

Lieutenant Eric Ian Humphries STURGEON (P.103236), South African Air Force, No. 40 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous reconnaissances. On one occasion he piloted 1 of 2 aircraft which were intercepted by 4 Italian fighters. In the ensuing engagement 2 enemy aircraft were shot down, 1 of them by Lieutenant Sturgeon. On another occasion, in the El Ajamein area, his aircraft was attacked by 8 enemy aircraft but he damaged 1 of them before his own aircraft was shot down. During the fight, Lieutenant Sturgeon was wounded in the neck. Throughout this officer has displayed fine leadership, great determination and devotion to duty.

Pilot Officer Aubrey Hehry Herbert JENKINS (134351), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer has taken part in very many operational missions. Throughout he has displayed exceptional navigational skill and achieved success in circumstances in which any lack of resource would have proved disastrous. He has won the entire confidence of all with whom he has flown.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Aus. 403360 Flight Sergeant John McFARLANE, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 450 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

In operations in the Western Desert, this pilot has displayed great keenness and determination. He has participated in many sorties, involving low bombing and machine gun attacks and fighter escorts. In addition to destroying 1 enemy aircraft in combat, Flight Sergeant McFarlane has inflicted considerable damage to enemy targets on the ground. His skilful leadership and fine fighting qualities have set a praiseworthy example.

Can/R.70100 Flight Sergeant Cedric Stanley MARSH, Royal Canadian Air Force.

As air gunner, Flight Sergeant Marsh has completed a large number of operational missions. Throughout, he has displayed great determination and devotion to duty and has proved himself to be a valuable member of aircraft crew.

Can/R.84748 Flight Sergeant Murray Edward WHITE, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 156 Squadron.

One night in February, 1943, Flight Sergeant White was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Turin. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. A large splinter damaged the main plane and the port inner tank, causing 1 engine to fail. On the return journey, when crossing the Alps, all movable equipment was jettisoned in an effort to maintain height. Much petrol was lost but displaying superb airmanship and great tenacity, Flight Sergeant White flew the damaged aircraft back to this country with 1 engine out of action. His great skill and courage set a fine example.

996639 Sergeant William McLEAN, No. 7 Squadron.

One night in December, 1942, Sergeant McLean was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Rhineland. During the operation the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, which rendered the rear turret unserviceable. Unperturbed, Sergeant McLean operated the turret manually and, when the aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter, his courageous conduct was worthy of high praise.

Aus. 411251 Sergeant Neil Frank MOSES, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 178 Squadron.

Sergeant Moses was the rear gunner of an aircraft which in January, 1943, was detailed to attack Tripoli by night. When nearing the target the aircraft was subjected to anti-aircraft fire. A shell burst in the rear compartment slightly wounding Sergeant Moses and causing small arms ammunition to explode. Pyrotechnics were in danger of becoming ignited but Sergeant Moses, displaying great coolness and initiative, succeeded in jettisoning them. In the face of a trying situation, this airman displayed great resource and rendered valuable assistance to his captain.

*Air Ministry, 2nd March, 1943.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

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

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Squadron Leader George Kemp GILROY, D.F.C. (90481), Auxiliary Air Force.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Ronald BERRY, D.F.C. (78538), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 81 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Christopher David NORTH-LEWIS (45075), No. 26 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Withington PEARSON (44804), No. 140 Squadron.

The above awards are for gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

*Air Ministry, 2nd March, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Canadian Ministers, to approve the following award:—

*Air Force Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant George Delong PRESTON (Can/C. 1266), Royal Canadian Air Force.

*Air Ministry, 2nd March, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Canadian Ministers, to give orders for the publication of the name of the undermentioned officer, who has been mentioned in despatches:—

Pilot Officer J. W. DEWAR (Can/J.8821), Royal Canadian Air Force.

*Air Ministry, 2nd March, 1943.*

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Canadian Ministers, to give orders for the publication of the names of the undermentioned, as having been commended for brave conduct:—

Can/R.102462 Sergeant G. BARNHOLDEN, Royal Canadian Air Force.

Can/R.115519 Leading Aircraftman R. J. LACERTE, Royal Canadian Air Force.

Can/R.71150 Leading Aircraftman H. D. WRIGHT, Royal Canadian Air Force.

NZ.416998 Leading Aircraftman D. LeQ. BADLEY, Royal New Zealand Air Force.

*Air Ministry, 2nd March, 1943.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

To be Plt. Offs. on prob. (emergency):—

Wt. Offs.

522064 Thomas John Gordon NEECH (50886). 30th Oct. 1942.

527333 James Frederick DIXON (50856). 14th Nov. 1942.

613534 Philip William BROOM (50924). 15th Dec. 1942.

Flt. Sgts.

628211 Charles Burns WATSON (50925). 14th Oct. 1942.

628436 Ronald Christopher SHEPHERD (50949). 2nd Nov. 1942.

613001 Leonard JOHN (50970). 22nd Dec. 1942.

567895 Derrick Hubert BUTTON (50953). 19th Jan. 1943.

Sgts.

567028 George Douglas REYNOLDS (50843). 29th Sept. 1942.

30th Dec. 1942.

591598 Kenneth Warrender SWANN (50889). 544858 Robert McKenzie HOGG (50969).

19th Jan. 1943.

521197 Peter James ATKINS (50958). 568233 Samuel Edgar COWEN (50955).

569680 Ronald FERGUSON (50960). 534199 Robert GREY (50952).

559213 Richard William HOLMES (50961). 619851 Victor Griffiths HOPE (50951).

527989 Thomas Noel Castree PROSSER, D.F.M. (50957).

363236 William Folger READHEAD (50956).

Tempy. Sgts.

19th Jan. 1943.

568242 Claud Andrew RENNIE (50959). 573288 Edward Ernest STOCKER (50954).

Cpls.

571068 Leslie Seward DEARLING (49729). 11th Sept. 1942.

570993 Stanley John EATON (49804). 25th Sept. 1942.