

cellent work in detecting and scattering troops massing for counter-attacks, flying at an extremely low altitude.

Act. Flt.-Lieut. (now Flt.-Lieut.) Arthur Roy Brown, R.N.A.S.

For the excellent work he has done on active service.

On the 3rd September, 1917, he attacked a two-seater Aviatik, in company with his flight. The enemy machine was seen to dive down vertically, the enemy observer falling over on the side of the fuselage shot.

On the 5th September, 1917, in company with formation, he attacked an Albatross scout and two-seater, driving them away from our lines. One machine was observed to go down apparently out of control.

On the 15th September, 1917, whilst on patrol, he dived on two Aviatiks and three Albatross scouts, followed by his flight. He dived several times and picked out one enemy scout, firing about 200 rounds, when the enemy machine went down out of control, spinning on its back.

On the 20th September, 1917, whilst leading his flight, he dived on five Albatross scouts. Flt.-Lieut. Brown picked out one enemy machine and opened fire. One of his guns jammed, but he carried on with the other. The enemy machine went down out of control and over on its back, and remained in that position for about thirty seconds, whilst Flt.-Lieut. Brown continued firing until his other gun jammed. The enemy machine then disappeared in the clouds, still on its back.

Another officer of the same patrol was later followed by four enemy machines, as he was separated from the formation. Both Flt.-Lieut. Brown's guns were jammed, but he dived on the enemy machines and drove them off, thus undoubtedly saving the pilot's life.

Act. Flt.-Lieut. (now Flt.-Lieut.) Desmond Fitzgerald Fitzgibbon, R.N.A.S.

For exceptional courage and determination in leading offensive patrols against enemy formations, although often outnumbered by them. On the 14th September, 1917, he and his patrol of seven machines attacked a hostile formation of eight enemy scouts. In the combat that ensued three hostile machines were brought down completely out of control, one of these by Flt.-Lieut. Fitzgibbon, while the patrol suffered no casualties.

On the 26th September, 1917, he attacked with his patrol of eight machines fifteen hostile scouts. He himself engaged four different machines, one after the other, finally driving one down completely out of control.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. Charles Beverley Sproatt, R.N.A.S.

Carried out a bombing attack on Bruges Docks on the 4th September, 1917, obtaining direct hits. He was subjected to heavy and accurate anti-aircraft fire, and his machine was shot about and radiator pierced.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. Leonard William Ormerod, R.N.A.S.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. John Southey Wright, R.N.A.S.

In recognition of their services on the 5th

September, 1917, when they carried out a bombing attack on Bruges Docks, obtaining direct hits.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. William Allan Scott, R.N.A.S.

In recognition of his services on the night of the 15th-16th August, 1917, when, in spite of difficult conditions, he dropped bombs on Thourout railway station and sidings. He circled the objective for an hour at a height of 3,000 feet, dropping his bombs singly, and achieved good results.

Obsr. Sub-Lieut. Paul Brewsher, R.N.A.S.

In recognition of his services on the night of the 15th-16th August, 1917, when, with Flt.-Lieut. Jones, in spite of adverse weather conditions, he dropped bombs on railway sidings at Ostend, causing a fire which continued to burn as long as it was under observation.

To receive the Distinguished Service Medal.

Ldg. Mech. Robert William Bager, O.N. F2176.

Act. Air Mech., 1st Gr., Harry George Lovelock, O.N. J26402 (Po.).

P.O. Mech. Bert Hinkler, O.N. F311 (Ch.).

The following officers and men have been mentioned in despatches:—

Sqdrn. Cdr. Charles Henry Butler, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.A.S.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. (now Flt.-Lieut.) Cecil Henry FitzHerbert, R.N.A.S.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. Mark Adamson Harker, R.N.A.S.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. Edward Barfort Drake, R.N.A.S.

P.O. (E.) Alfred Austin Blandford Cox, O.N. F17751.

HONOURS TO THE MERCANTILE MARINE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the following honours, decorations and medals to the undermentioned Officers and men of the British Mercantile Marine, in recognition of zeal and devotion to duty shown in carrying on the trade of the country during the war:—

To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.

Capt. Benjamin William George (Lieut., R.N.R.).

To receive the Distinguished Service Cross.

Capt. Henry Saunders.

Capt. Henry George Speed.

Capt. William Philip Hains.

To receive the Distinguished Service Medal.

Ch. Steward George Paterson.

Sea. William John Smith.

Sea. Harry Downing.

Sea. Francis Ivor Dance.

Sea. Alexander Richards.

The KING has further been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the undermentioned Officers and men in the London Gazette as having received an expression of commendation for their services:—

Capt. John Groth.

Capt. William Horsley Luya.