

rose to the occasion and displayed qualities of leadership and coolness which were a magnificent example to his fellow crew. He assessed that the only means of escape was to open the foc'sle upper hatch which was then underneath them, dive downwards and then upwards, surfacing alongside the upturned hull and to hold on to it until rescued. Regardless of the danger he worked under water to clear the hatch of debris and after a strenuous effort the hatch was opened. Sergeant Moore then arranged for his subordinates to escape first. One of them left the vessel and was eventually picked up by an Inshore Rescue Boat. The other was unable to swim and Sergeant Moore twice endeavoured to dive down with him before finally escaping himself. The air pocket in the foc'sle was diminishing but the airman chose to remain in the vessel. After escaping, Sergeant Moore managed to clamber on to the upturned hull almost exhausted. Still with complete disregard for his own safety, when he saw the coxswain some 30 yards away in serious difficulties and calling for help, he tried to clear the line on a lifebuoy that was floating alongside the vessel, intending to swim with it. As he got the line free a rescue helicopter ran in to pick up Sergeant Moore but he waved it away, directing the winchman to the coxswain, who was on the point of exhaustion. When the Amble life-boat came alongside, Sergeant Moore, knowing that an airman was still inside the Pinnacle, asked for an axe to cut open the hull. As it was considered that this would release the air lock, causing the vessel to sink completely, the lifeboat coxswain decided to take the upturned hull in tow to shallow water where it was grounded and the airman eventually rescued. The Pinnacle then broke up. Throughout the accident Sergeant Moore displayed outstanding courage, fortitude and unselfishness in keeping with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

Whitehall, London S.W.1.
26th May 1970.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award:

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air

L0593549 Sergeant Alan Tom JONES, Royal Air Force.

For his skill, courage and determination as winchman of the helicopter which was sent to assist crew members of a Royal Air Force Pinnacle, which had capsized in heavy seas approximately one mile from Amble Harbour, Northumberland. Sergeant Jones went to the aid of the exhausted coxswain who had been washed away from the upturned hull of the Pinnacle. Because of the twenty to thirty foot waves, which engulfed them both, he could not fix the rescue strop round the drowning man, but by sheer determination and unflinching will snatched him from the sea and held on to him—although he was a heavier man than himself—while being winched up to the aircraft.

26th May 1970.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Air Vice-Marshal C. N. S. PRINGLE, C.B.E., M.A., C.Eng., F.R.Ae.S., is appointed Air Officer Engineering, Strike Command, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal W. D. DISBREY, C.B., C.B.E., A.F.C., C.Eng., F.I.Mech.E., F.R.Ae.S. 18th May 1970.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH

Appointment to Commission (Permanent)

As Acting Pilot Officer (General List):

Flight Cadet Michael Hayward WRIGHT (8020923). 31st Mar. 1970.

Appointment to Commission (Permanent)

As Acting Pilot Officers:

6th Apr. 1970

John Andrew GODDARD (5201207).
Derek Stephen GRIGGS (5201208).

Promotion

Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant:

S. J. FLEET (4232745). 20th Feb. 1970.

Transfer to the General List Conditions of Service

Flight Lieutenant M. B. PROUDFOOT (684716) is transferred to a Permanent Commission (General List), retaining his existing rank and seniority. 1st Oct. 1969.

Transfer between Branches

Flight Lieutenant B. E. COLLINS (4044382) is transferred to the General Duties (Ground Branch), retaining his existing rank and seniority. 11th Apr. 1970.

Flying Officer S. SAVAGE (4335472) is transferred to the General Duties Branch, retaining his existing rank. 11th Feb. 1970 (*seniority 13th Jun. 1969*).

Retirement

Wing Commander J. H. ELLIOTT (168168) (at own request). 18th Apr. 1970.

Flight Lieutenants:

23rd May 1970

F. B. NIXON (3507981).

J. PENNISON (4083102).

Commission Resigned

Acting Pilot Officer C. COWAN (2622340). 24th Apr. 1970.

Commission Terminated

Acting Pilot Officer N. C. EDEN (8020885). 6th Apr. 1970.

GENERAL DUTIES (GROUND BRANCH)

Promotion

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer:

23rd May 1970

H. BARTON (4335894).

W. P. CASEY (4233323).

A. DORN (4335871).

J. D. J. GEGG (4335791).

M. A. N. MONK (608944).

I. W. PATRICK (4335895).

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer W.R.A.F.:

W. V. HASLAM (2797566). 23rd May 1970.

Extension of Service

The period of service on the Active List of Flying Officer F. A. SAVAGE (2797495), W.R.A.F., is extended to six years from 17th Mar. 1967.

The period of service on the Active List of Pilot Officer D. G. WALTON (2797576), W.R.A.F., is extended to five years from 1st Mar. 1968.

Transfer to the General List Conditions of Service

Flight Lieutenant A. CALLAWAY (4111024) is transferred to a Permanent Commission (General List), retaining his existing rank and seniority. 1st Oct. 1969.

Transfer between Branches

Flying Officer S. A. SMITH (4335543) is transferred to the General Duties Branch, retaining his existing rank. 11th Mar. 1970 (*seniority 7th Nov. 1969*).

ENGINEER BRANCH

Appointment to Commission (Permanent)

As Acting Pilot Officer (General List):

Peter Anthony GAMMAGE (5201209). 6th Apr. 1970.

Transfer between Branches

Acting Pilot Officer C. J. JONES (5200611) is transferred to the General Duties Branch. 16th Mar. 1970.

Retirement

Group Captain R. JONES. 20th May 1970.

Squadron Leader T. E. WALTON (529857). 18th May 1970.

Squadron Leaders (at own request):

R. C. MITCHELL, M.B.E. (545799). 18th Apr. 1970.

G. R. N. TAYLOR (53385). 24th Apr. 1970.

Flight Lieutenants (at own request):

J. C. BAKER (4033320). 14th Apr. 1970.

E. SMITH (533964). 2nd May 1970.

Flight Lieutenant J. D. HOLE (609233) (on account of medical unfitness for Air Force service). 23rd May 1970.

EQUIPMENT BRANCH

Promotion

Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant:

J. H. MACDONALD (4335296). 27th May 1970.

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer:

C. J. FISHER (4335874). 24th May 1970.

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer W.R.A.F.:

J. M. BENNETT (2797543). 24th May 1970.