

consciousness, but was again leading his squadron the next morning.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John ELLIS (37850).

This officer was employed on offensive patrols over Dunkirk during the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force and led his flight with great courage. On two occasions, whilst deputising for his Commanding Officer, he led a patrol of four squadrons, displaying great initiative and leadership. During these patrols Flight Lieutenant Ellis destroyed two enemy aircraft. Later, whilst engaged on home defence duties, he shot down one enemy bomber. In July, 1940, whilst leading the squadron, he destroyed two enemy aircraft and on the following day he shot down a further three of eight enemy aircraft destroyed by his squadron. Flight Lieutenant Ellis has displayed courage and leadership of a high order.

Flying Officer Alister John Oswald JEFFREY (39740)—now reported missing.

This officer has displayed gallantry and skill in engagements against the enemy. He has destroyed three enemy aircraft in air combat, and on two occasions has carried out attacks on enemy bases, destroying at least four aircraft on the ground.

Pilot Officer John Connell FREEBORN (70854).

This officer has taken part in nearly all offensive patrols carried out by his squadron since the commencement of the war, including operations over the Low Countries and Dunkirk, and, more recently, engagements over the Channel and S.E. of England. During this period of intensive air warfare he has destroyed four enemy aircraft. His high courage and exceptional abilities as a leader have materially contributed to the notable successes and high standard of efficiency maintained by his squadron.

Pilot Officer Dorian George GRIBBLE (40695).

Since the outbreak of war, this young officer has taken part in most of the offensive patrols carried out by his squadron, including operations over the Low Countries and Dunkirk, and intensive air fighting over the Channel. Pilot Officer Gribble has led his section, and recently his flight, in a courageous and determined manner. On one offensive patrol, having expended his ammunition, he did not hesitate to lead two other pilots of his section, under severe cross-fire, in an attack against a formation of six Dornier 17's. As a result the effective bombing of an important convoy was prevented. This officer has personally destroyed three Messerschmitt 109's, and damaged many others.

Awarded a Bar to the Distinguished Flying Medal.

562984 Flight Sergeant William Henry FRANKLIN, D.F.M.

Since the 22nd May, 1940, this airman has shot down ten enemy aircraft and assisted in destroying a further two. On two occasions, during these engagements, he shot down two Messerschmitt 109's in one sortie. On another occasion, after chasing a Messerschmitt across the Channel to Calais, he encountered seven enemy fighters, five of which he engaged, destroying one of them. His skill, courage and determination are of the highest order.

*Air Ministry,
13th August, 1940.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

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

Warrant Officer.

26th June, 1940.

(Seniority 20th June 1940.)

327385 James Robert LAW (44223).

Flight Sergeant.

17th July 1940.

(Seniority 24th June 1940.)

345044 Charles STOKES (44224).

Sergeants.

27th June 1940.

(Seniority 25th April 1940.)

514296 George William FORSTER (44225).

30th June 1940.

(Seniority 25th April 1940.)

565146 William Laverick ATHER (44226).

4th July 1940.

(Seniority 9th May 1940.)

566287 Claud Bransby WALTER (44227).

17th July 1940.

(Seniority 9th May 1940.)

580432 Robert Alan HOWARD (44228).

The undermentioned Flight Lieutenants are granted permanent commissions in the substantive rank of Flight Lieutenant:—

22nd Sept. 1939.

Charles Frederick SARSBY (34112).

16th Mar. 1940.

James Barclay BLACK (34140).

Brenus Gwynne MORRIS (34167).

3rd Apr. 1940.

Charles Neil FLEMING (34193).

George Arthur RICHMOND (34203).

The undermentioned are granted short service commissions as Pilot Officers for five years on the active list. 20th July 1940:—

Neville Lawrence Roy COWAN (44229).

Robert Lawrence SPURDLE (44230).

Charles STEWART (44231).

The undermentioned Pilot Officers on probation are confirmed in their appointments:—

10th June 1940.

Melville Percival Conrad HOLMES, D.F.C. (70320).

12th June 1940.

Billy George ASTON (42328).

Anthony DARLING (42303).

26th June 1940.

Jeremy John BARR (42478).

Peter Edward BERRY (42480).

Robert John BORET (42554).

William Desmond BOXWELL (42555).

Michael Frederick Collier BUCKBARROW (42557).

James Falkland Barter CAREY (42483).

Gerald Charles Trewalla CARTHEW (42484).

Arthur William CLARKE (42485).

Christopher COOKSON (42558).

Robert Ogilvie DAY (42559).

Hardie Grosvenor DE FOREST (42486).