

food. The "Viking" carried a crew of 153 men all told, and of these 27 lost their lives. The great majority of those saved were able to reach Horse Islands and were eventually taken off by a relief ship.

After the explosion Johnson started for the land with a party of about twenty men hauling a dory containing the mate of the "Viking" and a passenger, both of whom had been seriously injured. The party proceeded, hauling the dory through "marshy" ice, until 4 p.m. next day, when Johnson sent all the men in the party except three to Horse Islands for assistance.

At daylight on 17th March no assistance had arrived; Johnson and the men with him had then been for a day and two nights without food or water, and they were still several miles from land. No vessel was in sight, nor was there any sign of assistance, and they were in field ice which at any moment with a change of weather conditions might become a mass of disintegrating pans. In these circumstances Johnson persuaded the three uninjured men remaining with him to make for land, but refused himself to leave the two injured men in the dory.

That afternoon seven men from Horse Islands bringing food with them reached the dory, but it was so badly damaged that they were unable to drag it over the ice and they returned to Horse Islands. Johnson remained standing by the two injured men. About two hours later, he saw the smoke of a steamer, and this proved to be the s.s. "Beothic" searching for survivors. A party of men were landed from the vessel on to the ice, but darkness overtook them before they could reach Johnson and they were compelled to return to the ship. At daylight on the following morning, a rescue party was again landed from the "Beothic," and, this party finding it impossible to convey the injured men across the ice in the damaged dory, returned to the ship for another dory, and eventually succeeded in getting Johnson and the two injured men on board the "Beothic" at 11 a.m. on the 18th March.

The ice conditions prevailing at the time were very treacherous, and the ice was of the type which has very little stability in fog, rain or snow, and might break up rapidly. A sudden change of wind from an off-shore direction would probably have loosened all the pack ice very quickly and sent it out to sea, and Johnson, with his knowledge of ice and weather conditions, must have realised the grave risk he was running in remaining with the injured men.

Admiralty, 21st April, 1932.

R.N.

Lieut.-Comdr. H. J. Hartnoll, D.S.O., placed on Retd. List at own request with rank of Comdr. 17th Apr. 1932.

Act. Paym. Sub-Lieuts. to be Paym. Sub-Lieuts. with seny. as stated:—

A. G. D. Davidson. 1st Sept. 1931.

J. H. Taylor.

D. L. Blowers.

K. H. Derwent.

1st Oct. 1931.

F. J. H. Rathborne. 1st Nov. 1931.

H. F. C. Halahan. 1st Dec. 1931.

Mr. Douglas Allan Fraser Allmond granted temporary commission as Sub-Lieut. with seniority. 1st Jan. 1932.

R.N.R.

Sub-Lieut. A. W. McMullan to be Lieut. with seny. of 10th Jan. 1932.

Admiralty, 22nd April, 1932.

R.N.

Surg. Comdr. I. S. Gabe, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., placed on Retd. List at own request. 18th Apr. 1932.

R.N.R.

Paym. Sub-Lieut. B. M. Edwards to be Paym. Lieut. with seny. of 4th Dec. 1931.

Admiralty, 23rd April, 1932.

R.N.

Engr. Lieut.-Comdr. T. B. Hawton placed on Retd. List with rank of Engr. Comdr. 23rd Apr. 1932.

Lieut. J. T. Currie placed on Retd. List. 8th Apr. 1932.

Sig. Lieut. W. J. Veerhault placed on Retd. List. 23rd Apr. 1932.

Cd. Sig. Bosn. W. G. H. Lavender to be Sig. Lieut. 23rd Apr. 1932.

Cd. Bosn. C. L. Scarlett placed on Retd. List with rank of Lieut. 23rd Apr. 1932.

R.N.V.R.

Surg.-Lieut. J. A. Kerr, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., B.Sc. to be Surg. Lieut.-Comdr. with seny. of 12th Dec. 1931.

Admiralty, 25th April, 1932.

R.N.

Lieut.-Comdr. W. H. L. Harrison placed on Retd. List at own request. 25th Apr. 1932.

Lieut. (E) W. J. Germon placed on Retd. List. 24th Apr. 1932.

Cd. Gnr. R. G. Marshall placed on Retd. List at own request with rank of Lieut. 25th Apr. 1932.

Admiralty, 26th April, 1932.

R.N.

Cd. Writer J. E. Hamilton, D.S.M., placed on Retd. List. 26th Apr. 1932.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL NAVAL NURSING SERVICE.

Miss K. M. Greenwood has been appointed Sister, on probation, to date 9th May 1932.

War Office,

26th April, 1932.

REGULAR ARMY.

Maj.-Gen. C. H. T. Lucas, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., h.p., is placed on ret. pay under the provisions of Art. 568, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1931. 24th Apr. 1932.