

758047 Flight Sergeant Douglas Hamilton STYLES, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flight Sergeant Styles has taken part in 99 operational sorties. In May, 1941, he was the navigator of an aircraft which, whilst operating off the West Coast of Ireland, attacked and damaged a Junkers 88. Since September, 1941, he has participated in a large number of intruder operations over enemy occupied territories. This airman has always shown great keenness and determination in the performance of his duties. His skill in locating and bombing enemy airfields at night has set a fine example to the members of his squadron. He has flown as navigator in operations that have resulted in severely damaging 4 locomotives.

1331106 Sergeant Ronald Edward WILKES, No. 35 Squadron.

In December, 1942, this captain of aircraft was detailed for an attack on Duisberg. When commencing his bombing run he was heavily engaged by anti-aircraft fire and his aircraft was badly damaged, 2 engines being rendered useless. With admirable coolness Sergeant Wilkes released his bombs and by skilful evasive tactics withdrew without further damage. Descending gradually, a constant height was ultimately maintained on the homeward journey, until a Junkers 88 was encountered, which made 3 attacks. Displaying superb airmanship Sergeant Wilkes manoeuvred his disabled aircraft to avoid these attacks and eventually flew safely back to base. On a previous occasion in the same month, in adverse weather conditions this airman had persisted in his mission to attack Turin although, shortly after setting out, his air speed indicator and one engine failed. Throughout, Sergeant Wilkes has displayed quiet confidence and fine leadership. His outstanding example of devotion to duty in the face of heavy odds is worthy of the highest praise.

Air Ministry, 15th January, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards with effect from the dates stated:—

Air Force Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Donald William SCIVIER (43073). 14th June 1941.

Acting Wing Commander Douglas Reginald SCOTT (90246), Auxiliary Air Force. 9th October 1941.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Arthur SWORD, D.F.C. (84698), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 17th February 1942.

AMENDMENTS.

In notification of 18th December 1942 (p. 5506, col. 2), concerning Flying Officer A. L. NORMAN, Royal Australian Air Force, for (Aus. 40700) read (Aus. 407006), and for Aus. 344666 Corporal J. TRAM read Aus. 344666 Corporal J. TRIM.

Air Ministry, 15th January, 1943.

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, THE AIR FORCE CROSS, THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING MEDAL AND THE AIR FORCE MEDAL.

ROYAL WARRANT.

GEORGE R.I.

GEORGE THE SIXTH, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India; To all to whom these Presents shall come. Greeting.

Whereas We did, by a Warrant under Our Sign Manual, dated 22nd September, 1940, amend and consolidate the regulations governing the two decorations designated the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Cross, and the two medals designated the Distinguished Flying Medal and the Air Force Medal, and did direct that the regulations so amended and consolidated and incorporated in the said Royal Warrant should be the regulations governing the said decorations and medals;

And whereas the said Royal Warrant was amended by Royal Warrants dated 11th March, 1941, and 23rd February, 1942;

And whereas We deem it expedient that a further alteration should be made in the regulations governing the said decorations and medals;

Now, therefore, We do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, ordain that the following

regulation shall be substituted for the corresponding regulation in the Royal Warrant dated 22nd September, 1940, and shall henceforth be construed and have the same effect as if it formed part of the said Royal Warrant:—

" 13. Eligibility.

(1) The Distinguished Flying Cross shall be granted to such officers and warrant officers, and the Distinguished Flying Medal to such non-commissioned officers and men, as shall be recommended to Us by or through Our Secretary of State for Air (or, in the case of any of Our Dominions the Government whereof shall so desire, the appropriate Minister of State for the said Dominion) for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying in active operations against the enemy.

(2) The Air Force Cross shall be granted to such officers and warrant officers and the Air Force Medal to such non-commissioned officers and men, as shall be recommended to Us by or through Our Secretary of State for Air (or, in the case of any of Our Dominions the Government whereof shall so desire, the appropriate Minister of State for the said Dominion) for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying, though not in active operations against the enemy.

(3) The following shall be eligible for the said decorations and medals:—

(a) officers and men of any Military or Air Force raised in Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Our Indian Empire, Burma, any of Our Colonies or a territory under Our protection; or within any other part of Our Dominions Our Government whereof shall so desire or within any territory under Our protection administered by Us in such Government;

(b) officers and men of the Air Branch of Our Navy, of ranks equivalent to those above-mentioned, serving with any of the aforesaid Military or Air Forces;

(c) foreign officers and men, of ranks equivalent to those above-mentioned, who have been associated in operations with any of the aforesaid Military or Air Forces."

Given at Our Court at Saint James's this 10th day of November, 1942, in the sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

Archibald Sinclair.

Air Ministry, 15th January, 1943.

THE CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY MEDAL (FLYING).

ROYAL WARRANT.

GEORGE R.I.

GEORGE THE SIXTH, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India; To all to whom these Presents shall come. Greeting.

Whereas Her late Majesty Queen Victoria was graciously pleased by Her Order-in-Council dated 7th July, 1874, to establish a medal designated the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal for such petty officers and seamen of the Royal Navy and non-commissioned officers and privates of the Royal Marines as distinguish themselves by acts of conspicuous gallantry in action with the enemy.

And whereas We deem it expedient to provide for the award of the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal to members of Our Military and Air Forces for acts of conspicuous gallantry whilst flying in active operations against the enemy.

Now therefore We do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, ordain that the following regulations shall govern the award of the said medal to members of Our Military and Air Forces:—

1. Description.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal shall be as described in the above-mentioned Order-in-Council, that is to say, it shall be silver and shall bear on the obverse the Royal Effigy and on the reverse the words "For conspicuous gallantry" encircled by a wreath surmounted by a crown.

2. Ribbon.

The medal shall be worn on the left breast pendent from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width which shall be in colour light blue with dark blue marginal stripes one eighth of an inch in width.

3. Abbreviated title.

The award of the medal shall entitle the recipient to have the initials C.G.M. appended to his name.