

The fourth member of the crew was caught by his parachute harness as he was climbing out of the cabin and was left suspended on the side of the burning fuselage.

Fradley, and others, ran forward to release the airman but they were driven back by the intense heat. Fradley, however, made a second attempt. Undeterred by the flames and exploding ammunition, he returned to the blazing wreckage, grasped the airman round the legs and lifted him clear. Unfortunately, the airman died some hours later from his injuries.

Fradley was severely burned about the face and hands when making his gallant attempt to save life.

COMMENDATION.

The individual named below has been Commended for brave conduct when an aircraft crashed and caught fire:—

Eric John Conyers Hale, Lorry Driver, West Keal, Spilsby.

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30th May, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders 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 in the Merchant Navy, when their ships encountered enemy ships, submarines, aircraft or mines.

COMMENDATIONS.

Captain James Stanton Cowan, Master.

Captain Thomas Noel Harvey Dalton, Master.

Captain David Archibald Gibbins, Master.

Hans Alfred Hansen, Esq., Chief Officer.

Aubrey Cecil Kirton, Esq., M.B., Ship's Surgeon.

Robert Munro, Able Seaman.

David Nicholas, Esq., Third Engineer Officer.

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