

by a fighter. The hydraulic gear and the star-board inner propeller were damaged; the electrical circuits were also damaged, causing a failure of the lighting and heating systems. In no way deterred, Flight Lieutenant Ludford flew on to the target and made a successful attack, afterwards flying safely to base with bomb doors open. This officer displayed praiseworthy courage and determination. He has completed many sorties, including 8 attacks on Berlin.

Flying Officer Kenneth Thornby ASHFIELD (157397), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 415 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flying Officer George Norman BROWN (161239), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 415 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As pilot and observer respectively, Flying Officers Ashfield and Brown have completed very many sorties, including a number of anti-submarine patrols and attacks on enemy shipping. Their successes include destructive attacks on 2 merchantmen, one of large and the other of medium tonnage. In each fight, Flying Officers Ashfield and Brown pressed home their attacks with great determination and the results obtained were a tribute to their accurate bombing. They have proved themselves to be skilful and courageous members of aircraft crew.

Flying Officer Bernard Charles ROBERTS (156708), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 248 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous sorties and has displayed a high standard of gallantry and resolution. In April, 1944, he flew the leading aircraft of a formation which attacked a U-boat, escorted by a sperrbrecher, 2 more armed ships, 2 minesweepers and 12 Junkers 88s. In spite of the heavy opposition, Flying Officer Roberts obtained many hits on the stern of the submarine in a well timed co-ordinated attack. He afterwards made another attack, single-handed, and in the face of the combined fire of all the escorting vessels, pressing home his attack and obtaining more hits on the U-boat on and below the water line. Throughout this spirited action this officer displayed great skill, courage and determination.

Flying Officer Frank Albert THOMAS (134130), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 57 Squadron.

Flying Officer Thomas has taken part in very many attacks on heavily defended targets in Germany and has displayed commendable skill, courage and devotion to duty. One night in March, he was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Although one engine failed on the outward flight, Flying Officer Thomas flew on to the target which he attacked with his usual determination. On two other occasions recently, this pilot has proved his skill by successfully attacking his targets despite technical difficulties.

Flying Officer Gerald Norman Edgar YEATES (128485), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 248 Squadron.

In April, 1944, this officer piloted one of a formation of aircraft which attacked a U-boat, strongly escorted by 3 armed ships, 2 minesweepers and 12 Junkers 88s. In the fight, Flying

Officer Yeates attacked the most powerfully armed of the escorting vessels and completely silenced its guns at the critical moment. He then engaged one of the enemy aircraft which he shot down. His determined and gallant efforts contributed materially to the success of the operation. This officer has completed many sorties and has invariably displayed unflinching devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer Earl William BOAL (Can/J.85009), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As observer, Pilot Officer Boal has taken part in numerous sorties and has assisted in the destruction of six enemy aircraft. He is a highly skilled and gallant member of aircraft crew and his example both in the air and on the ground has been worthy of emulation.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1321801 Flight Sergeant Sidney Ronald GILLEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 211 Squadron.

As navigator this airman has participated in very many sorties and throughout has displayed commendable keenness and efficiency. On one occasion the aircraft in which he was a member of the crew was badly damaged when hit by enemy fire. Height could not be maintained but the pilot brought the aircraft down on to the sea very close to the shore. Within a few days, Flight Sergeant Gilley had resumed flying and had taken part in 2 successful attacks on airfields and 1 on shipping. His accurate navigation over difficult terrain contributed materially to the success of these sorties.

*Department of National Defence for Air.
Ottawa, 12th May, 1944.*

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the following personnel who have been Mentioned in Despatches:—

Flying Officer L. H. SHEBESKI (Can/J.10314).
Flying Officer W. E. THOMAS (Can/J.14456).

Government House, Canberra, 12th May, 1944.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award *with effect from 27th April, 1944*, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy in the South-West Pacific area:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Alexander MILLER-RANDLE (Aus. 416170).

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 14th December, 1943, concerning award conferred by the Belgian Government (p. 5438, col. 1) for Croix de Guerre, First Class, read Croix Militaire, First Class.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

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1944

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S.O. Code No. 65-36511