



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO

# The London Gazette

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## HONOURS AND AWARDS

### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.  
30th September 1977.

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

#### *Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal*

John Frederick Horton, lately Marine Training Officer to the Royal Bahamas Police Force.

On 20th November 1976, three men who were carrying the 36 ft. long aluminium mast of a yacht, unknowingly dragged one of its trailing stainless steel halyards across a heavily charged electric cable. This instantly electrified the mast which the three men dropped, but they were trapped and began to be painfully electrocuted. Mr. John Horton, who was with the men, realised that the electricity supply could not at this time be identified or switched off and immediately went to their help. He received a severe shock

when he tried to rescue the first man, but with great presence of mind he wrapped a dry sail around the man's legs and pulled him off the electrocuted mast. Unfortunately the man was already dead.

Mr. Horton shouted for help and immediately went to the aid of the other men. Using the same technique, he managed to rescue a second man who was practically unconscious.

As Mr. Horton went back yet again to save the third man he slipped and became attached to the electrified mast. However, by this time another man, who had heard the call for help, was at hand, he and the men previously rescued, who had by now recovered consciousness, immediately went to Mr. Horton's assistance and managed to rescue him.

Mr. Horton behaved with courage of a high order and a complete disregard for his own safety throughout the whole operation when he was in no doubt of the danger involved. He was well aware that the first man was near death, the second barely conscious and the third unconscious when he set about their rescue.

#### *Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct*

Richard William Horton, Grade 9 Officer, British High Commission, Nassau, Bahamas.

Phillip Michael Sagle, Teacher, Nassau, Bahamas.

For services leading to the rescue of two men trapped beneath an electrified mast.

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