

SUPPLEMENT TO

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.

16th March 1984

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards of 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:

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

Alfred William BATTERBEE, Porter, Hewitt Ltd, Western International Market, Southall, Middlesex.

During the morning of Monday, 1st March 1982, three men carried out an armed robbery at a bank in a large market complex. Two carried loaded shotguns and forced the customers to the floor, while the third used a pickaxe handle to smash a glass security screen. Having cleared cash from the counter tills and the safe, they then prepared to make their escape.

Mr Batterbee was in a nearby cafe, heard the commotion and realised the bank was being robbed. Without hesitation he grabbed a large yard broom from another market porter, rushed to the bank entrance where he witnessed the raid in progress. In spite of efforts to deter him he remained there and, as the criminals left the bank, he hit the first gunman hard on the head with the broom: the blow almost knocked the man to the ground. A second robber immediately swung a pickaxe which shattered the broom Mr Batterbee had aimed at his face. Mr Batterbee tried to prolong the struggle by wielding the broken handle but had to give up when he was wounded in the left leg by a bullet fired by the first gunman who had regained his feet. All three criminals then escaped.

Mr Batterbee displayed outstanding public spirit and gallantry of a high order when, alone and protected only by a broom, he faced these armed and dangerous criminals.

CHEUNG, Wai-leung, Probationary Station Officer, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.

CHIU, Shing-chow (Deceased), Senior Station Officer, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.

LEUNG, Siu-lin, Senior Fireman, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.

On 9th September 1983, a severe typhoon caused a landslip in an area where a large number of wooden shanties were built on an exposed hillside which sloped steeply to the sea. Many of these dwellings were swept down to the shore where waves twenty feet high were breaking on to the rocks.

The Fire Services, under the leadership of Senior Station Officer Chiu, answered the call for assistance and on arrival at the scene were told that a woman was trapped in wreckage at the centre of the landslip. Without hesitation Senior Station Officer Chiu organised his team and with Probationary Station Officer Cheung and Senior Fireman Leung immediately set out in gale force winds, facing heavy seas and the imminent risk of further landslides, to rescue the trapped woman. When they reached the extent of their lifeline it was discarded and they continued without the support of this equipment. Probationary Station Officer Cheung was the first to reach and extricate the victim: he was closely followed by Senior Fireman Leung and they carried her in turn as each became exhausted by the heavy waves that hampered their movements. Half way they were met by Senior Station Officer Chiu who took the woman on to his back, but unfortunately a fresh landslip occurred and large trees, mud and further structures came down on the rescue team. Senior Station Officer Chiu, who retained his hold on the woman, was flung by the sea on to the rocks below; in spite of this he refused to let go and held her up until they were both swept away by the heavy seas and drowned. The Probationary Station Officer and Senior Fireman were partly engulfed by the mud and debris but, in spite of their injuries, they extricated themselves and reached safety. It was, however, later necessary to amputate Probationary Station Officer Cheung's left leg.

These officers all displayed outstanding devotion to duty, a complete disregard for personal safety and bravery of a high order throughout the rescue attempt. Senior Station Officer Chiu despite severe and dangerous conditions did not hesitate in his attempts to save the woman and continued this effort until they were swept out to sea and drowned. Probationary Station Officer Cheung and Senior Fireman Leung also disregarded the obvious dangers when they set out towards the victim, proceeding far beyond the limit of their lifeline in trying to save her life.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

- Phillip Anthony BROOMHAM, Terminal Operator, Micheldever Oil Terminal, British Pipelines Agency Ltd.
- David HARROP, Regional Superintendent, British Pipelines Agency Ltd.
- Richard Martyn Hoyles, Assistant Divisional Officer, Hampshire Fire Brigade.

For services in averting a serious disaster following a large spillage of petroleum at an oil terminal.

- CHIU, Kwok-yin, Fireman, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.
- LI, Kei-kit, Fireman, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.
- Ma, Shui-lun, Fireman, Fire Services Department, Hong Kong.

For services in connection with a rescue operation following a landslide during a severe typhoon. Christopher Alan DAVIS, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire.

For services in disarming and detaining a man who was carrying a firearm.

- Steven Jesse HARRISON, Fireman, West Yorkshire Fire Service.
- Jeffrey Joseph NAYLOR (Deceased), Fireman, West Yorkshire Fire Service.

For services in attempting the rescue of five small children who were trapped in the upper storey of a burning house.

Frederick Arthur LAWTON, Auxiliary Plant Attendant, Skelton Grange Power Station, Central Electricity Generating Board.

For services in saving the life of a man who had fallen into a closed grit hopper and become almost totally buried by the dust.

Alan Peter JENNINGS, Leading Trackman, Ormskirk, British Rail.

For services leading to the rescue of a colleague who fell in icy conditions and was trapped by his foot between the live electrified and the running rails.

Geoffrey Edgar MOLYNEAUX, Guard, Luton Branch, Group 4 Securitas.

David William PORTER, Driver, Luton Branch, Group 4 Securitas.

For services in preventing the armed hijacking of a security vehicle.

Glyn William VAUGHAN, Constable, Sussex Police.

For services in saving a distraught and suicidal woman who was partly suspended over the brink of a 100 feet high cliff.

Kevin Richard WHITTINGTON, Constable, Sussex Police.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed and violent man.

YAN, Ping-kuen, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force.

For services leading to the arrest of two armed criminals who attempted to rob a goldsmith's shop.

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