

Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant (A) Edgar Frederick Lee, R.N.V.R.

who was Observer to Sub-Lieutenant Rose. Before the Swordfish had reached the Enemy escort vessels their Air Gunner was killed. Sub-Lieutenant Lee stood up in the cockpit and directed the Pilot so that he could evade the attacking Enemy fighters. He went on doing this until his aircraft came down in flames. Then, although under fierce fire from the Enemy, he got his wounded Pilot, who was very much heavier than he, into his dinghy, and returned to the aircraft, but found it sinking. For an hour and a half he stayed in the flooded dinghy, tending and encouraging his wounded Pilot, and never losing heart, until both were rescued.

Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant (A) Charles Major Kingsmill, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Sub-Lieutenant (A) Reginald McCartney Samples, R.N.V.R.

who were Pilot and Observer of a Swordfish that was badly hit early in the action by cannon shells from an Enemy fighter. Both were wounded, but with part of the aircraft shot away, and the engine and upper wing in flames, they flew on undaunted until they had taken aim and fired their torpedo. They then turned and tried to come down near some ships, but these opened fire, so they flew on until their engine stopped, and their aircraft came down into the sea. Soon afterwards they were picked up, still cheerful and dauntless, by one of H.M. Vessels.

*The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.*

Naval Airman First Class Donald Arthur Bunce, FAA/SFX.631,

who was Air Gunner in the Swordfish aircraft piloted by Sub-Lieutenant Kingsmill. With his machine on fire, and the engine failing, he stayed steadfast at his gun, engaging the Enemy fighters which beset his aircraft. He is believed to have shot one of them down. Throughout the action his coolness was unshaken.

*Mention in Despatches (Posthumous).*

Lieutenant (A) John Chute Thompson, Royal Navy.

Sub-Lieutenant (A) Robert Laurens Parkinson, Royal Navy.

Sub-Lieutenant (A) Cecil Ralph Wood, Royal Navy.

Temporary Sub-Lieutenant William Beynon, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Sub-Lieutenant (A) Eric Herbert Fuller-Wright, R.N.V.R.

Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant (A) Peter Bligh, R.N.V.R.

Leading Airman Ernest Tapping, FAA/FX.76365.

Temporary Leading Airman William Grenville Smith, FAA/FX.79499.

Temporary Leading Airman Henry Thomas Albert Wheeler, FAA/FX.189404.

The last that was seen of this gallant band, who were astern of the leading flight, is that they were flying steadily towards the Battle-Cruisers, led by Lieutenant Thompson. Their aircraft shattered, undeterred by an inferno of fire, they carried out their orders, which were to attack the target. Not one came back. Theirs was the courage which is beyond praise.

Leading Airman Ambrose Laurence Johnson, D.S.M., FAA/FX.82042,

who, as Air Gunner to Sub-Lieutenant Rose, showed the same dauntless spirit. He was killed early in the action.

Lieutenant William Henry Williams, Royal Navy,

Leading Airman William John Clinton, P/JX.143258,

who, as Observer and Air Gunner to Lieutenant-Commander Esmonde, shared his fate in this gallant action, and showed the same high courage.

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the following Appointment to the Distinguished Service Order, and to approve the following Awards:—

For bravery and enterprise in action against Enemy Submarines:

*To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order:*

Acting Commander James Douglas Prentice, Royal Canadian Navy, H.M.C.S. Chambly.

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Lieutenant Edward Theodore Simmons, R.C.N.V.R., H.M.C.S. Chambly.

Sub-Lieutenant John Alfred Robert Allan, R.C.N.V.R., H.M.C.S. Chambly.

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Chief Engine Room Artificer William Spence, V.17088, R.C.N.V.R., H.M.C.S. Chambly.

Leading Seaman Alfred Harry Beale Johnson, C/JX.151297, H.M.C.S. Chambly.

Signalman Eugene Hugh Tobin, V.8336, R.C.N.V.R., H.M.C.S. Chambly.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Mr. Antony Fenwick Pickard, Mate, R.C.N.R., H.M.S. Chambly.

Able Seaman Leo Paul Lehto, R.C.N.R., H.M.C.S. Chambly.

For bravery and enterprise in action against the Enemy:

*The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.*

Acting Able Seaman Joseph Booth, C/JX.186335,

who, in his first action with the Enemy, was hit in four places, but went on firing his gun until he ran out of ammunition, and then fell unconscious.

*Mention in Despatches.*

Lieutenant George Dick Kendall Richards, Royal Navy.

For bravery, skill and coolness in successful Submarine patrols:

*The Distinguished Service Cross.*

Lieutenant Francis Ruck Keene, Royal Navy, H.M.S. Upholder.

*The Distinguished Service Medal.*

Engine Room Artificer Third Class Norman Douglas Board, P/MX.55599, H.M.S. Upholder.

Petty Officer Telegraphist William Eric Anderson, D/JX.136036, H.M.S. Upholder.

Able Seaman Leslie John Abel Young, C/J.101714, H.M.S. Upholder.