

in the petrol tank, it was necessary to make a forced landing. As the aircraft touched ground flames arose from the bomb aimer's trap. The pilot was only saved by the prompt action of the crew before the aircraft exploded. Flight Lieutenant Simpson has consistently done good work.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Roy Gilbert DUTTON (39072).

In May, 1940, whilst leading a section of a squadron on patrol over Brussels, Flight Lieutenant Dutton attacked and shot down two Heinkel III aircraft. The next day, when leading a section of a squadron, seven Messerschmitt fighters were sighted escorting from 50 to 70 enemy bombers. The leader of the formation attacked the bombers and Flight Lieutenant Dutton, realising the danger to the formation, ordered two aircraft of his own section also to attack the bombers whilst he climbed and engaged the Messerschmitts until the attack on the bombers was completed. He then dived away, and flying west sighted and shot down a Heinkel III with his remaining ammunition. Flight Lieutenant Dutton has displayed initiative, gallantry and a complete disregard for his own safety.

Flying Officer Derek Hurlstone ALLEN (39840).

This officer has taken part in all combats with Flight Lieutenant R. H. A. Lee, following his section leader with great loyalty. In May, 1940, he took part in shooting down a Junkers, and the next day another enemy aircraft of the same type. On the latter day, after his aircraft had been severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire, he did not hesitate to attack with vigour and determination a Junkers 89 over enemy occupied territory and shot it down.

Flying Officer Allan Benjamin ANGUS (40281).

This officer has shown great determination in taking every opportunity of engaging the enemy and pressing home his attacks. He took part in an inconclusive attack on a Junkers 88, which resulted in serious damage to the enemy aircraft. His own aircraft was hit and as a result he had to force land in Belgium. Acting on his own initiative he rejoined the squadron in a few hours. In May, while on patrol, he intercepted and shot down in flames a Heinkel III, and on the same patrol, took part in shooting down a second enemy aircraft of the same type, with Flying Officer David.

Flying Officer Kenneth Hughes BLAIR (39704).

This officer has shown exceptional keenness both before and during the present operations. He has engaged successfully two enemy bomber aircraft, viz., at dawn, one day in May, when he succeeded in being the first off the ground in pursuit of a Heinkel, and at dusk on the same day, when he successfully attacked another Heinkel between Arras and Vitry. He had a very narrow escape when a bomb landed within 20 yards of a room in which he was sleeping. He was badly shaken, but insisted on volunteering and taking part in a patrol over Maastricht, when he engaged two Messerschmitt 109's.

Flying Officer Walter Michael BLOM (40041).

During May, 1940, this officer was detailed to lead a half section of aircraft in a low level bombing attack against an enemy motorised column of all arms advancing on a road in Luxemburg. Before reaching his objective a petrol tank was pierced by machine-gun fire and, although unable to locate his allotted target through being drenched and almost blinded by the escaping petrol, he pressed home his attack on another enemy column with considerable success. During this time the aircraft was subjected to very heavy fire from the ground and was repeatedly hit, receiving such damage as to render it beyond repair, but this did not prevent Flying Officer Blom from flying back to the base, a distance of 90 miles. He displayed outstanding courage and tenacity.

Flying Officer James Alexander CAMPBELL (39492).

This officer succeeded to the temporary command of a flight just before the German invasion of Holland and Belgium and during the two following days led it with great courage and determination. He set a fine example by destroying four enemy aircraft. On one occasion, when leading a flight of seven aircraft in protection of Blenheim bombers, he showed great personal gallantry in leading his squadron to an attack against 40 enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Mark Medley CARTER (70119).

In May, 1940, Flying Officer Carter led his flight against 60 Junkers 87's, of which 11 were destroyed.

Flying Officer William Pancoast CLYDE (90154).

This officer was posted to France early in May, 1940, and led his flight on many occasions with great skill and has set a high standard of morale and leadership.

Flying Officer Stanley Dudley Pierce CONNORS (40349).

This officer showed outstanding fighting ability and gallantry when, during two consecutive days in May, 1940, whilst greatly outnumbered, he shot down three Heinkel III's, two Junkers 88's and one Messerschmitt 109.

Flying Officer William Ernest GORE (90279).

This officer, whilst leading his section in May, 1940, on a dawn patrol, intercepted a formation of three enemy Heinkel III aircraft. Due to his good leadership a determined attack was delivered with the result that all three enemy aircraft were shot down. Flying Officer Gore's aircraft burst into flames immediately after the attack, but in spite of this he escaped successfully by parachute. This officer has for a long period shown great keenness and devotion to duty deserving of the greatest praise.

Flying Officer Cedric Arthur Cuthbert STONE (39424).

Early in the operations in May, this officer destroyed three enemy aircraft and led his section with great courage and determination.