



SIXTH SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette.

Of TUESDAY, the 30th of MARCH, 1920.

Published by Authority.

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THURSDAY, 1 APRIL, 1920.

*Air Ministry,
Kingsway, London, W.C. 2.
1st April, 1920.*

His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve of the undermentioned rewards being conferred, in recognition of gallantry and distinguished services:—

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Flt. Lt. Walter Fraser Anderson (Pilot).
Observer Officer John Mitchell (Observer),
" C " Flight, 47th Squadron.

On 30th July, 1919, near Cherni Yar (Volga), these officers were pilot and observer respectively, on a D.H. 9 machine, which descended to an altitude of 1,000 feet to take oblique photographs of the enemy's positions. A second machine of the same flight which followed as escort was completely disabled by machine-gun fire, and forced to land five miles behind the enemy's foremost troops. Parties of hostile cavalry which attempted to capture the pilot and observer of the crashed machine were kept away by the observer's Lewis gun whilst the pilot burnt the machine.

Flight Lieut. Anderson, notwithstanding that his petrol tank had been pierced by a machine-gun bullet, landed alongside the wrecked aeroplane, picked up the pilot and observer, and got safely home.

The risk involved in attempting this gallant rescue was very great, as had any accident occurred in landing the fate of all four officers can only be conjectured. The difficult circumstances of the rescue will be fully appreciated when it is remembered that Observer Officer Mitchell had to mount the port plane to stop the holes in the petrol tank with his thumbs for a period of fifty minutes' flying on the return journey.

Flying Officer Sydney Gilbert Frogley, D.F.C.,
" A " Detachment (3/R. Berks).

A fleet of about forty Bolshevik vessels, armed with all descriptions of guns, having broken through the defences of the Volunteer Army, commenced a bombardment of Tzaritzin.

Flying Officer Frogley led a formation of machines on 15th October, 1919, and at a height of 1,000 feet dropped his bombs with such effect that the fleet was dispersed—several vessels having been destroyed.