

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Civil Division) —*

Henry Murray, Greaser

The ship was sailing in a convoy which was attacked by enemy submarines. She was torpedoed and eventually abandonment was ordered.

The Second Engineer Officer and Greaser Murray displayed outstanding courage and devotion to duty. They remained in the engine-room, despite the danger of further attack by the enemy, until there was no hope of saving the ship, and were among the last to leave.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Civil Division) —*

Clayton Hayes, Able Seaman

The ship, sailing alone, was torpedoed and sank within twenty minutes. Three boats were lowered but one was lost through swamping. Another capsized but it was righted afterwards. Despite this the ship was successfully abandoned and only one life was lost. The survivors were picked up six days later.

Able Seaman Hayes displayed outstanding qualities of courage, and leadership. When the ship was abandoned he took charge of one of the boats and it was due to his skill and seamanship that the occupants were brought to safety.

Kopana, Boatswain

During an enemy dive-bombing attack on Guadalcanal, a British ketch was anchored off Tenaru beach. Her native crew was sheltering in dugouts ashore. A landing ship which was hit and set on fire, became out of control and, drifting rapidly, grounded over the ketch's anchor and set fire to the vessel.

With complete disregard of the fact that ammunition was exploding on the decks of the landing ship, Kopana swam out to the ketch. Clinging aboard he started her engine, threw burning material overboard, cleared the fore rigging and slipped the anchor. Then, single-handed, he manoeuvred his ship out of danger and took her to a safe anchorage. He carried out this action within a few feet of the burning landing ship, under a cloud of smoke. He was wounded by the exploding ammunition.

COMMENDATIONS

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

Captain John William Andrews, Master
Charles Blackwell, Esq., Third Engineer Officer

William James Camp, Ordinary Seaman
Duncan Campbell, Esq., M.B.E., Second Officer

Gerald Carter, Ordinary Seaman
David Brownlie Craig, Esq., Third Radio Officer

Harold John Davis, Sailor
Captain John Dodds, Master
Michael Oduogie Enebeli, Fireman

Leonard Hamill, Able Seaman
Gordon William Hardiman, Able Seaman
Edward George Henley, Able Seaman

Dennis Jones, Sailor
Basil Edward King, Apprentice
Samuel Llewellyn Lloyd, Able Seaman

David Peutherer, Esq., Fourth Engineer Officer

Donald Gordon Reid (deceased), Fireman
Edmund James Rogers, Cook
Patrick Walsh, Able Seaman

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