

Awarded the George Medal.

Captain George Marmion Duff, Master.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Harry Shakeshaft, Carpenter.

Frank Simmons, Storekeeper.

The ship was sailing alone when she was attacked by an enemy submarine shortly before dawn. Many shells exploded on or near the ship which, however, put up a splendid and successful defence. The vessel sustained considerable damage, but emergency repairs were effected and the ship kept going. The submarine continued to shell the ship, but the fire was returned and the enemy was eventually shaken off. In spite of her damaged condition the vessel continued her voyage and arrived at her destination after having covered a distance of over 2,500 miles.

The Master displayed great courage and skill in conducting the magnificent defence which saved his ship. It was due to his tenacity, resource and seamanship that the ship was brought safely to port.

The Chief and Second Engineer Officers remained below throughout the attack and carried out their duties with courage and coolness despite damage caused by a shell which penetrated the engine-room.

The Chief Officer was the mainstay of the Master on deck and was outstanding in his courage and devotion to duty.

The Second Officer was the Gunnery Officer in the ship and it was mainly due to his excellent control and direction that such an effective fire was maintained.

The Carpenter and the Storekeeper worked with courage, skill and untiring energy in effecting emergency repairs while the ship was in action.

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

Gordon Lynton Hargreaves, Esq., Fifth Engineer Officer.

The ship, sailing alone, was hit by two torpedoes. She listed so rapidly that abandonment was ordered. Some of the boats had been wrecked by the explosions but the crew were able to get away in two others, just before the ship turned on her beam ends. One of the boats was picked up the next day and the other made port after five days. No lives were lost.

The Fifth Engineer Officer showed great courage and disregard of his personal safety. Although the ship rapidly listed after being hit, he immediately went below and stopped the main engines, thus making it possible for the boats to be got away safely. Subsequently, during the boat voyage, his bearing and conduct set a fine example to all.

Alexander Henderson, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was torpedoed in darkness and badly damaged. There was great danger from the escaping fumes of the very dangerous cargo

which she was carrying. Abandonment was ordered and four boats were got away successfully. Within an hour all the occupants had been picked up. At daylight, it was seen that the vessel was still afloat, and the Chief Officer, with two of the crew, reboarded her to assess the possibilities of salvage. Tugs were sent for, but the ship sank before she could be taken in tow.

Mr. Henderson displayed great courage in reboarding the ship, his task being rendered exceedingly hazardous by reason of the fumes which were still escaping from the cargo.

James Albert Morgan, Esq., Chief Officer.

When a ship was attacked by enemy aircraft at a North African port she received several direct hits and was set on fire.

Mr. Morgan, the Chief Officer of another ship, was in charge of one of the boats which was sent to the assistance of the crew who, cut off by the flames, had been forced to the forward part of the ship. Although the raid was still in progress Mr. Morgan took his boat alongside and rescued the Master and eleven of the crew. Throughout the operation he displayed great gallantry and determination.

COMMENDATIONS.

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

Gilbert Adamson, Esq., Radio Officer.

Captain Laurence Bruce Anderson, Master.

John Pownal Aplin, Esq., Chief Officer.

Captain Thomas Victor Birkett, Master.

Henry Care, Esq., Chief Officer.

Alexander George Daniel, Esq., Second Engineer Officer.

Captain Sydney Beeston Davis, Master.

Captain Gerald Thomas Dobeson, Master.

Maurice George Drummond, Quartermaster.

Kenneth Ebanks, Able Seaman.

Walter Edward Fletcher, Esq., Chief Officer.

Herbert Charles Ford, Esq., Junior Second Officer.

James William Esmond Hay, Esq. (deceased), Chief Radio Officer.

Walter Hutchinson (deceased), Steward.

William Hudson Jensen, B.E.M., Deck Hand.

William Charles Jones, Messroom Steward.

Donald Inman Lyons, Esq., Third Radio Officer.

James MacGregor, Esq., Chief Radio Officer.

Ernest McKinty, Esq., Second Officer.

Alexander Campbell Miles, Donkeyman.

Captain Edward Robert Owen, Master.

Maurice Eldred Potbury, Esq., Fourth Officer.

George Alexander Raeburn, Esq., Chief Radio Officer.

Owen Trevor Roberts, Esq., Third Officer.

Frank Stamps, Esq., Second Officer.

Robert Leslie Sutherland, Cadet.

James Ladner Watler, Esq. (deceased), Third Officer.

Thomas Best Watson, Boatswain.

Captain Alfred Guy Williams, Master.

Creighton Earl Causley Windram, Esq., Third Officer.

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