



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
6th January, 1942.*

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 George Medal and 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 Aubrey Devereux Davies, Master.

The ship was torpedoed at night. She listed so sharply that the Master gave orders to abandon her. Four boats got away without incident but one in charge of the Master struck the sea stern first. The plug was knocked out, some equipment was lost and the boat began to fill. During this time, the enemy began to shell the sinking ship.

The Master had the boat baled out, transferred some men from another lifeboat which was even more damaged, and set sail for land. The rudder had been lost and steering was done by oar. The Master sailed his deeply laden craft five hundred miles to safety. For eight days he maintained steady discipline and by his good seamanship saved the lives of the twenty-six men under his care.

Captain Thomas Halvorsen, Master.

The ship was in tow when she was attacked by a German bomber, which came at her in a shallow dive. The Master re-

turned vigorous fire. The enemy attacked repeatedly, but was finally driven off.

The Master showed skill and courage, and his defence saved the ship from damage.

Captain William Ashley Shute, Master.

The ship was hit by bombs from enemy aircraft and had to be abandoned. The Master, with four men, remained on board to destroy confidential papers and books. They left the ship in the starboard jolly boat to which were transferred stores and gear from damaged lifeboats. After eight days they reached port, having travelled about 200 miles by the use of oars and a blanket set as a sail.

The Master put up a stout defence, and by means of excellent organisation and good seamanship brought his boat to land.

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

Captain William Henry Charles Lawrence, Master.

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

Jack Hardy, Esq., Second Officer.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

William Charles Cyril Halliday, Gunner.

The ship was sailing alone when she was attacked by an enemy bomber. Her defence was prepared and when the aircraft was still some distance away the guns hit. The aircraft swayed, turned in the ship's wake and dropped three bombs about forty feet from the stern. The aircraft now assaulted with cannon and machine-gun from the starboard side. When the enemy was level with