



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

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
30th March, 1943.*

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, in the Merchant Navy, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

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

Captain Frederick Briggs, Master.

The ship was being brought to the United Kingdom for repair and overhaul when she was engaged by an enemy aircraft which circled round the ship six times attacking with machine-gun and cannon fire. A fine defence was put up by the ship and the enemy was beaten off.

The Master displayed outstanding courage. Although wounded by splinters he continued to direct operations and it was due to his leadership and inspiring example that the vessel was brought safely to port.

Captain Griffith Lawrence Evans, Master.

The ship, sailing in convoy, was torpedoed in darkness. Although she was badly damaged, the engines were intact and the Master decided to get her to the nearest port. Pumps were kept going but the wind and sea increased considerably, the fore-deck became awash and, with the propellers out of the water, the ship was unmanageable. The Master decided to abandon her and to stand-by in the boats which, with difficulty, were got away. Throughout a night of heavy weather, the boats laid to sea anchors. In the morning the Master made an effort to board the vessel which was listing heavily.

The weather, however, was too bad and as there was no hope of saving her the Master ordered the boats to make for land, which they all reached safely. Captain Evans displayed great courage and determination in his efforts to save his ship.

**Captain Douglas Hunter Gray, D.S.C., Master.
Hugh Foulkes, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.**

An old vessel, badly in need of repair, was being brought to the United Kingdom when she encountered very heavy weather and serious machinery defects became apparent. Further damage was sustained when an enemy aircraft attacked her with machine-guns and cannon.

On the orders of the Master, fire was not returned until the machine was well within range. On the aircraft's third run over the ship, fire was opened and the enemy was badly damaged and probably destroyed.

Captain Gray displayed courage and determination throughout the voyage and it was due to his skillful leadership that the enemy attack was beaten off and the vessel brought safely to port.

The Chief Engineer Officer was outstanding and showed great devotion to duty. He remained constantly in the engine-room, and when the boiler tubes blew out, he went inside the boiler to effect repairs. His work in the engine-room greatly contributed to the vessel's safe arrival.

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

Captain James Kennedy, Master.

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

**Neil Murray Coleman, Esq., Third Radio
Officer.**

The ship, sailing alone, was torpedoed. As a precautionary measure one of the boats,