

skill and fortitude under fire. On a recent sortie, his aircraft was attacked and badly damaged by enemy night fighters. Although suffering from lack of oxygen the supply of which had been damaged, he resolutely gave his pilot skilful evasive instructions and continued to engage the enemy with the one remaining serviceable gun. His efficiency and determination are highly commendable.

Captain William Edward SENN (47585V.), S.A.A.F., 31 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in August, 1944, Captain Senn was detailed for a special operation. When he reached the area of his objective his aircraft was subjected to intense fire from the ground defences causing severe damage. Captain Senn was wounded in the left thigh and part of his equipment was damaged. The maps and charts were rendered useless so the return flight was made with the aid of a pre-flight plan and the use of wireless. This officer has completed many sorties and has at all times displayed exceptional courage and determination.

Acting Flying Officer Ralph John CHILCOTT (Aus. 422135), R.A.A.F., 158 Sqn.

In July, 1944, Flying Officer Chilcott was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Rhine. Whilst over the target heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained much damage. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Chilcott pressed home his attack and successfully completed his mission. This officer has completed very many sorties and has at all times displayed qualities of courage, determination and leadership.

Acting Flying Officer James Robert CURRIE, R.A.F.V.R. (182131), 77 Sqn.

Flying Officer Currie was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Nordstern in September, 1944. When over the target the aircraft was repeatedly hit by anti-aircraft fire, but the mission was successfully completed. Much damage had been sustained. The fuselage was riddled, the compasses were rendered unserviceable and two petrol tanks were pierced. The port inner engine had been hit and one cylinder shot away. Despite this, course was set for home. Height was being gradually lost but Flying Officer Currie succeeded in reaching this country. Soon after crossing the coast the starboard outer propeller and reduction gear flew off. Flying Officer Currie managed to maintain height sufficiently for him to reach a nearby airfield, and he effected a safe landing. This officer displayed outstanding skill, great courage and tenacity in most difficult circumstances.

Acting Flying Officer William Charles FREESTONE (175824), R.A.F.V.R., 44 Sqn.

Flying Officer Freestone has taken part in numerous sorties, many of which have been against difficult and dangerous targets. One night in August, 1944, he was detailed to lay mines in enemy waters. The accuracy and skill with which the mission was completed testifies to the splendid morale which this officer has instilled in his crew. Flying Officer Freestone has at all times pressed home his attacks with courage and determination despite intense opposition from enemy fighters and ground defences.

Acting Flying Officer Neil Hayes HUDSON (Aus. 413137), R.A.A.F., 460 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in August, 1944, this officer was pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Stettin. When over the target area his aircraft collided with another unidentified aircraft and sustained serious damage. An engine was put out of action, whilst another was vibrating badly and giving little power. Both port and starboard fins were damaged and the rear turret was rendered unserviceable. The aircraft fell out of control and lost a great deal of height. However, Flying Officer Hudson regained control and displaying great courage and determination continued on to bomb his objective. Course was set for base and after a difficult and hazardous flight of several hours an excellent landing was made at an emergency airfield. Flying Officer Hudson has completed many sorties and he has at all times displayed fine captaincy and strength of purpose.

Acting Flying Officer Welland Thomas JENNINGS (Can/J.85173), R.C.A.F., 90 Sqn.

One night in September, 1944, this officer was pilot of an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying

operation. When more than 200 miles from the target the aircraft came under anti-aircraft fire and was hit. The starboard mainplane, aileron and flap were damaged, making the aircraft difficult to control. Some airspeed was lost. Nevertheless Flying Officer Jennings flew on to the target to complete his task and afterwards returned to base where he made a safe landing under difficult conditions. His determination was typical of that which he has shown throughout his tour.

Acting Flying Officer Russell Edward JOHNSON (Can/J.87545), 158 Sqn.

One night in June, 1944, Flying Officer Johnson was detailed to attack the railway sidings at Versailles. When nearing the target the aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter. Before the enemy aircraft could be evaded much damage was sustained. The fuselage was riddled by cannon fire. The elevator and rudder controls were damaged. The rear turret was shattered and the gunner was killed. In spite of this, Flying Officer Johnson went on to the target which he attacked successfully and afterwards flew his damaged aircraft safely home. Throughout his operational tour Flying Officer Johnson has consistently displayed courage and determination and his leadership has been an inspiration to all.

Pilot Officer Herbert Andrew FAWCETT (Can/J.86875), R.C.A.F., 139 Sqn.

One night in September, 1944, Pilot Officer Fawcett was detailed to attack Berlin. During the bombing run the aircraft was illuminated by searchlights and subjected to heavy anti-aircraft fire. Despite this, Pilot Officer Fawcett maintained a steady run. His aircraft was hit, however, and sustained much damage. The hydraulic system was put out of action and the port engine rendered useless. Nevertheless, this pilot turned for home and eventually flew his damaged aircraft to an airfield in this country and effected a safe landing with the undercarriage retracted. This officer has completed very many sorties, 14 of them against the German capital. He has invariably displayed outstanding courage and devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer Stanley Bruce MCKILLOP (Can/J.85711), R.C.A.F., 415 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Pilot Officer McKillop has participated in very many sorties as navigator against strongly defended enemy targets. He has at all times displayed a high degree of skill and determination and his ability to guide his pilot to the target without fail has contributed largely to the successes achieved. On one occasion his aircraft was attacked by enemy night fighters. In the ensuing combat the aircraft was damaged and the navigational aids were rendered useless. Nevertheless this officer skilfully guided the aircraft to the target and back to base. The calmness and reliability of this officer in the face of the enemy have been an inspiration to the crews with whom he has flown.

Acting Warrant Officer Mark AZOUZ (1398796), R.A.F.V.R., 196 Sqn.

One night in August, 1944, this Warrant Officer was detailed for an operation over the Brest Peninsula. In the run-in to the target the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The propeller and reduction gear of the starboard outer engine were shot away. The ailerons were damaged and other parts of the aircraft were struck by fragments of shell. Despite this, Warrant Officer Azouz successfully completed his mission and returned safely to base. This pilot has set a fine example of gallantry and devotion to duty.

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Warrant Officer John Ernest FARQUHARSON (Can/R.144254), R.C.A.F., 622 Sqn.

#### *Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).*

1600604 Flight Sergeant Anthony Clifford COLE, R.A.F.V.R., 622 Sqn.

In August, 1944, Warrant Officer Farquharson and Flight Sergeant Cole were navigator and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Stettin. On the return flight the aircraft was intercepted and severely damaged by an enemy fighter. Although seriously wounded and in great pain, Warrant Officer Farquharson continued his navigational duties but was finally persuaded to be removed to a rest bed where he was given an injection of morphia. Meantime, Flight Sergeant Cole although injured in the thigh