

three motor boats were approached, and an effort was made to lead them to the scene. Despite the loss of power from one of the engines, Flying Officer Trent remained over the area for nearly half an hour doing everything possible to assist in the search. As a result, several members of aircraft crew adrift in a dinghy were rescued. This officer displayed skill and determination throughout a notable sortie, whilst his devoted efforts to help comrades in distress set a very fine example.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Warrant Officer Leslie William TURNER (1334382), R.A.F.V.R., 169 Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1396499 Flight Sergeant Eric Frederick Reginald FRANCIS, R.A.F.V.R., 169 Sqn.

As pilot and observer respectively, Warrant Officer Turner and Flight Sergeant Francis have completed many operational missions. They have displayed exceptional keenness and devotion to duty and have shot down 3 enemy aircraft at night. Their successes are an excellent tribute to their great skill and fine fighting spirit.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1587113 Flight Sergeant Wallace Bernard DALE, R.A.F.V.R., 608 Sqn.

One night in September, 1944, this officer was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Whilst over the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter whilst illuminated in the searchlights. Bullets shattered the windscreen hood and Flight Sergeant Dale was hit in the eye by flying particles of glass. Six times the fighter came in. Although in much pain, Flight Sergeant Dale gave the necessary directions to his pilot who finally evaded the enemy aircraft. In the fight much of his equipment had been rendered un-serviceable but Flight Sergeant Dale navigated the aircraft home with unerring skill. This airman set a fine example of courage, fortitude and tenacity.

1605068 Sergeant Victor Henry CLARE, R.A.F.V.R., 77 Sqn.

This airman has displayed a very high standard of skill, bravery and fortitude in air operations.

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