

subjected to interference by 2 enemy fighters he assisted in driving them off before losing consciousness. Some height had been lost and the bomber came under fire from the ground defences but, by diving violently, Flight Lieutenant Parsons flew clear and afterwards succeeded in reaching an airfield in this country. This officer displayed great skill and tenacity, while Flying Officer Pascoe's example of courage and fortitude was of a high order.

Flying Officer Arthur Ronald D'Agnall CLUTTERBUCK (110888), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 58 Squadron.

In July, 1943, this officer piloted an aircraft engaged on a sortie. During the flight he joined forces with another aircraft which was shadowing a pack of 3 U-boats. As the aircraft approached to the attack considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered but, by skilful manoeuvring, Flying Officer Clutterbuck succeeded in breaking up the co-ordinated fire from the vessels thus enabling his fellow pilot to make a successful attack on 1 of the U-boats. Flying Officer Clutterbuck then attacked the leading submarine and contributed to its destruction. This officer displayed great skill and tenacity throughout.

Flying Officer Eric Sidney DICKS-SHERWOOD (80256), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 92 Squadron.

This officer has participated in very many air operations. He is a skilful leader whose personal example and great keenness have been highly commendable. During a recent operation his aircraft was badly damaged by anti-aircraft fire and he was forced to leave it by parachute. He was rescued, however, and soon rejoined his squadron. Since then, Flying Officer Dicks-Sherwood has destroyed 1 enemy aircraft, bringing his victories to at least 5. This officer has displayed outstanding devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Reginald John FOSTER (106065), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 108 Squadron.

Flying Officer Foster is a skilful and resolute pilot. In recent operations he has destroyed 4 enemy aircraft at night, 2 of them in one sortie. He has set a most praiseworthy example.

Flying Officer Maurice Frederick NEWTON (116700), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 108 Squadron.

As observer, Flying Officer Newton has taken part in many night sorties during which he has assisted in the destruction of 5 enemy aircraft. He has displayed great skill and determination.

Flying Officer Harold Edward WHITE (119508), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 141 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous sorties over enemy territory and has displayed great skill and determination throughout. In July, 1943, he shot down a Messerschmitt 110, while during another sortie in August, 1943, he engaged 3 hostile aircraft in separate combats. In the latter engagement his opponent's aircraft was seen to spiral towards the ground in flames and explode on impact.

Flying Officer Harry WOOLSTENCROFT (48733), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 144 Squadron.

In July, 1943, this officer led a formation of aircraft in an attack on a convoy of 2 merchant vessels which were heavily escorted. The operation was executed with great skill and determination and 1 of the merchant vessels was destroyed, while the other one was badly disabled. Two of the escorting vessels were set on fire and 1 of them blew up. In addition a flying boat was shot down. Flying Officer Woolstencroft's skilful leadership and determined efforts were worthy of great praise.

Pilot Officer William Bruce HAMILTON (Can/J.18149), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 218 Squadron.

This officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin one night in August, 1943. When nearing the target area, one of the bomber's engines failed. The aircraft gradually lost height but Pilot Officer Hamilton continued to the target. Whilst over the city, the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire whilst illuminated by the searchlights. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Hamilton executed a determined attack and afterwards flew the aircraft to base. This officer displayed great courage and determination throughout.

Acting Warrant Officer Laurence Henry WRIGHT (1316312), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 100 Squadron.

One night in August, 1943, Warrant Officer Wright was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Nuremberg. When over the target area, the aircraft was hit. Two engines were rendered useless, while the intercommunication system was put out of action but Warrant Officer Wright successfully completed his bombing runs. On the return flight the aircraft gradually lost height and the situation became serious. Warrant Officer Wright battled on, however, and succeeded in reaching this country. His skill, courage and tenacity, in the face of heavy odds, was worthy of high praise. On a previous occasion, when his aircraft was badly crippled by enemy action, Warrant Officer Wright succeeded in flying safely back to this country.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Geoffrey Alan SAWTELL (100556), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 58 Squadron.

Flying Officer Robert William MARSHALL (133870), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 58 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Can/R.80314 Sergeants Banks EARLE MITCHELL, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 58 Squadron.

These officers and airman were pilot, mid-upper and rear gunners respectively of an aircraft detailed for a sortie in July, 1943. During the flight a U-boat was observed on the surface of the sea. Flight Lieutenant Sawtell immediately went into the attack. Considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered but, by skilful manoeuvring, he enabled his gunners to rake the U-boat's decks with machine-gun fire. The enemy gun crews were put out of action and Flight Lieutenant Sawtell flew in to close range to deliver a devastating attack. This officer displayed great skill and determination while the efforts of Flying Officer Marshall and Sergeant Mitchell contributed materially to the success of the attack.

*Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).*

Can/R.90883 Flight Sergeant Alan William JESSUP LARDEN, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 218 Squadron.

One night in August, 1943, this airman was the bomb aimer of an aircraft detailed for an operation against Turin. Whilst over the city, the bomber was subjected to accurate bursts of fire from an enemy fighter. The windscreen was shattered, the front and rear turrets were put out of action, while 3 engines were hit, 1 of them being rendered useless. The navigator was killed and the pilot was wounded and lay slumped over the controls. He was removed from his position and Flight Sergeant Larden coolly took over the controls. The aircraft was down to 3,000 feet and the bombs were released. Flight Sergeant Larden realised that he would be unable to gain height sufficiently to cross the Alps so decided to make for North Africa. Without navigator and flying a crippled bomber, the situation was serious but, displaying outstanding skill and determination, this airman succeeded in reaching an airfield in Tunisia. Although he had never previously landed an aircraft, Flight Sergeant Larden came down perfectly with the under-carriage retracted. In the face of extreme peril, this airman displayed courage, coolness and resource of a high order.

Aus.415193 Flight Sergeant Daniel REES, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 460 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in August, 1943, this airman displayed superb skill when piloting an aircraft detailed for an operation against Milan. During the outward flight, 2 of the bomber's engines became defective but Flight Sergeant Rees continued to his far distant target and bombed it, afterwards flying the disabled aircraft to base. One night in August, 1943, Flight Sergeant Rees took part in an attack on a target at Peenemunde. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. The attacker was driven off but the bomber had been repeatedly hit. The starboard tail plane and the trimming tabs were shot away, 1 engine and the hydraulic system were damaged, while 1 of the petrol tanks was pierced and its contents lost. Despite this, Flight Sergeant Rees coolly and skilfully flew the damaged bomber to base. This airman, who has completed many sorties, has displayed courage and tenacity of a high degree.