

occasions his balloon has been subjected to severe shell fire, but he has invariably carried on his observation work, calm and collected, thereby setting a fine example to other observers, notably on a recent occasion, when his balloon, under heavy fire from a long-range gun, was eventually so badly hit that it commenced to fall. Lieutenant O'Connell continued to give observations until he was forced to descend in a parachute.

Lt. William John Pace.

Since this officer joined his squadron in March last he has carried out five photographic reconnaissances and taken part in thirty-two bombing raids. His work has been distinguished throughout by keenness, efficiency and determination. When attacked by hostile planes he has invariably shown coolness and initiative, never hesitating to assist weaker pilots in critical situations. On photographic reconnaissances he has rendered most valuable service.

Major Lawrence Arthur Pattinson, M.C. (R. Fus.).

This officer is not only a capable and most efficient squadron commander, but also an exceptionally fine leader of bombing formations. On the 7th of September he led a combined formation of twenty-two machines; they were attacked by some thirty aircraft, who made the most determined effort to prevent our formation reaching their objective. By skilful leadership and manoeuvring Major Pattinson repulsed the attack and dispersed the enemy formation. Leading well over the target excellent results were obtained.

(M.C. gazetted 3rd June, 1918.)

Lt. William James Peace.

On the night previous to one of our attacks this officer was detailed for a very important duty, which entailed the patrol of a section of our lines. The weather conditions were most adverse, but after two attempts this officer started in dense clouds and rain. Flying by compass he reached his objective, and for three hours patrolled the line. A very fine performance, calling for high courage and perseverance, in face of the difficulties due to weather conditions.

Lt. Alan MacMillan Phillips, Sea Patrol.

A very gallant pilot, who displays great determination. During the past month he attacked, with one other machine, ten enemy seaplanes, and destroyed one of them, making four in all, since joining his present squadron in June, 1918. On numerous occasions he has descended to very low altitudes to bomb enemy shipping, and on four occasions he obtained direct hits. Recently he set out to attack a strongly defended enemy post, and, notwithstanding fierce firing from anti-aircraft guns, he set fire to a block of sheds and an enemy coastal motor boat.

Lt. (T./Capt.) Harry Puckle (Leic. R.).

This officer was detailed to lead a reconnaissance patrol of three machines to take photographs of a certain area, an escort of fighting machines being told off as escort.

While waiting for the escort the weather became threatening. Knowing that the photographs were urgently required, Capt. Puckle decided to proceed without the escort. Hostile aircraft was particularly active that day, and the three machines were repeatedly attacked, but in face of strong opposition this officer persevered in his duty and succeeded in taking the photographs required. This is but one example of the intrepid leadership and disregard of danger invariably displayed by this officer.

2nd Lt. Francis James Ralph.

A brave and skilful observer who has taken part in many combats with enemy aircraft, invariably displaying cool courage and presence of mind. On a recent occasion our patrol of eleven machines, after bombing a railway junction, was attacked by fifteen enemy scouts. One of these, which was engaged by this officer's pilot, crumpled and fell. The formation was then attacked by seven Fokkers from above, one of which was shot down by 2nd Lt. Ralph.

Capt. Arthur Clunie Randall.

A daring and skilful airman who during recent operations has accounted for six enemy aeroplanes. He is conspicuous for his determination and devotion to duty.

Lt. Arthur Eden Reed.

On a recent occasion, when on wireless interception duty, this officer attacked two Albatross two-seaters, both of which were destroyed, Lt. Reed shooting down one and his observer the other. On another occasion he attacked two enemy machines, destroying one; the second fled. A bold and skilful airman.

T./Capt. George Thomas Reid (Can. Forestry C.).

A very competent and gallant observer in long-distance bombing raids, in thirteen of which he has been successfully engaged. Capt. Reid displays great skill in selecting the correct altitude for unloading his bombs, and his determination is most marked in all his work.

Lt. Alan Rice-Oxley (Shrops. L.I.).

In company with another machine this officer attacked an enemy formation of fifteen aeroplanes, and promptly destroyed two of them. He then repeatedly attacked the remaining thirteen machines, who were crowding on his companion, and the battle ended in the destruction of six of the enemy and one driven down out of control. Two days afterwards he destroyed two more enemy aircraft. The gallantry displayed by this officer, and that of his companion, Capt. C. E. Howell, in attacking fifteen machines, was of the very highest order.

Capt. Leonard Henry Rochford, D.S.C.

This officer has already been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and Bar for gallantry and devotion to duty—qualities in which he revels. Since the award he has accounted for twelve enemy aircraft—six destroyed and six driven down out of control.

(D.S.C. gazetted 26th April, 1918.)

(Bar gazetted 7th June, 1918.)