

**THE SUPERB WW1 S.E.5A 29 VICTORY FIGHTER ACE'S M.C., D.F.C. GROUP AWARDED TO CAPTAIN P.J. 'PIP' CLAYSON, 1 SQUADRON ROYAL FLYING CORPS AND ROYAL AIR FORCE LATE ROYAL NAVAL AIR SERVICE. THE 2ND HIGHEST ACE OF 1 SQUADRON AND THE 14 HIGHEST SCORING BRITISH AND IRISH ACE DURING THE WAR. GROUP COMPLETE WITH HIS LOGBOOKS, 3 COMMISSIONS, AVIATORS' CERTIFICATE AND SQUADRON RECORDS, PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM, PORTRAIT PHOTO'S, SERVICE BOOK ETC**



MILITARY CROSS, G.V.R. ENGRAVED TO REVERSE 'LIEUT. P.J. CLAYSON MAY 9TH.1918'; DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, G.V.R. ENGRAVED TO REVERSE 'CAPT. P.J. CLAYSON JUNE 16TH.1918'; 1914-15 STAR 'F2216 P.J. CLAYSON, A.M.I., R.N.A.S.', BRITISH WAR AND VICTORY MEDALS 'CAPT. P.J. CLAYSON, R.A.F.', DEFENCE AND WAR MEDALS 1939-45. COURT MOUNTED

**M.C. *London Gazette* 22 June 1918.** Temp. 2nd Lt. Percy Jack Clayson, Gen. List, and R.F.C. The original recommendation:

*"Temp. 2.Lieutenant Percy Jack Clayson, Pilot, 1 Squadron R.F.C. who was posted to this Squadron on 31 October 1917. On the recent low flying operations, this Officer carried out his work with great skill and good leadership. He has been on six bombing patrols since 26 March 1918 and has done excellent work throughout.*

*On 26 March 1918 he, with others on patrol, dropped bombs in BAPAUME on railway N.E. of the town from 200 feet, causing general panic. On his second patrol he dropped bombs on enemy cavalry and limber wagons from 300 feet, observing two direct hits, causing a stampede among the horses. He also fired 250 rounds from machine guns at this target and entirely dispersed the enemy. On 27 March 1918 Lieut. Clayson went out on three bombing patrols. On the first he dropped 4 bombs from a very low altitude in huts behind Fampoux, obtaining direct hits and he fired 400 rounds into trenches at the*

same place. Later he attacked an E.A. Scout between ACHIET-LE-PETIT and ABLAINZEVILLE and shot it down Out of Control. (It was afterwards seen crashed on the ground near the latter place by Lieuts. Rigby and Clayson) He then fired 350 rounds into trenches at FARBUS. On the second patrol he dropped 4 bombs and fired 100 rounds into enemy trenches. Later he dropped 4 bombs from a low altitude into hutments at BEAUCOURT and fired 200 rounds in trenches E. of FAMPOUX. On 30 March 1918 he carried out a bombing patrol and dropped bombs N.E. of MONCHY.

The following may be of interest :-On 16 February 1918 2/Lieut. Clayson engaged an Albatros Scout and forced it to land in our lines near BAILLEUL. On 28 February 1918 he shot down an Albatros Scout Out of Control. (Confirmed by Lieut. Fitzmaurice and Lieut. McKeague of this Squadron). On 11 March 1918 he with two other Officers sent down an enemy balloon in a deflated condition. On 11 March 1918 he shot down an E.A. 2-seater Out of Control. (A.A. 2nd.Army reported seeing this machine going down Out of Control).

2/Lieut. Clayson's work has always been excellent. He is a very keen Officer and I beg to recommend him for immediate award." Dated 5 April 1918."

**D.F.C. London Gazette 2 July 1918.** Temp. Lieutenant (Temp. Capt.) Percy Jack Clayson, M.C. The original recommendation:

"Temp. Captain Percy Jack Clayson M.C., 1 Squadron R.A.F. "On the 20 April 1918 while on Offensive Patrol, Capt's CLAYSON and CLARK engaged six Pfalz Scouts, one of which was crashed between KEMMEL and WYTSCHAETE.

On the 14 May 1918 when leading an Offensive Patrol over DICKEBUSH Capt. Clayson dived on three Albatros Scouts, one of which he shot down S. of DICKEBUSH POND. On the 27 May 1918 Capt. Clayson's patrol fought seventeen Albatros Scouts; the one engaged by Capt. Clayson fell in flames W. of ARMENTIERES. On the 28 May 1918 when on a similar duty, he destroyed a D.F.W. two-seater, which fell between METEREN and VIEUX BERQUIN. On the 29 May 1918 in company with Lieut. Scroggs, Capt. Clayson shot down a Halberstadt two-seater N.W. of VIEUX BERQUIN. Later in the same Patrol he shot down an Albatros Scout in "No Man's Land" near NEUF BERQUIN. On the 2 June 1918 he led his Patrol against four Albatros Scouts and destroyed one N. of the BOIS DE PAGAUT. On the 6 June 1918 his Patrol fought with thirteen Pfalz Scouts: he shot down one which crashed in PLOEGSTEERT WOOD. He then engaged another which fell in flames about the same place.

Capt. Clayson combines skilful pilotage with excellent marksmanship; his remarkable successes are of the greatest value to his Squadron." Was originally recommended for a Bar to the Military Cross. Dated 7 June 1918."

Both above recommendations are what the abbreviated published citations were based on. Copies of both versions with research.



## PERCY JACK CLAYSON

Percy Jack 'Pip' Clayson was born on 7 June 1896 in Deptford, London, the son of J.H. and G. Clayson, of Deptford, London. Educated Royal Masonic School for Boys, Bushey, Herts. At the Outbreak of the Great War, he volunteered for the Royal Naval Air Service, going to France on 23 December 1914 as a 3rd Class Air Mechanic. Gazetted as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps on 19 July 1917, he gained his Royal Aero Club Aviators' Certificate (No.5617) on 30 September 1917. A month later he, on 31 October 1917, he joined 1 Squadron, then equipped with Nieuport Scouts. Over the next couple of months, he was involved in a good deal of operational flying and took part in numerous combats but it wasn't until the Squadron re-equipping with S.E.5a's in January 1918 that Clayson could show what an exception fighter pilot he was. Claiming his first confirmed aerial victory on 16 February 1918; the capture of an Albatros DV of Jasta 30 and a second Albatros DV Out of Control on 28<sup>th</sup> of that month, between then and 14 July 1918, he would claim a further 27 confirmed aerial Victories, having been made Flight Commander in May. Sent to Home Establishment 3 August 1918, by the time he left 1 Squadron, Clayson had been awarded the Military Cross, The Distinguished Flying Cross and recommended for a bar to the latter, which for some reason didn't go through. With 29 confirmed aerial victories (should be 30), Clayson would become the 2nd highest scoring Ace of 1 Squadron of the War, only Captain Fullard with 40 above him and the 14 highest scoring British and Irish Ace during the war.



## CLAYSON WAS RECOMMENDED FOR A FURTHER AWARD 15 JULY 1918.

The Original recommendation:

"Temp. Captain Percy Jack Clayson M.C., D.F.C., Flight Commander, 1 Squadron R.A.F. who was posted to this Squadron 31 October 1917. Awarded the Military Cross 9 April 1918 and the Distinguished Flying Cross on 12 June 1918. His consistent good work and devotion to duty are again worthy of recognition.

The following maybe of interest :-

On 9 June 1918 whilst leading an Offensive Patrol he saw 3 Fokker Triplanes attacking 3 S.E.5's of 29 Squadron. Coming to the assistance he, together with his patrol forced one Triplane down in our lines W. of DICKEBUSCH. On 13 June 1918 Capt. Clayson attacked one of 4 Pfalz Scouts between LANGEMARCH and PASSCHENDAELE at point blank range. A flash came from the left side of the fuselage and E.A. burst into flames near the ground. On 15 June he led his Patrol to attack a Hostile Kite Balloon S. of ESTAIRES. After a few rounds, the balloon went down in flames. On 27 June 1918 Capt. Clayson together with Lieut's Knight and Kullberg attacked an L.V.G. two-seater over METEREN. E.A. burst into flames and crashed one mile E. of METEREN. On 30 June 1918 while on Offensive Patrol, he attacked one of 4 Fokker biplanes over WULVERGHEM. After 100 rounds E.A. went down Out of Control and fell to pieces near the ground (confirmed by the Patrol). On 2 July 1918 he attacked a Hannoveraner two-seater over PLOEGSTEERT WOOD. E.A. went down very steeply, burst into flames and crashed North of St. YVES (confirmed by the Patrol).

Capt. Clayson has also had very numerous combats but without being able to get confirmation. He has done over 300 hours war flying and his fine example is worthy of still further recognition.

I beg to recommend him for an immediate award."

Clayson did not receive another award for this and claimed another two Victories after this before he was posted to Home Establishment on 3 August 1918. The C.O. presumably didn't realise his third award hadn't gone through as he also left the Squadron at the same time as Clayson.

#### EXAMPLE COMBAT REPORTS

**1<sup>st</sup> Aerial Victory** - 16 Feb. 1918 – 1 Squadron, S.E.5a. "Saw Albatros D.V. Scout at 4,000 feet over MONT ROUGE, being 'archied' and climbed above him, whereupon E.A. put his nose down and proceeded to shoot up BAILLEUL. I dived on him and opened fire at close range. After 3 short bursts E.A. went down and turned over in a ploughed field, Pilot observed walking round machine". Decisive. Allotted R.F.C. No. G.134 (as captured aircraft).

This was the first S.E.5a Victory for 1 Squadron. It was Leutnant Bastgen of Jasta 30 who was made a Prisoner of War.

**Crash landed** - 24 February 1918 – Clayson crashed his SE5 after an operation.

**Unconfirmed Aerial Victory** - 11 March 1918. He shared a Rumpler C with Capt. H.J. Hamilton whilst on a Reserve Patrol over the Ypres sector. Their combat report records 1) "Capt. Hamilton, 2.Lieut Clayson and Mawbey dived on the observation balloon, firing in all 450 rounds at 40 to 100 yards range. One Observer was seen to descend in a parachute. The balloon went down partly deflated. A.A. Fire and phosphorus tracer was very heavy." Report marked '1 Out of Control.' (wasn't approved by H.Q.)

**3rd Aerial Victory** - 11 March 1918. Hostile aircraft - "Two seater with a Vee strut and fan tail. Formation of 5 E.A. observed over YPRES. Patrol climbed and endeavoured to cut them off. Camels also attacked the E.A. and one E.A. dived down, which we attacked at a range of 150 to 200 yards. This E.A. went down almost vertically from 7,000 feet, dense clouds of smoke being emitted. Last seen at 1,000 feet still in steep dive." Report marked DECISIVE. Confirmed by "T" Battery A.A. who had seen the fight and confirmed the victory. This combat shared with Capt. Hamilton, 1 Squadron and No.70 Squadron.

**4th Aerial Victory** - 13 March 1918. He shared a Pfalz DIII with 8 other Pilots, Capt. Clayson was well known for 'including everyone' in a Victory to encourage the new Pilots. The Report states "I fired 250 rounds, Capt. G.B. Moore about 100, Capt. H.J. Hamilton about 150, 2/Lt. A. Hollis about 50 and Lt. H.A. Rigby about 100. E.A. Last seen going down vertically at about 500 feet just East of GHELUVELT by 2/Lts Gray & Sweeting." Confirmed as crashed by Signals, 49th.Division. And it was shared by all listed as firing on the E.A. as well as Capt. W.D. Patrick, 2/Lt's L.W. Mawbey, A.E. Sweeting & W.M.R. Gray, totalling nine Pilots. i.e. everyone in the patrol.

**Crash landed** - 24 February 1918 – Clayson crashed his SE5 after an operation; engine cut out.

**7<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 29 April 1918 with Capt. Clark. *“When on Offensive Patrol observed formation of six Pfalz Scouts at 8,000 feet between KEMMEL & WYTSCHAETE. We dived on to one of this E.A. formation firing 250 rounds at point blank range. E.A. went down vertically.”*

No. 53 Squadron have since confirmed an E.A. as having crashed between KEMMEL & LOGRE.” Decisive. This was Gefr. Peisker of Jasta 7 who took three hits in his fuel tank, this was shared with Capt. C.C. Clark.

**Aircraft severely damaged** - 8 May 1918 – *“Lt Clayson left the aerodrome at 6-15 am with 8 others on OP. During aerial combat the machine was shot about & sustained the following damage; bottom starboard plane shot through main spar; bottom left longerons shot through, compression strut in fuselage shot through; tie rods shot away, rudder controls shot away. Pilot unhurt..”*

**10<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 27 May 1918. Five S.E.5a's in Offensive and Line Patrol. *“The Patrol engaged 17 enemy Albatros Scouts. I selected one and fired a short burst of 50 rounds, nearly nose on; observing Buckingham to enter his fuselage on the left hand side, smoke was omitted from this place and the E.A. went down Out of Control in a spiral, the smoke becoming denser. E.A. hit the ground West of ARMENTIERES in flames.”* Confirmed.



FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPH OF 1 SQUADRON IN 1918 CLAYSON ONE OF THE PILOTS

**11<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - The Patrol dived on a Halberstadt 2-seater which was engaged on Artillery Observation.

The E.A. turned East chased by the patrol and was again engaged at close range. E.A. was last seen diving steeply at 300-400 feet from the ground. (A.A. have since confirmed this machine as diving steeply behind some trees and ‘probably crashed.’)

**15<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 29 May 1918, 4.30pm on Offensive Patrol, MERVILLE – NEUF BERQUIN. *“While in an engagement I noticed an Albatros Scout sitting on the tail of a R.E.8. I engaged it at very close range, firing a burst with both guns. The E.A. fell over on its left wing & dived vertically*

towards the ground. It was subsequently confirmed by French & British A.A. To have crashed near the front line trenches." Decisive.

This was Lt. Gunther Keitsch of Jasta 74 in an Albatros DVa. who had 3 victories to his name, one on the day he was killed, in an Albatros DVa. Machine allotted R.A.F. No. G-2-12 for a captured aircraft.

**16<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 29 May 1918. His second Victory on the day was with Lieut. Scroggs on Offensive Patrol at 4.45pm. "*Lieut. Scroggs & self dived on the Halberstadt two-seater & opened fire at close range. The E.A. turned over on its back & pieces fell off. It continued gliding upside-down until it crashed and burst into flames at about N.W. Of VIEUX BERQUIN.*" Decisive shared with Lieut. Scroggs.

**19<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 6 June 1918 7.40am on offensive Patrol at PLOEGSTEERT – ARMENTIERES. "*During an engagement with 13 Hun Scouts, I engaged a Pfalz Scout which was shooting at Lieut. Henderson. On firing a short burst of 30 rounds E.A. burst into flames; it crashed in PLOEDSTEERT WOOD.*" Confirmed by Patrol.

**20<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 6 June 1918 "*Later (7.45am) I engaged another Albatros Scout at very close range firing 40 rounds. E.A. turned over & went down in a steep dive. At 6,000 feet smoke ensued from the machine & at 3,000 feet it burst into flames.*" Confirmed by Patrol. Decisive. Clayson 2 Destroyed.

The second victory at 7.45am, German time 8.45am when Vzfw Otto Heller, Jasta 40, was killed, he had two Victories to his name.

**21<sup>st</sup> Aerial Victory** - 9 June 1918, 6.45am, 'B' & 'C' Flights on Offensive Patrol, DICKEBUSCH. "*Three Triplanes dived on 3 S.E.5a's over ARMENTIERES. One Triplane followed a S.E.5 over the line, whereupon Patrol dived on it, forcing it to land at sheet 28.G.36.b.7.8; where it turned up on its nose.*" 'B' & 'C' flight – 1 Destroyed. (Clayson, gave everyone in 2 flights the Victory).

This was Gefr Reinhold Preiss, Jasta 14, shot down 6.45am at DICKEBUSCH-OUERDON, who was captured and made a prisoner. His Triplane allotted R.A.F. No. G-2-Bde-15 for a captured aircraft.

**25<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 27 June 1918, 4.27am, 'C' Flight on Offensive Patrol, METEREN. "*Whilst on Patrol, the formation dived on a L.V.G. believed armoured, as tracer observed to glance off the side of his fuselage & E.A. was slow in manoeuvring & engaged it at close quarters. E.A. burst into flames & crashed ½ a mile N. of METEREN.*" One Destroyed.

This was probably Lt. John Frankstein and Observer Lt. Gerhard Kuter of FAA 213(A) who were killed.

**26<sup>th</sup> Aerial Victory** - 30 June 1918, 7.00pm, on Offensive Patrol, WULVERGHEM. "*During an engagement with 4 Fokker Biplanes, I engaged one from the rear, firing 100 rounds. E.A. fell over on its left wing and dived vertically, smoke issuing from fuselage. E.A. fell to pieces when just off the ground.*" Confirmed by Patrol. 1 Crash.

This was probably Lt. Ewald Carl of Jasta 51 who was killed KEMMELBERG, WULVERGHEM.

**Note:** Copies of combat reports for all 29 confirmed aerial victories bar 28 and 29 and a number of non victory combat reports, included with research. Most reports additionally have additional copied pages from RAF Commuuniques, details of German pilots if known and other research.

## POST JULY 1918 SERVICE

Having been sent to Home Establishment on 3 August 1918, Clayson served out the rest of the Great War as an Instructor. Invested with his D.F.C. at Buckingham Palace 24 July 1919 (see original picture). Staying on in the R.A.F., he was granted short service Commission on 24 October 1919 and after the War, he flew with 6 and 70 Squadrons in the 1920's. Promoted Flight Lieutenant, 1 July

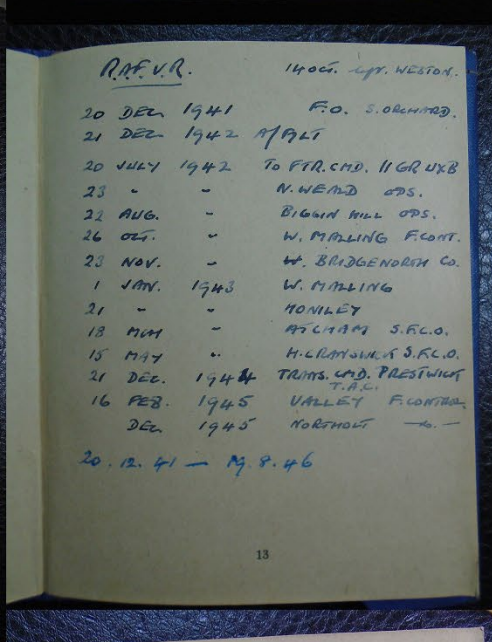
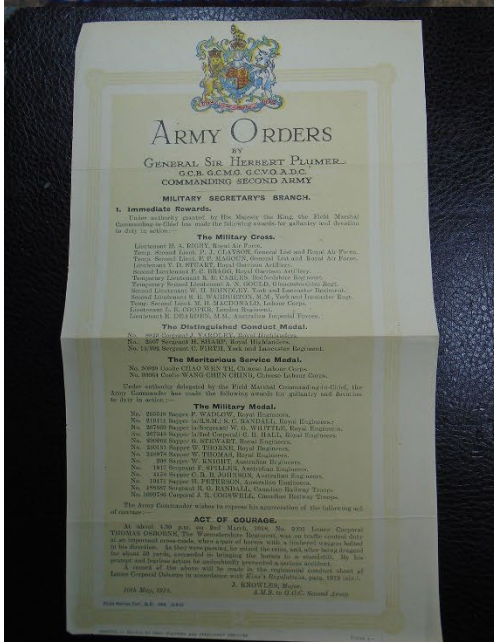
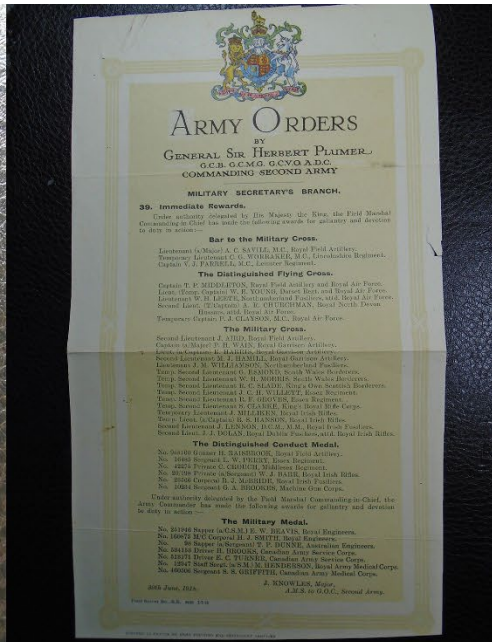
1925, he was posted to 23 Squadron 9 July 1925 at R.A.F. Henlow and then to the Aircraft Depot, Iraq 21 September 1926. He finally returned to the U.K. to serve at R.A.F. Depot, Uxbridge, 14 November 1928 and retired 16 April 1929. Post R.A.F., he became Chief Ground Instructor at the Civil Flying Training School operated by Bristol Aeroplane Company at Yatesbury in 1936. During the second War, having remained on the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, he was recalled to service, serving between 20 December 1941 to 19 August 1946 at Fighter Command 11 Group Uxbridge, N. Weald, Biggin Hill, West Malling, Bridgenorth, Honiley, Atcham, Cranswick, Prestwick, Valley, Northolt. Percy Jack ('Pip') Clayson died in Glasgow 9 December 1970.



CLAYSON IN COCKPIT OF HIS SE5a

'*Twice Vertical*' by (M. Shaw) page 60 sums up Clayson as one of the two outstanding fighter Pilots in 1 Squadron, the other being Captain Fullard, however these were also exceptional team leaders and contributed far more to their cause by so being – by bringing the guns of their Patrols to bear on the enemy, often at the expense of a fat personnel score. Clayson spent his War in this vein sharing two Victories with his whole Patrol (10) two Victories with nine one with eight, three with four, two with two and four with one other. Clayson was the biggest 'sharer' of any Pilot in the Great War, he did it to give experience to his new Pilots to fire their guns, most likely for the very first few times at the start of their service in the Squadron, instead of watching as their Flight Commander attacked first, shot the enemy down & claimed it for himself.

And again in "*Number One in War & Peace*" (M. O'Connor & N. Franks) page 47 in reference to the 1st. Victory by the Squadron on S.E.5's this by Clayson, '*The Pilot, Leutnant Bastgen of Jasta 30, was taken prisoner of war ..... Clayson had joined 1 Squadron at the end of October 1917, he was another Pilot who couldn't get on with the Nieuport Scout but once flying the S.E.5a was in his element. An outstanding Patrol Leader & became the Squadron's 'star' of 1918.*' On page 53 his other '*Captured*' enemy in his total score, a Fokker Triplane and this he shared with 9 others.....the whole Patrol got a 'share' as was his patrol leader 'style'.



*WINGS 1st Oct 1947*

| Unit               | AT HOME    |            | SERVICE.            |            | ABROAD     |            | Wounded (date) | Sick (date)               |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|                    | From       | To         | With an Expiry. For | From       | To         | From       |                |                           |
| ATLANTIC           | 25. 11. 44 | 22. 12. 44 | 23. 12. 44          | 23. 12. 44 | 23. 12. 44 | 9. 12. 41  | 19. 12. 41     | Arrived Southampton       |
| do.                | 23. 2. 45  | 19. 3. 45  | 20. 3. 45           | 25. 2. 45  | 25. 2. 45  | 25. 12. 41 | 4. 4. 42       | Left. Luffbridge Pool     |
| Empire             | 20. 2. 46  | 8. 5. 47   |                     |            |            | 5. 4. 42   | 30. 6. 42      | Posted to 25 (P) Sqdn     |
| R.F.C.             |            |            |                     |            |            | 1. 7. 45   | 20. 9. 46      | " - 23 (P) Sqdn           |
| 108th T.S.         | 4. 9. 47   | 8. 8. 47   |                     |            |            | 17. 10. 46 | 16. 1. 47      | I.A.D. Kim and di         |
| 3rd T.S.           | 4. 8. 47   | 4. 9. 47   |                     |            |            | 17. 1. 47  | 25. 3. 47      | 70 (Bombing) Sqdn         |
| 4th T.S.           | 15. 9. 47  | 8. 10. 47  |                     |            |            | 26. 4. 47  | 8. 11. 47      | No. 6 (P) Sqdn            |
| NO. 1 FIGHTING     | 31. 10. 47 | 31. 7. 48  |                     |            |            | 20. 12. 41 | 19. 8. 46      | Terminated R.F.C. service |
| SCHOOL TURNBERRY   | 31. 7. 48  | 25. 1. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| NO. 2 T.S. GULLANE | 26. 1. 49  | 11. 5. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| O.T.S. HALTON      | 12. 5. 49  | 5. 7. 49   |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| NO. 2 T.S. GULLANE | 5. 7. 49   | 22. 7. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| EXP. D. GLENFREW   | 29. 7. 49  | 28. 9. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 6 A.A.P.           | 20. 9. 49  | 15. 11. 49 |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| MONTROSE           | 15. 11. 49 | 11. 1. 50  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 5 T.S.             | 8. 1. 50   | 20. 4. 50  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| A.P.S. ANDOVER     | 21. 4. 50  | 7. 8. 51   |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 6 CY 7             | 8. 8. 51   | 26. 11. 51 |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |

**SERVICE.**

| Unit               | AT HOME    |            | SERVICE.            |            | ABROAD     |            | Wounded (date) | Sick (date)               |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|                    | From       | To         | With an Expiry. For | From       | To         | From       |                |                           |
| ATLANTIC           | 25. 11. 44 | 22. 12. 44 | 23. 12. 44          | 23. 12. 44 | 23. 12. 44 | 9. 12. 41  | 19. 12. 41     | Arrived Southampton       |
| do.                | 23. 2. 45  | 19. 3. 45  | 20. 3. 45           | 25. 2. 45  | 25. 2. 45  | 25. 12. 41 | 4. 4. 42       | Left. Luffbridge Pool     |
| Empire             | 20. 2. 46  | 8. 5. 47   |                     |            |            | 5. 4. 42   | 30. 6. 42      | Posted to 25 (P) Sqdn     |
| R.F.C.             |            |            |                     |            |            | 1. 7. 45   | 20. 9. 46      | " - 23 (P) Sqdn           |
| 108th T.S.         | 4. 9. 47   | 8. 8. 47   |                     |            |            | 17. 10. 46 | 16. 1. 47      | I.A.D. Kim and di         |
| 3rd T.S.           | 4. 8. 47   | 4. 9. 47   |                     |            |            | 17. 1. 47  | 25. 3. 47      | 70 (Bombing) Sqdn         |
| 4th T.S.           | 15. 9. 47  | 8. 10. 47  |                     |            |            | 26. 4. 47  | 8. 11. 47      | No. 6 (P) Sqdn            |
| NO. 1 FIGHTING     | 31. 10. 47 | 31. 7. 48  |                     |            |            | 20. 12. 41 | 19. 8. 46      | Terminated R.F.C. service |
| SCHOOL TURNBERRY   | 31. 7. 48  | 25. 1. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| NO. 2 T.S. GULLANE | 26. 1. 49  | 11. 5. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| O.T.S. HALTON      | 12. 5. 49  | 5. 7. 49   |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| NO. 2 T.S. GULLANE | 5. 7. 49   | 22. 7. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| EXP. D. GLENFREW   | 29. 7. 49  | 28. 9. 49  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 6 A.A.P.           | 20. 9. 49  | 15. 11. 49 |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| MONTROSE           | 15. 11. 49 | 11. 1. 50  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 5 T.S.             | 8. 1. 50   | 20. 4. 50  |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| A.P.S. ANDOVER     | 21. 4. 50  | 7. 8. 51   |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |
| 6 CY 7             | 8. 8. 51   | 26. 11. 51 |                     |            |            |            |                |                           |



| Date and Hour | Machine Type and No. | Passenger | Time  | Height | Course    | Remarks           |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------------|
| 17.05.18      | Can 245              |           |       |        |           |                   |
| <b>FRANCE</b> |                      |           |       |        |           |                   |
| 17.05.18      | 5264                 | 306       | 20m   | 1000   | Aerodrome | 1 landing, 1 shot |
| 17.05.18      | 101m                 | do.       | 30m   | 1000   | do.       | 3 do              |
| 17.05.18      | 750                  | do.       | 20m   | 1500   | do.       | 1 do.             |
| 18.05.18      | 330435               | do.       | 30m   | 2000   | do.       | 6 do.             |
| 18.05.18      | 420m                 | do.       | 45m   | 1500   | do.       | 9 do.             |
| 18.05.18      | 33044                | 3         | 15m   | 1000   | do.       | 5 do.             |
| 18.05.18      | 52m                  | do.       | 15m   | 1000   | do.       | 2 do.             |
| 18.05.18      | RFC 3012             |           | 22.0m | 3000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | RFC 3012             |           | 30m   | 5000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | RFC 3012             |           | 1.40  | 9000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 71m                  | 426       | 20m   | 2500   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 11.50m               | 2607      | 1.20  | 9000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 34pm                 | 6798      | 1.40  | 9000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 3.50m                | 6753      | 3.5m  | 3000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 3.20pm               | 6798      | 3.0m  | 10000  |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 7.00m                | 6753      | 1.40  | 2000   |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 1.00m                | 6753      | 1.40m | 10000  |           |                   |
| 18.05.18      | 16.30m               | 6753      | 1.40m | 10000  |           |                   |

| Date and Hour | Machine Type and No. | Passenger | Time   | Height | Course | Remarks                 |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 148.31 |        | R.P.   | Day flight 6 with 12.30 |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 2.07   |        | R.P.   | 2nd ground mission      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.46   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.31   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.52   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.5    |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 30     |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 53     |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.54   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.44   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.53   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 8      |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | 8265                 |           | 1.20   | 2000   | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 1.17   | 7000   | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 2.00   | 16000  | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 1.18   | 18200  | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 21     |        | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 4881                 |           | 1.43   |        | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 171.1  |        | R.P.   | Test                    |

| Date and Hour | Machine Type and No. | Passenger | Time   | Height | Course | Remarks                 |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 148.31 |        | R.P.   | Day flight 6 with 12.30 |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 2.07   |        | R.P.   | 2nd ground mission      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.46   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.31   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.52   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.5    |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 30     |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 53     |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.54   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.44   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 1.53   |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | do.                  |           | 8      |        | R.P.   | Bomb dropped 18.00      |
| 19.11.18      | 8265                 |           | 1.20   | 2000   | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 1.17   | 7000   | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 2.00   | 16000  | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 1.18   | 18200  | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 21     |        | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 4881                 |           | 1.43   |        | R.P.   | Test                    |
| 19.11.18      | 8908                 |           | 171.1  |        | R.P.   | Test                    |



OPERATION ORDER by MAJOR A. MURTON ADAMS, Commanding No. 1 Squadron, Royal Air Force, in the Field, 19th May 1918.

The following will be carried out to-morrow:

Wireless Interceptor and Recon. Sq. Lt. Huxley } Call I. Lt. Forreth } Call II. Lt. Huxley } Lt. Huxley } Lt. Huxley } Lt. Huxley }

MAJOR A. MURTON ADAMS, Major, Commanding No. 1 Squadron, R.A.F.



**FULL LIST OF COMBAT VICTORIES CLAIMED - ALL ON SE5A'S OF 1 SQUADRON.**

- 1- 16.2.1918 Albatros DV, Captured, Bailleul. This was Leutnant Bastgen of Jasta 30 who became a P.O.W.
- 2- 28.2.1918 Albatros DV, Out of Control, Gheluvelt.

- 3- 11.3.1918 C Type, Out of Control, Ypres.
- 4- 13.3.1918 Pfalz DIII, Destroyed, Wieltje.
- 5- 27.3.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed, Achiet-le-Grand.
- 6- 21.4.1918 Pfalz DIII, Out of Control, North West Pacaut Wood.
- 7- 29.4.1918 Pfalz DIII, Destroyed, Kimmel-Wytschaete. This was Gefr. Peisker of Jasta 7.
- 8- 2.5.1918 Pfalz DIII, Out of Control, South East Bailleul.
- 9- 14.5.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed, Dickebusch.
- 10- 27.5.1918 C Type, Destroyed (Flames), South Bailleul.
- 11- 27.5.1918 C Type, Destroyed, Kimmel.
- 12- 27.5.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed, Steenwerck.
- 13- 28.5.1918 DFW. C, Out of Control, Meteren-Bailleul.
- 14- 28.5.1918 DFW. C, Destroyed, Meteren-Vieux-Berquin.
- 15- 29.5.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed, Merville-Neuf Berquin.
- 16- 29.5.1918 Halberstadt C, Destroyed, E. Vieux Berquin.
- 17- 1.6.1918 Pfalz DIII, Out of Control, Armentieres. **Combat report gives clearly destroyed**
- 18- 2.6.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed, North Pacaut Wood.
- 19- 6.6.1918 Albatros DV, Destroyed (Flames), Ploegsteert Wood. This was Vzfw Otto Heller, Jasta 40, killed.
- 20- 6.6.1918 Pfalz DIII, Destroyed (Flames), Ploegsteert.
- 21- 9.6.1918 Fokker DrI, Captured, Dickebusch. This was Gefr Preiss, Jasta 14, taken prisoner.
- 22- 13.6.1918 Pfalz DIII, Destroyed (Flames), Passchendaele area.
- 23- 15.6.1918 Balloon, Destroyed, South Estaires.
- 24- 23.6.1918 C Type, Destroyed, North West Lestrem.
- 25- 27.6.1918 LVG C, Destroyed (Flames), E Meteren. Probably Lt. G. Kuter and Lt. J. Frankstein, FAA 213(A), both killed.
- 26- 30.6.1918 Fokker DVII, Destroyed (Flames), Wulverghem. Probably Lt. Ewald Carl, Jasta 51 who was killed.
- 27- 2.7.1918 Hannover C, Destroyed (Flames), Ploegsteert Wood.
- 28- 4.7.1918 Fokker DVII, Out of Control, Salome.
- 29- 14.7.1918 Fokker DVII, Out of Control, Neuf Berquin-Estaires.
- Total 9 destroyed and 9 shared destroyed, 5 Out of Control and 3 shared Out of Control 1 captured and 1 shared captured and 1 shared Balloon = 29 victories.

#### **ADDITIONALLY**

Additionally combat reports show a further destroyed balloon that was not added to his overall victory score. Kite balloons are frequently missed on pilots victory tally. Why this happened is hard to

understand as they were clearly added to scores most of the time. His recommendation for a third award makes it clear he had numerous other combats that he could not make claims for.

30 - 22 July 1918, Clayton claimed a Kite Balloon destroyed at Rietz-Baielul. This shared by his patrol



Medals Militaria Jager Militaria



Capt. P. J. Clayton

| Date    | Rank | Age | Locality | Remarks   |
|---------|------|-----|----------|---|
| 4-2-16  | 1    | 21  | Abkhaz   | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 28-2-18 | 1    | 23  | do       | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 11-3-18 | 1    | 24  | do       | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 11-3-18 | 1    | 24  | do       | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 24-2-18 | 1    | 23  | do       | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |

|         |   |    |    |   |
|---------|---|----|----|---|
| 21-4-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 29-4-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 2-5-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 14-5-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 28-5-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 27-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 22-7-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 29-8-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |

|         |   |    |    |   |
|---------|---|----|----|---|
| 1-6-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 2-6-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 6-6-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 14-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 9-6-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 29-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 30-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 1-7-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |

|         |   |    |    |   |
|---------|---|----|----|---|
| 29-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 30-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 2-7-18  | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 23-7-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |
| 18-6-18 | 1 | 24 | do | Shot at 11000 ft over land range Capt Clayton + |

George

By the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King of India &c.

We repairing special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty Courage and good Conduct do by these Presents constitute and Appoint you to be an Officer in Our Royal Air Force from the day of your entry into the Service of Our Majesty.

You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge your Duty as such in the Rank of Second Lieutenant or in such higher Rank as We may from time to time hereafter be pleased to promote or appoint you to of which a notification will be made in the London Gazette and you are at all times to observe and well discipline in Arms both the superior Officers and Men serving under you and use your best endeavours to keep them in good Order and Discipline. And We do hereby Command them to Obey you as their superior Officer and you to observe and follow such Orders and Directions as from time to time you shall receive from Us or any your superior Officer according to the Rules and Discipline of War in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you.

Given at Our Court at Saint James the 10th day of July 1917 in the twentieth Year of Our Majesty's Command.

By His Majesty's Command  
R. B. B. B.

George

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Given at Our Court at Saint James the 10th day of July 1917 in the twentieth Year of Our Majesty's Command.

By His Majesty's Command  
W. Braucher  
1. A. B. B.

George

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By His Majesty's Command  
R. B. B. B.

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Given at Our Court at Saint James the 10th day of August 1917 in the twentieth Year of Our Majesty's Command.

By His Majesty's Command  
R. B. B. B.

OPERATION ORDERS by MAJOR A. BARTON ADAMS, Commanding No. 1 Squadron, Royal Air Force, in the Field. 12th May 1918.

The following will be carried out to-morrow:

**OFFENSIVE PATROL** 7:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. "A" and "C" Flights

**OFFENSIVE PATROL** 10:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. "A" and "B" Flights

**OFFENSIVE PATROL** 1:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. "A" and "C" Flights.

All machines to carry 2 bombs. Objective aerodrome at 23.V.10.

(Signed) A. BARTON ADAMS, Major,  
Commanding No. 1 Squadron, R.A.F.

NOTICE

In future the "MORT GALE" on the Elkan Horn will be a series of short blasts. The Elkan will also be used for warning flights when Squadron is on wireless interruption.

In the Field, (Signed) A. BARTON ADAMS, Major,  
15-5-18. Commanding No. 1 Squadron, R.A.F.



**SOLD WITH THE FOLLOWING ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS**

- 1) All four Log Books covering Clayton's entire R.F.C. and R.A.F. Service, most fully filled; 1<sup>st</sup> - July 1917- May 1922, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1922-July 1925, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1925 – May 1927, 4<sup>th</sup> May 1927 -September 1938.
- 2) Royal Aero Club Aviators' Certificate 30 September 1917
- 3) Three Commissions as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, Lieutenant and Flight Lieutenant;
- 4) Officers Record of Service Army Book with all postings for W.W.1. and W.W.2
- 5) 2 fine coloured 'Army Orders' Second Army for M.C. and D.F.C.
- 6) Service list of Victories (4 pages) hand written
- 7) 4 original 1 Squadron Operation Orders, various dates in 1918.
- 8) Various portrait and group photo's. Som fine images in uniform, including a particularly nice large one at his M.C. investitures
- 9) Photograph album, mainly WW1 related
- 10) A selection of other loose photographs which are WW2 service related

Additionally a large and extremely well researched file of copy research. This including copy gallantry recommendations, medal rolls, 28 W.W.1. Combat Reports, 2 Reports on captured aeroplanes with their 'G' number write up's. M.I.C., London Gazette's, Census etc.



DING-BAT  
CHAPPELL SORSOLEIL YUILL SELF



MC CUDDEN V.C. AND THE VICKERS HARTHE FLEW FROM  
TURNBERRY - LONDON 1918



An extremely fine and comprehensive group to one of Britain's highest scoring fighter Aces of the Great War