

signalled forward No. 2 who also made a perfect exit. Immediately No. 2 had left the aircraft Flight Sergeant Allen felt a knock on his right knee and saw the monorail, which had become detached from the fuselage, sliding fast out of the open door. He immediately leant forward and caught it with both hands. At the same time the slipstream caught the static line of the first parachute which was still, together with the inner bag, connected to the monorail, and sucked it out of the aircraft. The pull on the monorail increased to such a degree that Flight Sergeant Allen was in danger of being pulled out of the aircraft himself although he did not let go with either hand. It soon became obvious that there were more than just two bags trailing in the slipstream. In fact the No. 2 was "hung up" and Flight Sergeant Allen had to wedge his body in the doorway and exert considerable strength to prevent the other four parachutists and himself being pulled from the aircraft as they were all attached to the monorail. After a short time, during which he saw the "hung up" parachute deploy, the strain eased and he managed to recover both bags and the monorail. The helicopter then landed. Flight Sergeant Allen's quick thinking, immediate bold action and outstanding initiative undoubtedly resulted in the saving of the lives of the parachutists and the possible loss of the aircraft and all in it. If he had not caught and held the monorail the resulting effects would have led to a disaster.

21st December 1971.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE

### GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH

#### *Appointment to Commission (Permanent) (On Branch Officer Terms)*

##### *As Flying Officer :*

Master Engineer John William GRACE (586417). 14th Oct. 1971 (*Seniority 14th Oct. 1968*). (*Substituted for Notification in London Gazette dated 23rd Nov. 1971.*)

#### *Appointment to Commission (Permanent)*

##### *As Pilot Officer :*

Richard Graham GEDDES, B.Sc. (5201928). 14th Nov. 1971 (*Seniority 14th Aug. 1970*).

#### *Appointment to Commission (Permanent) D.E.C. "A" (Supplementary List) (on belated award of Officer Entry terms of Service).*

##### *As Pilot Officer :*

Cadet Pilot Roderick William BRYDEN (4232538). 11th Nov. 1964. (*Notification in London Gazette dated 20th Apr. 1965 is cancelled.*)

#### *Promotion*

##### *Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant :*

I. P. WASHINGTON (3513843). 16th Dec. 1971.  
M. F. CHANDLER (3513263). 21st Oct. 1971. (*Substituted for Notification in London Gazette dated 26th Oct. 1971.*)

M. F. SEELY (4233012). 6th Nov. 1971. (*Substituted for Notification in London Gazette dated 9th Nov. 1971.*)

##### *Pilot Officer to Flying Officer :*

M. EVANS (690558). 16th Dec. 1971.

#### *Specialist Aircrew*

##### *Flight Lieutenants designated Specialist Aircrew :*

C. R. STRAWSON (2554813). 17th Dec. 1971.  
B. S. HILTON (2561007). 18th Dec. 1971.

#### *Regrading*

##### *Acting Pilot Officer to Pilot Officer :*

M. J. POOLER (8025269). 27th Feb. 1971.

#### *Antedate of Seniority*

Flying Officer C. J. JONES, B.Sc. (5200611) is awarded an antedate of seniority of 15th Apr. 1969 from 15th Jan. 1971. (*Substituted for Notification in London Gazette, 19th Jan. 1971.*)

The notification in London Gazette of 16th Nov. 1971 is cancelled, the notification in London Gazette of 3rd Aug. 1971 remains extant.

#### *Transfer between Branches*

Flight Lieutenant J. R. PARKER (507697) has transferred to the Photographic Interpretation Branch. 20th Oct. 1971.

#### *Transfer to the Reserve*

Flight Lieutenant P. J. TAYLOR-LANE (4230784). 18th Dec. 1971.

#### *Retirement*

Squadron Leader E. A. LE BAIGUE (2464079) (at own request). 1st Dec. 1971.

#### *Flight Lieutenants :*

I. G. HAIGH (4094040). 3rd Dec. 1971.  
D. EXLEY (3512048). 4th Dec. 1971.  
T. WALL, D. F. M. (1620368). 20th Dec. 1971.

#### *Commission Relinquished*

Pilot Officer R. W. BRYDEN (4232538) relinquishes his Direct Entry Commission, Type "A", on appointment to a Permanent Commission (Supplementary List). 6th Oct 1965. (*Notification in London Gazette dated 2nd Nov. 1965 is cancelled.*)

#### *Commission Terminated*

Pilot Officer I. D. THOM (8025388). 9th Dec. 1971.

#### *Notification Amended*

London Gazette dated 23rd Nov. 1971 concerning Acting Pilot Officer J. A. LOCKWOOD for J. A. LOCKWOOD read R. R. LOCKWOOD.

## GENERAL DUTIES (GROUND) BRANCH

#### *Appointment to Commission (Short Service)*

*As Pilot Officer (Six years on the Active List and four years on the Reserve) :*

Paul John BISHOP, B.Sc. (5201942). 14th Nov. 1971.

#### *Promotion*

##### *Pilot Officer to Flying Officer W.R.A.F. :*

18th Dec. 1971

P. A. BARRETT (8031533).  
G. P. MARVIN (8031507).

#### *Antedate of Seniority*

Flying Officer P. J. LEES (4232816) is awarded an antedate of seniority 10th Jun. 1968 from 10th Dec. 1968.

## ENGINEER BRANCH

#### *Appointment to Commission (Permanent)*

##### *As Pilot Officer :*

Ian DERBYSHIRE, B.A. (5201889). 6th Oct. 1971 (*seniority 6th Jan. 1970*).

#### *Appointment to Commission (Short Service)*

*As Flying Officer (three years on the Active List and four years on the Reserve) :*

Reginald George MOSES, B.Sc. (5201921). 14th Nov. 1971 (*seniority 14th May 1969*).

#### *Promotion*

##### *Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant :*

16th Dec. 1971

D. J. GRIFFITHS (585136).  
P. W. YOUNG (578838).

##### *Pilot Officer to Flying Officer :*

F. A. KHAN, B.Sc. (5201736). 15th Dec. 1971 (*seniority 15th Mar. 1969*).

#### *Retirement*

Squadron Leader C. R. WALMSLEY, M.B.E. (572418) (at own request). 20th Nov. 1971.

## SUPPLY BRANCH

#### *Appointment to Commission (Permanent)*

##### *As Flying Officer :*

Francis John HANFORD, B.A. (5201924). 14th Nov. 1971 (*Seniority 14th Nov. 1969*).

##### *As Pilot Officer :*

Hugh Robert RAYNER (5201856). 19th Sep. 1971 (*Seniority 19th Jun. 1970*). (*Substituted for Notification in London Gazette dated 16th Nov. 1971.*)

#### *Appointment to Commission (Short Service)*

*As Pilot Officer (On belated award of Officer Entry terms of Service) (Six years on the Active List and four years on the Reserve) :*

Aircraftman Geoffrey Roger FRIT (8022690). 15th Jul. 1969. (*Notification in London Gazette dated 27th Jan. 1970 is cancelled.*)