

to the intensity of the flames and smoke which filled the cockpit, Wing Commander Robinson saw no hope of bringing the fire under control, and therefore ordered his crew to abandon the aircraft. While preparing to follow them himself, the fire abated. Undeterred by the difficulty of the flight which involved crossing the Alps and flying many hundreds of miles over enemy occupied territory, Wing Commander Robinson continued alone, completed the return journey, and landed his large 4 engined aircraft successfully in this country despite very adverse weather, accomplishing a most praiseworthy and skilful feat of airmanship.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Ernest Louis Acton WALTER, A.F.C. (32237), No. 113 Squadron.

During the past 3 months Wing Commander Walter has taken part in many operational sorties. In November, 1942, he led an attack from low level against enemy shipping off Akyab. In the face of strong opposition from anti-aircraft defences and enemy fighters direct hits were obtained on 2 enemy vessels. This officer's skill and courage under difficult and hazardous circumstances have been an inspiration to all.

Squadron Leader The Honourable Brian GRIMSTON (84667), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Grimston was captain of an aircraft engaged in operations against Turin on the night of 11th December, 1942. Throughout the greater part of the outward flight, he was forced to fly blind, owing to extremely adverse weather. Only by exercise of the greatest coolness and tenacity was this officer able to surmount the difficulties of the Alpine crossing, reach the target, and complete his mission. On the return flight, the state of the weather exacted the most superlative airmanship and navigational skill. Squadron Leader Grimston finally made a successful landing in this country. In the course of numerous operational sorties, this officer has evinced superb skill and exceptional courage.

Flying Officer Ross Herbert BERTRAM (Can/J.6396), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 38 Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer was the pilot of 1 of a formation of aircraft detailed to make a daylight attack on an enemy ship in Tobruk harbour. Displaying great skill and determination he made a successful attack scoring at least one hit on the target. His determined attack contributed much to the combined effort of the operation which achieved the destruction of the vessel. Flying Officer Bertram displayed high courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Philip Gustave FREBERG (Can/J 6659), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 7 Squadron.

This officer, as navigator, has participated in a number of operational sorties during which he has displayed a high standard of courage and tenacity.

Flying Officer John Stuart MULLER-ROWLAND (103497), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 60 Squadron.

Flying Officer Muller-Rowland has made many reconnaissances deep into Burma and brought back information of great value. On 2 occasions recently, he participated in low level attacks against enemy shipping off Akyab. Despite strong opposition from air and ground defences this officer pressed home his attack with great determination. He has proved himself to be a splendid leader and has set a fine example to his fellow pilots.

Pilot Officer Ernest Brazier COZENS (Can/J.16010), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 218 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Cozens has participated in a large number of operational sorties. One night in December, 1942, he was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in North-West Germany. When approaching the objective his aircraft was held in a cone of searchlights and badly damaged by anti-aircraft fire. Despite this, Pilot Officer Cozens, displaying great determination, flew on and bombed the target from a very low level. On the return journey the bomber was again hit by anti-aircraft fire and the starboard inner engine caught alight. Descending to 100 feet, a fuel tank was jettisoned, and the fire extinguished. Pilot Officer Cozens then flew his aircraft safely back to base. He is an outstanding officer whose only desire is to engage the enemy. His quiet determination and courage have been a fine example to other members of his crew.

Pilot Officer Peter EASTCOTT (Can/J.9563), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 221 Squadron.

On the 26th October, 1942, Pilot Officer Eastcott was navigator in an aircraft which led a formation detailed to make a daylight attack on an enemy ship in Tobruk harbour. The outward flight, a distance of several hundred miles over the sea, was made only a few feet above the water, and complete surprise was achieved. At least 3 hits were scored on the vessel which was destroyed. This officer displayed navigational skill of a high order.

AMENDMENTS.

In notification of 1st January, 1943 (p. 85, col. 1) for NZ.402206 Flight Sergeant Alwyn Metcalf LATELY read NZ.402206 Flight Sergeant Alwyn METCALF and (p. 34, col. 1) notification of awards of Air Force Cross. Below Wing Commander Edmund Thomas Thurlow NELSON (34245) insert Wing Commander Basil Vernon ROBINSON, D.S.O., D.F.C. (34089).

Air Ministry.

8th January, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The undermentioned promotions are made with effect from the dates stated:—

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Air Cdres. (actg. Air Vice-Mshls.) to be Air Vice-Mshls. (tempy.). 1st Dec. 1942.—

D. HARRIES, C.B., A.F.C.
R. D. OXLAND, C.B.E.
A. J. CAPEL, C.B., D.S.O., D.F.C.
A. LEES, C.B.E., D.S.O., A.F.C.
B. E. BAKER, D.S.O., M.C., A.F.C.
J. B. COLE-HAMILTON, C.B.E.
C. R. CARR, C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C.
D. COLYER, C.B., D.F.C.
A. DURSTON, C.B., A.F.C.
H. E. P. WIGGLESWORTH, C.B.E., D.S.C.
H. W. L. SAUNDERS, C.B.E., M.C., D.F.C., M.M.
L. N. HOLLINGHURST, C.B., O.B.E., D.F.C.
R. P. M. WHITHAM, C.B., O.B.E., M.C.
R. S. SORLEY, C.B., O.B.E., D.S.C., D.F.C.
Sir Hugh P. LLOYD, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., D.F.C.

Air Cdres. L. H. SLATTER, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.C., D.F.C., to be Actg. Air Vice-Mshl. 10th Mar 1942, and Air Vice-Mshl. (tempy.). 1st Dec. 1942.

Wg. Cdres. to be Gp. Cpts (tempy.):—
1st Jan 1943. (*Seny. 1st Sept. 1942.*)

W. J. CRISHAM (24248).
R. C. JONAS (26085).
C. M. CHAMPION-DE-CRESPIGNY (27122).

1st Jan 1943.

C. E. MAUDE (ret.) (01203)
T. F. W. THOMPSON, D.F.C. (ret.) (06143).
W. K. MERCER (07249).
E. H. HOOVER (ret.) (02184).
C. H. C. WOOLLVEN, O.B.E., M.C. (03111).
G. R. OLIVER (04151).
H. J. SAKER, M.V.O (ret.) (08088).
F. E. NUTTALL, O.B.E. (ret.) (16081).

Sqn. Ldr. to be Wg. Cdr. (tempy.):—
1st Jan 1943. (*Seny. 1st June 1942.*)
R. S. MILLS, D.F.C. (36067).

1st Jan. 1943.

W. D. LONG, O.B.E. (ret.) (01194).
A. N. BERGE (ret.) (02054).
E. L. ARDLEY (ret.) (03121).
I. C. JACKSON, D.F.C. (33139).

Flt Lts to be Sqn. Ldrs. (tempy.):—
1st Jan. 1943. (*Seny. 1st June 1942.*)
M. W. RUMSEY, D.F.C. (40186).
D. R. M. FROSTICK (40381).

TECHNICAL BRANCH

Air Cdres. (Actg. Air Vice-Mshls.) to be Air Vice-Mshls (tempy.) 1st Dec 1942 —

H. H. McL. FRASER.
V. H. TAIT, O.B.E.
Wg. Cdr. T. F. MOLONEY (22050) to be Gp. Cpt. (tempy.). 1st Jan. 1943. (*Seny. 1st Mar. 1942.*)
Sqn. Ldr. T. E. GUTTERY, M.B.E. (35002) to be Wg. Cdr. (tempy.) 1st Jan. 1943.
Flt. Lt. F. C. RIVERS (37509) to be Sqn. Ldr. (tempy.). 1st Jan. 1943. (*Seny. 1st Sept. 1941.*)

Flg. Offs. to be Flt. Lts. (tempy.):—
1st Jan. 1943. (*Seny. 1st June 1942.*)
R. D. HILL (48497).