

an attack against Trappes. During the flight the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. After giving the necessary combat manoeuvre to his captain, Pilot Officer Cripps opened fire. His bullets struck the enemy aircraft which burst into flames and fell to the ground. His conduct has at all times been exemplary.

Pilot Officer Roy Edgar CROCKETT (175431), R.A.F.V.R., 640 Sqn.

This officer has participated in very many sorties against targets important to the enemy's war effort. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination, setting a fine example. On one occasion, when attacking Frankfurt, his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and temporarily went out of control. A fire broke out near the main spar and the cockpit became filled with smoke. With the greatest difficulty, Pilot Officer Crockett succeeded in regaining control and turned for home, whilst other members of the crew fought the fire which they soon succeeded in extinguishing. Although suffering acutely from the pain of his wounds, Pilot Officer Crockett displayed great fortitude and flew the damaged aircraft to base. His example of courage and tenacity was worthy of great praise.

Pilot Officer John DOUBLE (172416), R.A.F.V.R., 166 Sqn.

This officer has displayed the greatest determination in his attacks on the enemy. He has completed many sorties, most of which have been against well defended targets. One night in July, 1944, Pilot Officer Double captained an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. On the outward flight the rear turret became unserviceable. In spite of this, he went on to the target. In the bombing run the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, and one engine was put out of action. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Double pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the aircraft back to this country. His determination to successfully complete his allotted task was typical of that which he has shown throughout his tour.

Pilot Officer Alan Robert Clark FORRESTER (Aus.415517), R.A.A.F., 640 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties involving attacks against such heavily defended targets as Berlin, Leipzig, Frankfurt and Stuttgart. He has displayed a fine fighting spirit and has at all times pressed home his attacks with the greatest determination. During February, 1944, when on a sortie over Stuttgart, his aircraft was attacked on eight separate occasions by two enemy fighters. Pilot Officer Forrester co-operating splendidly with his gunners was largely responsible for the safe return of his aircraft and crew. He has a fine record of achievement and has displayed exceptional qualities of leadership and courage.

Pilot Officer William Henry GOLDING (Can/J.19871), R.C.A.F., 57 Sqn.

This officer has successfully completed numerous sorties on his second tour of operations. One night in July, 1944, he was rear gunner of an aircraft which was attacked by a fighter. Early in the engagement Pilot Officer Golding was hit in the leg by a bullet; he also sustained burns to the leg and thigh when his turret caught fire. In spite of this he used his guns with good effect and the enemy aircraft was seen to dive steeply away on fire. His courage and resolution were characteristic of that which he has displayed throughout his tours.

Pilot Officer Robert Borden McCULLOUGH (Can/J.19784), R.C.A.F., 434 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed many operations. He is a skilful and resolute pilot and has at all times displayed the highest degree of courage and devotion to duty. On two occasions his aircraft has been attacked and damaged by enemy fighters. Nevertheless, by skilful airmanship he evaded the enemy and piloted his aircraft back to base. His consistent good work and gallantry merits the highest praise.

Pilot Officer Douglas NEILSON (175816), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties in a tour which commenced with an attack on Berlin. He has displayed great skill and iron determination throughout, qualities which were amply demonstrated in June, 1944, when he attacked the vital target of Villers Bocage. In spite of a hail of light and medium anti-aircraft fire, Pilot Officer Neilson pressed home his attack

with great determination. Although 2 engines were damaged, this brave pilot flew safely to base. He displayed the highest standard of fearlessness and resolution.

Pilot Officer John Charles ORAM (Aus.422250), R.A.A.F., 626 Sqn.

In July, 1944, this officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to attack a concentration of enemy forces in daylight. The attack was successfully executed but, whilst over the target area, the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and sustained extensive damage. Control was not affected, however, and a course was set for home. Almost as the French coast was reached one of the fuel tanks was seen to be on fire. The flames spread furiously and soon both wings were alight. Nothing could be done to save the aircraft and Pilot Officer Oram ordered his crew to leave by parachute. At this stage the crew would have descended in the sea. Fully aware that some of his comrades were unable to swim Pilot Officer Oram turned so that the drop could be made over land behind our lines. This done he again headed for the sea. Displaying complete disregard for his own welfare he remained at the controls until he was satisfied that the burning aircraft was clear of a concentration of shipping before he jumped himself. A few seconds later the aircraft plunged into the sea well clear of the ships. This officer displayed skill, courage and devotion to duty of the highest order.

Pilot Officer Gordon Ridge VINCENT (Can/J.86473), R.C.A.F., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed many sorties during which he has effectively attacked such enemy targets as Essen, Dusseldorf and Berlin. On one occasion whilst over Karlsruhe his aircraft commenced to vibrate badly, having been apparently struck by anti-aircraft fire. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Vincent executed his attack and flew his aircraft to this country despite much physical discomfort. At the airfield visibility was extremely poor but Pilot Officer Vincent made a landing at the third attempt. As the aircraft came to rest the starboard petrol tanks caught fire. It was then discovered that the rear gunner was trapped in his turret. Heedless of the imminent danger, Pilot Officer Vincent worked strenuously to force open the door of the damaged turret and succeeded in releasing his comrade. This officer displayed great skill, courage and determination in most harassing circumstances.

Pilot Officer Matthew WYLLIE (176494), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

One night in June, 1944, this officer was mid-upper gunner in an aircraft detailed to attack the railway sidings at Trappes. When nearing the French coast on the return flight, Pilot Officer Wyllie sighted an enemy fighter closing in. He promptly gave the necessary combat manoeuvre to his pilot and the attacker was evaded. Shortly afterwards the enemy aircraft again came in but Pilot Officer Wyllie co-operated splendidly with his co-gunner and the attacker was shot down. This air gunner has participated in very many sorties and has proved himself to be a courageous and resolute member of aircraft crew.

Warrant Officer, First Class, Colin McLEOD (Can/R.121043), R.C.A.F., 408 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has an excellent operational record. He has completed many sorties, including attacks on Berlin, Friedrichshaven, Essen and Frankfurt. His fine leadership and keen determination have set an excellent example to all.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Willmot Bernard DALGLEISH (Can/J.85337), R.C.A.F., 156 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1577300 Sergeant Lawrence Allan BRIDGES, R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

1321795 Sergeant Edgar James KILMINSTER, R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

As navigator, wireless operator and flight engineer respectively this officer and airmen have participated in a large number of attacks on well-defended targets. They have at all times displayed a high standard of efficiency, zeal and resolution and have proved themselves to be valiant members of aircraft crew. On one occasion they took part in an air attack on an enemy railway junction. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by fighters and sustained extensive damage. A fire broke out