



SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 19th of SEPTEMBER, 1941

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER, 1941

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
23rd September, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to award the GEORGE CROSS to:—

Henry Herbert Reed (deceased), Gunner.

The ship was attacked by enemy aircraft with cannon, machine-guns and bombs. She replied at once with her defensive armament and the men at the guns went on firing despite the hail of bullets and cannon shell.

Gunner Reed behaved with the utmost gallantry. He was badly wounded but when the Master asked how he was, he said that he would carry on. The Chief Officer was also badly wounded. Reed carried him from the bridge down two ladders to the deck below and placed him in shelter near a life-boat. Gunner Reed then died. It was afterwards found that his stomach had been ripped open by machine-gun bullets.

By his gallant and utterly selfless action Gunner Reed saved the life of the Chief Officer.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
23rd September, 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 George Medal and 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 Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Norman William Campbell, Esq., Chief Radio Officer, S.S. "St. Patrick."

Francis Joseph Purcell, Esq., Second Engineer, S.S. "St. Patrick."

Awarded the George Medal:—

Miss Elizabeth May Owen, Stewardess, S.S. "St. Patrick."

The ship was attacked by an enemy aircraft with bombs and machine-guns. She was hit by a salvo, caught fire, broke in two, and quickly sank with the loss of many lives. In spite of great damage to his cabin and instruments, Mr. Campbell got his emergency set into action almost at once and sent out two messages. These were picked up by a man-of-war which rescued survivors.

Two other members of the crew showed outstanding bravery. Second Engineer Purcell saved three men trapped in the engine room. He then found another man lying wounded in an alleyway. With help, he got him to the well-deck and when the ship sank supported him until rescued.

Stewardess Owen groped her way in the darkness to the women's berths on the lowest deck of the vessel. She had difficulty in opening the doors of the quarters but forced them and brought five women and girls to the well-deck. Sailors offered her life-belts for her charges. She saw them put on, although there was none for herself. She then returned to bring away another girl. By this time the ship was sinking. Stewardess Owen could have reached the last life-boat but she would not leave the girl and jumped into the sea with her and supported her for nearly two hours, until they were rescued.

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

Clifford Walter Davies, Esq., Chief Officer.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Edgar Chalker, Cook and Steward.

The ship was attacked by enemy aircraft with cannon, machine-guns and bombs. She replied at once with her defensive armament manned by Chief Officer Davies, a Gunner and Steward Chalker. They went on firing despite the hail of bullets and cannon shell.

The Chief Officer and the Steward were wounded, but the brave defence put up by these men drove off the enemy and saved their ship.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

John George Gordon, Chief Steward.
Joseph Barnes Rickerby Stamper, Able Seaman.

The ship was attacked by an enemy aircraft which bombed and machine-gunned her. All hands stood to the guns throughout the attack and put up a spirited fight.

Gordon and Stamper, who were both badly hurt, went on firing their guns until they dropped from loss of blood. Both men showed courage and endurance and possibly damaged one of the enemy aircraft.

COMMENDATIONS.

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

Captain Harold Corbin Archer, Master.
George Alfred Bright, Gunlayer.
Harold Falkingbridge, Esq., Chief Officer.
Captain Donald Duncan Halcrow, Master.
Matthew George Mallinson, Gunner.
Hans Christian Olsen (deceased), Steward.
Captain Thomas Patterson Wilson, Master.

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

S.O. Code No. 65-35280