

opponents and made a safe landing on the aerodrome; he then collapsed. Throughout the engagement, this officer displayed leadership and courage of a high order. He has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft over Malta.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

745807 Acting Flight Sergeant George Edward Alfred PENDRILL, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 97 Squadron.

One night in November, 1941, this airman was the captain of an aircraft which carried out a mine-laying operation in heavily defended waters. By sheer determination and devotion to duty, the flight of over 500 miles was made in the face of adverse flying conditions and, despite intense anti-aircraft opposition, the task was successfully accomplished. Two days later, he attacked a target in the Rhineland and, on the return journey, his aircraft was intercepted by an enemy fighter. Displaying great coolness, Flight Sergeant Pendrill instructed his rear gunner to withhold his fire until the enemy flew into close range when it was shot down and observed to crash and burst into flames. This airman has always shown the greatest courage in attacking his targets.

751588 Sergeant Ronald William DALTON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 604 Squadron.

This airman has displayed great skill in night operations. His enthusiasm and perseverance have set an excellent example.

1260024 Sergeant Ronald Edward GILLMAN, No. 107 Squadron.

In November, 1941, this airman participated in a shipping sweep over the Ionian Sea. Two merchant vessels escorted by a destroyer were observed and, despite intense fire from all 3 vessels, 1 of them was attacked at mast height. Sergeant Gillman pressed home his attack and, although his aircraft was hit several times by shell-fire, he scored 2 direct hits on the ship which caught fire and became enveloped in thick black smoke. This airman displayed great courage and determination throughout the attack.

758018 Sergeant John Edward VAN SCHAICK, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 609 Squadron.

Since July, 1941, this airman has participated in 50 operational sorties and has proved himself to be a keen and reliable pilot. He has destroyed 2, and probably destroyed or damaged several other hostile aircraft.

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