

Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Devon.

Francis Bingham, Baron Mildmay of Flete, P.C., T.D., of Flete, Ivybridge, Devon, to be a Deputy Lieutenant.—Dated 3rd day of May 1940.

(237)

*Air Ministry,
7th May, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Charles Eric St. John BEAMISH (26024).

Flight Lieutenant Christopher Dermot Salmond SMITH (33287).

Flying Officer Desmond Frederick Burt SHEEN (39474).

Flying Officer John Patrick Stracey SMYTH (37430).

Pilot Officer Douglas Dennison WEIGHTMAN (41084).

Pilot Officer David Alexander WILLIS (40331).

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

740945 Sergeant John Anthony Mawson REID.

543303 Leading Aircraftman John Edward NEWBY.

524040 Leading Aircraftman Arthur Henry WEBSTER.

The above awards are for gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

*Air Ministry,
7th May, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the undermentioned awards in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy:—

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Gareth Thomas Butler CLAYTON (37624).

In April, 1940, this officer was the leader of a sub-formation undertaking bombing operations against Stavanger aerodrome. He pressed home his attack at a low altitude in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire and attacks by enemy fighters and succeeded in dropping his bombs among a number of German aircraft. On the return flight he was attacked by a Messerschmitt fighter for sixty-five minutes and it was only by his determination, skill and courage that he managed to bring his aircraft safely to his base. Flight Lieutenant Clayton has done magnificent work since the outbreak of the war and his leadership and courage have always been of the highest order.

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

532424 Corporal Leonard YEOMANS.

In April, 1940, this airman was air gunner of an aircraft engaged in bombing operations against Stavanger aerodrome. On

the return flight his aircraft was attacked for sixty-five minutes by Messerschmitt fighters but by his skill in the handling of his gun and his accurate instructions to the pilot when to take avoiding action, he was to a great extent responsible for the safe return of his aircraft. Throughout the combat Corporal Yeomans showed great coolness and courage.

643912 Aircraftman, 2nd class, John Richard MAYOR.

In April, 1940, this airman was air gunner in one of a formation of three aircraft attacked by Messerschmitt fighters. As a result of his accurate fire he disabled one of the engines of an enemy fighter and undoubtedly saved his aircraft from being shot down. In the course of the engagement his aircraft was struck many times and although his turret was put out of action, he succeeded in firing a further burst at the enemy. This was Aircraftman Mayor's first occasion in action but he operated his gun with very great skill and showed determination, coolness and courage of the highest order.

*Air Ministry,
7th May, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, K.G., K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., relinquishes temporarily the rank of Air Vice-Marshal, at his own request, and resumes the rank of Group Captain. 29th Apr. 1940.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

The undermentioned are granted commissions for the duration of hostilities as Pilot Officers on probation on the dates stated:—

Flight Sergeants.

21st Feb. 1940.

365689 Arthur George CORK (43119).

1st Apr. 1940.

562668 Claude DUNKERLEY (43120).

505111 Harry Reginald LAWSON (43121).

564804 John WELSH (43122).

563133 Nelson Bruce HARVEY (43123).

561774 Harry Edward George KEAST (43124).

563272 William Jervase UPRICHARD (43125).

560718 Walter Harry WAKEFIELD (43126).

590159 Frederick David WEBSTER (43127).

Acting Flight Sergeant.

1st Apr. 1940.

563385 John Henry SEARBY (43128).

Temporary Flight Sergeants.

1st Apr. 1940.

366462 George Edward STANSBURY (43129).

561660 Eric Thomas WATKIN (43130).

Sergeants.

1st Apr. 1940.

561994 Arthur Herbert BENSON (43131).

561516 Frank Reginald CAREY (43132).

561859 William George EASTON (43133).