

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Sidney George Stock (43258), No. 7 Squadron.

In June, 1941, this officer was the rear gunner of an aircraft which took part in an operational sweep of the enemy coast from Flushing to Dunkirk. Following the bombing of some ships near Dunkirk harbour, his aircraft was attacked by 3 Messerschmitt 109's but, by brilliant shooting, Flight Lieutenant Stock destroyed one and damaged another of the attackers. On a previous occasion he displayed great coolness in the face of considerable odds. Flight Lieutenant Stock has always displayed outstanding devotion to duty and keenness in gunnery.

Flying Officer Reginald William Cox (43145), No. 7 Squadron.

In June, 1941, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which participated in an operational sweep of the enemy coastline from Flushing to Dunkirk. Whilst carrying out an attack on some ships near Dunkirk, his aircraft was attacked by 2 Messerschmitt 109's. During the ensuing battle, Flying Officer Cox displayed great skill and determination and, as a result, one of the enemy aircraft was observed to go down into a steep dive with smoke and flames pouring from it. A few days previously he carried out an operation under extremely unfavourable weather conditions. Despite the fact that shortly after taking off the generator failed and wireless communication with his base became impossible, he continued his mission and successfully bombed his target. He has set an excellent example of courage and devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer James Robert ANDERSON (79508), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 103 Squadron.

One night in June, 1941, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which participated in a low level attack on dockside buildings at Brest. The target could not at first be identified but, although fully aware that the area was protected by a balloon barrage, Pilot Officer Anderson remained over the target for 30 minutes until a temporary improvement in visibility afforded the opportunity to attack. Descending from 3,000 feet his bombs were observed to burst on or near the objective. Despite intense light anti-aircraft fire, he continued his dive to 900 feet where he was held in the beams of searchlights but 8 of these were extinguished by his front and rear gunners. Pilot Officer Anderson has completed numerous operational flights and has always displayed the utmost determination and skill.

Pilot Officer John Winston SIEVERS (79514), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 150 Squadron.

One night in June, 1941, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which took part in an attack on Brest. In spite of intense anti-aircraft fire both from ground defences and ships, Pilot Officer Sievers descended to 4,500 feet and skilfully dropped all his bombs in the target area. On a previous occasion, during an attack on Hamburg, this officer displayed great flying skill which enabled his rear gunner to shoot down a Messerschmitt 110 which attacked his aircraft whilst held

in the beams of searchlights. Pilot Officer Sievers has completed many operational missions over enemy and enemy occupied country and has shown great skill and coolness throughout.

Air Ministry,

1st July, 1941.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Derek Richard BIGGS (37342), No. 107 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Hugh Milton BIRCH, No. 10 Squadron Royal Australian Air Force.

Squadron Leader Brian George CORRY (90003), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 502 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Michael James Beaumont YOUNG (39152), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

Lieutenant Charles Warwick Bowman SMITH, Royal Navy, No. 816 Squadron, Fleet Air Arm.

Acting Flight Lieutenant James William LOUW (41190), No. 240 Squadron.

Flying Officer Arthur Vincent GOWERS (40166), No. 85 Squadron.

Flying Officer John Allman HEMINGWAY (40702), No. 85 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Henry Norman PHILLIPS (44604), No. 269 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Oliver Lawrence Spurling PHILPOT (77131), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

519950 Sergeant Hughie Cecil BAILEY, No. 233 Squadron.

552570 Sergeant Derek George BULEY, No. 210 Squadron.

627442 Sergeant William Jackson COLDBECK, No. 206 Squadron.

971141 Sergeant Peter McDonald GRANT, No. 42 Squadron.

568083 Sergeant Leonard Reginald JAMES, No. 22 Squadron.

517461 Sergeant James Gardner Simpson WEST, No. 42 Squadron.

The above awards are for gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

Air Ministry.

1st July, 1941.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Air Marshal Sir Philip Bennet JOUBERT DE LA FERTÉ, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., is promoted to the rank of Air Chief Marshal (temporary). 1st July 1941.

Air Vice-Marshal (Acting Air Marshal) William Lawrie WELSH, C.B., D.S.C., A.F.C., is promoted to the rank of Air Marshal (temporary). 1st July 1941.

ROYAL AIR FORCE RESERVE.

Reserve of Air Force Officers.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Squadron Leader Bernard Edward HARRISON is granted the rank of Wing Commander. 2nd June 1941.