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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1. 1st October, 1946.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in the Merchant Navy, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the name of the individual specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for his brave conduct.

- To be Additional Officers of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:
- Captain Albert Richard HICKS, Master, m.v. "San Ambrosio" (Eagle Oil & Shipping Company Ltd.).
- James McDonald SAYER, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer, m.v. "San Ambrosio" (Eagle Oil & Shipping Company Ltd.).
- To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire-
- Ronald Auric, Esq., First Officer, m.v. "San Ambrosio" (Eagle Oil and Shipping Company Ltd.).

Captain Hicks performed outstanding service as Master of Fleet Attendant Tanker engaged in support of the British Pacific Fleet in operations against Japan, the success of which depended on many and prolonged fuellings of units of the British Pacific Fleet at sea, often in bad weather.

The Chief Engineer Officer showed unfailing devotion to duty, keen interest and initiative in the upkeep and readiness of the vessel's main and auxiliary machinery under exceptional conditions. Throughout the operation the m.v. "San Ambrosio" never once failed to fulfil her task. The First Officer showed considerable zeal, initiative and a great interest in the efficiency of the vessel's operational capabilities in oiling at sea, especially so at the outset in devising the most efficient method of rig for beam oiling.

- To be an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—
- Captain Thomas Brabban MARSHAM, Master, m.v. "Orestes" (Ocean Steamship Company Ltd.) (Award dated 25th October, 1942. Since deceased).
- To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—
- Alexander MACDONALD, Esq., Chief Officer, m.v. "Orestes" (Ocean Steamship Company Ltd.).

In May, 1942, m.v. "Orestes" while on a voyage from India to Australia was attacked by a Japanese seaplane off Madras. Four bombs were dropped, two of which were near misses. Vigorous anti-aircraft fire was put up and the attacks were beaten off.

In June, 1942, when 90 miles south of Sydney, the ship was attacked by three Japanese submarines. The vessel was hit by two shells, one from either side, and a third submarine was observed following the ship's wake. Two depth charges were dropped which exploded in front of the submarine, causing it to sheer off and at daylight nothing was seen of the enemy. The "Orestes" arrived in Melbourne with her degaussing gear out of action, and other minor damage.

Captain Marsham showed great courage and excellent seamanship. He handled his ship skilfully and effectively throughout both of the sustained attacks.

The Chief Officer showed outstanding courage and devotion to duty throughout the

attacks. In addition he organised a fire party and put out a fire, which, but for his prompt action, might have had serious consequences.

> KING'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Sidney Arthur READ, Esq., Fourth Engineer Officer, s.s. "Umtata" (Bullard, King & Company Ltd.).

For services when his ship was torpedoed.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.I.

1st October, 1946.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned award of the British Empire Medal, 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 British Empire Medal (Civil Division):-

Harold Frederick Chiswell MOORE, Motor Driver (Acting Checker) (Marlborough), Great Western Railway.

During the loading and unloading of ammunition, an explosion occurred.

There were 100 wagons in the sidings, 90 of which were loaded or partly loaded, and some of the wagons caught fire. Although not a shunter, Moore called back an engine, coupled it to a string of about 50 wagons and signalled the driver to pull forward. It was then seen that some of these were on fire. The movement was stopped and Moore went back and uncoupled behind the fourteenth wagon, thus isolating those on fire. The engine then pulled the remaining wagons to safety. By this time many wagons were on fire and heavy explosions were occurring and the situation had become such that Moore was ordered to withdraw.

The prompt action of Moore in moving the 14 wagons out of danger undoubtedly saved them from being destroyed. He displayed unselfish devotion to duty at the risk of losing his life as he was well aware that further explosions might occur at any moment.

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KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Joseph Patrick BALFE (Junior), British resident in France.

Alice, Mrs. BROUARD, British resident in France.

Maud, Mrs. COUVE, British resident in France. Miss Vera LEIGH (deceased), Women's Trans-

port Service (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry). Arthur Clarke RICHARDS, British resident in

France.

Miss Joan Caroline Moy-Thomas, British resident in France.

For services to the Forces during the enemy occupation of France.

Archibald Charles PICKETT, Driver (Westbury), Great Western Railway.

Sidney Ernest GRIGGS, Fireman (Westbury), Great Western Railway.

For services when a fire occurred in an ammunition train.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1. Ist October, 1946.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's Australian Ministers, to give orders for the following awards of the British Empire Medal for services to the Forces in connection with military operations in the South-West Pacific.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):---

BADIA, Ulunkohoitu Village, Maprok Sub-District, Sepik District, New Guinea.

LUKE, Sega, Choiseul Island, British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

The names of the undermentioned are as now shown and not as stated in Gazette Nos. 37591 and 37624 of 4th June and 25th June, 1946, respectively.

Ernest HILDEBRAND, page 2679.

Stanley George JUNNI (deceased), page 3214.

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