

number of sorties and throughout has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy. One night in March, 1945, he captained an aircraft engaged on an anti-submarine patrol. During the sortie, he pressed home an attack on a U-boat, obtaining a perfect straddle with a number of depth charges. In his well executed attack, Flight Lieutenant Brown displayed commendable courage and determination.

**Flight Lieutenant Cecil Arthur Fox (151392), R.A.F.V.R., 143 Sqn.**

As navigator, Flight Lieutenant Fox has taken part in very many sorties, some of them being attacks on enemy shipping. During these operations a number of enemy vessels have been attacked. By his high standard of navigational ability, excellent co-operation and great determination, Flight Lieutenant Fox has contributed in good measure to the results obtained.

**Flight Lieutenant George Basil Cooper KEY (62323), R.A.F.V.R., 547 Sqn.**

This officer has proved a most valuable asset to the squadron. He has taken part in a large number of sorties and throughout has set a fine example of skill, determination and devotion to duty. His last sortie during his present tour of operational duty was an attack on enemy shipping in March, 1945. During the operation, Flight Lieutenant Key executed a good attack on an enemy U-boat. This officer is a fine captain, whose example both in the air and on the ground has impressed all.

**Flight Lieutenant Frank Livingstone PROCTOR, (Aus.409593), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.**

This officer is a most efficient pilot and captain. He has taken part in a large number of sorties and throughout has displayed a high degree of determination and devotion to duty. One of his achievements was a most damaging attack on an enemy submarine one night in March, 1945. On numerous other occasions, Flight Lieutenant Proctor has executed telling attacks on enemy shipping.

**Flight Lieutenant Royce Sydney TURNER (60125), R.A.F.V.R., 235 Sqn.**

This officer has completed numerous sorties on his second tour of operational duty. Since forming the squadron he has taken part in a number of attacks on enemy shipping. He has displayed a high degree of skill and his determination to bring his sorties to a successful conclusion has won high praise. In March, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Turner participated in an attack against shipping in Aalesund harbour. Pressing home his attack with great skill, Flight Lieutenant Turner obtained hits on a medium sized merchantman.

**Flying Officer Harold Hamon BLAMPIED (N.Z. 1718), R.N.Z.A.F., 489 (N.Z.) Sqn.**

During his tour of operational duty, this officer has taken part in a number of attacks on enemy shipping. In these operations he has shown unflinching devotion to duty, coupled with high qualities of skill and bravery. On one occasion in March, 1945, Flying Officer Blampied took part in an attack on shipping in Egersund harbour. Whilst pressing home his attack, Flying Officer Blampied's aircraft was hit. The starboard engine caught fire. Although he feathered the propeller and put the engine out of action, the fire persisted. Despite this, Flying Officer Blampied set course for home. Some minutes later the fire died away and this resolute pilot went on to complete the return flight safely. His skill and determination on this occasion were in keeping with that which he has shown throughout his tour.

**Flying Officer John McCreary COYNE (Can/J.36344), R.C.A.F., 404 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.**

This officer is a most efficient and determined pilot. He has completed many sorties against enemy shipping and throughout has displayed a high degree of skill and devotion to duty. In March, 1945, Flying Officer Coyne participated in an attack against shipping in Egersund Harbour. Whilst attacking a medium sized merchant vessel his aircraft was hit by enemy fire, sustaining damage to the leading edge of the mainplane and throwing the aircraft over on to its side. Nevertheless, this officer righted the aircraft and continued his attack. On his return to base, he executed a masterly landing without further damage to his aircraft. He set a fine example of skill, courage and resolution throughout.

**Flying Officer Harold Patrick FLYNN (Can/J.87622), R.C.A.F., 404 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.**

This officer is an outstanding operational pilot. He has taken part in many sorties including numerous attacks on enemy shipping and has inflicted much damage on the enemy. In March, 1945, Flying Officer Flynn led an attack against a convoy of shipping in Egersund Harbour. Despite intense anti-aircraft fire, he pressed home his attack, obtaining hits on an escort vessel which afterwards sank. Highly skilled, cool and resolute, Flying Officer Flynn has rendered much valuable service.

**Flying Officer Horace William PEARSON (Aus.425547), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.**

As navigator, this officer has taken part in a good number of sorties, including several attacks on enemy shipping. On the first of these, Flying Officer Pearson's aircraft was badly damaged by enemy fire and had to be brought down on to the sea. After being adrift in the dinghy for eleven hours, Flying Officer Pearson was rescued. He soon resumed operational flying. In April, 1945, he took part in an attack against several enemy minesweepers. During the operation the aircraft was hit and the pilot was badly injured. With great promptitude, Flying Officer Pearson rendered most efficient first aid and afterwards greatly assisted his injured pilot in his efforts to fly the aircraft home. On reaching base, Flying Officer Pearson manipulated the throttles and the hydraulic gear and thus helped to bring the aircraft down safely. This officer has invariably displayed a high degree of skill, determination and devotion to duty.

**Flying Officer Ronald William RIDLER (169423), R.A.F.V.R., 547 Sqn.**

Flying Officer Ridler has set a fine example of devotion to duty in operations against the enemy. He has completed a large number of sorties and throughout has proved himself to be a resolute and highly efficient captain. One night in March, 1945, he executed a good attack on an enemy minesweeper. A little later, during the same sortie, Flying Officer Ridler pressed home an attack on an enemy naval vessel on which hits were obtained. The successes achieved on this notable sortie were well proved by the excellent photographs obtained. The sterling qualities of this officer have been reflected in the high standard of efficiency shown by his crew.

**Pilot Officer Arthur Raymond MANSFIELD (190404), R.A.F.V.R., 143 Sqn.**

Pilot Officer Mansfield, who has participated in a large number of sorties, has shown outstanding keenness and great gallantry in his attacks on the enemy. Among his many missions is the successful accomplishment of numerous attacks on shipping. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with the greatest determination, often in the face of heavy opposing fire, and the successes obtained are an excellent testimony of his exceptional skill and devotion to duty. On two occasions in March, 1945, against shipping at Aalesund and at Sando respectively, Pilot Officer Mansfield flew with distinction. He has set a fine example to all.

**Warrant Officer Bernard John BARLOW (1577757), R.A.F.V.R., 143 Sqn.**

Throughout his tour of operational duty this officer has set a very fine example of skill and determination. He has taken part in numerous sorties against enemy shipping during which he has invariably pressed home his attacks despite heavy enemy fire. His gallant and resolute work in an attack on enemy shipping at Sando in March, 1945, were typical of that which he has shown on all occasions. His devotion to duty has been unswerving.

#### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

**1897875 Sergeant Gustave Walter William WIEGAND, R.A.F.V.R., 547 Sqn.**

As air gunner, Sergeant Wiegand has taken part in a large number of sorties, including some attacks on enemy shipping. One night in March, 1945, this airman was the front gunner in an aircraft involved in an attack on 2 R-boats. During the operation Sergeant Wiegand used his guns to good effect, spraying one of the vessels with his bullets. The enemy vessel subsequently caught fire. By his skill, coolness and good judgment, Sergeant Wiegand has proved himself to be a most valuable member of aircraft crew.