

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

Acting Warrant Officer Edward Sydney ELLIS (1292427), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 625 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, Warrant Officer Ellis was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. During the initial bombing run the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, which injured the rear gunner and rendered his turret unserviceable. Warrant Officer Ellis maintained a steady run, however, and made his first attack. Just as the first bombs had been released the aircraft was raked by bullets from a fighter and the rear gunner sustained a further injury; the mid-upper gunner was also wounded. Although the enemy delivered another long burst of fire, Warrant Officer Ellis continued his run and attacked the target exactly as planned. On leaving the target area it was discovered that much damage had been sustained. The inter-communication and hydraulic systems and the turrets were all unserviceable. The mainplane and the fuselage had been damaged, while the bomb doors could not be closed. In spite of this, Warrant Officer Ellis flew on and eventually reached an air field in this country, landing his aircraft safely without the aid of flaps and in spite of punctured tyres. In harassing circumstances, this pilot displayed skill, courage and devotion to duty beyond praise.

Can/R.191205 Sergeant George William MEADOWS, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 166 Squadron.

This airman was the rear gunner of a bomber detailed to attack Berlin one night in November, 1943. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Bullets from the enemy aircraft hit and damaged the mid-upper and rear turrets. One bullet struck Sergeant Meadows in the back. It was deflected by the wiring in his electrically heated clothing and came out in the groin. Another attack developed and the mid-upper gunner, the wireless operator and the navigator were wounded. Despite his injury, Sergeant Meadows remained in his turret and, by his excellent co-operation with his pilot, together with his good shooting, beat off a further 8 attacks by fighters. This airman displayed skill, courage and fortitude of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus.409290 Flight Sergeant Frank Colson CALLANDER, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 10 Squadron.

This airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft which was engaged by 6 Junkers 88's in the course of an anti-submarine patrol. In the first attack, Flight Sergeant Callander was wounded in both legs. Despite this, he remained in his turret and delivered a long and accurate burst of fire which hit one of the enemy aircraft. Flight Sergeant Callander set a fine example of courage and determination.

Aus.412453 Flight Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) William Arthur KIRK, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 90 Squadron.

This airman was the pilot of an aircraft which attacked Kassel one night in October, 1943. When nearing the target the aircraft was intercepted by a fighter. In the ensuing fight, Flight Sergeant Kirk's aircraft was repeatedly hit by the enemy's machine-gun fire which damaged the mid-upper and rear gun turrets and started a fire in the fuselage. Nevertheless, when the engagement terminated, Flight Sergeant Kirk flew on to the target and bombed it. On the return flight it was difficult to maintain course and air speed owing to the damage sustained but Flight Sergeant Kirk succeeded in reaching base. This airman set a fine example of skill, courage and determination.

1323130 Sergeant Donald Sidney HAWKES, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

One night in October, 1943, this airman was the flight engineer of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Rhineland. Whilst over the target area one of the aircraft's engines was hit. Sergeant Hawkes immediately feathered the damaged engine and, whilst his pilot was endeavouring to regain control of the aircraft which was losing height, made his way to the emergency system and closed the bomb doors by means of the hand pump. The pilot regained control when the aircraft had fallen to 6,000 feet and afterwards flew safely to base. By his promptitude and coolness, Sergeant Kirk set an excellent example. This airman has

completed a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed great keenness and devotion to duty.

1521808 Sergeant Glyn JONES, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 90 Squadron.

One night in October, 1943, this airman was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft which attacked Kassel. When nearing the target the aircraft was engaged by a fighter and was repeatedly hit by the enemy's machine-gun fire. Sergeant Jones' turret was damaged and a fire started just below it. Disregarding the smoke he remained at his post and operated his turret manually to fire his guns at the attacker. In harassing circumstances he displayed great coolness and determination.

635371 Sergeant Thomas KENNEDY, Royal Air Force, No. 158 Squadron.

As flight engineer, Sergeant Kennedy has participated in many sorties, including attacks on Berlin, Hanover and various targets in the Ruhr. He has displayed a high degree of skill and his efforts have contributed materially to the successes obtained. On one occasion, when nearing the enemy coast on the return flight from Dusseldorf, one of the aircraft's propellers fell away. It pierced the fuselage by the engineer's position and destroyed the instrument panel. Nevertheless, Sergeant Kennedy proved his skill by successfully manipulating the fuel and cooling systems without the aid of any gauges. His efforts contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft.

Air Ministry, 24th December, 1943.

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

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Denis CROWLEY-MILLING, D.F.C. (78274), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Simon Napier Leslie MAUDE, D.F.C. (37865), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

Flying Officer George Alexander TURNER, D.F.C. (115613), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 107 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Derek Ronald WALKER (39952), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 182 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Thomas James BUDDLE (112430), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 155 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Gerald John GRAY (88209), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 247 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Dennis WINTON (88722), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 155 Squadron.

Flying Officer Douglas STILLIARD (61073), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 20 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Ronald Charles CHATFIELD (155345), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 107 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Arthur LIDDLE, D.F.M. (155549), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 107 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

653982 Flight Sergeant John Joseph TAYLOR, Royal Air Force, No. 20 Squadron.

988502 Flight Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) Peter Barrington WHARTON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 95 Squadron.

548985 Sergeant William McTAGGART, Royal Air Force, No. 204 Squadron.

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

Air Ministry, 24th December, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Promotion.

The undermtd. are granted the rank of Gp. Capt. (war subs.):—

Air Cdre. (temp.) F. J. FOGARTY, D.F.C., A.F.C. 1st Dec. 1943.

Gp. Capt. (temp.):—

G. S. HODSON, C.B.E., A.F.C. 1st May 1943.

A. R. WARDLE, A.F.C. 20th Oct. 1943.