

minutes well knowing that the heat generated might at any moment have exploded the bombs. The fire fighters did not leave the scene until ordered to do so by the Flying Control Officer. The aircraft blew up some time afterwards. Flight Sergeant Siddons has on two previous occasions displayed similar devotion to duty whilst attending aircraft fires. His consistent record of determination, alertness and disregard for danger has been a source of encouragement to his men and he has proved a fearless leader.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal  
(Military Division):—*

1118770 Leading Aircraftman Cyril Fred HARBOUR, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 132 Operational Training Unit.

This airman, a fitter, was employed on aircraft maintenance on an airfield when a Beau-fighter aircraft, with pilot and navigator on board, crashed about 400 yards away. The aircraft burst into flames, the pilot being killed. Leading Aircraftman Harbour immediately ran to the scene of the crash, and, on his own initiative, forced open the hatch of the cockpit. He climbed in and, while flames from the burning petrol were only a few feet from him, succeeded in unfastening the injured navigator's Sutton harness. He then tied a rope round the navigator's body and by means of this the navigator was dragged clear of the burning aircraft. Leading Aircraftman Harbour accomplished this gallant act despite exploding ammunition and the intense heat. By his prompt action he saved the life of the navigator and his courage was an inspiration to others.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
26th February, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the George Medal to the under-mentioned:—

Flying Officer John James BAILLIE (Can/J.37488), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 194 Squadron.

On 14th June, 1945, Flying Officer Baillie was the navigator of a Dakota aircraft which crashed near Myingyan air strip in Central Burma. The fuel tanks burst and fire soon spread to the fuselage. When he recovered consciousness Flying Officer Baillie discovered that his leg was entangled in the static line and that his clothes were burning. He freed himself by a great effort and, although he was suffering from multiple head injuries, a broken cheek bone and concussion, he dragged two Indian other ranks clear of the wreckage. On hearing screams from inside the aircraft, he re-entered. In spite of further burns which he sustained to hand and leg, he rescued the delirious wireless operator who resisted his efforts. By his great courage and complete disregard for his own safety, Flying Officer Baillie saved the lives of the wireless operator and two Indian other ranks.

1585300 Corporal Stephen James COGGER, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, Royal Air Force Station, Woodhall Spa.

On the afternoon of 3rd July, 1945, a Mosquito aircraft crashed in a field when attempting to land. Corporal Cogger, who was in charge of the fire party, observed the aircraft to be in difficulty. He ordered the fire tender to stand by and himself started up the section's Jeep. By this time the aircraft had crashed, so Corporal Cogger immediately proceeded to the scene. On arrival he found the aircraft on fire, the flames rapidly spreading along the leading edge of the wings and the fuselage. The nose of the aircraft had completely broken away from the remainder of the fuselage. The navigator was lying in the wreckage by the leading edge of the wing. Corporal Cogger immediately entered the flames and tried to pull the navigator clear but found him to be held fast by some cables around his legs. Corporal Cogger then went to the Jeep to get a hacksaw and hand fire extinguisher. By this time the Duty Orderly and Ambulance Driver and also a civilian had arrived. All four entered the burning area, the civilian using the hacksaw to cut the cables holding the navigator's legs, whilst Corporal Cogger played the extinguisher on him. By this time the fire had gained a good hold and

the four men were forced to retire. The fire tender had now arrived and was able to subdue the flames enough to permit the four rescuers to cut the navigator free. Corporal Cogger, in spite of burns sustained earlier, again entered the burning area, accompanied by the Ambulance Driver, to look for the pilot but he could not be seen. Corporal Cogger was ultimately taken to hospital suffering from major burns of the forehead, cheeks, arms and hands. He had displayed great gallantry in circumstances when, at any moment, the aircraft might have exploded. He has attended some 14 crashes as N.C.O. in charge of the fire party and in 10 of these he has shown resource and determination in dealing with fires.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
26th February, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) in recognition of distinguished service while a prisoner of war, to:—

753715 Leading Aircraftman John Oswald WESTON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR  
AIR.**

*Ottawa, Canada, 26th February, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flight Lieutenant.*

Daniel Francis RAYMES, A.F.C. (Can/J.9872).

The KING has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the following R.C.A.F. personnel who have been mentioned in despatches:—

*Flight Lieutenants.*

P. A. CORBETT (Can/J.45202).

J. B. LEIGH (Can/J.9183).

K. E. LUNNY (Can/J.36682).

*Pilot Officers.*

R. A. COULTER (Can/J.23806).

D. P. ROGERS (Can/J.37349).

**DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR  
AIR.**

*Ottawa, Canada, 26th February, 1946.*

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

*Air Force Cross.*

*Wing Commander.*

Douglas Jack BROOKER (Can/C.1451).

*Squadron Leaders.*

Edward Russell JOHNSTON (Can/C.832).

Charles Willoughby STOCKFORD (Can/C.22651).

*Flight Lieutenants.*

Peter Clarence BARRON (Can/J.8351).

Thomas Charles COOKE, D.F.C. (Can/J.11462).

John Frederick SIMPSON (Can/C.26874).

The KING has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the following personnel who have been commended for valuable service in the air:—

*Squadron Leaders.*

G. E. CHERRINGTON (Can/C.2891).

A. R. ROSS (Can/C.9663).

C. C. UNDERHILL (Can/J.5112).

*Flight Lieutenants.*

A. W. BISHOP (Can/J.5121).

R. H. LOGAN (Can/J.22286).

*Flying Officer.*

C. W. WEIR (Can/J.20358).