

Capt. Ross Macpherson Smith, M.C.,
D.F.C. (Australian L.H. and Australian
F.C.). (EGYPT)

During the operations prior to October, 1918, he took part in numerous engagements involving flights of 150 to 200 miles, and succeeded in doing extensive damage to the enemy's hangars, railways, etc. Captain Smith displayed most consistent gallantry with marked ability in all his work, whether bombing by night or day or in personal encounters in the air. Whilst operating with the Sheriffian forces he destroyed one enemy machine and brought down two others out of control in the desert.

(Military Cross gazetted 11th May, 1917; Bar to M.C. 26th March, 1918. The awards of the D.F. Cross, and second Bar thereto, are also contained in this Gazette.)

Lt. (A./Capt.) Walter Alfred Southey,
D.F.C. (FRANCE)

An officer of ready resource whose skilful leadership is of the greatest value to his squadron. Since 23rd August Captain Southey has destroyed five enemy kite balloons and three machines, while he has also driven down two aircraft completely out of control.

(D.F.C. gazetted 2nd November, 1918.)

Capt. Alfred Harold Whistler, D.S.O.,
D.F.C. (FRANCE)

This officer has twenty-two enemy machines and one balloon to his credit. He distinguished himself greatly on 29th September, when he destroyed two machines in one combat, and on 15th September, when, following two balloons to within twenty feet of the ground, he destroyed one and caused the observer of the second to jump out and crash. He has, in addition, done arduous and valuable service in bombing enemy objectives and obtaining information. Captain Whistler is a gallant officer of fine judgment and power of leadership.

(D.S.O. gazetted 2nd November, 1918.)

(D.F.C. gazetted 3rd August, 1918.)

AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

Lt. David Brunton Aitken. (EGYPT)

This officer has done very gallant and useful work as patrol leader, and has set a fine example to his squadron. On one occasion, when on patrol over an enemy aerodrome, he descended to within fifty feet of the ground, in face of incessant hostile fire, to attack a two-seater, which he rendered completely useless.

2nd Lt. (A./Lt.) Gerald Frank Anderson.
(FRANCE)

On 30th October this officer was one of an offensive patrol that attacked fifty enemy machines. Six of the latter concentrated their attack on Lt. Anderson, and would have inevitably destroyed his machine had it not been for the exceptionally able manner in which he manœuvred and fought. Although both he and his observer were wounded and the machine badly damaged, he succeeded with rare courage and skill in shooting down one and keeping the re-

mainder at a distance. Eventually he brought his machine safely to ground about half a mile within our lines.

Lt. (A./Capt.) George Buchanan Bailey.
(FRANCE)

On 28th September this officer and his observer were detailed to watch the progress of one of our divisions towards a canal. Flying very low, he discovered that the enemy were retiring to the east of the canal. He at once dropped a message informing the infantry of this, and they pushed rapidly forward, securing the crossings. This would certainly have been prevented by the enemy had it not been for Captain Bailey's promptitude in accelerating our advance.

Lieut. Thomas Charles Richmond Baker,
M.M. (Australian F.C.). (FRANCE)

This officer has carried out some forty low-flying raids on hostile troops, aerodromes, etc., and has taken part in numerous offensive patrols; he has, in addition, destroyed eight hostile machines. In all these operations he has shown exceptional initiative and dash, never hesitating to lead his formation against overwhelming odds, nor shrinking from incurring personal danger.

(M.M. gazetted 19th February, 1917.)

2nd Lieut. Gordon Arthur Ballantyne.
(FRANCE)

2nd Lieut. William Cubitt Treen, D.C.M.
(FRANCE)

These officers displayed conspicuous courage and cool presence of mind on 9th October, when they were attacked by seven Fokker biplanes. At the outset the pilot (2nd Lieut. Ballantyne) received a bullet in his arm, and 2nd Lieut. Treen, his observer, was wounded in the head and had one knuckle of his right hand shot off; at the same time the woodwork between these two officers caught fire. Lieut. Treen, having beaten out the fire with his hands, engaged the enemy machines, and, aided by the consummate skill with which Lieut. Ballantyne—wounded though he was—manœuvred the machine, succeeded in shooting down one in flames.

(2nd Lieut. Treen's D.C.M. gazetted
11th March, 1916.)

Lieut. (A./Capt.) Charles Chaplin Banks,
M.C. (FRANCE)

A brilliant and skilful airman who has been conspicuous for his success in aerial combats. On 30th October he, single-handed, engaged five enemy aeroplanes and drove one down out of control. In the fight his aileron controls were shot away, but by skilful handling and with cool presence of mind he brought his machine back and made a successful landing. In addition to the above Capt. Banks has accounted for nine other enemy machines.

(M.C. gazetted 9th February, 1918.)

Lieut. Robert Lyle McKendrick Barbour
(FRANCE)

This officer has carried out twenty-nine bombing raids and forty-seven photographic reconnaissances, displaying at all times marked courage and clear judgment. On 9th October, when on reconnaissance, he was attacked by ten Fokkers and forced to retire; on the disappearance of the Fokkers he again