



SUPPLEMENT
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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD,**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
28th September, 1943.*

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

Captain Alfred Cromarty, Master.

The ship was torpedoed and sank rapidly. In the short time available only one boat and three rafts could be launched. The boat set a course for the nearest land and took the three rafts in tow. Some days later those on the rafts were taken into the boat. Bad weather was experienced but, after a voyage of thirteen days, a landfall was made and the boat sailed into port without assistance, having made a voyage of approximately 900 miles.

Captain Cromarty displayed courage and resourcefulness throughout. It was due to his excellent organisation and efficiency that the ship was abandoned with the loss of only one life. Later, by his leadership and skill, all the survivors were brought to port safely.

**Captain Robert Mitchell Maughan, Master.
Tom Henry McCuaig, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.**

The ship, sailing in convoy, was torpedoed in darkness. After examining the damage the Master decided that it was possible to

save the vessel. Temporary repairs were effected and the ship proceeded in convoy under her own power. Thirteen days later she reached port safely, permanent repairs were carried out and she eventually arrived home with a full cargo.

Captain Maughan displayed high qualities of courage, skill and seamanship. By his determination and in the face of many difficulties he brought his badly damaged ship over a great distance safely to port.

The Chief Engineer Officer showed outstanding devotion to duty, skill and leadership. Immediately after the ship was hit he went into the engine-room and took control of operations. Although up to the waist in rushing water he led the engine-room personnel in effecting repairs under the most difficult and dangerous circumstances. His efforts greatly contributed to the saving of the vessel.

Captain Charles Campbell Taylor, Master.

The ship was torpedoed in darkness and sustained severe damage. The engines were restarted and for thirty hours she was not only kept afloat and under way but maintained her position in convoy. The weather got worse however and, with the engine-room flooding and the ship sinking by the stern, abandonment was ordered.

Captain Taylor showed outstanding qualities of courage and leadership throughout and made a determined effort to save his ship. When this was found to be impossible it was due to his excellent organisation and efficiency that the ship was successfully abandoned.

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

Captain Samuel Roland Evans, Master.