



RECORDED IN THE LONDON GAZETTE, ISSUE 34759, 22 DECEMBER 1939  
SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF FRIDAY,  
THE 22ND OF DECEMBER, 1939 SATURDAY, 23 DECEMBER, 1939  
CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.  
St. James's Palace, S.W.1, 23 December, 1939.

The King has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most honorable Order of the Bath, in recognition of the gallant and successful action with the "Admiral Graf Spee" (to be dated the 13th December, 1939

To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the Second Class  
or Knights Commanders, of the said Most Honorable Order

:

**REAR-ADMIRAL HENRY HARWOOD HARWOOD, O.B.E.,**  
Commanding South American Division of the America and West Indies Station.

To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the Third Class  
or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order

:

**CAPTAIN WILLIAM EDWARD PARRY, R.N., H.M.S. ACHILLES.**

An announcement to this effect was published on the 23rd of December in the Second Supplement to the London Gazette of Friday the 22nd of December, 1939. (above)  
Admiralty, Whitehall. 23 February, 1940.

His Majesty has now been further graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments in the same action:  
Companions of the Distinguished Service Order:

**COMMANDER DOUGLAS M. L. NEAME, ROYAL NAVY, H.M.S. ACHILLES,**

who, as Commander having done all he could during the long months of waiting to perfect the Ship and Ships' company, so that they stood the test of battle, when the day for action came, heartened all by their readiness, example and encouragement.

**LIEUTENANT RICHARD E. WASHBOURN, ROYAL NAVY, H.M.S. ACHILLES;**

who, when early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower, at once killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, though wounded on the head by a splinter which half stunned him and killed the man behind him, continued to control the main armament with the utmost coolness. He set a magnificent example to the rest of the Director Tower crew, who all stood to their posts and made light of the incident. Thus the Primary Control kept working and secured throughout the action a high rate of hits on the enemy.

H.M.S. Achilles. Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.

**SAMUEL JOHN TRIMBLE, SERGEANT, ROYAL MARINES, H.M.S. ACHILLES;**

who, early in the action, when several splinters struck the Gun Director, at once killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, was severely wounded; but stood fast without flinching or complaint throughout the hour of action that followed, bearing his wounds with great fortitude. When the medical party came he helped them to move the wounded and then made his own way to the Sick Bay with little aid.

H.M.S. Achilles. Distinguished Service Cross.

**LIEUTENANT GEORGE G. COWBURN, ROYAL NAVY;**

who handled the ship with the utmost skill and coolness and was undismayed when the Commanding Officer and the Chief Yeoman of Signals were wounded alongside him. The Ship's immunity from being hit was mainly due to him. The running commentary on the progress of the action which he passed to the Lower Conning Tower was of the greatest value, as it was broadcast to all positions between decks, including the Engine Room.

**SURGEON-LIEUTENANT COLIN G. HUNTER, ROYAL NAVY;**

who was very junior for the responsible duty of Principal Medical Officer. He is a New Zealander. He had gained the confidence of the ship's company and won their esteem and affection, and so contributed much to the contentment of the Lower Deck. During the action his First Aid organisation worked very well, and he showed good judgment in dealing with the seriously wounded.

**GUNNER ERIC J. WATTS, ROYAL NAVY;**

who, though early in the action the Director Control Tower was hit by six splinters of a shell which killed or wounded half the personnel, carried out his duties as Rate Officer most ably throughout. When his rate keeping was no longer required, he left his position and calmly tended the wounded.

**GUNNER HARRY T. BURCHELL, ROYAL NAVY;**

who, throughout the first action and the sixteen-hour chase which followed, carried out his duties with the greatest zeal and efficiency and relieved the Principal Control Officer of much trouble and responsibility, so that he could concentrate on observing and identifying the fall of shot. His conduct was exemplary.

## H.M.S. Achilles. Distinguished Service Medal.

### **EDGAR V. SHERLEY, ABLE SEAMAN;**

who was severely wounded when the Director Control Tower was hit by splinters. He behaved with great courage during his long wait until proper medical attention came. The nearest door of the D.C.T. through which he would normally have been evacuated was jammed by splinter damage, and it was necessary to remove him by a devious and difficult route in the heat of the engagement. He gave all the help he could to the Medical Party during this painful operation. He bore the pain of his wounds with great patience and fortitude.

### **IAN THOMAS L. RODGERS, ORDINARY SEAMAN;**

who, when early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, was immediately ordered across, and proceeded to carry out essential duty coolly and skilfully for the rest of the engagement.

### **ALLAN M. DORSET, BOY (FIRST CLASS);**

who, though early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, behaved with exemplary coolness, despite the carnage around him. He passed such information as was available to him to the guns, and repeated their reports clearly for the information of the Gunnery Officer.

### **WILLIAM G. BONIFACE, CHIEF PETTY OFFICER;**

who, though early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, maintained a good range plot throughout the engagement.

### **WILLIAM R. HEADON, PETTY OFFICER;**

who, though early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, kept up an accurate output for a prolonged action of over two hundred broadsides. He was faced with an especially difficult task in hand training; with large alterations of course at full speed and with wide angles of rudder. During the lull he helped to remove dead and wounded.

### **ALFRED MAYCOCK, PETTY OFFICER;**

who, though early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, kept an accurate output for a prolonged action of over two hundred broadsides. During lull he helped to remove the wounded and dead.

### **HARRY H. GOULD, ABLE SEAMAN;**

who, though early in the action several splinters struck the Gun Director Tower at once, killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, maintained throughout the engagement a good range plot, even when the body of a shipmate fell on him through the D.C.T. floor.

### **LESLIE HOOD, ACTING CHIEF MECHANICIAN (SECOND CLASS);**

who was most helpful in the Engine Room, and showed zeal and energy throughout the action.

### **WILLIAM JOB WAIN, CHIEF STOKER;**

who was, in the words of one of the staff of "A" Boiler Room, an "inspiration and help to them all." He steamed this boiler room with the highest efficiency, using great initiative in setting and adjusting the sprayers to obtain the best flame and a minimum of smoke.

**LINCOLN C. MARTINSON, CHIEF YEOMAN OF SIGNALS;**

who showed great zeal and untiring energy in training and organising the V/S Department. The smartness of Achilles' flag-hoisting had been commented on both by the Commodore Commanding, New Zealand Squadron, and the Rear Admiral Commanding, South America Division, and did not fail in battle. When seriously wounded and in great pain, he continued to inquire after the welfare of the V/S department and wanted to know how his men were doing.

**WILLIAM L. BREWER, CHIEF PETTY OFFICER TELEGRAPHIST;**

whose training and organisation of the W/T department successfully withstood the supreme test of battle. His coolness and ability, when under fire, in repairing damage to W/T equipment, on the upper deck and below decks, resulted in Achilles' W/T being in full working order again in a very short time, and in getting the first Enemy Report through.

**GEORGE H. SAMPSON, CHIEF ORDNANCE ARTIFICER (FIRST CLASS);**

whose skilfull maintenance of the gun armament material secured that at the end of the action all guns were fully in action and all hoists working. At no time was the rate of fire of any turret slowed up by any failure in the ammunition supply or by any defect.

**ALBERT G. YOUNG, COOK;**

whose energetic example and most cheerful demeanor were an inspiration to the rest of his quarters during the whole of this action and the sixteen hour chase that followed.

**FRANK T. SAUNDERS, SERGEANT, R.M.;**

who acted with courage and initiative throughout the engagement, overcoming each difficulty and breakdown as it occurred, and by his fine example and leadership urged his quarters to still further efforts.

## H.M.S. Achilles. Mentioned in Despatches

COMMANDER (E) H. W. HEAD, R.N.  
PAYMASTER COMMANDER H. T. ISAAC, R.N.  
LIEUTENANT P. P. M. GREEN, R.N.  
LIEUTENANT (E) JASPER A. R. ABBOTT, R.N.  
GUNNER (T) GEORGE R. DAVIS-GOFF, R.N.  
WARRANT ELECTRICIAN JOSEPH F. SWIFT, R.N.  
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER LEONARD H. BOYS.  
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RONALD P. BURGES.  
SAILMAKER IVAN D. CRAWFORD.  
ABLE SEAMAN KEITH F. CONNEW.  
ABLE SEAMAN JAMES S. BORWICK.  
ABLE SEAMAN COLLIN W. MALCOLM.  
ABLE SEAMAN BERNARD J. SOLE.  
ABLE SEAMAN ALEXANDER STEVE.  
ABLE SEAMAN LAURENCE A. WEBB.  
CHIEF ENGINE ROOM ARTIFICER (FIRST CLASS)

REGINALD A. MARTIN.  
CHIEF STOKER JOHN W. WELHAM.  
STOKER PETTY OFFICER ROBERT M. LOBB.  
STOKER (FIRST CLASS) DAVID S. ALLISON.  
ORDINARY TELEGRAPHIST ALAN V. BELL.  
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER COOK HUBERT C. LUKE.  
MASTER-AT-ARMS FREDERICK E. LOADER.  
ACTING CORPORAL LEONARD J. FOWLER.  
MARINE RAY O. OSMENT.