

make a climbing turn back towards Oakington. At a height of 4,000 feet he carried out a low speed handling check and discovered by judicious use of a combination of aileron and rudder setting and asymmetric throttle that he could control the aircraft down to 115 knots with 30 degrees flap and undercarriage down. He slowly manoeuvred the Varsity into a position eight miles out on the extended Oakington runway centre line from which he could make a long straight-in approach to land. He descended to 2,000 feet at which height he ordered his student to return to his seat. During the final stages of the approach he briefed his student on the emergency drills for undercarriage retraction and fire on the ground. Throughout the emergency, Flight Lieutenant Thomson remained in full control of the situation. He displayed the highest standards of airmanship. Immediately after the collision, when his aircraft appeared to be rolling out of control with almost a fifth of the port wing span missing, it was only with the utmost determination and cool thought that he worked out and applied the necessary corrections to return his crippled aircraft to balanced flight. At the same time as he overcame the problem of flying the aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Thomson displayed the highest qualities of captaincy. With coolness, foresight and great presence of mind, he gave detailed instructions to his student co-pilot and kept Air Traffic Control fully informed of his intentions. He was always one step ahead of events, briefing his student before each possible contingency. Throughout, his manner was calm and assured, and by his courage and devotion to duty he saved a valuable aircraft and its crew from disaster. He acted in a most professional manner, regardless of personal risk and in the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

9th June 1970.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH

Appointment to Commission (Permanent)

As Acting Pilot Officers:

4th May 1970

Campbell Claude BOSANQUET (2616591).
John Bernard CARTER (5201210).
Graham David CHADWICK (2623702).
Paul Alistair NEWTON (2622787).
Roland Clive TOMLIN (2623295).

Promotion

Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant:

3rd Jun. 1970

A. W. MORGANS (4107496).
T. K. TOPAZ (3515960).

4th Jun. 1970

A. BARKER (4232408).
L. W. J. BLAKE (4232411).
J. B. GROGAN (4232412).
R. I. IBBOTT (4232413).
K. B. MOORE (5200051).
G. PASKETT (4232377).
J. ROCHFORD (4232420).
R. K. GARLICK (4233124). 5th Jun. 1970.

7th Jun. 1970

K. J. MACBRAYNE (1938384).
J. M. WOLFF (680275).

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer:

N. J. BROOKS, B.Sc. (2616389). 3rd May 1970
(Seniority 8th Jun. 1968).

J. W. GOUGH, B.Sc. (2614782). 17th May 1970
(Seniority 22nd Dec. 1968).

7th Jun. 1970

C. J. E. ADAMS (4233568).
R. J. ALLEN (8024773).
N. E. L. BERESFORD (8024772).
D. R. CHAPMAN (8024769).
D. F. CHERRY (8024756).
J. J. COLLIS (8024755).
C. M. H. HAWES (8024757).
I. HODSON (8024786).
R. J. HORWOOD (8024763).
R. F. LANE (8024776).
A. J. POTTER (8024780).
D. SARGENT (8024781).
D. G. SMITH (8024763).
D. C. SYMONDS (8024783).
J. D. WALMSLEY (8024787).
O. J. WHEELER (8024784).

Retirement

Flight Lieutenants:

G. C. TAYLOR (607337). 9th May 1970.
E. B. C. GWINNELL (503720). 23rd May 1970.
G. V. HARRISON (2490373). 25th May 1970.

Flight Lieutenant S. M. R. WEBSTER (4050158)
(at own request). 1st May 1970.

Commission Resigned

Flight Lieutenant P. J. FLEMING (4155652). 28th
May 1970.

GENERAL DUTIES (GROUND) BRANCH

Transfer to Reserve

Flight Lieutenant W. R. EDWARDS (4335001).
30th Apr. 1970.

Retirement

Squadron Leader A. M. POLLITT, M.B.E. (45604).
28th May 1970.

ENGINEER BRANCH

Appointment to Commission (Permanent)

As Acting Pilot Officer (General List):

Keith Graham FATHERS (2616294). 4th May
1970.

Promotion

Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant:

3rd Jun. 1970

F. R. BRAWN (551952).
H. G. HIGHMORE (1920678).
C. B. LUND (584411).
R. L. NOCKELS (583631).
K. C. CLIFFORD (4049322). 4th Jun. 1970.

7th Jun. 1970

J. N. AMIES (1929084).
R. P. BAKER (1924397).
R. A. COOPER (588868).
A. C. DAVIES (508108).
W. D. M. FLETCHER (508107).
J. JONES (684141).

M. J. S. PALMER (685273). 8th Jun. 1970.

Pilot Officer to Flying Officer:

E. E. J. DRAPER (5201180). 5th Jun. 1970.

Retirement

Air Marshal Sir Kenneth PORTER, K.C.B.,
C.B.E., C.Eng., F.I.E.E., F.R.Ae.S., F.B.I.M.
8th Jun. 1970.

Squadron Leaders:

W. G. TOGOOD, B.E.M. (51910) (at own
request). 2nd May 1970.

A. T. CLEARE (52927). 22nd May 1970.

Commission Terminated

Flying Officer R. G. JAMES (2468747). 6th Jun.
1970.

EQUIPMENT BRANCH

Extension of Service

The period of service on the Active List of
Flying Officer M. J. DAVIES (née MCINERNEY)
(2797404), W.R.A.F., is extended to 6 years from
28th May 1966.

Regrading

Acting Pilot Officer to Pilot Officer:

27th Mar. 1970

H. J. EDWARDS (8022667).
G. R. FITT (8022690).
C. R. J. GOSS (8022655).
P. C. MARTIN (8024938).
M. C. C. MOORE (8022639).

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

A. B. BINNS (8031540). 27th Mar. 1970.

Retirement

Group Captain C. MURRAY, O.B.E. 28th May
1970.

Commission Relinquished

Pilot Officer C. B. ANDERSON (8031442),
W.R.A.F. 20th May 1970.

SECRETARIAL BRANCH

Promotion

Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant:

3rd Jun. 1970

J. F. HIGGS (592362).
A. E. PERMAN (2453202).
W. FRASER (508114). 8th Jun. 1970.