

# SERVICE AVIATION



Royal Air Force and  
Fleet Air Arm News  
and Announcements

## Empire-trained Pilots

A MESSAGE from Rhodesia states that pilots, who are believed to be the first entirely trained under the Empire Scheme, have passed out as fully qualified from the Cranborne Training School near Salisbury.

At the passing-out parade they were addressed by Lt.-Col. Lucas Guest, the Air Minister.

## R.A.F. Pensions

AN Order has been signed by the King regulating the retired pay, pensions and allowances payable to members of the Royal Air Force and all its auxiliary and nursing services.

Officers' disablement allowance ranges from £70 to £350 per annum for an Air Vice-Marshal down to £35 to £175 for a Pilot Officer. The pensions will range between these figures, according to the degree of disability.

The weekly rates for non-commissioned officers and men vary from 46s. 8d.-9s. 4d. for warrant officers to 43s. 2d.-6s. 2d. for aircraftmen. The rate of allowances for dependents of all ranks is also set out. The disablement rates for women in the nursing and auxiliary services of the R.A.F. are included in the schedule in addition to a list of sums payable for specified minor injuries.

## Awards

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

Sqn. Ldr. P. J. SANDERS—No. 92 Sqn.—Sqn. Ldr. Sanders has commanded his squadron since May, 1940, and his continuous leadership, skill and determination have been responsible for the high standard and morale of the squadron. On one occasion when leading his squadron on an offensive patrol he displayed great skill and leadership and was personally responsible for the destruction of two and probably three hostile aircraft. He has in all destroyed at least six enemy aircraft.

F/O. W. M. SIZER—No. 213 Sqn.—During a period of five days in France this officer destroyed one enemy aircraft and shared in the destruction of four others. Since the return of the squadron to this country F/O. Sizer has taken part in a large number of patrols and has personally destroyed at least a further six enemy aircraft. During one patrol he was attacked and shot down by five Messerschmitts. Landing two miles outside La Panne, he swam across a canal and was taken to a casualty station suffering from facial wounds, and thence to England. After only two days' sick leave he again participated in patrols with his squadron.

P/O. J. B. LATTI—No. 242 Sqn.—P/O. Latti has destroyed eight enemy aircraft in operations over France and this country. On one occasion his squadron attacked a number of Messerschmitt 109s. This officer destroyed one and, although his own aircraft had been hit in the wings and tail by cannon shells, attacked and destroyed a second enemy aircraft. He has displayed the utmost coolness in the midst of fierce combat.

### BAE TO THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING MEDAL.

Sgt. R. S. AYTON, D.F.M.—No. 44 Sqn.

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING MEDAL.

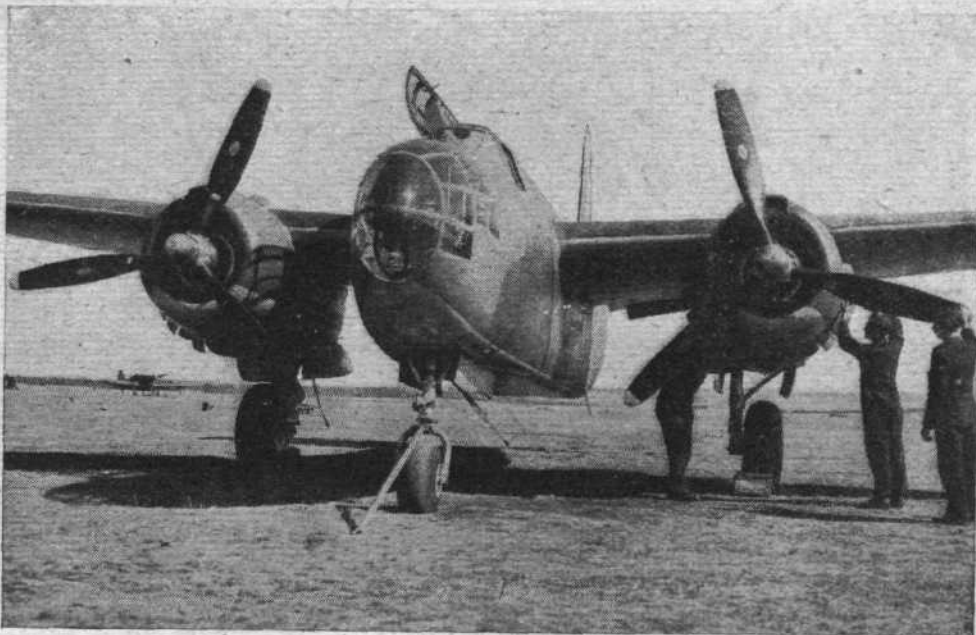
Sgt. W. R. J. HALL—No. 44 Sqn.—One night in October, 1940, Sgt. Ayton was pilot and Sgt. Hall the navigator and bomb aimer of an aircraft detailed to bomb an important military objective in the centre of the defences of Berlin. On arrival over the target area reconnaissance runs were made until the target was definitely identified in the moonlight. Sgt. Ayton then dived, through intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire, to a height of only 2,000 feet. In spite of the great speed attained in the dive, the skillful bomb-aiming of Sgt. Hall enabled direct hits to be obtained on the target where fires were seen to break out. The courage and determination of Sgt. Ayton in pressing home his attacks under all conditions, and the skill and courage of Sgt. Hall, have been an inspiration to the other members of the squadron.

## A.A.S.F. Awards

THE KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

Sqn. Ldr. A. F. Anderson, No. 613 Sqn.; Sqn. Ldr. H. G. Lee, A.F.C.; Sqn. Ldr. D. Walker, No. 613 Sqn.; F/O. J. R. Havers, No.



R.A.F.'s FIRST TRICYCLE: Douglas D.B.7 Boston bombers originally ordered for the French Air Force are now coming into service with the R.A.F. The engines are P & W Twin Wasps with a take-off power of 1,050 h.p.

103 Sqn.; F/O. D. S. G. Honor, No. 88 Sqn.; F/O. R. F. Martin, No. 73 Sqn.; F/O. C. D. Palmer, No. 1 Sqn.; F/O. H. G. Paul, No. 73 Sqn.; F/O. P. H. M. Richey, No. 1 Sqn.; F/O. N. C. S. Riddell, No. 88 Sqn.; F/O. W. H. Stratton, No. 1 Sqn.; P/O. A. L. Eddy, No. 613 Sqn.

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING MEDAL.

Sgt. S. E. Andrews, No. 150 Sqn.; Sgt. L. V. Davies, No. 88 Sqn.; Sgt. N. J. Ingram, No. 150 Sqn.; Sgt. E. D. Martin, No. 150 Sqn.; Sgt. D. Norrington, No. 103 Sqn.; Sgt. W. H. Sturdy, No. 88 Sqn.; Sgt. J. E. Summers, No. 103 Sqn.; Sgt. L. F. Waern, No. 103 Sqn.; L.A./C. C. Cooper, No. 150 Sqn.; L.A./C. H. R. Figg, No. 150 Sqn.; L.A./C. G. F. Lewis, No. 103 Sqn.

These awards are given, in the main, for gallantry and devotion to duty by officers and N.C.O.s attached to the A.A.S.F. before the evacuation of France and Flanders.

One of the squadron leaders in the list was engaged in the bombing of batteries in the vicinity of Calais and in the dropping of munitions and water to the garrison holding the Citadel there. Another officer similarly decorated was engaged in the same work. He led a formation of aircraft on a dive-bombing raid on a heavy battery position near Calais, and later by a skillful low approach at dawn he succeeded in dropping supplies to the beleaguered garrison exactly over the exceedingly small target without any loss to his formation. Again the same day he performed a similar feat, this in spite of the fact that neither he nor any of the crews in his formation had any previous experience in flying against the enemy.

The N.C.O.s rendered fine service as members of air crews, chiefly as wireless operators/air gunners. Of one it is stated: "His devotion to duty in directing his pilot against strong opposition has been responsible for the safe return of his aircraft."

The citation in another case reads: "This air gunner has twice been a member of a crew forced to land by enemy action, and has on both occasions been full of enthusiasm to continue his tasks after returning to his unit."

Units named are those to which the officers and N.C.O.s were attached when the decorations were earned.

## Roll of Honour

### AIR MINISTRY CASUALTY COMMUNIQUE No. 51.

THE Air Ministry regrets to announce the following casualties on various dates. The next of kin have been informed.

KILLED IN ACTION (WHILE FLYING IN OPERATIONS AGAINST THE ENEMY).—Sgt. L. F. P. Adlam, 745662; Sgt. L. C. Allton, 745436; P/O. R. Atkinson, 79530; Sqn. Ldr. G. R. H. Black, 37373; P/O. E. H. Brown, 41550; Sgt. N. Brumby, 742228; Sgt. M. C. Caryl-Tilkin, 902238; Sgt. J. J. Caswell, 581374; P/O. W. H. Clemerson, 81027; P/O. K. Cooney, 81678; Sgt. E. Davies, 553877; P/O. R. J. Davies, 42593; Sgt. H. Day, 742008; P/O. R. H. Dewey, 42815; P/O. R. J. Dickinson, 79372; F/O. J. F. Drummond, D.F.C., 40810; Sgt. V. C. Durrant, 564827; Sgt. R. M. C. Edwards, 746959; Sgt. S. A. Fenmore, 745110; P/O. E. C. Gardner, 72558; P/O. P. S. Gunning, 43474; Sgt. A. A. Heaney, 756717; Sgt. W. H. Hewitt, 622581; Sgt. B. E. Henry, 551737; P/O. N. B. Heywood, 41923; Sgt. P. R. C. McIntosh, 745004; Sgt. J. P. Morrison, 754728; P/O. T. R. Murfitt, 42759; Sgt. A. B. Navler, 553802; Sgt.

D. Neill, 976437; Sgt. L. P. Neville, 901776; P/O. H. W. Reilley, 43043; Flt. Lt. F. C. Scott, 54055; Sgt. E. E. Shepperd, 566529; F/O. P. C. B. St. John, 40320; Sgt. A. F. Thomas, 521431; P/O. W. S. Williams, 42173; Sgt. D. R. Wright, 741930.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED "MISSING, BELIEVED KILLED IN ACTION," NOW PRESUMED "KILLED IN ACTION."—A/C.2 H. G. Ablett, 626935; P/O. F. E. Barber, 36223; P/O. J. P. Chester-Master, 76006; Sgt. W. L. MacDonald, 580877; A/C.2 R. C. Peel, 629076; P/O. D. H. Wardlaw, 40157; P/O. E. A. Wickenkamp, 41088.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED "MISSING," NOW PRESUMED "KILLED IN ACTION."—A/C.1 J. Booth, 630373; Cpl. R. S. Bryson, 524310; L.A./C. L. Close, 548536; Sgt. N. C. Cotterell, 580948; L.A./C. E. A. S. Haynes, 610705; L.A./C. J. B. Roberts, 541978; Act. Flt. Lt. K. R. Rogers, 39473; P/O. J. G. C. Salmon, 33476; Sgt. B. D. Shepperd, 561926; F/O. A. F. Smith, 39346; Cpl. H. Todd, 539637; Sgt. W. G. F. Whiting, 581252; Sgt. W. G. J. Wilkinson, 546143; Sgt. E. H. Williams, 580927.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED "MISSING, BELIEVED KILLED IN ACTION," NOW REPORTED "KILLED IN ACTION."—F/O. D. N. Grice, 70266.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED "MISSING," NOW REPORTED "KILLED IN ACTION."—P/O. S. R. Bevan-John, 81933; Act. Flt. Lt. K. McL. Gillies, 37799; P/O. W. D. Hermon, 42708; Sgt. S. Macquire, 747938; Sgt. A. H. Payne, 366401; Sgt. W. G. Silver, 563391; Sgt. D. Sinclair, 744969; Sgt. J. C. Williams, 642147.

WOUNDED OR INJURED IN ACTION.—Sgt. F. H. Bevan, 740720; P/O. E. Bingham, 77926; Sqn. Ldr. H. P. Broad, 26174; Sgt. M. Connell, 629726; Sgt. R. W. Coutts, 746943; P/O. R. F. T. Doe, 41908; Sgt. C. S. C. Green, 747715; Sgt. R. C. Halstead, 754456; Sgt. C. G. Hilken, 745482; Sgt. W. R. E. Jarrett, 561763; Sgt. T. B. Kirk, 808416; Sgt. R. E. Langfield, 614301; P/O. T. E. Lee, 43162; F/O. P. W. Lefevre, 40719; P/O. J. S. Morion, 90727; P/O. L. C. Murch, 41946; Sgt. D. H. Nichols, 754158; F/O. W. B. Parker, 36259; P/O. P. D. Pool, 83281; P/O. J. Redman, 41952; P/O. J. K. Ross, 79163; Act. Flt. Lt. J. M. Strickland, D.F.C., 39581; Sgt. P. Thorpe, 754556; Sgt. A. S. Wilson, 624190.

DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED IN ACTION.—Sgt. C. A. H. Ayling, 561455; Sgt. D. Flanagan, 532927; Sgt. E. T. G. Frith, 742091.

"MISSING," BELIEVED "KILLED IN ACTION."—P/O. G. P. W. Austin, 77130; P/O. J. E. Bartlett, 78994; Sqn. Ldr. J. O. Hinks, 36014; A/C.2 A. Jackson, 105066; Sgt. E. Nield, 968346; Sgt. A. E. Skidmore, 742236; Sgt. O. K. Sly, 759093; Sgt. R. E. Stevens, 742992; Sgt. F. F. Vinyard, 748039; Flt. Sgt. E. E. Williams, 562960.

MISSING.—A/C.1 R. F. Abrams, 621850; P/O. J. G. I. Acheson, 74322; A/C.1 E. H. Arnold, 532387; A/C.1 P. O. Beckington, 901322; Sgt. R. G. Bennett, 969978; A/C.2 J. R. Best, 7449228; Sgt. J. H. Brown, 742961; Sgt. A. W. Campbell, 545658; Sgt. P. T. Catto, 758161; A/C.1 R. Cleary, 631845; P/O. G. A. Cockayne, 41779; Sgt. F. Corbett, 618707; Act. Flt. Lt. E. L. Cullimore, 39860; P/O. R. G. Cuthbert, 41260; Sgt. K. McN. Davidson, 966854; P/O. J. L. De Keyser, 79166; L.A./C. A. J. Donaghy, 544946; Sgt. E. Duffield, 546967; Sgt. L. A. Dyke, 754831; Sgt. J. T. Farlowe, 755909; Sgt. J. A. Ferguson, 645352; Sgt. T. A. Ferris, 566370; Sgt. K. G.