

landing. This officer has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and tenacity. In air fighting he has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant Eric Robert Alfred ROBERTS (100070), R.A.F.V.R., 609 Sqn.

This officer is a most efficient and devoted flight commander. He has participated in very many attacks on targets such as enemy shipping, airfields and mechanical transport with good results. His keenness and determination throughout have been most commendable.

Flight Lieutenant Denis John Henry SWEETING (115348), R.A.F.V.R., 198 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties during which he has attacked numerous locomotives, tugs and barges with good results; he has also taken part in many successful attacks on military installations. He has set a fine example of skill, bravery and devotion to duty throughout.

Flight Lieutenant Stanley George NUNN (81935), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

Flying Officer James Matthew CARLIN (148371), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

One afternoon in July, 1944, these officers were pilot and navigator respectively of the leading aircraft of a section detailed to escort a naval force. During the operation, Flight Lieutenant Nunn engaged a Heinkel 177, obtaining hits on the port engine nacelle which burst into flames. In the fight both Flight Lieutenant Nunn and Flying Officer Carlin were wounded, whilst their aircraft sustained damage. Nevertheless, they displayed great skill and determination and the damaged aircraft was flown safely to base. These officers have completed many sorties and have set a fine example of devotion to duty throughout.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Leopold Rosario BROCHU (Can/J.85412), R.C.A.F., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in June, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack a target in Northern France. En route to the target the aircraft was struck by anti-aircraft fire. A large hole was torn in the bomb aimer's compartment and much equipment was rendered unserviceable by shell fragments. The rigging was damaged which affected a wing. Despite this, Flight Lieutenant Brochu went on to the target and executed his attack. This officer has completed many sorties and has invariably displayed a high standard of skill and courage.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Kitchener HAYWARD (Can/J.12324), R.C.A.F., 411 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of varied sorties. He has displayed a high degree of skill and courage and his example has been most inspiring. He is a bold and resolute fighter and has shot down four enemy aircraft.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Russell William ORR (Can/J.9930), R.C.A.F., 411 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has proved himself to be a highly efficient flight commander. He has taken part in very many sorties and has attacked his targets determinedly and effectively. On many occasions he has led the squadron and his ability has played a good part in the successes obtained.

Flying Officer Hugh Chicheley BALLANCE (80450), R.A.F.V.R., 266 Sqn.

This officer has completed many sorties on his second tour of operational duty, involving successful attacks on the enemy's railway installations, mechanical transport, airfields and radar targets. He has displayed commendable skill and courage and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching.

Flying Officer Charles Derek ERASMUS (160102), R.A.F.V.R., 266 Sqn.

This officer is a skilful and resolute pilot. He has taken part in a large number of sorties, including numerous attacks on enemy shipping. He is an extremely able and gallant leader and his excellent work has contributed materially to the success of the squadron. Flying Officer Erasmus has destroyed two and assisted in the destruction of two more enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer John Arthur HOULTON (N.Z.413543), R.N.Z.A.F., 485 (N.Z.) Sqn.

Flying Officer Houlton has completed a very large number of varied sorties and has displayed notable skill and determination throughout. He has shot down four enemy aircraft, three of them within a short period recently.

Flying Officer William Angus JACKS (145426), R.A.F.V.R., 77 Sqn.

In air operations this officer has displayed skill, courage and fortitude in keeping with the best traditions of the Royal Air Force.

Flying Officer William Thomas KLEESY (Can/J.12199), R.C.A.F., 401 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has displayed the greatest keenness for operations. He has participated in a large number of sorties, on many of which he has led the flight with distinction. He is a most determined fighter and has shot down three enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Harvey James POWELL (Can/J.17055), R.C.A.F., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As air gunner, this officer has participated in a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on such well defended targets as Berlin, Hamburg and centres in the Ruhr area. He is a valiant and resourceful member of aircraft crew and his gunnery skill has, on more than one occasion, contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. His devotion to duty has been unflinching.

Pilot Officer Harold John KING (N.Z.421725), R.N.Z.A.F., 158 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, involving attacks on most of the enemy's heavily defended targets in Germany and, more recently, attacks on various targets in Northern France. On his first sortie the objective was Berlin. At the outset of the operation one of the navigational instruments became unserviceable. In spite of this, Pilot Officer King proved his ability and guided his pilot to the target and home with great accuracy. In July, 1944, Pilot Officer King was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack an objective. During the operation he was hit in the leg by shrapnel. Nevertheless, he insisted on fulfilling his duty and navigated the aircraft home. Throughout his operational career this officer has displayed a high standard of skill, gallantry and resolution.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.210110 Flight Sergeant John William CUMBERS, R.C.A.F., 424 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Sergeant Cumbers is a most resolute and gallant air gunner. He has taken part in very many sorties and has played a worthy part in the successes obtained. On a recent occasion, when returning from an operation against Villeneuve-St.-Georges, his aircraft was attacked by a fighter. As the attacker closed in, Flight Sergeant Cumbers delivered a burst of fire which struck the enemy aircraft, setting it on fire. His coolness and determination were characteristic of that which he has shown throughout his tour of operational duty.

658425 Flight Sergeant Peter George DEAVES, R.A.F., 613 Sqn.

As observer this airman has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on airfields, railway installations, mechanical transport and other military targets both by day and night. He has displayed great skill and co-operation and his excellent work has contributed in good measure to the successes obtained. He has set a fine example to all.

605500 Flight Sergeant Lincoln Orville LYNCH, R.A.F., 102 Sqn.

As air gunner, Flight Sergeant Lynch has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed a high standard of determination and devotion to duty throughout. He has defended his aircraft with great skill on several occasions against enemy fighters, one of which he shot down on his first sortie. His conduct has at all times been exemplary and he has proved himself to be a worthy member of a fine crew.

N.Z.421943 Flight Sergeant Keith SMITH, R.N.Z.A.F., 158 Sqn.

This airman has taken part in very many sorties and has set an excellent example of coolness, courage and discipline. He is a most efficient bomb aimer and the many photographs he has secured are an excellent proof of the accuracy of his bombing. On the 1st July, 1944, he took part in an attack on a target in daylight. When over the target area the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire which wounded the navigator and caused a container of small arms ammunition to explode. In spite of this, Flight Sergeant Smith coolly