

in Sibenik harbour. Several hits were obtained on the vessel which caught fire. The next day Flight Lieutenant Robertson participated in an attack on another medium sized ship which was bombed with good results. This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide range of targets and has displayed great courage, skill and resolution.

Acting Flight Lieutenant George Edward Lowe (136046), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 10 Squadron.

As air gunner, this officer has participated in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on most of the enemy's heavily defended targets. Throughout, he has displayed exceptional keenness, great skill and courage and has proved himself to be a most valuable member of aircraft crew. On more than one occasion his cool work in the face of the enemy has contributed materially to the success of the sortie. His record is worthy of high praise.

Flying Officer Donald William Field (124822), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 7 Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Frankfurt one night in December, 1943. During the operation the aircraft sustained much damage in an encounter with a fighter. Some important instruments were rendered unserviceable, the intercommunication system was put out of action and the tailplane was damaged. Later, another fighter was encountered. Before the enemy aircraft could be evaded, the bomber sustained more damage, making it difficult to control. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Field held resolutely to his course and, in the face of much difficulty, succeeded in reaching this country. In most hazardous circumstances, this officer set a fine example of skill, courage and tenacity.

Flying Officer Dale Cairns Thomson (Can/J.13112), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 415 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in January, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack 2 naval vessels off the French coast. In the face of intense anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Thomson pressed home his attacks releasing his bombs from a low level. Hits were obtained on one of the vessels which was set on fire. His effort, brilliant in its execution, was worthy of high praise. Flying Officer Thomson has completed several attacks on shipping, achieving successes. He is a most determined and courageous pilot.

Pilot Officer Phillip Henry Cope (162790), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 15 Squadron.

One night in January, 1944, this officer was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Brunswick. During the operation, the aircraft was attacked on 3 occasions by a fighter. Much damage was sustained but, in trying circumstances which made his task most difficult, Pilot Officer Cope displayed great ability and navigated the aircraft back to this country. This officer, who has participated in very many sorties, is a keen, competent and determined member of aircraft crew.

Pilot Officer Leslie Falgate (169345), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 76 Squadron.

As captain and pilot, this officer has participated in very many sorties, involving attacks on such targets as Berlin, Kassel, Leipzig and Hamburg. He has invariably displayed skill and courage of a high order and his determination to complete his mission successfully has been most commendable. He is an ideal leader, whose sterling qualities have greatly inspired his crew.

Pilot Officer John Rushbrooke Petrie-Andrews, D.F.M. (155220), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 35 Squadron.

This officer is a capable and courageous pilot whose example of devotion to duty has been highly commendable. His determination was well illustrated during a sortie one night in November,

1943. Before reaching his target, one of the aircraft's engines failed. Nevertheless, he went on to reach and bomb the objective. Whilst over the area, a second engine failed. Thereupon, Pilot Officer Petrie-Andrews decided to set course for Sardinia. On his flight to the island a third engine became useless and Pilot Officer Petrie-Andrews was compelled to bring his aircraft down on to the sea. He and his crew got safely aboard the dinghy and paddled their way to the Sardinia coast which they reached 70 hours later. This officer has completed many sorties and his record is impressive.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Can/R.153882 Flight Sergeant John Angus, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 15 Squadron.

One night in January, 1944, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Brunswick. Whilst on the bombing run, the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Some damage was sustained but Flight Sergeant Angus drove off the attacker with accurate bursts of fire. Some 15 minutes later another fighter attacked. Flight Sergeant Angus engaged the attacker from close range, however, and his telling bursts of fire caused the enemy fighter to burst into flames and fall to the ground where it exploded. This gunner's skill and coolness contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. He has completed many sorties against well defended targets and his keenness and confidence have set a good example.

1482444 Sergeant Leslie Marsh, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 103 Squadron.

This airman was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Mannheim one night in September, 1943. When nearing the target area, the aircraft was hit by machine gun fire from a fighter. The rear gunner was killed and Sergeant Marsh was wounded in the legs. Although in great pain Sergeant Marsh remained at his post. Coolly withholding his fire until the attacker came into close range he then delivered an accurate burst which caused the enemy aircraft to break away; later it was seen to be on fire. On 2 occasions, more recently, his cool and determined work has played a good part in the success of the sortie. Sergeant Marsh is a model of efficiency and his example of courage and resolution has earned great praise.

*Air Ministry, 18th February, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant John Victor Marshall (83286), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 155 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Gordon Webster MacDonald (Can/I.15099), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 82 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ira Allison Sutherland (N.Z.202900), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 82 Squadron.

The above awards are in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

*Air Ministry, 18th February, 1944.*

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for the wearing of the undermentioned decoration conferred upon the officer indicated in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war:—

CONFERRED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS.

*Cross of Commander of the Order of Orange Nassau (with Swords).*

Group Captain Sir Louis Greig, K.B.E., C.V.O., Royal Air Force.

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