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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1
14th April 1981

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the undermentioned award.

Awarded the George Medal

TREVOR JAMES LOCK, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

On 30th April 1980, Constable Lock was posted on armed duty outside the front entrance of the Iranian Embassy. Shortly afterwards he had occasion to go into the entrance hall and was about to return outside when he was confronted by a man who produced a machine pistol. Constable Lock immediately tried to close the door, a struggle ensued during which he was slightly injured by flying glass and overpowered. Six terrorists burst into the Embassy firing their weapons at the walls and ceilings and twenty six other people were taken hostage. Although searched Constable Lock managed to conceal the fact that he was armed and successfully kept his revolver hidden for the duration of the siege.

Throughout the following five days and nights of the siege Constable Lock was on self-appointed duty with very little sleep, food or drink and remained cool and calm with the result that he gradually built up a rapport with the terrorists. This had a calming effect on the terrorists and his fellow hostages on more than one occasion when, but for his intervention, the hostages lives might have

been lost. He was also continually called upon to negotiate with the authorities outside the Embassy and to investigate unusual sounds and disturbances.

On the sixth and final day of the siege the atmosphere was extremely tense: the gunman placed another deadline by which their terms were to be met and during the morning one of the hostages was killed and his body placed outside the Embassy. After this the situation became even more strained, but the officer continually tried to persuade the terrorists to surrender. The leader became more and more agitated and constantly made calls on the field telephone.

Finally, in an attempt by the authorities to distract the terrorists' attention from the imminent rescue assault, Constable Lock, alone with the terrorist leader, was called to the telephone ostensibly to discuss the arrangements for meeting the deadline. As the gunman was talking Constable Lock heard breaking glass, a loud explosion and realising the operation had begun, he shoulder charged the terrorist leader as the man dropped the telephone and moved towards him. The gunman was caught off balance and his weapon fell to the floor; during the short fierce struggle that followed Constable Lock managed to overpower the terrorist and, for the first time, drew his own revolver and covered the man. However, an explosive device thrown into the room threw the two men apart but the officer managed to recapture the man and hold him until the rescuers arrived and took over.

Constable Lock displayed gallantry and devotion to duty of an extremely high order when in spite of the long strain and ordeal of his capture, he tackled and overpowered this dangerous and armed man who had already caused the death of one hostage.

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