

Acting Flight Lieutenant William Hugh BIDDELL (37376).

In May, 1940, whilst leading a flight of three aircraft on a patrol over the ships engaged in evacuating the British Expeditionary Force, this officer sighted a squadron of Skuas being attacked by eleven Messerschmitt 109's. The Skuas were hard pressed and two were shot down. Without hesitation and despite the fact that the Hudson is not a fighter aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Biddell led his flight against the enemy, damaging one Messerschmitt and causing the remainder to break off the engagement. Since the invasion of the Low Countries, and particularly since the commencement of the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force, this officer has displayed qualities of leadership and endurance of a high order.

Flying Officer Leslie Redford CLISBY (40043) (now reported missing).

One day in April, 1940, this officer was the pilot of one of three Hurricanes which attacked nine Messerschmitt 109's, one of which he shot down. The following day he destroyed another Messerschmitt 109. In May, 1940, this officer was engaged in six combats against the enemy in which he shot down eight enemy aircraft. Flying Officer Clisby has displayed great courage on all occasions.

Flying Officer Thomas Bernard FITZGERALD (40783).

In May, 1940, Flying Officer Fitzgerald carried out a successful and daring low flying attack against the enemy at Sedan. During a second raid a few days later, he was wounded but succeeded in effecting a forced landing and saving the lives of his crew.

Flying Officer Hilton Aubrey HAARHOFF (43156).

In June, 1940, this officer was the rear gunner in one of a flight of three aircraft engaged in protecting shipping evacuating the British Expeditionary Force. The flight encountered a formation of some forty Junkers 87's, which were immediately attacked. Taking full advantage of the opportunities afforded by his pilot, Flying Officer Haarhoff destroyed one enemy aircraft and severely damaged another two.

Flying Officer David Leslie Russell HALLIDAY (39206).

In May, 1940, Flying Officer Halliday as pilot of an aircraft successfully carried out a bombing attack in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire. Whilst returning to his base, his aircraft was attacked by nine Messerschmitt 109's. In spite of the enemy's superior number Flying Officer Halliday displayed great skill in taking evasive action and it was entirely due to his determination, skill and courage that he managed to bring his aircraft safely back to his base. This officer has consistently shown magnificent courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Ian Bedford Nesbitt RUSSELL (37869).

By shooting down two enemy aircraft one day in May, 1940, this officer has a total of ten enemy aircraft to his credit and possibly

a further six have also been destroyed by him. After this combat he was instrumental in saving the life of another British pilot by guiding a trawler to an aircraft which had alighted on the sea.

Flying Officer Ronald Nicholas SELLEY (39689).

In June, 1940, this officer was captain of one of a flight of three aircraft engaged in protecting shipping evacuating the British Expeditionary Force. A formation of some forty Junkers 87's was encountered, and were immediately attacked. Flight Lieutenant Selley shot down two of the enemy aircraft with his front guns. By skilful manoeuvring he also enabled his rear gunner to shoot down a third and damage a further two enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Alan Christopher DEERE (40370).

During May, 1940, this officer has, in company with his squadron, taken part in numerous offensive patrols over Northern France, and has been engaged in seven combats often against superior numbers of the enemy. In the course of these engagements he has personally shot down five enemy aircraft and assisted in the destruction of others. On one occasion, in company with a second aircraft, he escorted a trainer aircraft to Calais Marck aerodrome, for the purpose of rescuing a squadron commander who had been shot down there. The trainer aircraft was attacked by twelve Messerschmitt 109's whilst taking off at Calais, but Pilot Officer Deere, with the other pilot, immediately attacked, with the result that three enemy aircraft were shot down, and a further three severely damaged. Throughout these engagements this officer has displayed courage and determination in his attacks on the enemy.

Pilot Officer Richard John JOUAULT (40920).

In June, 1940, this officer was captain of one of a flight of three aircraft protecting shipping engaged on the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkerque. On encountering a force of some forty Junkers 87's the flight broke up and attacked. Pilot Officer Jouault, handling his aircraft with the utmost skill and determination, shot down two of the enemy with his front guns.

Pilot Officer Desmond Hayward Sidley KAY (42006).

This officer has shown bravery and skill in the face of extreme difficulties and dangers. On one occasion, after an engagement, he force landed at Zoute with holes in one petrol tank, then re-fuelled and returned to his base. Later in May, 1940, his aircraft was so badly damaged in an engagement that his air gunner landed by parachute but Pilot Officer Kay succeeded in bringing his aircraft home. He has shared, with other pilots of his squadron, in the destruction of four enemy aircraft and on one occasion attacked twelve Junkers 87's single-handed and probably shot down two.

Pilot Officer William Lidstone MCKNIGHT (41937).

One day in May, 1940, this officer destroyed a Messerschmitt 109 and on the following day, whilst on patrol with his squadron, he shot down three more enemy