

David Brodie GOODSIR, OBE, CPM

RM Commandos 1945

Colonial Police Service 1946.

Commando Veterans Archive:

https://www.commandoveterans.org/David_B_Goodsir_RM

Local Man Awarded Colonial Police Medal

Our illustration shows Senior Police Officer David Goodsir, only son of Mr and Mrs G. Goodsir, 10 Asquith Street, Kirkcaldy, who has been awarded the British Colonial Police Medal in Her Majesty's recently issued Birthday Honours List.

His parents received their first notification of the award on Monday when they had a letter from the Colonial Secretary, Mr Lennox-Boyd. It stated the honour had been bestowed for meritorious service.

It will be remembered that Mr Goodsir distinguished himself in



an incident involving 500 rioters last November. He freed two warder hostages during a riot at a prison camp outside Port Swettenham, near Kuala Lumpur. And in doing so he walked unarmed through the rioters. At the time, a police colleague described his action as "one of the bravest acts I have ever seen."

Twenty-eight years of age, Mr Goodsir is married and, after serving in the Royal Marine Commandos during the war, entered the service of the Colonial Police in 1946 in Burma. He now holds the rank of Officer Superintending Police Circle.

He was educated at Kirkcaldy High Primary School and George Watson's College, Edinburgh. A great follower of rugby, he turned out regularly for Watson's College and has played for Kirkcaldy Rugby Club.

Prison Riot Near Kuala Lumpur

Kirkcaldy Man Frees Two Warder Hostages

A Kirkcaldy man, David Goodsir, who is the senior police officer of Klang, Singapore, recently freed two warder hostages during a riot at a prison camp outside Port Swettenham, near Kuala Lumpur.

In doing so he walked unarmed through 500 rioters and his action was described by a police colleague as "one of the bravest acts I have ever seen."

The 500 men detained in the camp all wanted to sail to China in the Sandviken which was due to leave from Port Swettenham with 150 detained persons on board. They grew restive after their demand was refused and suddenly attacked three warders, taking two of them prisoner. The third warder escaped.

When heavy police reinforcements arrived the two warders were being held hostage by the crowd. Mr Goodsir walked alone through the crowd, released the two warders, and returned with them to the police cordon. Two ringleaders of the riot were later arrested.

Mr Goodsir is the only son of Mr and Mrs G. Goodsir, 10 Asquith Street, Kirkcaldy. Twenty-eight years of age, he is a married man. After serving in the Royal Marine Commandos during the war, he entered the service of the Colonial Police in 1946 in Burma. Following this he had a short spell with Edinburgh City Police, and then rejoined the Colonial Police with whom he now holds the rank of Officer Superintending Police Circle. He was educated at Kirkcaldy High Primary School and George Watson's College, Edinburgh. A keen rugby player, he played for Watson's College and on occasion for Kirkcaldy.