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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
 21st July, 1942.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards of the George Medal and 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:—

Awarded the George Medal:—

John Inglis, Esq., Second Officer.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Jeremiah Dalziel, Carpenter.

Shortly after leaving an Eastern port, the ship was very heavily attacked by Japanese aircraft with machine guns and bombs. Two bombs hit, setting fire to the cargo, and breaking the water service pipe.

The Second Officer, who was in charge of one of the fire parties, showed the highest courage and devotion to duty. He was blown into the air by the blast of a bomb and wounded by splinters but refused to be treated and carried on with his vital work.

The Carpenter also did much good work in fire-fighting. Throughout the attacks he remained on the exposed fore-castle, standing by the anchors.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

- Armour McConnell, Boatswain's Mate (now Boatswain).
- George Wildman, Able Seaman.
- Richard Harper, Engine Room Storekeeper.
- Alfred Martin Thompson, Second Steward.
- Harry Holkham, Tourist Steward.
- James Robert Balls, Second Tourist Steward.

The ship was torpedoed and on the following day attacked by aircraft which she drove off by gunfire. Despite heavy damage she completed her voyage.

McConnell very capably assisted in all the rescue and other work which followed the attack on the vessel and after the Boatswain was wounded was promoted in his place.

All these men showed courage and devotion to duty, in dangerous and difficult circumstances.

They did valuable work among the injured and carried out these duties cheerfully and without regard for their own safety.

By their efforts it was possible to maintain the lighting and power and to ensure the feeding of the passengers and crew. Their behaviour was a fine example to the rest of the personnel and contributed in no small degree to the fact that those on board were brought safely to port.

COMMENDATIONS.

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

- Thomas Edward Harry Balmforth, B.E.M., Engine Room Leading Hand.
- Captain Archibald Mackinlay, O.B.E., Master.
- George James Reardon, B.E.M., Boatswain.