

the cargo was still smouldering three days later. The vessel was then beached and flooded. After the fire had been extinguished the ship was refloated and temporarily repaired which enabled her to return to the United Kingdom.

Captain Rice displayed great courage and coolness. By his leadership and organisation he set an excellent example to all his officers and men during a difficult and dangerous time, and his determination and judgment ensured the eventual saving of his ship.

Chief Engineer Officer Mummery was outstanding throughout and also showed great courage, resource and devotion to duty. He ably supported the Master and was untiring in his efforts to save the ship.

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

Peter Gilbert Wiggin, Esq., Electrician.

The ship, sailing in convoy, was torpedoed. Immediately, the whole midships portion caught fire and, as the boats were in flames, only one raft could be launched. The ship, blazing furiously and with ammunition exploding, sank some hours after she was hit. Most of the survivors got away on the only raft launched but others were forced to jump overboard and cling to wreckage until they were rescued some twelve hours later.

Electrician Wiggin displayed conspicuous gallantry. On three occasions he left the raft and assisted men in the water to get clear of the sinking ship. In doing so he ran the grave risk of being drawn down by the ship.

COMMENDATIONS.

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

Batir Mohd x Hazir Mohd, 1st Engine Room Tindal.

Duncan Black, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.
Harold Braunton, Esq., Second Engineer Officer.

Captain John Croumbie Brown, Master.

Robert William Donnison, Esq., Fourth Engineer Officer.

Captain Henry Fellingham (since deceased), Master.

Harold Finney, Esq., Second Officer.

Albert Kenneth Garrett, Esq., Third Officer.

Norman Hodgson, Boatswain.

Captain Richard Humble, Master.

James William Innes, Esq., O.B.E., Chief Engineer Officer.

Richard Frederick Lees, Esq., Assistant Purser.

Peter Gardiner Lewis, Esq., Third Officer.

Archibald Angus MacKinnon, Boatswain.

Douglas MacPherson, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

Mavlakhan Ebrahimkhan x Ebrahim Khan, Pumpman.

Nessar Ali x Meher Ali, Deck Serang.

John Gerald Nuttall, Esq., Chief Officer.

Rassidulla x Bossudulla, Greaser.

Captain James Henry Stockman, Master.

Yeaqub x Kamil Mohd, Fireman Serang.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

29th August, 1944.

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 the persons 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:—

Kaitu, Native Magistrate, Funafuti.

Kabunare, Native Magistrate, Tarawa Island.

Tobinabina, Native Magistrate, Abemama Island.

For services in connection with Military operations in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Iosefa, Senior Assistant Master, Education Department, Tarawa Island.

For services in connection with Military operations in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Hildred Bastow, Electrician, Meltham, Nr. Huddersfield.

As a result of a cloudburst a large part of a Works was flooded. Bastow, who was on duty, realised the danger if the main switches or the high tension wires, 10,000 volts, were exposed to the flood. Without hesitation and entirely on his own initiative, he made his way with considerable difficulty through a torrent of floating debris to a Boiler House, where the flood had already reached the boilers and put them out. From there he went to the main Switch Room and pulled the three high tension switches. At that time, the incoming high tension grid cables were likely to be immersed and he was aware of the dangerous nature of the action he was taking. He then returned with the flood and went another 70 yards to the Heat Treatment Department, which was full of water and sludge to a depth of some four feet, and as an additional safeguard pulled out the subsidiary switches in this Department.

Bastow was in considerable danger while effecting the disconnections and set an outstanding example of courage and devotion to duty.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct:—

When rescuing the crew of a crashed aircraft:—

Thomas Kevin Gurney, Esq., Third Engineer Officer, Merchant Navy.

When engaged in hazardous operations:—

Dudley James Schubert, Esq., Radio Officer, Merchant Navy.