

Russia // honours convoy heroes

THE USSR has awarded the Soviet Medal to Royal and Merchant Navy sailors who took part in perilous convoys to Russia during World War II.

Hundreds of seamen lost their lives in the convoys from Scapa Flow in Orkney, to Murmansk and Archangel to supply food and arms to the Soviets after Hitler's invasion of Russia.

The Admiralty never struck a special medal for the sailors, but now the Russian government has decided to honour them.