

Flying Officer Robert Leonard COWEY (126097), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 206 Squadron.

This officer, who has completed a large number of hours flying on anti-submarine patrols, is a determined and enterprising captain. In October, 1942, he successfully attacked a U-boat, whilst on patrol over the Atlantic. Recently he sighted a lifeboat filled with survivors from a torpedoed ship and was instrumental in their subsequent rescue. During a patrol some days later, he pressed home a vigorous attack on a U-boat on the surface. In spite of heavy anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Cowey succeeded in straddling the vessel with depth charges. It immediately sank, leaving several of its crew in the water.

Flying Officer John Mercer HARTLEY (100579), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 58 Squadron.

This officer, who has completed many sorties, has rendered excellent service. Recently he has executed 3 attacks on U-boats, pressing home these operations with great skill and vigour. Flying Officer Hartley, has invariably displayed high courage and great determination.

Flying Officer John Knox MOFFAT (114920), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 120 Squadron.

Whilst engaged on convoy escort duties, Flying Officer Moffat executed a successful attack on a U-boat. In the face of anti-aircraft fire he straddled the vessel with depth charges. It sank almost immediately, leaving some of the crew in the water. Flying Officer Moffat displayed great skill and determination.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Gordon William YOUNG (Can/J.16906), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 90 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

977509 Sergeant Wilfred Howard DAVINE, No. 90 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Young and Sergeant Davine were pilot and rear gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Ruhr one night in May, 1943. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter. Sergeant Davine was wounded in both legs, while his turret was put out of action. Although in great pain he continued to give his pilot a commentary on the attacker's movements. The fighter made repeated attacks but, displaying great skill, Pilot Officer Young eventually evaded it. His aircraft was badly damaged and became difficult to control. Despite this Pilot Officer Young flew it to base and made a safe landing. By his skill and determination he was undoubtedly responsible for the safe return of the aircraft and its crew. In spite of his severe injuries, Sergeant Davine displayed great fortitude and devotion to duty.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

Aus.403980 Sergeant Arthur Frederick BLACKWELL, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 500 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1310462 Flight Sergeant Alfred Sidney KEMPSTER, No. 500 Squadron.

In April, 1943, at night, these airmen were navigator and wireless operator/air gunner respectively of an aircraft the pilot of which was killed by anti-aircraft gunfire. Displaying great promptitude and resource Flight Sergeant Kempster pulled back the control column, while other members of the crew were removing the pilot from his seat, and succeeded in regaining height. His immediate action undoubtedly saved the aircraft from crashing. Sergeant Blackwell then took over the controls and flew the aircraft to base where the remaining members of the crew were enabled to leave the aircraft by parachute. All landed safely. During the return flight Sergeant Blackwell displayed exceptional leadership and captaincy which inspired his comrades in trying circumstances.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1380768 Flight Sergeant Alwyn Berriman DOWNING, No. 600 Squadron.

In April, 1943, this airman piloted an aircraft engaged on patrol over an area of the Mediterranean Sea. Shortly before dawn he observed 5 enemy transport aircraft. Flight Sergeant Downing immediately attacked and, within 4

minutes had shot 4 of them down into the sea. He then engaged and destroyed the remaining aircraft. In achieving this spectacular feat, Flight Sergeant Downing used only half of his ammunition. He displayed great skill, courage and determination.

1312369 Sergeant Roy Jack Hubert HUSSEY, No. 72 Squadron.

In operations in North Africa, this airman took part in a very large number of sorties, including attacks on airfields and road transport. He has invariably displayed fine leadership and great tenacity and has destroyed at least 4 enemy aircraft in combat.

Air Ministry, 1st June, 1943.

AWARDS OF A FOREIGN DECORATION.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for the wearing of the undermentioned decoration, conferred on the personnel indicated in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war:—

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Air Medal.

Acting Squadron Leader Alfred Henry Wynne BALL, D.S.O., D.F.C. (33532).

Flight Lieutenant Murray Crichton Bill ANDERSON, D.F.C. (44673).

Acting Flight Lieutenant Roy Currie BUCHANAN, D.F.C. (N.Z.412199), Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Daniel Murray MCKENZIE (Can/J.8786), Royal Canadian Air Force.

Flying Officer Harold Wallace CLYNE (122934), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Flying Officer Edwin Richard COWAN, D.F.C. (66596) (now deceased).

Flying Officer William Frank RAINS (110557), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (now missing).

Aus.405496 Flight Sergeant Bernard Joseph O'CONNELL, Royal Australian Air Force.

1126030 Flight Sergeant John Percival IREDALE.

1085204 Sergeant Kenneth Burton FORBES.

521698 Sergeant John Frederick SAMSON.

Aus.403825 Sergeant Roy Meldrum TAYLOR, Royal Australian Air Force (now deceased).

Air Ministry, 1st June, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

To be Plt. Offs. (tempy.) on being employed with the R.A.F. 28th Apr. 1943:—

John Charles EVELEIGH, Lt. R.T.R. (51811).
Arthur Raymond Davies PUGH, Lt. R.A. (51812).

Donald Sidney SMITH, Lt. R.A. (51814).

Clifton Ignatius WALTER, Lt. R.A. (51813).

Hugh Edward Griffiths WELLS, Lt. R.A. (51815).

To be Plt. Offs. on prob. (emergency):—

Wt. Offs.

562427 Arthur Ambrose ARGENT (51740). 5th Nov. 1942.

24th Jan. 1943.

563392 Sidney Charles READHEAD (51646).

580811 Kenneth Percy ROBERTS, D.F.M. (51647).

581483 Robert Weavers WARD (51648). 1st Feb. 1943.

560083 John Douglas CHRISTIAN (51741). 20th Mar. 1943.

528923 Peter Stanley HAMPSON (51732). 21st Mar. 1943.

Tempy. Wt. Off.

581457. Rayner Harvey JENKINS (51672). 24th Feb. 1943.

Flt. Sgts.

543803 William Henry COTTERELL, D.F.M. (51720). 16th Dec. 1942.

511515 Harold George Dunthorne PAWSEY (51727). 21st Dec. 1942.

632833 Norman SHERRIFF (51719). 7th Jan. 1943.

567040 Harry Leonard MELLOR (51739). 19th Jan. 1943.

652212 Thomas Coulton LATHAM (51721). 31st Jan. 1943.