nearby airfield.

LONDON

Printed and published by HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE: 1975

Price 6p net

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

ISBN 0 11 656537 3