

target, on the homeward flight, Warrant Officer Hudson saw a Junkers 88 closing in. He promptly warned his captain. Evading action was taken after the rear gunner had opened fire. The enemy aircraft came in again, however, with guns firing. Warrant Officer Hudson was badly wounded. In spite of this he continued to fire his guns to the best of his ability until the enemy aircraft was evaded some five minutes later. Not until the fight had ended was any member of the crew aware that Warrant Officer Hudson had been hit. His injuries were severe but he had fought bravely and well. His efforts contributed in good measure to the safety of the aircraft. His fortitude and strong sense of duty in spite of much physical suffering set a magnificent example.

Warrant Officer Albert William RUSSELL (1376322), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

In September, 1944, Warrant Officer Russell was the air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack a well defended enemy strong point in the Calais area. In spite of considerable light anti-aircraft fire, Warrant Officer Russell directed his pilot on six runs over the target before releasing his bombs. The success achieved was proved by the photograph he obtained. This warrant officer has participated in many successful sorties and has invariably displayed the highest standard of skill and courage.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Flying Officer Edward MCGINDLE (Aus.418612), R.A.A.F., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1452215 Flight Sergeant Cecil Frederick BALDWIN, R.A.F.V.R., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Aus.434231 Flight Sergeant Edward George WHELAN, R.A.A.F., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

1159268 Sergeant Stuart Leslie SOAMES, R.A.F.V.R., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer and these airmen were captain, air bomber, wireless operator (air) and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a synthetic oil refinery at Sterkrade in October, 1944. In the vicinity of the target the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire. A fire commenced in the fuselage behind the main bulkhead. Promptly and resolutely, Sergeant Soames attempted to quell the flames. As he fought, the aircraft was again hit. The navigator was seriously wounded; Flight Sergeant Baldwin was also wounded but withheld the fact from his captain in order to help Flight Sergeant Whelan who had gone to the assistance of their stricken comrade. Meanwhile, Sergeant Soames succeeded in putting out the fire. During this trying period Flying Officer McGindle had shown the qualities of a fine captain and his coolness and able directions greatly inspired his crew. One engine had become defective and, a little later, ceased to function completely. The airspeed indicator was unserviceable and much other damage had been sustained. Nevertheless, Flying Officer McGindle flew the aircraft safely to base. This officer displayed great skill and determination throughout. Flight Sergeants Baldwin and Whelan and Sergeant Soames also proved themselves to be devoted and resolute members of aircraft crew. They did everything possible to assist their captain in his endeavour to reach home, whilst their efficient first aid and constant attention to their grievously wounded comrade undoubtedly played a prominent part in saving his life.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1324363 Sergeant Henry HAMMOND, R.A.F.V.R., 466 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

In September, 1944, Sergeant Hammond was the air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack an oil refinery at Gelsenkirchen. Whilst over the target the aircraft was struck by shrapnel. Sergeant Hammond was wounded. In spite of this he continued to direct his captain on the bombing run to execute a successful attack. He afterwards declined to go to a rest position and insisted on remaining at his post until the mission was completed. On this, his third sortie, Sergeant Hammond displayed the highest standard of determination and devotion to duty.

*Air Ministry, 12th December, 1944.*

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

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flying Officers.*

Daniel John LANE (141568), R.A.F.V.R., 76 Sqn.

Brian Dane Joseph LANKTREE (151600), R.A.F.V.R., 408 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Frederick Leslie LEACH (174358), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

Alan LEWIS (172576), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

James Alexander LONGMUIR (174320), R.A.F.V.R., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

George Alexander MACKIE (169724), R.A.F.V.R., 214 Sqn.

Louis Peter MARNEWECK, D.F.M. (160057), R.A.F.V.R., 161 Sqn.

William Fisher MARTIN (151609), R.A.F.V.R., 57 Sqn.

Thomas Newlands MILLER (152436), R.A.F.V.R., 76 Sqn.

Ronald Victor OSBORNE (145392), R.A.F.V.R., 166 Sqn.

Frank Gerald PARKER (171097), R.A.F.V.R., 625 Sqn.

William Searle PARKER (162613), R.A.F.V.R., 192 Sqn.

George Edmund PRATT (178245), R.A.F.V.R., 428 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

William RICHARDSON (136822), R.A.F.V.R., 434 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

William Arthur Mathew SAVILL (160958), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

Victor Sydney SCOTT (151233), R.A.F.V.R., 51 Sqn.

Robert Wemyss SHARP (172550), R.A.F.V.R., 101 Sqn.

Allan George SHEFFIELD (176663), R.A.F.V.R., 625 Sqn.

Victor Percival SKONE-REES (137377), R.A.F.V.R., 428 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Arthur Littlejohn SMITH (151617), R.A.F.V.R., 76 Sqn.

Richard Henry SMITH (147760), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

Frederick Charles Victor STEED (179073), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn.

Bernard Frank STEEL (174798), R.A.F.V.R., 166 Sqn.

George William Arthur STEEL (175643), R.A.F.V.R., 78 Sqn.

James William STEWART (171043), R.A.F.V.R., 626 Sqn.

Aubrey Waters STRICKLAND (149371), R.A.F.V.R., 571 Sqn.

Walter Augustus TELLING (148866), R.A.F.V.R., 626 Sqn.

Frank Albert TERRY (151322), R.A.F.V.R., 578 Sqn.

Owen Glyndwr THOMAS (137402), R.A.F.V.R., 57 Sqn.

Thomas Henry WARREN (157731), R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn.

Philemon WATSON (155072), R.A.F.V.R., 424 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Thomas Alfred WELSBY (172871), R.A.F.V.R., 101 Sqn.

Alan Ronald WITTY (158817), R.A.F.V.R., 12 Sqn.

Peter Ernest WORT (173274), R.A.F.V.R., 428 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

*Acting Flying Officers.*

Edward Arthur ASKEW (174633), R.A.F.V.R., 101 Sqn.

Eric Charles BOWLEY (182615), R.A.F.V.R., 90 Sqn.

Alan Roy CARTER (176881), R.A.F.V.R., 78 Sqn.

William Ronald IRELAND (171648), R.A.F.V.R., 576 Sqn.

Robert George LADBURY (175960), R.A.F.V.R., 100 Sqn.

Jack NETHERWOOD (182538), R.A.F.V.R., 106 Sqn.

John Roy STEDMAN (54747), R.A.F., 576 Sqn.

Norman STOCKWELL (170962), R.A.F.V.R., 44 Sqn.

Charles Gilroy WEARMOUTH (174528), R.A.F.V.R., 576 Sqn.

*Pilot Officers.*

Anthony Albert AVELINE (175074), R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn.

Bartholomew BAINBRIDGE (179638), R.A.F.V.R., 78 Sqn.

William Lamperd BAMSEY (54912), R.A.F., 51 Sqn.

Charles Henry BEAKE (182836), R.A.F.V.R., 76 Sqn.

James Henry BENNETT (175922), R.A.F.V.R., 161 Sqn.