

SUPPLEMENT

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FRIDAY, 2 AUGUST, 1940

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.I, 2nd August, 1940.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

Lieutenant-Commander Alexander George Francis Drogo Viscount Mandeville, Royal Navy (Retired);

for outstanding courage and enterprise when a bomb exploded in one of H.M. Ships, and for persistent devotion to duty in searching for wounded, although injured himself.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.I,

2nd August, 1940.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following Awards:—

The Medal of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry.

Sub-Lieutenant Alexander Mitchell Hodge, R.N.V.R.

H.M. Ship in which Sub-Lieutenant Hodge was serving was badly damaged by an explosion in a bomb-room. The bomb-room was in darkness, full of heat and fumes, and smoke rising to the main deck suggested fire below.

Sub-Lieutenant Hodge had no knowledge of the behaviour of bombs in great heat or violent movement. When the explosion occurred he at once left the main deck and went into the bomb-room. He examined this and was able to rescue and send up several badly injured men. He found one of the wounded men crushed under two very heavy bombs, which could not be moved single-handed. Obtaining help, he dragged the wounded man clear, and sent him up.

Sub-Lieutenant Hodge did not go on deck until he had satisfied himself that no one was left alive below.

Throughout he showed outstanding courage, enterprise and resource, without any thought for himself. He saved all the lives he could though, for all he knew, further fatal explosions might have occurred at any moment.

The Medal of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service.

Marine James Munro Hall, Ply: X.1785,

who showed great courage and readiness in swimming through water covered with burning oil to a blazing ship, loaded with petrol, which might well have exploded. His brave action enabled a chain to be made fast to the stem of the ship. She was then towed clear of the jetty which was already catching fire. There were oil tanks and a large stock of petrol near by.