

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

SERVICE NOTES AND NEWS

AIR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE HIGHER COMMAND

This month has seen most important changes in the higher command. Air Chief Marshal Sir Cyril Newall, K.C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., A.M., has taken over the office of Chief of the Air Staff from Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Edward Ellington, G.C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., and the latter has become Inspector-General. Air Vice-Marshal W. G. S. Mitchell, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., A.F.C., has become Air Member for Personnel, and Air Vice-Marshal W. L. Welsh, C.B., D.S.C., A.F.C., has become Air Member for Supply and Organisation on the Air Council. Air Chief Marshal Sir John Steel, G.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., who has been Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Bomber Command, has been placed on the Retired List at his own request.

No. 5 (BOMBER) GROUP

No. 5 (Bomber) Group took over executive command of the following stations and units with effect from September 1:—
R.A.F. Station, Hemsweil.—No. 61 (Bomber) Squadron and No. 144 (Bomber) Squadron.
R.A.F. Station, Waddington.—No. 44 (B) Squadron, No. 50 (B) Squadron, No. 110 (B) Squadron, and Air Ministry W/T Section.
R.A.F. Station, Grantham.—No. 113 (Bomber) Squadron and No. 211 (Bomber) Squadron.

THE ANTI-PIRACY PATROL

Nos. 209 and 210 (G.R.) Squadrons, both equipped with Singapore III flying boats, have been sent to the Mediterranean to take part in the patrol against "pirate" submarines. No. 202 (G.R.) Squadron, equipped with Scapa flying boats, is permanently stationed at Malta.

No. 48 (GENERAL RECONNAISSANCE) SQUADRON

No. 48 (General Reconnaissance) Squadron will be transferred to the Coastal Command and placed in No. 16 (Reconnaissance) Group, with effect from November 1.
 This squadron has been in No. 23 (Training) Group and has been used at Manston for exercising pupils at the School of Air Navigation.

ROYAL AIR FORCE COLLEGE

The following flight cadets successfully completed on July 30, 1937, their course of training at the Royal Air Force College. The names are arranged in alphabetical order:—ap Ellis, P. R., Archer, J. C., Atkinson, C. F., Butler, P. S. (Winner of Air Ministry prize for Imperial and War Studies), Cox, H. F., Cox, P. A. N. (Winner of R. M. Groves Memorial Prize), Dawson, P. W., Donne, M. S., Frogley, R. T. (Winner of the Air Ministry prize for Aeronautical Engineering), Gethin, J. P. D., Green, D. R. D., Grindon, J. E., Hanlon, T. J., Hughes, J. Mc. C. M., Kelly, D. D. A., Kettlewell, G. V. W., Lee, R. H. A., Lowry, W. E. M., Lynch-Blosse, E. H., Mackie, K. F., Mavor, L. D., Mead, I. A., Measures, W. E. G., Meston, P., Oakeshott, A. R., Pearce, J. F., Pike, J. M. N. (Winner of H.M. The King's Medal and the Sword of Honour), Pitcairn Hill, J. A., Tennant, E., Wheeler, H. N. G., Wigg, P. M. (Winner of Abdy Gerrard Fellowes Memorial Prize and the J. A. Chance Memorial Prize), Wilkins, J. T., Wykeham-Barnes, P. G.

ROYAL AIR FORCE GAZETTE

London Gazette, September 10, 1937
General Duties Branch

The following Flight Cadets, having successfully passed through the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, are granted permanent commissions as Pilot Officers with effect from and with seniority of July 31:—J. M. N. Pike, R. T. Frogley, P. M. Wigg, J. A. Pitcairn Hill, P. A. N. Cox, L. D. Mavor, E. Tennant, H. N. G. Wheeler, J. F. Pearce, J. C. Archer, P. Meston, J. T. Wilkins, P. W. Dawson, W. E. M. Lowry, T. J. Hanlon, H. F. Cox, K. F. Mackie, R. H. A. Lee, A. R. Oakeshott, M. S. Donne, P. G. Wykeham-Barnes, P. R. ap Ellis, D. D. A. Kelly, I. A. Mead, P. S. Butler, E. H. Lynch-Blosse, J. P. D. Gethin, W. E. G. Measures, G. V. W. Kettlewell, D. R. D. Green, J. E. Grindon, J. Mc. C. M. Hughes.
 Flt. Cadet C. F. Atkinson, having successfully passed through the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, is granted a permanent commission as Pilot Officer on probation with effect from and with seniority of July 31.

The following are granted short service commissions as Pilot Officers for five years on the active list with effect from and with seniority of August 26:—B. S. Ambrose, W. M. Blom, R. W. Bunney, L. R. Clisby, J. F. Dilworth, W. H. Edwards, A. L. Farrington, C. H. Fry, A. R. Gibbes, G. F. Graham, A. L. G. Hubbard, D. H. Hunter, J. C. Kennedy, J. W. E. Leighton, O. J. T. Lewis, A. F.

No. 8 FLYING TRAINING SCHOOL

The undermentioned officers have been awarded special assessments on completion of a course of flying training at No. 8 Flying Training School, Montrose:—

Distinguished Pass

F/O. D. B. Allison, A.P/O.s H. H. Burnell, E. J. Carter, G. B. Doudney, W. T. Russell, P. S. Weaver, L. C. Withall.

NEW WEATHER STATION

The Air Ministry is purchasing Woodhead Hall and 12 acres of land at Cheadle, Staffs, for the erection of a wireless station to be used primarily for meteorological purposes.

EXTENSION OF SERVICE

The Air Council have decided that, in future, the qualifying period of service at which extensions may be granted to short service officers entered for four years will be on completion of two and a half year's service instead of eighteen months.

FLYING ACCIDENTS

The Air Ministry regrets to announce the following accidents:—
 P/O. Leonard William Lowden, A.P/O. David Sorley Munro, A.P/O. Hugh Gordon McDonald and A/C.2 Thomas Douglass lost their lives as the result of an accident which occurred at Guisborough, Yorkshire, on September 11. P/O. Lowden was the pilot of the aircraft.
 Sergt. William Henry Victor Rimer (pilot) and A/C.1 Michael Kirwan lost their lives and A/C.2 Kenneth Mark Butcher is missing and believed to have lost his life as the result of an accident which occurred in Conway Bay, North Wales, on September 17 to an aircraft of No. 220 (General Reconnaissance) Squadron, Bircham Newton.

TITLES OF SQUADRONS

The following table shows the various types of squadrons composing the Royal Air Force and the titles that are to be used in official correspondence and operation orders:—

Type.	Example of Title to be used in Official Correspondence.	Example of abbreviated Title.
Fighter	No. 1 (Fighter) Squadron	1 (F) Sqn.
Bomber	No. 6 (Bomber) Squadron	6 (B) Sqn.
Reconnaissance	No. 201 (General Reconnaissance) Squadron.	201 (G.R.) Sqn.
Army co-operation	No. 2 (Army Co-operation) Squadron	2 (A.C.) Sqn.
Torpedo bomber	No. 22 (Torpedo-Bomber) Squadron	22 (T.B.) Sqn.
Bombing and transport	No. 70 (Bomber Transport) Squadron	70 (B.T.) Sqn.
Communications	No. 24 (Communications) Squadron	24 (Comm.) Sqn.

It should be noted that the sub-classifications light, medium and heavy bomber are obsolete and that flying boat squadrons are now called general reconnaissance squadrons.

McGhie, J. F. McKinlay, N. H. E. Messervy, A. R. Mulligan, R. J. Reed, E. H. Ross, J. T. B. Sadler, W. B. Skinner, S. C. Walsh, K. H. Walsh.

The following are granted short service commissions as Pilot Officers on probation with effect from and with seniority of August 16:—D. B. Allison, E. J. Carter, G. B. B. Doudney, F. W. S. Keighley.

R. K. Beale is granted a short service commission as Acting Pilot Officer on probation with effect from and with seniority of August 21; F/O. P. H. Dunn is promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant (September 3); P/O. A. W. Fletcher is promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (August 29); Wing Cdr. J. K. Wells, O.B.E., A.F.C. (R.A.F. Ret.), is granted the hon. rank of Group Captain (August 17).

Dental Branch

The commission of F/O. H. B. Shay, L.D.S., is antedated to April 1, and he ceases to be seconded to Guy's Hospital with effect from August 8. (Substituted for notification in *Gazette* of August 24.)

COMMISSIONED ENGINEER OFFICERS

The following Warrant Officers are granted permanent commissions as Flying Officers on probation with effect from August 30