

INVESTITURE AT THE PALACE.

The recent Investiture at Buckingham Palace saw one of the longest wartime queues forming up outside the Palace Gates. Two hundred and sixty men and women awaiting their turn to receive decorations and honours for bravery and honourable service. One of the biggest investitures for some time and certainly the most unusual.

Following the ceremony the Palace Yard begins to fill with those who have been honoured by their King in company with their relatives who were present.

Wing Commander Little of the R.A.F. and Major Palmer, South-African Air Force each receive the B.F.C.

Commander Hinton, a bar to the D.S.O. Admiral Syfret of Malta Convoy fame is made a K.C.B.

Film producer Alexander Korda gets a knighthood. His wife Merle Oberon accompanies him.

Lieutenant Jones R.N., D.S.C., of His Majesty's submarines receives the M.B.E. Another award in a long Nark Naval list goes to Lieutenant Wilcoxon.

But it is Captain Mason G.C. of the tanker OHIO who captures the public eye. Remember how he sailed his bombed and torpedoed ship into Malta? Well, here are the men who formed the crew of that gallant tanker taking a look round the George Cross Island. The men of whom Captain Mason said, "If George Cross is really theirs. I shall always consider it as such".

The name of this modest hero rings round the world. Captain Mason, the crew of the OHIO and the tanker herself share the high honour.