

detailed to attack Hanover one night in September, 1943. On the run up to the target the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire. Four members of the crew were wounded and much essential equipment was rendered unserviceable. In spite of this, Flying Officer Wilson resolutely held to his course, enabling Flight Sergeant Porteous to execute a successful bombing attack. On leaving the target, the bomber was intercepted by a fighter which attacked with great persistence. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Wilson succeeded in evading the fighter, being greatly assisted by Flight Sergeant Mulholland who kept his captain fully informed of the attackers' movements. On the return flight, Flight Sergeant Porteous assumed the duties of navigator and executed his task with skill. These members of aircraft crew displayed great courage, skill and tenacity in the most trying circumstances.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Henry JACOBS, D.F.C. (78685), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 141 Squadron.

As observer, this officer has taken part in very many operations at night and has assisted in the destruction of 6 enemy aircraft. He is a model of efficiency and his skilful efforts have been worthy of great praise.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Arthur Allan GLENN, D.F.C. (115232), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 41 Squadron.

This officer has led his flight with exceptional skill and keenness. He is a most determined fighter, whose efforts to destroy the enemy at every opportunity have been highly commendable. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Flight Lieutenant Glenn has destroyed 6 enemy aircraft and damaged several more.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader John Basil WRAY (37874), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 137 Squadron.

In September, 1943, this officer flew the leading aircraft of a section which attacked the lock installation at Hansweert. In the approach to the target his aircraft was damaged by gunfire from the ground but he pressed home a successful attack from a low level. In other sorties, Squadron Leader Wray has successfully attacked airfields and lines of communication. He has displayed great courage and devotion to duty throughout.

Acting Squadron Leader Norman Arthur KYNASTON (89810), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 91 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed great skill and dash. Squadron Leader Kynaston is a first class leader whose keenness to inflict loss on the enemy has been highly commendable. In combat he has destroyed 3 and assisted in the destruction of another enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Michael Seamer ALLEN (120723), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 141 Squadron.

As observer, Flying Officer Allen has undertaken very many sorties at night and has assisted in the destruction of 3 enemy aircraft. This officer has displayed exceptional keenness, skill and determination.

Flying Officer Wilbert George DODD (Can/J.15740), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 402 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, many of them in the Middle East. He is a fine leader, whose great skill and fighting qualities have proved an inspiration to all. Flying Officer Dodd has destroyed at last 4 enemy aircraft. His excellent work during a recent patrol contributed materially to the rescue of 10 airmen who were adrift on the sea.

Flying Officer John Edward McCREA (142538), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 51 Squadron.

In air operations, this officer has displayed courage, skill and fortitude of a high order.

Flying Officer Harrison Taylor MOSSIP (Can/J.15927), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 1 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken very many sorties during which he has attacked 19 locomotives and 10 barges with damaging effect. Flying Officer Mossip has invariably pressed home his attacks with great vigour, often in the face of heavy

anti-aircraft opposition. His thoroughness and resolution have won high praise.

Pilot Officer Joel Hilton ASHTON (Can/J.17890), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 137 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, including successful attacks on airfields, shipping and rail communications. He has displayed great skill and determination, setting an example worthy of high praise. These qualities were well illustrated in a recent attack on an installation at Hansweert. Pilot Officer Ashton attacked his objective from such a low level that his aircraft was struck in several places by the flying debris.

Pilot Officer Arthur Bruce SIMPSON (Aus.408881), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Warrant Officer Raymond Carson WATTS (Aus.401842), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Simpson and Warrant Officer Watts were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Hanover one night in October, 1943. When approaching the target the aircraft was struck by what is believed to have been an enemy fighter which tore away the nose of the bomb aimer's compartment; 2 engines were also damaged. By a superb effort, Pilot Officer Simpson retained control, and afterwards succeeded in evading 2 fighters which flew in to attack. Despite the loss of essential equipment, Warrant Officer Watts unerringly guided his pilot to base where a safe landing was effected. Throughout the return flight, Pilot Officer Simpson and Warrant Officer Watts suffered intense cold, owing to the wind which blew through the torn structure, and their hands were frost-bitten. In the face of a trying ordeal these members of aircraft crew displayed great skill, courage and fortitude.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1315458 Sergeant Reginald HEBDITCH, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 101 Squadron.

1397166 Sergeant Geoffrey Gordon WHITTLE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 101 Squadron.

Sergeants Hebditch and Whittle were wireless operator/air gunner and navigator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Hanover one night in September, 1943. Whilst over the target, the bomber was hit by cannon fire. Extensive damage was sustained and a fire started amidships. With commendable promptitude, Sergeant Hebditch assisted in quelling the outbreak and then went aft to try to repair the inter-communication gear which was unserviceable. His task became very exhausting owing to the lack of oxygen but he persisted in his efforts and repaired the apparatus sufficiently to restore partial communication. Despite the seriousness of the situation, Sergeant Whittle displayed great coolness and unerringly guided the crippled bomber on its homeward course. By their skill, courage and wholehearted co-operation, these airmen set a splendid example in circumstances of great danger.

1379842 Sergeant Wallis Harry MULLETT, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 9 Squadron.

Sergeant Mullett, who has taken part in numerous sorties, is an exceptionally keen and determined air gunner. One night in October, 1943, he was a member of the crew of an aircraft which attacked Kassel. Whilst over the target, the bomber was hit by a burst of machine gun fire from a fighter and the mid-upper gunner was killed, while the oxygen and electrical heating apparatus connections to the rear of the aircraft were severed. Sergeant Mullett engaged the attacker, however, and shot it down. Afterwards, he lost consciousness owing to lack of oxygen and of heat and did not recover for some time. This airman displayed great resolution and devotion to duty.

*Air Ministry, 5th November, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Charles Woodbine PARISH (81927), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 7 Squadron (deceased). Awarded with effect from 14th March 1943.