

Flight Lieutenant Brian Pouncefoote LEGGE (41936), R.A.F.O., 575 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and throughout has displayed efficiency and zeal of a high standard. One evening in September, 1944, he piloted an aircraft on a mission involving the dropping of supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem. When approaching the target, the aircraft came under anti-aircraft fire and was hit in several places. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Legge went on to the dropping zone and released his containers with precision. Shortly afterwards the aircraft was again hit. Flight Lieutenant Legge was severely wounded in the leg; his co-pilot was also wounded. Undaunted Flight Lieutenant Legge remained at the controls. Although suffering severe pain and becoming weak through loss of blood he flew the aircraft to base where he effected a safe landing in difficult conditions. This officer displayed great courage and fortitude and was undoubtedly responsible for the safe return of the aircraft and its crew.

Flight Lieutenant Martin Reay Sutherland MACKAY (R31570), R.A.F.V.R., 48 Sqn

This officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed for a sortie, entailing the dropping of supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem in September, 1944. In the first run-in to the target the aircraft came under considerable fire from the enemy's ground defences. The starboard engine was hit. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Mackay made a second run over the dropping zone to release all his containers. Despite the loss of engine power, this resolute captain flew the aircraft to base where he effected a masterly landing. This officer has completed numerous sorties and has invariably displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant William Burton PEARSON (124680), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

This officer has completed a number of successful sorties in connection with airborne operations and has invariably displayed a high degree of gallantry and resolution. On one occasion, in September, 1944, he piloted an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our troops in the vicinity of Arnhem. Whilst over the dropping zone considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Flight Lieutenant Pearson's aircraft was hit and badly damaged. Nevertheless, this gallant pilot made two runs over the target to ensure that all his panniers were released. He afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base and brought it down safely.

Flight Lieutenant Albert Ernest SAUNDERS (89578), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

This officer has participated in numerous sorties and has set a fine example of skill and resolution. In September, 1944, he was a pilot in an aircraft which towed a glider during the airborne operations against Arnhem. When nearing the landing zone, the aircraft was badly hit and caught fire. The situation was extremely serious but, with the utmost coolness and with complete disregard for his welfare, Flight Lieutenant Saunders executed a successful crash landing. He was trapped in the cockpit but was thrown clear when the aircraft exploded. He sustained serious injuries and was badly burned. In the face of extreme danger this officer displayed courage and devotion to duty of a high order.

Flying Officer Alexander McPherson CAMPBELL (143672), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to troops in the Arnhem area. In spite of a hail of light anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Campbell released all his supplies, making 2 runs over the target to accomplish this task. His aircraft had been repeatedly hit. One engine was put out of action and the aileron control had been rendered inoperative. Nevertheless, this resolute and gallant pilot flew the aircraft to base and touched down safely. This officer has completed numerous sorties and has invariably displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Samuel Stevenson FINLAY (Can/J. 14734), R.C.A.F., 48 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our forces near Arnhem. After the containers had been suc-

cessfully dropped and course had been set for home the aircraft was attacked by fighters. Although Flying Officer Finlay manoeuvred with much skill his aircraft was hit by a hail of bullets. The starboard engine was put out of action. The starboard wing and part of the fuselage were set on fire. All attempts to extinguish the flames were unsuccessful. The port engine now became erratic. Flying Officer Finlay decided to attempt a crash landing. In spite of fumes and smoke which partially obscured his vision, this resolute pilot brought the aircraft down safely without injury to any of his crew. He set a splendid example of coolness, courage and determination in perilous circumstances.

Flying Officer Bruce Layton GILBERT (177250), R.A.F.V.R., 197 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and has set a splendid example of determination and devotion to duty throughout. In attacks on such targets as railway junctions, airfields, shipping, bridges and roads, Flying Officer Gilbert has invariably pressed home his attacks relentlessly. Among his successes is the destruction of a good number of mechanical vehicles.

Flying Officer Gerald Purvis HAGERMAN (Can/J. 14437), R.C.A.F., 437 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem. In the face of intense concentrated anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Hagerman displayed exceptional resolution in executing two successful runs over the target to release all his containers successfully. Later, after leaving the target area, the aircraft was involved in a fight with six enemy aircraft. Such extensive damage was sustained that it became necessary to leave the aircraft by parachute. When he was satisfied that the remaining members of his crew had left, Flying Officer Hagerman jumped himself and descended safely behind our own lines. This officer displayed great coolness and courage in most hazardous circumstances.

Flying Officer John William NEIL (Can/J.16638), R.C.A.F., 421 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed many and varied sorties during which he has displayed commendable skill, courage and determination. He has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has destroyed five and damaged several more hostile aircraft; he has also most effectively attacked very many mechanical vehicles.

Flying Officer Lynus Raitt PATTEE (Can/J.20152), R.C.A.F., 48 Sqn.

This officer, who has participated in numerous operational missions, has set a fine example of efficiency and zeal. In September, 1944, Flying Officer Pattee took part in an operation involving the dropping of supplies to our fighting forces near Arnhem. In spite of intense anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Pattee successfully dropped his containers at the second attempt. Shortly afterwards his aircraft was badly hit. Extensive damage was sustained but Flying Officer Pattee headed his crippled aircraft towards our own lines behind which he executed a successful crash landing. In circumstances of great danger this officer displayed commendable courage and determination.

Pilot Officer Robert Venters JUBB (Aus.426609), R.A.A.F., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Pilot Officer William Norman WAUDBY (179586), R.A.F.V.R., 245 Sqn.

In air operations these officers have displayed courage, fortitude and devotion to duty of a high order.

Warrant Officer Knivett Carton CRANEFIELD (1384663), R.A.F.V.R., 233 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our forces in the vicinity of Arnhem. When approaching the dropping zone heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The aircraft was struck by a high explosive shell which tore a large hole in the starboard wing and took away a part of the aileron. Although the aircraft became difficult to control, Warrant Officer Cranefield continued to the target. When over the area the aircraft was again hit. Warrant Officer Cranefield was wounded in the leg. Although suffering acutely he remained at the controls and all the containers were successfully dropped. Not until he had flown well clear