

Captain Hugh Errol Noel WILDSMITH (P.47885), South African Air Force, No. 2 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, including numerous fighter escorts and sweeps. On one occasion in July, 1942, during an escort flight, his squadron engaged a formation of enemy bombers and destroyed 4 of them. Throughout the engagement, Captain Wildsmith displayed great courage and initiative. In October, 1942, his squadron was detailed to escort a bomber force well into enemy territory. Whilst over the target area, Captain Wildsmith became separated from the formation and his aircraft was attacked by 10 enemy fighters. Displaying great skill, he destroyed 1 of the attackers and frustrated the efforts of the others until he was able to re-join his formation. This officer has invariably displayed outstanding leadership and high courage. He has destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Albert Ulric HOULE (Can/J.4887), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 213 Squadron.

One evening in October, 1942, Flying Officer Houle was flying with his squadron on patrol over El Alemein when a formation of enemy dive bombers was sighted. The enemy aircraft jettisoned their bombs and flew west in an attempt to avoid combat. With great tenacity and determination Flying Officer Houle pursued them far over the enemy's lines and in the rapidly falling light, engaged and destroyed at least 2 of the hostile bombers. This officer is a skilful pilot, who has always displayed exceptionally cool courage in action. His fine example has been a great inspiration to all personnel in his unit.

Pilot Officer Toderick Edmund HILTON (Aus. 400249) Royal Australian Air Force, No. 277 Squadron.

This officer has performed splendid work as a pilot of the air/sea rescue service. In August, 1942, he was mainly instrumental in saving three members of the crew of an aircraft which had crashed into the sea some 45 miles off the East Coast. One day in October, 1942, he was detailed to rescue a pilot from the sea a few miles from the French coast. On arrival at the scene, he found that the pilot was floating in his dinghy between 2 parallel rows of mines. Nevertheless, he brought his aircraft down on to the water and taxied to the dinghy, passing between 2 mines with but little room to spare. A rope was thrown to the stranded pilot who was safely pulled on to the aircraft. Whilst taking off, Pilot Officer Hilton observed a mine dead ahead but, with great presence of mind, he was able to avoid it by bouncing his aircraft off the water. Throughout, this officer displayed great skill, excellent judgment and a complete disregard of danger.

Pilot Officer Robert INWOOD (130468) Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous sorties at night, including many intruder operations over enemy occupied territory. In June, 1942, during an intruder sortie over an airfield in Holland, he destroyed an enemy aircraft. On another occasion in July, he destroyed a Junkers 88. Although his own aircraft was damaged in the combat, Pilot Officer Inwood flew it safely back to base. He has always displayed great courage and determination.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Alexander Theodore DOUCETTE (Can/J.15960) Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.54826 Sergeant George Joseph Robert BRUYERE, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

In November, 1942, Pilot Officer Doucette and Sergeant Bruyere were captain and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack an objective in North-West Germany in daylight. On the outward flight, the aircraft was attacked by 3 enemy fighters. Sergeant Bruyere was seriously injured, sustaining a broken leg and wounds in the chest, arm, forehead and left hand. A member of the crew when going to his assistance stepped on the escape hatch and fell through it but Sergeant Bruyere caught him and assisted him back to safety. When the engagement with the enemy aircraft was terminated, Pilot Officer Doucette flew on and attacked his target. On the

return journey, Sergeant Bruyere despite his critical condition, advised his colleagues on the operation of his wireless equipment. In extremely difficult circumstances both Pilot Officer Doucette and Sergeant Bruyere displayed indomitable courage and unswerving devotion to duty.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.61012 Flight Sergeant Thomas TEMPLEMAN, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 7 Squadron.

This airman was captain of an aircraft which attacked an objective in the Rhineland one night in June, 1942. On the return flight his aircraft was attacked by two Junker 88's and severely damaged. In most hazardous circumstances which followed, this airman displayed great fortitude and determination in keeping with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force. Throughout Flight Sergeant Templeman has proved himself to be an outstanding captain, who has set an exceptionally high standard by his courageous example and extreme devotion to duty.

N.Z.415049 Sergeant Raymond Johnston WRIGHT, Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 142 Squadron
1027850 Sergeant William SCARLETT, No. 142 Squadron.

In November, 1942, Sergeants Wright and Scarlett were captain and bomb aimer respectively of an aircraft detailed for a mine laying sortie. While flying over an extremely heavily defended area they were subjected to intense anti-aircraft fire and later attacked by an enemy night fighter. The observer was seriously wounded in the arm and the pilot in the right hand, right leg and chest. Showing outstanding fortitude and skill, Sergeant Wright, ably assisted by Sergeant Scarlett, flew his aircraft safely back to this country. Several times when over the sea, Sergeant Wright fainted but Sergeant Scarlett administered oxygen and took over control of the bomber thereby conserving his pilot's strength to enable him to make a landing. Sergeants Wright and Scarlett displayed fortitude, courage and magnificent determination in extricating their aircraft from a perilous situation.

Air Ministry, 4th December, 1942.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

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

Distinguished Service Order.

Wing Commander Alan Coatsworth BROWN, D.F.C. (37033), No. 407 Squadron.
Acting Squadron Leader Clive Stanley George STANBURY, D.F.C. (41808), No. 70 Squadron.
Lieutenant Colonel Johannes Albertus Geldenhuys RADEMAN (P.102977), South African Air Force, No. 24 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Arthur Hay DONALDSON, D.S.O., D.F.C., A.F.C. (34150).
Wing Commander John Marlow THOMPSON, D.F.C. (34183), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander George Philip SEYMOUR-PRICE (34056), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 10 Squadron.
Squadron Leader Maurice BOOTH (39810), No. 40 Squadron.
Acting Squadron Leader William Anderson DOUGLAS (90896), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 229 Squadron.
Acting Squadron Leader Richard Angelo MITCHELL (62259), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 249 Squadron.
Acting Squadron Leader Edward Walpole WHITTAKER (40971), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 216 Squadron.
Flight Lieutenant William Ronald ACOTT (43473).
Flight Lieutenant Robert Howard ANGAS (Aus.1776), Royal Australian Air Force.
Flight Lieutenant Cecil Henry SAUNDERS (42893), No. 74 Squadron.
Flight Lieutenant Norman Denys SINCLAIR (42897).
Acting Flight Lieutenant Aubrey Cyril BAKER (64892), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 112 Squadron.
Acting Flight Lieutenant William Mackenzie Roderick GRIFFIN (70267), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 268 Squadron.