

ARTHUR TYLER,
SOLICITOR.

—
TELEGRAMS
"ODOMANTI, FLEET," LONDON.

—
TELEPHONE,
CITY 2267.

*1. Garden Court, Temple
London, E.C.4*

22nd May, 1918

Dear Sir,

Prize Bounty Claim
Action off Zeebrugge, 7th April 1917

Messrs Stillwell & Sons have asked me to communicate with you in reference to the application in this case, which, under instruction from the Admiralty, is to be heard in camera.

The papers are all prepared and directly I receive the Affidavit sworn by Lieut. Commander Beckett D.S.C., R.N., I will serve you with copies in the ordinary way.

Will you please let me know if there is any special information you require in connection with the application.

Yours faithfully,

The Treasury Solicitor,
276, Royal Courts of Justice,
Strand, W.C 2.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ARTHUR TYLER,
SOLICITOR.

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TELEGRAMS
"ODOMANTI, FLEET," LONDON.

—
TELEPHONE,
CITY 2267.

143

23rd May, 8

Dear Sir,

PRIZE BOUNTY CLAIM
ACTION OFF ZEEBRUGGE, 7TH APRIL 1917

I am obliged for your letter of the 22nd inst.
I will let you know whether there is any special information I require in connection
with the Application later.

Yours faithfully,

Arthur Tyler Esq,
1 Garden Court,
Temple E.C.

Ext 143

30th May, 8

PROCURATOR GENERAL:

Claim for Prize Bounty by H.M. Coastal
Motor Boats 4,5,6 and 9.

I send copy of the Notice of Motion and of the Affidavit in support. The Motion will be taken by the President in camera on Monday the 10th. instant. You will see that Prize Bounty is claimed in respect of 90 persons.

The Admiralty files (which I return herewith) show that the estimated number of persons on board the German Destroyer were from 80 to 90 persons.

I am instructing Counsel to inform the President in this sense, but presumably no objection can be made if the President makes a grant in respect of 90 persons. Please let me have the file again.

1918 No. 1844
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
PROBATE DIVORCE & ADMIRALTY DIVN.
I N P R I Z E.

IN THE MATTER of a GERMAN
TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER
(7th April 1917)

CLAIM FOR PRIZE BOUNTY by H.M. Coastal
Motor Boats 4, 5, 6 and 9.

Copy

AFFIDAVIT OF LIEUT W.N.T.
BECKETT D.S.C., R.N. in support
Of Claim

Filed on behalf of Applicants.

The Treasury Solicitor,
Law Courts Branch,
276, Royal Courts of Justice,
S T R A N D, W.C 2.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
PROBATE DIVORCE & ADMIRALTY DIVN.
IN PRIZE.

IN THE MATTER of a GERMAN
Torpedo Boat Destroyer
(7th April 1917)

CLAIM FOR PRIZE BOUNTY by H.M. Coastal
Motor Boats 4, 5, 6 and 9.

Copy

A F F I D A V I T

_____ of _____

Lieut Beckett D.S.C., R.N. in support

Of Claim

Filed on behalf of Applicants.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
PROBATE DIVORCE & ADMIRALTY DIVISION.
IN PRIZE.

IN THE MATTER of a GERMAN TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER
(7th April 1917)

PRIZE BOUNTY.

TAKE NOTICE that this Honourable Court will be moved on Monday the 10th day of June 1918 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon or so soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard by Counsel for a decree that prize bounty is awardable for the destruction of a torpedo boat destroyer belonging at the time of the destruction thereof to an enemy of His Majesty to wit the German Emperor and that there were on board the said enemy ship at the time she was destroyed Ninety persons and that the prize bounty aforesaid calculated at the rate of £5 per head is £450.

AND TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that the Court will be moved to decree that in the distribution of the award aforesaid the ship's companies of His Majesty's Coastal Motor Boats No. 4 Lieutenant Walter Napier Thomason Beckett D.S.V., R.N – Commander – No.5 Lieutenant Francis Charles Harrison R.N. - Commander – No.6 Lieutenant Alfred Swan R.N.V.R. – Commander – and No.9 Lieutenant Archibald Dayrell-Reed R.N.R – Commander are entitled to share as joint participators in the destruction of the said enemy vessel.

DATED this 27th day of May 1918.

ARTHUR TYLER

1 Garden Court,

Temple E.C.4.

Solicitor of the Applicants

To
His Majesty's Procurator General

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
PROBATE DIVORCE & ADMIRALTY DIVISION
IN PRIZE.

IN THE MATTER of a GERMAN TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER
(7th April 1917)

PRIZE BOUNTY.

I WALTER NAPIER BECKETT D.S.C. holding the rank of Lieutenant in His Majesty's Fleet make oath and say as follows:

1. On the 7th day of April 1917 I was in command of His Majesty's Coastal Motor Boat No. 4 and Senior Officer of a flotilla consisting of the Coastal Motor Boats Nos. 4,5,6 and 9.
2. At about 11.30 p.m. on the said 7th April when patrolling in the neighbourhood of Zeebrugge two German torpedo boat destroyers were observed and brought to action by my flotilla.
3. In the course of the action one of the said German torpedo boat destroyers was torpedoed and sunk while the other was badly damaged.
4. From information which has reached me I verily believe that the crew of the vessel which was sunk consisted of 90 persons and no more.
5. The destruction of the said German torpedo boat destroyer was brought about solely by the Coastal Motor Boats Nos. 4,5,6 and 9 under my command none other of His Majesty's ships nor any vessel belonging to any Ally of His Majesty assisting thereat.

SWORN at Gosport in the County
Of Hants, this 22nd day of May 1918

W.N.T. BECKETT,
Lieutenant, R. N.

V.E.G. CHURCHER,

Commissioner for Oaths.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

1918 No. 1844

PROBATE DIVORCE & ADMIRALTY DIVISION

(IN PRIZE)

IN THE MATTER of a GERMAN TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER
(7th April 1917)

P R I Z E B O U N T Y

The president having heard of the Notice of Motion and the evidence thereon and having heard Counsel for the applicants the Ships Companies of His Majesty Coastal Motor Boats No. 4 Lieutenant Walter Napier Thomason Beckett D.S.C., R.N – Commander – No.5 Lieutenant Francis Charles Harrison R.N. - Commander – No.6 Lieutenant Alfred Swan R.N.V.R. – Commander – and No.9 Lieutenant Archibald Dayrell-Reed R.N.R – Commander – and Counsel for the Crown, pronounced and declared that the said Officers and Ships Companies are entitled to prize bounty as being actually present at the destroying of a German Torpedo Boat Destroyer belonging at the time of the destruction thereof to an enemy of His Majesty to wit the German Emperor and that the beginning of the engagement there were on board the said enemy ship 98 persons and that the amount of prize bounty aforesaid calculated at the rate of £5 per head is £450.

Dated the 11th day of June 1918