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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1
2nd July 1993

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards of The George Medal, The Bar to the Queen's Gallantry 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:

Awarded the George Medal

David BURNS, Firefighter, West Midlands Fire Service.

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

David SCOTT, Firefighter, West Midlands Fire Service.

On Monday, 27th July 1992, at approximately 3.20 p.m. a fire broke out in a flat on the ninth floor of a twenty storey block. The fire service was summoned and four firefighters, wearing breathing apparatus, entered the flat.

Shortly after entering the flat, there was a rapid development of the fire possibly caused by the ignition of toxic fumes and an inrush of air from a bedroom window. A flashover of fire occurred giving rise to a vortex of flame, likened to a jet engine exhaust, which funnelled from the bedroom into the entrance lobby of the flat and across the landing to a ventilation outlet. In the deteriorating conditions, one of the firefighters was forced to leave rapidly in a distressed condition with minor burns. Firefighter Burns was knocked to

the floor outside the entrance door to the flat by the blast from the flashover and vortex. Two other firefighters standing in the hallway of the flat became disorientated in the whirlwind of smoke and fire. Both were forced to the floor and one, weakened by the blast, called out to Firefighter Burns for assistance. Without hesitation he entered the flat, located his colleague and lifted him to relative safety. Meanwhile as Firefighter Scott and another officer were preparing to enter the flat to rescue their remaining trapped colleague, a technical problem arose with the officer's breathing apparatus and he therefore looked to Firefighter Burns to accompany him in the rescue attempt.

Despite having experienced the extreme intensity of the fire and well aware of the conditions they were likely to meet, Firefighter Burns did not hesitate to return to the flat with Firefighter Scott. The two officers found their trapped colleague in a collapsed state. Although by now the intensity of the fire had eased, his breathing apparatus set was so hot that neither rescuers could touch it despite wearing fireproof gloves. Notwithstanding the heat and its effect, both officers managed to rescue their colleague, still wearing his breathing apparatus, which made their rescue all the more difficult. Their colleague, suffering 60 per cent. burns, subsequently died.

Firefighter Burns displayed gallantry of a very high order when, without regard to his own safety, by himself he rescued a colleague from a burning flat, when the fire was at its most intense, undoubtedly saving his life. Aware of the conditions and the intensity of the fire and the risk to life, he unhesitatingly returned to the flat a second time and,

with Firefighter Scott, rescued another trapped colleague.

Firefighter Scott displayed gallantry of a high order when, without regard to his own safety and the risk to life, he entered the burning flat, with Firefighter Burns, to rescue a trapped colleague who was seriously burned and very difficult to lift because his breathing apparatus was too hot to be removed.

Awarded the George Medal

Timothy Charles Rohan GOGGS (deceased). Lately Operations Officer. The Halo Trust.

On 8th July 1992, Timothy Goggs, engaged on a mine clearing programme in Afghanistan, had been requested to open up a mined road to enable the local population to gain access from the village to the main highway. The road intersected a defensive minefield belt laid by the Russians to stop the main highway being attacked.

Satisfied that he had obtained sufficient information on the possibility of booby-trapping and that the standard back-up support was in place, Timothy Goggs commenced the clearance operation. Using a Russian made tank with a front-fitted mine-roller, designed to run over mines and detonate them harmlessly, Mr. Goggs took command. His crew were two colleagues from the Halo Trust, one the head of the Halo Mission in Kabul and the other a local Afghan, who was the driver. The tank was driven for about 200 yards when an anti-tank mine was spotted some distance ahead. After careful deliberation it was decided to detonate the mine by rolling it, an acceptable and well practised method used on a number of previous occasions. Mr. Goggs and his team entered the tank, fastened down the hatches and advanced on the mine. As the tank rolled over the mine a massive explosion occurred which set the tank on fire. (Subsequent investigation revealed that the visible mine was attached to two others, the bigger of which punched a hole through to the tank's diesel fuel and ignited it.) Mr. Goggs and the Afghan driver both emerged from their hatches but their colleague did not appear. Mr. Goggs reached inside the fiercely burning tank through his own hatch to pull his colleague clear. The clothes of all three men were on fire, the flames extinguished by the medical crew. Although having suffered only 20 per cent burns, Timothy Goggs died later in hospital mainly from severe lung damage caused by smoke inhalation, almost certainly due to his re-entering the tank. His two colleagues also died later.

Timothy Goggs displayed conspicuous gallantry when, without due regard for his own safety, he re-entered a burning tank to pull his colleague to safety, despite his own injuries and having just escaped the fierce heat and toxic fumes. His rescue attempt was made all the more difficult as his colleague was trapped by the tank's main gun.

Awarded the Bar to The Queen's Gallantry Medal

Peter John MOWBRAY, QGM, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Awarded The Queen's Gallantry Medal

Raymond Robert EDMONDS, Constable, Sussex Police.

During the evening of Wednesday, 10th June 1992, a man, intimating he was armed, made several calls to a police station that he had killed or was going to kill a woman he was holding forcibly against her will. A woman's voice in the background could be heard asking for help. The calls were traced to a third floor flat. Constable Edmonds, together with other police officers, arrived at the flat in the early hours of Thursday, 11th June.

In a situation of armed siege, Constable Edmonds acted as the 'go between', linking the negotiators with the hostage taker. At approximately 4 a.m., smoke was seen coming from the windows of the flat. Several officers made an attempt to enter the flat by the main door via the stairs but were thwarted by barricades erected at the doorway and by the effects of thick acrid smoke filling the stairwell. Constable Edmonds together with other officers gained entry via the front roof window and threw a stun grenade into the room. It did not detonate. They were subsequently forced to retreat due to the density of the smoke and heat. After assisting a colleague to escape from the flat, Constable Edmonds' attention was called to the rear of the house where he saw the man and the woman leaning out of separate adjacent windows, billowing with smoke. The woman was in a distressed state, crying for help. Constable Edmonds gained access to an adjacent window via the flat next door and climbed over the balcony to effect a rescue believing the woman's life was in danger not only from the fire but also from her captor. As he began to cross the steeply pitched roof, which was approximately 25 feet from the ground, he started to slip. He managed to hold onto a small dividing wall which ran the length of the roof between the two windows, before climbing onto the flat roof of the dormer window from which he hoped to rescue the trapped woman. The intensity of the heat and smoke made it impossible to effect a rescue from this position. He climbed back onto the main roof and wedged himself between the small wall and the side of the window with his feet. Holding on to the dormer roof with one hand he managed to pull the woman out of the burning room and onto the roof, assisting her to safety. Her rescue was made all the more difficult by the stab wounds she had received during the incident. The fire brigade rescued the man, who was subsequently charged and convicted of a number of serious crimes.

Constable Edmonds displayed gallantry of a high order when, without regard for his own safety, he rescued a woman from the roof of a blazing flat. In danger of slipping from the roof and believing the woman to be in grave danger from her captor, who was believed to be armed, he assisted her to safety despite her injuries.

Adam MCKINLEY, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Dean Carey SMAHON, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Denis WEIR, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Nicholas John ROBERTS, Chief Inspector, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.
 TSANG, Hung-lit, Senior Inspector, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.
 YEUNG, Kwok-wing, Lately Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

On 22 July 1991, a male prisoner was escorted to hospital by two Police Officers for medical treatment. Whilst inside the hospital, the prisoner escaped, aided by three armed accomplices who also stole the revolvers of two Police Officers. Intensive investigations followed and the culprits were eventually traced to a house in a village. On 27 July at 7.30 a.m. a team of Police Officers, led by Chief Inspector Roberts, were assigned to raid the premises.

The team were deployed around the suspects' hideout, some were positioned on adjacent rooftops, the others were split into two groups. Chief Inspector Roberts, Senior Inspector Tsang and Constable Yeung were in the group positioned directly opposite the main door of the premises in a small enclosed courtyard. At 9 a.m. the main door opened and a suspect emerged. He was immediately arrested by officers and removed from the area. He informed the police that there were five members of the gang inside the premises, each armed with a pistol and a box of hand grenades.

At 9.35 a.m. the door opened again and one man emerged slowly from the doorway with his hands behind his head as if intending to surrender. Constable Yeung stepped forward to take hold of the man. As he did so the man grabbed hold of Constable Yeung's collar and pressed a hand grenade to the officer's chest slipping one of his fingers through the ring of the grenade's pin. Inspector Tsang came to the aid of his colleague using both hands to hold the hand grenade. As the officers pulled the suspect clear from the doorway they lost their balance and fell to the ground. Meanwhile Chief Inspector Roberts became aware that the other suspects were attempting to rush the doorway in an attempt to escape. To prevent this, he entered the premises and was immediately confronted by a man pointing a pistol directly at him, while his accomplices stood behind. The group fired a number of shots at the officer which narrowly missed him. He returned fire wounding one of the gunmen as the rest fled back up the stairs. As the Chief Inspector left the premises he came under fire from a gunman at an upstairs window. A hand grenade was also thrown from an upper window landing in front of the Inspector and his colleagues who ran for cover. The grenade did not detonate.

Constable Yeung and Inspector Tsang continued their hold on the man carrying the grenade. Their captive shouted to his accomplices for help, that he had two police officers as hostages and that he would detonate the grenade if other police officers came near. Constable Yeung persuaded the armed man to allow Inspector Tsang to leave his position to warn his fellow officers not to make an approach. He left, but made his way to a position of cover. Constable Yeung distracted the armed man by telling him he had been shot as he slowly lifted his foot to kick the gunman, causing him to stagger backwards. He drew his revolver as he came under fire from another gunman crouching in the doorway. The armed man pulled out the grenade's pin and was about to throw it when he was shot through

the head by one of the officers. The armed man fell to the ground on top of the grenade which exploded, killing him.

An exchange of fire took place between the officers and the remaining armed men. Chief Inspector Roberts ordered the culprits to surrender as they had no chance of escape. Shortly after, four men emerged from the premises and surrendered. The building was subsequently searched and the body of the man, who had escaped earlier from police custody, was found. He had received fatal gunshot wounds. The five gunmen were arrested and charged with a number of serious offences.

Chief Inspector Roberts, Inspector Tsang and Constable Yeung all displayed gallantry of a high order when attempting to arrest a highly dangerous gang armed with pistols and grenades. They placed themselves at considerable risk when exposed to danger by cross fire, to prevent the gang from escaping.

Neil SIMPSON, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

On Thursday, 13th April 1989, at approximately 9 a.m., Constable Simpson together with other officers, was detailed to drive to the back of a parade of shops where a raid on a Post Office was believed to be about to take place. As the suspects were known to the police and likely to be carrying weapons, Constable Simpson and a colleague were issued with firearms.

The suspects made their way to the back of the Post Office where they attempted to gain entry by ramming the doors. The attempt failed as police officers moved in. Three men were seen to enter a vehicle, known by the officers to have been previously stolen. As the suspects fled, Constable Simpson and his colleagues took up the chase at high speed. During the chase, the officers were able to see that at least one of the occupants in the stolen car was in possession of a shotgun. The chase ended near a foot-bridge crossing a railway line. The three robbers fled across the bridge and through a narrow alleyway, closely followed by Constable Simpson and a colleague. The officers shouted several warnings to the men to stop as they were armed police officers. On reaching the end of the alleyway, Constable Simpson saw the three suspects approach another getaway vehicle. As the officer shouted another warning to the men, they turned round and two of the suspects raised their hands and pointed their weapons at the officer. A number of shots were fired at Constable Simpson who, although adopting a crouched position, was without cover. The officer managed to return fire and one of the suspects fell to the ground. As the officer turned his weapon towards the second armed suspect, he received a shot in the ankle causing him to stumble and fall to the ground. Determined not to let the suspects escape he continued to fire his weapon from a sitting position. Constable Simpson's colleague took up the challenge and upon firing his weapon, the second armed suspect fell to the ground. The third man was attempting to enter the car when other police officers arrived and he was arrested. The two wounded robbers subsequently died from their injuries and the third was charged and later convicted of a number of serious offences.

Constable Simpson displayed conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when he attempted to stop three

well known and highly dangerous criminals from escaping following an attempted robbery on a Post Office. Without cover and knowing the men to be armed, he stood his ground when coming under fire from two of the suspects and, even when shot, maintained the challenge.

Christopher Hugh STANDEN, Chief Superintendent, Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

At approximately 10.20 a.m. on 31st October 1992, Chief Superintendent Standen, whilst off duty, entered a jeweller's shop. As he was being served by a member of staff, three more customers entered the shop. The third customer was followed by a man dressed in motor cycle clothing and wearing a crash helmet. As he entered the shop he brandished a shotgun and ordered everyone to get down on the floor.

Chief Superintendent Standen remained where he was. The gunman continued to shout and pointed the gun towards the officer as he approached him threateningly. At this point the Chief Superintendent identified himself as a Police Officer. The gunman kicked the officer to make him lie down but he ignored his demands and closed with the gunman in an attempt to disarm him. A violent struggle ensued as the officer tried to wrestle the gun from the robber during which the gun was discharged but the shot penetrated the floor. The Chief Superintendent continued to wrestle with the gunman who managed to push the officer to the ground. During the struggle part of the shotgun had become dislodged and the gun would not fire. The gunman then struck the Chief Superintendent a blow with the weapon. Undeterred the officer made a further attempt at detaining the offender. After a continued bitter struggle, his assailant managed to break free and made his escape on the back of a waiting motorcycle. Despite extensive police enquiries the offenders have not been caught.

Chief Superintendent Standen displayed conspicuous gallantry when, without regard for his own safety, he attempted to disarm and detain an armed man in the process of robbing a jeweller. During the struggle a shot was fired and the officer was pushed to the floor. Undeterred he made a further attempt to disarm the gunman who finally broke free and made his escape.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Douglas BAILEY, Ambulance Technician, Merseyside Regional Ambulance Service.

Peter John DITCHAM, Ambulance Technician, Merseyside Regional Ambulance Service.

Michael Kenneth KAY, Ambulance Technician, Merseyside Regional Ambulance Service.

Shaun Majella McA TEER, Ambulance Technician, Merseyside Regional Ambulance Service.

Stephen WILLIAMS, Constable, Cheshire Constabulary.

For services in assisting to move a severely injured man and woman from the scene of a shooting incident in which both had been shot and needed immediate medical attention. All five came under fire several times as they tended the man and conveyed him and the

woman to nearby ambulances. The man had sustained serious injuries but the woman was fatally wounded.

Philip James BERRY, Leading Firefighter, East Sussex Fire Brigade.

Mark Edward BROWN, Firefighter, East Sussex Fire Brigade.

For services in assisting the police in attempting to rescue a woman taken hostage by a man believed to be armed and dangerous who had set fire to the premises. The officers led the attack on the fire and without thought for their own safety entered the flat where they found the man semi-conscious. He was carried to safety and subsequently arrested. The woman was rescued by a police officer.

James Geoffrey BOWDEN, Sergeant, Greater Manchester Police.

For services in seeking out an armed and dangerous man, who had made off after shooting Sergeant Bowden and a fellow officer while they were engaged on routine enquiries at a Motorway Service Station. On locating the armed man, Sergeant Bowden was shot a second time sustaining a serious injury. His colleague was found to be dead on arrival at hospital.

Robert David BOYD, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Kevin Michael CORBY, Constable, Kent County Constabulary.

Julian PEGLER, Constable, Kent County Constabulary.

For services in restraining, disarming and arresting an armed man, who, following reports of gunfire inside a house, had left the premises and made his way towards a busy town centre. On seeing the direction the man was taking, the two officers challenged and tackled the offender. During the struggle the gunman struck Constable Pegler on the head with the weapon before he was overpowered by Constable Corby, assisted by other police officers.

Paul ENGLISH, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
Ian James HUGHES, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

William James McBRIEN, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Eric TOTTON, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Michael John TYNAN, BEM, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Paul Christopher FRANCIS, Constable, Sussex Police.

For services in rescuing a woman, threatening to jump, from the top of a high cliff. On seeing the Constable, she pushed herself off the cliff but the officer managed to grab hold of her neck and shoulders as she hung over the edge. The wet and slippery conditions made the rescue attempt all the more dangerous as the

woman struggled violently. The officer was assisted by other police officers arriving at the scene.

Raymond Alan FRASER, Fireman, Yeovil, Somerset.

For services in attempting to prevent an armed robbery taking place in a building society. Mr Fraser wrestled with the gunman and during the struggle the gun was discharged. As the robber broke free and fled, leaving the gun behind, Mr Fraser took up the chase and was able to attract the attention of two passing security guards who managed to apprehend the offender.

Paul HARLOW, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For services in assisting a colleague to prevent three highly dangerous and armed men from escaping, following an attempted robbery on a Post Office. The officer, although armed, came under fire from the robbers who shot and wounded his colleague.

Charles JOHNSTON, Reserve Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Ian Robert JONES, Constable, North Yorkshire Police.

For services in following a man acting suspiciously who, when approached by the officer, threatened him with a knife and metal bar. The officer grappled with the man and, despite receiving blows to the head and cuts to his hand, managed to hold the man down and restrain him until, assisted by members of the public and other police officers, he was detained.

William Rowan MAGILL, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Henry Donald MILNER, QPM, lately Detective Constable, Greater Manchester Police.

For services in attempting to prevent three youths from breaking into a vehicle. The off-duty officer, whilst grappling with one of the youths, was beaten around the head by his two accomplices armed with staves. On identifying himself as a Police Officer, one of the youths brandished a gun. Still holding on to one of the youths, the Constable was beaten across the wrist, and forced to loosen his grip. His wrist was found to be broken. The youths fled but were subsequently captured and charged.

Linda Christine, Mrs NAISBITT, Auxiliary Nurse, North Tyneside District General Hospital.

For services in attempting to prevent a man from attacking a patient. Nurse Naisbitt, unaware that the man was armed with a knife, jumped on his back and

pulled him to the floor, saving the patient from further injury. A fierce struggle ensued and Nurse Naisbitt received a number of stab wounds during the attack, before the man ran off.

Philip John RUTT, Constable, Bedfordshire Police.

For services in pursuing and apprehending a man believed to have carried out an armed robbery at a bank. The officer grappled with the suspect who produced a gun during the struggle. Constable Rutt disarmed and restrained the man until other police officers arrived.

Stephen SWAN, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

Oswald Gordon THOMAS, Sergeant, Ministry of Defence Police.

For services in rescuing a man from the River Thames, who was threatening to commit suicide. The distraught man had entered the river, followed by Sergeant Thomas, and disappeared beneath the water in the darkness. Despite a strong current and the man's fierce struggle, Sergeant Thomas made a successful rescue.

John THOMSON, Constable, Strathclyde Police.

For services in disarming and apprehending an armed man following the robbery of a security van. The officer pursued two of the suspects on foot and, on closing, grappled with one who dropped his weapon. As the officer picked up the gun, the second suspect fired his weapon at Constable Thomson. Undeterred, he continued the chase and after a short struggle overpowered one of the suspects with the assistance of another officer.

Martin Andrew WARD, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

For services in rescuing a driver and his passenger from a blazing car, following a road traffic accident. After he had rescued the driver, Mr Ward twice entered the burning car before succeeding in releasing the passenger. As Mr Ward struggled to free him the car became engulfed in flames. Mr Ward received serious burns to his left hand.

Andrew WILSON, Constable, West Yorkshire Police.

For services in apprehending a man wanted for questioning, who, when approached by Constable Wilson, drew a small knife and attacked the officer. Constable Wilson, off duty, identified himself as a Police Officer as he grappled with the suspect. The officer, although severely injured, continued his hold on his attacker until the arrival of uniformed police.

