

flown. Recently, as leader, he took part in 3 sorties and the successes obtained pay a high tribute to Squadron Leader Meads' thoroughness and ability. He has rendered excellent service.

Acting Squadron Leader John Milne CHECKETTS (N.Z.403602), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 485 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This officer has led the squadron and, on occasions the wing, with great skill. He has invariably displayed great keenness to engage the enemy and has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft and damaged several more. In addition he has destroyed 2 E. boats and successfully attacked military installations.

Acting Squadron Leader Alec INGLE, A.F.C. (83980), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 609 Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties. By his exceptional skill and leadership he has contributed in a large measure to the successes obtained by the squadron which, within recent weeks has damaged some 15 ships. Squadron Leader Ingle, who has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft has rendered fine service.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Brian Desmond BARKER (I29452), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1333556 Sergeant Ronald George GODDARD, Royal Air Force, No. 78 Squadron.

In air operations this officer and airman have displayed courage and fortitude of the highest order.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Colin McTaggart SHANNON (Aus.415055), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 76 Squadron.

Pilot Officer William Claude ELLIS (132386), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 76 Squadron.

One night in July, 1943, these officers were pilot and wireless operator/air gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Essen. When nearing the target, one of the port propellers was shattered and the engine caught fire. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant Shannon went on to make a successful bombing run. The wireless apparatus was unserviceable as the aerials had been destroyed but Pilot Officer Ellis resourcefully erected an emergency aerial and thus was enabled to re-establish contact with base and obtain bearings which proved of material assistance to his pilot on the return flight. Both these officers displayed great skill and tenacity, setting an excellent example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Oliver Brook ROBERTSON (Can/J.10302), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 97 Squadron.

One night in July, 1943, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Hamburg. When about to commence his bombing run one engine caught fire, while one of the wings was set alight. Almost immediately the bomber was illuminated by the searchlights. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant Robertson pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the damaged bomber to this country. This officer displayed great courage and resolution in the face of harassing circumstances.

Flying Officer William Robert Weir ANDERSON (Can/J.13558), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in July, 1943, this officer was mid-upper gunner of an aircraft which was attacked by an enemy fighter during an operational flight. Although he sustained 4 wounds in the left arm, Flying Officer Anderson continued to fire his guns during 7 subsequent attacks until the hostile aircraft was sent diving towards the ground with 1 engine in flames. Flying Officer Anderson displayed great courage and fortitude in most trying circumstances.

Flying Officer Frank Stanley FOYSTON (Can/J.8166), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 252 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in several sorties during which he has attacked shipping and other enemy targets with success. By his fine fighting qualities, keenness and devotion to duty, Flying Officer Foyston has set a most praiseworthy example.

Flying Officer Geoffrey TURNER (Can/J.7326), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 75 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This officer has taken part in numerous sorties and has proved himself to be a fearless and skilful pilot. On one occasion he was severely injured as the result of a crash landing but, on recovery some months later, resumed operational flying with undiminished zest. One night in July, 1943, Flying Officer Turner piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Hamburg. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft collided with an enemy fighter which struck and broke off some 4 feet of the starboard wing. Other damage was sustained, making the bomber difficult to control. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Turner flew back to base and effected a safe landing. He displayed outstanding skill and determination throughout.

Flying Officer Geoffrey Gordon WHITE (N.Z.414367), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 126 Squadron.

This officer has completed very many sorties and obtained many successes. During a flight in May, 1943, he attacked a large motor vessel off the coast of Pantellaria. In the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer White pressed home a determined attack, setting the vessel on fire. In other sorties, he has destroyed at least 2 enemy aircraft. During the recent air operations over Sicily, Flying Officer White has displayed skill and courage of a high order.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1380158 Flight Sergeant George Colin HARRISON, Royal Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in July, 1943, this airman piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Essen. Whilst making his bombing run the aircraft was hit by fire from the ground defences. One engine was put out of action, while a second one caught fire. Almost immediately the bomber was again hit, causing it to dive violently out of control. Considerable height was lost but Flight Sergeant Harrison, by a skilful effort, regained control and evaded the defences. Two engines were unserviceable but course was set for base. Soon after crossing the enemy coast all moveable equipment was jettisoned and height thus being maintained, Flight Sergeant Harrison succeeded in reaching an airfield in this country. This airman displayed superb skill, great courage and determination throughout and was mainly responsible for the safe return of the crippled bomber.

1289310 Flight Sergeant Herbert Arthur TAYLOR, Royal Air Force, No. 38 Squadron.

This airman has taken part in a large number of operations, including attacks on shipping and mine-laying missions. In June, 1943, in the Aegean sea, he attacked an enemy vessel and, a little later, in the same area, attacked another; 1 of the vessels was set on fire. In the latter action, Flight Sergeant Taylor's aircraft was extensively damaged by anti-aircraft fire but, in the face of great odds, he flew it to an airfield and made a successful crash-landing. Flight Sergeant Taylor is a courageous and skilful pilot whose achievements have been worthy of the highest praise.

1332929 Sergeant Stanley William GOODMAN, Royal Air Force, No. 218 Squadron.

974437 Sergeant John PARKINSON, Royal Air Force, No. 218 Squadron.

One night in July, 1943, these airmen were pilot and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Essen. When nearing the target area, the aircraft was hit and sustained much damage. The port flaps were set on fire but, displaying great promptitude, Sergeant Parkinson succeeded in putting out the flames with an extinguisher. Although the aircraft became difficult to control, Sergeant Goodman pressed home his attack with vigour and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base. These airmen displayed commendable courage and resolution.

1339011 Sergeant John Alwyn PHILLIPS, Royal Air Force, No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Sergeant Phillips is a skilful pilot who has taken part in many attacks against important enemy targets. One night in July, 1943, he was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Cologne. During the operation his aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter and sustained damage, making it difficult to control. The bomb doors were shot away but Sergeant Phillips flew on to the target where the bombs were released manually. This airman displayed praiseworthy skill and determination.