

sufficiently safe altitude. Three members of the crew were unable to leave immediately and Flying Officer Hocking remained behind assisting them and checking their equipment. Despite imminent danger he would not leave the aircraft until satisfied that the parachute equipment of each member was properly fitted and clipped into place. The cool behaviour and bravery of Flying Officer Hocking did much to save the lives of at least two members of the crew.

*Air Ministry, 15th February, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Acting Wing Commanders.*

Vivian REES (33335), R.A.F., 18 Sqn.  
Robert George PRIER (33094), R.A.F., 13 Sqn.

*Flight Lieutenant.*

Derek George Reginald WARD (158587), R.A.F.V.R., 252 Sqn.

*Flying Officers.*

Albert John HANMORE (195169), R.A.F.V.R., 148 Sqn.  
Philip Alexander RANKIN (158737), R.A.F.V.R., 13 Sqn.

*Warrant Officers.*

Eric Arthur Charles BARFOOT (1268865), R.A.F.V.R., 267 Sqn.  
Major GELBHAUER (1270361), R.A.F.V.R., 6 Sqn.  
Kenneth George HOLLIDAY (1494776), R.A.F.V.R., 117 Sqn

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flying Officers.*

William Albert BELSON (Aus.426293), 148 Sqn.  
Cedric George THOMAS (Aus.426849), 148 Sqn.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flying Officers.*

John Aaron GORDON (Can/J.92360), 253 Sqn.  
Harold Christian OLAFSON (Can/J.43684), 436 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Major.*

Henry Tait FRYLINCK (103512V), 16 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

*Captains.*

David Archibald ABERCROMBIE (542763V), 25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Ian Henry CAMPBELL (206192V), 12 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Kenneth Raymond CROSSMAN (102307V), 25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Burford FORSTER (205993V), 21 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Christiaan Francois MARAIS (96126V), 25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Helge Charles MURMAN (105800V), 15 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.  
Colin Robert SINCLAIR (205551V), 11 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

*Lieutenant.*

Neil Ashcroft STOCKS (328942V), 13 Sqn.

The above awards are in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

*Amendment.*

In notification of 1st January, 1946 (New Year Honours List, mentions in despatches):—

P. 104, col. 1, Flying Officers, regarding K. SMITH, D.F.C. (176770), R.A.F.V.R., delete "D.F.C."

The following name was omitted from the list in error:—

Warrant Officer S. RAMSEY (508605).

*Air Ministry, 15th February 1946.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

*Confirmation and promotion.*

*Plt. Offs. (prob.) confmd. in appts. and to be Flg. Offs. (war subs.):—*

R. G. CLARK (57342). 19th Jan. 1946.  
22nd Jan. 1946.  
R. K. COLMAN (57391).  
P. C. POLING (57388).

*Promotion.*

Sqn. Ldr. (temp.) J. V. HOGGARTH (37175) is granted the rank of Sqn. Ldr. (war subs.). 12th Jan. 1946.

*Flg. Off. to Flt. Lt. (war subs.):—*

L. G. CORBIN (55119). 26th Sept. 1945.  
17th Jan. 1946.  
R. J. COXHEAD, D.F.C. (54150).  
K. MACDONALD (54181).  
A. B. PEAKER (54403).

18th Jan. 1946.  
C. D. P. BLACK, D.F.M. (54288).  
R. W. COULSTON, B.E.M. (54266).  
A. G. ROACH, D.F.C. (54447).

19th Jan. 1946.  
J. H. R. HICKS (53719).  
H. McCABE, D.F.M. (54261).

20th Jan. 1946.  
D. FITZGERALD, D.F.C. (54252).  
V. H. JARVIS, D.F.M. (54297).  
W. H. KEEN (54769).  
J. N. THOMPSON, D.F.C. (54311). 21st Jan. 1946.

22nd Jan. 1946.  
W. H. HAWKINS, D.F.M. (54283).  
D. J. MACHIN (Lt. R.A.) (54169).  
C. O. PURVIS (Lt. R.A.) (54168).  
M. R. WRIGHT (Lt. R.A.) (54166).

24th Jan. 1946.  
J. C. METCALFE, D.F.M. (54205).  
R. SEMPLE (53566).

C. KING, D.F.M. (54512). 25th Jan. 1946.

TECHNICAL BRANCH.

*Confirmation.*

Flg. Off. (prob.) F. J. DELLBRIDGE (56971). 2nd Feb. 1946.

*Confirmation and promotion.*

*Plt. Offs. (prob.) confmd. in appts. and to be Flg. Offs. (war subs.):—*

2nd Feb. 1946.  
W. O. DOWNING (56972).  
F. W. G. HALES (56976).

*Promotion.*

Flt. Lt. E. A. HARROP (45959) is granted the rank of Sqn. Ldr. (war subs.). 16th Nov. 1945. (Subs. for notifi. 11th Jan. 1946 (p. 404, col. 1).)

*Flt. Lts. (temp.) granted the rank of Flt. Lt. (war subs.):—*

W. C. T. BROWN (46499). 28th July 1945.  
W. E. BLOOMFIELD (45363). 12th Jan. 1946.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPECIAL DUTIES BRANCH.

*Confirmation and promotion.*

*Plt. Offs. (prob.) confmd. in appts. and to be Flg. Offs. (war subs.):—*

19th Jan. 1946.  
R. HILLS (56914).  
A. S. H. OATES (56924).

*Promotion.*

Sqn. Ldr. (temp.) B. J. SKINNER (44285) is granted the rank of Sqn. Ldr. (war subs.). 1st Jan. 1946.

*Regrading.*

*Actg. Plt. Off. (prob.) to Plt. Off. (prob.):—*  
24th Jan. 1946.

J. B. DRIVER (57575)  
F. A. EVANS (57576).

EQUIPMENT BRANCH.

*Confirmation.*

Flg. Off. (prob.) A. L. K. COLBECK (56969). 2nd Feb. 1946.