



## SUPPLEMENT

TO

# The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 16th of JANUARY, 1942

Published by Authority

*Registered as a newspaper*

TUESDAY, 20 JANUARY, 1942

### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
20th 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 British Empire Medal, in the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleet, 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 Alfred Ryder Bibby, Master.

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

Hubert William Underhill, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was torpedoed and sank within eleven minutes. The survivors got away in two boats. They kept together for thirty-six hours but then became separated in the darkness. After seven days the Master's boat was picked up by another ship. Four days later this ship was herself sunk and the Master spent a further thirteen days in a boat at sea. His leadership throughout was exemplary.

The Chief Officer's boat was ten days before being picked up. He, too, showed great skill and good seamanship in bringing his people to safety. His arrangements for the care of his men were perfect and it was due to his courage and high sense of duty that the spirits of everyone were sustained and that they handled their boat well until they were rescued.

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

Captain Arthur Byford Friend, Master.  
Richard Joseph Blackman, Esq., Chief Engineer.

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

Eric Monckton, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was attacked at night by enemy aircraft and sustained damage. Although the engine-room was filled with smoke, the Chief Engineer by skilful improvisation kept the main engines working. The Master, the Chief Engineer and the Chief Officer worked day and night for three days to bring the vessel in and she was eventually beached and saved.

Eight months later, the ship was sunk by a U-boat. With great skill the Master got away boats and showed good seamanship in a voyage of nearly a hundred miles to safety.

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

Captain John William Klemp, Master.

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

John Bingham Woodhouse, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship was torpedoed. A boat from another ship, in charge of the Chief Officer, was got away and picked up survivors, amongst them the Master. Before they could be brought back, the second ship was also struck, and sank quickly. Although none of the survivors except the Master of one ship and the Chief Officer of the other had any knowledge of sailing boats they decided, in-