



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO
The London Gazette
of Monday, 26th July 1976
Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 27TH JULY 1976

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD
ST. JAMES'S PALACE, LONDON S.W.1

27th July 1976.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards of the George Medal and the Queen's Gallantry Medal and for the publication in the *London Gazette* of the names of those shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Brave Conduct and for Valuable Services in the Air.

Awarded the George Medal

Donald Frank ACTON, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.
Jeno Bela BACK, Miller, Leicester.

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

Alan CHRISTIAN, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.
Thomas Roland DICKMAN, Postman, Leicester.
James Richard GALLOWAY, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.
Gerald OAKLEY, Ambulance Attendant, Leicester City Ambulance Service.
John Ernest PROUDMAN, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.

At about 10.30 p.m. on 1st September 1975, a car stopped at a house where the driver's former wife stood outside talking to two neighbours. The man took a double barrelled shotgun from the boot of the car, shot and fatally wounded one of the neighbours. His ex-wife ran into her home and barricaded herself in an upstairs room with her 10-year-old son. The man then smashed the downstairs front windows of the house and entered taking the shotgun and a can of petrol with him.

Constable Acton, who lives in a house opposite the scene, was off-duty and heard the shots. He immediately telephoned for Police assistance and then went

into the street where he saw the body of the dead woman.

He went towards the body, but then saw the armed man smashing the windows of the house with the butt of the gun and he tried to persuade the man to stop. Whereupon the man fired the gun into the ground floor room of the house. Constable Acton saw the gunman's wife and son screaming for help at the front bedroom window of the house. A fire had been started on the staircase, so the Constable ran to his home, fetched a ladder and, assisted by Mr. Back, placed it at the window, went up the ladder and carried the boy down and then he and Mr. Back managed to rescue the woman and took her to safety.

In the meantime, Constable Christian and Constable Galloway had arrived at the scene. They parked their car near the body of the woman which by now had been dragged by Mr. Dickman and some neighbours to a gateway out of the gunman's range. The two officers saw the body and were told that the gunman was in the house. They made their way to the rear of the house and tried to force an entry. They eventually managed to force a back door open, but then heard more shots fired and rushed round to the front of the house again and found that the gunman had shot and seriously wounded a Police Sergeant and Policewoman who had just arrived at the scene.

The ambulance, of which Mr. Oakley was a crew member, arrived very quickly after the Police and parked outside the gate of the house where the dead woman now lay, and the ambulance officers went to examine her. However, these officers had to take cover behind the ambulance with Constable Galloway when the gunman opened fire and wounded the Sergeant and Policewoman.

At this stage Constable Galloway, Constable Proudman, another off-duty policeman who had joined them, and the ambulancemen decided to push the ambulance back down the road in an attempt to get to the shot police officers. They were assisted in this by Mr. Dickman, Mr. Back and another resident. When the ambulance