

During a recent attack on the German capital his aircraft was badly damaged in a fight with 2 enemy aircraft. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Wiggan pressed home his bombing attack with great resolution and afterwards flew the damaged bomber to base where he executed a perfect crash-landing, although one of the landing wheels had been shot away. He is a fine leader whose example has imbued his crew with great confidence.

Flying Officer Sidney WHITTINGHAM (147501), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 102 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties, including attacks on such well defended targets as Berlin, Leipzig, Magdeburg and Frankfurt. He has invariably displayed great courage and determination and has proved himself to be a valuable member of aircraft crew. On a recent occasion, when over Berlin, his aircraft was badly damaged by a fighter. Although much of his equipment was lost, Flying Officer Whittingham navigated the aircraft home with great accuracy. His skilful work contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft.

Flying Officer Alwyn Berriman DOWNING, D.F.M. (145321), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 600 Squadron.

Pilot Officer John Thomas LYONS, D.F.M. (169487), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 600 Squadron.

As pilot and observer respectively these officers have completed very many sorties at night during which they have destroyed 12 enemy aircraft, 3 of which they shot down in one sortie over the beaches south of Rome one night in January, 1944. They have displayed great skill and keenness throughout and their achievements have won great praise.

Pilot Officer Charles Alfred KIRKHAM, D.F.M. (160939), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 76 Squadron.

This officer is a most determined captain, whose fine fighting spirit has been well evident in numerous encounters with enemy fighters. On a recent occasion, during the outward flight to Mannheim, a fighter was observed flying on a parallel course. Pilot Officer Kirkham promptly went into the attack and, manoeuvring with great skill, he presented his gunners with an opportunity to fire effectively at the enemy aircraft, causing it to burst into flames and spiral to the ground. This officer has completed a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed commendable courage and coolness.

Warrant Officer Norman PICKLES (534657), Royal Air Force, No. 284 Squadron.

Warrant Officer Pickles has taken part in a large number of air/sea rescue operations during which he has assisted in rescuing 10 members of aircraft crew. On one occasion whilst assisting a comrade from the sea, Warrant Officer Pickles was hit by machine-gun fire. Although in great pain and suffering from shock, he persisted in his efforts until the rescue was successfully effected. This warrant officer has invariably displayed praiseworthy courage, determination and devotion to duty.

#### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

778973 Flight Sergeant William Henry Charles COLLINS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 148 Squadron.

As rear gunner, Flight Sergeant Collins has taken part in very many sorties and throughout has displayed exceptional keenness and efficiency. On one occasion, in October, 1943, in an operation which demanded a high degree of skill and courage, his initiative and competence played a good part in the success achieved. His exemplary conduct on all occasions has been most commendable.

1359508 Flight Sergeant Harold LANGDON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 148 Squadron.

As wireless operator/air, Flight Sergeant Langdon has participated in a large number of sorties and has proved himself to be a cool, skilful and resolute member of aircraft crew. In addition to his work in the air, Flight Sergeant Langdon has displayed great keenness in devoting his skill towards the training of other members of the squadron. He has set a praiseworthy example.

*Air Ministry, 3rd March, 1944.*

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

#### *Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Wing Commander Archibald Douglas McNeill BOYD, D.F.C. (72461), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 219 Squadron.

Acting Wing Commander Hugh Spencer Lisle DUNDAS, D.F.C. (91001), Auxiliary Air Force.

Acting Squadron Leader Leonard Harold BARTLETT (102959), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 253 Squadron.

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Ronald Roumieu THOMSON (61512), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 114 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Hugh Raymond HARRISON (110412), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 55 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Donald Frank PERRENS (47493), Royal Air Force, No. 225 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Alec Paul WHICHER (45609), Royal Air Force, No. 114 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant James Frederick Charles MELROSE (106976), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 55 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Valentine George James PHILLIPS (46925), Royal Air Force, No. 255 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ernest Gerald SHEARS (78691), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 55 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Harry Stephen WOODS (104418), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 145 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Harold Wallace CLYNE (122934), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 682 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant James William RYDER (130793), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 223 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Ronald Darby THIRSK (117600), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 104 Squadron.

Flying Officer Joseph BERRY (118435), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 255 Squadron.

Flying Officer David Oswald HENDRY (129121), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 219 Squadron.

Flying Officer Peter Rodney HUMPHREY-BAKER (124720), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 114 Squadron.

Flying Officer Denis Sydney POLLARD (157153), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 255 Squadron.

Flying Officer Charles John ROGERS (126529), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 37 Squadron.

Flying Officer Colin William Carstairs TURNER (156453), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 223 Squadron.

Flying Officer Ian WATSON (128549), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 255 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Edward John DENNIS (169417), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 104 Squadron.

Warrant Officer William Muir ANDERSON (776068), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 18 Squadron.

Warrant Officer Gordon White POTTER (1190420), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 223 Squadron.

#### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

655093 Flight Sergeant John Thomas Richard BURKE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 70 Squadron.

1431061 Flight Sergeant Fred SIMPSON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 683 Squadron.

1219708 Sergeant Arthur CALVERT, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 37 Squadron.

#### ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Squadron Leader Harry Stancliff SMITH (Aus.411717), No. 683 Squadron.

Flying Officer Alexander Gordon Barrett BLUMER (Aus.411733), No. 601 Squadron.