

Worthing pilot shoots down 21 enemy planes

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DOUBLE HONOUR FOR WORTHING AIRMAN

A fighter pilot who has personally shot down 21 enemy planes, Sergeant Herbert James Lempriere Hallows, of 17, Normandy-road, Worthing, was awarded the unusual honour yesterday of the Distinguished Flying Medal and a bar to the same medal. The award was announced in an official Air Ministry list.

His widowed mother knew nothing of the distinction conferred upon her son until newspaper reporters called upon her last evening. She received a letter from him yesterday morning—but he modestly said nothing about it.

Sergeant Hallows was reported missing on June 8th, but later he returned to duty safe and sound. He follows in the tradition of gallantry of his soldier father, who won the French Medaille Militaire in the first month of the last war. He was educated at Stratford-on-Avon Grammar School, and has been in the R.A.F. since he was 16. He is 28 now, and is a bachelor.

BALING OUT—CHANGED HIS MIND.

Here is the official account of the action for which Sergeant Hallows won his decoration:—

During June, 1940, Sergeant Hallows was attacking an enemy aircraft over Northern France, when he himself was attacked. His engine being disabled, he proceeded to glide back to friendly territory, but was again attacked when about to abandon his aircraft by parachute. He dropped back into his seat and as the enemy aircraft passed he delivered such an effective burst of fire as to destroy his opponent. He then made a successful parachute landing.

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