



**SUPPLEMENT**

TO

**The London Gazette**

*Of FRIDAY, the 22nd of AUGUST, 1941*

**Published by Authority**

*Registered as a newspaper*

TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST, 1941

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
26th August, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the British Empire Medal and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of Officers and Men of the Merchant Navy specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

*To be an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Robert Edward Stankley, Esq., Chief Engineer.

*To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Norman Frederick Fitch, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was attacked three times by enemy aircraft which dropped bombs, one of which started a bad fire.

Chief Engineer Stankley, though wounded, at once went to the Engine Room and saw to the withdrawal of his staff. He then helped to get the boats away. Later he

fought the fire and, when the vessel again got under way, controlled the engines until the ship reached port.

Chief Officer Fitch saw to the taking off of the wounded passengers in the lifeboats and then arranged fire-parties and fought the fires until they were put out.

It was due largely to the courage and determination of the two Officers that the ship was saved and brought safe to port.

*To be Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Ralph Churchill Ellis, Esq., Third Officer.

The ship was hit by bombs and heavily damaged amidships. Fires were started. The Captain, Chief Officer and Chief Engineer were killed and the Second Officer was badly wounded.

Third Officer Ellis was below when the attack started. He went on deck at once and organised rescue and fire-fighting parties.

It was due mainly to the good work of this Officer that four boats were got away. He was tireless throughout in helping the wounded and in searching for survivors in the burning ship and he did all he could to ensure that the surviving passengers and crew should be brought to safety.

William Reddington, Esq., Chief Engineer.

The ship was attacked by aircraft while in dock. She was hit in the engine-room by a bomb and fires broke out. Fire and first-aid

parties were at once organised and Chief Engineer Reddington acted as liaison officer. He behaved with great resourcefulness and courage throughout the attacks and the ship was saved.

Horace Thompson, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was attacked by a submarine and sunk by the second of two torpedoes. Chief Officer Thompson was in the Chart room and fell through the deck into the Master's room below. On making his way to the bridge he found the Master suffering from shock. The Second and Third Officers were killed. The Chief Officer, though wounded himself, carried the Master—a man of fifteen stone—to the port lifeboat and got it away with twenty-seven survivors.

The Chief Officer searched for the other lifeboat without success and then set sail towards port, about five hundred miles away. Nine days later the boat reached land. She had been navigated without charts or instruments. Chief Officer Thompson judged his course by dead reckoning and his resource, coolness and skill were the means of saving many lives.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

Alexander Dalziel, Ordinary Seaman.

After his ship had been torpedoed, the Master was trapped in the fore-castle with a

broken arm. The crew had been ordered away in the boats but Seaman Dalziel, hearing a faint cry, groped his way through darkness and debris, found the Master and released him. He then dragged him to the deck, slid down the side of the sinking ship to the water and helped him to cling to a log until the two men were picked up an hour and a half later by a rescue ship.

Herbert Anthony Gibbons, Able Seaman.

For brave conduct and resource when his ship was attacked by enemy aircraft.

#### COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been brought to notice for brave conduct when their ships encountered enemy ships, submarines, aircraft or mines:—

William George Atkinson, Able Seaman.  
 Stanley Arkwell Bone, Esq., Fourth Engineer.  
 Donald Owen Clarke, Apprentice.  
 Patrick Fay, Sailor.  
 Ralph Llewelyn Hagley, Esq., Second Officer.  
 Stanley Ewart Hooper, Able Seaman.  
 Captain Harry Everett Maber, Master.  
 George Edward Mayne, Esq., Chief Officer.  
 Edmund Galloway Simmonds, Able Seaman.  
 Colin Marshall Stewart, Esq., Junior Engineer.  
 Captain James Wilfred Tozer, Master.  
 Eric Watson, Esq., Radio Officer.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2;

39-41 King Street, Manchester 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;

80, Chichester Street, Belfast;

or through any bookseller

1941

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65—35255