

acoustic unit. The water was approximately 30 feet at the time of the dive and visibility was nil. The mine was buried nose first in the mud at an angle of about 45 degrees to the horizontal and unfortunately the primer pocket was on the underside which made it necessary for Lieutenant Britnell to dig a hole about 2 feet square and 18 inches deep in order to get at the primer pocket with his rendering-safe tools. The primer proved very difficult to remove but on the sixth attempt using acoustic procedure Lieutenant Britnell finally extracted it. In addition to this operation Lieutenant Britnell also rendered safe three other mines during the operation, one GC type with acoustic unit, and two GD mines fitted with pressure and magnetic units.

Leading Seaman Robert GRIBBEN, P/JX.153399 (Glasgow),

for great courage, initiative and devotion to duty on 14th March, 1945, in recovering an unexploded V1 bomb which had fallen into the Royal Sluice at Antwerp. This difficult operation was finally accomplished after many hours of strenuous work.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
30th April, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to the undermentioned:

Leading Seaman Stanley Filby PARKER, C/JX.320044 (Harold Wood, Romford),

Able Seaman John Edwin PAYNE, P/JX.516259 (N. Lancing),

Able Seaman George FAWCETT, P/JX.383150 (Beverley, York),

Able Seaman Arthur Bernard BEAVIS, P/JX.370273 (Totton, Southampton),

Able Seaman Thomas Noel MERGLER, P/JX.520493 (Croxley Green),

Able Seaman Leslie John JOHNSON, P/JX.322582 (London, E.14),

Able Seaman Eric William MAYDON, P/JX.514914 (Surbiton),

for valuable services in connection with mine clearance and mine disposal in North West Europe immediately before the close of the war with Germany and in the months which followed.

Leading Stoker William Harvey TURNER, D/KX.130289 (Littleborough, Lancs.),

for great gallantry in fighting a fire which broke out in a compound containing ammunition in Alexandria Harbour on 24th September, 1945, thereby preventing further serious damage.

ADMIRALTY.

*Whitehall,
23rd April, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:

For good services in reconnaissance work behind the Japanese lines:

Mention in Despatches

Marine (Acting Temporary Corporal) Reginald Arthur ATKINSON, Royal Marines, Ch/X.108605 (Ashford, Kent).

For good services in fire fighting after a severe explosion in Alexandria Docks on 24th September, 1945:

Posthumous Commendation

Stoker Adam BELFORD, D/KX.151247 (Paisley, Scotland).

Stoker Charles ANDREWS, D/KX.136394 (London, N.W.1).

Commendation

Stoker John MAYOR, D/KX.140360 (W. Didsbury, Manchester).

Stoker James Henry ELSLEY, D/KX.151987 (Battersea, London, S.W.11).

Stoker Garfield Raymond KELLOW, D/KX.145818 (Plymouth, Devon).

Stoker Lawrence WILBY, D/KX.140586 (London, S.W.1).

Leading Stoker Edgar Douglas BUNDAY, D/KX.754016 (Southampton, Hants.).

For good services in Mine Clearance and Mine Disposal Operations in North West Europe immediately before the close of the war with Germany, and in the months which followed:

Mention in Despatches

Temporary Lieutenant Graham CASEY, S.A.N.F. (Durban, S. Africa).

Petty Officer Edward Kenneth MCGUIRK, P/JX.382454 (Chelmsford).

Leading Seaman Ronald BLUNDON, P/JX.220982 (St. Johns, Newfoundland).

Able Seaman Douglas James DOWNER, P/JX.326436 (Bournemouth).

Able Seaman David Thomas Patrick SHANE, P/JX.700346 (Luton, Beds.).

Able Seaman Albert John FLOYD, P/JX.370637 (Barking, Essex).

Able Seaman Harry SIMMONS, C/JX.549535 (Langdon Hills, Essex).

Able Seaman Francis Gordon Joseph McVITTIE, P/JX.321875 (Hanley).

Able Seaman James John MACPHERSON, P/JX.517328 (Glasgow).

Able Seaman Reginald Arthur HOLDCROFT, P/JX.380391 (Stoke-on-Trent).

Able Seaman Alec William MUTTOCK, C/JX.320267 (Norwich).

Able Seaman Anthony Elliot TUMM, P/JX.656153 (Headington, Oxford).

Able Seaman William Raymond MARIES, P/JX.426759 (Birmingham).

Able Seaman Reginald John James HOLTON, P/JX.517580 (London).

Able Seaman Ronald CLARE, P/JX.399322 (Roynton).

Able Seaman Frank James GROSS, C/JX.294480 (London).

Able Seaman Alfred Joseph BARBER, P/JX.387404 (London).

Able Seaman Ronald Edward COLLINS, P/JX.522293 (Edgware).

Able Seaman Felix James HARRIGAN, P/JX.633773 (Coatbridge).

For good services in rendering safe a mine at Ballochantuy, Mull of Kintyre on 7th October, 1945:

Commendation.

Petty Officer William ERRINGTON, P/JX.141410.