

SWIMS TO TACKLE MINE

"Hardly a job for Ack Ack," said Lieut. E.G. Halliwell, an officer in a Light A.A. Battery, when he spotted a mine drifting dangerously close to a gun position on the south coast.

Every wave in the heavy seas was bringing the mine nearer to the pier. The only way to save the gun site and the lives of the detachment on duty was to tie it up while it was still in deep water.

With the help of a police sergeant, Lieut. Halliwell immediately plunged into the strong sea and, carefully avoiding the live horns of the mine, managed to secure it by ropes - one tied to the pier, the other to a distant groyne.

Some little time later, the mine was exploded harmlessly.

By his prompt action, Lieut. Halliwell, although quite inexperienced in mine disposal, and showing no regard for his own safety, saved the lives of the men and averted the destruction of the gun site. He has been congratulated by Gen. Sir Frederick Pile, C.-in-C. A.A. Command, for his courage.

Lieut. Halliwell, a solicitor before the war, is 28 years old. He is married and lives at Preston, Lancashire.