

attacked by a Focke Wulf 190 but although his aircraft was damaged, he successfully evaded the attacker and landed safely at base. On another occasion he persevered with a search despite heavy fire from the German ground defences. In February, 1943, he flew to within 5 miles of Le Treport, brought his aircraft down on to the sea and rescued a Canadian pilot who had been shot down 3 hours previously. The visibility was deteriorating fast but he succeeded in a rescue which typified the skill, courage and resourcefulness invariably exhibited by this officer.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Hugh Drummond VENABLES (106029), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has taken part in 29 sorties, including a number of attacks on airfields in Holland, Belgium and France. In attacks on lines of communication and installations, Flight Lieutenant VENABLES has damaged numerous locomotives and storage tanks by machine gun fire. His inspiring leadership, great ability and outstanding devotion to duty have contributed materially to the high standard of operational efficiency of his flight.

Flying Officer John Michael BRYAN (102570), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 137 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties and patrols. On 1 occasion he assisted in the destruction of a Dornier 217. In attacks on enemy transport in Northern France and Belgium, Flying Officer Bryan has damaged 15 locomotives. His skill and keenness have been worthy of high praise.

Pilot Officer Edward Lester GIMBEL (Can/J.15890), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 403 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a very large number of sorties over enemy territory, including a number as escort to heavy bombers. Pilot Officer Gimbel, who is an excellent section leader, has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft. In addition he has damaged 4 locomotives. He has at all times displayed great keenness and devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer Victor SMITH (128365), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has completed 29 sorties over enemy territory at night, often in adverse weather. During these operations he has attacked an anti-aircraft gun post, a railway station and buildings and a convoy of motor vehicles, raking them with machine gun fire. He has displayed great courage, skill and keenness.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.98213 Flight Sergeant Ralph Edgar TAYLOR, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in February, 1943, this airman was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Wilhelmshaven. Although the constant speed unit of one of the propellers became unserviceable early on the outward journey, Flight Sergeant Taylor flew on to the target and bombed it. Shortly afterwards, trouble developed in the port engine, while the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and went out of control. Flight Sergeant Taylor quickly regained control and, a few minutes later when the bomber was attacked by an enemy fighter, he skilfully evaded its fire and enabled his own rear gunner to deliver a damaging burst. Sometime later, the port engine ceased to function but Flight Sergeant Taylor succeeded in flying the damaged aircraft back to this country. He displayed great courage and devotion to duty throughout.

Air Ministry, 23rd March, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

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

Distinguished Service Order.

Lieutenant Douglas Smith ROGAN (P.103447), South African Air Force, No. 1 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader David Gordon WARREN (37369), No. 162 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Mervyn POWELL (Aus. 402817), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 40 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant William Semmens AUSTIN (N.Z.391323), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 30 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Druce Walker BARLOW (43527), No. 208 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Alan Kennedy MALEY (87139), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 162 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Anthony Robert Fletcher THOMPSON (84965), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 73 Squadron.

Captain Johannes Morrel FAURE (P.143113), South African Air Force, No. 1 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Garth Edward Sommerville CLABBURN (Aus. 205745), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 3 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Cecil Keble GOODWIN (Aus.402075), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 14 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Alfred HEGMAN (N.Z.411508), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 162 Squadron.

Flying Officer Richard Emmett CLINE (Can/J.9501), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Irving Clark COWAN (Can/J.9495), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Ian George Melvin GOULD (117352), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 148 Squadron.

Flying Officer John Ernest Lloyd GOVER (46919), No. 148 Squadron.

Flying Officer Anthony Wreford GUBB (Can/J.3741), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Paul Albert HARTMAN (Can/J.8419), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Malcolm Graham MACKENZIE (Can/J.15492), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 148 Squadron.

Flying Officer William Wallace MCRAE (118567), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 148 Squadron.

Flying Officer John Aldridge REYNOLDS (Can/J.8421), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Warren Waugh SUTTON (Can/J.8420), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 69 Squadron.

Flying Officer Fabian George WHELPDALE (116657), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 69 Squadron.

Lieutenant Scharck RABIE (P.103970), South African Air Force, No. 1 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Rex Howard BAYLY (Aus.407416), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 3 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Thomas Lodge MURRAY-PRIOR (Aus.405024), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 60 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

628334 Flight Sergeant Henry George ARNOLD, No. 162 Squadron.

546056 Flight Sergeant Percy Wilson CARRUTHERS, No. 223 Squadron.

1375487 Flight Sergeant Kevin CLARKE, No. 148 Squadron.

547523 Flight Sergeant John MARTIN, No. 160 Squadron.

1313049 Sergeant George Raymond Peter CHAUNDY, No. 148 Squadron.

656637 Sergeant George COLEMAN, No. 148 Squadron.

1060948 Sergeant Forbes John FRASER, No. 148 Squadron.

776138 Sergeant Cecil John SCHULMAN, No. 60 Squadron.

Aus.404043 Sergeant John Maxwell SCOTT, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 148 Squadron.

1109053 Sergeant George SOUTER, No. 69 Squadron.

1151774 Sergeant Peter Robert STREET, No. 148 Squadron.

The above awards are for gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

Air Ministry, 23rd March, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

To be Plt. Offs. (temp.) on being employed with the R.A.F. 3rd Feb. 1943:—

Daniel Frederick Rocke EVANS (temp. Capt. Welch R.) (51056).

William Irvine Wilson HUNTER (temp. Capt., Cameronians) (51058).

Frank KENNING (temp. Capt., R.E.M.E.) (51059).

Edward Harry BUTCHER (Lt., R.A.C.) (51055).

James Muir FOSTER (Lt., R.A.) (51057).

Basil Heathcote LEPINE-WILLIAMS (Lt., R.A.) (51063).

Allan Burnett RAE (Lt., R. Fus.) (51060).

George Dennis SYKES (Lt., R.A.) (51061).

Reginald Charles William TOWELL (Lt., R.W.K.) (51062).