

Acting Squadron Leader Samuel Philip RUSSELL (73011), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 23 Squadron.

This officer has completed 41 sorties. Whilst serving in the United Kingdom, he participated in numerous attacks on lines of communication in France and Belgium, causing the destruction of seven locomotives. In the Middle East he has executed many sorties, involving attacks on rail and road transport, causing much destruction. In March, 1943, Squadron Leader Russell made a successful attack on a destroyer. Some days later he pressed home a vigorous attack on a medium-sized merchant vessel, setting it on fire. In addition, he destroyed an E boat. This officer has displayed inspiring leadership, great courage and keenness.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Alfred GLENDINNING (Aus. 404337), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 450 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer completed much flying on operations in the Western Desert. He is an extremely efficient flight commander, whose fine qualities both in the air and on the ground have set an excellent example. Flight Lieutenant Glendinning has destroyed three enemy aircraft.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Alfred John George JARVIS (110950), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 408 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed 28 operational missions, including attacks on some of the most strongly defended targets in Germany and Northern France. He is an extremely efficient air gunner, and his fine work as squadron gunnery leader has contributed materially to the successes obtained. He has displayed courage, coolness and outstanding devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Anthony Eustace MORRISON-BELL (65492), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 6 Squadron.

This officer has participated in 12 low-level attacks on armoured fighting vehicles. In March, 1943, he led a formation of aircraft on a concentration of tanks near El Hamma. In spite of heavy anti-aircraft fire, a vigorous attack was pressed home, several tanks being put out of action. Flight Lieutenant Morrison-Bell's courageous example and great skill have been worthy of high praise.

Captain John Henry GAYNOR (205579), South African Air Force, No. 1 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer is a fearless and resourceful fighter. He has led the squadron on many occasions, setting a most inspiring example. Captain Gaynor has destroyed at least four enemy aircraft, two of them on his first operational flight.

Flying Officer John Maxwell FREELAND (Aus. 401561), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 6 Squadron.

In attacks on enemy tank formations, this officer has displayed keenness and determination. One day in March, 1943, he took part in a successful operation against an enemy force which menaced a position at Ksar Rhlane, setting three tanks on fire. Some days later he pressed home an attack on an enemy force near El Hamma. His aircraft was severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire, but he inflicted loss before he was compelled to make a landing in our own lines. Flying Officer Freeland has displayed great skill and courage.

Flying Officer Dean Wendell JONES (111542), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 6 Squadron.

In attacks on the enemy's mechanised transport, this officer has displayed great courage and determination. In March, 1943, he took part in an attack on a number of enemy tanks south of El Hamma. Despite intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Jones pressed home his attack, setting two tanks on fire. His aircraft was severely damaged, but he skilfully fought off two enemy fighters to make a successful landing in our own lines.

Flying Officer Dennis Somerset LEE (102548), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 6 Squadron.

In operations in the Western Desert, this officer has completed 10 low flying attacks on enemy mechanised transport. More recently, in Tunisia, he has taken part in several sorties of a similar nature. In an operation in March, 1943, he attacked a tank from such close range that his aircraft was damaged by the blast and flying metal when the vehicle blew up. The following day, on another sortie, he brought his aircraft

so low to destroy a tank that he damaged a propeller and the tail wheel by hitting the tank as he broke away. Flying Officer Lee has displayed great courage and skill, pressing home his attacks regardless of the opposition.

Flying Officer Theodore Ivan PETERSEN (113495), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 6 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in 11 sorties, involving attacks on tank concentrations. On two occasions his aircraft has been severely damaged by enemy fire but, displaying great skill, Flying Officer Petersen, on each occasion, succeeded in landing in our own lines. This officer has invariably displayed courage and determination of a high order.

Pilot Officer Robert GARVEN (141132), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 221 Squadron.

This officer has completed 41 operational missions, including a number of successful shipping reconnaissances. On several occasions he has been instrumental in locating enemy convoys which have later been attacked with success. In the face of heavy opposition, Pilot Officer Garven has executed his tasks with skill and daring, setting an example worthy of the highest praise.

Pilot Officer Robert Dickson JOHNSTONE (123522), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 51 Squadron.

One night in April, 1943, this officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Essen. When nearing the target area, the aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter. The bomber sustained much damage and five members of the crew were wounded. In the face of this trying situation, the bombs were released and course was set for home. Although on the return flight he was deprived of the services of the flight engineer and the navigator, owing to their injuries, Pilot Officer Johnstone flew the damaged aircraft back to this country. On arrival at an airfield he signalled for an ambulance and a doctor to stand-by in readiness to attend to his wounded comrades, and then effected a masterly landing without the aid of flaps. Pilot Officer Johnstone displayed great courage and resource in very difficult circumstances.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

923049 Flight Sergeant Geoffrey Frank KEEN, D.F.M., No. 427 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in March, 1943, this airman was the wireless operator of an aircraft detailed to attack Essen. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was hit by heavy anti-aircraft fire. The navigator was killed instantaneously. Flight Sergeant Keen, who was in the astro-dome, had his right foot blown off and received cuts on both legs. Disregarding his wounds, Flight Sergeant Keen regained his seat in the wireless cabin. For over two hours he laboured to repair the damaged apparatus. He could not speak to other members of the crew owing to damage to the inter-communication apparatus. Another airman spoke to him, however, on at least a dozen occasions and found him still conscious and working at his self-imposed task of directing the manipulation of various installations. He also offered assistance in navigating the aircraft and actually managed to drag himself on two occasions to the navigator's compartment to obtain essential information. His courage and fortitude in such circumstances were of the highest order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R. 110157, Sergeant Arthur Alured MELLIN, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in February, 1943, this airman was the navigator of an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission off the Frisian Islands. In the course of the operation an enemy fighter engaged the aircraft, raking its fuselage with machine-gun fire. The flight engineer and the rear gunner were killed, while Sergeant Mellin was hit in the leg by a bullet which caused a compound fracture of the fibia and tibia bones. Despite the severity of his injuries this airman assumed the duties of the flight engineer while other members of the crew were quelling flames which had broken out in the bomb bay. He afterwards returned to his navigational duties, proving of great assistance to his pilot who flew the damaged aircraft to an airfield in this country. Although he had lost