



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 14th of DECEMBER, 1945

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 18 DECEMBER, 1945

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
18th December, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and the following awards of the British Empire Medal (Military Division):—

To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Acting Wing Commander William Rodney Alexander KNOCKER (74333), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

On 21st March, 1945, a light bomber crashed and burst into flames while attempting to take off. Wing Commander Knocker immediately rushed to the scene and on arrival found that the pilot of the aircraft was trapped in the blazing wreckage. Heedless of warnings, Wing Commander Knocker crawled under the burning aircraft and twisted the entangling metal away from the pilot's legs, and then helped to remove him to safety. This officer displayed gallantry, and a complete disregard for his own safety in the face of the possibility of bombs exploding.

To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

Warrant Officer Robert James ALEXANDER (979955). Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.
In recognition of distinguished service.

Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Military Division).

1455833 Sergeant William John ROSE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Sergeant Rose was the navigator of a Wellington aircraft which crashed and burst into flames on 10th January, 1945. He managed to extricate himself from the wreckage, and although suffering from shock and injuries to his knee, he immediately returned to the blazing wreckage. Ignoring the danger from exploding ammunition Sergeant Rose, with the help of a civilian, extricated the pilot and pulled him clear of the flames. By his prompt and courageous action Sergeant Rose was instrumental in saving the pilot's life.

623786 Corporal Josiah Weir WHYTE, Royal Air Force Regiment,
1249681 Leading Aircraftman John Leonard NORTHMORE, Royal Air Force Regiment.
1612216 Leading Aircraftman Stanley George WEBB, Royal Air Force Regiment.

On 10th May, 1945, R.E. personnel were engaged in clearing enemy mines on the far side of the canal adjoining an airfield. Some of the mines exploded, wounding several of the soldiers. Corporal Whyte, together with Leading Aircraftman Northmore and Webb, immediately crossed to the far bank with blankets, stretchers and medical equipment, although they were fully aware of the danger as the ditch which contained 100 mines was on fire. They rendered first aid to a wounded Sapper who was lying in an exposed position and, whilst so doing, all three were injured by the explosion of further mines. Nevertheless, these airmen remained with the wounded man and manoeuvred him into a safe position. These airmen showed a complete disregard for their personal safety and unselfish devotion to duty after they had been injured.

Air Ministry, 18th December, 1945.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Appointment to commission.

552167 Wt. Off. Harold Leslie WENSLEY (57595) as Plt. Off. on prob. (emergency). 16th May 1945.

Transfer between branches.

Flt. Lt. F. PARVIN (43140) to the Tech. Br. 28th Feb. 1945.

Flg. Off. K. L. MORGAN (56687) to the Admin. and Spec. Duties Br. 1st Dec. 1945.

Reversion to retired list.

Air Mshl. Sir Philip B. JOUBERT DE LA FERTÉ, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., resuming the rank of Air Ch. Mshl. with seniority of 1st July 1941. 14th Nov. 1945.

Air Vice-Mshl. Sir John M. STEEL, G.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., resuming the rank of Air Ch. Mshl. with seniority of 1st July 1936. 26th Sept. 1945.

Retirement.

Air Mshl. (temp. Air Ch. Mshl.) Sir Richard E. C. PEARSE, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., retaining the rank of Air Ch. Mshl. 6th May 1945.