

assisted in the destruction of 6 enemy aircraft. His keenness and devotion to duty have been unflinching.

Warrant Officer Ian MACDONALD (1059249), R.A.F.V.R.

In air operations this officer has displayed skill, courage and devotion to duty of the highest order.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Malcolm Stjernqvist BUCHANAN (Aus.414641), R.A.A.F., 78 Sqn.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

1571262 Sergeant William James BAILEY, R.A.F.V.R., 78 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer and airman were captain and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in North France. After the target had been bombed, the bomber was attacked by an enemy fighter and sustained severe damage. A fire broke out within the aircraft and an explosion occurred in Sergeant Bailey's compartment wounding him in both legs. Disregarding his injuries, this airman fought the fire until the flames were quelled. Meanwhile Flying Officer Buchanan, who had been severely burnt about the face, flew the aircraft on a level course. This officer and airman have completed many sorties and have at all times displayed courage, fortitude and determination of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1033272 Flight Sergeant James Ernest GIFFORD, R.A.F.V.R., 18 Sqn.

1482189 Flight Sergeant Stanley Jefferson BARKER, R.A.F.V.R., 18 Sqn.

One night in August, 1944, these airmen were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a heavily defended bridge across the River Arno, over which the enemy forces were withdrawing. Despite considerable anti-aircraft opposition, the bridge was bombed and destroyed. These airmen have completed very many sorties and have continuously displayed exceptional keenness and co-operation.

1323013 Flight Sergeant Leonard William RIDDLE, R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

2203719 Sergeant Richard BOSTOCK, R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

1895615 Sergeant Bernard Allan LOOSLEY, R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, these airmen were navigator, flight engineer and mid-upper gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Hamburg. Soon after completing the bombing run, the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and fires broke out. Sergeant Loosley was trapped at the rear end of the fuselage and, unable to quell the flames with extinguishers, he removed his flying kit and used it as a means of successfully extinguishing the fires. Meanwhile Flight Sergeant Riddle and Sergeant Bostock fought the fires in the fuselage and rendered very valuable help to their pilot, who had received injuries. On the return flight the damaged aircraft was extremely

difficult to control. Only two engines were in action and much equipment was lost. Although badly injured, these airmen displayed great skill and fortitude and played a good part in the safe return of the aircraft to this country.

1104382 Sergeant Robert Stanley ROBERTS, R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this airman was wireless operator of an aircraft detailed to attack Hamburg. Shortly after leaving the target area, the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire and set on fire. Sergeant Roberts was severely burnt in the face, hands and legs; nevertheless he managed to put out the fires in the vicinity of his position and sent an S.O.S. message before his equipment became totally unserviceable. For the remainder of the return flight, this airman, disregarding his own injuries, administered first aid and morphia to another crew member who had received severe burns and was very ill. Not until the aircraft had reached this country did Sergeant Roberts make any mention of his own injuries. He has completed many sorties against a variety of targets and his courage and fortitude have been of the highest order.

Air Ministry, 22nd September, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of distinguished services:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Group Captain Charles Stewart MORICE, M.C. (03003), R.A.F.
Squadron Leader Arthur George HANDS (62430), R.A.F.V.R.

Government House, Canberra, 22nd September, 1944.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award with effect from 31st August, 1944, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy in the South-West Pacific area:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Air Commodore Frederick Rudolph William SCHERGER, A.F.C.

Office of the Minister of Defence, Wellington, New Zealand, 22nd September, 1944.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations in the South-West Pacific area:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Stanley Gilbert QUILL (N.Z.1059), 14 (N.Z.) Sqn.
Flying Officer Rex Alexander WEBER (N.Z.404979), 14 (N.Z.) Sqn.

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