

## Four Young Singers Pay a Call on the Queen and Look What Happens



London policemen struggling to control Beatle fans outside Buckingham Palace yesterday while, inside, the cause of all this, the Beatles, were being made Members of the Order of the British Empire for services to their country.



United Press International Cablephotos  
And here they are, M.B.E.'s and all, from left: Paul McCartney, George Harrison, John Lennon and Ringo Starr. Beatles were among 180 persons who were awarded by Queen.

### JOHN, PAUL, RINGO AND GEORGE, M.B.E.

Beatles Honored by Queen  
at Her 'Keen Pad' as Band  
Plays 'Humoresque'

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Special to The New York Times

LONDON, Oct. 26 — The Beatles, in dark suits and ties, stood still long enough today for Queen Elizabeth II to make them Members of the Order of the British Empire. There were reports that Ringo had had a haircut for the occasion.

George Harrison, John Lennon, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, standing solemnly in a row, received the award, the lowest of five divisions of the order, for service to their country.

As the Queen pinned the medals on their narrow lapels, she asked, "How long have you been together now?"

"Oh, for many years," said Paul.

"Forty years," said Ringo, and everybody laughed. The group started in the fifties.

"Are you the one that started it all?" the Queen asked Ringo.

Ringo said the others had started it.

"I'm the little one," he said.

#### Queen in Gold Gown

The Queen, in a pale gold gown, presented the medals in Buckingham Palace in a cream-and-gold room with an organ at one end and six chandeliers overhead.

"A keen pad," Paul said later.

The band of the Coldstream Guards daintily played tunes from "Bitter Sweet" and "Humoresque."

The Lord Chamberlain, Lord Cobbold, first read out the Beatles' names. The four stepped forward four paces and bowed. The Queen shook hands, spoke to each and pinned on the medals. Then the four took four steps back, and bowed again.

Speaking of the Queen later, Paul said:

"She's lovely, great. She was very friendly. She was just like a mum to us."

George related that the Queen was "sort of motherly and smiling to put us at our ease."

#### 180 Get Awards

The Beatles were among 180 persons who received awards at today's investiture, including six who were knighted. The awards were announced in Queen Elizabeth's Birthday Honors list last June.

Apart from having become probably the most popular British singers ever, the Beatles have brought many millions of pounds into the British Treasury from their recordings and movies.

Although other entertainers have often been honored, the awards to these pop singers, two of whom are 22 years old and two 24, brought numerous letters of protest. Two holders of the M.B.E., a former member of Parliament and a former Royal Air Force squadron leader, returned their medals to the Queen.

The award entitles the Beatles to put the letters M.B.E. after their names. According to DeBrett's, the standard reference on such matters, the M.B.E. ranks 120th in the 126 titles of precedence. It is the most widely given honor.

Four thousand Beatle fans outside Buckingham Palace were not overawed. Their squeals and chants of "Yeah, Yeah, Yeah" drowned out the pipes of the Scots Guards and the band of the Grenadier Guard. Policemen linked arms to hold them back, but could not prevent them from climbing the gates and lampposts.