

Pilot Officer David Omond MACDOUGALL (62325), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer has completed numerous sorties against the enemy and he invariably presses home his attacks with the utmost vigour. One night in February, 1942, he played an important part in a successful attack in the Mediterranean on an enemy naval force consisting of cruisers and destroyers. Pilot Officer MacDougall has proved himself to be an exceptionally skilful pilot and captain. He has undertaken many difficult tasks and, despite bad weather on numerous occasions, he has always completed them. This officer has set a most praiseworthy example.

Pilot Officer John Brown NIVEN (109061), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 602 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in 70 operational sorties and he has destroyed 2 and probably destroyed a further 2 hostile aircraft. He has displayed ability and courage, setting a fine example to his fellow pilots.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

CAN/R.53757 Flight Sergeant Henry James Forster KERR, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 149 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack the Heinkel Works at Rostock. After leaving the target area, his aircraft was suddenly attacked by an enemy fighter whose pilot opened fire from close range. As the attacker broke away, Flight Sergeant Kerr delivered an accurate burst of fire causing the enemy aircraft to waver and then dive sharply. It was then observed to catch fire and finally it exploded with a bright flash. By his great coolness and efficiency, this airman contributed materially to the safe return of his aircraft. Flight Sergeant Kerr has participated in numerous sorties and he has always set an excellent example.

N.Z.404390 Flight Sergeant Ivor John McLACHLAN, Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 75 (N.Z.) Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman was the captain of an aircraft which attacked Cologne. On the return journey, whilst still over hostile territory, his aircraft was suddenly attacked by an enemy fighter whose machine-gun fire killed the second pilot and wounded the rear gunner. The aircraft was extensively damaged (including the hydraulic system) causing the undercarriage and flaps to drop; both gun turrets were rendered unserviceable and the aircraft became difficult to control. Undaunted, Flight Sergeant McLachlan flew on and finally reached this country where he landed his damaged aircraft safely. This airman has completed numerous sorties, many of which have been against important targets, and he has always shown a high standard of efficiency, skill and resource.

777663 Sergeant Cornelius Johannes du PREEZ, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 15 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft which attacked Hamburg. On the return journey his aircraft was engaged by an enemy fighter. Sergeant du Preez was seriously wounded in the neck, the wound being some 6 inches long and so deep that the jugular vein was exposed.

Gallantly remaining at his post, this airman continued to use his guns, repelling subsequent attacks until he was rendered unconscious by a bullet which grazed his scalp. Throughout, Sergeant du Preez displayed great devotion to duty and, although so seriously injured, he contributed materially to the safe return of his aircraft.

1376531 Sergeant David Roy FISHER, No. 77 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman captained an aircraft which attacked Rostock. On the outward journey, shortly after crossing the North Sea, his aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter. Although his aircraft was severely damaged, Sergeant Fisher succeeded in evading the attacker and, displaying great courage and resolution, flew the remaining 140 miles to his target which he both bombed and photographed. He finally flew the damaged aircraft back to base and made a safe landing. Throughout, this airman showed great determination and skilful airmanship.

1166132 Sergeant Arthur PRINCE, No. 107 Squadron.

As an air gunner, this airman has taken part in several sorties and has proved himself to be a zealous and most determined member of an aircraft crew. One day in March, 1942, he shot down 1 of 6 Focke Wolfe 190s which engaged a formation of our bombers detailed to attack Mazingarbe. On another occasion, in April, 1942, he took part in a bombing operation during which the formation was attacked by superior numbers of enemy fighters. Sergeant Prince used his guns effectively in repelling the attackers which were finally driven off. This airman has displayed a fine fighting spirit and set a splendid example in the face of enemy fire.

Air Ministry,

15th May, 1942.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer James Robert ANDERSON, D.F.C. (79508), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 108 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Douglas Rivers BAGNALL (40790), No. 108 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader John Roby BLOXAM (41544), No. 69 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader John Philip GILLIARD (40819), No. 38 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Freeman Jesse STEEL (N.Z.391370), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 40 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ian Neil MACDOUGALL (33491), No. 260 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Archibald Robert HALL (87453), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 260 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Samuel REEVES (102958), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 40 Squadron.

Flying Officer Brian Blake ATTWOOD (84985), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 208 Squadron. (Since deceased.)