



# THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 11th of MAY, 1943

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

FRIDAY, 14 MAY, 1943

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF  
KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1, 14th May, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and the following award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division):—

*To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey Wilson O'Neill Fisher, D.F.C. (42560), Royal Air Force.

*To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Pilot Officer Farnham Hill, D.F.C. (134661), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division):—*

1544738 Leading Aircraftman Arthur George Miles, Royal Air Force.

1047210 Aircraftman 2nd Class Herbert Fletcher, Royal Air Force.

One night in February, 1943, a bomber aircraft crashed in a field on return from an operational flight during which damage had been sustained to the elevator controls. The aircraft broke in two at the rear of the mid-upper turret, and the whole wreckage caught fire. Five members of the crew were able to step out through the gap where the fracture took place, whilst the pilot escaped through his window. Squadron Leader Fisher and Pilot Officer Hill, who had both landed in another aircraft just before the crash, having been on a sortie of 5½ hours' duration, were in the immediate vicinity and rushed to the aircraft. Aircraftman Fletcher, who was on duty with the airfield controller, and Leading Aircraftman Miles, who was engaged at a dispersal point some 100 yards away, also hurried to the scene. Aircraftman Fletcher was the first to arrive and he entered the fuselage, thinking that all members of the crew had been trapped therein. He was joined by Squadron Leader Fisher and Leading Aircraftman Miles, but owing to the intense heat, all were forced to retire. The flight engineer was then found hanging from the pilot's window and unable to move owing to a broken thigh. Aircraftman Fletcher climbed along the port wing in order to render assistance to him. Squadron Leader Fisher, Pilot Officer Hill and Leading Aircraftman Miles all helped, the work being directed by Squadron Leader Fisher. Despite the intense heat and the danger from exploding petrol tanks and ammunition they succeeded in extricating the flight engineer, who had been

trapped in the pilot's cockpit. The initiative and heroic efforts displayed by these officers and airmen undoubtedly saved their comrade's life.

*To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Acting Squadron Leader Frederick Thomas Moore, B.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (23417), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division).*

1479714 Leading Aircraftman Beric Vaughan Icke, Royal Air Force.

One night in March, 1943, an aircraft crashed on a Royal Air Force Station and immediately burst into flames. Squadron Leader Moore (the duty medical officer) saw the accident and, accompanied by Leading Aircraftman Icke, a medical orderly, proceeded to the scene. Squadron Leader Moore directed the removal of the rear gunner, who was dazed and sitting amongst the burning wreckage, to a place of safety. The aircraft was now enveloped in flames and ammunition was exploding. Nevertheless, despite the intense heat and the danger from exploding oxygen bottles this officer and airman entered the burning wreckage in an attempt to rescue another member of the crew who was pinned down. Without any protective clothing they lifted aside the burning wreckage and, with great difficulty, succeeded in extricating the injured man. Squadron Leader Moore rendered first aid to the rescued man. Squadron Leader Moore sustained burns to his chest and hands in carrying out the operation. This officer and airman both displayed courage and devotion to duty in keeping with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

*To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Flying Officer Edwin Morgan (118683), Royal Air Force.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division).*

1635851 Aircraftman 1st Class Joseph Pickering, Royal Air Force.

One day in January, 1943, Flying Officer Morgan and Aircraftman Pickering were master and nursing orderly respectively of the air/sea rescue pinnacle which was repeatedly attacked by enemy aircraft from very close range. During the first attack Flying Officer Morgan's left elbow was shattered by shell splinters and a bullet passed through his right calf. The shock rendered him unconscious for a time. Aircraftman Pickering was also