

Pilot Officer Granville WILSON, D.F.M. (141094), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 7 Squadron

One night in July, 1943, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed for an operation against Hamburg. Whilst over the target area his aircraft was hit in several places by anti-aircraft fire and, whilst taking evasive action one of the propellers was shot away. Despite this, Pilot Officer Wilson regained his bombing run and attacked the target successfully. On the return flight a second engine became defective but Pilot Officer Wilson succeeded in flying the damaged aircraft to base. The following night en route to another objective 1 engine of his aircraft became useless but Pilot Officer Wilson continued to the target and bombed it. This officer has completed many sorties and has always endeavoured to press home his attacks with vigour. His skill and courage have set a commendable example.

Warrant Officer Thomas McNeill ORMISTON (1368751), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 277 Squadron.

Warrant Officer Ormiston has participated in many air/sea rescue operations and has rendered excellent service. In July, 1943, he piloted an aircraft detailed to rescue a bomber crew adrift in their dinghy some 90 miles east of Orfordness. The dinghy was successfully located and, although heavy seas were running, Warrant Officer Ormiston skilfully brought his aircraft down on to the water and the crew were taken aboard. Owing to the very heavy swell he was unable to take off again. Nevertheless, displaying great resolution he taxied the aircraft on a course towards home. The sea became very rough but Warrant Officer Ormiston battled on escorted by 4 motor gun boats which had been diverted to his assistance. Seven hours later, when within 20 miles of Lowestoft the petrol became exhausted and, after much manoeuvring in the darkness, the aircraft was taken in tow by 1 of the gunboats. The aircraft was severely buffeted, however, and an hour later, after its members had been taken aboard the towing vessel, the aircraft had to be abandoned for the night. Warrant Officer Ormiston displayed great courage, fortitude and resource in very trying circumstances.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Warrant Officer Warren Leonard WILSON (Aus.403972), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

618877 Sergeant George William OLIVER, Royal Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in August, 1943, these airmen were pilot and mid-upper gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Peenemunde. The objective was successfully bombed but, shortly afterwards, the aircraft was hit by cannon fire from an enemy fighter. The rear gunner was wounded, his turret was rendered useless and ammunition in the aircraft was set alight, while the elevator and rudder trimmers were shot away. In spite of these harassing circumstances, Sergeant Oliver fought the attacker with great determination and succeeded in shooting it down. He then turned his attention towards the fire which was beginning to spread and, with assistance from other members of the crew, succeeded in quelling it. Meanwhile, Warrant Officer Wilson coolly and skilfully evaded several fighters and afterwards flew the crippled bomber to base. This pilot displayed superb qualities throughout, while Sergeant Oliver's courageous and skilful efforts proved of the greatest assistance.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Robert TAYLOR (130843), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Flying Officer Alfred HAGAN (135880), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1119320 Flight Sergeant Joseph SANKEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 10 Squadron.

In air operations these officers and airman have displayed great courage and fortitude, setting an example of the highest order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

903697 Flight Sergeant William George ALLEN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 35 Squadron.

1377851 Flight Sergeant David Ronald BRADLEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 35 Squadron.

In air operations, Flight Sergeants Allen and Bradley have displayed courage and fortitude of a high order.

Air Ministry, 7th September, 1943.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

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

581337 Vivian HOWKINS (52705). 27th Jan. 1943.

564483 Horace Percival WOODWARD (52719). 7th Apr. 1943.

581327 Norman Charles Morris EDWARDS (52704). 24th Apr. 1943.

581070 Reginald OLDLAND (52717). 8th May 1943.

581024 William WALKER (52703). 29th May 1943.

Flt Sgts.

535873 Edwin Douglas HOUSLAY (52706). 27th May 1943.

552509 Clifford Allan ROBSON (52695). 30th May 1943.

637628 John Creighton BECK (52694). 20th June 1943.

566862 Oswald Albert FOX (52688). 21st June 1943.

651888 Eric Gordon SHELL (52713). 23rd June 1943.

27th June 1943.

543173 Arthur Samuel MORTON (52754).

552201 George Alexander CHALMERS (52692).

511628 Matthew Leonard GLYNN (52708). 28th June 1943.

635829 Vernon Foster BILBROUGH (52696). 13th July 1943.

Sgts.

538395 Archibald Ferguson BREMNER (52753). 30th Mar. 1943.

570521 Tom William CLARKSON (52689). 16th Apr. 1943.

631127 William Andre WRIGHT (52686). 30th Apr. 1943.

570729 George McDerriott STEWART (52714). 18th June 1943.

571568 Ernest Alfred VALE (52691). 19th June 1943.

647855 Eric Burnett THORN (52690). 30th June 1943.

574165 Victor Jack GLANVILLE (52687). 8th July 1943.

578310 Bernard Handley HOWARD (52715). 10th July 1943.

Cpls.

5th June 1943.

543754 Deryk Vaughan JENKINS (51959).

536494 Douglas Hoagg SYMINGTON (51960).

Flt. Lt. F. W. OTTER, A.F.M. (44309), is transf'd. to the Admin. and Spec. Duties Br. 18th Aug. 1943.

Air Chf.-Mshl. Sir Arthur M. LONGMORE, G.C.B., D.S.O. (R.A.F. ret.), relinquishes at his own request the rank of Air Ch.-Mshl. whilst re-employed with the R.A.F., and assumes the rank of Air Vice-Mshl. 1st Aug. 1943.

Sqn. Ldr. B. P. KING, A.F.C. (57292) is seconded for Special Duty. 14th Aug. 1943.

Flt. Lt. P. R. S. FILLEUL (33383) takes rank and precedence as if his appt. as Flt. Lt. bore date 25th Mar. 1943. Reduction to take effect from 25th Mar. 1943.

Gp. Capt. O. C. BRYSON, M.C., D.F.C., A.M., is placed on the Retd. List. 15th Aug. 1943.

Amendments.

In notifi. of 30th Mar. 1943 (p. 1468, col. 2) concerning T. A. HOWELLS, A.F.M. (51150) for Plt. Off. read Flg. Off.

In notifi. of 3rd Aug. 1943 (p. 3485, col. 2) concerning 571935 J. D. GRIMSHAW (55094) and 526591 W. C. BAIRD (55045) for Temp. Sgts. read Cpls.