

The Chief Officer was conspicuous throughout for his good work.

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

Henry Norman Jones, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

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

Godfrey Brown, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was proceeding in convoy to Malta. In addition to incessant air attacks the convoy was attacked by surface vessels and submarines. All attacks were driven off and the vessel, with her valuable cargo, reached port safely.

The Chief Engineer Officer did excellent work and set a splendid example to the engine-room staff.

The Chief Officer showed great courage and outstanding leadership throughout this hazardous and arduous operation.

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

Captain Robert William Brundle, Master.

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

William Kelly Surtees Robinson, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

George Edwin Masterman, Esq., Chief Officer.

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

Ronald Peart, Chief Steward.

The ship, which was in an early convoy to North Russia, was torpedoed twice in rapid succession. The Master ordered most of the crew to leave the ship and stand-by in the boats, while he and the remainder stayed on board to inspect the damage. A third explosion occurred however, and those on board, and the crew who had been standing by, were transferred to another vessel. About three hours later the Master, with his crew, reboarded the ship. In spite of many difficulties and frequent enemy air attacks, during which she probably destroyed one enemy aircraft, the vessel was successfully towed to a North Russian port. The cargo was discharged, repairs were effected and the vessel has since returned to this country.

In addition to the dangers and perils of the trip, a serious fire occurred on board the vessel at the outset of the voyage. Prompt and efficient action was taken by the Master and the crew to extinguish the fire, which might have been disastrous having regard to the dangerous nature of the cargo.

The Master showed great fearlessness and skill and, by his courageous determination, was mainly responsible for saving a valuable ship and cargo.

The Chief Officer ably supported the Master and remained on board with him when the vessel was first torpedoed. He also displayed courage and promptitude in fighting the fire.

The Chief Engineer Officer displayed courage and devotion to duty, remaining in the engine room during the heavy air attacks and setting a fine example to the personnel. He did good work in fighting the fire and when the vessel was first torpedoed remained on board with the Master.

The Chief Steward did good work throughout, and fought the fire with determination and courage.

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

John Selkirk Gardner, Esq., Chief Officer.  
Charles Edward Pratt, Esq., Second Officer.

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

Carl Arnold Peterson, Carpenter.

The ship, sailing alone, was torpedoed in darkness when 428 miles from land. She foundered within ten minutes and only one boat could be launched. The Second Officer did good work in getting the boat away, and thirty-one survivors were rescued from the water. After being picked up, the Chief Officer took charge of the boat and by splendid leadership and resource brought it to safety after a voyage of 22 days. Carpenter Paterson was outstanding throughout. After helping to get the boat away, he set a fine example to all by his courage and cheerfulness. He gave the Chief Officer valuable assistance during the boat voyage.

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

Walter John Reader, Esq., Chief Officer.  
Duncan Campbell, Esq., Second Officer.

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

Husan Rosa, Carpenter.

The ship, sailing alone, was torpedoed and sank within four minutes. Despite the rapid sinking only three lives were lost. All the others on board, including 16 survivors of another vessel, got away in two boats, on four rafts and in a motor boat. The men on the rafts were picked up by the boats and all eventually reached safety.

The Chief Officer, who was in charge of one boat which made a voyage of 13 days, showed courage and resource in his control of operations and it was due to his excellent organisation and seamanship that the boat with its 25 occupants reached safety. He was ably assisted by Carpenter Rosa who righted one of the boats which had capsized in launching and who displayed initiative and resource throughout.

The motor boat, containing seventeen survivors, made a voyage of 28 days before being picked up. It was in charge of Second Officer Campbell who, despite the fact that he had been torpedoed twice in three days, displayed courage, skill and leadership in handling the boat and in the care of its occupants during the long voyage. He had previously been in charge of this boat when his own ship was sunk.