

of the navigator's cockpit was shattered by a bird, but the attack was pressed home from a height of only 100 feet despite considerable opposition. Bombs were released on a hangar while a number of Messerschmitt 109's on the ground were machine-gunned and set on fire. Pilot Officer Robinson's aircraft was hit by a cannon shell which riddled the navigator's cockpit and so seriously wounded the navigator that he died shortly afterwards. The aircraft sustained other damage, and the inter-communication and hydraulic systems were put out of action; the pilot's instrument panel was also damaged. Pilot Officer Robinson set course for this country and meanwhile the rear gunner tended the badly wounded navigator and beat out flames from his burning clothing. Overcoming many difficulties, Pilot Officer Robinson flew back to an aerodrome in this country where he made a perfect landing with the undercarriage retracted. This officer has completed 24 operational missions over enemy country and has always shown high courage and great devotion to duty.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

569680 Sergeant Ronald FERGUSON, No. 7 Squadron.

This airman was the flight engineer of an aircraft which carried out a low level attack on enemy shipping one day in December, 1941. By well directed shooting, he silenced a gun on an armed ship. The aircraft was hit by the enemy's cannon fire and sustained damage to the fuselage, the rear turret and tail chassis and the inter-communication equipment. Sergeant Ferguson cleared the rear turret and attempted to repair the inter-communication system but, finding it impossible to effect even a temporary repair, he went forward and rendered first aid to the air observer who had been wounded. Thereafter, Sergeant Ferguson rendered valuable service to his captain by acting as messenger. Throughout, this airman exhibited a fine example of discipline and teamwork. On several occasions, he has displayed great skill and has thus contributed materially to the safe return of his aircraft.

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