

Dauntsey's School Contgt.

Frederick Arthur PORTER (487019) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 11th Dec. 1968.

Rossall School Contgt.

Lt. G. CARPENTER (441477) resigns his commn., 1st Nov. 1968, and is granted the hon. rank of Maj.

Solihull School Contgt.

Richard BATSTONE (487010) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 13th Dec. 1968.

Ernest Roderick BOSANKO (487012) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 13th Dec. 1968.

Uppingham School Contgt.

Michael Neil GAVINS (487015) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 11th Oct. 1968.

ARMY CADET FORCE

TERRITORIAL AND ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

Category IV

SECTION B

Antrim & City of Belfast

Lt. W. L. A. ARNEILL (476764) resigns his commn., 1st Jan. 1969.

Berkshire

Albert William POOLE (487018) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 26th Nov. 1968.

Cambridge, The Isle of Ely, & Huntingdon

Dennis George Josiah JOYCE (487017) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 9th Nov. 1968.

Glamorgan

Lt. E. J. MOFFATT (452214) resigns his commn., 31st Oct. 1968.

Glasgow, City of

John FOSTER (487014) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 8th Oct. 1968.

Greater London North West Sector

2nd Lt. J. C. BENNETT (483382) (on probation) is confirmed as 2nd Lt., 11th Jan. 1967. To be Lt., 11th Jan. 1969.

Greater London South East Sector

2nd Lt. R. S. MAJOR (486000) (on probation) resigns his commn., 1st Dec. 1968.

Cyril John GUEST (487016) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 28th May 1968.

Sussex

Douglas Ronald DYER (487013) to be 2nd Lt. (on probation), 6th Nov. 1968.

AIR FORCE DEPARTMENT

Whitehall, London S.W.1.

18th February 1969.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award:

Air Force Medal

G3514378 Flight Sergeant Michael Macklin FITTON, Royal Air Force.

On 5th November 1968, a Whirlwind helicopter, flying over Malaysia, suffered engine failure. The pilot, and crew of two, crash-landed in dense primary jungle with trees over 100 ft. high. After the aircraft had plunged through the trees, the jungle canopy sprang back into position, making rescue operations very difficult, since the Search and Rescue Whirlwind winch cable is only 60 ft. long. Flight Sergeant Fitton, the winchman of the helicopter of No. 103 Squadron detailed to rescue the party, meticulously and succinctly briefed his crew and a medical officer on the requirements and sequences of a newly developed rescue system which can be used to recover survivors from a depth of 250 ft. This system is named "Multi-Tape-Lift" and the operating techniques are complex and prolonged. Great skill and nerve are required by the whole crew, but the major responsibility and its attendant hazards rest with the winchman. Flight Sergeant Fitton spent over an hour suspended 50 ft. below the aircraft, swinging among tree tops beneath the level of the jungle canopy and 50 ft. or more above the ground ;

one false move could have been fatal to all concerned. In all he completed the complicated rescue procedure five times ; first lowering the medical officer to the ground, then lifting out the pilot and crew and finally the medical officer, transferring each of them from the tapes to the winch, in mid-air. It was the first time that such a rescue had been attempted in the Far East and, due to Flight Sergeant Fitton's skill, cool calculated courage and outstanding determination, the very difficult and hazardous operation was completely successful. By his prompt action, he was directly responsible for the quick recovery of the three crew members, one of whom was injured and unable to move. Flight Sergeant Fitton's calmness and authoritative manner inspired the remainder of the rescue party. His leadership and direction were exemplary, and his flawless performance was consistent with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

18th February 1969.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Air Vice-Marshal A. McK. S. STEEDMAN, C.B.E., D.F.C., is appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Policy) in succession to Air Vice-Marshal L. D. MAVOR, C.B., A.F.C. 15th Feb. 1969.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH

*Promotion**Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant :*

12th Jan. 1969

D. C. RONAYNE (4231912).

G. C. SPRECKLEY (5200408).

H. C. J. WILLIAMS (4231880).

F. P. BRYANT (4231856). 9th Feb. 1969.

13th Feb. 1969

K. A. ABBERSTEIN (4042125).

J. D. PERIGO (4107492).

A. P. G. LONG (684797). 17th Feb. 1969.

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer :

P. HOULSTON (4233257). 16th Feb. 1969.

17th Feb. 1969

P. A. BLACKFORD (4233200).

H. A. COOK (4233219).

R. F. CORSTIN (4233296).

N. R. DANCE (4233278).

S. DAWSON (4233276).

I. EVANS (4233285).

S. M. FISHER (4233179).

R. B. FORD (4233283).

G. R. FOSTER (4233224).

P. A. GARDNER (4233295).

C. GIBBONS (4233294).

G. R. GIBBONS (4233225).

J. C. GROCCOTT (4233259).

J. A. GURNEY (4233277).

T. A. HEYES (4233302).

K. R. HOLMES (4233217).

G. E. JOHNSON (4233300).

N. R. H. MACDOUGALL (4233297).

D. F. H. MCSORLEY (4233299).

K. G. MANKTELOW (4233286).

M. A. MASHEDER (4233255).

N. MAY (4233292).

P. A. MAY (4233298).

K. M. NORMAN (4233222).

C. R. PARSONS (4233301).

G. PITICK (4233242).

D. M. ROSS (4233279).

A. W. SUMNER (4233289).

B. R. SYMONS (4233284).

R. A. WHITE (4233273).

J. W. WHITE (4233293).

18th Feb. 1969 (*seniority 18th May 1967*)

A. R. LAMB, B.Sc. (2619542).

D. M. NIVEN, B.Sc. (2614751).

R. A. COWPE, B.Sc. (2615891). 18th Feb 1969

(*seniority 9th Nov. 1967*).

18th Feb. 1969 (*seniority 18th Nov. 1967*)

J. S. GARNONS-WILLIAMS, B.Sc. (2619640).

T. E. PERCY, B.Sc. (5200776).

M. WATERHOUSE, B.Eng. (2615466).

W. F. M. WITHERS, LL.B. (2607689).

Adjustment of Service

The period of service of Flight Lieutenant J. W. KEEPE (4231171) is adjusted to eight years on the Active List and four years on the Reserve from 25th Jul. 1961.