

Flight Lieutenant William Arthur TOYNE (39140).

As a flight commander this officer has carried out offensive patrols in German occupied territory in Holland and Belgium. He has personally shot down two enemy aircraft and has severely damaged another. He has displayed outstanding courage and his leadership has largely contributed to the success achieved by his squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Roland Stanford TUCK (47306).

During May, 1940, this officer led his flight in company with his squadron on two offensive patrols over Northern France. As a result of one of these patrols in which the squadron engaged a formation of some 60 enemy aircraft, the Squadron Commander was later reported missing, and the flight commander wounded and in hospital. Flight Lieutenant Tuck assumed command, and on the following day led the squadron, consisting of only eight aircraft, on a further patrol engaging an enemy formation of fifty aircraft. During these engagements the squadron has shot down ten enemy aircraft and possibly another twenty-four. Throughout the combats this officer has displayed great dash and gallantry.

*Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer Oliver Russell DONALDSON (37414).

One night in May, 1940, this officer was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack focal points behind the enemy's positions. In the neighbourhood of Hirson he came under heavy anti-aircraft fire which he regarded as indicating that he was near a profitable objective. In spite of the enemy fire Flying Officer Donaldson made five attacks on a road through a nearby wood. As a result a large fire and thirteen violent explosions occurred in what must have been an important enemy dump. He has consistently shown the highest degree of courage and determination.

Flying Officer David Douglas PRYDE (39564).

In May, 1940, this officer was detailed for a collaboration operation involving an attack on the communication centre of Hannapes. Despite difficult conditions, he succeeded in identifying the target from a very low altitude. Although his aircraft was hit heavily, Flying Officer Pryde climbed to 3,000 feet and executed a successful bombing attack. His aircraft subsequently caught fire but he continued flying and, when height could no longer be maintained, the entire crew landed by parachute. Flying Officer Pryde has completed sixteen operational flights during six months of war flying and has displayed courage and determination of a high order.

Pilot Officer John Laurence ALLEN (70008).

In May, 1940, this officer was detailed to intercept an enemy raider approaching this country. He proceeded as far as Dunkerque and between that place and Calais on his return journey, he observed thirty Junkers 88's engaged in bombing Calais. Although alone, he climbed to attack and badly

damaged one enemy aircraft, whereupon the remainder of the formation disappeared in the clouds. Two days later, in company with a second aircraft, he escorted a trainer aircraft to Calais Marck aerodrome, for the purpose of rescuing a squadron commander who had been shot down there. The trainer aircraft was attacked by twelve Messerschmitt 109's whilst taking off after the rescue, but Pilot Officer Allen in company with the other escorting aircraft immediately engaged these forces. Three of the enemy aircraft were shot down and a further three badly damaged.

*Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.*

561185 Sergeant James William Bristol PHILLIPS.

This airman has accompanied his squadron on numerous offensive patrols over Northern France. On one day in May, 1940, he took part in two engagements with enemy aircraft and shot down four Messerschmitt 109's, and possibly another. Sergeant Phillips has shown great courage in his attack on the enemy. In one combat alone he destroyed three enemy aircraft from close range without damage to his own aircraft.

537006 Leading Aircraftman Brian GRAY.

In May, 1940, this airman was air gunner in an aircraft carrying out bombing operations against enemy troop concentrations at St. Omer. As a result of heavy anti-aircraft fire on the outward flight, Leading Aircraftman Gray was wounded in the left hand, one finger being practically severed and another out. He did not mention his wound until he had ascertained that the target had been attacked and the bombs released and, with great courage and devotion to duty, he continued to operate his wireless apparatus throughout the return flight.

*Air Ministry,*

*11th June, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

AIR FORCE ACT.

It is proposed to amend the Rules of Procedure (Air Force) 1933, made under Section 70 of the Air Force Act.

Copies of the proposed amendments can be obtained in accordance with the Rules of Publication Act, 1893, from the Under-Secretary of State, Air Ministry, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

*Air Ministry,*

*11th June, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

The undermentioned are granted commissions for the duration of hostilities as Pilot Officers on probation on the dates stated:—

Temporary Warrant Officer.

1st Apr. 1940.

560883 David Anthony REDDICK (43522).