

Flying Officer Herbert Montague ROBERTSON (39568).

Since the beginning of the war Flying Officer Robertson has taken part in many hazardous operations and his tactical skill and complete disregard of danger have been outstanding. One night in May, 1940, he was captain of an aircraft ordered to attack a very important and heavily defended traffic junction. Sighting a long column of enemy transport approaching the point, he successfully attacked it from a very low altitude regardless of enemy fire and the risk of fragments from his own bombs.

Pilot Officer Cecil James Algernon Grant BRAIN (41660).

One night in May, 1940, during a reconnaissance of the Louvain-Maastricht area, Pilot Officer Brain sighted a lighted convoy. After descending to a height of four hundred feet to select his point of attack, he climbed and bombed the convoy from twelve hundred feet scoring a direct hit and causing great destruction. He then again descended to four hundred feet and fired many thousand rounds of ammunition at troops and convoys.

*Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.*

590276 Sergeant Hubert James BARRON.

In May, 1940, this airman was the leader of a half section of aircraft engaged on a low-level bombing attack against enemy columns advancing through Luxemburg. In spite of exceptionally heavy opposition by enemy machine gun and pom-pom fire he pressed home his attack and all his bombs were observed to burst on or near the target. During this attack Sergeant Barron was wounded, but he brought his aircraft and crew back safely.

564821 Sergeant Valentine Ronald HARTWRIGHT.

One night in May, 1940, in overcast weather conditions and in the face of a very heavy enemy defence, Sergeant Hartwright spent fifty minutes in a search for suitable targets to attack. He made a brilliantly executed attack on the aerodrome at Dinant and scored direct hits on a convoy in the vicinity of Namur. He has at all times proved himself to be a most determined, courageous and persevering captain of his aircraft.

534190 Sergeant William David Gordon WATKINS.

Sergeant Watkins was the observer and bomb aimer in an aircraft which carried out an attack on a large convoy of enemy transport one night in May, 1940. Five runs were made over the target, at heights between one thousand and fifteen hundred feet and in the face of anti-aircraft fire and continuous searchlight activity. Sergeant Watkins displayed great coolness and determination throughout the operation. He has been engaged in several other raids and has shown conduct in accordance with the highest traditions of the service. His bomb aiming and navigation have materially assisted in the success of the operations in which he has participated.

551529 Leading Aircraftman Roy JACKSON.

The excellent work of this wireless operator air gunner during many raids over enemy territory culminated in his gallant conduct one night in May, 1940, when, by improvisation and repair, he succeeded in making his wireless apparatus serviceable after it had been damaged by anti-aircraft fire. He succeeded in re-establishing contact and in obtaining homing directions for the aircraft. On twelve operational flights this airman has shown exceptional courage when under fire from the enemy.

629157 Aircraftman 1st Class Thomas Braidwood MOIR.

One night in May, 1940, the aircraft in which this airman was wireless operator air gunner was heavily engaged by enemy ground defences which incapacitated the front gunner and Aircraftman Moir was himself hit in the foot. Despite this, he continued to engage the enemy ground defences and succeeded in extinguishing a searchlight after which the remainder were switched out. As the aircraft was still over enemy territory, this airman remained at his post until loss of blood compelled him to leave and have his wound dressed. As rear gunner this airman has displayed a high standard of devotion to duty on three previous flights during the past month.

*Air Ministry,*

*7th June, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The undermentioned promotions are made with effect from 1st June 1940:—

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

*Wing Commanders to be Group Captains (temporary).*

William Arthur Kirkpatrick DALZELL (03205).

Reginald Thomas Brooke HOUGHTON, A.F.C. (04064).

James Humphrey BUTLER (03171).

Cedric Waters HILL (09176).

Edward Irvine BUSSELL (03169).

Gerald Mornington BRYER, O.B.E., A.F.C. (06242).

Edward THORNTON (04241).

Alfred Clifford SANDERSON, D.F.C. (08089).

John Whitworth JONES (07185).

George Oswald VENN (08161).

Cuthbert Joseph Stanley DEARLOVE (03216).

Robert Hugh HANMER, M.C. (04038).

William Edward THEAK (08147).

Frederick Lionel Benbow HEBBERT (04052).

John Stanley CHICK, M.C., A.F.C. (07016).

Sydney Leo Gregory POPE, D.F.C., A.F.C. (08046).

Louis William JARVIS (04076).

John POTTER (04172).

Guy Yelverton TYRRELL, M.C. (05001).

Albert Frank LANG, M.B.E., A.F.C. (04101).

Francis Henry Ernest REEVE (15060).