

suffering considerably. Upon recovery, several months afterwards, this airman resumed flying and has executed his tasks with the same keenness and determination. On one occasion, whilst over Turin, Flight Sergeant McGrevy was injured. In spite of this he continued his duties and, later on the return flight, when an acute shortage of petrol developed he controlled the supply with great skill. His efforts contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. This airman has set an example of the highest order.

1577706 Flight Sergeant Charles Ralph WALE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 149 Squadron.

As rear gunner, Flight Sergeant Wale has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on a variety of well defended targets in Germany. Throughout he has displayed great keenness and devotion to duty, setting a fine example. On one occasion his aircraft was attacked by 2 enemy aircraft, one of which he shot down from close range. He has proved himself to be a most dependable member of aircraft crew.

1278411 Sergeant Ivor Donald HANCOCKS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

This airman has completed a large number of sorties in the role of rear gunner. On several occasions his aircraft has been engaged by enemy fighters but Sergeant Hancock has fought with great skill and coolness and his good shooting has played a worthy part in warding off the attackers. During a sortie one night in April, 1944, his aircraft was intercepted by a fighter. In the ensuing

fight, Sergeant Hancock gave excellent directions to his pilot who was enabled to evade the enemy's fire. Then following a most effective burst of fire from Sergeant Hancock's guns, the enemy aircraft exploded in the air. His vigilance, coolness and good marksmanship on this occasion were worthy of great praise.

—  
*Air Ministry, 16th May, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallant and distinguished service:—

*Bar to Military Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Forest Frederick Edward YEOTHOMAS, M.C. (89215), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

*Military Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Oliver Lawrence Spurling PHILPOT, D.F.C. (88131), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Flight Lieutenant Allan Frank McSWEYN (Aus. 402005), Royal Australian Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Howard Douglas WARDLE (41761), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

*Military Medal.*

1265632 Sergeant Alfred Roy COTTLE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

613614 Corporal James Reginald SMITH, Royal Air Force.

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