

Acting Squadron Leader Douglas Robert Stewart BADER, D.S.O. (26151), No. 242 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Bader has continued to lead his squadron and wing with the utmost gallantry on all occasions. He has now destroyed a total of ten hostile aircraft and damaged several more.

Acting Squadron Leader James Richmond GORDON - FINLAYSON (36078), No. 211 Squadron.

This officer has completed more than 40 day and night raids and reconnaissances over enemy territory in Greece and the Western Desert. Undaunted by continual severe anti-aircraft fire and attacks by fighters he has shown superb courage, determination and devotion to duty. The accuracy of his bombing has resulted in great damage to enemy positions and transport concentration, and his determined leadership of his squadron has enabled most effective results to be secured.

Acting Squadron Leader Deryck Cameron STAPLETON, A.F.C. (37948), No. 14 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Stapleton was the leader of two formations in a combined attack against a target in Eritrea. South of Massawa they were intercepted by enemy fighters and an engine of one of our aircraft was put out of action. The pilot endeavoured to escape but was followed by an enemy fighter and eventually forced to land in enemy territory. Squadron Leader Stapleton having shaken off the fighters, ordered the remainder of the second formation to join up with him and successfully attacked his alternative target. He then returned to the coast to search for the missing aircraft, which was sighted and observed to crash on landing. Squadron Leader Stapleton landed alongside, and waited while the crew set fire to their papers. He then explained the crew in his own aircraft, and flew back to base with the rest of the formation which had been circling overhead. Courageous leadership, skill and daring are characteristic of all this officer's operations against the enemy.

Flight Lieutenant Billy DRAKE (39095).

In October, 1940, this officer carried out a reconnaissance which proved of great value. He has at all times displayed fine qualities of leadership and perseverance. He has destroyed at least four enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant John Denis Ellard HUGHES (37854), No. 204 Squadron.

Since the beginning of the war, Flight Lieutenant Hughes has completed over 800 hours operational flying, often in the very worst weather. One day in December, 1940, he successfully carried out an important long distance reconnaissance, involving a flight of nearly fourteen hours, under difficult and dangerous circumstances. He has always displayed exceptional skill and determination, and has set the finest example of courageous leadership and devotion to duty.

Captain Brian John Lister BOYLE (102647), No. 1 Squadron, South African Air Force.

In October, 1940, Captain Boyle led three aircraft in an attack on an enemy aerodrome 100 miles within Eritrea. Owing to his care in studying the approaches complete surprise was achieved, three enemy fighters being destroyed and six bombers severely damaged.

In November, 1940, when his squadron commander was engaged by eight enemy fighters, Captain Boyle alone succeeded in taking off from a waterlogged aerodrome, and attacked in an attempt to extricate his comrade. Though wounded and covered with oil he continued to fight, after his squadron commander had been shot down, until his engine was so damaged that he was compelled to land, being rescued from his wrecked aircraft by the front line troops. Captain Boyle has repeatedly led his flight into action over enemy territory and against superior enemy forces with skill, courage and determination.

Flying Officer Hugh Norman TAMBLYN (40862), No. 242 Squadron.

Flying Officer Tamblyn has shown the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has destroyed at least five of their aircraft. He has set a splendid example to the other members of his section.

Pilot Officer Eric Simcox MARRS (33572), No. 152 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Marrs has participated in numerous patrols against the enemy and, on occasions, he has led his flight, with great skill and coolness. He has destroyed at least six hostile aircraft.

Pilot Officer Norman Robert NORFOLK (44929), No. 72 Squadron.

Throughout a long period of operations, Pilot Officer Norfolk has shown himself to be a most determined fighter pilot, pressing home his attacks on every occasion. He has displayed great courage and has destroyed at least four enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer William Dudley WILLIAMS (78985), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 152 Squadron.

This officer has shown great keenness in his engagements against the enemy, and has destroyed at least five of their aircraft. He has attacked a superior number of hostile aircraft, single handed, on several occasions.

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

740115 Sergeant Donald Alastair Stewart MCKAY.

This airman has shown fine skill and tenacity in air combat and has carried out valuable reconnaissance duties. He has destroyed at least eight enemy aircraft.

Air Ministry,

7th January, 1941.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Flight Lieutenant (temporary Squadron Leader) Samuel Rex Ramsay SMITH (37053) is granted a permanent commission in the substantive rank of Flight Lieutenant. 19th Oct. 1940.

The undermentioned are granted temporary commissions as Pilot Officers on being employed with the Royal Air Force:—

27th Nov. 1940.

John Langham MARTIN, Capt., R.A. (T.A.). (45053).

John Stanley HEATH, Lt., R.A. (T.A.). (45054).

Gordon WHITAKER, 2nd Lt., K.O.Y.L.I. (T.A.). (45055).