



THIRD SUPPLEMENT  
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**The London Gazette**

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TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER, 1944

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
21st November, 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, 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 an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

Captain William Watkin Thomas, D.S.C.,  
Master.

The ship experienced bad weather and repeated enemy aircraft and submarine attacks during a voyage to Russia. After arrival, aircraft attacks occurred daily and on one occasion when a heavy attack developed the ship was extensively damaged by near misses and members of the crew were injured. Later the ship dragged anchors and grounded during a northerly blizzard but, after dry docking and temporary repair she was able to return to her anchorage. The Master handled his ship with skill and coolness throughout a protracted and difficult voyage. Despite repeated enemy attacks his ship fulfilled her mission and, mainly by reason of his courage, determination and leadership, was brought safely back to the United Kingdom.

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

Captain James Ninian Maley, Master.  
William Wardle Spensley, Esq., Chief Engineer-  
Officer.

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

Sydney Herbert Mallett, Esq., Chief Officer.

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

James Markie, Boatswain.  
Herbert Vincent Jeffreys, Able Seaman.

The ship, with stores and troops on board, was sailing in a convoy which was attacked by enemy aircraft. The vessel received a direct hit from a bomb which pierced two decks and buried itself in the main tank. The ship was then put at full speed and reached her anchorage off the Normandy beach. It was due to the Master's calm courage and inspiring leadership that a difficult and hazardous situation was promptly dealt with and the delivery of a vital cargo assured.

The Chief Engineer Officer and the Chief Officer acted with outstanding courage and coolness throughout.

Boatswain Markie and Able Seaman Jeffreys rendered every possible assistance, without regard for their own safety.

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

Charles Kevin Magill, Esq., Second Engineer  
Officer.

The ship was torpedoed and sank rapidly. As she was sinking the Second Engineer Officer and another Officer jumped into the sea together. Although Mr. Magill was seriously injured when the propeller struck him on the leg, he went to the assistance of the other Officer who was in difficulties, and helped him on to a raft, from which they were both rescued. Afterwards it was found that Mr. Magill had sustained a severe compound fracture of the left leg. This brave action on the part of Second Engineer

Officer Magill, undertaken without thought of self, undoubtedly saved the life of his brother Officer.

#### COMMENDATIONS.

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

Lawrence Arnold Stafford Howell, Esq., Chief Officer.

Pawel Idzikowski, Engine-room Storekeeper.

Ronald Jones, Able Seaman.

Victor Thomas Millington, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

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*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
21st November, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders 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:—

When rescuing people from a burning house:—

Cyril Sneath, Market Gardener, Lambley, Nottinghamshire.

When aircraft crashed and caught fire:—

Charles William Grass, Gamekeeper, Friends Green, Weston, Hertfordshire.

William Patrick Mitchell, B.E.M., Maintenance Foreman, Portsmouth.

George Edward Sands, Company Officer, Works Fire Brigade, Portsmouth.

Arthur Sydney William Thomas, Section Leader, Works Fire Brigade, Portsmouth.

Cyril Winter, Smallholder, Newton, Wisbech.

Frank Winter, Special Constable, Isle of Ely (Cambridgeshire) Special Constabulary.

#### LONDON

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