

parts of the vessel as high as 1,000 feet. Flight Lieutenant Sydney-Smith has consistently displayed great courage and determination while Sergeant Shepherd's navigation and bomb aiming have been of a very high standard.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

804274 Sergeant George John EVANS, Auxiliary Air Force, No. 604 Squadron.

This airman has been continuously employed on operational flying since September, 1939. He has displayed great skill in his duties and has assisted his pilot in the destruction of three enemy aircraft.

624846 Sergeant James GRAHAM, No. 7 Squadron.

In June, 1941, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft which was attacked by two enemy fighters about 20 miles west of Texel. His aircraft was attacked simultaneously from the port and starboard quarters. During the combat, Sergeant Graham's reflector sight became unserviceable and two of his guns jammed. Despite continuous attacks, Sergeant Graham coolly repaired the damage to his reflector sight and cleared the gun stoppages after which he withheld his fire until one of the attacking aircraft was in close range. He then fired a long burst which caused it to break away and subsequently dive straight into the sea. Sergeant Graham displayed excellent technical and shooting ability under extremely difficult circumstances.

742771 Sergeant James Douglas Vernon Stewart STEPHENS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

One night in June, 1941, this airman was the pilot of an aircraft which carried out a successful attack on the marshalling yard at Soest. The vicinity of the target area was obscured by low cloud and visibility was poor but Sergeant Stephens descended to 1,000 feet and made a careful reconnaissance by the light of flares dropped from other aircraft. Finally locating his objective he released his bombs which were seen to burst on the permanent way. He then descended to 800 feet and machine gunned a train standing in the marshalling yard. Sergeant Stephens has at all times shown great keenness, initiative and courage.

**ERRATUM.**

In notification of 24th June, 1941 (p. 3607, col. 1), before 741310 Flight Sergeant Raymond Herbert LOVEITT, insert as heading "*Distinguished Flying Medal.*"

*Air Ministry,  
4th July, 1941.*

**ROYAL AIR FORCE.**

**GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.**

The undermentioned are granted commissions for the duration of hostilities as Pilot Officers on probation:—

Warrant Officer.

5th June 1941.

366081 Stanley Thomas CARPENTER (45880).

**Flight Sergeants.**

31st Jan. 1941.

562067 James Frederick DOBBS (45881).

590676 Oswald Ewart SIMPSON (45882).

27th May 1941.

561960 John Christopher WELLS (45883).

5th June 1941.

365779 Philip Arthur Richard KEATES (45884).

560672 Bernard Norman PHILLIPS (45885).

**Sergeants.**

31st Jan. 1941.

565707 Robert Harold ALDIS (45886).

564731 Percy William George BURGESS (45887).

566331 Cecil Frederic WHITING (45888).

29th Mar. 1941.

565716 Joseph George JONES (45889).

22nd May 1941.

580754 George Frederick BETTS, D.F.M. (45893).

27th May 1941.

565508 Walter Sydney CHUBB (45894).

563198 Wallace Ivor LASHBROOK, D.F.M. (45895).

29th May 1941.

580752 Peter Charles BARGH (45896).

522677 Arthur James CALVERT (45897).

550688 Edward James KEENAN (45898).

631535 Harold Walter STONE (45899).

520202 Frederick William HODDINOTT (45900).

566639 Leslie Arthur RICKINSON (45901).

Pilot Officer on probation Rowland Edens FAWCETT (43032) is confirmed in his appointment. 1st June 1941.

Pilot Officer on probation John FLINDERS (81333) is confirmed in his appointment and promoted to the war substantive rank of Flying Officer. 1st Apr. 1941.

Wing Commander Henry Norman THORNTON, M.B.E. (15123), is promoted to the rank of Group Captain (temporary). 1st June 1941.

Flight Lieutenant Vivien Elliott MARSHALL (37325) is promoted to the rank of Squadron Leader (temporary). 1st June 1941.

The undermentioned Flying Officers are promoted to the war substantive rank of Flight Lieutenant:—

23rd May 1941.

Howard Hamilton TAYLOR (36153).

25th May 1941.

Stanley Philip STEPHENSON (40439).

Innes Bental WESTMACOTT (40488).

28th May 1941.

Leonard MILLER (40411).

Kenneth William TAIT, D.F.C. (40441).

27th June 1941.

Neil Hyland SVENDSEN, D.F.C. (40327).

The undermentioned Pilot Officers are promoted to the war substantive rank of Flying Officer:—

10th Apr. 1941.

Leonard Frank Douglas KING (42612).

11th Apr. 1941.

William Graham BENNETTS (2nd Lt., R.A., T.A.) (43091).

28th Apr. 1941.

Robert Ferguson PHILO (42433).