

Rear Admiral Cyril Samuel Townsend [6C14]

Who Was Who 1941 – 1950

TOWNSEND, Adm. Cyril Samuel, C.B. 1918; *b.* 1875; *y. s.* of late Vice-Admiral S. P. Townsend of Fareham, Hants; *m.* 1905, Mary Elizabeth, *d.* of late Captain W. H. Moseley of Leaton Hall, Staffs.; two s. three d. *Educ.:* Stubbington House, Fareham. Commander of H.M.S. Duncan, 1908-10; Order of Commander of Crown of Italy for services rendered after Messina earthquake; Captain, Dec. 1913; Rear-Adm., 1924; Vice-Adm. 1929; Beachmaster at W. Beach, Gallipoli, at original landing (despatches); commanded H.M.S. Constance, 4th L.C.S. in North Sea, at Jutland, 1916-19 (C.B.); Captain of Gunnery School, Chatham, 1919-21; Captain, H.M.S. Resolution, 1921-22; Commodore R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth, 1922-24; Head of the British Naval Mission to Greece, 1925-26; Rear-Admiral in Charge, Gibraltar, 1927-29; retired list, 1929; Adm. retired, 1933. *Address:* The Old Rectory, Bishopstoke, Hants. [Died 31 March 1949.

Cyril's Naval Confidential Report Book
is shown on the following pages.

It is a large document and has had to be photographed
in sections reading across the page

Cyril's Naval Confidential Report Book

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NAME *Townsend, Cyril Samuel.*

Seniority, &c.	Where serving.			
	Appointment.	From	To	
Admiral <i>1 Sept. 1933.</i>	<i>Naval Mission to Greece R/A, Gibraltar.</i>	<i>1925</i>	<i>26:1:21. "C"</i>	<i>in all the</i>
Vice-Admiral <i>24 May 1929</i>		<i>12:3:27.</i>	<i>22:4:29.</i>	<i>Adm. St.</i> <i>the and</i> <i>Oct. 1922.</i>
Rear-Admiral <i>19 July, 1924</i>				<i>Commenced</i> <i>the disc</i> <i>of an ev</i> <i>without</i> <i>in the h</i>
Captain <i>31 Dec. 1913.</i>				<i>8/22-8/24. "R"</i> <i>the Service</i> <i>a good dis</i> <i>him the co</i> <i>which he</i> <i>assiduous</i> <i>working</i> <i>judgment</i> <i>matters of</i> <i>external</i> <i>temperam</i> <i>whether of</i> <i>24:6:26. F. O.</i>
Commander <i>31 Dec. 1906</i>				<i>Services in</i> <i>27 & 28. good</i> <i>the Order of</i> <i>4:10:28. Inf'd</i> <i>for the pur</i>
Lieutenant <i>14 Jan. 1896</i>				
Entered Service <i>15 Jan. 1889</i>				
Date of Birth <i>28 June 1875</i>				

Samuel. C.M.G.

REMARKS.

To

- 26:1:21. "An excellent officer in all respects. A good organizer - & v. tactful in all his dealings with those under him." For C. W. Vivian.
- 2:4:29. Adm. Sturdee adds: "I have a v. high opinion of Capt. T. Well above the average. A School in v. g. order."
- Oct. 1922. "A good battler Capt. with a cheery, bright manner that commends itself to both officers & men, loyal, conscientious, & zealous in the discharge of his duties. Keeps himself fit, physically & mentally. Of an even temperament which is not worried by responsibility. Without being a brilliant flag officer. I consider he is likely to do well in the higher ranks. Average ability." V/A Sir W. C. Nicholson.
- 8/22-8/24. "R/A Townsend is an officer of high merit & ability. He has a thorough knowledge of the Service, deals with officers & men with understanding & consideration, & is at the same time a good disciplinarian. He has a strong & influential personality which has gained for him the confidence of officers & men & enabled him to establish a high spirit in the establishment which he has comd. He is specially interested in welfare matters, & has been most attentive in his care for the comfort & well being of the men under his charge. Good working & conscientious, an excellent organizer, loyal to his C-in-C, good insight & judgment, able to form & impress large & comprehensive views, while not neglecting matters of detail. Public spirited, & has played a prominent & useful part in the external affairs of the Port in which the R.N. is interested. Free, but & sanguine temperament, & enjoys v. g. health. I recommend Adm. T. strongly for high appointment, whether of an executive or administrative nature." Adm. Sir L. R. Fremantle.
- 24:6:26. F.O. forward copy of Ltr. from Greek Minister expressing his Govt's appreciation of R/A T's services while Head of Brit. N. Mission in Greece. (M. 2184/26.). (Copy sent to Rear-Adm. 2, & 2nd qualification conveyed, 10:7:26.). Awarded Cross of the Knight Commander of the Order of the Redeemer.
- 5:10:29. Imp'd (C.W. 8097/28) that sea service with Greek Mission cannot be permitted to count for the purpose of retention on active list on promotion to V/A.

Retired - 25:5:29.

						Services as Lieutenant				
						Rank.	Ship.	From	To	
						Lieut:	Excellent	'99	'02	Lie
							to qual. (41)			1901
							Goliah	'02	'03	1906
							R.N.B. Port.	'04	'05	'07
						(4)	Euryalus	'05	'06	
						(4)	Cressy	'06		
Total Service :—						Comm:	Victory addl			
							Leeds Port.	Jan '07	Jan '08	Arch d.
							Duncan	Aug '08	Aug '10	
							Sigsbee	Aug '10	Dec '10	Aug '11
							H. Edward VII	Jan '11	July '11	
						(Flag)	Hercules	July '11	Dec '11	
							Sigsbee	Jan '12		Jan '13
							Victory "	Apr '12		Aug '13
Lieutenant.....							Vivid for C.S.			
							Leeds Coll. Dev.	Dec '13		
Commander ...						Capt:	" reapp't in France	Dec '13		July '14
							spec'l service in	'15		
Captain							E Mediterranean			
							Castor	Oct '15		Dec '16
							Constance	Dec '15		
Aug: 1897. "Good French: considerable							" 4 th 2 nd in			
war staff training.							comd. 4 th L.C.S.	5:11:18		
Aug. 12, 1920. French.							William G. Schütz	25 Jan '19	24.1.21	exp.
Oct: 1922. " - colloquial							Resolution	14:4:21	1:8:22	Frigate
							R.N. Torpedo			15:8:17
						Comd 2/c	Portsmouth	17:8:22	26:8:24	15:10:18
							Deeds Course	20:10:24		with
										in all
										a Eq
										12.8.20
										very able off
										branches of

Services as Lieutenant and Commander.

To	REMARKS.
'02	Lieut (4) 2nd class.
'03	1904. Acting Interpreter, French.
'05	1906. Recd for prom. by R. Ad. Cross.
'06	'07. Inspect. of R.N.B. Portsmouth & Ad. Bozangue. "Has been instrumental in achieving - the regeneration of the spirit of discipline & contentment in R.N.B. Port." The satisfaction expressed.
Jan '08	Feb 08. M. Ad. Cargu Horse. "Duncan" reflects the greatest credit on Cdr. Townsend.
Aug '10	Aug 08. Capt. Ewart. "All v.g. especially as Executive officer in gunnery. A thoroughly efficient officer of his rank in every respect. Most zealous, hardworking & tactful. Cdr. been well. Strongly recd for early prom."
Dec '10	Jan '09. Recd by R. Ad. Callaghan for services rendered on occasion of earthquake in Sicily - S. Italy.
July '11	Aug 10. Aft. Hoodonough. "A Cdr. of tried & proved ability. Exceptional zeal & just. Recd for prom."
Dec '11	Ad. Port. concurs.
	July '11. Capt. Everett. "Excellent executive officer. v.g. organizer. Sound in ght. Physically v. strong. recd for prom."
	Dec '11. V. Ad. Callaghan "... Strongly recd for prom. - most able in every way."
	- Jan '12. July 12. Appd to leave Comd without qualif. comm.
	30.5.16. "A cable offr. doing quite well in his first commd. Will go on with more experience. Handling ship with more confidence." Comd. le Mesurier.
	19. 24. 1. 21. Gazette of 15.2.16. Commended for services in Iceland Battle.
	18.8.17. "A v.g. light cruiser Capt. with much experience. Has assisted me greatly in general organiz. of Squad." Comd. le Mesurier.
	22 26.8.24. 3.6.18. C.M.G. for valuable services during the war.
	15.10.18. "A loyal, single-minded Ld in Comd. who handles his Dir. with care & accuracy. An old G. offr. who keeps up his knowledge in all professional subjects. A v.g. L.C. capt., capable of comdg. a Squad", with a wide knowledge of the service." Comd. Bentinck.
	12.8.20. "Has loyally assisted me during his time as Capt. of Dartmouth Gunnery Sch. An experienced and very able officer" Comd. Spilworth. "Concurs. A v.g. Capt. of the Gunnery Sch. Shd. do well in the higher branches of the Service. A most equable Temper." Admiral Sturdee.