

GUNNER RESCUES PILOT

A.D.F.C. night fighter pilot owes his life to his gunner, a former poster artist and now a flight sergeant, who rescued him from the burning wreckage of their plane.

Crash landing at night, the machine came down at the edge of a wood, ploughed through the trees, turned over and burst into flames.

The pilot was trapped in his cockpit unconscious. The gunner though dazed, managed to scramble out.

By this time the plane was burning at the nose and tail. The Flight Sergeant tried to pull the pilot clear but found that his foot was held by the rudder bar. He climbed into the cockpit, kicked away the rudder bar and dragged the pilot out of reach of the flames.

Then he remembered the First Aid kit. To reach it he had to re-enter the fiercely burning machine through the gun turret.

He gave the injured pilot morphia, wrapped him in a parachute and rescued a rubber dinghy to use as a mattress on the wooden gate stretcher which had been brought up by helpers.
