

Flying Officer Howard Clive MAYERS (77976), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer has participated in a number of interceptions and has destroyed seven enemy aircraft and possibly three others. During a recent engagement, a cannon shell passed through the port wing of his aircraft making a hole four feet in diameter, but Flying Officer Mayers succeeded in bringing his aircraft safely to base. He has displayed great courage and a fighting spirit.

Flying Officer Desmond Annesley Peter McMULLEN (40002).

Since the commencement of hostilities this officer has been continuously engaged on operational flights, including the Dunkirk operations, the protection of shipping and intensive air fighting over this country. He has destroyed seven enemy aircraft and shared in the destruction of others. He has displayed high qualities of leadership and determination.

Flying Officer Herbert John WOODWARD (70833).

This officer has destroyed five enemy aircraft and has displayed leadership and courage of a high order.

Pilot Officer George Herman BENNIONS (43354).

Pilot Officer Bennions has led his section with great distinction. He has destroyed seven enemy aircraft and possibly several others. His determination and coolness have had a splendid influence on his squadron as a whole.

Pilot Officer Peter Victor BOOT (76455), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

During the period April to June, 1940, this officer was constantly employed on patrols in France. He has displayed great courage and resourcefulness and has destroyed at least six enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Frank Henderson DENTON (36238).

One night in September, 1940, although the enemy tried to tempt him with a dummy flare path, Pilot Officer Denton showed great resourcefulness and daring when he successfully attacked the aerodrome at Chartres, his primary target, from a very low altitude. Several nights later, having failed to locate his target in the Ruhr owing to most severe weather conditions, he decided to attack the docks and shipping at Flushing. He broke cloud at 1,000 feet and manoeuvred until he was in a position to attack this target which he knew was heavily defended. Pilot Officer Denton dived through a devastating curtain of light flak and machine-gun fire in a most determined and courageous manner, and released his bombs at an altitude so low that the force of the explosions rocketed his aircraft several hundred feet in the air. Nevertheless, he was able to see large fires and explosions amongst the shipping and docks. He eventually, with great difficulty, brought his aircraft, with gaping holes through each wing, safely back to its base. Pilot Officer Denton has taken part in twenty-four major bombing raids over enemy territory. He is a determined and courageous captain, and carries the complete confidence of his crew and associates.

Pilot Officer Thomas GRIER (40907).

This officer has taken part in a considerable number of engagements against the enemy and has destroyed eight of their aircraft as well as sharing in the destruction of others. He has displayed great courage, keenness and devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer Eric Stanley LOCK (81642), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer has destroyed nine enemy aircraft, eight of these within a period of one week. He has displayed great vigour and determination in pressing home his attacks.

Pilot Officer Gavin John LYNES (42066).

One night in August, 1940, this officer took part in a raid on the transformer station at Kelsterbach. Whilst passing over the Dutch coast, the inter-communication gear of his aircraft became unserviceable. He decided to continue, however, and passed over his target at 7,000 feet, the actual area being obscured by cloud. As he was unable to pin-point the objective, he decided to descend below the clouds. He made several attempts to approach the objective, but had to carry out such violent evasive action on account of the intense anti-aircraft fire that he was unable to make a satisfactory run. Eventually, however, he managed to pass directly over the objective at 2,000 feet and he then released his bombs himself. He dived down to 100 feet at high speed to avoid being hit and whilst escaping from the target, the flash of the bombs could be seen as they burst on the buildings and the reflection of the flames was visible on the clouds as the aircraft left the area. By his persistent determination and his outstanding skill as a pilot, Pilot Officer Lynes was able to destroy the primary objective in the face of heavy opposition. Since the 20th April, 1940, he has taken part in thirty-two major bombing operations over Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, and Italy.

Pilot Officer William Henry MILLINGTON (42720).

In August, 1940, this officer was flying as a member of a section engaged on aerodrome guard patrol. Fifteen Dorniers escorted by a large number of Messerschmitts were sighted and an attack was ordered. Pilot Officer Millington succeeded in damaging a Dornier, but was in turn engaged by three Messerschmitts. He damaged one, shook off the other two and, single-handed, again engaged the bombers. During a further attack by two of the enemy fighters, he shot down one but a cannon shell burst in the engine of his aircraft causing it to burn. Pilot Officer Millington, although suffering from a wound, chose to make a crash landing rather than abandon his aircraft and so endanger a village in front of him. He succeeded in getting clear just before the petrol tanks exploded. A few days previously, he attacked a formation of about sixty Heinkels, two of which he destroyed. He has displayed great courage in attacking superior numbers of enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Jack Stuart SIMSON (42681).

One night in August, 1940, this officer attacked the German warship Gneisenau, in the floating dock at Kiel from 800 feet in