

Kayll combined flying leadership and administration in an exemplary manner throughout, and destroyed five enemy aircraft, bringing his total to nine.

Flight Lieutenant Walter Myers CHURCHILL, D.F.C. (90241).

This officer assumed command of a squadron shortly after its arrival in France and led it with marked success, inspiring his pilots and maintenance crews magnificently. He undertook the tactical instruction of new pilots, led many patrols successfully and organised his ground defences and crews in an exemplary manner. While under his command, the squadron destroyed 62 enemy aircraft and he was throughout the main-spring of their offensive spirit, their excellent tactics and their adequate maintenance results. Only four pilots of the squadron were lost. Flight Lieutenant Churchill has recently destroyed four enemy aircraft, bringing his total to seven.

Flight Lieutenant Richard Hugh Anthony LEE, D.F.C. (33208).

This officer has displayed great ability as a leader and intense desire to engage the enemy. On one occasion he continued to attack an enemy aircraft after his companion had been shot down, and his own machine hit in many places. His section shot down a Dornier 215 in flames one evening in May, and another in the course of an engagement the next day. In his last engagement he was seen at 200 feet on the tail of a Junkers 89, being subjected to intense fire from the ground over enemy occupied territory. This officer escaped from behind the German lines after being arrested and upheld the highest traditions of the Service.

*Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Wing Commander Louis Walter DICKENS (16108).

This officer led nine Blenheim aircraft in an exceedingly determined and gallant attack which he succeeded in pressing home with success in the face of extremely heavy enemy opposition. While no exact estimate can be given as to the number of enemy fighters in contact, a formation of nine Messerschmitt 109's and four Messerschmitt 110's attacking the leading formation were identified, and the remaining two sections were simultaneously heavily engaged by a superior number of Messerschmitt 110's. The attack was of great moment and the courage and leadership displayed by this officer inspired the squadron in an operation which otherwise might have completely failed.

Squadron Leader John Scatcliff DEWAR (26029).

This officer has shot down five enemy aircraft and led many patrols with courage and skill.

Squadron Leader John Oliver William OLIVER (26208).

This officer commanded his squadron extremely well and has led two escort formations of 24 aircraft each to a distance of 140 miles from their base. During these escorts the formations accounted for more than a dozen enemy aircraft. In addition, in May, 1940, he shot down an enemy

aircraft which crashed at Hazebrouck and he has led his section magnificently on many occasions. His sangfroid and calm outlook have encouraged his squadron to a remarkable degree and the excellent spirit of the squadron and his gallant leadership is reflected in the successes attained.

Acting Squadron Leader John Robert KAYLL (90276).

This officer has shown courage and skill in shooting down four enemy patrols.

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey LOWE (37324).

On a night in May, 1940, this officer led a formation of sixteen aircraft in an attack on an objective near Hamburg. In spite of strong opposition from enemy fighters and anti-aircraft defences, and considerable difficulties caused by searchlights, he pressed home his attack and secured two direct hits, which caused fires and explosions on the target. These fires enabled the remaining aircraft to locate and hit the target. When attacked by enemy aircraft his skilful manoeuvring enabled his rear gunner to get in bursts of fire, causing the enemy to break off the fight.

Flight Lieutenant James Robert Maitland BOOTHBY (39023).

This officer has consistently led his section with skill and efficiency. He himself shot down three enemy aircraft in one day.

Flight Lieutenant Walter Myers CHURCHILL (90241).

This officer has shot down three enemy aircraft since his arrival in France and has led many patrols with courage and skill.

Flight Lieutenant Robin Peter Reginald POWELL (33278).

This officer has displayed outstanding leadership and gallantry. In May, 1940, his flight, although greatly outnumbered, destroyed some six enemy aircraft and the next day a further four were destroyed. In these engagements Flight Lieutenant Powell personally brought down at least one of the enemy aircraft on the first day and two on the second day.

Flight Lieutenant William Barrington ROYCE (90062).

This officer assumed command of a squadron after its three previous commanders had been lost. One day in May his squadron had completed seven sorties, including two ground attacks, by 1300 hours and were eager to go out yet again. Flight Lieutenant Royce shot down four enemy aircraft. He led the squadron in a most efficient and determined manner.

Flight Lieutenant William SIMPSON (37235).

In May, 1940, this officer led a half section of aircraft carrying out a low level bombing attack on troops and convoys on a road between Luxemburg and Junglister, with the object of checking the German advance after the violation of Holland and Belgium. Despite intense anti-aircraft fire after crossing the frontier, he pressed home the attack and scored four direct hits on the convoy. After the attack, owing to a leak