

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
30th September, 1940.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards of the George Medal and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of units and individuals shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their good services.

Awarded the George Medal.

William Fisher, Dock Labourer, Southampton.

During an air raid great gallantry was displayed by Fisher in rescuing Gunner S. W. Jones of the 71st Light A.A. Battery from the Bofor's Gunsite on the roof of a building about 50 ft. above ground level.

In the early part of the raid, a series of bombs fell on the building itself and on the ground adjoining and one man of the gun team was seriously wounded in the face and head.

Fire quickly broke out, and in addition to the ammunition which began to explode, ammonia gas fumes were released from a cold storage chamber below.

The Sergeant in charge of the gun realised the danger to his men and rightly ordered them to abandon the post.

It was found impossible to get the wounded man over the parapet wall and down the ladder on to the crane platform, as the ladder slipped off the ledge.

Fisher then came up, and without hesitation made a rough seat of a sling rope and fastened it to the hook of the jib crane.

After obtaining the assistance of the crane driver, he allowed himself to be hoisted on to the roof of the building. He then attached the sling under the arms of the wounded soldier and waited on the roof until he had been lowered on to the quay. The sling was then detached and returned once more to the roof for the rescuer himself to be lowered.

During such time as Fisher was on the roof, he was in constant danger from the fire, the gas fumes and the almost continuous explosions of shells.

His conduct throughout was a fine example of initiative, bravery and coolness.