

enemy machine gun fire and fairly heavy mortar fire but, by outstanding skill and leadership, Flying Officer Page withdrew his flight without loss, inflicting casualties on the enemy. For about 14 days Flying Officer Page's flight occupied the left flank of a forward defence locality at Moerkerke. During this period he was tireless in his devotion to duty. He frequently led patrols to enable mortar fire to be brought to bear on the enemy and, by night, he directed counter measures against enemy patrols. Flying Officer Page at all times justified the trust and disciplined response of his men by his dash and energy. He directed skilfully the tasks allotted to the flight and, although the enemy was at all times superior in numbers and fire power, the operations were carried out without loss, while casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Flying Officer John Reginald Bawater WILD (134955), R.A.F.V.R., Royal Air Force Regiment.

In October, 1944, this officer was in charge of a forward observation post, consisting of one troop of reconnaissance cars, on the south bank of the Wilhelmina Canal, when a warning was received that a patrol of the enemy was working across the canal towards him. Flying Officer Wild immediately set out to meet the oncoming patrol, covered by two of his men. He encountered four of the enemy, and although under heavy fire, threw a hand grenade at them. Flying Officer Wild then worked his way round to the enemy's flank and threw a further grenade which wounded a German officer and two men. He then advanced on the German position, killing the officer with his revolver, but the other men escaped, leaving their weapons behind. Flying Officer Wild, accompanied by others, continued the search but the remainder of the enemy patrol had escaped across the canal. This officer, during the whole of the

operation in this sector, displayed courage and skill of the highest order. He personally accounted for at least six of the enemy by sniping and at all times set a magnificent example to his men.

Military Medal.

519679 Flight Sergeant Albert Ernest GREENING, R.A.F., Royal Air Force Regiment.

For about 14 days this non-commissioned officer was a Detachment Commander in a 3 inch mortar flight located in Moerkerke and close to the enemy lines. The detachment was under continual fire from enemy mortars and snipers and was subjected to periodical shelling. On one occasion the church tower at Moerkerke, from which Flight Sergeant Greening was observing, was hit and set on fire, but he completed the shoot and escaped from his observation post. The accuracy of the fire he directed undoubtedly caused the enemy to lose the initiative in an area where our own positions were very thinly held. The offensive spirit and good shooting of Flight Sergeant Greening's detachment successfully discouraged the enemy from preparing for a series of local attacks.

Air Ministry, 9th February, 1945.

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

Military Medal.

Warrant Officer Henry LIGGETT (518168), R.A.F.
1392693 Flight Sergeant Henry Thomas JEFFREY,
R.A.F.V.R.
954028 Sergeant Harry SIMISTER, R.A.F.

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