

the fact that the convoys were able to proceed without loss; only 1 ship was damaged but it succeeded in reaching port. The courageous leadership and determination of this officer is worthy of the highest praise, and throughout he set an example which proved an inspiration to his fellow pilots.

Squadron Leader Marcus William Bower KNIGHT (37408), No. 485 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This officer has commanded the squadron since its formation. He has participated in 43 operational sorties over enemy territory as well as in a number of convoy patrols. In June, 1941, whilst engaged on a convoy patrol, Squadron Leader Knight destroyed a Junkers 88. He has led the squadron with great skill and courage throughout.

Squadron Leader Raymund Charles Love (37194), No. 222 (Natal) Squadron.

This officer has displayed great coolness and determination in his attacks against the enemy. Since July, 1941, Squadron Leader Love has participated in 31 operational sweeps in addition to operations against shipping. By his excellent leadership and fine personal example he has proved an inspiration to his fellow pilots.

Flight Lieutenant David SALWEY (33399).

This officer has displayed outstanding skill and devotion to duty in photographic reconnaissance.

Flight Lieutenant Derek Harland WARD (40786), No. 87 Squadron.

This officer fought with his squadron during the air operations in France and destroyed 2 enemy aircraft. Since September, 1940, he has commanded a flight engaged in night flying operations and has performed excellent work, particularly in the training of new pilots. In July, 1941, Flight Lieutenant Ward and another pilot intercepted a force of hostile aircraft which attempted to attack one of our aerodromes from a low altitude. Although the weather conditions were extremely unfavourable, at least 1 of the attacking aircraft was damaged. On another occasion, Flight Lieutenant Ward led a successful attack on the aerodrome at Caen. In spite of anti-aircraft opposition hits were believed to have been obtained on 2 enemy aircraft and, in addition a goods train was machine gunned together with buildings and gun-posts. This officer has always displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Charles Roy BUSH (42691), No. 41 Squadron.

This officer has carried out 48 operational sweeps over enemy territory and has destroyed at least 3 hostile aircraft. Flight Lieutenant Bush also took part in the air operations in France and later fought in the Battle of Britain. He has at all times displayed courage and keenness and has set an excellent example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Graham James Cox (41668), No. 152 Squadron.

This officer has completed 250 hours operational flying in the course of which he has participated in 22 combats and has destroyed 3 hostile aircraft and damaged a further 5. On one occasion Flight Lieutenant Cox coolly

drove off an enemy fighter which was attacking his commanding officer whose aircraft had become separated from the rest of the fighter formation. He then flew to the assistance of one of our bombers which, owing to its damaged condition was unable to keep formation, and escorted it until it was forced to descend on the sea. Although his fuel was running low, Flight Lieutenant Cox flew over the position until he saw the bomber crew had successfully launched the dinghy. Both as section leader and flight commander, this officer has displayed great leadership and ability.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Edward Vivian DARLING (65979), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 602 Squadron.

This officer has been engaged in active operations over a long period and has proved himself to be a skilful and courageous fighter pilot. He fought in the Dunkirk operations and later in the Battle of Britain. He has since completed 32 operational sweeps and throughout he has displayed excellent leadership, keenness and efficiency. He has destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft and damaged a further 2.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Deacon ELLIOTT (76311), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 72 Squadron.

This officer has been engaged on operational flying since December 1939. He fought in the Battle of Britain during which he destroyed 4 enemy aircraft. In addition to participating in many night patrols, Flight Lieutenant Elliott has been largely responsible for the training of new members of his squadron. Throughout, he has shown exceptional skill and courage.

Acting Flight Lieutenant James Chilton Francis HAYTER (36207), No. 611 Squadron.

Since June 1941, this officer has completed 48 operational flights over enemy territory and during the period has destroyed 4 and damaged a further 4 hostile aircraft. Flight Lieutenant Hayter participated in the fighting in France in 1940 and later fought in the Battle of Britain. He has displayed great skill and leadership and has contributed materially to the high standard of morale in his unit.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Jacobus Johannes LE ROUX (42240), No. 91 Squadron.

This officer has carried out over 200 operational sorties which have included shipping reconnaissances, during which much valuable information has been obtained, and numerous attacks on shipping and enemy aerodromes in the face of heavy enemy fire. Flight Lieutenant Le Roux has destroyed 3 hostile aircraft in combat and at least 1 on the ground.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Roy MARPLES (70868), No. 41 Squadron.

This officer has shown great courage and leadership as a flight commander. He has carried out 52 operational sorties over enemy territory and has destroyed 2, probably destroyed 3 and damaged a further 2 enemy aircraft. His keenness and personal example have been outstanding.