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DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Award To Christchurch Pilot

Cabled advice has been received in Christchurch that the Distinguished Flying Cross has been awarded to Pilot Officer Duncan Harold McArthur, only son of Mrs. J. A. Wall, Lake Terrace Road, Shirley.

Details of the exploit for which the award has been made have not been received, but it is disclosed in letters received by Mrs. Wall from her son that he has recently been engaged in regular bombing raids over Berlin and other objectives in west and central Germany.

Pilot Officer McArthur, who is only 20 years of age, was born in Warkworth and was educated at the Whangarei High School and privately. He showed considerable athletic prowess, and was known as an outstanding swimmer and keen rifle shot. He was accepted early last year for a short-service commission in the Royal Air Force, and began his preliminary training at Wigram in June, 1939, after receiving his initial flying tuition at the Canterbury Aero Club from Squadron Leader G. L. Stedman.

Last December Pilot Officer McArthur left for England as a member of a group of 17 pilots who formed the first detachment of New Zealand fighting personnel to leave the country for war service. After receiving advanced training in England, where he passed with distinction in bombing and navigation, he was one of four pilots selected for appointment to the New Zealand squadron of heavy bombers in the Bomber Command. He began flying on active service in March last, and shortly afterward became captain of "his own ship," a Vickers-Wellington bomber.

His close friend, a member of the same training course at Wigram is Pilot Officer F. H. Denton, who was awarded the D.F.C. for gallantry in bombing the Channel port of Ostend some weeks ago. Pilot Officer McArthur is a brother of Mrs. George Bagley St. Elmo Courts.

BRAVERY IN THE AIR

Awards To New Zealanders

OFFICERS DECORATED

Three more Distinguished Flying Crosses have been awarded to New Zealanders, according to advice received by Air Headquarters, Wellington, yesterday. The recipients are:

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Adams, R.N.Z.A.F., Christchurch.

Flying Officer Trevor Owen Freeman, R.N.Z.A.F., Dunedin.

Pilot Officer Arthur Mitchell Paape, Dunedin.

Since the beginning of the year, Flight Lieutenant Adams, as captain of an aircraft, has made a large number of flights, including attacks on Germany, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and enemy-occupied France. His work, according to the official citation, is always noticeable for a high standard of effi-

ciency and determination. On one occasion, when it was impossible to attack a primary target because of weather conditions, he attacked alternative targets with conspicuous success. He has always set a fine example to all the crews in his unit.

Flight Lieutenant Adams was born in Christchurch and is 29 years of age. He was educated at the Christchurch Technical College, and later became a member of the Canterbury Aero Club, gaining his pilot's licence in 1931. He was granted a short service commission with the Royal Air Force in 1936, and in 1939 was selected for posting to the New Zealand Squadron in the United Kingdom.

Flying Officer Trevor Owen Freeman, R.N.Z.A.F., has, according to the official citation, set a high standard since the beginning of the year as captain of an aircraft in active operations against

the enemy. He has carried out a large number of flights, including major attacks on Germany, Holland, Belgium and enemy-occupied France. He is a highly-skilled and determined navigator, even under the worst weather conditions. He has recently carried out a special photographic reconnaissance deep into enemy territory. By his sense of duty, determination and courage he has set a great example to the rest of the crew.

Flying Officer Freeman was born in Lawrence, Central Otago, and later lived in Dunedin, where he joined the Otago Aero Club, receiving his pilot's licence in 1933. Later he travelled direct to the United Kingdom, where he received a commission in the Royal Air Force. Then, in 1939, he was selected for direct posting to the New Zealand Squadron.

Pilot Officer Paape, concerning whose

award the details are not yet available, was born in Dunedin, and is 21 years of age. He was educated at the Wai-taki Boys' High School, and was accepted for a short service commission in 1938, receiving his preliminary training with the Otago Aero Club, and later at R.N.Z.A.F. station, Wigram. He left for service with the Royal Air Force in 1939.

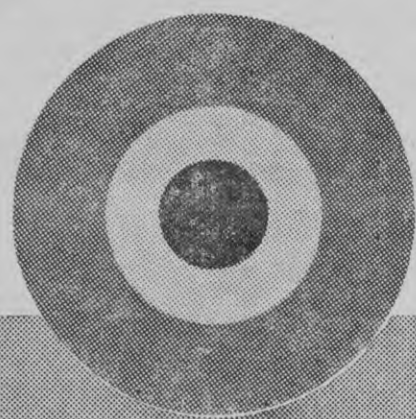
Clutching a huge and unwieldy bundle, a small boy went up to the officer in charge of a barrage balloon.

"What have you got there, my little man?" inquired the officer.

The lad promptly put down his bundle and began to unpack it.

"Jam jars, mister. What abaht a balloon?"

RHYMES FOR THE AIR FORCE NURSERY — No. 2



Ethelbert Muffit

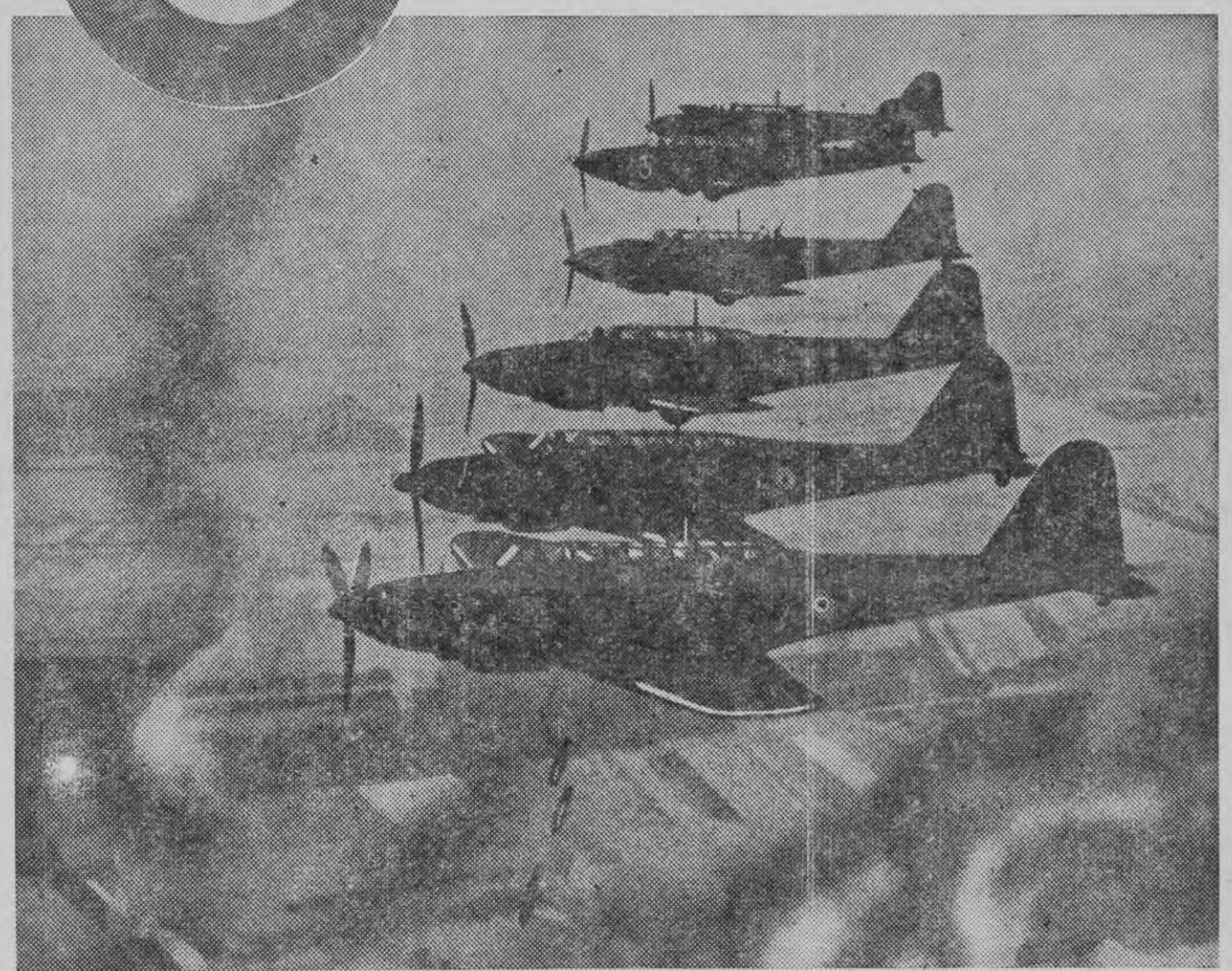
Was sent out to rough it

From (censored) on (such-and-such date);

"Let that smoke be a lesson"

He said, bombing Essen,

"That Greys (the tobacco) is Great!"



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