

Circular No: S2/15/72

LANCASTER

13 March 1972

Postmasters  
Sub Postmasters  
Counter Officers

### CRIMINAL ATTACKS INVOLVING THE USE OF AMMONIA

Attention has again been drawn to the recommended first aid treatment for victims of bandit attacks where ammonia is sprayed into the face.

The treatment recommended by P.O. medical advisers is to flood the eyes with plenty of clean water - for instance by holding the head under a running tap.

The treatment should be begun as quickly as possible, and continued for at least ten minutes, with the eyes kept open; at the same time, blinking and eye movements will help to wash out the ammonia.

Medical advice should be sought as soon as possible and no medicaments should be applied to the eyes of a victim except on the advice of a doctor. Any medicaments applied to the eyes immediately following an attack could do more harm than good.

All staff should bear in mind this advice, and if they themselves are attacked in this way, or if they witness an attack on another person, they should immediately take steps to carry out the recommended treatment.

S2  
La67738

F T TAYLOR  
Head Postmaster