

Pilot Officer John GLOVER (158029), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 9 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Leipzig. When nearing the target area the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Bullets from the enemy hit the bomber from stem to stern. One engine caught fire, the intercommunication system was put out of action and the rear turret was badly damaged; some important equipment was also rendered useless. Soon afterwards, the bomber was again attacked and sustained further damage. The windscreen was shattered. Two petrol tanks were pierced. Two members of the crew were wounded. Undeterred, Pilot Officer Glover went on to the target and executed a successful attack and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base. His example of skill, courage and resolution in the face of harassing circumstances was worthy of high praise.

Pilot Officer Edward Henri Joseph SUAREZ (Can/J.18830), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 576 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, this officer was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was struck by shrapnel. The whole electrical circuit was fused, while Pilot Officer Suarez had his oxygen tube severed by a fragment. He resourcefully repaired the damage to his tube by means of his handkerchief and was able to obtain light to continue his navigational task by tying the engineer's lamp to his forehead. Later on, Pilot Officer Suarez lost all his equipment. Despite this he navigated the aircraft to base. In difficult circumstances his skill, coolness and initiative were highly commendable. Pilot Officer Suarez has participated in many attacks on important targets and has invariably displayed praiseworthy determination and devotion to duty.

Warrant Officer Thomas John BASSETT (Aus.412097), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 576 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, Warrant Officer Bassett was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Whilst crossing the North Sea, the rear gunner complained of the lack of oxygen. The cause could not be ascertained. To afford the gunner some relief, Warrant Officer Bassett came down to a lower altitude and continued on his course. When nearing the target area, one of the bomber's engines became unserviceable and had to be feathered. Nevertheless, Warrant Officer Bassett persisted in his mission and successfully attacked the target. He is a most determined and resourceful captain, whose example has greatly inspired his crew.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Warrant Officer Ernest Armitage BROWN (1294659), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

945704 Sergeant Philip DAVISON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

1433707 Sergeant Michael TARPEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

Warrant Officer Brown and Sergeants Davison and Tarpey were pilot, flight engineer and air bomber respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Frankfurt one night in December, 1943. Some 40 miles from the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter, being repeatedly hit by the enemy's bullets. The mid-upper gunner and the flight engineer were wounded. The aircraft sustained much damage and went into a spiral dive and considerable height was lost before Warrant Officer Brown regained control. The intercommunication system and the mid-upper turret were unserviceable and some important equipment was useless. Nevertheless, Warrant Officer Brown went on to the target and afterwards flew the aircraft back to base. In spite of difficulties, Sergeant Tarpey and his wounded comrade, Sergeant Davison, fulfilled their tasks with skill and resolution, rendering valuable assistance to their pilot on the homeward flight. In harassing circumstances, these 3 members of aircraft crew displayed courage, coolness and determination of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

927917 Flight Sergeant William James Thomas GRANFIELD, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 166 Squadron.

As air bomber this airman has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed skill, determination and devotion to duty of a high standard. In December, 1943, he took part in an attack on Leipzig. When nearing the target area, the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and, a little later, was attacked by a fighter. Damage was sustained and a fire commenced. In spite of the flames and the fumes, Flight Sergeant Granfield coolly directed his pilot to the target and released his bombs. His conduct in the face of imminent danger was most praiseworthy.

1430138 Flight Sergeant Robert Alastair KEMP, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 166 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, this airman was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Leipzig. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft was repeatedly hit by bullets from an enemy fighter. One member of the crew was killed and another seriously wounded. The bomber caught fire. In spite of the fumes, Flight Sergeant Kemp coolly and skilfully guided his pilot to the target and released the bombs. This airman, who has participated in a large number of sorties, has invariably displayed courage and determination of a high order.

Air Ministry, 21st January, 1944.

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

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Harry Ralph Edward ALSOP (155362), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

Pilot Officer George Alexander ANDERSON (157987), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 12 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Reginald Leslie ASH (149209), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 44 Squadron.

Pilot Officer John Lewis BARTON (157646), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 76 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Charles Edwin BERRY (155584), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

Pilot Officer James Hamilton BERRY (159479), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 100 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Denis Noble BRITTON, D.F.M. (155770), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Henry Luke BRITTON (Aus.413523), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 460 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Austin Charles Frederick BROWN, D.F.M. (149571), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Stanley BURTON (158541), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 625 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Henry Clifford CARD (Can/J.18179), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Charles Richard Albert CHALLIS (155586), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Graham Willoughby COBURN (Can/J.18560), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 83 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Robert Williams CORKILL (155575), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 9 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Jack Cuthbert CORNHILL (155390), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 100 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Robert Charles COVENY (Aus.412914), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 460 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Francis George CROWHURST (155826), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 101 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Robert Joseph EDIE (158543), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 103 Squadron.

Pilot Officer James Ronald EVANS (159719), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 103 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Daniel Bulmer EVERETT (155233), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 35 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Colin Stafford FRANCIS (Aus.14744), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 460 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Pilot Officer Wilfred Henry GEORGE (159019), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 78 Squadron.