

Battle of Narvik, on the 10th of April, 1940. On being ordered to carry out an attack on Narvik, he learned from Tranoy that the enemy held the place in much greater force than had been thought. He signalled to the Admiralty that the enemy were reported to be holding Narvik in force, that six Destroyers and one Submarine were there, that the channel might be mined, and that he intended to attack at dawn, high water. The Admiralty replied that two Norwegian Coast Defence Ships might be in German hands, that he alone could judge whether to attack, and that whatever decision he made would have full support. Captain Warburton-Lee gave out the plan for his attack and led his Flotilla of five Destroyers up the Fjord in heavy snowstorms, arriving off Narvik just after daybreak. He took the enemy completely by surprise and made three successful attacks on warships and merchantmen in the harbour. The last attack was made only after anxious debate. On the Flotilla withdrawing, five enemy Destroyers of superior gun-power were encountered and engaged. The Captain was mortally wounded by a shell which hit "Hardy's" bridge. His last signal was "Continue to engage the enemy."

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Distinguished Service Order for daring, resource and devotion to duty in the first Battle of Narvik:—

*To be Companions of the Distinguished Service Order:*

Commander Herbert Francis Hope Layman, R.N., H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Commander John Piachaud Wright, R.N., H.M.S. Hostile.  
 Lieutenant-Commander Rafe Edward Courage, R.N., H.M.S. Havock.  
 Lieutenant (T) George Robert Heppel, R.N., H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Paymaster Lieutenant Geoffrey Heaton Stanning, R.N., H.M.S. Hardy.

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to approve the following awards for similar services:—

*Distinguished Service Cross:*

Lieutenant-Commander (N) Russell Claude Gordon-Smith, R.N., H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Lieutenant (E) John Allen Osborne, R.N., H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Lieutenant Michael Alastair Mitchell Bruce, R.N., H.M.S. Havock.  
 Surgeon Lieutenant Arthur Philip Booth Waind, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., R.N.V.R., H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Surgeon Lieutenant Kenneth William Donald, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., R.N., H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Sub-Lieutenant Leopold John Tillie, R.N., H.M.S. Hotspur.

*Distinguished Service Medal:*

Chief Petty Officer Frederick Richard Kemp, C/J.101831, H.M.S. Havock.

Acting Chief Petty Officer Fred Meads, C/J.106246, H.M.S. Hostile.  
 Acting Petty Officer Edward Richards, T.G.M., C/J.107621, H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Leading Seaman Frederick Arthur Mason, D/JX.156026, H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Able Seaman Thomas Ronald Slater, D/JX.152140, H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Able Seaman Geoffrey Bailey, D/JX.151861, H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Able Seaman Douglas Aubrey Bourton, D/JX.152943, H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Able Seaman William Joseph Brickell, C/JX.127312, H.M.S. Havock.  
 Ordinary Seaman William George Baker, LD/X.5258, R.N.V.R., H.M.S. Havock.  
 Chief Engine Room Artificer David Low, C/MX.47048, H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Chief Engine Room Artificer 2nd Class Edward Eaton, C/M.33275, H.M.S. Hostile.  
 Chief Stoker James Dobson, C/K.57695, H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Stoker Petty Officer James Thomsett, C/K.46354, H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Stoker William Henry Bowden, D/KX.93305, H.M.S. Hardy.  
 Ordnance Artificer Albert Ernest Abnett, C/MX.35923, H.M.S. Havock.  
 Leading Cook Vincent Cauchi, E/LX.20755, H.M.S. Havock.  
 Marine J. McDonald, Po/20892, H.M.S. Havock.  
 Marine Donald Thomas, Plymouth X.2607, H.M.S. Hotspur.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Mr. Jesse Philip Rathbone, Gunner (T), R.N., H.M.S. Hotspur.  
 Lieutenant Anthony Blair Fasson, R.N., H.M.S. Hostile.  
 Lieutenant Hugh Aldridge Smith, R.N., H.M.S. Havock.  
 Lieutenant (E) John Geoffrey Little, R.N., H.M.S. Hostile.  
 Able Seaman Albert Victor Pevler, C/J.114791, H.M.S. Havock.

*Mention in Despatches (Posthumous).*

Lieutenant-Commander Lindsay de Villiers, R.N., H.M.S. Hunter.

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to approve the following awards for good services in the attempt to save H.M.S. Sphinx:—

*Mentions in Despatches.*

Lieutenant-Commander Michael Wilfred Tomkinson, Royal Navy, H.M.S. Boreas.  
 Paymaster Sub-Lieutenant Dennis Willoughby Day Heathcote, Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Sphinx.  
 Petty Officer Bertram Thomas Lambden, P/J.115355, H.M.S. Boreas.  
 Able Seaman George Edward Wentworth, C/JX.156232, H.M.S. Sphinx.  
 Signalman Dennis Arthur George Wood, C/JX.147608, H.M.S. Sphinx.

*Mentions in Despatches (Posthumous).*

Lieutenant Anthony Holbeck Nicholls, Royal Navy, H.M.S. Sphinx.