



SUPPLEMENT

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
16th December, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and for the following awards of the British Empire Medal, in the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleet, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names 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 David Rattray Macfarlane, Master.
George Cormack Macdougall, Esq., Chief Engineer.

Captain Macfarlane was Commodore of an important convoy. By his steadfast and resolute behaviour during enemy attacks he set a high standard and it is largely due to his leadership that the operation was successful.

Mr. Macdougall, Chief Engineer of one of the ships, maintained, throughout a critical period of twenty-four hours, a speed of only one knot less than her maximum in spite of a broken piston and a port engine that required careful nursing.

Captain Charles Thomas Stone, Master.

The ship saved over a hundred lives after an attack by U-boats. There was a south-westerly gale, with fierce rain squalls, a high sea and a heavy swell. The sea was covered with bales of cork, likely to foul the propeller but by fine seamanship a lee was made and many men were picked up. Although no others could then be seen, the Master decided to search still further and

men of another vessel were rescued from the water.

On many other occasions the Master has shown courage and has handled his ship skilfully in the face of danger and difficulty.

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

Captain Harold George Thorne Booth, Master.

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

William Reginald Pinchbeck, Esq., Chief Officer.

James Newsome Grant, Esq., Third Officer.

The ship, laden with explosives, was in harbour when the port was attacked by many enemy bombers flying in formation.

The Master put up a stout defence and the Third Officer, though he had no shelter, did notable work at the Hotchkiss.

The ship caught fire and although all the fire-fighting service lines, which were electric, had been severed the crew worked to put out the fire with buckets of water and sand.

The Master, the Chief Officer and the Third Officer stood by the ship until the last minute, to try to quench the flames and save her.

As the fire was fast gaining hold and the cargo was likely to explode, the Master ordered abandon ship. Fifteen minutes later, when the Officers and Men were ashore and some way from the ship, she blew up and the blast threw the whole company to the ground.

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

Captain Thomas Sydney Horn, Master.

George Haig, Esq., Chief Engineer.