

their great skill and resolution, however, by successfully evacuating a large number of personnel. They displayed devotion to duty of the highest order.

Flight Lieutenant Charles Alexander WHYATT (127154), R.A.F.V.R., 252 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Whyatt has consistently displayed enterprise, determination and courage of a high order in all his operational undertakings. He has participated in many attacks on enemy shipping on which numerous vessels of varying type have been hit. One night in July, 1944, Flight Lieutenant Whyatt attacked a small merchantman which was heavily escorted. In spite of a fierce barrage, he pressed home his attack. He obtained hits which set the vessel on fire.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Erle Thomas BROUGH (N.Z.412197), R.N.Z.A.F., 182 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Brough has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and determination to engage the enemy. His ability as a flight commander has been outstanding. During August, 1944, he led three very successful attacks on enemy tanks and armoured vehicles. These attacks were pressed home with great determination, despite heavy opposition from the enemy's ground defences. Much damage was inflicted on the enemy. Four tanks and nine armoured vehicles were destroyed and a number of others damaged. Flight Lieutenant Brough has completed many sorties against a variety of targets.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Alexander Stewart CRUMP (53357), R.A.F., 644 Sqn.

As flight engineer this officer has participated in a large number of sorties, some of them in connection with the air operations in support of the allied landing in Normandy. His efficiency has always been evident and his strong sense of discipline and zeal have set a fine example to all.

Flying Officer John Oswald BIRCH (Can/J.23888), R.C.A.F., 103 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. At the commencement of the bombing run the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The starboard fin and rudder and a portion of the tail plane and elevator were shot away. The mid-upper and rear turrets were rendered unserviceable. A fuel tank was pierced, whilst much damage was sustained to the control surfaces. In spite of this, Flying Officer Birch executed his attack. On the long flight home it was very difficult to maintain control and it was necessary for another member of the crew to assist by maintaining pressure on the rudder controls, but an airfield was eventually reached and a safe landing effected. In most difficult circumstances, Flying Officer Birch displayed notable skill, courage and tenacity.

Flying Officer Charles Stewart COSSAR (169110), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

This officer has taken part in very many operational sorties and has led his flight with great skill and ability. One morning in July, 1944, he was flight leader in an attack on enemy mortar positions near Cussy. Despite intense and accurate enemy fire the target was successfully bombed. Flying Officer Cossar is a cool and efficient leader and has at all times displayed courage and skill of a high order.

Flying Officer Clarence Joseph KIRKPATRICK (Can/J.20662), R.C.A.F., 406 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As observer this officer has participated in a large number of sorties. Several of them were over the Normandy beachhead and 3 locomotives, 2 heavily laden barges and some trucks were effectively attacked. Throughout these operations, Flying Officer Kirkpatrick displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation and played a good part in the successes obtained. In air fighting he has assisted in the destruction of 4 enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Donald William MILLER (111751), R.A.F.V.R., 644 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer was a gunner in an aircraft detailed for an operational mission. During the flight an enemy aircraft was encountered closing in. Flying Officer Miller promptly engaged the enemy aircraft which he shot down with his second burst of fire. A little later, Flying Officer Miller engaged another enemy

aircraft and caused its destruction. This officer has displayed exceptional keenness and ability and is a most valuable member of aircraft crew.

Flying Officer Thomas Lloyd STEELE (Can/J.20246), R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties and has displayed commendable courage and devotion to duty throughout. He is a navigator of high merit whose ability has been an important factor in the successes obtained. His conduct has at all times been exemplary.

Flying Officer Alistair William STEPHENS (Can/J.21661), R.C.A.F., 299 Sqn.

This officer has completed numerous difficult sorties and has displayed a high degree of skill, determination and devotion to duty throughout. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with great accuracy, often in the face of considerable anti-aircraft fire. On one occasion whilst over the target his aircraft was hit and the propeller of one engine flew off. Despite this, Flying Officer Stephens made two runs over the target to ensure accuracy of bombing.

Flying Officer Donald Hall SUTHERLAND (169083), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

Flying Officer Sutherland has completed many sorties against a wide range of targets. On a recent sortie his aircraft was hit and severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire. Despite this he flew the aircraft back to base. A few hours later he attacked the same target, when his aircraft was again hit. This officer has proved himself a most skilful pilot and he has at all times displayed great courage and determination.

*Flying Officer Ronald William George VAUGHAN (142855), R.A.F.V.R., 210 Sqn.

In July, 1944, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which successfully engaged and destroyed a U-boat. In the face of fierce fire from the submarine, Flying Officer Vaughan pressed home his attack with great skill and determination and obtained a perfect straddle with his depth charges. In the fight the aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained severe damage, but Flying Officer Vaughan flew it back to base. This officer displayed a high degree of courage and determination throughout.

Acting Flying Officer Charles Edward ANSLEY (N.Z.422094), R.N.Z.A.F., 103 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. Some distance from the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained much damage. The starboard rudder control was smashed. The starboard elevator, fin and mainplane were damaged. Coolly and skilfully, Flying Officer Ansley manoeuvred and his gunners were enabled to open fire from good positions. Their bullets struck the attacker which burst into flames and fell out of control. A little later, another enemy aircraft closed in but it was driven off. Flying Officer Ansley then went on to the target and bombed it and afterwards flew his badly damaged aircraft to base. This officer displayed great skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Flying Officer Norman Robertson WISHART (177530), R.A.F.V.R., 614 Sqn.

Flying Officer Wishart has participated in very many sorties during which he has successfully attacked a variety of well defended targets. On one occasion, when over Berlin, 2 engines became unserviceable. The aircraft went into a spiral dive. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Wishart regained control, continued his bombing run and made a successful attack. This officer has invariably displayed notable skill and resolution.

Pilot Officer Ralph Gordon BULLIVANT (Can/J.86703), R.C.A.F. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties on his second tour of operational duty. He is a cool, confident and skilful air gunner and has displayed a worthy part in the defence of his aircraft. One night in July, 1944, whilst over enemy territory his aircraft was attacked by a Junkers 88. In the ensuing fight Pilot Officer Bullivant co-operated excellently with his co-gunner and their good shooting caused the destruction of the enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Charles Blackley HAMILTON (174685), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

Pilot Officer Hamilton is a highly skilled, resolute and keen observer. He has participated in