

HONOURS FOR THE ROYAL NAVAL AIR SERVICE

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the following honours, decorations, and medals to Officers and Men of the Royal Naval Air Service:—

To receive a Bar to the Distinguished Service Order.

Sqdn. Cdr. Edwin Rowland Moon, D.S.O., R.N.A.S.

In recognition of the resource and gallantry displayed by him in the following circumstances:—

On the 6th January, 1917, whilst on a reconnaissance flight over the Rufiji Delta with Cdr. The Hon. Richard O. B. Bridgeman, D.S.O., R.N., as observer, he was obliged by engine trouble to descend in one of the creeks, where it became necessary to destroy the seaplane to avoid the possibility of its being captured.

For three whole days the two officers wandered about the delta in their efforts to avoid capture and to rejoin their ship. During this time they had little or nothing to eat, and were continually obliged to swim across the creeks, the bush on the banks being impenetrable. On the morning of the 7th January they constructed a raft of threespars and some latticed window-frames. After paddling and drifting on this for the whole of the 7th and 8th January, they were finally carried out to sea on the morning of the 9th, when Cdr. Bridgeman, who was not a strong swimmer, died of exhaustion and exposure. In the late afternoon Flt. Cdr. Moon managed to reach the shore, and was taken prisoner by the Germans. He was released from captivity on the 21st November, 1917.

He displayed the greatest gallantry in attempting to save the life of his companion.

To receive the Distinguished Service Cross.

Flt. Cdr. Richard Bernard Munday, R.N.A.S.

For courage and initiative. Offensive patrols under his able and determined leadership have consistently engaged enemy aircraft, and he has displayed the utmost courage in carrying out special missions alone, both by day and by night.

On the 21st February, 1918, he attacked a new type enemy two-seater machine. The enemy machine dived steeply east, and Flt. Cdr. Munday followed and closed in, firing a long burst at close range, after which the enemy went down vertically out of control.

On other occasions he has brought down enemy machines completely out of control, and has set fire to and destroyed enemy kite balloons both by day and night. On one occasion he attacked an enemy kite balloon at night, and destroyed both the balloon and its shed by fire.

Flt. Lieut. (actg. Flt. Cdr.) Miles Jeffrey Game Day, R.N.A.S. (since killed).

For great skill and bravery as a fighting pilot. On the 25th January he attacked, single-handed, six enemy triplanes, one of which he shot down. On the 2nd February, 1918, he attacked and destroyed an enemy two-seater machine on reconnaissance at 18,000 feet.

He destroyed several enemy machines in a short space of time, and, in addition, had numerous indecisive engagements.

Flt. Lieut. Ernest Edward Deans, R.N.A.S.

In recognition of great skill and bravery in flying machines of an old type in East Africa. He has carried out some very useful and long flights, and has completed his reconnaissances even when the machine has been practically uncontrollable through "bumps." He has been eager and ready to go up at all times, and has shown no thought of personal danger.

Flt. Sub-Lieut. Edward Grahame Johnstone, R.N.A.S.

For the pluck and determination shown by him in engaging enemy aircraft.

On the 19th January, 1918, he attacked five Albatross scouts, and engaged one, nose on, opening fire at 75 yards range. The enemy aircraft turned on its side and spun. He followed, and engaged again at 30 yards range. The enemy aircraft went down completely out of control. Later in the day, in a general engagement with fourteen Albatross scouts, he followed one down to 8,000 feet, firing all the time. This is confirmed by other pilots of the patrol to have fallen completely out of control.

On several other occasions he has destroyed enemy machines or brought them down completely out of control.

To receive a Bar to the Distinguished Service Cross.

Flt. Cdr. Guy William Price, D.S.C., R.N.A.S.

For consistency and determination in attacking enemy aircraft, often in superior numbers.

On the 22nd January, 1918, when on offensive patrol, he observed seven Albatross scouts. He dived and fired into one of the enemy aircraft, which stalled, side-slipped, and eventually fell over on its back, disappearing through a thick bank of clouds, and was observed by others of our machines to fall completely out of control.

On several other occasions he has destroyed enemy machines or brought them down completely out of control.

Flt. Lieut. (act. Flt. Cdr.) Wilfrid Austin Curtis, D.S.C., R.N.A.S.

For continuous skill and courage as a fighting pilot. On the 23rd January, 1918, whilst on offensive patrol, he followed three two-seater enemy machines and an enemy scout through the clouds. The enemy were then joined by five other scouts. He dived and fired into an enemy two-seater from about 40 feet behind. The enemy machine fell over on its side and started to spin, and was observed by another pilot to break up in the air while spinning down.

Since the award of the Distinguished Service Cross this officer has destroyed several enemy machines and driven down others absolutely out of control.

Flt. Lieut. William Lancelot Jordan, D.S.C., R.N.A.S.

For skill and determination when leading offensive patrols.

On the 6th January, 1918, when on offensive patrol he observed ten Albatross scouts. The enemy dived and spread out, and Flt. Lieut. Jordan, in conjunction with another pilot, attacked one, into which he fired at close range, sending it down in a side-slipping dive.