

was shot down and captured by the insurgents, and since his release never failed to carry on as usual.

Squadron Leader Charles Henry Nicholas, A.F.C., R.A.F.

For consistent good work, gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer has not only led his squadron in nearly every raid, but by his energy and devotion to duty has kept the squadron in a high state of efficiency. He was mainly responsible for bringing his squadron into action from Baghdad 14 days after landing at Basra, which is in itself a remarkable achievement.

Flying Officer Harry Victor Norris le Vavasour Noel, R.A.F.

For gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer carried out 19 raids and 71 hours' flying during a period of ten weeks. He has displayed great keenness, coolness and devotion to duty at all times, notably on one occasion when he landed beside, and endeavoured to assist, a machine which was forced to descend in hostile territory.

Flying Officer Anthony Lauderdale Paxton, R.A.F.

For great gallantry and devotion to duty, especially during operations around Samawah and Nasiriyeh. This officer's reconnaissance reports are exceptionally valuable, and he has proved himself a gallant and daring pilot.

Flight Lieutenant George Clark Pirie, M.C., R.A.F.

For great gallantry and good work, especially during operations in the relief of Diwaniyah and during our retirement to Hillah. This officer showed remarkable ability in quick initiative when leading his flight during operations.

Flight Lieutenant Franks Lubbock Robinson, D.S.O., M.C., R.A.F.

For continuous good work, gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer has flown over 100 hours during operations, and has shown at all times an untiring example throughout. He has had three machines put out of action by hostile fire from the ground.

Flying Officer Harry Noel Cornforth Robinson, M.C., R.A.F.

For gallantry and devotion to duty. A gallant and daring pilot, especially while operating round Samawah and Nasiriyeh. His keenness at all times has been much marked.

Flight Lieutenant Harry George Smart, R.A.F.

For energy, gallantry and leadership. This officer has shown a very fine example to his fellow officers, especially during low bombing raids, when he has frequently descended among heavy rifle fire to very low altitude to ensure accurate bombing of small targets. He has taken part in 25 day bombing raids and two night raids.

Flying Officer Ralph Squire Sorley, D.S.O., R.A.F.

For great gallantry and devotion to duty. He has proved himself a very capable officer and fine leader. He has flown over 104 hours and carried out 52 bomb raids by day and two by night. He has commanded a flight of No. 6 squadron for over six months with great ability.

Flight Lieutenant Henry Karslake Thorold, D.S.O., A.F.C., R.A.F.

For gallantry and leadership on all occasions when commanding the flight at Nasiriyeh. His work in the field has been an example to all ranks.

*Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.*

- 334664 L.A.C. Robert Bywater, R.A.F.  
263760 A.C.2 John Percy Robert Clifford, R.A.F.  
156188 A.C.1 James Moir McKean, R.A.F.  
1349 A./Sgt. Sydney Charles Murton, R.A.F.  
157612 A.C.1 Llewellyn Nicholas, R.A.F.  
331198 A.C.1 Ernest George Penniall, R.A.F.

*Awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.*

- 313 S.M.1 William Charles Attrill, R.A.F.  
313619 Flt. Sgt. Frank Bebington, R.A.F.  
336426 Cpl. Sydney James Briggs, R.A.F.  
864 Flt. Sgt. Charles Frederick Roland Bunting, R.A.F.  
333099 L.A.C. (A./Cpl.) George Frederick Cooling, R.A.F.  
313065 Flt. Sgt. Gilbert Clarence Croft, R.A.F.  
334604 Flt. Sgt. Albert Edwin Dobson, R.A.F.  
340517 L.A.C. (A./Sgt.) Frank Henry Hart, R.A.F.  
780 Sgt. George Wallace Hepple, R.A.F.  
334430 L.A.C. (A./Cpl.) Hugh Cecil Hitchcock, R.A.F.  
1215 Flt. Sgt. John William Honeybone, R.A.F.  
3929 Flt. Sgt. Charles Oakley, R.A.F.  
84957 A.C.1 Herbert Petch, R.A.F.  
145 S.M.1 Charles Ramplin, R.A.F.  
201727 Sgt. Sidney William Sparkes, R.A.F.  
2389 Flt. Sgt. John Henry Tuckey, R.A.F.  
4201 Flt. Sgt. Barnabus William Wilson, R.A.F.

The undermentioned officers and airmen of the Royal Air Force have been mentioned for distinguished service in a despatch received from Lieutenant-General Sir J. A. L. Haldane, K.C.B., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force:—

- Allen, Flying Officer Laurence Wilfred, M.C., R.A.F.  
Battle, Flying Officer Henry Frederick Vulliamy, R.A.F.  
Binnie, Flying Officer James Alexander Weatherhead, R.A.F.  
Bladon, Flying Officer Graham Clark, R.A.F.  
Burnett, Wing-Commander Charles Stuart, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.A.F.  
Carter, Observer Officer Rodney Thomas, R.A.F.  
Coward, Flying Officer Graham Nelson, R.A.F.